

Polo Grounds Favor Yanks

New York Infield Is Smallest Playing Ground in Big Leagues; Short Fences Give Edge to Yankees' Long Hitters

BY BILLY EVANS
World's Greatest Baseball Expert
 NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—From a financial standpoint, the Polo grounds is ideal for a world series. Only the Braves' field at Boston offers a larger seating capacity which, of course, means a bigger gate.

From an artistic standpoint, I know of no poorer field for the staging of a world series than the Polo grounds. I do not have reference to the playing condition of the field, because it is always in fine shape. I have in mind the confines of the outfield.

The right field stands at the Polo grounds at the closest point are just 256 feet, the required distance for a legal home run. In your mind picture the distance from the home plate to first base, which is 90 feet, double that distance, and add 74 feet, and you have a mental picture of the short distance from the home plate at the Polo grounds to the shortest point in right field. The shortest point from the plate to the left field bleachers is only a trifle greater. As the lines diverge toward center field, the playing territory becomes much larger.

However, it is possible to get more fluke home runs at the Polo grounds than at any other major league park I have ever worked.

Right here I want to say in behalf of "Babe" Ruth, that he has profited only slightly as a result of such a condition. I have it on the very best of authority that only three home runs made by him at the Polo grounds this year have been of the fluke nature. That is, balls that just cleared the stand at the shortest point in right field, hits that would have been outs on the ordinary ball park.

These unusual conditions at the Polo grounds very often result in a game being decided other than on its merits. As a matter of fact a four-run lead is nothing to brag of at the Polo grounds. I have seen such leads wiped out almost in the twinkling of the eye, by a couple of passes, an error, and then a high fly to right or left, which barely clears the stands, while the fielder stood watching the course of the ball, in a position to make an easy catch, had he the room.

It is possible to say that neither team will get any of the best of it, since the games are to be played at the Polo grounds. That is all very true, yet it is far from pleasing to have some tall fly, that on the ordinary grounds would be an easy out, turned into a Polo grounds home run. That happens time and time again during the summer.

I am of the opinion that the Yankees have a slight advantage, in that all the games are to be played on the Polo grounds. Any man in the New York American lineup is liable to get a home run because all of them take a free swing. The fielders have a number of slingers, but I am sure the advantage on the score will be decidedly in favor of the Yankees.

The short confines of the stands in right and left field goes directly back at the pitching. When working at the Polo grounds, a pitcher can never for a minute get careless with men on and "groove" a ball. He is always working under restraint.

It is simply "murder" to pitch inside to Ruth or Meusel.

It is my hope that if a home run plays a part in the result of any game, that it is a legitimate home run, not some of the excuses I have seen registered at the Polo grounds.

Whitman to Test Varsity

Washington Gridders to Face First Real Game of Season Saturday

BY HAROLD MARQUIS
O A C H B A G S HAW'S Washington football team faces its first real test of the season Saturday when the Sun Dodgers run up against the scrappy Whitman team at the Stadium in their second game of the year.

The Whitman team has been playing Washington for years, and every time they have taken a licking, but the Missionaries are said to have one of the best teams in years, and they may slip over a win on the Dodgers.

The Washington team defeated the Ninth Army corps 24 to 7 last week, but the Purple and Gold didn't look any too good. They had not had a real chance to work out an offensive and then, too, they were out-weighted considerably. This week they have the advantage in weight.

Whitman made a fine showing against the heavy Multnomah club team last week and, also beaten and greatly outweighed, they managed to score on the Rose city outfit.

Ray Eckmann, Hill, Leo Zell and Harry Quass are expected to start the game in the backfield for Washington Saturday, with Johnny Wilson as a possibility. Zell, who was out of last week's game with a slight injury, is doing better kicking than Wilson. Hill showed a lot of promise Saturday.

Forep and Ferry or Gelligan will play the ends, Ingram and Clarke will take care of the tackles. Hobi and Gundlach or Rogge will play guards, with Hy near at center.

The Whitman lineup has not been announced. Ben Comrada, tackle, and Ben Tilton, halfback, are their mainstays.

The sweetest day of the year when?



There was more punishment handed out in that Tommy Sontag-Bill Bethel fight last night, says Sam Belkin, than since Sam boxed apples over in Wenatchee last fall.

Jack Robinson is built like Virgil Garvey around the diner, if you know what we mean.

Notables—Bernie Brin, Harold Weeks, Earl Staley, Sidney De Verese.

Brin was the only one of this quartet of notables who wouldn't tell how he got past the doorkeeper.

In the cheap seats—Matt Matthews, Ludwig Frank.

Big Houseman didn't sit as far from the ring last night as he did a week ago. He sat farther away than ever.

Not So Notable—Art Emerick, J. W. Bullock, Gus Brown.

Jim Petty, the colored battler, turned in the classic bow of the evening when he was introduced just before the main event.

Among Those Standing—Vaughn Lovett.

Harry Stone—the taller—was in a ringside seat. Wonder if his seat suited him.

Matt McGern, manager of the Hibernian ball club, was a second last night. He's falling down. His ball team has been first most of the season.

AMONG THE LATE ARRIVALS—BOB CRONIN AND THE INEVITABLE SUPPLY OF WRIGLEY SPECIAL.

More Notables—Judge C. C. Dalton, Dr. A. O. Lee, Joe Cohen, Ben F. Nield, Pete Forrest.

Charley Scoville, the funny man of the Star composing room, is another bird who was present in one of the better seats last night who is never going to tell how he got by the door.

Charlie Roth, of the Pavilion barber shop, horned into a ringside seat. Whenever the fighters didn't come up to expectations Charley made a lot of cutting remarks.

Harry Druzman is the barometer for the haberdasher business. Last week's shirt and collar trade wasn't so good. Harry was sitting in one of the cheap seats near the door.

Ned Moe was lucky last night. Nobody showed up for that ringside seat he was holding down. A week ago Ned saw the fight from the second section after the holder of the stub arrived.

Last List of Notables—Phil Cook, Arthur Ives, Dave Williams, Benny Perlica, Julian Schwartz.

GOOD NIGHT!

Baltimore Slated to Sell Stars

Orioles Too Good for International League; May Bring \$300,000

BY ROY GROVE
 JACK DUNN, manager of the Baltimore Orioles, like Connie Mack of the Athletics, has found that there is such a thing as being too good.

And just as Cornelius wrecked the team that won pennants for Philadelphia because the Athletics so far outclassed the rest that they could not draw, so must Dunn break up his own team.

Dunn's real idea was to be able to grab off a major league franchise for Baltimore. Only this year has he at last admitted defeat.

And now with a team that compares favorably with any of those in the big show, Dunn will have to put the rollers under it.

Robinson Shaded by Bout Is Called Draw; Salinas Shows Trave Some Real Infighting

BY LEO H. LASSEN
 TRAVIE DAVIS shaded Salinas Jack Robinson in their fourth round bout at the Pavilion last night, Referee Roy David calling the battle a draw.

Salinas came in the ring with a waistline a la Willie Meehan, but after the first round he showed that he knew something about the art of infighting, and whenever the pair got together in the clinches the going was all to the gravity for the Californian, as he was too smart for the Coast champion.

Davis had all the best of the long range fighting, as he tossed his left and threw his right all over Robinson's classic features thruout the four rounds whenever they boxed at a distance.

The only round in which Davis had any real shade was the third, when he used his right with telling effect. The other three rounds were fairly even.

A knockdown in the first round gave Eddie Nell, the Anaerotes bantamweight, the decision over Eddie Moore, the Seattle youngster. It was the only edge in the bout. Both boys were very cautious thruout the going. Outside of a few exchanges it savored strongly of a song and dance number. Charlie Givens called the decision.

Harry Gibbs put up a game fight against Johnny Jordan but Jordan was in better condition and earned the verdict.

Bill Bethel knocked out Tommy Sontag in the fourth round of their bout. Bill didn't know where his punches were going to land, but he kept calling 'em in and Tommy managed to take 'em until the fourth, when he went down and out for keeps.

Cliff Taro won the verdict over Billy Everett and Joe Companion beat Phil Trippitt in the opener.

The show was staged by the Cascade A. C.

How Big League Fields Compare With N. Y. Lot

This table shows the comparative distances from the plate to left and right field walls or stands, respectively, in all the playing fields used by major league teams. It shows how much smaller the Polo grounds is in comparison to other fields:

City	Left Field	Right Field
New York (N.Y.)	286.8	356.3
Cincinnati (O.)	320	384
Boston (A.)	321	313.6
Philadelphia (N.)	335	372
St. Louis (A.)	340	315
Chicago (N.)	343	328
Detroit (A.)	345	379
Pittsburg (N.)	356.6	376.6
Chicago (A.)	362	362
Cleveland (A.)	376	290
Philadelphia (A.)	380	380
Boston (A.)	402.5	365
Brooklyn (N.)	418.9	296.2
Washington (A.)	424	324

*Field used also by team from this city in other leagues.

HE WON'T SELL; OTHERS INSIST
 He says he won't. Other International league team officials say he will.

"Either he must sell or let the draft be restored," is their view. "We can never hope to build up our team to equal the one Dunn has—a team that could easily finish first in first division of either major league."

And the dope in International league circles is that Dunn already is laying his plans for selling the top-notchers of his outfit.

TRIO TO GIANTS!
 According to the dope, Jack Ogden, Otis Lawry and Jack Bentley will go to the Giants for \$150,000. Ogden and Bentley are pitchers, right and left respectively. Bentley also plays first base and his well over 400. He's the leading home-run hitter of the circuit. Ogden is the leading pitcher of the league.

Lawry is the smallest player in the league, but probably the fastest. He's the classiest outfielder and hits over .300 despite his size.

OTHER STARS
 Dunn has in Max Bishop, second baseman, and Joe Boley, shortstop, two of the best young infielders in the game today. Either is worth \$50,000 of any magnate's money.

He has a star left-hander in Robert Groves. Ben Egan, catcher, and Merwin Jacobson, who covers the center garden, also are high class players. Last year "Jake" led the league in batting. This year he was topped by Bentley.

These seven stars would probably bring Dunn close to \$300,000 if he put them on the block, and he has other youngsters and men who would bring good prices.

ORIOLES MAKE HISTORY
 Baltimore has made baseball history this year, ringing down the curtain with the most games won in any league, 119. The old record was 116 wins, made by the Chicago Cubs in 1906.

Among other feats this year the Orioles tied the record of 27 straight wins, held by the Corsicana club of the Texas league, and made in 1902.

It will be remembered that "Babe" Ruth came from the Baltimore club and that John McGraw and Hugh Jennings, in the days of long ago, got in some mean throws around the home plate and at short for the same aggregation.

To form a trailer for velocipedes, an inventor has patented an affair with two wheels, saddle and handle bars.

Series Chatter: Ruth and Home Runs

BY BILLY EVANS
World's Greatest Baseball Authority
 NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—What is the value of a home-run hitter in a world series? Will Babe Ruth play as big a role in the coming clash between the Yankees and Giants as is generally expected?

What part have home runs played in deciding the outcome of world series games? Has any world series been won largely thru the medium of some player's ability to hit home runs?

Would the chances of the New York American league club be seriously handicapped if Ruth should suffer an injury that would keep him out of the world series? How much does the presence of Ruth in the lineup mean to the Yankees? When he is in a batting slump, does his failure to hit have any bearing on the rest of the team?

These and a score of other questions have been fired at me when it was certain that the New York Yankees and the great Babe Ruth would be the American league representatives in the world series.

The ordinary series offers enough topics for conversation, but when the outstanding figures in baseball, Babe Ruth, is listed among the performers, it makes the annual clash all the more interesting.

ORDINARILY, home-run hitters have not played an extremely important role in many of the world series. It is apparent that the value of a slugger would be more evident over a campaign of 154 games than in a short series of nine contests. It is also a matter of record that in a short series, pitchers work far more carefully on a batter noted for his ability to hit home runs than they do during the ordinary game. It is always customary to pass the home-run hitter when the situation is dangerous rather than pitch to him and take a chance on his breaking up the ball game.

It is a certainty that Babe Ruth will draw many an intentional base on balls during the series if he happens to bat with a couple of men on and the Giants in the lead. That is good baseball.

THERE is a chance that Ruth may not do many of the great things the public expect of him. In a pinch he is going to be passed. When the Giant pitchers elect to work on him there is sure to be nothing at stake. At such times Ruth is going to look at the very best of the Giants' pitchers can offer. Ruth hates to disappoint. He will certainly try his best to come thru with a home run or two. At such times Ruth is very liable to strike out. So that Ruth is liable to whiff more often than he makes home runs.

Ordinarily home runs do not play a determining part in a world series. The 1911 and 1915 and 1920 events were exceptions in this particular. In 1911 Frank Baker acquired his title of "Home Run" Baker by hitting Mathewson and Marquard for home runs. Those two drives beat the Giants. In 1915 three home runs decided the final game of the series and gave the championship to the Boston Americans. Duffy Lewis contributed one of the homers, Harry Hooper the other two.

HOWEVER, there is no denying that the New York Americans would feel greatly the loss of Ruth, if an injury prevented his playing. Ruth is the punch of the club. When he is hitting, it seems contagious. When he is in a slump, the club plays as if depressed by the fact.

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Some Star Swim Prizes Have Not Been Called For

There are still several medals and ribbons for winners and placers in The Star swimming meet that have not been called for yet. Winners should try to call for them in the morning at The Star if possible. Some medals have been mailed this week upon request and if they are not received by Friday The Star should be notified.

WASHINGTON CREW WORK UNDER WAY

ABOUT 100 freshmen and new varsity oarsmen reported for the first crew turnout called by Coach Ed Leader at the University this week. All the new material is light, according to the coach, who wants more heavy men in the yearling shell.

Coach Leader, Prof. Leslie J. Ayer and Morgan Van Winkle, former commodore of the Varsity Boat club, spoke to the new men about crew. Plans are progressing for crew quarters next spring which will accommodate about 20 men.

Varsity turnouts will be started next Monday, says Coach Leader. Captain Mike Murphy, Clarence Magnusson, Rolly Franoe, Wright Parkins and Sam Shaw from last season's varsity will be eligible this season. Bob Ingram and Zeke Clarke are on the football squad at present. Turnouts will continue daily until Thanksgiving.

Ichiya Kumagai, Jap Net Star, to Play Exhibition

Ichiya Kumagai, famous Japanese tennis star and member of the Jap Davis cup team, is expected to arrive in Seattle within the next two weeks en route to his home in Japan. Marshall Allen, Seattle tennis star, who arrived here from Eastern tournament play last week, is making arrangements for an exhibition match to be played indoors while Kumagai is in Seattle. Definite announcement will be ready within the next few days.

Waite Hoyt Is Real Big Guy

Waite Hoyt, the 22-year-old pitcher of the New York Yanks, is no mid-get. He is 5 feet 11 1/2 inches tall and weighs 190 pounds. Hoyt has seen six years' service in the big time. He is regarded as the Yank's best pitching bet, outside of Carl Mays.

A proposed high level bridge between Portsmouth and Norfolk, Va., will have a span of 1,850 feet between towers.

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BOLDT NOW CONTROLS BALL CLUB

Jim Boldt is now the controlling factor in the Seattle Baseball club. William Klepper, president of the club for the past two years, and Jim Brewster, secretary-treasurer, and Director George Hardenbergh have announced that they have turned over their stock in the club to Boldt.

Klepper will continue to act as president of the club until the annual meeting October 15.

MAYS' DELIVERY IS DECEPTIVE

Carl Mays, former Portland leaver, the mainstay of the Yankees, is the only underhand pitcher in the big show. He throws the ball almost from the ground. His delivery is more deceptive than his "stuff," according to American league players.

In order to move a 65,000-gallon water tank at Engle, N. M., it was jacked up and a track built under it.

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Three Big Ball Series Getting Started Today

Three baseball series are opening today.

The world series is getting under way in New York with the Yanks and Giants staging their little quarrel for the big title.

Chicago's city series, between the White Sox and Cubs, is hopping off today.

Louisville, A. A. champions, and Baltimore, International champions, are opening their junior world series in Louisville this afternoon.

All of the series will be the best five out of nine games.

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