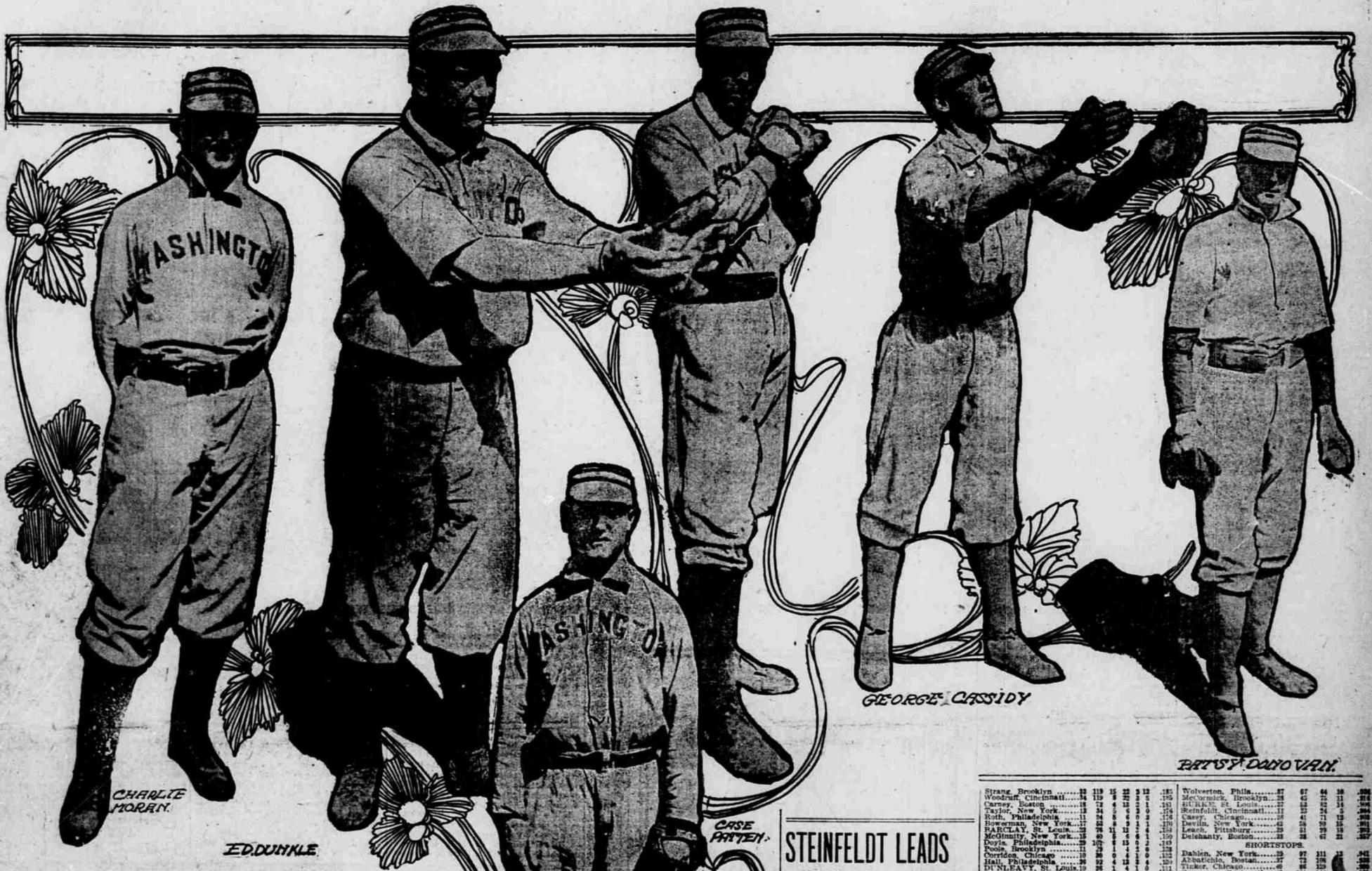


SPECIAL SPORT SECTION.

GROUP OF AMERICAN LEAGUE PLAYERS CAUGHT BY A REPUBLIC CAMERA.



CHARLIE MORAN.

EDDUNKLE

CASE PATTER.

GEORGE CASSIDY

RATSY DOLY VAIN.

PENNANT RACE IN MAJOR LEAGUES ATTRACT ATTENTION

Fans Throughout the Circuit Are Watching Fights in National and American With Much Interest—Cardinals Have Chance to Be Well Up—Pittsburg Has Struck Their Proper Stride—Boston Americans the Best Ball Team in Johnson's League.

Much interest in the pennant races of both major leagues is being displayed by the fans in all the cities of the American and National League circuits.

The reason is evident. Unlike last year, the teams are evenly matched in the National as well as the American League, and a pretty fight for the bunting is sure to develop in Fullam's organization.

Just who will finally land the much-coveted trophy in the National League is a difficult problem to solve.

Five clubs, Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Cincinnati and Pittsburg, are sure to make a good finish this year, and the one with the best break of luck will undoubtedly land the flag.

While the Cardinals have not shown to much advantage on the road, they have played good enough ball to have won half their games, but failure to take advantage of all their opportunities has cost them most of the games they have lost in the East.

The Cardinals still lack the proper finish, and unless Nichols drills the finer points of the game into them during the next thirty days their chances for landing in a commanding position will be much reduced.

CARDINALS HAVE CHANCE. On what they have shown in St. Louis the Cardinals have as much natural ability as any team in the National League, but for some reason or other they fail to take advantage of all their opportunities.

With all their feet-footed players, Nichols' men should do better work on the bases. Barring Shay, the Cardinals have not one real high-class base-runner. Still, Shannon, Barclay and Brain are among the sprinters of the national game.

Another point where the Cardinals have shown up poorly is in their scrapping and bunting. Not one of them seems to have the art of laying them down in a manner to get a base on the effort.

Nor can the cardinal-hooded warriors sacrifice properly. But the season is young and it is only fair to presume that Manager Nichols will have his men working smoothly before the middle of next month.

When the Cardinals get going at their proper pace, they are sure to cut a dash in the National League pennant race. They are hitting better than any of the other clubs, and their fielding is above the average.

Collins' men look even better than they did last year. Just a year ago the champions were handicapped by the absence of Chick Stahl from the game.

This season Stahl and the rest of the

speed. The spurt taken by Pittsburg has surprised many of the Eastern critics of the game, although baseball fans in the West have always maintained that Pittsburg would finish one-two-three in the National League 1904 handicap.

PITTSBURG PITCHERS ALL RIGHT. The addition of Flaherty to the Pirates has strengthened Clarke's team to a great extent. With Flaherty, Miller, Leever and Phillippe going anywhere near their proper form, Dreyfus's men have as good a chance as any of the National League teams to win the pennant.

With such great ball players as Clarke, Beaumont, Sebring, Leach, Wagner, Ritchey and Bransfield on one team, the pitching department does not have to be of the sensational order. Such players are sure to field and hit behind a batsman enough to make him win the majority of his games, if he is even of mediocre ability.

And it must be remembered that the Pirates will have Mike Lynch, the Brown University phenom, on their roll the rest of the distance.

With Lynch and Flaherty added to the pitching department it appears as though the Pirates will make them all hustle to beat them for first place.

Chicago and Cincinnati are also playing good baseball, but it is hard to see whether either of these teams have anything on the Cardinals or the Pirates.

As the race now stands St. Louis and Pittsburg have the best chances of leading the van.

One thing that is bound to tell in favor of the locals when the campaign is down to the finish is their strong pitching staff. Nichols and Taylor have been going at a great rate. McFarland and Corbett have twirled good ball, but the luck has broken against this pair badly.

Corbett has certainly convinced the local followers of the game that he can pitch as good as he ever did. The Californian has all his old time form, but he has been very unfortunate in most of his games, losing the majority of them by only one run.

BOSTON BEST IN AMERICAN. In the American League Boston has shown far the best form of any of the teams that have appeared here this season.

Collins' men look even better than they did last year. Just a year ago the champions were handicapped by the absence of Chick Stahl from the game.

This season Stahl and the rest of the

champions are in the game and playing better ball than they ever did.

Their outfield looks stronger than any in the league, and so does their infield and pitching departments. With all these advantages in their favor, it appears as though Boston will repeat their performance of last year and win the pennant in Johnson's organization.

McAleer's team is at present suffering a handicap by the absence of Wallace. The little shortstop will hardly be able to get in the game for the next two weeks, and with the strong Eastern teams playing here his absence will be keenly felt by the locals.

Of course, Harry Gleason is a good shortstop, but he is not in the same class with Wallace.

With all their strength in the field the Browns have a good chance to land in the first division, but with any of their regulars injured for any length of time, their chances for being in the first four are extremely slim.

It looks as though Wallace, their best player, will be out of it for the next two weeks.

COOLEY ON SCORING. Dick Cooley, the left fielder of the Boston, never worries when he does not receive full credit for all the hits that he believes he has made during a game. "I have been playing baseball long enough to know that a player never gets the worst of the scoring in the long run," said Cooley. "There was a time when I was ready with a protest whenever I made a certain number of hits during a game and the scorers would put down the doubtful ones as errors. On the other hand, I would take a little laugh for myself into my sleeve when I would get credit for a hit on what was a palpable error."

"Then I began to do a little figuring, and after a season or so of close observation I found out that matters evened these-

selves up very nicely in regard to scoring—that a batsman gets credit for as many hits that he really does not earn as he is deprived of by the scorers failing to see plays from the proper angle.

The time when it hurts most to be deprived of the credit of a hit which you think you have earned is when you are not hitting much, and a safety is like a drink of water to a man on the desert.

Under those conditions a batsman is liable to say some mean things about the scorers even though he knows in his heart that they are perfectly honest in their opinions of hits and errors. Many a time I have felt like kicking a man who deprived me of a hit that I thought I should have had, but I never allowed my anger to carry me quite that far. Nor have I ever thanked a scorer for crediting me with a hit that I did not deserve. In the long run I guess all players are quite with all scorers in the matter of crediting deserved and undeserved hits.

BAD FIELDING. Statistics show that the low standing of the Pittsburg club is due to the inferior pitching and bad fielding, and not to poor hitting, as the public has been led to believe, says the Sporting News. This would indicate that there is ground for the opinion that the spirit of the National League championship is being made by the players' misdeeds by hooting at them from the stands and encouraging patrons to dissatisfaction and disapproval.

Every baseball club has its losing streaks, during which its patrons are disgraced, but a sport will soon win them back. But success does not stop the gamblers from attacks on teams of individuals. They have only a selfish interest in the pastime and its exponents, and all ways root or root at their heels are placed. They are a menace to the game's integrity, and should be driven out of every park in which it is played. There is no other way to secure protection against them. The newspapers of Pittsburg should commence a crusade against these parasites, and aid the officials of the club and law in bringing them to justice.

STEINFELDT LEADS NATIONAL BATSMEN

Four Cardinals Are Hitting the Ball With Average Above .300—Shay a Fast Base Runner—Locals' Good Stick Work.

Harry Steinfeldt still leads the batsmen of the National League, counting in all players who have taken part in ten games or more.

Mike Grady and Jake Beckley, of St. Louis, follow. Sixteen men are batting .300 or better. Of these, Miller Huggins leads in runs scored, Donlin has made the most hits, and Shay stole the most bases. St. Louis leads in team batting, Cincinnati second.

Four pitchers still have faultless fielding records. Bowerman heads the catchers, Chance the first basemen, and Rayner the second sackers. Woodruff tops the three basemen and Dahlen the shortstops. Three outfielders still have refrained from dropping any flies. New York leads in team fielding, Cincinnati second.

The figures:

Table with columns: Player, G, A, B, R, H, SH, SB, Pct. Lists top performers like Steinfeldt, Grady, Beckley, etc.

CLUB BATTING. Table with columns: Clubs, AB, R, H, SH, SB, Pct. Lists team statistics for various clubs.

CLUB FIELDING. Table with columns: Clubs, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists team fielding statistics.

INDIVIDUAL BATTERS. Table with columns: Player, AB, R, H, SH, SB, Pct. Lists individual player statistics.

BASE RUNNING. Table with columns: Player, Games, T, B, Pct. Lists base running statistics.

RUNNERS. Table with columns: Player, Games, Runs, Pct. Lists runner statistics.

FIELDING-PITCHERS. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists fielding-pitcher statistics.

CATCHERS. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists catcher statistics.

PIST BASEMEN. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists first baseman statistics.

SECOND BASEMEN. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists second baseman statistics.

THIRD BASEMEN. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists third baseman statistics.

WOODRUFF. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists Woodruff's statistics.

PITCHING RECORDS. Table with columns: Player, W, L, G, P, Pct. Lists pitching records.

PITCHING ANALYSIS. Table with columns: Player, W, L, G, P, Pct. Lists pitching analysis.

STATISTICS. Table with columns: Player, W, L, G, P, Pct. Lists various statistics.

WOODRUFF. Table with columns: Player and Club, G, P, A, E, P. Pct. Lists Woodruff's statistics.