

BALL GAME MUCH IMPROVED

Sport Has Advanced in Every Way During Last Twenty Years.

GRIFFITH COMPARES NOTES

Furnishes Some Interesting Data by Studying Players of Different Times Along Side of Each Other.

BY FRANK G. MENKE.

NEW YORK, April 4.—Base ball today is a faster, more scientific game than it was twenty-five years ago, but many stars of the old days outrank the brightest...

Griffith, after declaring that he has been connected with the big leagues for twenty-five years, compares the different stars of the past and present and furnishes some interesting base ball history.

Charles Comiskey, now owner of the White Sox, is ranked by Griffith as the greatest first baseman that ever held down the initial base. Griffith credits him with revolutionizing the system of playing first base.

"He was the first man to see the possibilities of the position," writes Griffith. "Before his day a first baseman was only a basket. He stood glued to the bag, received the balls thrown to him, but never moved away."

Griffith then stated that Anson, although a great player, was not Comiskey's equal. That Dan Brouthers, also a wonderful player, was rated under Anson.

"This encouraged Comiskey to play even farther back, and he finally forced the pitcher to do the unheard of thing of playing the first baseman's position when the first baseman was fielding the ball."

Griffith gives Fred Pfeffer of the old White Sox and "Buddy" McPhee of the old Cincinnati Reds places among the greatest men that ever worked at the keystone station.

"From their day until the coming of Collins, Lajoie, the great Frenchman, none has been as brilliant as he. I call him the best ball player the world ever has known."

Herman Long of the old Boston club, was the greatest shortstop I ever have known. Other men have come since his time and played the position in wonderful style, but Long, in my opinion, never has known an equal.

"Williamson, of the old White Sox, was ready to renew negotiations upon his return from Europe."

Mrs. C. E. Nixdorf, champion of the Woman's Chess club of New York, has made another effort to arrange a match with Mrs. S. R. Burgess of St. Louis.

In his farewell performance at the Manhattan Chess club, Marshall met thirty opponents, including two members of the Woman's Chess club.

G. Marco of Vienna announces an international gambit tournament, open to ten players of acknowledged repute, to be held at Baden, near the Austrian capital.

A match of six games between Richard Teichmann and Rudolph Spielmann, played recently at Leipzig, resulted in a one-sided victory for Teichmann.

Joe F. Capablanca, the Cuban master, in an effort to get into form for the St. Petersburg tournament April 20, has accepted all invitations to visit the various chess clubs of Russia.

Here is the greatest base ball team of all time, in the opinion of Clark Griffith, manager of the senators: Charles Comiskey (St. Louis, Browns), first base; Eddie Collins (Athletics), second base; Herman Long (Boston), shortstop; Jimmy Collins (Boston), third base; Bill Lange (Chicago), left field; Trae Spenser (Boston), center field; Ty Cobb (Detroit), right field; "Buck" Ewing (New York), catcher; Amos Rusie (New York), pitcher; Cy Young (Cleveland), pitcher; Christy Mathewson (New York), pitcher; Walter Johnson (Washington) pitcher.

a wonderful shortstop in 1890. He used to play without a glove. Dahlen, McCormick, Jennings, Wallace and Davis also were marvelous shortstops. And so is Wagner. Hans has a barrel of ability, but he is not such a foxy player as many persons think. But he is a wonderful player.

"On the par with Wagner I place McBride of the Washington club. He is the best defensive man in the business, but a weak hitter. If he could club like Wagner he would be the greatest shortstop of all time."

"Gardner of the Red Sox, Foster of the Washingtons and Baker of the Athletics are the only third basemen who can be compared to these two. Baker is a poor fielder; he is awkward, but he is such a wonderful batter that it lifts him up to the top-notch. Foster is a foxy fielder and a foxy batter—a great all around man. Gardner is a wonder, but not quite in Foster's class."

"This Speaker is the most remarkable outfielder that ever lived," remarks Griffith, after according places in the Outfield Hall of Fame to more than a score of the past and present gardening stars. "He is the best man on fly balls that I ever have seen. His throws are deadly. Batters hit the ball a mile, yet Speaker goes out to the fence and gets them—gets drives that other men would have to let go for three base hits and home runs."

"Cobb Better Base Runner. "Of course, it is hard to judge between Speaker and Cobb as to which is the better man. Cobb is a better base runner and a better batter, but Speaker stands out as a fielder."

"Benson of Cleveland is a wonderful thrower and batter, but he does not shine as a base runner. Milan of Washington is a better ball player than Jackson. He is a splendid fielder, splendid base runner and a consistent .300 hitter. He is continually using his head."

"Comparing these stars with Bill Lange of the old generation, shows that the old generation suffered. Cobb and Speaker are Lange's superiors, and I think Milan is almost Lange's equal. Among the other great outfield stars of the past and present were Willie Kaller, Fred Clarke, Fielder Jones, Jesse Burkett, Elmer Flick, Hugh Duffy, Mike Donlin, Jimmy McAleer, Poparty and Dickie Johnson."

"In the catching line the stars of the present day are not as good as those of the other days. Buck Ewing never has known an equal as an catcher. I call him the best ball player the world ever has known. The only man who ever approached him was Mike Kelly, of the old Chicago White Sox. Kelly, too, was a wonder, but not quite equal to Ewing."

"Walter Johnson is the greatest pitcher of today, but wonderful as he is there were some old timers that were wonders, too. Clarkson and Keeffe were the best in the period that ended in 1885. Then came three wonders—Amos Rusie, Cy Young and Kid Nichols. And then came Mathewson, Clarkson, Keeffe and Nichols were not quite as good as Matty and Johnson are today, but Young and Rusie, in their prime, were right along with them."

"In making these comparisons, in telling you what I think were the greatest men that ever played the different positions on the diamond I am only giving my own opinion. Some may differ with me, but these conclusions are drawn after watching closely the thousands who have come and gone since I entered the big league game."

Shaft's Salary Arr. Outfielder "Lefty Nemo," Leibold of the Naps was once a left-handed thrower, and he can still throw the old pill pretty good with his south wing. He shifted to right-handed throwing because he found his left arm weakening.

C. Findley, A. L. Joseph, W. M. Campbell, Mrs. R. C. Moore, P. C. Swearingen, H. Thomson, J. G. Fort, Ernest Frysch, Otto Kruse, the author of this problem, says that it "is especially contrived to give a deceptive appearance to mislead the solver, who seeing that his king can be attacked from all directions, and that no plausible means of defense exist, receives the impression that the problem must be a forcing one, beginning with a check. To an expert solver no two-move main can possess any difficulty worth mentioning; but to amateur players, who have no experience in such matters, a problem of this kind is practically unsolvable." Which is more or less of a compliment to the twenty-seven successful ones.

It is hoped that Marshall will make a notable addition in Russia to his large and unique collection of "wonders." Between Marshall and Capablanca, the outlook for the western hemisphere is indeed bright.

Rules of tournament: Contestants must reside in Nebraska or Iowa. Solutions must be mailed within two weeks after appearance of problem. The number of twenty-six problems and the contestant who solves the greatest number shall be declared winner. In case of a tie, other problems shall be submitted to the contestants who are tied until the tie is broken. The prize is a \$5 set of chessmen for anything of equal value selected by the winner. Address all correspondence to E. M. Alkin, 108 Hazlet street, Omaha. Please do not fail to enclose a stamp if you wish a reply.

Problem No. 14, which follows, is a three-mover, the first of the tournament. It has been selected for its artistic neatness and simplicity, and should not prove as difficult as some of the two-movers already published.

BLACK (three pieces).

Wagner May Be Out of Game for Season

Heine Wagner, veteran shortstop of the Boston Red Sox, whose injured leg is causing his physician no little worry. It is feared that Wagner will be unable to play with his team until the season of 1915.



reverse the tables on the track. The Cornhuskers also will have a representative team at the Missouri Valley conference meet on May 20 and the Western Intercollegiate meet in Chicago a week later.

Trouton for the varsity team have been fixed for April 25 on the university athletic grounds. At that time Reed will pick his complete team for the remainder of the season in a competitive meet between the members of the squad.

Speeder Candidates Few. The call for soccer candidates this week failed to bring out a very big squad owing to unfavorable weather conditions, but Coach Stehm started his soccer foot

ball campaign and will continue instruction. He hopes to interest a greater portion of the male undergraduate body before the season is over.

Not to be outdone, the girls are preparing to play base ball this spring, and the athletic authorities in charge of the physical education bureau have set next week as a special week of instruction for the co-eds. Base ball teams will be organized among the co-eds of the different classes and a schedule arranged to determine the class championship.

The girls will wear the regular bloomers, and later on in the season it is anticipated that the public will be admitted to see the games.

Western League uses Goldsmith OFFICIAL LEAGUE BALL Guaranteed 18 Innings

BOYS Learn Scientific Baseball FREE. Joe Wood of the Boston World Champions will teach you his great secret of breaking over his world famous Smoke Ball. "Nap" Rucker of the Brooklyn will teach you the mastery of his famous Knuckler.

BOYS Through an agreement we have made with the BASEBALL CORRESPONDENCE LEAGUE OF AMERICA we are able to offer you the most complete and fascinating course of baseball ever compiled. In this course CHRISTY MATHEWSON of the N. Y. Giants; ED. WALSH of the White Sox; WALTER JOHNSON of the Washingtons; JOE WOOD of the Boston World Champions; "NAP" RUCKER of the Brooklyn and "DOC" WHITE formerly of the Chicago Americans, will through personal and direct lessons teach you the secret of Professional Pitching.

Our First Lesson. Our first lesson will be by "DOC" WHITE. He is a better qualified to give you advice on this most important matter than is "Doc" White. He is a college bred man, who by using his brains, devised a secret, self-teaching system that enables him to blossom out over night with that ride-shot control of the ball that has ever since been a terror to the leg and wrist of batters.

Some of "Doc" White's Instructions for Shadow Pitching. home with the cripples and with instructions to practice with anyone who wanted exercise. This gave me something of a job, and time to think. It also gave me a realization that some day, in a one-sided game, the "Boss" would come to the mound, and that my fate depended upon my showing him something when that day came.

Introductory to Ed. Walsh's Contributions to This Course of Lessons. By ED. WALSH. For eight long years the spitter has been my stock in trade. With its aid I have won more games in one season than any pitcher of modern times.

Lesson Number 1. By G. HARRIS WHITE. "DOC" WHITE. In this lesson I will tell you "right off the bat" in plain, short English, let's begin by admitting that Baseball is the Great American Game. Why? You will say—because it is the most popular—everybody plays it or is interested in it. A good reason, but here is another: it is the best builder of health (mental and physical), and a tremendous moral force. It is a game that will stand for whisky, cigarettes, profanity, vulgarity, cowardice, dishonesty, anger, discontent and lack of respect for superiors—some of the worst habits that a man can acquire.

SHADOW PITCHING. There is a name I have carried under my vest for a long time. It made a pitcher of me and gave me that control of the ball that has turned the scale many a time against the best batters and players in the big leagues. Not every man can be a "CONTROL" pitcher, but every man who has "CONTROL" can be a successful pitcher. A slow ball and control are a far better combination than fast balls and passed balls and a few wilds to first base. A base on balls is practically a hit—it gives the batsman just as good a title to "first base" as he had in the olden times.

Irwin M. Howe, Principal. Mr. Howe is an eminent baseball writer and authority. He is the OFFICIAL STATISTICIAN of the American League, the Western and the National League. He is the author of The Players' Handbook of Baseball, and Pennant Winning Plays and Players—two works that have had a circulation of more than a million copies.

CHALLENGES

A pleasant way to spend your noon hour, especially during rainy weather, is to play chess or checkers at the Omaha Chess and Checker club. The monthly dues are a trifle; the pastime is a clean one and will benefit you morally and mentally, and the location is convenient.

Into the small hours of Friday morning, March 27, members and guests of the Manhattan Chess club lionized Frank J. Marshall in speeches, songs and recitations. The club chose its thirty-seventh annual banquet as a fitting occasion to bid good-bye to the champion of the United States on the eve of his departure for Russia.

G. Marco of Vienna announces an international gambit tournament, open to ten players of acknowledged repute, to be held at Baden, near the Austrian capital, beginning April 8. It will last until May 2, and there will be four cash prizes.

A match of six games between Richard Teichmann and Rudolph Spielmann, played recently at Leipzig, resulted in a one-sided victory for Teichmann, who won five of the games. These two masters, together with E. Cohn and J. Meises, will engage in a short tourney before the opening of the St. Petersburg congress.

Loyd's problem of last Sunday's issue is correctly set up, but solvers may be misled by the parentheses above and below, which give white and black each four pieces. White has five and black only three.

With the receipt of the correct solution of No. 20 from G. A. Ireland of Tekamah, the list of solvers reached high tide with twenty-eight names. This is in pleasing contrast to the small number of solvers who succeeded in solving No. 8. We are glad to note that several solvers who have already missed one or two problems have expressed their determination to continue. The problems afford a pleasant quarter of an hour to the real "fan"; moreover, it may easily happen that the winner of the tournament will fall in one or two instances.

Tourney problem No. 11—K-K12. Solved by L. E. Miner, G. E. Cypser, Jacob Saaz, R. L. Darling, H. D. Laney, Dr. J. M. Curtis, W. R. Ellis, W. E. Fenton, L. A. Tyson, H. J. Hansen, H. S. Nielsen, Dr. H. W. Brendel, George N. Searns, A. C. Dyer, Mrs. L. R. May, Howard Oman, Jay Thompson, William

STATE HIGH SCHOOLS MEET ALONG IN MAY

(Continued from Page One.) recruits. His sprinters now include Wherry, Keese, Zumwinkle, Irwin, Scott, Bates, Lipman and Keeffe. His distance men are greater in numbers than ever before, with Goethe, Harnsburger, Guss, McManis, Anderson, Kratz, Harlan, Kubik, Nelson, Shumaker, Spohn, Pier, Phillips and Runkel reporting.

Nebraska's Meet Month Off. Nebraska's first dual meet is still nearly a month off, when the Cornhuskers go to Lawrence to meet the Jayhawkers in track. The Cornhuskers will send two relay teams to Des Moines to compete in the Drake relay meet, but Reed has little hope of making much of a showing there.

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Rheumatic Throat Is Common Trouble Should Be Treated in Blood To Prevent Recurrence.



There are successful gurgles that stop soreness in the throat, but to prevent their frequent return, the blood must be purified. The best remedy is S. B. S. as it influences all the functions of the body, neutralizes the irritants or waste products and stimulates their excretion through the proper channels.

YOU CAN PUT ONE OVER TODAY. These lessons are so plain, practical and so profusely illustrated, that by following the instructions given, you can not only develop pitching ability but by "Doc" White's Shadow Pitching, can practice and learn in secret.

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