

Sherlocko the Monk--Watso "Rescues" the Great Detective

Drawn for The Bee by Gus Mager



Judgments

THE week saw the consummation of one of the biggest deals ever made in base ball—the Chance-Tinker combination transfer, sale and release, whose ramifications ran around both major leagues, touching several clubs and players. Tinker at last is settled, it seems, in the position of manager for Cincinnati, and if man can get any comfort out of such a berth, Joe is entitled to congratulations. Chance seems quite sure to be the highest paid manager at the princely salary of \$18,000, with 5 per cent of the net earnings, which ought to run his pay up nearly as high as it was with the Cubs. Chance lost no time in repudiating the silly story that he had to decline anything less than \$30,000 because McGraw got \$18,000 and his record was better than McGraw's. There were several reasons that made the story fact, the first of which was Chance's not being in the next place the plan suggested would exceed \$30,000, surely McGraw, his personal friend, was glad to waive and remove the last such obstacle to Chance's getting into Gotham. But some young men will never learn that a fact is always better than fiction for newspaper purposes. If Chance goes to New York we look for several notable player exchanges, for the Fearless Leader will be manager of the will have a team at any cost. His going to the metropolis is a great thing for base ball. It places one of its biggest men in the biggest city and all fandom should be glad. The next question is, What about Hal Chase? Hugh Fullerton remarked the other day that Farrell needed Chase, for, as things stood, he had Hal Chase and a franchise, even no park that is suitable for a team. The Polo grounds hereafter. But Chase is said to be eager to get back into active playing himself. If so, will he go to first base? If so, where will Chase go? Well, it must be remembered that Chase, a marvel at first, is also a great second baseman. In any event, it hardly seems likely that Chance would care to trade Chase, though he might get several good players for him. Until Chance knew that his own condition was normal again. And Highland would be loath to give up Chase, his idol. The rest of getting Sam Crawford. Good, but even at that, Chase is not to be thought of as leaving, surely.

In any event, it begins to look like a great year for the New York Americans. Frank Chance will bring to the team the successful experience of fifteen years in the National league, plus a grim determination, incited by his late treatment by a little fellow at Chicago, to make good on a larger scale than ever. His passing in a great acquisition to the American league, as great as it is a loss to the National, and every man with sense appreciates that. Even Charley Murphy may before the next season end, Coniskey certainly does now. That foxy old Romal Gee, who was a man for a man at South Side park when the Highlanders are led into it by the Fearless Leader, late of the West Side, eh, what a success? Poor Conny, he'll have to put on a few extra money counters. Murphy will still have Tinker with his Cincinnati Reds to draw a few for him, but—oh, well, Johnny Evers and Murphy may get along throughout the whole season. But, on the level, just look what Murphy did to Chance—kicked him out of Chicago and then he was drawing \$10,000 and what his investment drew, into New York with \$18,000 and trimmings!

Garry Herrmann is a man of honor and patience. After he had bought Chance for a song he continued to dicker for Tinker, and the base ball world wondered if he had gone crazy. Chance was a demonstrated fact, Tinker purely an experiment as a manager. Why did not Herrmann elude as his manager this man who had won four pennants, two world's series, two seconds and one third in seven years, and regarded by all as one of, if not the, greatest manager in the business? Well, Herrmann finally told why. He promised Joe Tinker at the time he engaged Hank O'Day as manager that if Hank failed, Joe would get the next whack at the job if he could be secured from the Cubs. Herrmann, being unlike another man with whom he had to deal in order to get Tinker, was a man of his word and he kept it to Tinker without any legal obligations to bind him. Knowing he was the loser to pass up Chance, Everybody hopes Herrmann and Tinker both will be the gainers in the end.

Western league club owners want a president with plenary powers, so as to transact the business of president; not a chief clerk at their beck and call. That is why they will declare their good sense and keep O'Neil on the job in Chicago.

The next question is Johnny's Kline's disposition. Kline is still a great catcher and will be a great factor in the success of the team landing him. How would Chance like him for his Highlanders?

Roger Brown has almost sure to beat that crowd of double dealers at St. Louis and then get a job backstopping for another kind of management. Roger is not strong for the suffragettes.

Minor Brown funds Rockefeller money very satisfactory, especially in the winter time. He has set a precedent as a tutor, his pupil in pitching being a grandson of John D.

JIM THORPE IS STAR OF ALL

Stands Head and Shoulders Over Athletic Marvels of the Year.

GEORGE HORINE SHINES, TOO

During Olympic Games He Was Watched Very Closely by Experts from All Parts of the World.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—With the greatest athletic year in history just going into the discard, it is interesting to select some of the men who made athletic history during the year. Some great events were held the world over during 1912, but the Olympic games at Stockholm topped the whole list of amateur athletic events.

The one figure that stood head and shoulders above the rest of the athletic world after the Olympic games had been cleared away was that of Jim Thorpe. Aside from his recent marvelous feats on the foot ball field, Thorpe proved himself unquestionably the greatest all-around athlete that ever started on any field. He not only beat his competitors in all-around showing with a good performance in each and every event, but he won a majority of the different events of the decathlon and pentathlon series with performances that would have won a national championship in this or any other country. Jim cleared over twenty-three feet in the long jump, over six feet in the high jump, ran his high hurdles in 15½ seconds, and ran 100 yards in 11½ seconds, and all that while under the heavy strain of all-around competition.

The proof conclusive that Thorpe is the greatest of the all-around men that ever wore a spiked shoe came in the 1,500-meter performance that he showed in the decathlon and pentathlon series at Stockholm. After the terrific physical and mental strain of seven days' continuous competition, Thorpe went to the mark for his final event in the decathlon looking as fresh as when he started the week before.

Was a Streak of White. When the pistol cracked there was a streak of white. "That was Jim." He ran his first quarter in a trifle worse than 68 seconds, and by that time was so far ahead that he started to grin. He strove through and finished the 1,500 meters, which is just 120 yards short of a mile, in 4:43. Had Thorpe gone through a full mile he would have beaten 5 minutes all to pieces, something that was never done by any man in an all-around competition. It is safe to assert, too, that he specialized. Thorpe made easily have won any one of several events on the Olympic program. Jim appears to be best in the high jump, but there's no telling what he would do in the hurdles or the running broad jump if he was to do the one event act. The truth is Thorpe doesn't train for any one event, and yet he is good in any of them.

As good a critic as Lawson Robertson, coach of the Irish-American athletic club, declares that Thorpe does not know how to jump as yet. Robertson made this remark just after Jim had cleared twenty-three feet and two inches in the broad jump in the all-around championships at Celtic park on last Labor day.

Had Kholmelman's "run" at regulation English distances at Stockholm instead of at metric distances, he would have shattered all amateur and professional records from two to five miles. In the 5,000-meter race in which he met Boun, both the Finn and his rival from Marselles turned three miles several seconds faster than Alfred Shrubbs' record for that distance.

"Buck" Weaver, Shortstop Chicago White Sox



This youngster, who was purchased from the San Francisco team in 1911, is one of the real "comers" having made good after many ups and downs. The Cleveland team released him twice, but Jimmy Callahan was wise enough to see the possibilities in him.

on the books to the credit of Emilio Lunghi. In that wonderful race in the stadium at Stockholm the young Pennsylvaniaan earned fame that will stick to him to his dying day. And yet Merced is only a boy. His career lies before him. He has sensibly given up foot ball playing and is taking a complete rest from training, after which he will come out faster than ever.

Meets Defeat in New York. Great as Kholmelman is on the cinder path, he had to come to New York to meet the first defeat of his career in a scratch race, and in the runner who turned the trick, Abel Kiviat, another history-maker of the cinder path during the year that is waning. To find the sturdiest runner of the year around the mile distance one has to look no further than this same little, bow-legged Staten Islander. Every time he tried this year Kiviat beat 4:30 for the mile and his 4:25 in the Harvard stadium last June was the fastest mile of the year, barring none.

Inches, falling shy of the world's record by just three-eighths of an inch. The Dartmouth college coach stated that Gutterson was the coming broad jumper. "I've watched him," said Hillman, "and if he will only get the foolish notion out of his head that is a hurdler and specialist in the broad jump, you'll see him go twenty-five feet at the Olympic games."

Such running as Kiviat has shown this year is seen only when a Coneff or a George comes along. It is nonsense to say that Kiviat is better than John Paul Jones, or that Jones is better than Kiviat. The two are too evenly matched to carry comparisons as far as that, but the fact remains that Kiviat has done the better running month in and month out during 1912.

There's Still Room For a Revision of Rules of Foot Ball

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 14.—In the opinion of William W. Root, former athlete director at Princeton university, there is still room for revision in the foot ball rules. However, the former Tiger coach thinks that the greatest need at the present time, is that of developing players under the existing rules rather than making continual changes. To Root's way of thinking the present rules are a great improvement over the old code, or the new revised rules of the last few years. In discussing the new rules for the benefit of Princetonians Mr. Root says in the Daily Princetonian:

"In the winter of 1910 the rule makers had one object in view to which they devoted practically all their attention, to make the rules as to make foot ball safe. Very little time was spent on anything else, owing to the insistent demands from all quarters for a safe game."

"The seasons of 1910 and 1911 clearly demonstrated to all that the foot ball rules favored the defensive team. This, however, is not the case to such an extent today. A great stride has been taken in the right direction by eliminating small technical points.

"Much more can be done in this same direction. In the first place, the rule requiring a forward pass to be made five yards behind the line of scrimmage should be abolished. There is not the slightest reason for this restriction, and it puts too great a tax upon the referee. Another innovation this year is the rule allowing a forward pass to be made to a player ten yards or less behind the goal line. This is a rule which is unnecessary, play should be confined to the field between the goal posts.

WILL BASKET BALL LIVE ON? FOOT BALL NOT STRENUOUS

Question is Whether Game Can Stand on Own Merits.

MUST MAKE SPORT CLEANER

General Opinion is that Game is Waning Fast and Must Be Toned Up to Be Able to Hold Its Own.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Is basket ball to live on its merits or will it eventually be abandoned by the larger colleges now playing the game in the east? If the general impression among collegians that the game is waning fast and losing many of its staunchest supporters, toughness of play, it seems, has injured the game, but now the authorities are trying to doctor it up with the avowed purpose of saving it. Just what effect the new changes will have on the game is provoking attention from all parts of the country, especially from eastern quarters, where the foundation is not so solid.

Make the game cleaner has been the slogan for several years. The recent action of the rule makers indicates that the trend of their activities is in the above direction. That the game will be made cleaner this winter there seems no doubt, providing the authorities' plans do not miscarry. The alterations which have been made, according to the prominent basket ball men, are for the better, and come as a big step toward winning back lost supporters. Basket ball players in the past have played the man instead of the ball—the usual rough play ensuing.

Number Players. The novel scheme of numbering the players, such as will rule this season, appears to basket ball boosters a very good idea, both from the spectators' and officials' viewpoint. With each man wearing a six-inch number on the back of his jersey it will be easier in the future for officials and scorers to designate the players who have been guilty of committing more than the usual number of fouls. Fouling and shady tactics of various descriptions have been the game's chief drawback, but with the number system in vogue now it will be a hard matter for a player to get away with the so-called rough-house tactics and evading punishment. No spectator, especially those who follow college sports, will tolerate unsportsmanlike play.

Quicker play, too, is to rule, and this appears to be another good move for improvement. In these lively days spectators demand speed, and unless they get it show no disposition to enthuse. One reason why play should be faster is because in the future baskets will not be tied and the ball will have free passage through the net. Still another improvement is the rule pertaining to fouls. After a foul has been declared the referee has power to declare play ten seconds after the ball has been placed on the foul line. This rule, it is said, should have a good effect in creating fast play. Also, coaching is barred from the sidelines, and the rule covers an angle over which spectators will waste no tears.

Just what effect these changes will have on the game will not be determined until the big season begins in earnest and the rules put into effect. It is thought, however, that their effects will be good ones.

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HOOISER EXPERT GIVES VIEWS

SEVERITIES OF GAME RESULT FROM COLLISION, RATHER THAN FROM STRAIN UPON FUNCTIONS OF THE PLAYERS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Probably no other game has been criticized as has foot ball. Reams of paper have been used in its attack. Also much has been said against it as a strain upon the vital functions of those participating in it. Those familiar with the game consider most of these criticisms without reasonable foundation. Dr. C. P. Hutchins, director of physical training at Indiana university, for one, claims that foot ball isn't such a physical tax on players as most persons think. Dr. Hutchins announces that the average time a player is in real action is about fifteen minutes, or one-quarter of the time it takes to play the average foot ball game. He was a spectator at the recent Chicago-Minnesota game and timed the players to prove his contention. Regarding the physical tax on players, Dr. Hutchins says:

"The foot ball rules specify a game of four quarters of fifteen minutes each. The casual observer considers that this represents sixty minutes of intense effort, that twenty-two men are engaged for a full hour in not only personal collision, but in a sustained strain upon the heart and respiratory apparatus.

Collisions Are Severe. "To one familiar with the game as played from year to year it is apparent that the severities of the game result from the collision rather than from strain upon the functions that make for health and vitality.

"The timer ordinarily used for timing foot ball games was started when the ball was actually snapped. It was stopped when the progress of the ball stopped. The time taken up by the teams in lining up, giving the signal and making such shift as the signal required was eliminated as not representing any real physical activity.

"The results were illuminating. I personally held the watch with a single purpose in mind. The actual time of play during the first quarter of fifteen minutes was three minutes and thirteen seconds.

"In the second quarter more puntage was reported by both teams, and the actual time of physical activity was three minutes and thirty-five seconds.

"The third period revealed an action of three minutes and thirty-three seconds, and the fourth of two minutes and fifty-five seconds.

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