

Giants Who Are Figuring in the Return to Form of the Champions



DOLLAR MARK ON BOX FIGHT

One Basis of Comparison Between the Old and the New.
COMMERCIAL INSTINCT SWAYS
Fighters of Today Are After Cots and Frankly Avoid Any Danger of Real Test of Their Ability.

By W. W. NAUGHTON.
SAN FRANCISCO, May 24.—The writer has argued quite frequently that discussions as to the merits of pugilists of the past and the present are vain for the reason that there is no way of bringing the matter to a test. But I have come to the conclusion that there is one direction in which comparisons can be instituted, and that to the detriment of the latter day ring stars.
The quality of "fighting blood" seems to have deteriorated.
A dozen years ago a champion was known by his square jaw. Nowadays one is quicker recognized by his high forehead. Years ago the phrase was coined, "I'd fight him if he weighed a ton." Nowadays the favorite declaration is, "I'll fight him if I go to a fortune."
I would not go so far as to say that pugilism has become a lost quality, but it certainly has become tempered by commercialism until it may be described as one-third courage and the balance caution.
In the old days a rising young fighter left to himself was first with one ambition—to make clear that he was the best of his left in the wide world. He might be the same nowadays if left to himself, but unfortunately he ceases to be a free agent just as soon as he has accomplished enough to command a considerable engagement.

Three members of New York Giants who have been strong factors in the recent return to form of the National league champions—Left to right: Rube Marquard, the great left-hander, who is now in the shape that made him the pitching sensation of 1912; Harry McCormick, probably the greatest pinch hitter in the history of the game, whose trusty bat has figured in almost all of the recent victories of McGraw's campaigners, and Arthur Shafer, the sensational young infielder, who is one of the fastest men on the team.

BASE BALL PLAYERS' UNION

Fraternity Hopes to Accomplish Much for the Game.
SOME BIG LEAGUE "HISTORY"

Instances in Which Discrimination Has Been Shown in Favor of the Magnates as Against the Players.
By W. J. McREIL.
NEW YORK, May 24.—A new power arises in organized base ball, clamoring for certain long neglected rights. This is the Base Ball Players' fraternity, organized less than a year ago under the wise direction of David Fultz, a prominent lawyer of New York and in his day one of the greatest outfielders in the big league. The fraternity already embraces 800 members; practically all of the players of the two major leagues—certainly all that amount to anything.

THREE ROURKES BAT 300

Kane, Thomason and Johnson Hit Well Over Coveted Mark.
JOHNSON LEADS IN FIELDING

"Hickory" Leads Rourkes in Fielding, with Kane Close Second—Omaha Second in Fielding and Batting.
Three of the Omaha batters are hitting the ball well over the 300 mark and the fourth, Norman Coyle, is going at a clip of 299 and will go above the 300 mark if he continues clouting the sphere the way he has been doing the last few games. Thomason leads the Omaha batters with .376, Kane is next with .343 and Johnson follows with .330.
Johnson is also on top in fielding, having taken a total of 16 chances with but one error for an average of .988. Kane has taken 97 chances with five errors and his fielding average is .983. Applegate and Robinson have won three and lost two games. The Rourkes are second in batting and fielding. The figures:
Batting Averages:
Stang, Sioux City..... 9 2 4 .444
Dessau, Lincoln..... 13 1 4 .444
Hoek, Denver..... 27 8 4.35
Chellette, St. Joseph..... 14 2 6 .429
Crist, Topeka..... 21 1 9 .429
Fulton, Lincoln..... 20 8 3.20
G. Watson, St. Joseph..... 17 14 22 .353
Gilmore, Denver..... 167 25 41 .275
White, Sioux City..... 15 8 3.20
Kelley, St. Joseph..... 123 26 46 .377
Thomason, Omaha..... 109 26 36 .376
Bills, Wichita..... 14 3 5 .357
Elman, Topeka..... 15 5 5.33
Koerner, Wichita..... 103 10 36 .349
McLary, Topeka..... 92 14 32 .347
Kane, Omaha..... 50 11 17 .340
McConnell, St. Joseph..... 60 18 21 .300
Middleton, Wichita..... 95 14 28 .295
Brennan, Lincoln..... 18 4 5.22
French, Denver..... 87 10 29 .333
Johnson, Omaha..... 34 3 11 .324
Pettinger, Topeka..... 47 11 15 .234
McCormick, Lincoln..... 101 17 33 .277
Cochrane, Topeka..... 81 13 26 .257
Forsythe, Topeka..... 49 12 13 .245
Carr, Wichita..... 41 4 13 .317
Gear, Topeka..... 41 11 14 .270
Ward, Sioux City..... 11 1 3 .273
Rapp, Wichita..... 76 7 24 .316
Cole, Lincoln..... 57 15 27 .263
Mullin, Lincoln..... 13 2 5.33
Lee, Topeka..... 63 8 20 .302
Rapps, Topeka..... 50 14 27 .300
Chick, Des Moines..... 13 2 4.33
"Tex" Jones, Des Moines..... 15 26 .266
Quillin, Denver..... 32 15 27 .263
Shaw, Des Moines..... 25 7 16 .280
Davidson, Sioux City..... 95 8 24 .291
McAllester, Topeka..... 38 3 11 .289
Connelley, Omaha..... 57 11 15 .245
Coombs, Sioux City..... 21 13 26 .285
Grubb, Omaha..... 32 8 26 .281
Helly, Topeka..... 40 15 37 .281
Harris, Sioux City..... 27 12 32 .274
Westerly, St. Joseph..... 101 18 27 .277
Cassidy, Denver..... 101 15 27 .277
Hickory, Lincoln..... 117 15 32 .274
Lloyd, Lincoln..... 50 13 19 .260
Shaw, Des Moines..... 87 19 23 .267
Fox, Des Moines..... 26 5 13 .269
Smith, Sioux City..... 87 19 23 .267
Fisher, Denver..... 97 11 25 .268
Shapiro, Omaha..... 26 11 23 .269
Pettinger, Topeka..... 90 12 23 .267
Durham, Wichita..... 26 11 23 .267
Mathews, Denver..... 75 8 20 .267
Lakaff, Des Moines..... 3 0 4 .259
Tuckey, Lincoln..... 113 22 26 .248
Justice, Omaha..... 18 3 8 .250
Channell, Denver..... 22 3 11 .273
Hunter, Des Moines..... 30 14 27 .280
Burke, Wichita..... 31 3 12 .261
Harris, Denver..... 21 4 11 .238
Butcher, Denver..... 11 4 12 .238
Robinson, Omaha..... 11 4 12 .238
Allen, Sioux City..... 17 1 4 .235
Ochs, St. Joseph..... 28 12 24 .257
Carney, Lincoln..... 25 3 5 .238
Rapp, Denver..... 53 12 23 .227
Andrew, Des Moines..... 23 2 9 .261
French, Topeka..... 35 8 20 .257
Perry, Wichita..... 14 0 3 .214
Cochran, Topeka..... 44 6 9.32
Huzhes, Wichita..... 47 19 19 .231
Meinke, St. Joseph..... 46 8 19 .217
Hickory, Lincoln..... 42 8 17 .214
Hagerman, Denver..... 19 4 8 .211
Callahan, Sioux City..... 5 0 11 .200
Denning, Lincoln..... 101 15 27 .277
McConnell, St. Joe..... 10 3 2 .200
Craig, Des Moines..... 35 5 11 .257
Wolfgang, Denver..... 15 3 9 .200
Tanshell, St. Joseph..... 18 3 9 .200
Boehler, St. Joseph..... 10 0 3 .200
Clossman, Omaha..... 10 0 3 .200
Smith, Topeka..... 15 2 3 .200
Hickory, Lincoln..... 15 2 3 .200
Thomas, Wichita..... 11 2 3 .273
Cochran, Topeka..... 11 2 3 .273
Griffith, St. Joseph..... 19 19 17
James, Sioux City..... 49 3 11 .267
Schreiber, Denver..... 13 4 9 .267
Richardson, Topeka..... 11 2 3 .273
Rustenhaven, Topeka..... 4 1 3 .267
Leonard, Des Moines..... 40 1 3 .268
Knapo, Lincoln..... 15 1 1 .268
Butcher, Lincoln..... 41 2 3 .268
Crutcher, St. Joseph..... 41 2 3 .268

ONE HOUSETOWN LEFT

Pitcher Elmer Kretzer of the Brooklyn is only major league player holding out for an increase in salary. Kretzer is at Carriek, Pa., where he says he will remain until President Ebbets accedes to his demands. Ebbets says he has offered the recalcitrant pitcher the same salary he received in 1912, and points to the fact that he pitched only four complete games that season. The Cubs tried to buy Kretzer's release last September, which probably is a reason why the boxman wants more money.

It is but a matter of a very short time until the Base Ball Players' fraternity branches out to include the minor leagues as well. And as power lies in force of numbers, it becomes evident that this fraternity will very shortly be in a position to force the recognition it rightfully deserves. There is absolutely no idea of unionism in the fraternity. Rather the association stands for a strict interpretation of the laws governing organized base ball. But the organization proposed to see that laws and regulations should be fairly applied; that the magnates shall not be favored one whit over the rank and file of players who have built up and made the great game the popular sport which it is.

What the Fraternity May Do.
The Base Ball Players' fraternity is a most admirable organization and is very likely to result in great good to the game. Playing managers are excluded from membership. Its chief aim is mutual protection. It intends to work along harmonious lines with organized base ball government. It held aloof from the controversy between Cobb and the Detroit club, maintaining that its chief purpose was the observation and not negotiation of contracts. It has no objection to the so-called "joke" of the reserve clause, but it hopes to establish some sense of equitable justice in observation of contract and some limit as to the reserve clause. Now the magnate has the power to hold a player for life or to release him on ten days' notice. The player has no redress and must accept the terms offered. The fraternity hopes to be able in time to adjust salaries on a far more sensible basis. Last year a player on the Pittsburgh team was signed up for \$300. He had no say in the matter. Wagner in the same club was drawing \$3000. Wagner may be worth twice the money, but a player who is worth no more than \$300 should not be in the big league. He can get more in the "stick" with a chance of development at the same time.

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