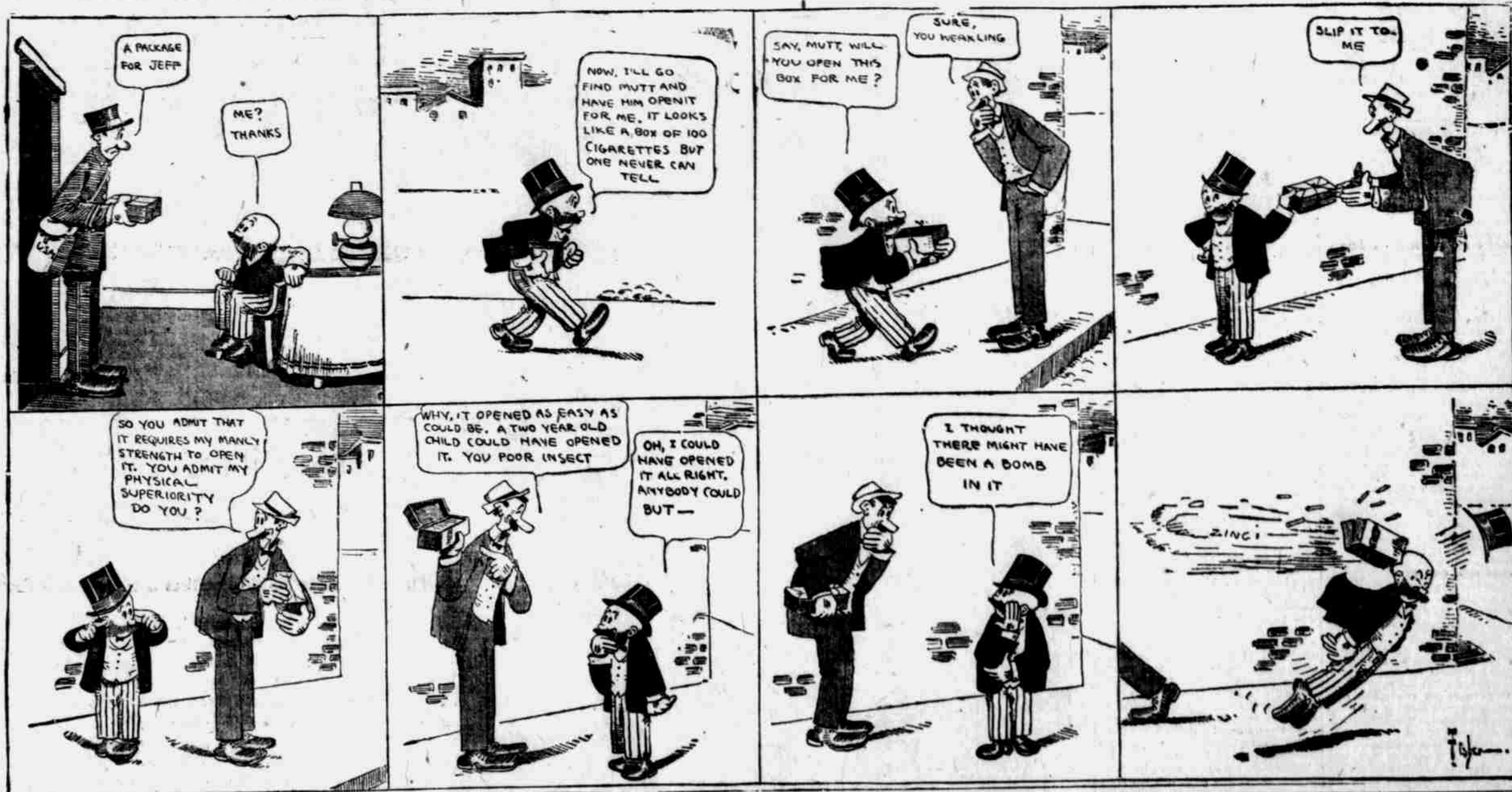


Jeff Takes No Chances When Mutt is Around

By "Bud" Fisher



Judgments

WHAT do you think of the talk of moving a Western league team to Chicago? Not much. What interest could any Chicago fan have in a Western league team? Local interest in the prime essentially in base ball, far more necessary than a good short stop, pitcher or even manager. Of course, while we look for no such arrangement, stranger things have happened than to install a Western league team at the South Side park in Chicago and arrange the schedule so the Westerners would be there when the Jex were away. Only by giving the team the indelible stamp of Comiskey's protegee would it be able to make it, we think, and then there would be a doubt. Chicago, especially the south side of Chicago, is base ball crazy and those fans might in the absence of the adored Sox, find it possible to open the cookies of their affections to embrace another Sox, but it is a question. Only by making it appear that Comiskey was deeply interested in the success of the team and the league, would the arrangement, we believe, succeed, for the Old Man can make those south sides jump through the curve of his thumb and forefinger. The objection out of which this gossip of a Chicago team arises is that the Western league circuit is insufficiently compact. We cannot fully appreciate this. It is about as compact, it strikes us, as any league of consequence and even any minor league. Furthermore, the idea is that if a transfer is made to Chicago it be of the Denver team. That subtracts from the Western League the largest and biggest attendance town on the circuit it is extremely doubtful if enough local interest could be worked up in Chicago to make up for the loss of Denver. But thus far, this project is only gossip and it may never be anything else. Certainly, we should like to see Omaha in a league of larger cities and anything else that would promise more strength and prosperity to the Western league, but it hardly seems that this one-sided plan does that.

There was something strange about that trade of Campbell for Donlin which Pittsburgh made with Boston. Campbell is a youngster and a good one, while very body knows that Donlin's status in base ball is a desperate attempt to "come back." Pittsburgh is well filled up with veterans, and it would seem, needed some young blood. Clarke, a veteran outfielder, expects to be on the bench this season, then why add Donlin, especially since the team must look to the future?

The pitcher is to be on the level this season, that is, he will not stand up on a mound above the rest of the diamond, but the mound will be out away. The Sporting News asks how then can the diamond be drained? Well, they will have to brute that out later, but for the purpose of the game of base ball the mound ought to have been cut down before. Many people have thought that for a long time.

The Sporting News says that despite all the noise of the so-called Columbian league, it has not a player under contract. Yes, and we doubt if it has anything else under contract. Where are its grounds? Already it has cut its list of towns from eight to six. This is nearly the first of March. These six probably will all disappear before April 1.

A Lincoln correspondent to the Sporting News says, "Of course, Gagner is the class of the league at short." Gagner is a good shortstop, but he never saw the day he could play that position with Berger of last year's Wichita-Pueblo team.

The sudden advent of that bitter storm in Chicago during the week is explained by the fact that on that day the Three-Eye league managers had a meeting scheduled in that city.

It is to be hoped that base ball's God has been chased out of and far from Des Moines.

BIG MEN HARDEST HITTERS

Some Little Fellows Bat Well, but They Are in the Minority.

AVOIRDUPOIS DOES NOT COUNT

Kearness and Knack of Meeting the Sphere Found in Both Big and Little Men, but Big Fellows Are in Majority.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The biggest hitting in base ball has been done by the biggest men. To put it differently and perhaps a bit more lucidly, big men have figured much more prominently in hard hitting than little men. There have been little men who were good batters individually as any of the big ones, but there haven't been nearly as many of them. It does not necessarily follow that big men are naturally better with the cudgel than small twirlers of the poetic, for knack and keenness of eye are not regulated by avoirdupois. The fact is that big to medium sized men greatly outnumber little men in base ball, and probably therein is to be found the chief reason of big men having contributed more good hitters. It's principally a question of numbers.

It isn't in the yearly records that this condition makes itself manifest, but the record showing big league players who have batted .300 or better for five years or more from 1876 to 1911, inclusive. To get in this list, which numbers seventy-one, is pretty good proof of sustained ability to hit the ball. A good test, one requiring more than passing ability, & real test of durability, and one which many really strong batters have failed to survive.

In considering the batters in the list referred to they are divided into big, medium and small sizes, but it isn't always easy to tell in which one of the three a player should be placed. It is easy enough, though, to classify the little men. The power stands out clearly enough, little giants of the ash; but in several instances it is hard to distinguish between big and medium. The two classes sometimes overlap, yet this but calls more attention to the fact that size has gone hand in hand with heavy stickwork more than the lack of it.

The Big Batters.

The five years or more .300 per cent batters are as follows:

Big—Anson, Connor, Brighthouse, Brown, Ewing, Orr, Stovey, Kelly, Tom Burns (Brooklyn), Glascock, Thompson, O'Neill, Larkin, Ryan, McKean, Tucker, Clement, Beckler, Pat Donovan, Stivets, Joyce, Delahanty, Joe Kelley, Mike Kelly, Eilers, Jim White, O'Rourke, H. Richardson, Lange, Lachance, Everett, Lajoie, Wagner, Seymour, Chance, Crawford.

Medium—Latham, Tiernan, Gore, Dalrymple, Tom Day, Griffin, Van Halstrom, Hamilton, Childs, McGuire, Jennings, George Davis, Stenzel, Jack Doyle, Lowe, Brodie, Elmer Smith, Selbach, Fred Clark, Tanner, Flander Jones, J. Collins, Chick Stahl, Mercer, Flick, Beaumont, Donlin, Cobb.

Little—Lave Gross, Duffy, Holliday, Burkett, McGraw, Thomas, Kepley.

Anybody to look at McGraw now, with his 185 pounds, might not think he was a wisp of a youth when he played, but he was. He didn't have so much muscle to put behind a drive, but he could step in, meet the ball squarely and send it mighty hard for a little man. Burkett and Cross were big little men, short but sturdy in build, as was Duffy. Thomas was not particularly short in stature, but below the medium and of slender build. Kepley was well knit, but a midget as ball players go.

Gotch Writes of His Life in Cuba

Frank Gotch, champion heavyweight wrestler of the world is a lover of Cuba. Cuban citizens and Cuban base ball, according to a letter received Friday by Farmer Burns. Gotch spotted many sheets of nice monogrammed paper telling Farmer what a great country Cuba is.

"I have been in Cuba but a comparatively short while," said Gotch, "but the longer I stay the better I like it. There is no cold weather here like there is back in dear old Humboldt, Ia., but there is some classy base ball being played here during these February days and believe me these dusky boys can play some base ball too. I have seen seven games here in as many days and I believe by the time I get away from here I will be a converted base ball fan."

Gotch said he and his wife were living in a regular Cuban home, with a thatched roof and mud walls which have been up for hundreds of years.

Dana College Basket Ball Team



From Left to Right: James Lund, Nelson, Haasmann, Gardou, Poulsen, Anderson, Ted Lund. THESE BOYS HAVE MADE GOOD SHOWING.

powerful and solid. Others of general physical bigness of prominence, eye filling bulk, were: Roger Connor, Dan Brighthouse, Ted Larkin, Jake Beckley, George Lachance and Sam Crawford. Change is a big fellow, but does not bulk quite as large as these. Sam Thompson, Pete Browning and Harry Stovel were tall and ravened types—big frames, but spare of flesh.

Long John Reilly was tall and thin. Dave Orr and Tom Burns not tall, but heavy and clumsy. So, too, was Ed McKean. O'Neill and Ryan were tall and symmetrically built and their size was somewhat masked by their easy gracefulness. Hardie Richardson and Jim White were medium big men; Paul Hixon was solidly constructed, Mike Kelly was tall and active, and Bill Everett was of the tall, lean, sprawling kind.

Delahanty was big in bone and height and suggested power, a bit more rugged perhaps than the tall, trim and easy moving Lajoie. Buck Ewing wasn't so tall, but strong and sturdy. Jack Glascock's size ran more to height than to breadth. Clements, on the other hand, being shorter and stockier. Stivets, who, with Win Mercer, is the only pitcher in the list of monarchs of the bigness, had a physique much like that of Hans Wagner, powerful shoulders, long arms, a big torso. Pat Donovan was tall and slender, a trifle more so in the latter regard than Tom Tucker, one of the best first basemen base ball ever has had. Bill Joyce was of heavy build and medium height, Jim O'Rourke was slightly beyond the average in height and weight. Seymour and Joe Kelley were of good height and well proportioned, and Bill Lange was wet over six feet, with long legs and big shoulders, a trifle ungraceful, but alert and quick.

From Lilliput to Errolingus a notable list truly, and each a master of the loust, no matter what his inches.

FORMER SENATOR BACKSTOP WHO BECOMES A YANKEE



"Gabby" Street, the veteran catcher of the Washington Americans, who has been traded to the New York Yankees by Manager Griffith for Jack Knight. Manager Woberton of the Yankees says that the acquisition of Street will put the Yankees in the pennant fight. Knight will probably be used at second base for the Senators and he should bolster them up strongly in a spot where they have been weak for years.

TIP TALKS, SAYS NOTHING

President of Western League Drops in on Denver Fans.

GRIZZLIES ARE IN THE DARK

However, They Are Going Ahead Despite Rumor that They Would Be Dropped from League, and Are Making Improvements.

DENVER, Feb. 24.—Morris L. O'Neill, president of the Western Base Ball league, dropped into Denver during the week, just at the time when word from Chicago was to the effect that the managers of the Western contemplated dropping Denver from the circuit. This made the president a much-sought individual, as every fan wanted to know why and how. But the president had nothing to say to the purpose. He talked as usual, and that means he kept on saying things as long as he was in Denver; still, when he went away there was not a man who could declare that O'Neill had told him anything worth while.

In spite of reports and rumors and all that the Denver management is going ahead with the arrangements for the season of 1912. Some changes have been made at the ball park, owing to the improvements along the bank of Cherry creek, which borders the outfield. That fence has been moved in about twenty feet, and it may curtail slightly the center field hit, which will yet be long enough for Denver to retain its pre-eminence as the home run park of the country. That so many home runs are made here is due largely to the hard ground just outside the grass-covered infield, which add to the impetus of a sharply hit grounder, rather than impedes it, and to the long outfield.

Review of the Team.

No outside aid will be absolutely required if the pitchers on the roster all return in as good condition as when the last season closed. Henry Olmsted, Ben Harris, Barney Schreiber, W. J. Kenworthy and Clifford Healy make up an aggregation of ball tossers that are the goods in themselves. Then there is R. J. Pfeiffer, who led the Central league last year, but who is untried in this company. Added is the "Big Moose," Ed Kinella, who has looked with such disfavor upon the contract presented him that he is among the missing. He did so little in the early part of last year, that he came near being released anyway, though when he did get going he mowed 'em down in fine style.

Last year's infield will return intact. These are Chris Lindsay at first, Davy Lloyd at second, Jack Coffey at short and Lee Quinn at third.

Of the outfield only Harry Cassidy has sent in his contract. Grover Gilmore was pulled home by Comiskey and turned over to another team, and John Beall has not been attracted by the contract sent him. Lester Channel has been signed for

third place in the outfield. He broke his leg two years ago when he was on the list of the New York Americans, and last year played in the Ohio State league, where he batted over .300. There is also Joe Collins, the fast man signed by Denver last year, who played two games here. In one he did well, but the other was an experience. In center field he made two errors and went so awkwardly after two other balls that their getting

Leading Athletes to Leave the H. S. to Attend College

The Omaha High school will lose ten of its premier athletes by graduation in June, Robert Wood, the crack sprinter and captain of the 1912 track team being the only one of the leaders who will be enrolled in the school for another year. Every one of the ten, who will receive "scholarships" is planning to enter college in September and from the list a large quota of different schools all over the country is picked.

Following is the list of the lads, the sport in which they excel and the school they will attend:

Malcolm Baldrige, foot ball, Andover. Dave Rowman, foot ball, Nebraska. Seryl Crocker, basket ball, Dartmouth. John Gieson, foot ball, Colorado School of Mines. Hugh Millard, foot ball and track, Cornell. Harry Munnako, basket ball, Nebraska. Sam Peterson, foot ball, Missouri. Julius Ruchman, foot ball, Dartmouth. Verall Rector, foot ball and track, Dartmouth. Stevers Stumann, tennis, Nebraska. Robert Wood, track, University of Chicago.

Contagious Blood Poison, as the name implies, is an infectious blood taint which may be communicated from one person to another. Its virus is of a most insidious nature, multiplying from an insignificant germ in the blood until it becomes a thorough systemic poison. So powerful and dangerous is this terrible blood plague that no time should be lost in trying to drive it from the system. It should not be temporized with, but should be killed as one would a deadly serpent on the pathway. The first manifestation of Contagious Blood Poison is usually a tiny sore or pimple, but it rapidly spreads, and in a short time the entire body shows its presence in the blood. The mouth and throat ulcerate, glands in the groin swell, the hair begins to come out, copper-colored spots appear on the body, and frequently running sores and ulcers break out on the flesh.

A condition of such serious nature requires proper treatment. Not only must the disease be driven out, but the system which has been weakened by the powerful poison must be built up, before health can be restored. The question of most importance therefore is—what medicine has proven by actual results its superiority as a blood purifier? We claim this distinction for S. S. S. because of its successful record for more than forty years.

S. S. S. cures Contagious Blood Poison by purifying the blood. It goes into the circulation and removes the last trace of the infectious virus, acts with fine tonic effect on the stomach, bowels, kidneys, and other portions of the system, and thus makes a perfect as well as a permanent cure. S. S. S. is made entirely of roots, herbs and barks, each of which has a specific action on the system. Not a particle of mineral or other harmful substance enters into its composition. S. S. S. is perfectly safe for any one, and instead of upsetting the stomach, as mineral medicines often do, it tones up this important member, and makes digestion easy. Thousands have cured themselves of Contagious Blood Poison by the use of S. S. S., and if you will write and request it we will send you, without charge, our Home Treatment Book which will give you all necessary information for crushing out the life of this serpent-like poison and curing yourself at home. We will also give you free any medical advice you may wish. S. S. S. is sold at drug stores. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

away was directly due to his poor work. That night Collins, in his chagrin, jumped the team. The management here has so high an idea of his ability that he remains on the list and will be welcomed should he return.

The two catchers of last year are both to return. Walter Hickey, an infielder from Chicago, recommended by scouts there, is the only extra man for the infield. He will not be needed unless Kenworthy is hurt at some time when another infielder is out of it.