

# WITH THE NEW BASEBALL PILOTS

Fans Keeping Close Tabs on  
Work of Managers.

## WILL BILL DAHLEN SUCCEED?

Handler of Brooklyn Nationals Will  
Have His Hands Full Unraveling  
Twists and Knots in Superbas—Duf-  
fy's Big Task.

Never in the history of the big leagues have there been so many changes in the management of the teams as there have been since last season, seven new pilots having been signed by as many clubs since the 1910 season closed. It is no easy matter to secure an expert team handler, but the National and American club owners believe they have cornered the best in the profession.

Since last year three changes in the managerial ranks of the National league—the engagement of "Bad Bill" Dahlen by the Brooklyn club, the appointment of Fred Lake by the Boston club and the promotion of Charles Doolin by the Philadelphia club. Dahlen has never handled a ball team, big or little, before, but he has had a world of experience on the field and is an excellent judge of playing talent.

"Bad Bill" certainly knows what "inside ball" means. He is conversant with the methods employed by Anson, Hanlon and McGraw, and he is a fighter for his rights. He is not a taskmaster and is popular with all players, but he will insist upon hard work and will develop team play from the very beginning.

Charley Doolin, the new pilot of the Philadelphia Nationals, is a star ball player and well liked, but he is hot headed and inclined to look for trouble with the umpires, a weakness in these days of discipline on the diamond. He is an experiment pure and simple.

Fred Lake has a problem to solve in Boston. He made a name for himself last season as manager of the Boston Americans, but because of a difference over salary he was released outright by President John I. Taylor, who declared that Lake was not the man who deserved credit for the excellent showing of the Red Sox. Lake in accepting the management of the Hub Nationals saw a chance to redeem himself, but he will begin with a splendid tail end



HUGH DUFFY, NEW PILOT OF CHICAGO AMERICANS.

team and will have to build it up gradually. As first class ball players are not to be had for the asking, Lake will have to be satisfied with his present layout, which means that Boston fans do not expect him to accomplish wonders.

Four of the American league teams, Boston, St. Louis, Washington and Chicago, have new team handlers. Pat Donovan, who was released by Brooklyn after the season of 1908, has charge of the Red Sox instead of Fred Lake. Donovan was the team's scout last year and picked up some speedy youngsters. He has a rich club behind him this time, which means a lot, and as he has had plenty of experience President Taylor thinks he will make good.

That Hugh Duffy will make a splendid manager of the Chicago White Sox is the general opinion of leading baseball men. Duffy and Owner Comiskey are old friends. They were players in rival teams back in the old Brotherhood days.

Jack O'Connor, the old catcher of the Cleveands, Pittsburgs and St. Louis Browns, will manage the last named team this year. O'Connor was a star backstop under Pat Tebeau and helped to make the veteran pitcher Cy Young famous. In the old days he made the lives of umpires miserable, but he has seen the error of his ways and now believes in accepting the rulings as they are laid down.

O'Connor takes the place of his old side partner, James McAleer. They played on the Cleveland team for many years and were fast friends. McAleer had a crack team in St. Louis in 1908, but last year a hoodoo was busy, and all kinds of accidents kept the Browns out of the running. The St. Louis critics made it decidedly unpleasant for McAleer as a result, so he quit cold when his contract was up and signed with the Washington club for a salary of \$10,000 a year. McAleer is a first class manager—in fact, the best that Washington has had for many years.

## A BELIEF IN GHOSTS.

Finds Lodgment in Many Minds Despite Scientific Denials.

Are there such things as ghosts? The incredulity with which the question is often asked is paralleled by the passionate belief with which the affirmative answer is often stated. That there are apparitions is granted even by the most skeptical investigators. But whereas the impressionable seer of ghosts believes they are supernatural the colder scientist says they are nothing but hallucinations. Frank Podmore, the English "ghost hunter," has much to say of the attendant circumstances in most ghost seeing, circumstances which do much to weaken the value of the testimony of the seer. Almost invariably there are mysterious noises, by which the witness is put in a state of nervous alarm. Then comes the vision, which often takes terrifying form. Is the ghost seer viewing something objective and external or is he merely contemplating an image created by his own imagination? Of the good faith of many people who say they have seen ghosts there can be no question, but Mr. Podmore shakes his head as to their credibility.

And yet when the testimony of people who believe they have seen ghosts has been attenuated to the utmost people will still believe. Science may discredit evidence, but it cannot prove that ghosts do not exist. Throughout the ages there is a cumulative mass of testimony which, though it does not amount to proof, yet commands shuddering respect. The sternest materialism will not eliminate from people's minds that credence in the unknown and the undemonstrable which has been handed down to them from the beginnings of time.

Plato himself accepted the existence of ghosts, and he makes Socrates explain their frequenting of graveyards. These ghosts, says the great Athenian, long to re-enter the body in which they could gratify their desires. It is hopeless, but memory tortures them with vain affection for the fleshly abode in which they formerly dwelt. Shakespeare is full of allusions to the dwellers in the realm of shadows. But he, too, knows the meaning of philosophic doubt, for he makes Hamlet wonder whether the image of his father may not be some coinage of his fancy. He hesitates between contrary opinions, but inclines toward belief in the supernatural. He says to his friend:

There are more things in heaven and earth,  
Than are dreamt of in thy philosophy.

From Shakespeare's day to now we have advanced in one particular. We know more of the composition of the brain and the susceptibilities of nervous tissue. We are assured today that a man may honestly believe he sees a ghost and yet see nothing but the projection of an image within his own brain. But as to the existence or nonexistence of ghosts we are as ignorant as the ancient Egyptian or the modern redskin. Reason learnedly as we may, we cannot eradicate from our mind that vague feeling, half fear, half hope, that ghosts may be. Sir Thomas Browne touches on this matter with characteristic quaintness. Some people, he says, hope to see a ghost that they may be persuaded of the immortality of the soul. But he adds that the devil will never let them see one, for that would be to turn them away from himself.—Rochester Post-Express.

Colonial Mail Routes.

The first record contained in our colonial history of any kind of mail service dates from 1676, when the court in Boston appointed Mr. John Hayward to "take in and convey letters according to their direction." In December, 1716, arrangements were made to receive letters in Boston from Williamsburg, Va., during four weeks of the summer time and eight weeks in winter. In 1738 Henry Pratt was appointed "riding postmaster" for all the routes between Philadelphia and Newport, Va., to set out in the beginning of each month and return in twenty-four days. Postage stamps were first introduced into the United States in 1847.—New York American.

Contrasts in Populations.

The population of the known earth at the death of the Roman emperor Augustus, about the time of the beginning of the Christian era, was estimated by Bodio, an Italian statistician, at 57,000,000. The Romans knew nothing of Asia beyond the Indus river and nothing of Africa save the Mediterranean states. In 1492, at the time of the discovery of America by Columbus, the population of Europe was placed at only 40,000,000. Today Europe has ten times that number, or 400,000,000 people, with about a hundred to each square mile.

# LOOK OUT FOR THE REDS.

Cincinnati Has Become Logical  
Factor in Pennant Race.

## TEAM LOOKS FORMIDABLE.

Much Depends on Shortstop, as Team  
Is All to the Good in Other Places.  
Griffith's Pitching Staff Stronger  
Than Ever.

Look out for Clark Griffith and his band of Cincinnati Reds this season. Watch out for them from the very jump, and don't let your vigilance slacken anywhere along the route. A little carelessness, a little bullheadedness, a lack of precaution in dealing with this formidable baseball outfit, and the pennant will be floating over the park near the Ohio river. The Cincinnati aggregation lacks a few numbers of being of championship team caliber, and any slackness in fighting the Reds will mean a jolt that will make Pittsburg, Chicago and New York howl like lions.

Batting counts terribly nowadays, when there isn't much of it, and the Reds will come very near being the best batting team in the National league this season. A little money can be found, if need be, that they will outhit Pittsburg on the official averages when the count is taken. Base running? They are the best base running team in the National league right now, and they are not going to lose any of their speed. Fielding? They were not as good in the field work last season as they should have been, but this year they are going to be there with the stops and pickups almost as accurately as even the Cubs, who are the smoothest and fittest machines in baseball. The pitching department of the Reds held them back last season and now Griffith thinks that has been corrected. Net result: The Cincinnati team comes pretty near being the one best bet in baseball today if anybody offers decent odds. While it is generally accepted as a solid proposition that Pittsburg and Chicago will fight it out, Cincinnati will be the dark horse.

The batting strength of the Cincinnati team, as Griffith has doped it out, is tremendous and is sure to be much better this season for several reasons. Be it remembered also that both Lobert and Downey are great base runners naturally and that if they come back to their proper batting form this year they will also steal a heap of extra cushions.

Hoblitzel, on first, is a magnificent batsman, a mere boy, and likely to hit better as he gains muscle. Egan, on second, is a splendid hitter and one of the classiest base runners in the game. Lobert and Downey, as has been said, are almost certain to come back to form. These four men were new to one another last season and played the infield raggedly. All of them are natural fielders, and this year they will play infield ball of the machine pattern. Egan in particular will teach the ginger and speed and will mold them into a quartet of winners.

Mike Mitchell, in right, is a fine fielder, swell thrower and one of the best batsmen in the country. In center Griffith has his choice among Paskert, Miller and McCabe. Paskert is a neat batsman and fast fielder. Miller is easily the master of the lot with the stick and the best base runner, but has had an almost useless throwing arm. If the wing gets well he will yet nail the regular job; if not, Paskert will take it at the start, as McCabe, though a fine hitter, is crude and also a slow runner for so young a man.

Another element of added power is found in left—Bob Bescher. This man, new to the big league, was the leading base runner of the circuit last season, though he hit lightly. Bescher is by rights a fine hitter and should return to form without fail. It will be seen, therefore, that Griffith can count on all the batting and base running strength he had in 1909.

The catchers, McLean, Clark and a new man named Konnick, are all good. McLean is a corking catcher and swell hitter when in good condition. Konnick is touted as a sure corner, and Clark showed more than common quality last autumn.

Fromme, Spade, Gasper, Rowan, Beebe and Covaleski make up a pitching staff that is good enough to win with—and more than good enough with a team of sluggers back of them. Give the Reds the least bit of luck, start them on a winning streak, and it will be almost impossible to choke them. Pin a deep tack right here: The Reds are going to be the heavy hitters of the league, and if Pittsburg or Chicago lets go the traces for even a little time that Red team is going to win the flag.

Steinfeldt in Great Shape.  
Harry Steinfeldt, the Cubs' star third sacker, is faster than he was in 1909. Instead of going back he is displaying more ginger than ever. He attributes his fine condition to his workout at Marlin Springs. "Finest place in the world to train," he says.

Western Handicap Shoot.  
The great western handicap shoot will be held in Des Moines, May 24 to 26.

## THE POISON CURARI.

Mysterious Mixture Makes Deer,  
Wounded to Death, Bold.

Curari, the vegetable poison with which the Indians of the upper Amazon tip their hunting arrows, remains a mystery in its composition after a hundred years of investigation by scientists. The Indians will sell it for its weight in silver, but will not reveal the plants from which it is derived. Not long ago a professor in a German university was sent to the Amazon wilderness for the express purpose of discovering the secret, for curari, or urari, as it is otherwise called, is now thought to be of great value in medicine. The professor lived two years in Indian villages, and while he was permitted to witness the boiling of the "witches' broth," which lasted several days, he could not tell what plants went into the brew. Returning from his baffled quest down the Amazon with a quantity of the poison, the professor was met by another traveler, Dewey Austin Cobb, who had got possession of a native blowgun. The latter tells in the National Geographic Magazine how he put some of the professor's curari on some of his blowgun arrows, which are like toothpicks feathered with cotton, and tried it on a buck deer in the forest.

"After a deliberate aim our hunter fired," says Mr. Cobb, "if I may use such a word for the little puff, scarcely heard by us and entirely inaudible above the rustling corn leaves at the distance of the deer. The animal gave a slight start as it felt the prick of the arrow on its flank and turned partly around, sniffing the air for a scent and looking about as if searching for the insect that had bitten or stung it. Detecting nothing, it stood still and unalarmed. At the end of a minute or a minute and a half at most its head dropped a little, as if it was sleepy.

"We all approached its side, and the hunter laid a hand on its shoulder. It looked up at him, but showed no resentment or fear. Even its breathing seemed easy and natural, which surprised me, as I had heard that death resulted from paralysis of the lungs when caused by urari. At the end of ten minutes, though it opened its eyes when touched, its breath became shorter and slower. Eighteen minutes after it was struck by the arrow it was dead."

## The Basking Shark.

The ferocity of sharks is not necessarily in proportion to their size. For example, there is the great basking shark, so called because of its habit of lying motionless at the surface of the water. It often attains a length of nearly forty feet, but its teeth are small comparatively, and it probably never attacks man, depending upon small fishes and crustacea for its diet. Another name for this species is "saifish," because of its great back fin, which shows out of the water like a sail when it is basking. Although sluggish ordinarily and easily harpooned, it exhibits great activity and enormous strength when struck, diving immediately to the bottom and requiring a great length of rope to hold it. These basking sharks are caught for their livers off the coast of Iceland; and the oil obtained is used to adulterate cod liver oil.

## A Household Industry.

The advertisements were the most interesting things in the paper, according to Mr. Hobart's ideas. He read them to his wife as she sat at work on the stockings of their active son.

"No need to spend your time hunting for antiques now," said Mr. Hobart after skimming the cream from a long article, as was his wont. "Here's a man that will undertake and guarantee to make your new furniture look as if 'twas a hundred years old by a process known only to him."

"I don't see any need of processes for our furniture," remarked Mrs. Hobart as she cast a hopeless stocking to the flames of the Franklin front. "Tommy's feet are all the process we need. Perhaps we could rent him out by the day."—Youth's Companion.

## Bad Hand Made Him Money.

When Lord Curzon was at Oxford he wrote an abominable hand. One day he penned two letters, one of them to a relative and one to a eunuch with whom he always discussed the faults of their respective relations, and accidentally put these letters into the wrong envelopes. He was about to write a profound apology to his relative when he received the following note from him: "Can't read a word of your four pages, but guess you want some money, you young rascal." Inclosed was a Bank of England note for a good amount.

## ROSE TO THE OCCASION.

A Polite Elephant and a Ready Witted  
Snowman.

That everything should be in its own place is a matter not only of convenience, but of necessity for some people and some animals, at the following examples from John Augustus O'Shea's "Leaves From the Life of a Special Correspondent" go to prove. Certain orders of intellect run smoothly in accustomed grooves, but have no ability to meet any unusual occasion. The author describes a visit to a traveling menagerie.

The showman was repeating his lesson like a schoolboy. He was enlarging on the peculiarities of the ostrich of Africa, upon the uncanny form of which the visitors were supposed to be gazing.

"But, my friend," I remarked in an undertone to that functionary, "that is not the ostrich of Africa; that is the pelican of Australia."

"They're always playing jokes on me!" exclaimed the showman plaintively. "How can a cove tell which is which if they goes on a-changing of the cages when his back is turned?"

In the other instance of the value of order it was the animal which was not equal to the emergency. The showman rose superior to such slight vicissitudes of fortune.

In the illness of the regular showman a substitute was furnished with a piece of paper setting forth the elephant's tricks.

"The behemoth will now walk around the ring on three legs!" shouted the showman.

Behemoth did as ordered, and the audience applauded.

"The behemoth will now stand on his hind legs!" The elephant performing his tasks faithfully.

At last a mistake was made in the order. Throwing his whip on the ground, the showman announced that the behemoth would now lift the whip with his trunk. Nothing of the kind happened. The elephant began moving around the ring backward. A negro attendant whispered to the showman:

"That's his next number!"

The showman was equal to the occasion and said:

"Ladies and gentlemen, my favorite is not backing out of his engagement, but he is more polite than I and wishes to make his farewell before he goes. So polished are his manners that he retires as he might at court and presently will follow with the whip."

## A Weird Incident.

Some years ago the following strange incident took place in a west end club: There lay on the table in one of the rooms a list of members who had put down their names for an approaching house dinner. A workman on a ladder, who was putting the finishing touches to the decoration of the ceiling, let fall a single tiny splash of red paint, which dropped on the first name on the list and obliterated it as if with the stroke of a pen. Some of the members who noticed this occurrence thought it a very bad omen. Others, like Hamlet, defied augury. But, curiously enough, the member whose name had thus been struck out was taken ill the next day and died in the club on the night before the dinner was to have taken place.—London Telegraph.

## New Metal For Watchmaking.

The alloy called "invar," consisting of steel mixed with about 36 per cent of nickel, which is practically invariable in volume with ordinary changes of temperature, was adopted a year or two ago by Swiss watchmakers for making balances in the majority of their best timepieces. The compensation for temperature thus obtained is superior to any hitherto known. For many years watchmakers struggled with an outstanding trouble in the best compensated "chronometers, due principally to the nonlinear variation of the elasticity of the steel of the hairspring. By the use of the "invar" this error, it is stated, may be practically eliminated.—London Mail.

## Daniel K. Pearsons.

Daniel K. Pearsons, who has forty years more than \$4,000,000 to give seven colleges in twenty-four states, was born in Vermont in 1820 and grew up among the granite hills in poverty. He was successively a schoolteacher, a physician and a farmer, but finally began to make his fortune as a real estate dealer in Chicago. Mrs. Pearsons died recently, and since then Dr. Pearsons has lived quietly at Hinsdale, Ill., looking after the colleges in which he is interested through his gifts. At ninety years of age he is still strong and vigorous.—Argonaut.

## Turbine Torpedo Fleet.

Germany's first complete flotilla of turbine torpedo boats was commissioned a short time ago. It consists of eleven vessels of the newest type built in Vienna, Germania and Schichau yards. Those built in the two first named establishments have attained a speed of over 34 knots. Besides Pearsons turbines, three types of German turbines are represented in the flotilla.

Fine  
Millinery  
Mrs. Norton

PETER CLAUS  
He has just received some  
fine new  
MONITOR RANGES  
He also will convince you if  
you call at his store that he can  
fit you out with  
FURNITURE and  
GRANITWARE  
in a very satisfactory manner.

The many fine points about this store, should induce you to buy here when it comes to cigars, tobacco, confectionery, ice cream and cold drinks. It is not price alone that makes our values, but price and quality. Note the following: Cream, 35c quart; 20c pt., cones 5c; and they are always filled. Try our Blue Seal Fruit Punch 5c. Ice Cream Parlor.  
J. E. MASON.

The  
COZY CORNER  
Perkins House  
ED. BRANTNER  
Proprietor  
Cigars, Candies and  
Tobaccos  
I cordially invite my old friends, as well as new, and all others in search of a cozy corner for an hour's rest, to come to my place, where you can enjoy a refreshing smoke. An unexcelled line of choice Tobaccos always in stock.  
Ed. Brantner, Prop.

OUR LINE OF SHIRTS.  
is well worth an inspection. We make a specialty of fine shirts at the lowest prices ever quoted for such quality.  
FOR THE SHOP MAN.  
In working shirts we have a complete stock. Come in and look over our big values and then use your own judgment about buying.  
Try one of our "Khaki" or "Chamois Skin."  
J. E. TUEY  
Methodist Bazaar.  
The Methodist ladies will hold their annual bazaar on May 6th and 7th and will have on sale a nice line of flowers, aprons and fancy work. If