

GROOMING McINNIS FOR FIRST BASE



Harry Davis, Veteran of Champion Athletics.

Is Jack McInnis the ace that Connie Mack has buried in the hole to succeed Harry Davis at first when the latter gets ready to lay down the white man's burden?

Indications seem to point exactly in that direction. But while the fans are doing the situation out, Connie Mack himself is saying nothing.

Nothing except to state that "when Davis cannot play first base for the Athletics, we'll have somebody there that can."

It has long been a problem where Connie Mack would find a place for such a rattling good man as the chap from Gloucester, Mass.

Within a couple of years McInnis ought to be around the six-foot mark, with plenty of good, substantial codfish-grown muscle tacked on those inches of stature.

Evidently Ed Reulbach has not yet struck his stride.

Even the redoubtable Muggsy McGraw has no effect upon the pugnacity of one Earl Moore.

Jess Tannehill, in spite of his brief, bad showing with Cincinnati, says he is still good enough for any Class A company and that he will show them yet.

The Senators are a far stronger combination than they were last year with Henry on first in place of Bob Unglaub. The new man is playing a star game.

Clarke Griffith and Frank Bancroft have declared the New York Americans one of the best teams they ever have seen and expect it to show the rest of the league teams the way.

Stony McGynn continues to pitch good ball. It is said that this Indian—McGynn is a Cherokee or Chickasaw—is about 42 years old, taking up baseball late in life, but he certainly lasts well.

EdAbbaticchio, the former Pirate, who refused to join the Louisville Colonels this spring, is already sorry that he put his earnings into a hotel in Pittsburgh and wishes that he had stuck with the grand old game.

HOUSER IS SOLD TO INDIANS

Watkins Buys Star First Baseman From Philadelphia Athletics—Played in Infield.

Ben Houser, star first baseman of the Philadelphia Athletics, and for the last three seasons understudy of the veteran Harry Davis, has been purchased by W. H. Watkins of the Indianapolis club.

Houser was purchased outright at a sum said to be the highest paid for a big league player this year. The deal, which had been pending for several days, was closed the other day, when Manager Burke received a telegram from Connie Mack saying that the Indianapolis offer had been accepted and that Houser would report at once. Houser is also an outfielder as well as infielder.

While Houser has the distinction of being one of the best fielders in the American league, he showed none too strong with the stick. In twenty-nine games with the Athletics he fielded his position at first base without a single error and in the same number of games he clotted the ball for an average of .189. With plenty of work in the American association, however,

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Muggsy McGraw he still is good for a few victories.

So far the season of 1911 has been a good one for batting averages and a poor one for pitchers' records.

Baseball at this time of year is conducive to good batting averages even if the pitchers' marks do suffer.

With the exception of the Athletics the American league standing is beginning to assume its natural form.

Washington players assert Milan will give Eddie Collins and Ty Cobb a close run for best stealing honors this season.

Two triple plays in one game is the record of the Battle Creek Southern Michigan league nine. Needless to say, that team won.

Charlie Doolin is going to make a strong bid for top honors in batting this year. He is surely the "lives" wire of the Phillies.

M.-I.-N.-K. LEAGUE SCHEDULE FOR 1911

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