

Nationals' Leader Stands Up for Chairman of Commission in Ticket Report

MANAGER GRIFFITH DEFENDS HERRMANN IN SCALPING CASE

Says Cincinnati Magnate Is Absolutely Honest in Dealings.

NO OTHER MAN COULD FILL PLACE ON BOARD

However, Criticism Continues to Fill Air About Scandal.

By "SENATOR."

"They can kick and yell their heads off because they think the National Commission did not do its work properly in probing that ticket speculation at the world's series, but I, for one, am convinced that if anything else could have been accomplished, it would have been done before Garry Herrmann ever signed the report."

This is the view taken by Clark Griffith concerning the discussion of the failure of the baseball board to mete out punishment to some one for the scandal last fall.

"I was with Herrmann for three years, and if there is a whiter or more sincere man in baseball than this same Garry, I have never met him. He is so straight that in my opinion, he is more or less of a handicap to the Cincinnati club, for, being on the board, he is inclined to stand so straight that he is likely to fall backward whenever any decision concerning the Reds comes before the commission. I lost two cases while I was at Cincinnati because Herrmann voted against his own club when I was convinced we had rights to players who were denied us."

Talk All Bosh.

"This talk we heard last week of having Herrmann elected to see one else as chairman of the commission is all bosh. There is not a man in America who could fill the place as competently as Garry has, and from where I stand it looks like he has the job for as long as he can be induced to remain."

"This is in no way supposed to take credit from Sam Johnson or Tom Lynch, but anyone who is familiar with baseball cannot deny Garry Herrmann or fail to appreciate what he has done for the game."

This coming from one, who for three years was as near to Herrmann as any man living, is a pretty high tribute. Griffith had his troubles in Cincinnati, but if a person wants to knock the chairman of the National Commission in the presence of Griffith, he has the Washington manager to beat.

Despite the opinion of Griffith as to the worth of Herrmann, condemnation of the rather weak-kneed decision of the commission in the report on the ticket scalping continues to come from all sections of major league baseball. Some go so far as to say that if the commission does not arise to the occasion and take some drastic action and adopt more elastic rules, it will be the question of but a few years before the whole world's series will be considered by the general public as nothing but a trading proposition, an opportunity for the successful clubs to pay off political debts to municipal authorities by passing the buck to the commission, which will be sold at greatly advanced prices.

Were Disappointed.

Many a Washingtonian who pulled all season long for the Athletics in the hope of seeing at least one game in the series was sorely disappointed last October and should the Athletics once more finish in front and there should be no change in the arrangements concerning the tickets there will be many others who will suffer next time.

As time goes on it appears more and more likely that the "new law" league, which is threatening to place a club in Washington, is doomed to failure because of the impossibility of obtaining enough financial backing to enable it to weather the storm which it must expect when it attempts to invade the territory of the teams in organized baseball, as guaranteed by the national commission.

The first real evidence of the preparation of the white flag of surrender comes in the announcement that in the death of Orlando H. Clendenen, a New York millionaire, the proposed league lost one who had offered a guarantee for funds. Clendenen, a former operator, being silent in the grave, cannot deny the report of his ante mortem promise that it is interesting to note that, although the league has been under consideration for many weeks, Herrmann's name was never coupled with the proposition until after the death of Clendenen.

Today another evidence of the probable financial weakness of the venture came when it was learned that one of the prime promoters whose name has been prominent in the affairs of the league since the first announcement of its formation, has been declared bankrupt in a Pennsylvania court. This official has been held up as one of the representatives of magnates, but unless he has friends with limited pessimism and liberal bank accounts, he would appear to be a rather weak reed to be leaning on when the inevitable call for real money is made.

Most Are Known.

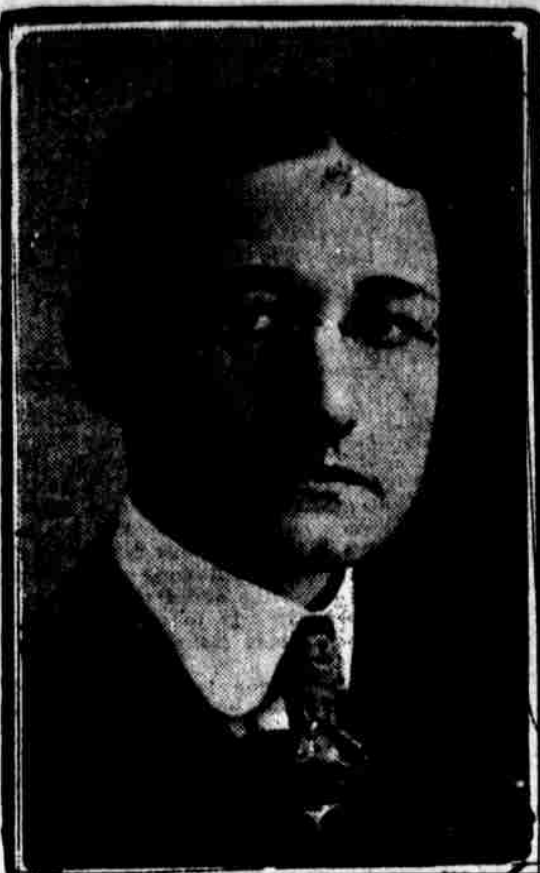
While there may be some substantial support for certain of the franchisees, most of the names of those who are to control the projected clubs are familiar to those who have followed these "outlaw" undertakings in the past. While an arch-promoter and perennial optimist, Al Lawson, is missing from the roll of honor, and most of the names to be fly-by-night promoters of sport who are hardly likely to prove impressive when they try to send stock to men of real standing in the business circles of their respective cities.

Competition in baseball, as in other things, is the life of any business. The United States League of Professional Baseball Clubs has yet to show that it is the most to lead the poor and oppressed into the land of promise and shatter the shackles by which the national commission holds the star players in involuntary servitude.

Fitzgerald Will Care For Nationals' Park

Frederick Fitzgerald, former ground-keeper of the Philadelphia National League club, has signed to take care of the Nationals' ball yard next season. He is a landscape gardener with reputation for making admirable playing fields. He is expected to beautify the local plant and keep it in first-class condition all the year around.

Here Are the "Men Behind the Guns" of the Washington Baseball Club



THOMAS C. NOYES



BEN MINOR



HARRY RAPLEY



ED. WALSH



J. MILLER KENYON



RUDOLPH KAUFFMAN

HENRY P. BLAIR

COBB'S PRESS AGENT MAKES ACCUSATION FRIGHTENING FANS

Read This Example of Batsman's Marvelous Advancement Man.

Ty Cobb, the Detroit slugger, is a great stickler for pure English. Blame him and all manner of adulation of the English tongue he considers no less than sacrilege.

Speaking last summer to a number of representatives of the better dramatic schools of the country, then in convention in New York city, Cobb said: "I wish to make an appeal to you for the use of pure English, for I believe, to use a common expression, that it is 'up to' the dramatic schools and actors of America to preserve, if possible, the beautiful English language of ours from ruin and degeneracy, for into these paths it is rapidly going. 'As it is the nature of our fellow Americans to hurry and to take what short cuts they can, so it is natural, I presume, to carry these proclivities into their daily speech. But it is a shame, an outrage, to hear the English language so often mutilated in these United States. And as the stage takes one of the highest places in the civilization as an educator and influence for better things, so I believe the stage capable of saving the purity and beauty of the English language in this country."

If you teachers would only strive and strive constantly to keep up the standard by using pure, direct English, if we would be careful to eliminate each syllable for they are all of importance, else they would not be there; if we would but try to give prominence to the words we use; if they are the bricks that make the structure of our part, if they are slurred the entire fabric of the play crumbles and it is no longer the most beautiful of all modern tongues. Let us cherish it, guard it and bend it to our highest and most potent needs."

Chivington Elected To Succeed Himself

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—American Association magnates are today homeward bound, having completed all their work in a single session at the annual meeting yesterday.

After a campaign, which started with the close of the regular season, Tom Chivington was re-elected president by a vote said to be 5 to 3. Not only was he again chosen, but the owners showed their faith in him by making his term for the period of five years. In the past it has been the custom to elect a man for one year only, but this was deemed not to be the best interests of the league.

It is planned to start the season about the middle of April and the schedule will contain 138 games. The request of two minor leagues to have clubs in two of the association cities while the season is in progress has been refused. Several managers from other leagues, including Connie Mack, were on hand, but no deals were consummated.

The report of President Chivington showed the finances of the league to be in excellent condition.

Detroit Arranges Its Training Trip Games

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 7.—Arrangements for the spring games of the Detroit Tigers are well advanced by President Navin, acting as manager in the absence of Hughie Jennings. The team will go to Monroe, La., about March 1 or 2, and will play its first practice game there. Following is the schedule as arranged: New Orleans, March 27, 28, 29; Mobile, March 30 and 31; Birmingham, April 1 and 2; Chattanooga, April 3 and 4; Louisville, April 5; Toledo, April 6 and 7; Cincinnati, April 8, 9 and 10.

Norfolk Ball Club Sold to New Owners

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 7.—Dr. J. R. McCreary, of this city, and Charlie Shaffer, who will manage the team, have purchased the local Virginia League club, and will begin immediately to build up the playing strength of the team in preparation for the coming season.

REPUTABLE BUSINESS MEN ARE BEHIND WORK OF THE NATIONALS

Few Fans Know, Even by Sight, the "Powers That Be."

By "SENATOR."

While the most enthusiastic and sincere fans here are acquainted with the records and the pasts of nearly every member of the Washington team, few know, even by sight, the powers that be who direct the destinies of the organization which enables the Capital to enjoy major league baseball.

The Washington club is capitalized at \$200,000, the increase from \$100,000 having been made necessary through the expense of building the new plant at Seventh street and Florida avenue, following the fire which swept the old park about ten months ago. At the election last week the stockholders voted their confidence in the men who met the emergency, following the destruction of the grounds, by re-electing the whole board, which will serve intact for another year at least.

Thomas C. Noyes, who is entering upon another term as president of the club, has been identified with the Nationals during the greater part of the period that has elapsed since the American League included Washington on its circuit.

Mr. Noyes was born in the District, and since 1888 has been a newspaper man, at present occupying the position of news editor of the Evening Star. He has twice been a Maryland delegate to Republican conventions, and is interested in a number of financial enterprises in this city.

Belongs to Clubs.

Mr. Noyes is a member of the University, Commercial, Century, National Press, and Chevy Chase clubs, of this city, and the Princeton Club, of New York.

Bresnahan Would Get Toledo Club for Farm

TOLEDO, Ohio, Jan. 7.—Roger Bresnahan, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, has evidently failed in his attempt to purchase the local American Association club, to be used as a "farm" for his National League outfit. President C. W. Somers, of the Cleveland Americans, owner of the "Mud Hens," has informed him that the club is not for sale, but that he will be given first opportunity to acquire it when it is placed on the market.

Cavanaugh Will Coach Dartmouth in 1912

HANOVER, N. H., Jan. 7.—Frank A. Cavanaugh, the successful coach of Dartmouth's 1911 football team, has been obtained to coach next season's "Big Green team." He is a member of the class of '99, and very popular here. Cavanaugh's eleven last year lost its biggest games, those against Princeton and Harvard, by the merest flukes, and was ranked by every expert as one of the leading football eleven of the country.

Want Games.

The Regent Basketball team challenges all teams of seventeen years and under to games to be played in any gymnasium in the District.

York, and the Nassau Club, of Princeton.

Edward J. Walsh, the vice president, is another distinctly Washingtonian, having been born, reared and educated in this city. After a preparatory school course here, he entered Georgetown and before graduation had made the university baseball team, being first string pitcher for three years. He later pitched for the Columbia Athletic Club, which in the early nineties had one of the best club teams in the country. Mr. Walsh had quite a reputation as an orator while an undergraduate and has also appeared in amateur theatricals. He is a member of the Columbia and Georgetown clubs, Carroll Institute and the Georgetown University Alumni Association. For years Mr. Walsh has been engaged in the insurance business at 1402 F street.

Handles Finances.

The handling of the finances of the club is in the hands of W. H. Rapley, who has served for a number of terms as treasurer. As sole proprietor of the National Theater, Mr. Rapley has made a success of that house, although he has a number of other business connections in the Capital. He received his preliminary schooling in Washington and later studied at Hanover, Germany. He was appointed to the Naval Academy by President Grant, but after two years resigned to go into business. Among the clubs that number Mr. Rapley among its members are the Commercial and Columbia.

Benjamin S. Minor, who was educated at the University of Virginia, is

secretary of the ball club, a position he has held since the first election of President Noyes. Until Clark Griffith installed a modern system of conducting the business affairs, much of this work devolved upon the secretary, in which capacity Mr. Minor has proven most satisfactory to the other stockholders.

Mr. Minor is a lawyer with offices in the Colorado building, and is identified with several organizations here. The three directors elected last week are H. P. Blair, J. M. Kenyon and Rudolph Kauffman.

Is Dartmouth Man.

Mr. Blair was born in New Hampshire and was educated at Exeter Academy and Dartmouth. He is a Washington lawyer, located in the Colorado building, and long held a chair in the law department of George Washington University. He is a member of the University and other clubs of the District.

Mr. Kenyon, while born in New York, has practiced law in Washington for years, his suite being in the Evans building. He is a former athlete, having held the District title for long distance running, and in 1887 rowed on the Columbia Athletic Club crew, which was coached by Charley Courtney and which won the national championship. Among Mr. Kenyon's clubs are the University, Annapolis Boat, and Bachelors' Tennis.

Mr. Kauffman, the third director, is like the president of the Nationals, a newspaper man, being the managing editor of the Evening Star. He was educated here, and has long taken an interest in baseball affairs. Mr. Kauffman, like his colleagues, has been elected to membership in a number of clubs and is active in civic organizations of the District.

Pittsburgh Pirates Will Start Early

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. 7.—The Pittsburgh National League team will start earlier this year than ever before. The battery men will report at West Baden, March 4, the remainder on March 11, and all will be at Hot Springs, Ark., March 17. The barn-storming trip will begin April 3 over the following route: Memphis, April 3 and 4; University of Arkansas, at Fort Smith, Ark., April 5; Kansas City, April 6, 7 and 8; St. Joseph, April 9 and 10. On the following day the regular season begins. While at Hot Springs the Pirates will play practice games with the St. Paul club of the American Association.

Tomorrow's Sports

Local athletic clubs meet at National Rifles' Armory, 8 p. m., to discuss plans for indoor meet for February or March.

Inter-city three-cushion billiard tour, Kansas City at Boston.

University of Virginia plays basketball with Emory and Henry College, at Charlottesville.

Automobile show at Madison Square Garden, New York city.

Automobile salon at Hotel Astor, New York city.

John Dundee vs. Jimmy Carroll, ten rounds, at New York city.

Billy Allen vs. Joe Mandot, ten rounds, at Memphis, Tenn.

Jimmy Regan vs. Chalky Gorman, ten rounds, at Salt Lake City.

FLYNN TO BATTLE JACK JOHNSON FOR WORLD'S RING TITLE

Contest to Finish Will Be Staged in Nevada.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—Jack Johnson, world's heavyweight champion, and Fireman Jim Flynn, recent conqueror of Carl Morris and Al Kaufman, will battle for the title in July somewhere in Nevada. It will be a finish contest, too, and once more the eyes of the world will be on Nevada as the boxing center of the universe. Both pugilists signed articles yesterday, amid wild applause.

Though it has yet to be determined, the mill will be staged at either Windward or Metropolis, in the heart of the Nevada desert. A tentative date, July 22, has been named, but this will be shifted to suit the promoters. Jack Curley, Flynn's manager, must post \$10,000 before February 16, and each principal must post \$5,000, or the articles signed yesterday will be null and void. Tim Sullivan, of New York, stakeholder in the big Johnson-Jeffries battle, has been chosen to serve in a like capacity for the meeting between Flynn and the dusky champion.

Johnson will receive \$21,000 and one-third of the profits from the moving pictures. What Flynn's share will be is unknown. Jack Curley agreeing to pay him. Each boxer has agreed not to enter a ring between May 1 and the date of the big battle. This will compel a postponement of the Johnson-McVeigh contest in Paris.

Rigler Wants Virginia To Make Trip to Cuba

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Jan. 7.—Umpire James Rigler, of the National League, studying law at the university here, has broached a plan to have Virginia send its football eleven of 1912 to Havana to contest with the Havana University eleven. His plans also call for the track team to make the trip for a big meet in the Cuban capital. President Alderman will entertain the project some time this week and there is a chance that the athletes will go next winter.

Allied Athletic Clubs Meet Tomorrow Night

The Allied Athletic Clubs of the District will hold a meeting at the National Guard Armory tomorrow night at 8 o'clock for the purpose of discussing arrangements for an indoor track meet to be held in February or March. All local athletes are urged to be present.

BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

"Every Knock Is a Boost."

Mills heads motorists.

The "evolved Caucasian" is hardly going to go into raptures over the signing of articles by Jim Flynn to meet Jack Johnson, world's heavyweight champion. On November 2, 1907, Johnson knocked him out at San Francisco in eleven rounds, and the rushing white man has not improved enough since to give his supporters hope of his winning next July.

Flynn vs. Johnson.

Track sports at the Hilltop are "looking up," and a good collection of athletes will be on the job tomorrow. Captain Carrigan starts the indoor season with every prospect of gathering around him one of the best track teams ever seen at Georgetown. Then, too, he has the backing of the entire university, and that counts for considerable in collegiate sport.

Virginia is independent.

Judging from the speedy work of the Blue and Gray quintet last night, we are going to have a rattling basketball season this winter at the Arcade every time Georgetown meets an opponent. The local collegians are well-coached, know the game, and can hold their own against the best to be found in this section.

Catholic University snowed under.

Now Virginia dreams of sending a track team and a football eleven to Havana, Cuba, to compete against the Havana University athletes. "Cly" Rigler, who studies law at Charlottesville, has got the college lads going over the idea, and he says that his experience as an umpire for the Giants last month on the island tells him the trip would be successful.

Ingram girls win.

Tom Chivington, who once wrote baseball for a Louisville paper, has been re-elected head of the American Association. This action by the magnates of that circuit should be commended, for Chivington has done some very hard things against some of them in order to bring about success for the association as a whole.

Cavanaugh a hit.

The boxing game will now proceed to take up much room in the papers. Jim Flynn having signed for a battle with Jack Johnson. However, there is little interest in it in this section, and I venture to say that, unless something really important happens, the columns will die out long before the spring comes.

Tom Hughes is plucky.

It begins to appear as though it will take some excellent diplomacy to keep those strained relations between Georgetown and Virginia from finally being severed. Never before has an official from a rival institution come forward with such charges as are being made by Head Coach Yancey, of Virginia but it may be taken for granted that the answer will be an attractive piece of literature. The loss of the Georgetown-Virginia game would be the worst blow football in this section could experience, and it is to be hoped that some sort of an agreement will be reached.

C. Murphy is silent.

The going of Charley Schmit, the catcher, from Detroit to Providence marks the passing of one who, but a couple of years ago, was considered one of the most valuable assets of the champion Tigers. Broken fingers started Schmit on the chute to the minors.

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