

## WASHINGTON CREW SHOWS RARE FORM IN GARDEN WORK

Case Patten Hold Springfield Batters to Three Singles.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 7.—In the absence of Manager Cantillon the Nationals are doing all in their power to show him that they are perfectly capable of taking care of themselves.

Right in the first inning yesterday the Washingtonians assumed the lead by two runs and wound up with the score 2 to 1 in their favor.

Springfield rooters turned out in force to gain the much delayed chance of seeing Case Patten serve them up to the local batters. It is doubtful if the Springfield hitters want another chance to make wild stabs at his curves. Novacek connected twice, his neighbor on the opposite side of the garden tapped out a near single while the scorers gave him by way of courtesy. The rest just could not find him.

### Score in First.

Pickering was first up in the opening round and he singled. Ganley reached first on Berg's error. Delehanly slashed a liner to Moore, who threw wild to Smith. Pickering and Ganley trotted home, and the Nationals were on easy street for the rest of the game.

In the fourth Novacek doubled and reached third on a sacrifice. Delehanly threw Berg out at first, but Novacek scored while it was being done.

Steiger pitched a strong game for Springfield and was far more effective than Moore. The former allowed but two singles in five innings. The other four bingles were made off Moore.

### Fast Field Exhibition.

After two defeats out of three games with the Colts, Springfield had its doubts about winning from the Regulars, but they were not prepared for the classy exhibition which they ran up against in the fielding department. Although neither of the visitors' runs were earned, yet the Springfield hitters tried hard to find Patten and less perfect fielding than the errorless performance of the Washingtonians would easily have placed the home team in the lead after the third inning.

From their work here the local reporters declare that Cantillon has gathered together a much stronger aggregation than that which is wont to finish at the tail end of the American League. The team work is especially noticeable.

Last evening the Nationals left for Indianapolis, where they will be joined by Manager Cantillon.

The score:

Springfield	Washington
Runs.....1	0
Hits.....3	2
Errors.....1	0
Bases on balls.....1	0
Strikes.....10	10
Left on base.....1	0
Time of game.....1:10	
Umpire.....Mr. Brennan	

Springfield, 1; Washington, 0.

Earned run—Springfield. Left on bases—Springfield, 3; Washington, 0. Pitches—By Moore, 47; by Patten, 41. Innings pitched—By Moore, 2; by Patten, 2. Batters fouled out—By Moore, 2; by Patten, 2. Sacrifice hits—Smith, 1; Novacek, 1. Double play—Steiger to Smith, 1; Patten, 1. Brennan. Time of game—1 hour and 10 minutes.

## G. W. U. PLAYS FIRST AT KENDALL GREEN

Hatchettes Open Season Thursday With the Gallaudet Nine.

The George Washington baseball team will play its initial game on Thursday with Gallaudet, at Kendall Green.

The make-up of the George Washington team is uncertain and it is likely that Captain Witten will give nearly all his candidates a trial in the opening game. At present there are in the neighborhood of twenty likely candidates and the task of finally deciding upon the team is expected to be a difficult one.

It is said that the infield of the Hatchette aggregation is likely to be the strongest ever turned out by George Washington. At the third corner, Smith, a youngster from the Elmhurst High School, of New York State, gives promise of outdoing any of his predecessors at the position. Shortstop is generally conceded to Horning, who held down second base on the last season, the team of the University of Wisconsin last year. At second Allee and Campbell, the latter a regular on the Hatchette team for the past two seasons, are fighting it out, with chances even. In the outfield, "Socks" Johnson, a former Central High School player; Bidle, ex-manager of basketball; Brodie, Kinmer, Holmes, and several others are fighting for places. The initial sack seems to have been clinched by Thompson, a former St. John's College, Annapolis, star. Captain Whitten will do the brunt of the work behind the bat, with Wilbur, Mooten, and Crafts in the box.

## Team This Year Looks Stronger in Fielding, Stick Work, and Brains

Defeat by St. Louis No Token That Nationals Have Worst Nine in American League. Spring Scores Valueless.

### HOPE FOR THE FAITHFUL FANS

If the Washington team does not play better ball next season than it did last, and then it has done so far, it will be because of a remarkable combination of circumstances.—Thomas S. Rice.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 7.—I see by the papers fans are asking what there is to hope for in Washington in the way of baseball this coming season, now that we have seen the foolish flag by an overwhelming loss in the cellar series with those St. Louis Cardinals.

The answer given in The Times was about right. Cynically, we might say that having lost everything that hope, which springs eternal; that having sunk to the lowest round there is bound to be a rise, because we can go no farther in the other direction.

Seriously, there is much to hope for. Exhibition games are like theatrical rehearsals, very uncertain, indices of future performances, but they have their value, and if the Washington team does not play better ball next season than it did last, and then it has done so far, it will be because of a remarkable combination of circumstances.

### Strong on Paper.

The team this year looks stronger on paper. It is stronger, in fact, in fielding and batting and brains. The men may not live up to their records, but that is something no manager on earth can discount, provided the men in question are going back so rapidly that one year makes a lot of difference in their playing. None of the Washington players is at that age, not even Pickering, who is the daddy of them all. Clymer has always been a good batter, but may not hit this year. Freeman was a sensational fielder last season, but may be a failure this. George McBride is famous as a fielder and never had any trouble on that score holding a major league job, his batting being his weakness. Street has a reputation that reaches across the continent for headwork behind the bat and for accurate throwing, but his arm may fail him in 1908.

These are all in the list of possibilities, but no sure tokens that they should these disasters pass us by, Washington must necessarily have a stronger aggregation than in 1907.

### There Is Yet Hope.

Baseball is not a matter of life and death, and the average fan prefers a cheerful view of the situation. To poke fun at Cantillon's men for winning the bum bunting was perfectly natural, but because they were beaten by St. Louis is no sure token that they are the worst team ever organized or that they will not make a creditable showing in the American League race. Any one who has ever studied spring scores is aware that they furnish little indication of a team's pennant chances. So cheer up, Ben Minor has not lost his smile yet, and may even furnish a cover for the water bucket in the press stand this year. Did you ever see a major league batter purposely swing at a wild pitch when he had two strikes on him, and then hurry to first? I don't recall that I ever did, and I can't find a member of the Washington team who can relate such an incident in fast company, yet it is a common trick on second base, and many a run has been made and many a game won by it.

### Luck Was With Him.

The question arose at Houston on March 28, when Falkenberg was pitching for Washington against the St. Louis Nationals. With two strikes on him, Jack Barry, the former Washington player, now with St. Louis, swung at one that went low and wide, and he reached first in a canter. It was an unusual stunt, and Barry was given credit for an unusual amount of brains, until the mystery was explained next day. Falkenberg said that ball did not start as a wild pitch, but was a speedy slider that went wrong, chattering with extreme sharpness and width a few inches from Barry's bat. Instead of pulling off a sprightly trick, Barry had been sadly fooled, and only the fact that Street was in equally as bad a plight caused him to miss the shot.

Jim Crasberry, the St. Louis newspaper man, was the only one who could

cite an instance of a major leaguer doing deliberately what Barry was supposed to have done. He said he saw Mortimer Brown of the Chicago Cubs, do it in Chicago and start a run that won a game.

### Kansas City Team.

That Kansas City team this year is a wonder. Among its stars are such sprightly youngsters as Jake Beckley, who is so old nobody has the nerve to ask him his age; Oom Paul Krueger, who was with Pittsburgh and other clubs long before the night of the big wind; Billy Hallman, who has been playing time out of mind; Monte Cross, who was a star fielder of the major leagues before Cain and Abel had the measles; while on the pitching staff is Frank Kitson, who was a wonder when Baltimore was winning pennants in the nineties, and was with Washington and New York last year. They are thriving mightily in American Association company, and the Kansas City team is a hard nut to crack.

Kansas City is one of the hilliest, rockiest towns in the world, and a contour map of it looks like the path of a perfectly level street taken at a bad angle by a careless photographer. Verily, he that relishes upon the illustrated postal for an idea of the city is likely to have quite several more guesses coming. There was a proposition to send a photographer up in a balloon to take a picture that would show Kansas City's knobby outlines, because no balloon could be found that would float high enough to go over some of the hills.

## BROOKLANDS WILL MEET ALL COMERS

The Brookland baseball team, last year's independent champion of the District, has some open dates left and would like to hear from any white uniformed clubs in the city.

The grounds in Brookland are being put in first-class condition and will be one of the best around the city when completed.

The opening game will be on April 15, with Technical High School.

Other dates are April 18, Company H; April 21, Commerce and Labor; April 23, Bliss Electrical School; April 24, Business High School; April 25, Columbia Athletic Club; April 26, Commerce and Labor; April 28, Company H, at Washington; May 1, Navy team; May 2, Postoffice; May 3, Postoffice; May 4, Technical High School; May 5, Bliss Electrical School; May 15, Reserves High School; May 18, Bethany Baptist.

Members of the team this season follow: Captain, Paul Simon; first base, J. King; second base, J. Sullivan; E. Graves; J. Baggett; L. Shipley; W. Keller; B. Gallagher; W. Middlekauff; F. Sullivan; J. Sullivan. Address challenges to Wells C. Harrrell, manager, 1225 Newton street, Brookland, D. C.

## WAITING AT PARK, BUT NATIONALS FAIL TO APPEAR

Through Clerical Error Indianapolis Expected Washington Yesterday.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 7.—Through a misunderstanding probably due to a clerical error the Indianapolis management expected Washington to play here yesterday and today, instead of today and tomorrow.

There was a large crowd at the ball park here yesterday, but the Washington team was in Springfield, Ill., and did not reach this city until 3 o'clock this morning. Washington and Indianapolis play this afternoon, but whether the Washington club will play over here tomorrow or spend the off day in Cincinnati, has not been decided.

A double-header may be arranged. Manager Cantillon joined the club this morning from Chicago. He has decided to select the White Sox Rooters' Association as the big date for Washington in Chicago this season. It will be a rooting day, and will be one of the dates of the second trip of the Nationals to Chicago.

The reunited forces of the Washington club are here, and all looking well. The Yankees are somewhat overweight, because of the enforced idleness at Springfield due to bad weather.

## SUMMERS MAY GET MATCH WITH GANS

BALTIMORE, April 7.—If Johnny Summers, the little English champion, wins from Soldier Burns in his fifteen-round bout before the Eureka Athletic Club Thursday night at the Germania Maennerchor Hall, Charley Harvey, his manager, wants Manager Herford to fight the Baltimore with Joe Gans, the lightweight champion, the contest to be decided in this city.

The boss of the Eureka Club is considering the proposition, but he will not be ready to talk business until the battle is decided, as he thinks that Burns has a swell chance to take a fall out of the little man from the British Isles, in spite of the record that Summers has made on the other side of the pond. He has a little more experience than Burns, but during the time the local lad has been boxing he has displayed every earmark of being a top-notch. He has everything in his favor.

He is young, clever, and can hit hard and can stand a lot of punishment, though he has never received much in his late mills, as he was clever enough to evade the attacks of his opponents. Jimmy Coffroth, the big fight promoter, would like to have the winner of the coming encounter to meet Battling Nelson in the near future before the Colma Club, the biggest organization of its kind on the coast. Joe Gans and Jimmy Britton fought for the lightweight championship at Colma and many other big ring contests were decided there.

Coffroth advised Manager Herford that he was willing to offer such a purse for such a bout and wished that Herford would help him out on this end. Nelson is now in San Francisco, waiting to hear of some development of a match.

## McLAUGHLIN WHOLE SHOW AT BENNING YESTERDAY; BAD DAY FOR MCCARTHY

Personal First in Second Race Despite Poor Showing Saturday—Littlefield's Jubilee a Promising Three-Year-Old.

Jimmy McLaughlin has cut a wide swath at Benning ever since the meeting opened.

It was a frosty afternoon, indeed, when he did not get some of the money, and the public has begun to regard with the highest respect anything which starts in his colors.

Yesterday McLaughlin came very near being the whole show. He took the second race with his good two-year-old Personal, and then came right back and repeated the dose in the fourth race with Nanno, both at good odds.

### Retrieves Defeat.

Personal is a clever filly, but her poor showing Saturday kept the public away from her. McLaughlin, however, was confident the filly would win. He said her defeat Saturday was due to being crowded and interfered with at the start, and predicted that if she got off clean Personal would come home sailing, and so it turned out.

### Al Busch Shows Improvement.

Al Busch, which has been suffering with buckled shins, is showing much improvement. He ran second to Personal yesterday, and put up a sparkling finish.

Fred Littlefield's good colt Jubilee, which won the third race Saturday, is about the best three-year-old at Benning and is sure to go well in any company.

Yesterday's race was a mere cakewalk for him. He lay in behind the pace to the stretch and then came along at his leisure. Littlefield has had a big offer for his colt lately, but has turned it down.

Unless racing goes to the bad on the big tracks Freddie expects to pull off many a good thing with Jubilee this season. Carter Hall's Giles is a game little rooster. He fought it out with Pautouille all the way down the stretch in this race and was only beaten an eyelash at the end.

McCarthy did not play in much luck yesterday, failing to land a single winner. Tommy Burns and Shaw both were in the saddle yesterday and both had winning mounts. Burns put up a remarkably strenuous finish on Reidmorn in the fifth race, just being edged out by a head. McCarthy, who had the mount on Billy B. Van, the crowd were all with Tommy and wildly cheered his lousy effort. Notter is expected to arrive from New Orleans today and get into the game.

Littlefield said that grandly bred filly by Hamburg-Rose Standish, which has crimped so many bank rolls, was again given out as a good thing yesterday. She started in the fifth race and was

played all over the ring, but, as usual, failed to materialize. This one would break the Bank of England.

### The King Comedian.

Rod McMahon, the Buffalo pender, is one of the comedians of the ring and keeps everybody around him in good humor. Yesterday a big colored man stood at Rod's back and offered him \$20 on Javotte to show. Rod took the money and turning to his sheet writer, said, "Two dollars even; Javotte to show; Booker Washington;" and so the bet was recorded.

A real good thing just escaped going through yesterday in the fourth race when Nanno beat out Laura A. The latter was a sleeper, indeed, and was at 30 to 1 in the betting. At this price a slick party backed her across the board in nearly every book in the ring. Laura A. ran second, just failing to get up. If the filly had won the books would have been badly scorched. The Baltimore crowd was on to the good thing and was down with both feet.

### Lady Isabel Disappoints.

Lady Isabel is proving something of a lemon to the talent. She was handed out again as a good thing yesterday, and made favorite in the fourth race. Lady Isabel was a pretty clever filly last year and her reputation brought her much support, but this season she has shown nothing of her old form. Yesterday she failed to show speed at any stage of the game, and never had a peek in.

Berkley is some horse just now. He won the handicap yesterday in commanding fashion with top weight up, beating Smoker and Minimus, both very clever performers. Berkley is in fine shape now, and with a proper weight adjustment could give some of the cracks an argument.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR EASTERN LEAGUE

NEW YORK, April 7.—Nearly every team in the league was represented when the spring meeting of the Eastern League players was called to order at the Victoria Hotel today.

The new owners of the Montreal team were present and given a warm welcome. President Patrick T. Towers said the adoption of the schedule would probably be approved by the magnates in correspondence.

The schedule provides for the opening of the season on April 22, and the last game will be played at Newark on Sunday, September 28.

Today's session opened at 11:30 and it was expected the schedule would be formally approved during the afternoon and adopted.



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