

TINKER CAUSE OF THE WAR

New Cub Chief Costs Base Ball Million Dollars and Joe Loses Nary a Cent.

BUT INSTEAD IS A BIG GAINER

By FRANK G. MENKE. NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Joe Tinker cost Organized Base Ball and Federal League magnates a sum close to \$1,000,000—and Joe loses nothing.

Had it not been for Tinker's action in jumping to the Feds in the winter of 1915 the Federal League probably would have died a year or so ago—and it would have died before it cost the magnates millions of dollars.

As long as base ball lasts Tinker will be remembered as the players' greatest benefactor and also as the costliest player that ever trod upon a base ball diamond.

Of course, if you wish to go back to the start of things you can place the blame for the existence of the Federal League upon Messrs. Ebbets and Herrmann, who gummied up things so horribly during their negotiations that Tinker got his chance to jump.

Ebbets' "Boner." Tinker ended the 1915 season as manager of Herrmann's Reds. Clearly, however, was tired of him and wanted to sell him. Ebbets wanted to buy.

The price was \$25,000. Herrmann to get \$15,000 and Tinker to be given the other \$10,000 as a sort of bonus. But Ebbets didn't pass the \$10,000 alone to Tinker right away.

Other players figured that if Tinker was willing to take a chance by quitting Organized Baseball, they could likewise, provided of course, that they too, got fancy contracts.

Tinker's jump to the Feds not only influenced other stars to jump, but it also smoothed the magnate finding campaign of James A. Gilmore. Up to that time Gilmore was confronted with a real tank in trying to interest capital.

And then the baseball war began in earnest. The Feds bid high for the diamond stars of Organized Baseball and organized baseball in its efforts to hold its players, outbid the Feds in many cases.

Salaries of players were doubled and tripled. And practically each one of the contracts with the star players were for a three-year period.

Details of Increase. An average increase of around \$2,000 per year was paid by the organized clubs in the organized majors to about 120 ball players. Practically all of these boosts were for a three-year period.

In addition to this, the organized baseball magnates suffered big losses in 1914 and 1915, due to loss of patronage, due partly to the war. The total decrease in the receipts National and American leagues for 1914 and 1915, a startlingly steady loss to \$400,000.

These figures show that the loss to organized baseball, due to the war was close to \$1,000,000. The losses of the Federal League magnates probably reach a similar figure. They may go beyond.

The minor leagues, as a whole, lost at least \$1,000,000 because of the war. Four million dollars at a conservative estimate, is what Joe Tinker directly and Ebbets and Herrmann, indirectly cost the clubowners. Which, in the slang parlance, is quite a bulky flock of bills.

Auto Pilots Will Be Checked by Point System This Year

Hert Le Bron, president of the Omaha Speedway, is in receipt of a letter from Richard Kennard, chairman of the contest committee of the Amateur Athletic association, in which Kennard informs the local speedway management that he will institute a system of point marking in all of the speedway and road races held under the auspices of the Amateur Athletic association this year.

Yanks Have Crew of Six-Foot Twirlers

If size and number count for anything Manager Donovan of the New York Yankees will have the greatest pitching staff in the country next season. To date the Highlanders have signed twenty-two pitchers for next season. Sixteen of them stand six feet or more in their stocking feet. The tallest of the lot is Slim Love, a southpaw, who comes from the Los Angeles team of the Pacific Coast league. Love stands six feet seven inches.

MANY CONTENDERS FOR MIDDLEWEIGHT TITLE

Who is the middleweight champion? This class in boxing is the only one without a recognized leader. Among the middleweights there are six who stand out. They are Les Darcy, the Australian; Mike Gibbons, "Jeff" Smith, James Cleary and George Chis.

GIBBONS IS THE FAVORITE

St. Paul Phantom is Expected to Return Victor Over Ahearn in Bout Tuesday.

KILBANE GETS A TRIMMING

By RINGSIDE. NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Michael Gibbons, the St. Paul Phantom, and Young Ahearn, the Phittling Phantom, are to meet again in the ring. They will go through the mystic maze of a ten-round bout out St. Paul way next Tuesday evening. This is Mike's home town, but the environment will have no bearing on the outcome of the battle.

Ahearn will not knock out Gibbons, whereas Gibbons may knock out Ahearn. Mike has done it once before, so what is to prevent a recurrence? It is the inextinguishable law of the ring that a man who has once flattened a rival is more than likely to repeat when they clash again.

Few are the cases where a beaten boxer reversed the order in a subsequent meeting. Of course, there flashes to mind the case of Stanley Ketchel and Billy Pabke. The Michigan assassin knocked out Pabke after the latter had stopped him. But this is the exception that proves the rule.

Gibbons' Former Victory. Mike Gibbons knocked out Ahearn here on June 1, 1912. The bout lasted four rounds, and Ahearn was quite content to take the long count, as he was completely outclassed by Gibbons. Some may contend that Ahearn was a novice when he submitted to this licking. To disprove this contention it might be mentioned that at the time of this bout Gibbons was in the same five years, while Ahearn had been battling just one year less.

A superficial examination of the records of Gibbons and Ahearn reveals some interesting facts. Mike has never been stopped, while Ahearn has been knocked out three times, including the setback at the hands of Gibbons. Packer McFarland and Jessell Badoud were Ahearn's other conquerors by the knockout route. And Packer never was considered a knockout. Of Badoud we know little, except that he made Ahearn cry "quit" in the eighteen rounds.

Ahearn's Weak Record. Ahearn's records show that he has stopped but four opponents during his six years in the ring. His victims were Henri Piet, whom Ahearn outweighed many pounds; Soldier Bartfield, who quit to Ahearn in eight rounds (Ahearn and Bartfield by the way are in the same stable); Sid Burns, who also was stopped by Gibbons, and Pete Braddock, an English army man.

Gibbons is not reputed as a knockout artist, yet his record is dotted with numerous knockouts. Mike never specialized in knockouts, yet whenever the occasion demanded (at such times when his opponent was waning) he managed to put over the punch sporadic.

The return battle between Gibbons and Ahearn was a long time materializing. They were scheduled to meet last month, but at the last moment the bout was postponed owing to a cold sustained by Gibbons. Mike was under a doctor's care several days before the match was called off. This gave dapper Dan McKetric, Ahearn's manager, the chance to raise a hue and cry that Gibbons had developed a case of cold feet, and feared to fight Ahearn.

Quite some deduction on McKetric's part, knowing that Gibbons had already knocked out Ahearn. Fortunately Mike recovered from his cold sooner than expected, and he immediately had the bout declared on again. Mike is quite incensed at McKetric's action, and will endeavor to take it out on Ahearn Tuesday night.

Kilbane and the Lights. Johnny Kilbane has reconsidered his determination to graduate into the lightweight class. The featherweight champion tried his hand with a 135-pounder, Ritchie Mitchell, several days ago and fared rather poorly. Mitchell patted Kilbane all over the ring during the ten rounds.

Fact is, Mitchell hit too hard for Kilbane. The former started a flow of carmine from the champion's nose in an early round, and otherwise damaged the featherweight's eyes.

Young Shugrue, who has battled all the top-notch lightweights, is ready to return to the ring. Shugrue has been troubled with weak eyes for over a year. An operation saved his sight, and now he is prepared to engage the leading lightweights again.

Naturally he prefers taking on Freddie Welsh first. He has beaten the champion once and sincerely believes he can do it once more.

Big Indoor Meet Will Be Held Here Last Day of March

The Young Men's Christian association has selected March 31 as the day and date for its annual indoor athletic meet this year. The Young Men's Christian association indoor meet is one of the big sport events of the winter and last year some 60 athletes took part. This year it is the plan of the "Y" officials to make the event bigger and better than ever and expect to have a number of outside teams and athletes entered in the competition.

Sioux City to Hold Women's Golf Meet

Women golfers of Omaha have been advised by Mrs. Abbott Thornhill and Miss Jennie Jones of Sioux City that they are planning to hold an inter-state women's golf tournament at Sioux City about the middle of June. The Sioux City women have obtained the promise of Elaine Rosenthal, winner of the western tournament last year; Caroline Palmer, twice winner of the western tournament, and Mrs. Beale Hammond, winner of the western in 1914, to attend. They ask the co-operation of Omaha and that this city send a delegation to the event. It is very probable that a number of Omaha women will attend.

Connie Mack Digs Up Another Sisler

Connie Mack may have discovered another George Sisler in Lester Lanning, the pitching-hitting marvel that he has signed from the Wesleyan university of Middletown, Conn. Lanning not only stayed as a pitcher for his college, but he batted over .400 for the season. After the close of the college year he played with fast independent teams in New England and continued his good work. Like Sisler he is a southpaw, and when not pitching plays the outfield. He hits from the left. He graduates next spring and will join Mack's team immediately thereafter.

Harvard's Husky Boxers in Open Air in Zero Weather



BOXING AT HARVARD.

Top—Steve O'Donnell, Harvard Boxing Instructor, Explaining a Feint to the Squad. Below—Kirkpatrick, on the Left, Boxing with Soucy, While O'Donnell Looks On. CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 15.—Fresh air, and lots of it, seems to be the rule with the Harvard boxing squad, which works out in an open lot back of the gymnasium. Even the deep snow is not

a deterrent to the husky flatfoot athletes, who are being instructed by the veteran trainer, Steve O'Donnell. Nearly all the prominent men in the university have taken up the art of self-defense, and two foot ball squad almost to a man has gone in for boxing. Kirkpatrick, Soucy and other gridiron stars are mixing it up with the padded mitts. Soucy is one of the cleverest boxers of the squad.

JOE WILL BE RIOT IN N. Y. Inside Story of Jump to the Feds By Toots Schultz

Toots Schultz, the southpaw who jumped the New York Yankees for a \$100,000 bounty, may be back in the American league next season, as it is said Fielder Jones wants him for the Browns. Several stories have been told of why Schultz fell out with Frank Chance, and did the grasshopper act, but a St. Louis writer says this is the real one.

The break which led up to Schultz's hurdle occurred during the seventh inning of a game between the Browns and Yanks.

The Browns and Yanks battled on even terms. During the first half of the seventh inning the New Yorkers gathered six or seven runs off a varied assortment of Browns' slab artists.

As the Browns took the field for their half of the fatal round a light drizzling rainfall began. Frank Chance promptly gave his players orders to hurry matters along so as to avoid the possibility of hostilities being interrupted and the score reverting back to the sixth inning.

Every man on the club understood the orders but Schultz. The blonde Teuton went to the slab and proceeded to exhibit a very elaborate windup before each pitch. Chance's frantic yells from the players' coop seemed to retard rather than increase his haste.

Schultz's pitching motion became more and more artistic the pain in Chance's seventh cervical vertebra became all the more acute.

Finally Chance stepped out of the coop and yelled, "Come in off that slab, you fathead," or words to that effect. Schultz demurred and Chance went out to bring him in. A wordy battle ensued, during which Chance is said to have threatened to "knock Schultz's block off." Schultz returned to the dugout and when the team returned to New York he signed with the Buffalo Feds.

Tommy Toye Says Browns and Cubs Will Win Pennants

Tommy Toye, one of Omaha's most ardent major league fans, has already come forth with his predictions for the 1916 pennant races. Toye ventures the prediction that the Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Browns will cop in the National and American leagues, respectively. Tommy says Joe Tinker and Fielder Jones are in a class by themselves as managers and the augmented teams they will manage will prove too strong for their opponents.

WAR IS CUTTING DOWN FRENCH RACE PURSES

This year in France the Grand Prix prize stakes, one of the chief trout events, will be worth 200,000 francs instead of 300,000 as previous to the war. The Prix de Diane and the Prix Royal Oak are to be cut down from 400,000 francs to 300,000 francs. The Poule d'Essai and other prizes are also to be 10,000 francs lower than before the war.

The Hypodermic Needle

By FRED S. HUNTER. Our Travelogue No. 11. St. Joseph, Mo. is not a city, it's a mystery. A person after his first twenty-four hours in St. Joseph would describe "some town." After forty-eight hours he wonders which undertaker will get the contract to bury it.

F. JONES HINTS AT A FLAG

Expect to Have a Great Team with a Pick of the Browns and the Sloufeds. BOOSTS STARS OF LAST YEAR. Fielder Jones' St. Louis Americans probably will be made up of at least 20 per cent admixture of Federals next year. Possibly the ratio will run still higher. The 1915 manager of the Terriers yielded to an interviewer recently, and he proved to be a staunch booster for his 1915 pennant St. Louis outlaws.

Jones was not conversant with the details of amalgamation between the Browns and the St. Louis Federals and was cautious in his statements regarding future possibilities. He was optimistic regarding the chances of the St. Louis American league team of next season, even providing no additions by purchase were made to the roster of men available through the combination of the two clubs.

While Manager Jones refused point blank to name any tentative lineup for the refurbished Browns, there is a guess, however—mind you not from Boss Jones—a hazard of what St. Louis fans may see when the amalgamation scheme is finally worked out.

Cathbers—Hartley, Federals; Chapman, Federals; Seeverd, Americans. Pitchers—Plank, Davenport and Crandall of the Federals; Slater and Wellman of the Americans, and a couple of youngsters.

First Baseman—Borton, Federals. Second Basemen—Pratt, Americans; Vaughn, Federals. Shortstop—Johnson, Federals. Third Basemen—Beal or "tunt" Walsh of the Federals; possibility of Austin of Americans.

Outfield—Tobin, Marsano, Miller of Federals; Shotton, Walker, Americans. Scotty Monteith Tells Why Gotham Fight is Delayed. Scotty Monteith, manager of Johnny Dundee, who spent Friday in Omaha when cold-bound on his way to Denver, where Johnny meets Stanley Yoakum Saturday, gave Omaha ring fans the inside dope on the delay in the Willard Moran bout from March 2 to Memorial day or later.

The promoters do not want to stage the event in the Madison Square Garden, said the hustling Scotty, "because there will be necessarily a great number of cheaper seats, due to poor views of the ring. So, I believe they are waiting until the Hippodrome closes, about the middle of April or the first of May. A fine over the orchestra pit in the Hippodrome would be in full view of everybody in the house. The Hippodrome seats 5,000, and with a ring over the orchestra pit, 2,000 bleacher seats could be erected on the stage. Thus over 7,000 seats could be sold at prices from \$5 to \$20. This would bring much more money into the pockets of the promoters than staging it at the Garden, where a bunch of seats would have to be sold at \$1 a throw."

Portland Signs Butler. The Portland Coast league club announces the signing of Pitcher Jimmy Clarke.

Some Present. Connie Mack has given Jack Lapp to Charley Comiskey. Connie also included Mr. Lapp's contract in the gift. Federal leaguers deny the report that the outlaws lost \$300,000 last year. However they make no mention of any dividends declared.

SINGS RAJAH BRESNAHAN AS HE LOOKS TOWARD OLD TOLEDO, O. Though I've hammered you and flayed you By the living God that made you, You're a better man than I am, Joseph Tinker.

After perusing his record of recent activities, we have come to the conclusion that Jim Gilmore is the same guy who sold the top five floors of the Woodmen of the World building sometime ago.

Bill Brennan is writing the "Confessions of an Umpire" for a newspaper syndicate. Bill has a happy subject—most umpires have a lot to confess.

Advertisement for Bond & Lillard shoes. The ad features the text 'Bond & Lillard' in large letters, followed by 'A whiskey that has maintained its supreme quality, rich mellowness, delicious flavor and popular demand for over three generations. Made in the good old fashioned way to satisfy the taste of the most critical. Bottled in Bond. Sold Everywhere Because Demanded Everywhere'. Below the text is an illustration of a man in a hat and boots, possibly a cowboy or a soldier, standing next to a horse. The ad also includes the text 'Do You Know a Real Bargain?' and 'If so, come here. You'll be surprised at values we are giving. This is a sale with a vengeance to reduce our stock. Prices mowed down and stacked--wonderful values at \$2.95. Buy several pair and save on your shoe bill.' The store name 'The FLORSHEIM SHOE STORE' and address 'STARR-KINGMAN SHOE CO., 315 S. 16th St.' are also present.