

HOW MUCH DID FEDS LOSE?

Connie Mack Says \$600,000, but Expert Menke Says Figure is Closer to \$75,000.

AND MENKE HAS PLENTY DATA

By FRANK G. MENKE. Connie Mack seems to have slipped a cable by making the statement that the Federal League suffered a \$600,000 operating loss in 1914. The league, as a whole, lost not more than \$100,000, according to the best statistics available.

Five Federal League clubs lost money and three showed an operating profit at the end of the season. The net loss of the Federal League for 1914 is said to have been less than that of the International League.

The Chicago Federals cleared \$30,000 on the season. The Baltimore Federals made a profit of around \$12,000 and the Indianapolis club, which won the pennant, is said to have cleared \$15,000 on the season.

The St. Louis Federals were the heaviest losers in the new league. They dropped around \$30,000. The attendance was good in the early part of the season, but when the team slumped the attendance fell off with a terrific bump.

But the fact remains that Ritchie is to get another chance at his title, the chance he has been imporing Welsh to give him ever since, that fateful day last July. Now it is up to Ritchie to make good.

It may be said for Ritchie that he confidently expects to make good to the extent of knocking out Welsh, thus regaining his championship. Willie is so all-fired sure that he is going to make Welsh bore his head into the canvas Thursday evening that if he fails to do so he will thereupon, and without a moment's hesitation, retire from the ring forever.

This is a little speech that is wanted to the sporting public by every spoiled champion upon getting another opportunity; and this may be another of Ritchie's idle jests. Willie has something like \$100,000 in cash, due to his handwork in the ring, and it is hardly likely that he will give up such a remunerative profession even if Welsh hands him the trouncing of a lifetime.

Willie is hopeful youth. "I confidently expect to regain my title when I clash with Welsh next Thursday," began Willie. "I have fought Welsh twice and am thoroughly conversant with his style of fighting. His game is to tap his opponent lightly and then run away."

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Continuing, Ritchie said: "Men like Shugrue and Griffiths have actually outboxed Welsh lately, and this, to my mind, indicates that he is slipping. I firmly believe I am a superior boxer to either Shugrue or Griffiths, and I know I pack a harder punch. I landed on Welsh without much difficulty, and I ought to be able to do the same."

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endavored strenuously to coax Welsh into a twenty-round battle, but Frederick would hear nothing of it unless he was guaranteed a flat sum of \$25,000. A Denver club offered \$25,000, but Welsh turned it down. When Ritchie heard of this he promptly made Welsh a proposition, which Freddie failed to consider. Ritchie said he would make Welsh a present of the additional \$20,000 if the British defeated him. Willie also made the proposition that the \$10,000 would be withheld if he whipped Welsh. Pollock's champion made a reply in the negative to this proffer.

Ritchie said Welsh, according to the articles of agreement, will weigh in at 155 pounds at 2 o'clock next Thursday afternoon. Welsh is already at the stipulated weight, while Ritchie is hovering around the 147 pound mark. He expects to make the extra two pounds vanish in a day.

RITCHIE AND WELSH NEXT

And Willie Is the Confident Youth Who Predicts Victory for Himself.

DEPENDS ON A KNOCKOUT

By RINGSIDE. NEW YORK, March 6.—If Willie Ritchie is as good a prognosticator as he is a fighter, then we shall have a new—or an old—world's lightweight champion next Thursday evening. Take it from this Willie Ritchie person that Freddie Welsh will no longer hold the dominating hand in the 135-pound division after their meeting at the Jarden on March 1.

Ritchie is in hope of emulating the late lamented Stanley Ketchel, who after relinquishing his middleweight title to Billy Papke, retrieved it in their next battle. It will be recalled that Ritchie, up to July 7, last, was the proud possessor of the lightweight championship.

He evidently did not care much for the diadem, however, for he permitted himself to be enticed to the other side and "jobbed" of the title, as Ritchie himself expressed it. The peculiar part of it all is that it took Ritchie nearly a year to convince himself that he was the victim of a well engineered plot.

Whether or not Ritchie was "jobbed," is not for us to say; but we will say that it was his uncurbed passion for an additional few thousand dollars that cost him the title. He voluntarily went to London, knowing that he might be "jobbed," but was willing to take a chance in order to enhance his bankroll.

Howl Comes Late. Ritchie's howl and cry comes somewhat late, and it will avail him nothing, except to get him into disfavor with people, who now are friendly toward him. Then again, Ritchie may have emitted the "jobbing" squeak in order to attract attention to his forthcoming bout with this same Welsh.

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ANOTHER BASE BALL CLUB PLACED ON THE MARKET

The Utica club of the New York State league is for sale. The owners say they haven't time to look after base ball, but it is suspected that the real reason is that they are tired of acting as a clearing house between fans and players—the fans putting in the coin and the players taking it out.

BILL DONOVAN WILL NOT BOUNCE CHARLEY MULLEN

Manager Donovan has denied that a deal has been made to transfer First Baseman Charley Mullen to Indianapolis. Mullen will be taken on the training trip and it will be up to him to make a showing that will decide whether he is to be retained on the Yankee team.

Principals in Johnson-Willard Muddle



EL PASO, Tex., March 6.—"To be or not to be, that is the question." Whether Jess Willard will fight Jack Johnson for the world heavyweight title in Juarez, Mexico, on March 6, as scheduled, or on March 17, the suggested postponed date, or at all. At last report the black champion was in Havana, Cuba, anxious to have the fight transferred there. Meantime, he may take on battling Jim Johnson, or some other heavyweight now in Cuba, and Gunboat Smith and Jim Coffey are ready to hop on a train for El Paso, Tex., to fight Willard in Johnson's place.

OBJECTS TO SHOOTING LAW

Garrison, Neb., Man Would Allow Spring Shooting, but with Restrictive Provisions.

By AGAIN we will say for Ritchie that he is the confident youth, and Willie reached here two days ago and immediately took up training quarters to complete his preparatory work for the Welsh bout. The erstwhile champion is fairly "bubbling over with confidence"—to use an old expression. But it applies, as will be gleaned from the following unsolicited speech by Ritchie to several sporting men yesterday:

"I confidently expect to regain my title when I clash with Welsh next Thursday," began Willie. "I have fought Welsh twice and am thoroughly conversant with his style of fighting. His game is to tap his opponent lightly and then run away."

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BASE BALL NEARING CLIMAX

Warring Factions Are in a Clinch and a Mutual Truce Must Be Declared

NEW YORK, March 6.—Somewhere on the distant horizon there is a cache already furnished for base ball. After the turbulent stretch of war time has been trod the national disturbance will lodge itself into that cache and the game will be better off for the experience. When it is all over and the hatchet has been buried and the pipe of peace smoked many things connected with the pastime will have been regulated and its foundation will be more substantial, logically and commercially, and, as a result, sportily and substantially.

What the furnishings of that cache comprise is the question of the hour. Every one realizes that base ball is gradually being led toward a climax of some kind. It can't keep going along the jagged trail that it has been following. There is bound to be a cross-roads some place. But just how far away that cross-roads is no one can say.

The Federal League has shown enough thus far to convince even the most pessimistic that it is in the game to stick. It has built concrete and steel stands. It has signed players to steel-riveted contracts for two and three years, many of these contracts being personally guaranteed. And it is not to be imagined that men who have sunk thousands of dollars in the enterprise are going to withdraw as long as they believe that by loading their guns with a few thousand more there may be a chance to realize something on their investment. Every time more money is invested in the league it means the league has established a new line of trenches and has replenished its ammunition magazines.

O. B. in Flight to Stay. Apparently Organized Base Ball is just as determined to keep up the fight. Organized Base Ball is not only backed up by money, but it is also in the entrenched position of being an established organization. Therefore, it seems as if the warring factions are in a clinch. They are deadlocked.

Such being the case, it is only a question of time before there will be a mutual truce declared. Neither side will lose prestige or scratch its dignity by making the overtures, and when that time comes Organized Base Ball and the Federal League will enter the cache arm in arm and thereforward the game of base ball will realize an abundance of prosperity that it has never known.

Once the threshold is crossed it will mean a dissolution of the present National commission regarding the league. The decision to be handed down some time by Judge K. M. Landis. A working agreement will be entered into by the National, American and Federal leagues as individual organizations.

All Managers Now Follow McGraw Lead, Coach for Pitchers

Everybody seems to be doing now what Johnny McGraw started doing a number of years ago—employing a veteran coach to train the young pitchers.

McGraw's old teammate, Wilbert Robinson, was looking for a job some years ago. He applied to McGraw. Robinson was too old and too bulky to play. McGraw was just about to turn down Robinson when he thought about the coaching idea. Robinson was a great catcher in the old days and he always had accomplished great results in handling young pitchers.

BLACKBURN RETURNS TO INDIANAPOLIS LINEUP

Catcher Earl Blackburn, sent from Cincinnati to Indianapolis and released by the latter club to Lincoln, has been recalled by Manager Jack Hendricks and is depended upon to do much of the catching for Indianapolis the coming season.

NO SUPPORT TO FLIPPERS

Why Do Sport Lovers Show Less Interest in Basketball Than Other Sports?

Will someone please step forward and tell why basketball isn't more popular with the rank and file of sport lovers? It is a mystery why there is such little public interest in a game that provides as many thrills as foot ball, calls for more skill and practically as much endurance as prize fighting, and which is almost as fast and furious as hockey.

Weeklings cannot play basketball. It is a game that calls for all there is in the best-conditioned athlete. It is a game where nimbleness of foot, alertness of brain, quickness of the eye and thoroughbred gameness are essential. It is a game for the red-blooded lovers of athletic contests, yet they give it the go-by. Why is it?

Basket ball is a very pretty game to watch, especially when the game is between two evenly matched teams. And at times it becomes a tough game. But withal it is clean.

Basket ball is a great winter favorite in small college towns. The attendance at the games is always good. But if two college teams staged a game in some foreign city of a metropolitan nature it wouldn't draw even at 50 cents a head.

In New York City and every other town where boxing bouts are allowed, the "fans" will pay from \$2 to \$10 to watch a pair of low-brow pugilists slambang attempt to slam-each other for thirty minutes, but those same fellows wouldn't pay 50 cents to see a crowd of college boys perform in a game that gives as many thrills in five minutes as prize fighting does in sixty.

Interest is Lacking. Of course, in all the cities where there are Young Men's Christian associations and similar institutions there are basketball games between picked teams of those institutions. But the interest in the games between picked teams of those institutions rarely extends beyond the membership of the organization. To draw crowds even to those games, the promoters usually have to promise a dance after the game as an additional lure.

Probably the reason that basketball is not more popular is because so little publicity is given to the stars of the game. Basketball, as a game, has been given a lot of publicity in years gone by, but little attention has been paid to the individual stars of the game.

Base ball is popular because such men as Ty Cobb, Eddie Collins, Tris Speaker, Larry Lajoie and Joe Jackson have been flaunted before the public eye so much that it developed a desire to see those men perform. The individual prowess of Charley Brackley, Eddie Mahan, Tacks Harbick, Harry Le Gove and Johnny Mandebach, heralded in the papers, acted as the lure for foot ball folks.

Chess Champ to Show In Omaha on Friday

Frank Marshall, national chess champion, will be in Omaha, March 12, and will take on all comers, both during the afternoon and evening. He will exhibit at the Omaha Chess and Checker club.

The Hypodermic Needle

By F. S. MURTER. STARTLING INFORMATION. 'Twill be a rotten year in base ball. No money will we make, The mags and athletes all will suffer, And my very heart doth quake. Thus quoth our merry Banny Johnson. And in his lines so blue, We think we've heard that said before. Oh, Banny, tell us something new. Banny is expected to return from the west soon and we presume he will make the usual announcement that the Fed's will not last after July 4. But Ban should make it July 5 this year—the 4th is Sunday. Fred Clarke says that Hans Wagner is sure to play this year as an infielder. Fred had better be careful or Governor Tener will fine him for divulging secrets. Probably Fred thought somebody had an idea Hans would be water boy this year. Marty O'Toole, the well-known citrus, has gone back to the minors. What has happened to the \$25,000 not specified in the news dispatches? Jack Curley wires from Havana that Jack Johnson "acts friendly." What a relief; we feared he might declare war on this country. The Athlete's Ditty. Freedom is not what we thought it would be. We all are against what they call Liberty. Democracy is the rule for the brave, So we all want to be a regular slave. Having been squeezed dry by donating Wingo and Perritt for the good of the league, the Cardinals will probably draw in exchange Larry McLean or some other similar irrigation plant to moisten 'em up. Joe Shugrue is losing his eyesight, but none of these other pugs seem to have the same affliction, when a dollar appears within a five-mile horizon. Since the Gibbons-McGoorty fight you now know that there is a town as well as a congressman and river named Hudson. The National and American leagues, it is said, are to donate \$50,000 as a war fund for the International loop. Conversation or stage money? We hear that gentle spring is here, The time for the wonderful find, But we won't believe till somebody up And hits John McGraw from behind. Vaughn wins exciting billiard match, says headline, Whaddaye mean, exciting? Jim Gilmore remarked the other day that he was surprised to hear Ban Johnson's latest prognostication regarding the

Advertisement for Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Includes text: 'THE 90 IMPROVEMENTS AND REFINEMENTS ON THE 1915 Harley-Davidson Make Just 90 Reasons Why Your New Motor Should Be a HARLEY-DAVIDSON Do Yourself Justice by Letting Us Explain. VICTOR H. ROOS "The Motorcycle Man." 2702 Leavenworth St. Omaha, Neb.'

Spring Time—Remember Is Blood Cleaning Time

Entire System is Clogged—Great Hordes of Germs Congest the Blood to Cause Pimples, Boils, Carbuncles, Eczema and Other Skin Diseases.



S. S. S. Gives You Backbone, Nerve Strength with Pure, Invigorated Blood. If you feel thick-headed, legs a-weary, the scalp and feet utterly used up your blood needs a bath. It is astonishing how quickly you brace up after using S. S. S. After the long nights of winter have slowed you down, made your blood sluggish, and filled your system with the cramps, aches and acids of thick, stagnant blood you actually require the influence of S. S. S. Eczema, rash, pimples, tetter, boils, and all impurities in the blood are quickly washed out by the remarkable action of S. S. S. It is in the nature of a bath for your blood. It is not a "dope," not a "phonic," there is not a drop of harmful mineral drugs. It is a far better friend to your nerves than any "nervine" you can use because it is just as pure as the grass you would feed to an invalid. The blood takes kindly to S. S. S., it doesn't bother your stomach but it does give you strength. Rheumatism, catarrh, malaria, bronchitis, typhoid and all such painful or dangerous maladies cannot remain in a system washed and cleansed by the remarkable action of S. S. S. There is scarcely a drug store or general store anywhere but what keeps S. S. S. in stock. It is prepared in one of the world's best and largest laboratories and has maintained the health of a host of people who use it every spring and fall because it gives them a feeling of renewed strength, puts the look of health in the eye and prints the flesh with the ruddy glow of health. The human body, like the habitation of man, is clogged all winter and becomes clogged with stagnant impurities. In the spring nature attempts to overhaul the system by means of eruptions, boils, carbuncles and various skin afflictions, breaking out to relieve the congestion which has accumulated. The remarkable manner in which S. S. S., the famous blood purifier, clears the system is a most interesting study.