

# SPORTS

## If This Pitching Duel Between Fultz and Johnson Continues Much Longer, Someone Will Be Struck Out

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### Players Back Up Frat Head; Will Not Sign

#### President Fultz Declares Men Willing to Take Dispute Before Any Impartial Tribunal.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Reports that players, Grover C. Alexander, J. C. Smith and Harold Janvry have refused to sign contracts "should be significant," declared David L. Fultz, president of the players' fraternity. Fultz added that there will be many more refusals in the next few weeks.

#### Salary Question Not Included

"Attempts have been made to inject the salary question into this controversy," asserted the statement. "The salary question is in no way involved. Only one of our requests, the one regarding traveling expenses has anything to do with money and the amounts of these expenses are entirely in the discretion of the clubs. That is the reason we think they should pay them."

#### Not Hungry for Power.

"The fraternity is not hungry for power," asserted the statement. "It wants only enough to get a square deal and is now and always will be willing to have any of its grievances decided by an impartial tribunal. If the national board thinks its position is right, let it agree to give the national commission jurisdiction. We should be very glad to strongly recommend to the fraternity that it agree to abide by any decision of the commission. We used the word 'recommend' because in spite of the reports to the contrary the players run their own organization and are right in behind it. Now let us hear what the board has to say and let the public decide whose position is fair."

### Players To Hear Letter From Leader

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—A letter in the mails today setting forth the views of David L. Fultz, president of the baseball players' fraternity concerning the threatened strike of ball players, will be read at a meeting of local members of the fraternity here tomorrow night. Al DeWitt, a member of the Philadelphia Nationals said last night. Similar meetings will be held in other large cities in the next few days and are being awaited with interest by followers of the sport with the expectation that a new move in the campaign against the magnates will be revealed.

### Baseball

Danny Mueller, shifted to Cleveland last summer with Joe Boelling in the trade, bringing Elmer Smith and Joe Leonard to Washington, is expected to play with the Portland club of the Pacific Coast league next season. Walters has already been obtained on him.

Portland has three players who by all rights should be members of the Ball Lake Res. They are Bill-bee, Hig-bee and Be-bee.

Jack Stahl, retired as manager of the Red Sox to become a banker. So has Carrigan. But as long as world's series are played Jack Barry will be satisfied to stick to baseball.

Phil Lewis, a member of the Kansas City club last summer and a former Brooklyn player, is reported to have signed up with an annual income of something over \$10,000 a year. Phil's new job is the result of the death of his patients, who have left him independent financially. It is likely that he will quit baseball.

When a class B league such as the Eastern, with a million population to serve, decides on a 113-game schedule, it indicates that the fans of the New England section don't demand much baseball.

The Peoria Three-I club has signed as a pitcher Joe Prendergast, brother to Mike Prendergast, now a pitcher with the Chicago Cubs, who got his start with Peoria. Joe has had no professional experience.

Pitchers of the White Sox team will be sent to Mineral Wells the first of March, with the rest of the players reporting ten days later. Manager Rowland says pitching is his chief concern to start off with.

### At That the Boys Must Have Some Excuse For Pulling Off a Dinner



EVERY YEAR OR SO WHEN THE BOYS GET TOGETHER AND GIVE THE BOSS A DINNER THEY MAKE A LOT OF BEAUTIFUL SPEECHES WHICH—



THEY IMMEDIATELY PROCEED TO FORGET UNTIL THE NEXT DINNER.

BY GOLDBERG

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### Darcy Must Step Fast to Regain His Lost Prestige Ives' Wonderful Run Greatest Made In Billiards

Back in dear old Australia Les Darcy fought them all—He binged the largest ones that came Just as he binged the small. But in this here America Les acts as though afraid. Seven scraps are offered him—but He won't work at his trade.

Darcy "in Bad" Now.

Les Darcy will have to put up a wonderful battle in his first go in the U. S. A. to overcome the dislike that is being formed for him right now because of his "stalling" methods.

The Australian came here—so he said—for the purpose of fighting. Some wonderful offers have been made to him so far. But he has spurned every sincere one all of which has created an impression coinciding with that in Australia—that Darcy fled to America merely to escape possible war duty.

Dillon, Miske, Levinsky, McCoy, Gibbons, Moha—all are anxious to take on the Kangaroo. So is George Chip, who has knocked out Darcy in Sydney. And a half dozen promoters are willing to pay Darcy big money. But he seems to have lost his taste for battle. And so, the erstwhile blacksmith is skidding

slowly but surely from the lofty place to which he was lifted by American boxing fans.

As to stymies.

Concerning the stymie, Harry Vardon, the English star, says that he will be the next bantam champion of the world. What? Yes, 'tis the same Johnny who once wore the crown. Harken to his lay.

"I'd Be Chamo Again"—Couton Johnny Couton claims that he will be the next bantam champion of the world. What? Yes, 'tis the same Johnny who once wore the crown. Harken to his lay.

"Kid Williams caught me when I was sick, knocked me out and took away the title. That was on June 9, 1914. For nearly a year after that I did nothing but rest and build up my health. Then I began boxing again. Eight months ago I actually got back into the ring with just one purpose in mind—to become champion again.

"I've had seven real fights since then—and won them all. Right now I'm in the best condition of my career. I am only 27 years old—which is still young for a fighter. All I want now is a chance to have lost his taste for battle. And so, the erstwhile blacksmith is skidding

the story of the ex-champion who came back.

Death Recalls Ives' Feat.

The death of J. Ferdinand Poggenburg a few months ago recalls one of the most remarkable billiard games ever played. But Poggenburg, strangely enough, figured in it only as a spectator. Early in 1909 Poggenburg dropped into a billiard parlor in New York and met Frank Ives, the "wizard of the cue" then in the final stages of tuberculosis. Ives was just making ready to depart for Mexico where he died a few months later.

"Let's play an au revoir game, Frank," suggested Poggenburg.

"I'm not feeling very fit tonight—but I'll try it anyway," agreed Ives. "What'll it be?"

"Let's make it for 600 points of 142," answered Poggenburg.

Ives won the bank, counted on the opening shot—and Poggenburg sat down to wait his turn which never came. Playing with the skill that was uncanny, Ives, to the utter astonishment of all who were watching him, made the 600 in one run. And then, his task completed, the wan, emaciated wizard of the cue collapsed. It was the last real game that Ives ever played and all things considered the most amazing performance in the entire history of the billiard game.

### Enid Is Weakest Team In Central Conference Race

Standing of the Teams.

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
Oklahoma City	10	2	.750
Shawnee	8	4	.667
Chickasha	7	5	.583
El Reno	6	6	.500
Enid	4	8	.333

Games This Week.

Oklahoma City at Enid. El Reno at Chickasha.

Every basketball team in the Central conference has been seen in action now, and only Enid appears to be out of the running.

Oklahoma City and Chickasha split the first pair while Shawnee was winning two from Enid. Last week Oklahoma City took two from Enid by overwhelming margins while Shawnee was splitting with El Reno and Chickasha was idle.

Enid expects to have reinforcements for the remainder of her games, but with a handicap of four straight defeats and the added handicap of the extra training which her opponents will have, will make an almost unmountable obstacle.

Among the others, though, it looks like a toss-up.

### Basketball

The Northwestern normal school's Northwestern Rangers have won nineteen out of twenty-three games played to date on their Pacific coast tour, amassing a total of 1,922 points to 419 for their opponents. They have two weeks yet to go.

A team composed of faculty members of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical college of Stillwater, has challenged a team composed of faculty members of the Central Normal school.

The Sooners turned the tables on the Aggies in the second game of the series, winning 24 to 23, when Minor fouled as he tossed a goal which would have tied the score. The Aggies won the first game, 28 to 11.

Bartlesville got the jump on Pawhuska, but a Pawhuska spurt in the second half, featured by eleven field goals by Hurt, enabled the latter to win, 38 to 24.

Ryan won from Ninnekah, 31 to 27 at Ryan.

Six games were played on the Central Normal court in one day, the Juniors beating the Subs, 29 to 14, the Faculty beating the Freshmen, 32 to 11, the Sophomores winning over the Seniors, 31 to 16, the regulars beating the Yankigans, 30 to 15, the Senior girls beating the Sophomores 22 to 23 and the Junior girls beating the Freshmen girls, 37 to 12.

Geary celebrated the opening of its new court by winning three games in one day, the regulars defeating Calumet 28 to 5, the second team winning from Bridgport, 15 to 11 and the girls beating the Hydro girls, 37 to 1.

### Untried Men as Managers Will Lead Two Majors League Clubs This Year

Among the major league club managers signed up for the coming season are two brand new pilots—Jack Barry of the Red Sox and Fred Mitchell of the Cubs. Barry, who succeeds Bill Carrigan as leader of the world's champions, will be the only playing manager in the American league and most likely the only pilot performing regularly in the entire big show.

As a player Barry ranks with the top-notchers of the game and has the distinction of being the only pastime who has taken part in six world's championship series, four with the Athletics and two as a member of the Red Sox. He starred in the short field with the Athletics for seven years and then moved over to secondbase. After joining the Red Sox he displays the same brand of brilliant playing that had won distinction for him in Philadelphia.

Barry Youngster.

Barry will be 30 years old next April. His first baseball experience was gained as a member of the Holy Cross college team. After leaving college in 1908 he joined the Athletics and with Eddie Collins formed one of the great Keystone combinations. Barry is married and makes his home at Worcester, Mass.

Fred Mitchell, the new manager of the Chicago Cubs, is a veteran pastime and coach. He began his baseball career as a pitcher for the St. John, N. B. team seventeen years ago. He played with the Boston Americans during 1901 and a part of 1902 and finished the latter sea-

son with the Athletics. He was with the Philadelphia Nationals in 1903 and 1904 and with Brooklyn in 1905. The next season he was with the Braves and remained there four years. While a member of the Maple Leafs Mitchell gave up pitching and became a catcher. As a catcher he returned to the big show in 1910, with the New York Americans. Later he returned to the International league for a season and then became assistant to Manager Stalling of the Braves. Last spring he coached the Harvard baseball squad and turned out one of the best Crimson teams in history. Meanwhile he has been a pilot had been considerably boosted by the successful manner in which he handled the Braves during the absence of Manager Stalling.

Mitchell Veteran.

Mitchell was born at Cambridge, Mass., in 1879, and with the exception of two years spent at Concord, N. H., he has always made his home in Boston or its vicinity.

The veteran major league managers for the coming season include Connie Mack of the Athletics, John McGraw of the Giants, Griffith of the Braves, and George Stallings of the Yankees. All four have been leading big league outfits for many years. Hughie Jennings can also be reckoned as something of a veteran, since it is now ten years since he first took charge of the Detroit Tigers. Next in line comes Miller Huggins, who led the St. Louis Cardinals, while since 1911, Wilbert Robinson, took charge of the Brooklyn team in 1914 and Bill Donovan became pilot of the New York Yankees the same year.

Pat Moran of the Phillies, Clarence Rowland of the White Sox and Lee Fohl of Cleveland will start their third year as major league managers next April. Christy Mathewson, pilot of the Red Sox, will be in his fourth year. Jimmy Callahan, leader of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and Flander Jones of their respective teams last season and may be classed as new managers, although Callahan and Jones had had some previous managerial experience, both having taken a turn at piloting the White Sox some years ago.

### The Sportlight

The Proof of Spring.

By softer winds across the scene? In scarlet flame against the green? Or where the bluebird wings his flight Across the hedges, row on row. A sapphire streak of light Outlined against the melting snow? I know a test that's surer still Than any bird's or insect's tune. Or dogwood blossoms from the hill That beckon us across to June. When first the stars the chorus swell To gather force in frenzied joy As some wild fan stands up and yells— "ATTABOY!"

Form.

One definition of form has been given to this effect: "Form is the brief interval between getting ready and going stale."

There is one weakness to this. The highest test of form is not a "brief interval," but an extended period, such as Cobb, Speaker, Evans, Travers, Norris, Williams or other champions know. Cobb's "brief interval" lasted nine years, which as you might conjecture, is considerable interval. Adjusted to the above epigram might be this: "The test is in the average over the long route."

Which calls to mind the fact that Bill Carrigan has left the game with far less appreciation from the general public than he deserved. No one thought of him as a "wizard," "miracle man," "pearls leader" or the rest of it. But few managers have handled big clubs with greater skill or keener diplomacy, where the result shows in the record.

Mother Goose on the Links.

Tom, Tom, the duffer's son, Said he played the game for fun. Were into the bunkers, far away. —Hickey.

What is Courage?

A friend of ours, for whose opinion we have an abiding respect, gives "willingness" as a fitting definition of courage. Another gives "determination," which is much the same.

We have always believed that efficiency is a big part of courage. In that efficiency is a fitting definition of courage. Another gives "determination," which is much the same.

Jack Barry, as leader of the Boston Red Sox, will be the sole surviving playing manager this next campaign.

It is estimated that at least a quarter of a million persons now play basketball as members of regular clubs, and the sport has spread all over the United States and Canada and to Europe, South Africa and the far east. In the early days of the game there were as many as twenty teams on a side, but since 1891 there have been five to a team. The rules have been standardized of late years, and basketball, in its improved form, promises to become the great American indoor sport.

WHEN it comes to tobacco an' complexions, any improvement on Nature ain't any improvement. Velvet is made Nature's way.

Velvet Joe

### Basketball Game Is 25 Years Old Today

Basketball's twenty-fifth birthday finds the game flourishing as never before, and crowding baseball and track athletics for popular favor. It was just a quarter of a century ago today, Jan. 13, 1892, that the first match, named the basketball, was played in Springfield, Mass. between two class teams of the Y. M. C. A. training school. The sport was invented by Dr. James Naismith, then of the Springfield institution, but now of the University of Kansas. It is estimated that at least a quarter of a million persons now play basketball as members of regular clubs, and the sport has spread all over the United States and Canada and to Europe, South Africa and the far east. In the early days of the game there were as many as twenty teams on a side, but since 1891 there have been five to a team. The rules have been standardized of late years, and basketball, in its improved form, promises to become the great American indoor sport.

### Ray Chapman Looks Like Real Comback

Although he did not do very well in 1916, Ray Chapman, the great shortstop of the Indians, is expected to come back strong this year. Raymond is 28 years old today, as he was born in Old Kentucky, at Owensboro, on January 15, 1891. He is now at the age when he ought to be at his best, and the fact that about fifteen major league clubs have been trying to get him indicates that there is no lack of faith in his ability to regain his 1915 form, when he was hailed as the best shortstop in Ban Johnson's little old ball league. Chapman broke into professional ball in 1910, playing with Davenport, Iowa, and Springfield and Kewanee, Ill. In 1912 he was with Toledo, where he played a great game at short and batted .315. Toward the close of the season he was turned over to Cleveland, and won a regular berth with the Indians right from the jump. Last year he broke an ankle and failed to put him out of the game for some time. He was tried at third and second last year, but did not show up well.

### Noonday Luncheon

Special Attention to Committee Meetings Tables Reserved

LEE HUCKINS

### Welsh-Mitchell, Dillon-Miske Are Main Boxing Bouts on Week's List

Two notable battles are on the calendar for the current week, one involving lightweight Champion Freddie Welsh and his dangerous challenger, Richie Mitchell, the other being a return bout between the sensational Billy Miske and Jack Dillon. The former will be staged at Milwaukee and the latter at New York. Both are set for Tuesday night.

Negotiations for a title match between Welsh and Mitchell, which have been in progress for several weeks, have been revived by the announcement that the rivals will get together again in a ten-round set. That Welsh has a wholesale respect for the increasing fighting prowess taken by the champion, before he would sign for the Milwaukee match Welsh insisted that an agreement be made to the effect that Mitchell will give him a return match in the event that the Wisconsin star scores a knockout. Welsh has heard of the knockdowns Mitchell has administered to Joe Welling and Joe Hillers, and the champion knows that the Pader is getting stronger continually. For that reason Welsh wishes to insure himself of a return contest if next week's bout should result in a decisive victory for Mitchell. A guarantee of \$5,000 that this agreement will be carried out has been posted.

Mitchell's Chances Good.

The opening match will be the second between the pair. Last winter they fought ten vicious rounds at Milwaukee, and the majority verdict called the bout a draw. Since that time Mitchell has improved wonderfully. His recent clean-up victories over Welling and Hillers has clearly demonstrated that the winner will be decided in the coming match Mitchell will meet another world's champion in January when he faces Johnny Kilbane in a ten-round tilt at Cleveland on January 20. Kilbane must be reckoned as a lightweight title factor hereafter. In fact, there is serious talk of championship encounter between Welsh and Kilbane in the near future, but whether this match develops will depend upon the outcome of the two contests in which Mitchell will figure.

#### Darcy's Head Swelled.

According to those who have seen contact with Darcy, the Australian is suffering from an exaggerated swelling of his head. It is said that he has been made for his services by his manager and has indicated that promoters have to boost that figure considerably if they wish to land him. There is one spot in the country where Darcy would draw the kind of money he is now being offered for and that is in New York, and it is doubtful if even that city will pay the price he exacts. Unless he makes his terms considerably, it is not likely that the invader will figure in a ring bout in the immediate future.

### Denison's Troubles Multiply Rapidly

Just when everything seemed rosy in Denison and the financial problem had been settled satisfactorily, a new trouble has arisen in the resignation of Bob Peabody as manager. Peabody says he will not attempt to sign players under the conditions demanded by the owners. President J. W. Bell has called a meeting of the league directors at Muskogee next Sunday to discuss the question of league reform and adopt the 1917 playing schedule.

In any event, Chicago has drawn more than its share of good catchers. In the last ten years the White Sox has had included Billy Sullivan and Ray Schalk. The Cub list has embraced Johnny Miller, Jimmy Archer and Roger Bresnahan. Call out five other catchers anywhere near the same class.



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