

BIG SITUATION IS ANALYZED

Three National Leagues Have Had Pennant All to Themselves.

CLARK IS VETERAN OF TRIO

Since 1901 His Club Has Never Finished Below First Division and In That Time Has Annexed Four Flags.

By W. J. MACBETH.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Whatever their personal prejudices, hates, and shortcomings in general it cannot be denied that John J. McGraw, Frank Chance and Fred Clarke are the three sturdy musketeers of the National League. Ned Hanlon may have been a bear in his day. He surely proved it in his pennant trust activities in Baltimore and Brooklyn. But Ned has passed to the great beyond as an approved leader of modern baseball machinery, and in his venerable decline must doff his cap to the little brotherhood of three who for the past twelve years have had the national league pennant policy "all to ourselves."

Fred Clarke is the veteran of the trio and holds the record of pennant achievement. Since 1901, his club has never finished below the first division and in that time the Buccaneers have annexed four flags and one world's pennant. Pittsburgh won three conferrals in a row, beginning in 1901. Then New York broke up for two successes in 1904 and 1905, respectively. McGraw, a newcomer in the National League, has begun to make his presence felt. But his old team crumpled up after their second straight victory in 1906. Then came Mr. Chance, the Fearless Leader, and present thorn in the side of Manager John J. McGraw of Gotham. He butted into the limelight in 1904 with a record run of 15 victories for the season and though he took a very humiliating trimming at the hands of his neighbors, the White Sox, that fall, in the world's series tilt, he nevertheless engineered such an array of talent together that the gathering of three pennants and two world's championships the following seasons was simply a matter of form. The Fearless Leader fell down on the job in 1905, losing to Pittsburgh, which in turn charged the Detroit Tigers out of their third straight bid for a world's championship, the Cubs having turned the trick in 1907 and 1908. McGraw, who has always been thereabouts, was quite peeved by this time. He had been knocking about for a team of young blood. It made a gallant bid in 1910, but was not quite seasoned enough, and when the Pirates fell by the wayside in the stretch run old "Buck" Chance and his Bear Cubs were found showing the way to the field on a comfortable margin, a certain satisfaction that had some of its edge taken off when the Athletics walloped the wadding out of these same Cubs in the annual world's series unpleasantness.

Youngsters Seasoned.

McGraw was ready last year, though. His youngsters had just the proper seasoning and when the Cub pitcher went to pieces and Ed Hahn Wagner broke an ankle, Little League's finest nosed out Chicago and Pittsburgh for the fine pennant raised at Coogan's Bluff a few brief days ago. That, ladies and gentlemen, is a brief synopsis of the lives and accomplishments of the Three Little Musketeers of the National League.

Who will win the pennant this year we will leave to the future. It is very true that each of the important trio of generals is at the head of a very capable army. At this writing in view of his lead and the fact that he concludes the series at home while his adversaries are on the road, Mr. McGraw seems to have a bit the better chance. Out Chicago way—or Pittsburgh way, for that matter—they will tell you that Mr. McGraw is a very lucky man. They will point out with pride to the manner in which the Cubs and Pirates halted the Giants after New York threatened a walkover, and prove by 100 different arguments that Gotham has not the best team. The best team resides in either Chicago or Pittsburgh, according to whether it is a Smokey City or Windy City enthusiast talking. They will show by 100 manners that New York is lucky to have gained such a lead while the rest of the field was slumbering, but any time the tortoise beats the hare it has some credit due. New York may have been better conditioned to start the season than any competitor with the possible exception of Cincinnati. Still McGraw held no injunction restraining his rivals from getting into condition on the spring trip. And weather conditions in Marlin were just about as exasperating as at any spot on the globe.

Deserves Luck. Anyhow, McGraw deserved some luck after the manner in which rude technicality thwarted his pennant ambitions in 1906. There was a pennant earned if ever valor deserved reward. But he didn't get it—no, not at all. Curse on you, Johnny Evers. That reckless year, by the way, proved one of the most striking illustrations of the real class of the "Big Three" in the National League. It was a nip and tuck drive down the stretch among New York, Chicago and Pittsburg, with the prospect of a possible triple tie. Had the New Yorks lost one of its games in the last series with Boston and then beaten the Cubs in the famous playoff, the three clubs would have had identically the same standing and a three-cornered playoff would have been necessary, with possibly no world's series that year. When this possibility arose Fred Clarke had already disbanded his club, but he gamely issued a call for his forces to be in readiness to accept the time if it became necessary.

Old Scores.

That 1906 episode is responsible for all the rancor that has characterized the attitude of New York and Chicago and vice versa this campaign. Chance and McGraw are sworn enemies. Clarke is a rival of each—a fearful, yet respected rival. With both McGraw and Chance his relations are friendly, yet he will fight either or both at the drop of the hat. There is no such thing as favoritism in his makeup. If he cannot win the pennant himself he will do everything in his power to have the best club win. Clarke is a general without any allies. He accepts fate as it comes without a murmur. But for a lot of tough luck he would have won several more pennants than he has. For several years that fall to Chicago. He always has New York's best of tough luck. Many have his share, but he has never been hurt just at the height of a winning spurt that put Clarke within striking distance of the pennant. He has a good club this year, the best staff of pitchers in the league, but he has too many old men on his staff to start the game, it is believed. If Clarke only had a little more speed in his array what a marvelous collection it would be.

Diagnosing the Biographies of the "Big Three" in a Minute.

Diagnosing the biographies of the "Big Three" in a minute, question, the old familiar question, of whether the manager makes the team or the team of the club.

Negro Leaders in Heavyweight Boxing Game



JEANNETTE SWINGING HIS RIGHT RIGHT TO THE HEART. (ABOVE) JEANNETTE SHOOTING HIS RIGHT TO THE HEART.

Jack was real wrathful when he read it, and declared he would hop back into the thing of things to convince the dear public he had been libeled.

"I want to show people I am at my best right now," said Jack. "Bring on your Joe Jeannettes and your Al Palzers—two at a time, if you like." Then he signed, for a ten-round bout with Jeannette at the St. Nicholas club, New York, on the night of September 25.

The chances are Johnson will make Jeannette see stars in every round of the ten- or at any rate in every round that the bout lasts. He may heap confusion on some of his critics while doing so, but he will not entirely disprove the lesson some of the critics learned from the Flynn-Johnson fight.

Take the writer for instance. I gathered from the affair in New Mexico that Johnson showed a falling away in stamina and willingness to become embroiled. I was half inclined to believe that if Flynn had kept his head and stayed right with the negro the latter would have been worn down.

I felt reasonably sure that if some taller, bigger and stronger man had faced Johnson that day the results would have been disastrous to the champion. To put it in a nutshell, a doubt formed in my mind as to whether Johnson was still capable of going the championship distance.

By W. W. NAUGHTON.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 24.—Lives of champions remind us we can pull out of the race. And retiring, leave behind us footprints that we can respect so we did not lose Jack Johnson. We simply mislaid him and now he is right back doing business at the old stand.

Jack says he has returned to the strife of the ring simply to vindicate himself. Some of the critics said it was the knowledge that he was not chipping in a fighting sense as he used to be that warned Jack it was time to cease making footprints in the sands of time.

These are questions that will be argued as long as the present generations of fans and players survive. They will never be answered. They revert back to Ned Hanlon and all other great ball players, in fact. Did Hanlon make the old Baltimore team or did it make him? What would he have done without McGraw, Jennings, Keeler and Kelley? He was glorious in the glory of his stars, many of whom have made good in kindred positions. Ned Hanlon today will not try to take any of the glory away from his boys. When he split with the old gang his star waned. Whose fault was it? It is one of the unsolved problems of the game.

MAY MANAGE BROOKLYN TEAM NEXT YEAR.

George Stallings has also been mentioned as the next manager. President Ebbets has said that all he will say for the present is that Dahlen will be the manager. But just as sure as there will be a new ball ground for the Brooklyn club, there will be a new manager, say those who are in a position to know.



JACK BRITTON, WHOM CHICAGO HAILS AS THE COMING CHAMPION OF THE LIGHTWEIGHT CLASS.

Britton leaped into fame on January 20, 1911, when he fought Puckey McFarland at Memphis. Puckey went into the fight expecting a setup, and was much astonished to discover that he was up against a great young ringman. The referee called it a draw.

Britton's real name is William J. Brennan and he says he is going to fight under that monicker hereafter. This will be a rude joke to New Britain, Conn., for it was in honor of that town that Jack changed his name. Britton is a bit too heavy to do 133 ringside. He is hot after bouts with McFarland, Ritchie, Ed Murphy and all other live ones.

CITY JUNIOR TENNIS MEET IS TO START ON MONDAY

The annual city junior tennis tournament will start tomorrow morning at the Field club with an entry list of about thirty-five. Entries will close today and drawings will be made this evening by the committee in charge, which includes George Riley, Russell Larson and Paul Shirley.

set a clip that will make Jeannette's eyes pop even though Master Jack may have little in reserve at the finish. He has a level head, and knows to a dot when starting out on a ten-round jaunt, how far he can draw upon his stock of strength and speed.

The bout at the St. Nicholas should be well worth witnessing, no matter what comes of it. Johnson is anxious to set himself right, and Jeannette will try to furnish a real reason for baiting the champion for a year or more.

"Jim Flynn is experiencing the ups and downs of the Queenberry game. Last July he went against Johnson. This coming labor day he will tackle big Charlie Miller, the veriest novice in the heavyweight ranks.

"Just think of it," mused Flynn after he had installed himself in his training quarters at the Seal Rock House. "I was the first man who put a glove on Miller's hand. He came over to Billy Shannon's when I began training for my first fight with Jack Johnson, and asked to be allowed to help out. He did not know a thing about sparring, but matters were in such shape that I could not spare him. Sparring partners were scarce, and I wanted to practice body punching, so Miller got his. Occasionally he would say to me, 'Please if you don't mind, would you hit me in the face instead!'"

Flynn will have to divest his mind of the idea that Miller is as easy now, as he was then. The big Roumanian has gained in confidence if he has not widened his knowledge of hitting or speed, and he has also become so seasoned by hard knocks that the ordinary smashes of pugilistic commerce disturb him very little.

And he has developed a forthright style of fighting. He has had it dinned into him by the wise lads of the game who have seconded him from time to time, that the only way to discount clever boxing is by tearing into close quarters.

When Charley starts after his man he thrives like a horse on a board sidewalk, and strains the ropes to such an extent that spectators with close seats are willing to exchange for locations further back. He is about as graceful as an elephant crashing through underbrush, and just about as easy to stop.

New Light Shining



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talk about Bill being pushed out of the back gate is not true. It is well known around the base ball circuits that this is the last year that Dahlen will be with the good old Dodgers, and that Bill is aware of the fact. George Stallings has also been mentioned as the next manager. President Ebbets has said that all he will say for the present is that Dahlen will be the manager. But just as sure as there will be a new ball ground for the Brooklyn club, there will be a new manager, say those who are in a position to know.

Bashing a Tiger.

Topeka's new outfielder, Bashang, is the Blue Grass lad who broke into the American League with Detroit with such a noise. Manager Jennings decided, however, that a little more seasoning would do him good.

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WESTERN LEAGUE AVERAGES

Borton is Still the Leading Batman of the Clubs of This League.

OMAHA MEN FAST ON BASES

Niehoff Has Stolen the Most Bases and Coyle Has Made the Most Sacrifice Hits—Hicks Leading Pitcher.

Borton is still in lead of batters of the Western league. Thomason and Coyle lead the Rourkes. Hicks is still the leading pitcher in the league, with thirteen wins and to losses.

Omaha leads in stolen bases for the team and also in the sacrifice hit division. Niehoff has stolen the most bases, having captured forty-five Coyle leads with the same number of sacrifice hits.

Batting Averages. AB. R. H. Pct. Lynch, Sioux City, 20 4 8 .400

Fielding Averages. PO. A. E. Pct. Wetzal, Des Moines, 26 0 0 1.000

Team Averages. Batting—Denver, .286; St. Joseph, .284; Sioux City, .280; Lincoln, .275; Omaha, .274; Wichita, .270; Des Moines, .268; Topeka, .264.

Fielding—Denver, .985; St. Joseph, .984; Sioux City, .983; Lincoln, .982; Omaha, .981; Wichita, .980; Des Moines, .979; Topeka, .978.

Individual Play. Stolen Bases, Twenty-five or More—Niehoff, 45; Mullen, 42; Watson, 37; Kelly, 34; Thomason, 31; Kenworthy, 28; Coyle, 25; Powell, 22; Coffey, 20; Mes, 17; Ryan, 15.

Flowers for Holmes. The sentiment of the base ball fans of Sioux City as shown in the floral tributes given to the retiring and incoming managers is one of the things that helps to take the sting from many of the cold blooded features of the pastime, says the Sioux City Journal.

Danger Goes Good. Denver has not only been getting good pitching, but also good hitting and late averages show it leading the league in batting, as a team, with St. Joseph following in fielding the Grizzlies are fifth. Omaha leads the league in stolen bases and in this department Denver is fifth also.

AQUATIC MARVEL WILL QUIT

Durbarow Will Engage in Just One More Gruelling Contest.

ASTONISHES ATHLETIC WORLD

Quaker Swimmer Had Planned Campaign on All Aquatic Fixtures, but Will Only Swim English Channel and Retire.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 24.—Charles B. Durbarow, the local bank clerk who has astonished the athletic world by his aquatic feats this season, has announced that he will engage in just one more gruelling test, an attempt to swim the English channel, and will then retire. He will not do any more long distance swimming this year and has officially cancelled his proposed thirty-four-mile swim from Sandy Hook to the Battery, thence to Coney Island.

The Quaker swimmer had planned a campaign of attack on all the aquatic fixtures, including the grind to Boston light and return. His performance in swimming across the mouth of Delaware bay from Cape to cape, a distance of forty odd miles, has stamped Durbarow as a leading swimmer of this country. Delaware bay varies in width from twelve to thirty-seven miles across, while the breadth of the English channel is from seventeen to twenty-five miles. From Dover to Calais is short of twenty miles, while from Cape May to the opposite point on Delaware Bay, where Durbarow swam, is nineteen and one-sixth miles. On account of the tides and cross channels he had to cover 43-109 miles.

One Has as the Other. The tide in Delaware bay varies from four to six miles per hour, while in the channel it is from three to five miles. The water in the channel is more salty and consequently more buoyant than in the bay. One place is as bad as another in a blow, and mariners would as soon take a chance in either body of water in a gale.

Captain Eldredge, who has been in charge of the Cape May light station, advised Durbarow that the swim was impossible when he started. He recalled the attempts of Matthew Webb, who gave up after a ten-hour battle with the tides. In Durbarow's swim he was carried out to sea two and three-quarters miles, up the bay ten miles, and, after swimming fourteen hours and nine minutes landed eight miles above Cape Henlopen on the Delaware side. He partook of no nourishment while in the water, and ate only a glass of milk and two boiled eggs two hours before the start. He spoke only twice during the swim, once to complain that the salt water hurt his eyes and again at the expiration of the thirteenth hour to ask how much further he had to go. He entered the water at 2:30 a. m. and left it at 4:12 the following afternoon.

Durbarow's long distance swims total to nearly 2,000 miles, with his Atlantic City to Ocean City, Chester to Philadelphia, and return, the Battery to Sandy Hook, from Charlestown bridge to within three-fourths of a mile of Boston light, a subsequent swim to Deer Island light, five swims from Philadelphia to Chester, and numerous other swims in the Delaware river.

Whittaker Defends the Crawl Stroke

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Aug. 22.—Avering criticism of the crawl stroke as a racing means of propulsion in the water has brought a staunch defender of the style in T. S. Whittaker of the Missouri Athletic Club. He declares that it is the method par excellence in sprints and it is slowly but surely supplanting the trudgen in distance races. "It is only within the last five years that attention has been paid to the crawl," said Whittaker. "Yet now all of the short distance records and many of the middle and long distance marks were established by users of that stroke. In the crawl the body is kept close to the surface as possible, and the resistance is therefore reduced to a minimum."

PITCHERS' RECORDS IN THE WESTERN LEAGUE

Table with columns: Name, Won, Lost, Pct. Includes names like Hicks, Schreiber, Wolverton, etc.

Thomas Goes to St. Joe. Forrest Thomas, sent by St. Paul to Sioux City, where his stay was brief, shifted to St. Joseph.

A Cure from The Forest

Nature in her wisdom and beneficence has provided, in her great vegetable laboratory, the forest, a cure for most of the ills and ailments of humanity. Work and study have perfected the compounding of these botanical medicines and placed them at our disposal. We rely upon them first because of their ability in curing disease, and next because we can use them with the confidence that such remedies do not injure the system. Among the best of these remedies from the forest is S. S. S., a medicine made entirely of roots, herbs and bark. It does not contain a particle of harmful mineral. S. S. S. cures Rheumatism, Catarrh, Sores and Ulcers, Scrofula, Malaria, Skin Diseases, Contagious Blood Poison and all other diseases dependent on impure blood. As a tonic S. S. S. builds up the system by supplying a sufficient amount of vigor and nourishment to the body. S. S. S. always cures without leaving any unpleasant or injurious effects. Book on the blood and any medical advice free. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.