

# Chance Confesses Having Played Professional Baseball

## CHANGE'S ABILITY AS MANAGER NOW SHOWN

### Though Given Great Team When He Took Hold of Cubs, Peerless One Always Bolstered Up Weak Places and Developed Stars.

After Frank Chance was appointed manager of the Highlanders most of the scribes in the big league belt predicted the Peerless One would not be long back to his American League map, there to stay. However, here and there a sporting writer may be found who has taken a casual knock at the great Californian.

This was to be expected, as there never was a successful man in any walk of life who at some time was not a target for the knockers. One scribe who has compared Frank Chance to Jimmy Collins, the former manager of the Red Sox.

Collins failed in Eastern territory. Chance's ability as a builder was also shown in other departments than in the pitching department. He made a crack pitcher of Jimmy Archer after such shrewd judges of baseball talent as Fred Clarke and Hugh Jennings turned Archer back to the minors, labeled "Not big enough for fast company."

In 1911 Chance fought his battle with only one member of his old stonewall infield left—Joe Tinker. Evers played in only a few games, and the rest of the team were up the playing end after he got a rude jolt on his bean from George Suggs. Chance made a good first baseman of Vic Salier, who was considered a lemon when he first came to the National League. He also developed Heinie Zimmerman into a star after the Bronx boy did duty on the Cub bench for several years and never looked as if he would be good for anything but a utility role.

Another infield star developed by Chance was Jimmy Doyle, the unfortunate youngster who died last winter after playing a great game at third base in the 1911 season, and also had been passed up by a famous manager, Clark Griffith, who tried him out while managing the Reds, and turned him back to the bushes.

Chance never developed any outfielders because he never had occasion to do so. After Jimmy Chance had passed out of the league Chance had good man to replace him in Artie Hoffman, who in the early days of Chance's regime in Chicago was an all-around utility man, and one of the best game ever produced.

Had Capable Outfielders. Until last season any manager would have been arrested at he had thought of trying to find more capable outfielders than Frank Schulte and Jimmy Sheekard. However, last year Chance took Ward Miller, another Cincinnati cast-off, and Miller is now a fine prospect.

It will be seen, therefore, that whenever Chance's team developed a weakness the Peerless Leader always had a man on hand to fill the place. If the players he grabbed to fill a weak spot were not stars, Chance at least was always able to put up a fifty front. There was never a time in his career in Chicago that any team regarded the Cubs as easy marks.

Children III. Early and Guy Napier, young sons of Bicycle Policeman Napier, are ill at the home of their parents, 319 Church Street.

Chance made the famous deals with Brooklyn and Cincinnati which brought Jimmy Sheekard, Orval Overall and Harry Wright to the Cubs. These men helped make the great Cub machine of 1906, 1907 and 1908. Murphy takes the credit to himself for making the Cubs of 1909, 1910 and 1911. Chance had a little say in the matter. He was not a member of the team when Chance took charge, and he was strictly a Chance development.

Chance showed some "building-up" ability when he first assumed command of the Cubs, or they never would have been the great team that made Murphy rich. However, Chance's greatest genius as a builder was shown after the Cubs began to wobble in 1909. He predicted the collapse of the Cubs was predicted by the experts, but the genius of Chance held them together. Nothing showed Chance's skill as a manager more than the way in which he manipulated his pitching staff in the last two years.

When the Cubs were going at their strongest last season and pressing the Giants the hardest Chance was pegging away with Richie, Lavender, Reulbach and Leifeld for his pitchers. Both Brown and Cheney were out down in his line of fire, though Cheney recovered in time to help Chance considerably in the last two months of the race.

After Chance ran second in the 1911 National League campaign Connie Mack said the feat was the greatest feather in Chance's cap. "It was a far greater victory for Chance than when he won the World's Series in 1907 and 1908," is the way Connie put it.

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"I am going to make a strong fight for the pennant this season, and believe that I have the string to bring it off. I think that the 1912 Athletics are stronger than the team which won the world's championships in 1910 and 1911.

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## CONNIE MACK HAS PENNANT HOPES

### Leader of Athletics Feels That With Even Luck He Will Cop.

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"For instance, in 1911 the pennant was conceded to my manager in the league, and the last day of the race found us in third place.

"We lost last year because of the accident to Danny Murphy and the defection of two pitchers. We can't guard against accidents in the future, but I have mended both our pitching staff and outfield.

Mack gives the first official indication of how he is going to dress his garden of 1912.

"For the first time in many years," he said, "I have an outfield in which I can place confidence. I have good material and plenty of material.

"I will start the season with Oldring, Strunk and Eddie Murphy filling the three spots. This gives me Dan Murphy, Walsh and Daley in the outfield, and I have a reserve in Strunk and Daley in reserve.

"The chances are that I will keep all six chances as they are. I don't expect to use Dan Murphy in the field. I am going to keep him as pinch hitter. Dan can still hit, even if his knee is weak. Walsh and Daley will then be available for reserve.

"I like Daley. I first saw him play four years ago when I was out on the coast. I liked his actions, but he is too immature then for a trial in the fast game.

The tall tutor says his pitchers will come back, and that Bender, Coombs and Plank will be three great winners again, with Brown, Honck and Penneck to help the big three out.

It is significant that in the face of their defeat last season, nearly every American League directing boss issues the warning, "Look out for the Mack men." They know that the team did not play up to form last year.

The players were also overconfident. They took things too easy in the early stretch of the campaign and couldn't close the gap later. The Mackmen close the gap, and they want to be eligible for the big checks again. Therefore, they can be expected to play savagely from the start of the next brush.

Thorpe's Statement. Carlisle, Pa., January 26. James E. Sullivan, New York, N. Y., Dear Sir,—When the matter was brought up to the Winston-Salem team was shown me, I told Mr. Warner that it was not true, and in fact I did not play on that team. But so much has been said in the papers since then that I went to the school authorities this morning and told them just what there was in the stories.

I played baseball at Rocky Mount and at Fayetteville, N. C., during the summer of 1909 and 1910 under my own name. On the same team I played with, were several college men from the North who were earning money by ball playing during their vacations and who were going to college. I never did receive any money for the money there was in it because my property brings me in enough money to live on, but because I liked to play ball. I was not very wise to the ways of the world, and that it would make me a professional in track sports, although I learned from the other players that it would be better for me not to let any one know that I was playing, and for that reason I never did answer the questions and I never did receive any money for the money there was in it because my property brings me in enough money to live on, but because I liked to play ball.

I have always liked sport and only played or ran races for the fun of the thing, and never cared for money. I have received offers amounting to thousands of dollars since my victories last summer, but I have turned them all down because I did not care to make

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

## THORPE SHORN OF ALL HONORS WON IN SWEDEN

### Admits He Played Professional Baseball in Eastern Carolina League.

Thorpe, who returned from Stockholm the acknowledged hero of the Olympic games, to-day admitted that the laurels showered upon him as an amateur athlete were undeserved and that the charges that he had played professional baseball were true.

In the history of amateur athletics there is no case to parallel the rise to fame of the Sac and Fox Indian and his even more meteoric descent to the ranks of the professionals. His punishment included the loss of Mount trophies won by him as an amateur and the wiping out from the record books of all the performances to his credit.

For years recognized as one of the best all-round athletes in America, Thorpe reached the pinnacle of his successes when he carried off the honors in the two most severe tests of athletic ability at the Olympic games held at Stockholm, Sweden.

For his victories in these events he was sought out by the King of Sweden and congratulated by him as the best athlete the world had produced.

Unassuming and bearing his honors meekly, the noted Indian returned to this country and was prepared for the coming campaign on the track and field when the startling story was printed in a Worcester paper that the most distinguished athlete in the world had been a member of the first all team in Carolina.

There was a flurry in athletic circles and a half-hearted denial before the damning evidence came rolling in from all sides. Hopes that some great mistake had been made were dashed to the ground when Glenn Warner, coach of the Carlisle team, came to New York to-day bringing with him a signed statement from Thorpe that he had played ball as charged with the Rocky Mount and Fayetteville teams in the Eastern Carolina League. His statement follows:

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## IRWIN PRAISES TWO YOUNGSTERS

### Young and Harbison Both Expected to Make Good by Veteran Scout.

New York, January 27.—Arthur Irwin has discovered many young players in his time, but he says he never saw a more promising colt than R. S. Young, who was drafted from the Harrisburg club of the Tri-State League last fall by the Highlanders. Young, who sports the nickname of "Pop," is twenty-three years old and lives in Philadelphia. He played with the Scranton club in 1911, but did not begin to develop until last spring.

Young was in ninety-three games for Harrisburg, going to the bat 377 times, scoring 79 runs, making 110 hits and 16 sacrifices, stealing 13 bases and having a batting average of .298. At shortstop Young played 80 games, with 163 put outs, 284 assists, 25 errors and a fielding average of .94. He also covered second base in 13 games, with 33 put outs, 39 assists, 28 errors and an average of .860.

Young can bat either right or left handed and is a great hustler. Irwin predicts that under Chance, Young will show a wonderful improvement before the Highlanders finish the training trip in Bermuda. Young is a sprinter of the Ty Cobb type. He is 5 feet 3 inches tall and weighs 165 pounds.

Another promising youngster is Douglas Harbison, who was drafted from the Atlanta Club of the Southern League. Harbison comes to Chance with a first-class reputation as a hitter. In 81 games last season he faced the opposing pitchers 287 times, scored 11 runs and made 81 hits for a total of 111 bases. His batting average was .296.

At short field Harbison had 144 put outs, 242 assists, 47 errors and an average of .881. Harbison lives in Columbia, S. C., where he played good ball in 1911. He is twenty-five years old, six feet tall and weighs 185 pounds in condition. He is a right-handed batter and thrower.

## DURHAM Y. M. C. A. BEATS CAROLINA

### First Basketball Game of Season Ends in Defeat for University.

Chapel Hill, N. C., January 27.—The University of North Carolina basketball team opened the season here to-night, losing a game to the Durham Y. M. C. A. by a score of 23 to 22. Though Y. M. C. A. by a score of 23 to 22. Though Y. M. C. A. by a score of 23 to 22. Though Y. M. C. A. by a score of 23 to 22.

The contest was characterized by not a little manifestation of roughness on the part of both teams, most of which was unavoidable on account of the desire of the players to "go get" everything when the ball was in play. The contest was much better than the score would indicate, and there was excitement a plenty throughout the forty minutes of actual play.

The North Carolinians were able to shoot the ball well for Carolina. Brinn and Clay starred for the visitors. The game was witnessed by some 400 people.

The line up: Durham—Hallock, forward; Clay, forward; Conn, centre; Brinn, guard; Mangum, guard. University North Carolina—Tillett, forward; Long, forward; Covington, centre; Chambers, guard; Demond, guard.

Referee—Hendrick, Trinity College.

## GOLF MASTERS PLAY DRAW GAMES

### Seventh Round in Championship Tournament Will Be Played Off To-Day.

New York, January 27.—The playoffs of adjourned games in the American National Chess Masters' tournament to-day resulted in draws. They were between Tenenwael and Kupchik, 1911 and 1912, and between Lyman and Stappier, continued from Saturday. The seventh round will be played to-morrow.

Leaders of the tournament are Capablanca, the Cuban, with six wins and no games lost; Jaffe, with five wins and one game lost; and Chajnes with four and one-half game won and half game lost.

Soggy Ground Mars Trials. Grand Junction, Tenn., January 27.—One brace, the setter Mobile, owned and handled by J. M. Avert, of Hickory Valley, Tenn., and Artie G., owned by H. B. Duryear, of Hickory Valley, and handled by J. A. Gude, of Bruceville, Ind., ran over a soggy field to-day in the initial race of the National championship field trial stake. Mobile found five bevs and three singles and flushed one bevy. Artie G. found three bevs and flushed one. Neither dog, however, ran in the form expected, for which field conditions were held partly responsible.

Alleged Reckless Driver. Bruce Monroe, colored, was arrested yesterday by Patrolman Dunn and Wils for recklessly driving a team.

## AN AGE OF ALTITUDE, THIS IS THE DIAMOND

### Notably Large Number of Tall Men Are Engaged in Professional Baseball as Means of Making a Living—Eppa Rixey Among Tallest.

High altitudes exist to a conspicuous extent in professional baseball. This doesn't refer to the Rocky Mountain League either. It means that there is a conspicuously large number of tall players in the game. In the two major leagues alone the sturdiest players who are over six feet in height is notable. Whether or not the game is gradually elongating the human frame, there is to be found among the regulars a fine array of great bouncers, tall sycamores. All of them haven't skill commensurate with stature, but skill and a plentitude of inches are by no means incompatible.

Most of the lengthy chaps of the ball field are pitchers, but other positions have a share of them. Take some of the pitchers of the Giants, string the tablets of them together, and their combined height would fall only a trifle short of the Metropolitan Tower. Teraux, Matty, Wilton and Marguard are all six feet or over; Shore is six feet three and a half, and W. H. Ritter, who is six feet two, is six feet three and a half, and other tall members of the Doolan clan are Doolan, Moore, Alexander and Chalmers.

Five of the eighteen 1912 batch of recruits to the Pirates tower above six feet. Gray is 6'0 1/2, Holdeman 6'2 1/2 and Smith 6'0 1/2. Of the others Wilson, Hendrix and maybe one or two in addition are six feet or better. The St. Louis Cardinals herded a whole band of big men. Here are some figures: W. G. Dill, 6'0 1/2; J. C. Galloway, 6'0 1/2; D. J. Peck, 6'0 1/2; Ben Hunt, 6'0 1/2; W. D. Perret, 6'0 1/2; Frank Snyder, 6'0 1/2. Then to further offset the low averages created by such abbreviated specimens as Huggins and Hauser are Salle, Konechky, Wingo and Williams. The team together and they'd puncture the clouds.

Three of the thirteen men rounded up by the Brooklyn beat the six foot mark, including William Wagner, 6'2 1/2; Philo Thomas, 6'2 1/2; and the new Boston crop of 1912, is 6'03 and Frank Metz, 6'01 1/2. Nine in twenty of the new lot are six-footers and regulars of that height are Hess, Gowdy, Devlin and Kitz.

Of the twenty neophytes who fell into the hands of the Athletics, who were the following: C. L. Derrick, 6'2; M. Harrell, 6'03; H. J. Penneck, 6'03; and R. E. Salmon, 6'02, are statistics which appear in the Athletics' draft list. Mack's tall veterans include Ira Thomas, Jack Coombs and Chief Bender.

Not last year's George Bohler, 6'2; Frank Gibson, 6'00 1/2; Mark Hall, 6'03 1/2; Wilfred Howe, 6'03 1/2; P. H. McGehee, 6'02 1/2; Rob Troy, 6'04, and C. E. Zarloch, 6'01.

Stump, Sweeney, Caldwell, William and McConnell, of the Highlanders, are all six feet or more, and in the roster of recruits in the draft or purchased list were the following: C. L. Derrick, 6'2; M. Harrell, 6'03; H. J. Penneck, 6'03; and R. E. Salmon, 6'02, are statistics which appear in the Athletics' draft list. Mack's tall veterans include Ira Thomas, Jack Coombs and Chief Bender.

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