

MUTT and JEFF

Jeff Is Certainly An Optimist

By Bud Fisher



"Pop" Anson Says Baseball Has Not Changed Very Much

Daddy of Old-Time Sluggers on Deck to See New York Yankees Off.

THINKS OLD GAME WAS AS FAST AS PRESENT

New York, March 4.—Among those who witnessed the departure of the last of the Yankees for Macon was Captain Adrian C. Anson, the Daddy of all the sluggers and still spry of foot in his late fifties. He is in New York for a brief visit.

The "Cap" was very much interested in Ray Fisher, eager to learn all about his record. When he was thru there came the old question, one that is always asked when an old-timer sees a youngster:

"How do you think the ball players of today compare with the boys back in the '80's?" someone asked of "Cap" Anson. "Are they better today?" "I was always of the belief," the captain answered, "that ball players are born, not made according to set rules; therefore a ball player has just as much chance being born in 1885 as in 1915. Really, I can't see a great deal of difference."

"But don't you think there has been a big improvement in the game itself?" "Where?" parried the veteran. "The rules are practically the same; the bases, ball and bat are exactly the same. The gloves they wear now make fielding even easier. Believe me," he added with emphasis, "it was just as hard to hit a curve ball in 1885 as it is now. We had a few great hitters, then, just as you have now. Yes, and we had just as many weak ones. The only new thing in baseball that I know of is the spitball. In the old days they used to pitch something like it, but not so perfectly and not with such a sharp break."

"The spitball is really built on a new principle. That is practically the only new thing. In the old days we batted and stole bases just as you do now, and runners were blocked away from the plate in exactly the same manner."

"But about salaries?" was suggested. "Yes, there's been a change there," the "Cap" admitted, with a laugh. "What an ordinary ball player gets nowadays would have been a star's

salary some years ago. At that, I always got pretty good money." "Do you think you could hit the spitball if it was pitched to you now?" Joe Wood asked. "No, I don't," he admitted. "A few years ago, when Jack Chesbrough was in his prime with the spitter, Clarke Griffith hit me a hat that Jack could strike me out. The argument arose over the disbeliever in the spitball. I really did think it simply a lot of newspaper talk then. Well, we went out and tried it, and Jack did strike me out."

WILLARD NEEDS A SPARING PARTNER

Heavyweight Champ Issues Invitation to Heavyweights to Spar With Him.

New York, March 4.—Jess Willard's invitation to heavyweight boxers to spar with him during his training season at the Pioneer Athletic club brought forth one husky, big Bob Williams of Brooklyn. Williams' weight is 220 and he is 6 feet, 2 inches tall, but his two-round bout with the champion was not impressive. Willard hit Williams one hard punch on the nose and drew the first blood of his training season here. He also went through the usual sparring session of two rounds each with Jack Hemple and Walter Monahan.

Willard made his work a little heavier yesterday, but at the end of his session, it could be seen that he did not over-exert himself. The efforts to get Al Reich, Jim Coffey or Jim Savage to box with him have not been successful, and the champion knows the tactics of his two camp companions, Hemple and Monahan, so well that their bouts amount to little more than rehearsals in defense.

In the bout with Monahan yesterday Willard mixed it up and his sparring partner got over a few right swings of the jaw through Willard's guard. After the bout with Williams the Brooklyn boxer remarked: "This fellow can punch. Look at my nose."

Watching Willard work was Billy Maldoon. He was favorably impressed with Willard on account of his great bulk and speed. Maldoon would venture the opinion about Willard's condition. He did say, however, that it was not fair to judge a fighter's condition during the first ten days of his training. He thought, however, for a big man, Willard looked good.

From a commercial standpoint Willard's training sessions are a great success. The Pioneer club is well-fixed with spectators, and in the gallery are many women.

Tex Rickard, promoter, said he had received an order for 500 tickets from Chicago and that the order was filled with \$25 and \$15 seats. Rickard also stated that he had received orders for boxes from many prominent men in New York.

MISSOURI ATHLETIC CLUB IS OPENED

St. Louis, Mo., March 4.—On March 3, 1914, the fortress-like building housing the Missouri Athletic club was burned, with a loss of thirty lives. A few days later, one of the walls of the ruined structure fell on an adjoining building bringing death to seven more.

"Tonight, nearly two years after the disaster, a \$600,000 club house, built by the Missouri Athletic association, successor to the Missouri Athletic club, and erected on the site of the old building, was opened.

The new club house is eight stories high, of striking architecture. On the first floor are women's parlors, lobby and offices; a men's grill, and in a balcony a barber shop. On the second floor are a large dining room, a breakfast room, several private dining rooms, and store rooms. Five banquet halls are on the third

BASEBALL STARS TURN TO GOLF AS THEIR WINTER RECREATION



Left to right: Harry Heilmann, Eddie Burns and Billy Orr. More and more the stars of the diamond are coming to see the value of golf as a winter recreation. The photo shows three well-known players about to begin again in San Francisco. Harry Heilmann of the Detroit Tigers is shown ready to drive off; Eddie Burns, catcher of the champion Phillies, is making a tee; and Billy Orr, Salt Lake shortstop and former Athletic is acting as caddy.

HEINE ZIMMERMAN A REAL OPTIMIST

Says Manager Joe Tinker of Cubs Will Have Great Team This Season. Chicago, March 4.—Heine Zimmerman, star infielder of the Cubs, is glad that he is working for Charles H. Weeghman and Manager Joe Tinker and for the first time in his life he said today he was anxious for the training season to open.

PHILLIES READY TO START SOUTH

Philadelphia, March 4.—Seven members of the Philadelphia National league baseball team left here today for New York where they will take a steamer for Jacksonville, Fla. Included in the party were Chief Bender, the former American league pitcher; George McQuillan, Erskine Mayer, outfielders Paskert and Devore, and catchers Adams and Fish. Pitcher Chalmers and Catcher O'Connor will join the squad in New York, while other members of the team will go directly from their homes to St. Petersburg, where the early training will be held.

Manager Moran is already on the ground preparing for the arrival of his players. President Baker expects to make the journey by rail.

FRANK BAKER HAS AN INJURED HAND

Annapolis, Md., March 4.—J. Franklin Baker, home-run hitter, visited Annapolis and spent some time at St. John's college, where he talked to Coach Johnny Wilson and some of the basketball players and watched the students practice. He exhibited a mashed hand, which will prevent him from being very active around the diamond for some time.

The index and middle fingers on Baker's right hand were badly mashed and the whole hand was swathed in bandages. He explained that a heavy log fell on his hand a few days ago, while he was with some friends on his place near Trappe. It was done while Baker was skylarking with several of his friends around a woodpile. One of them brought a heavy piece of wood down on Baker's hand.

WOMEN WILL SEE HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT

New York, March 4.—Ever since it was announced that a section had been reserved for women and their escorts at the Willard-Moran contest interest shown in boxing by women has been surprising, according to the ticket sellers. A few months ago the presence of a woman at the ticket office of the garden looking for pasteboards was unheard of. Every day now women buy seats for the bout.

Few women have attended boxing bouts in New York, but the Willard-Moran bout may establish a fad. The presence of a dozen women at Willard's training quarters at the pioneer athletic club will result in a "Ladies' Day" every Friday from now until the bout takes place.

The women who saw Willard box were the most enthusiastic specta-

HIGH SPEED MOTOR REDUCES UPKEEP

It is not often a new motor car can be driven so as to secure for the owner or driver a good average mileage for gasoline consumption.

An Oakland dealer in Nebraska, Mr. J. B. Andre of Wilsonville, secured a very exceptional mileage from a new Oakland Model 38 Big Family Four, which is equipped with a high speed motor. Andre drove from Omaha to Wilsonville, a distance of 56 miles, on two gallons of gasoline, or 28 miles to a gallon.

The remarkable mileage is attributed by Andre to the operation of the high speed motor, which has been used by the Oakland company for several years, and is to be found in its perfected state in the Oakland's Big Family Four and their aristocratic Eight.

"I am not knocking any former Cub manager when I say Tinker is one guy who will have all the boys with him. He will listen to reason. I know I am not an angel as regards temperament on the ball field, but I am out there trying to win and the other bosses didn't seem to give me any credit. The talk about me being a hard man to handle is all bunk. Watch my speed under Tinker."

HOME MADE FLOUR IS POPULAR WITH THE FOLKS OF NEW SALEM

New Salem, N. D., March 4.—Home made flour has proved so popular with local farmers that David Dietz, who a year ago established a 25-barrel daily capacity mill, has erected an addition to the building to double the supply. The new plant will be in operation this week.

SISTERS BUILD NURSES' HOME.

New \$65,000 Building at Fargo Will Be Ready for Use in April. Fargo, N. D., March 4.—Sisters of St. Joseph are making arrangements for the dedication of the nurses' home which is being built in connection with St. John's hospital and which will be completed by April 1. The building will cost \$65,000 and will be used as a home for the nurses and quarters for the nurses' training school that is conducted in connection with St. John's hospital.

DAKOTAN SEEKS PRESIDENCY.

Chicago, March 4.—A referendum vote to nominate candidates for president and vice president of the United States on the socialist ticket will begin today, it was announced yesterday by Walter Lanfersiek, national secretary of the party here. Candidates for president are: Allen L. Benson, Yonkers, N. Y.; Arthur LeSueur, Minot, N. D.; and James H. Maurer, Reading, Pa.

Championship Battles In Basketball Will Be Better Than Last Year

Fargo, N. D., March 4.—When Dickinson, Michigan, Minot and Valley City meet in the armory of the A. C. at Fargo on March 10 and 11, four exceptionally fast high school quintets will battle for the state championship. According to information that is available at this time, the teams look even better than those that met here last year.

Dickinson Strong. Regarding the probable winner it is impossible to say anything that would be based on a reliable analysis. Dickinson, from this distance, looks like the best bet, but Minot comes in for serious consideration. In putting Mandan and Bismarck out of running, Dickinson has proven that the southwest district must be counted as one of the strongest teams entered.

In Richards at center the Dickinson quint has a star performer. Playing all season on floors of regular size, Dickinson has developed team work that accounts for the huge scores rolled up on opponents during the district tournament. That same team work will be in evidence on the armory floor at the A. C.

Minot Does Well. Minot also put some great teams out of running. Towner, considered

a probable winner, because of its undefeated record, was defeated in the first round. Bottineau also was represented by a strong quint and had won a game over Minot on its own floor.

Valley City has enjoyed the same privilege of playing on a big floor, having the armory there to play in, and which gave that quint a big advantage over the other one playing in the tournament held in that city.

While the southern quint is counted as strong, it is not looked on in the light of a "dark horse" and it is not expected to go into the finals.

Michigan, though not having a regulation floor to work on, nevertheless quickly found themselves at the tournament held at the university and defeated a strong quint when they put Grand Forks out of running.

While that school was represented by five men of exceptional individual ability, they will have to show better combination play at Fargo than they did at Grand Forks to keep in the running. The Michigan boys are clever basketballers and in excellent condition but it will probably take more than the two weeks left to develop a state champion quint out of them.

BASEBALL ASSURED IN FARGO-MOORHEAD FOR COMING SEASON

Fargo, N. D., March 4.—Baseball fans in Fargo and Moorhead have reason to be happy. The \$3,000 which it was necessary to raise in order to insure the two cities with baseball for the 1916 season has been raised.

The canvass committee reported the completion of its work to the baseball committee yesterday afternoon. The total amount raised by popular subscription amounted to exactly \$2,970, just \$30 short of the required amount. The committee sent Eurneister a wire yesterday afternoon,

informing him that Fargo and Moorhead could be depended upon.

Everything is now ready for the coming of Col. Unglaub. He has accepted terms advanced by the local committee and in turn has had his outline and proposed line-up for the season accepted by the committee. Just when he will leave for Fargo is not known at this time.

The local club will start the 1916 season under more advantageous conditions than it did last season and with an almost clean slate. There is money enough now on hand to liquidate all old debts, take care of the league dues and bond, and assure the preliminary expenses.

Hearing sounds under a strawstack, a farmer near Center dug out three pigs which had been missing 70 days. The animals were able to walk and within a few days seemed to be in as good condition as ever.



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