

KEEPING PACE WITH SPORTING EVENTS

PEACETIME CONTRACTS FOR GIANTS

Alacrity With Which Stars and Recruits are Signing Up Shows That New York Didn't Wield the Knife—Fat Salaries on Other Teams to be Sliced.

New York, Jan. 19.—The speed with which the Giants are signing their contracts this winter seems to be a fine omen for the players.

Obviously the Giants are sending out peace time contracts or there would not be such a rush to get on the band wagon.

Ebbets of Brooklyn has not yet sent out contracts, but recently signed Rube Marquard in his office.

It is known that this club will cut some contracts, but these will be only justifiable reductions.

Griffith of Washington recently announced that he would have no repeat in Washington salaries.

Speaking of contracts, one of the few Federal League contracts to hold over for 1918 was the four year contract signed by Les Nunamaker.

Sweeney got a \$5,000 per annum contract for the seasons of 1914, 1915 and 1916, while Nunamaker drew down \$5,000 per annum for the seasons of 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918.

Dick Hoblitzel, the former Red Sox first baseman, is convalescing rapidly from the effects of an operation in a Cincinnati hospital.

When peace comes it likely will be discovered that either Hoblitzel or Gainer will be sent to the Athletics, along with Hal Junvra and Tillie Walker.

Lewis wants to wrestle winner. New York, Jan. 19.—Ed ("Strangler") Lewis, the inventor of the deadly head lock, is out with a challenge to meet the winner of the Zbyszko-Olin wrestling championship match.

Dempsey fought while invalidated. Poor old Jack Dempsey ingenuously rounded out his career twenty-three years ago today when he took on Tommy Ryan at Coney Island.

Cochran beats George Sutton. New York, Jan. 19.—Welker Cochran completed his seasons at 18.2 ball line billiards with George Sutton, the handless professional.

Sheppard seeks back army pay. Washington, Jan. 18.—Melville W. Sheppard, the middle-distance runner, has filed a claim with the War Department for his pay as a private in the 69th Infantry.

May's record good. Although underhand pitching is supposed to "kill" the man who sticks to it, Carl May, the Red Sox star, seems to thrive.

Princeton player scores a victory. "Hobey" Baker, former Princeton football star and hockey player, recently scored a victory for the American aviation corps in France.

Cornell beats Princeton five. Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 19.—Cornell came through with the punch in the last five minutes of last night's game with Princeton and won by the score of 22 to 20.

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SEMI-FINAL AT ARENA TO BE FAST BOUT

New Haven, Jan. 19.—Fans are interested in the debut of Bobby North of New York, who for a year and a half was sparring partner for Benny Leonard.

North went two draws with Willie Jackson, the boy who knocked out John Dundee and then defeated K. O. Eggers.

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COBB IS PLACED IN FIRST CLASS BY DRAFT BOARD

Augusta, Ga., Jan. 19.—Tyus Raymond Cobb, star outfielder of the Detroit Americans, has been placed in Class I by the exemption board here, where he is registered.

MACE CHAMPION MONEY MAKER OF BOXING

One of the most ferocious battles in ring history was fought near London 56 years ago today, Jan. 19, 1862, when Jem Mace and Tom King faced each other for the first time.

During his championship career of 10 years, and his subsequent barn-storming tours, Jem Mace earned over a million dollars.

Another boxer of the name of Lewis—Gus Lewis, the Philadelphia bantam, has started out to win pugilistic fame.

George Sisler, Ollie O'Mara and Red Smith are practicing their eye on the pins these days.

Down in Havana, where it's nice and warm, John Lobert is dawdling away the winter as boss of the race track employes.

Boston fans are delighted with the prospect of a pre-season series between the Red Sox and the Braves.

Of the men the Bostonians obtained from Connie Mack, Melnis averages second among the first basemen in the American League.

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PRINCETON PLAYER SCORES A VICTORY

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Talk Of Sports

Batting Nelson is gathering a string of boxers with a view to devoting himself to the managerial end of the game in future.

Pitcher Thomas of the Minneapolis team won a place among the "iron men" and "horses" of baseball last season.

The Brooklyn Dodgers and the Boston Red Sox will meet at Albany, N. Y., March 15, and go through in a bunch to their training camp at Hot Springs, Ark.

The United States Football association, the soccer governing body, will not hold any meetings this year.

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UNCLE SAMEUL'S BASEBALL TEAM HAS REAL STARS

Here is a ball team in the service of Uncle Sam that might come out with a challenge to the winner of the 1918 World's Series and make an interesting fight.

MORAN PREDICTS KEEN RACE FOR FLAG IN 1918

New York, Jan. 18.—Patrick Moran, the stocky field director of the Phillies, made his second winter visit to New York yesterday for the purpose of discussing the club's training plans with President Baker of the Quaker club.

Moran escaped back to his home town of Fitzburg, Mass., last night without suffering any new calamity.

Whether the Phillies contemplate any new deals Moran would not say.

He contented himself with remarking that the owner of the Phillies will be ready to strengthen the club whenever any advantageous deal presents itself.

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BENNY KAUFF IS IN OUTFIELD OF ALL-STAR TEAM

Official Records Almost Without Exception Give Stars Place on Mythical All-National League Aggregation—Alexander and Killifer the Battery.

New York, Jan. 19.—An All-National League baseball team, the selection of which is based upon the official records of the leading players for at least 50 games in their respective positions, shows almost without exception, the famous stars at their accustomed stations.

The theory is that a player on such a combination should be equally strong at bat and in the field.

Alexander was also fourth in percentage on the games-won-and-lost basis and his combined batting and fielding averages produce a higher grand average than any of his rivals.

Catcher Killifer, who is Alexander's battery mate and who was sold to the Chicago Nationals recently with the pitcher, easily makes the place behind the bat.

Among the first basemen Konetchy, of Boston and Chase, of Cincinnati, are almost tied for first place; the Braves' initial sack guardian winning the position by the scant margin of three points in grand average.

Another Boston player fits in on the midway sack for Rawlings' records at bat and in the field show to better advantage than either Cutshaw of Brooklyn or Doyle of Chicago.

For the outfield, Roush of Cincinnati, Wheat, of Brooklyn, and Kauff, of New York form the leading trio.

Wheat while Kauff falls three points below the latter's average.

The personnel of the team, with the averages and grand averages for the season, are as follows:

Table with columns: Position, Player, Club, B.A., F.A., G.Aver., O.E.R.P.C. Lists stats for Alexander, Killifer, Konetchy, etc.

PITCHER ONLY THINKS HE CAN'T HIT, AVERS RUTH OF RED SOX

"The pitcher who can't get in there in the pinch and win his own game with a healthy wallop, isn't more than half earning his salary," says Babe Ruth, star twirler of the Boston Red Sox in the February issue of the Baseball magazine.

"The old-time twirler," says Ruth, "used to take a big healthy swing at the ball. Too many pitchers seem to have the idea they can't hit," continues "Babe."

"Most of them don't hit, just because they think they can't. And it's the same with fielding. A pitcher is not supposed to be as good as a shortstop. But there's a lot of tough balls come his way in the course of a season and if he juggles one of them it may count just as much in the scoring as in an outfielder dropped an easy fly."

The first of this season Ruth started out at a 300 clip, but, of course, that's a pretty hot pace and a pitcher could hardly agree to keep it up.

Ruth is out for another banner season in 1918. He is out to pile up as many wins as he can according to the way he feels about matters just at present.

CORNELL BEATS PRINCETON FIVE

Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 19.—Cornell came through with the punch in the last five minutes of last night's game with Princeton and won by the score of 22 to 20.

The turning point of the game came when, with the Tigers leading 19 to 15, Minlasan was substituted for Tripp at right forward, the latter being ruled out for fouls.

Minlasan threw two field goals in quick succession, one of them a spectacular heave from the side line, and save a one point advantage to Cornell. Superiority in team work gave a slight advantage to the Tigers in the first half, which they increased a little in the opening of the second.

ERNE'S KNOCKOUT FINISHED LAVIGNE

It was on Jan. 19, 1907, that Young Erne knocked out Kid Lavigne in the sixth round at Philadelphia.

This bout was memorable as marking the end of the ring career of the "Saginaw Kid," in his prime one of the greatest lightweight champions the game has ever had.

At the time he met Young Erne the French-Canadian had had been out of the ring for more than a year and time and lack of training had reduced him to a mere phantom of the boy who once lorded it over the world's pugilistic lightweights.

After this pitiful affair Lavigne gave up all thought of regaining his lost laurels. He made a small fortune as a boxer, but had saved little, and he was practically broke when he retired from the ring.

Since then, according to all accounts, he has had hard sledding and tried various occupations with little success.

The Kid's pugilistic career was practically ended when he lost the title to Erne.

Erne, who was practically broken out by George McFadden and Jimmy Britt.

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