

JACKSON A PERFECT BOXER

Big Black Peter Best Australia Has Sent Over Here.

SOME EXAMPLES OF HIS WORK

Bill Naughton Tells Why He Holds that Jackson Had Something on All the Other Antipodeans.

By W. W. NAUGHTON.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 12.—A correspondent wants to know who in the writer's opinion, was the "most perfect boxer" of all the Australian ring men who came to America in the 180s and 90s. And while I think of it I might remark, "correspondent" is asking me to fill a pretty large queue.

Young Griffio's Cleverness. In regard to Griffio I can only say that I did not have an opportunity of judging the young man's merits when he was at his best. I did not see him in action until he had passed his heyday, and then only once or twice in events for which he had no training and seemed little concerned as to which way the decision went.

It had degenerated into a Queensberry clown at the time of which I speak, and was more dead with the ambition to make the spectators laugh than anything else. He retained sufficient of his handiness with the gloves to make things interesting for his opponents, but his blows were of the mushy order and his defense not nearly so complete as it had been in former years.

Whatever he might have been earlier in his career, Griffio was certainly none of a trick performer or juggler when I saw him. So far as Griffio may figure in a discussion of this kind I would prefer to pass the question on to other critics who had opportunities of making comparisons between Griffio and other Australians when Griffio was at his best.

Australia sent us some exceedingly clever ringmen and now, with my experience and recollections mellowed by years, I have no hesitation in saying that Peter Jackson was the "most perfect boxer" of all the Antipodeans I have seen in real action.

George Dawson had ideas of his own and did not hew to the lines of the Mace school of boxing. Judged by what he accomplished in the ring, he earned the right to be described as clever, but he was far from being as well balanced a piece of fighting machinery as Jackson.

Many of the Australians were extremely clever, having the fine points of the game at their command to a degree which made them appear graceful in action. Among these Jim Hall was prominent, and Steve O'Donnell was another; George McKenzie, a lightweight, was a very talented glove wielder, and that same, George Mulholland, could make almost any man who opposed him look foolish.

Peter Jackson was the most talented exponent of the Mace school of boxing the writer ever came across. He knew how to lead and counter, and time and measure, and his footwork always rhymed with his fist play. He could duck, snap back and sidestep in a bewildering way and he appeared to be always within range so far as his own attack was concerned and out of range when his adversary tried retaliation.

I remembered Jackson's first match in the old California Athletic club in San Francisco back in 1883. His opponent was George Godfrey, the Boston colored lightweight, who was known as "Old Ironhead." I will never forget the pained look which came over Godfrey's face when he first ran foul of the Jackson straight left.

Peter, who seemed to have an arm as long as an ear, picked Godfrey off his feet with a lunging blow and placed him on his bunkers on the floor. Godfrey had proved himself a game fellow in many hard fights, but as he sat there that night the expression on his countenance was one of mingled surprise and discouragement.

The latest outburst of the American league autocrat was directed against Joe Birmingham, manager of the Cleveland club. Mr. Johnson intimated that in his opinion Birmingham was no fit person to be in charge of an American league club. Whatever prompted the attack, it appeared very ill-timed. In the few short months he had been in charge of the Naps, Birmingham had fashioned a pennant contender from an habitual second division aggregation. His club was very much in evidence as a potent factor of the struggle. His club was showing such results as no former Cleveland manager had shown in fifteen years. And as the public, after all, pays his good money in expectation of patronizing and propitiating results, Mr. Johnson aroused no loud hurrahs of endorsement to his attack on Birmingham. Mr. Johnson simply raised against the popularity of his own ballfish the resentment of one more city.

Cleveland fandom is not likely quietly to brook the official interference of even the mighty Johnson with a man who is making good in his opinion. Birmingham unfortunately had troubles of his own at the time; internal dissensions that could be best straightened out in the club house. The great Napoleon Lajoie objected to club discipline, when his manager thought it to the best interests of all to give the mighty Frenchman a rest. Lajoie went over Birmingham's head with a direct appeal to President Charles Somers. Perhaps it was with the idea of throwing out a hint to the boss as to his personal views of the matter that Johnson expressed himself in such emphatic disapproval of Birmingham. However that may be, it is quite certain now that Ban Johnson and not Joe Birmingham will be held responsible for the short-comings of Cleveland if the inside bickerings develop into open club warfare in the Forest City.

For some reason Mr. Johnson appears to have a penchant for picking onto "live

Lajoie and Wagner, Who Are Failing at Last



NEW YORK, July 12.—For many summers now old Father Time has kept an envious eye on Napoleon Lajoie and Hans Wagner, two of the greatest base ball players that ever lived. But it was not until the present season that the old fellow succeeded in making any material inroads into the efficiency of this duo of diamond stars.

among the thousands of fans who have watched him with pride and admiration for eighteen years. Eighteen years in the game, with a total batting average of .385—that is the great Cleveland's record. Where is there another man in the same who can hope to eclipse that record? We pause for a reply. Hearing none, we proceed to affirm "they ain't no such animal." Wagner, whose batting average covering his entire period of service is a little lower, and at the same time shorter, he having been in the game

but fifteen years. While Wagner has not yet been retired to the bench, that injury to his knee received early in the season is gradually cutting him down in his work in the short field.

So far as their batting eyes are concerned, both Lajoie and Wagner are hitting the ball with as much regularity as ever, but their speed has waned, and at this stage of the game's evolution speed is as essential to the national pastime as the ball and bat.

BAN JOHNSON GETS UNEASY

Head of American League Unhappy When Not in Row.

NOT POPULAR EVERYWHERE

Some Mistakes He Has Made and He is No Longer the Pet Visitor.

By W. J. M'NEETH.

NEW YORK, July 12.—Ban Johnson used to be a real Moses to his American league children. He led them out of the wilderness of the war days into an area of financial milk and honey. But, like the celebrated duke of York, with his storied 10,000 men, having marched his forces up the hill, the big car gives evidence of intention to march them down again. The green pastures of the promised land have failed to satisfy. Ban hungers once more for the wilderness.

Mighty in war, the American league executive chafes under the monotony of his peace. His restless soul, thwarted in its belligerency toward certain foes of the National league, has been fanned, of occasion, to seek a vent in interference with the henchmen of his own domain.

James Joe Birmingham. The latest outburst of the American league autocrat was directed against Joe Birmingham, manager of the Cleveland club. Mr. Johnson intimated that in his opinion Birmingham was no fit person to be in charge of an American league club. Whatever prompted the attack, it appeared very ill-timed. In the few short months he had been in charge of the Naps, Birmingham had fashioned a pennant contender from an habitual second division aggregation. His club was very much in evidence as a potent factor of the struggle. His club was showing such results as no former Cleveland manager had shown in fifteen years. And as the public, after all, pays his good money in expectation of patronizing and propitiating results, Mr. Johnson aroused no loud hurrahs of endorsement to his attack on Birmingham. Mr. Johnson simply raised against the popularity of his own ballfish the resentment of one more city.

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For some reason Mr. Johnson appears to have a penchant for picking onto "live

wires" and endorsing "dead ones." His meddlesome disposition has "ditched" him in half of the American league cities. He is about as popular in St. Louis as scarlet fever in a nursery. For years and years he was openly accused, in the Mound City, of trying to drive Bob Hedges out of the league. Once Hedges actually negotiated a sale. But the prospective buyers failed to make good, the first payment and the Browns reverted to the original ownership. Ban at the time took no pains to conceal his disappointment. There are those in New York bold enough to accuse Johnson of entertaining kindred designs upon Frank Farrell's property. Charlie Comiskey, mouthpiece of Johnson—or the other way, if one is planned down to sheer truth—declared a few months ago that within five years every American league club would be owned by old-time base ball players.

It is indeed that indicates a wind from a dangerous quarter for those millionaires of the Kawkey-Somers-Parrelli type whose financial influence forced recognition of equality from the National league in Johnson's scheme of expansion.

Why He is Loved So. New York has as little reason as Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland or Detroit to worship at the shrine of Big Ben. Enough sterling players have been lost to the Highlanders through the alleged advice of the league executive to form two or three world's championship aggregations.

By forcing Jake Stahl onto Clark Griffith in 1908, Johnson not only made the "Old Fox" a laughing stock of both big leagues, but further effected his retirement in disgrace at midseason. Jake as an outfielder was very much to the bush, even though his three years' contract called for \$5,000 a season. The explosion of the "Barn Manager" carried down in its ruin a club that in the first few weeks threatened to have the pennant clinched by July 4.

Stallings is Even. After the darkest days of the Griffith and Eberfeldt regime, Ban only allowed his personal animosity to land a second knockout blow to New York's hope of salvation. He chased George Stallings, who had built a tall order into a pennant possibility in two short years. Stallings, however, came back like a boomerang as manager of the Boston Nationals this year. He has robbed the American league of its time-honored Boston patronage by showing results with what everyone considered the joke of the two big leagues at the opening of the season. It is true that the world's champion Red Sox are somewhat to blame, because of their disappointing start. But public prejudice was instilled during the world's series last fall when on the last day no provision of accommodation was made for some thousands of loyal Red Sox rooters who had accompanied the team to and fro between the Hub and New York for each game. Robert McRoy for many years Johnson's private secretary and who is now alleged to represent some Johnson interest in Boston was responsible for the "bous." Of course Ban Johnson has to share the blame.

Detroit Also Suffered. Detroit soured on Johnson because of Ban's animosity toward Hughie Jennings. Johnson rebuked Jennings for his friendliness toward McGraw during the world's series between the Giants and Athletics in 1911. Ban was quoted

at the time as intimating that Jennings would be driven out of the American league because of alleged treason in tipping off McGraw to Philadelphia's weakness. Frank Navin beat Johnson to it by renewing Hughie's contract. Ban, however, should worry a whole lot. He is sure of his job for eighteen more years. He is supposed to get \$25,000 a year, but many think that part of it is a press agent story. It is quite true, however, that he will never have to carry a hod so long as organized base ball endures.

Change is Apparent. The sentiment of the American league club presidents, however, seems to have undergone somewhat of a change within the last few years. On a number of occasions they have actually silenced Ban when he has prepared to rip organized base ball, as typified by his foemen of the National league, right up the back. Twice he claimed he had O. W. Murphy at the brink of the chute for the "Down and Out" club, but his own supporters silenced his guns because of apprehension that a scandal might affect the whole organization. He was also going to make John T. Brush held from the start the support of the press, which is no mean attribute to final success. And in the meantime will be thrashed out in a Missouri law court the question of whether organized base ball as now constituted is indeed a "trust." The test case arises from a suit for \$50,000 damages brought by Jack

of the world's series tickets in 1911. Mr. Brush made Mr. Johnson endorse a public exoneration from the charges. His long promised airing of the umpire bribery charges at the Polo grounds in 1908 fell flat after he had talked himself into a position that made him appear absolutely ridiculous.

There is no doubt that Mr. Johnson has been a great factor toward putting organized base ball on a sound and unimpeachable footing. For that he deserves due credit. He has also succeeded at last in impressing upon Charlie Murphy the objection to loose talk. Ban could do no better than to adopt the same sort of policy that was crammed down Murphy's throat.

Test is Coming. Over in the west, where the American league is very weak, and where Ban is correspondingly unpopular, a new league, independent of organized base ball law, has sprung into existence. It does well in its struggling way; certainly it has held from the start the support of the press, which is no mean attribute to final success. And in the meantime will be thrashed out in a Missouri law court the question of whether organized base ball as now constituted is indeed a "trust." The test case arises from a suit for \$50,000 damages brought by Jack

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O'Connor, former manager of the St. Louis Browns in which Johnson and all eight American league presidents are named as defendants. O'Connor, who is now manager in the Federal league, was arbitrarily dismissed by Johnson for alleged connection with manipulation of a game in St. Louis between the Browns and the Naps so that Lajoie might be given enough hits on the day to beat out Ty Cobb for the batting championship and an automobile that went with it. Mr. Johnson, who has religiously sidestepped everything that smacked of a scandal in his own league, hushed up the unfortunate incident by firing O'Connor and several other players supposed to be directly interested. Later O'Connor got through the civil courts a judgment against the St. Louis Americans for the amount of salary due on the unexpired contract.

INTERNATIONAL ROWERS HOLD REGATTA IN AUGUST HAMILTON, Ont., July 12.—The first regatta of the new International Rowing

Association of Canada will be held in connection with Hamilton's centennial celebration and will rival the Canadian Henley. The date selected for the big affair is August 16.

House Divided is Sure to Fall

Who would pick Boston as the team that beat the Giants for the world's flag last fall? If management makes a winning team, what is the matter with the Red Sox, led by such astute veterans as Jimmy McAleer and Jake Stahl? But, ah, they do say these two giants of old are at larger heads, which seems to be the chief difficulty within the whole team. If so, no wonder it is trailing along in second division.

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Western League Averages

Table with columns for Club Batting and Club Fielding, listing statistics for various teams like Denver, Sioux City, Omaha, etc.

Individual Batting

Table listing individual player statistics for various teams, including names like G. Watson, St. Joe, etc.

Leading Pitchers

Table listing leading pitcher statistics for various teams, including names like Hagerman, Denver, etc.

National League Averages

Table with columns for Club Fielding and Club Batting, listing statistics for various teams like New York, Cincinnati, etc.

American League Averages

Table with columns for Club Batting and Club Fielding, listing statistics for various teams like Philadelphia, Cleveland, etc.

Individual Batting

Table listing individual player statistics for various teams, including names like McDonald, Boston, etc.

Leading Pitchers

Table listing leading pitcher statistics for various teams, including names like Beahm, Philadelphia, etc.

Stagg Announces Foot Ball Schedule

CHICAGO, July 12.—Coach Stagg of the University of Chicago has announced his plans for the 1913 foot ball season. The Harvard team will play seven games, four of them in Chicago. The new \$100,000 concrete grandstand will be dedicated at Marshall Field on October 4.