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## CLARKE TO QUIT AS MANAGER OF PIRATES



Manager Fred Clarke of Pittsburgh.

Will Fred Clarke manage the Pittsburgh baseball club next year? In some quarters there prevails the belief that Clarke is about to retire from the game to his ranch and flour mill in the Sunflower state.

Fred's contract as manager of the Pittsburgh club expires this year. It is not known whether he will renew it or not. It was believed when he last signed that the document was a two-year affair. It wasn't; it was for one year only—until the end of the 1912 season.

It is believed the greatest left fielder that ever lived is growing tired—that he is becoming wearied of the hurly-burly life of baseball—that he believes the time has come when he should settle down with his family to enjoy the good things his many strenuous years of endeavor on the baseball diamond have earned for him. Clarke cannot achieve greater honors than are his. He has shown himself to be one of the great leaders of baseball; he has won pennants and also a world's championship. No greater reward exists for the baseball manager.

Clarke has been at the head of the great Pittsburgh club since 1901 when, with Wagner, Phillippe, Leach and other stars, he came from Louisville, the Colonels being transferred bodily to the Smoky City. He has made a name for himself—a name that will live as long as baseball lives. He has made his team a team that has been feared by all others—a team which has always been up front in the National league race.

But, all things must come to an end. So must Fred Clarke's tenure of office as manager of the Pittsburgh club be concluded some day. Fred is now past forty and a wealthy man. His wife has been urging him for years to quit the diamond life and settle down. When asked by a baseball scribe the other day as to whether or not he was to retire Clarke was evasive. Finally he stated in reply to the reporter's repeated inquiries that he might and he might not. This was all that could be learned from him.

Much speculation is being indulged in by the baseball fans of Pittsburgh and other cities as to who would be Clarke's successor in the event of his retirement. Some pick Hans Wagner. They base their supposition on the fact that Hans is slowly but surely going back and that a berth as leader of a National league club would be



Honus Wagner.

just to his liking. Others assert that Hans was never cut out for a manager and, furthermore, that it will be some time before it will be necessary for the Pirate star to quit the diamond, as he is now playing one of the best games of his career. He was a little slow in getting started this season, they say, but now he is going great

guns. It was only the other day that Johnny McGraw declared that old Honus was still the best ball player on the diamond and McGraw knows a good player about as well as any one connected with the game—possibly a little better.

## SOUTHPAWS ARE UNCERTAIN

Exception Taken to Statement by New York Writer—Case of "Doc" White and Others Cited.

A writer in the New York Telegram takes issue with the statement that left-handed pitchers are an uncertain lot and never have two good seasons in succession, and says: "That's just about as far from the truth as several other recent observations which have been made. How about Waddell as a left-hander who was consistently good? Derby was one, Kilroy was one, Ramsey was one, Lady Baldwin was one, Richmond was one, Breitenstein



"Doc" White.

another. White has been a success. Wiltse has averaged much the same for a long run of years. Plank is one of the best and most enduring pitchers in the history of the game, and there are plenty more. When a left-hander's arm loses its strength and his fingers their cunning, he falls out of baseball like the right-hander, but there's many a page of baseball history which is graced by the masterly work of the southpaw."

**Pirates Secure Butler.**  
The Pirates have secured Butler, the great shortstop of the St. Paul club and have given five men in return for him. Pitcher Gardner, Third Baseman Walter Rehg, Infielder Bill McKechnie, and a catcher, and an outfielder yet to be named, are to go for him.

**Senators Make Money.**  
The Washington club is going to make a lot of money this year. One of the dopesters has figured it out that the Senators will earn close to \$100,000 before the end of the season.

**Detroit Makes Many Changes.**  
More changes have been made in the pitching staff of the Detroit team this season than in any other club in the American league.

## Object Lessons in Thrift

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