

Jeff Has Taken the Japanese Situation Into His Own Hands

Drawn for The Bee by "Bud" Fisher



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Judgments

UP TO this writing Omaha has lost six and won two games on its first four abroad. The team begins a three-game series at home today and then goes away for a long absence. Of course, the first thought is the team will have to take a mighty brace on itself to come back in any sort of standing. And it probably will take a brace in itself. This first tour is, unsatisfactorily, very much so, but there is one encouraging thing and that is the team's hitting as a whole. If the present rate is maintained, together with the fielding, the improvement in pitching that surely will come with the progress of the season, should be disappointing. The start thus far is disappointing, that is, certain and the more so because better things had been expected, but it is entirely too early in the season to think of losing a mite of courage or confidence. Denver is walking away to be sure with an awful lead—at this writing it has won twelve and lost one game. But most of that lead was obtained by playing Topeka and Wichita, the two tail-enders of the league, and so it is with Lincoln; it just now has nine games won and four lost and most of its victories came from the two weakest teams. We do not suggest this in disparagement of either Lincoln or Denver, for we fully and freely admit they are both strong and ought to make hard fights to the end, but we offer it merely as a suggestion to Omaha fans that they need not become pessimistic over the standing thus far of their team, which began the season against Sioux City, Des Moines and St. Joseph, three of the better clubs.

The showing of the New York Highlanders under Chance and of Cincinnati under Tinker thus far is awful. There must be mitigating circumstances somewhere. As a matter of fact, both teams have been fighting with leaders, very largely Chance's team entirely. It has met none but the three leaders as yet—Boston, Philadelphia and Washington. It seems quite unfortunate that the schedule makers should have put the Highlanders up against such a combination at the very jump-off, and yet schedules have their compensations. It will help Chance to have the weaker teams to meet now that his men must have been driven to the desperation of fighting by so many defeats. It would be surprising, however, if Chance managed to pull out of second division, and, as a matter of fact, no one, including himself, had any notion at the outset that he would land above fifth place. He will now have a fight to land there, for every team in the league, with the exception of Detroit, seems to be continuously growing stronger. As for Tinker, he has a team which, from all appearances, should get in the race now at once and stay there.

The hot-headed, impulsive action of a few congressmen in leaping into the Ty Cobb mess with a demand for an investigation of the so-called base ball trust, is little short of insane. The Honorable Cobb, like the shrewd business man he is, leaves his volunteer friends to hold the sack as soon as ever he finds it possible to drive a bargain with his employer. So long as young men can earn the money they do in base ball for six months—or a little less—of work, they are not likely to go down in history as among the slave class. There are, to be sure, some inequalities in the laws governing the relations of players and proprietors that call for correction, but public sentiment has thus far proved equal to the test of forcing correction in time and doubtless will continue to do so. This very Mr. Cobb draws several thousand dollars more for his six months than a representative or senator does for a year, and a few player-managers draw more than twice that much. And perhaps they earn, relatively, as much, too, in some cases, at least.

And sure it is "Sluggo Hill" you again, didn't it? Sluggo, how he hit it down pat, already, over by Des Moines and St. Joe! That's all right, but it's no kidding; the Skipper is simply there so strong he makes us wonder if he is getting ready for another ascent into higher class. And the little Dutchman is covering the keystone base and slipping around the bases just as hard as he's hitting. And this is the guy who couldn't "come back," they said.

Young Mr. Grubb is evidently doing fairly well, but as yet he has not vindicated the prophetic prediction that he would make us forget all about Bert Nicholson. We still have a vivid recollection of the crew.

Big Chief George Johnson is doing some good work for Cincinnati, but betraying his old form of weakening toward the end of the game. Ditto, Mark Hall for Detroit.

Ty Cobb was fined \$5 for his offense. Not a very heavy fine, but somehow or other the heavy fines have not been imposed on the stars of the game.

LOCAL TEAMS WELL MATCHED

Sand Lot Nines Weigh Up Very Much Alike in Ability.

ANXIOUS TO MEET EACH OTHER

Players Are Hot for the Contest in Which They Will Have a Chance to Vie in Athletic prowess.

BY FRANK QUIGLEY.

Now that the season is well in bloom and many of the base ball insects have seen the majority of fast teams in action they will have to admit that the local managers have gathered together classy material with which they will fight till the curtain begins to get loose for the championship rag. This season finds the teams more evenly matched than ever before. Heretofore it has always been customary for one team to abate very conspicuously above all other contenders, but this season finds them on practically an even basis, unless the Stars Triumphs are taken into consideration. As they claim to be semi-pros, and their claim can be easily substantiated, they are not taken into consideration for the amateur honors. At that, they will find several of the amateur combinations pretty tough meat. Anyway, some fifty base ball will be dished out for the special benefit of the bugs.

It is a cinch that the best card introduced to the fanatics so far this term will be delivered at Fort Omaha this afternoon. A bunch from across the way with the sign C. B. Imperials spread all over the starchy part of their shirts, will hook up with the O. D. Kiplingers at one and a half rings. To date the boys that represent the smoke factory have been puffing out good stuff. They have inhaled all their mixes and it is their intention to make their neighbors hunt their holes. After this fight has terminated the Ancient Order of United Workmen boys will back up against the fast Alamos. This quartet will, without a doubt, be fought here from the tinkle of the bell until the last man is buried.

Played Tie Game.

Last Sunday the Alamos played a tie game with the Shamrocks, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen sang trimmed the C. B. Merchants. Front Morsarty or Adams will work for the Milk emporium dudes, while Reed, Nelson or Cass will be on the mound for the lodge galoots. Following is the lineup for the second game:

ALAMITOS.	
W. Quigley	First
W. Quigley	Second
McAndrew	Third
W. Quigley	Short
W. Quigley	Left
W. Quigley	Center
W. Quigley	Right
W. Quigley	Catch
W. Quigley	Pitch
W. Quigley	Pitch

The Stars Triumphs will drift up to Fremont today and do their darndest to hang on to the starry boys that represent that burg in the State league. Last Sunday the Fremonters started out on the right track by whipping the Washo leather setters. They will be up against a stronger combination today and they will have their gloules full and then some if they handle the happy water family. Last Sunday the Stars tribe made all the Nebraska-Indians look like pale-faces.

Park Opens Successfully.

The opening at Athletic park, Council Bluffs, last Sunday proved to be a rip roaring success from every standpoint. The noble James Cross warriors will meet the Merchants this afternoon. The jam-boree worth the ticks and then some is anticipated. Deber or Mosher will work for the Omaha crew and Probat or Peterson will zip 'em for the Bluffers. The first game, which will commence at 1:30, will be between the H. T. Giants and the Tip Tops. Following is the lineup for the second row:

JABEZ CROSS.	
C. B. Merchants	First
W. Quigley	Second
W. Quigley	Third
W. Quigley	Short
W. Quigley	Left
W. Quigley	Center
W. Quigley	Right
W. Quigley	Catch
W. Quigley	Pitch
W. Quigley	Pitch

A Double-Decker. On the greensward at Florence park the Florence Athletics will indulge in a double-header this afternoon when they run up against the Alhambras in the opener and collide with the Dundee Woolen Mills the second trip. Last Sunday the Alhambras amply demonstrated their class when they slipped one over on the dudes that toss the pill for Plattsmouth and they don't intend to dent

record by letting these neighbor burgies hand them a lemon.

After the Alhambras get thrashed with the Florence boys they will have another tough proposition to handle in order to send home with a gloomy stare, namely, Dundee Woolen Mills. Taken all in all the Florence lads have bitten off two large hunks that they will find hard to digest.

The Sol Pills will play the Stars and Stripes at Diets park. The game will be called at 2 p. m. and Sullivan will do the mound work for the Sol Pills.

Luxus park will be the scene of two lively battles today unless the dope is all twisted up. The first fuss will be Chris Lycks against K & M's.

The game will be called at 1:30 o'clock. The lineup is as follows:

CHRIS LYCKS.	
W. Quigley	Catch
W. Quigley	First
W. Quigley	Second
W. Quigley	Third
W. Quigley	Left
W. Quigley	Center
W. Quigley	Right
W. Quigley	Catch
W. Quigley	Pitch
W. Quigley	Pitch

The second muss, Townsends against Luxus, Both of the latter mentioned squads played against State league teams last Sunday and although they made a remarkable showing they failed to walk home with the gravy. Following is the lineup for the second mix:

LUXUS.	
Dougherty	First
Rapp	Second
W. Quigley	Third
W. Quigley	Left
W. Quigley	Center
W. Quigley	Right
W. Quigley	Catch
W. Quigley	Pitch
W. Quigley	Pitch

That proposed Utau Cheese Co. team went via the undertaker route. Wonder when those C. B. Ramblers and one Omaha Rambler are going to hitch up?

On Twenty-fourth and Vinton the S. A. C. gang and the Ramblers will dish out their wares.

These Advos are not exactly doughnuts, but they are crazy about glooming the silver plates.

Lin, the Council Bluffs adjudicator, looks all the mustard this season. He is a non-partisan man.

Lin Young, who is well known in local circles, is holding down the initial sack for the C. B. Imperials.

That recently organized M. E. Smith team wants to get the speed merchants right off the reel.

Charlie Coe is certainly spanking the old pill right on the smelter this season. He is with the A. O. U. W.

BILL KLEM AGAIN IN WRONG IN NEW YORK.



Bill Klem, the National league umpire, whose recent decision in causing Pinch Hitter Harry McCormick of the New York to bat over again after Mo had batted in the winning run for the Giants in the eleventh inning of a game against Philadelphia, because the ball hit was made while he (Klem) was announcing the fact that McCormick was batting for another player, has made him unpopular in New York. The game ended in a tie, for in batting a second time McCormick hit into a double play, McGraw is contesting the game on the plea that the ball should not have been pitched to the batter by the Philadelphia twirler.

They can field and hit. Here they are: After getting about twenty hits, six of which were home runs, against the Shamrocks the Luxus team forgot how to use their sticks at Columbus, Neb.

Harry Cross, who is now holding down crack number two at Neville, Canada, writes that the only kind of teams he will see this summer is horses and mules.

Jack Cavanaugh of the Alamos is getting so fat that his doctor informed him that he would have to wear a corset, probably he had better not wear a stiff shirt or collar.

When the Omaha Gas Co. bunch and the Stars Triumphs in the back road to wagner that outfit of gas and hot air will be on the job. This game ought to be a dinger.

Chris Lyck got a trifle hot under the collar last week when Bill Dolson, the lumberer of the Brodegar's Crews, cancelled a game scheduled with his lads for this afternoon.

Today the Advos will pack themselves into one of the McCord-Brady's large truck gas wagons and ease down to Anland, Neb., where they will endeavor to whip the base ball manipulators stationed there.

The initial jamboree at Diets park, between the Stars and Stripes and the much touted Sol-Pills. The Sol-Pills are the only Jewish organization in this burg.

Next Saturday the All Nations will step into Omaha for the supreme purpose of setting the Stars Triumphs in the back road. They will stay over for dinner on Sunday and incidentally another whack at the suds congregation.

COACH MATTER UNSETTLED

Nebraskan Mentors Want to Name Own Coach and Hedge.

LOCALS BACK WITH NEW OFFER

Proposition Which Lincoln Authorities Can Hardly Refuse Now Put Up to Them by Secretary Elliott of Alumni.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 3.—(Special.)—Chairman Fred M. Hunter of the foot ball committee of the athletic board yesterday sent his reply to Clyde E. Elliott relative to the offer made by the Omaha alumni to hire an assistant coach in foot ball, conditioned upon the athletic board also hiring an assistant for Stiehler.

Hunter's letter leaves the matter practically where it was when negotiations were first started. He asks that Elliott secure official action in the alumni organization and then deposit \$1,000 with the athletic board, or god security for that amount.

He further insists that the right to select the assistant must remain with the athletic board. "It would be impossible to obtain any other policy," he declares. Another view where the board and the Omaha alumni are sure to clash is the demand of the alumni that the coaches be from schools outside of Nebraska. The athletic board is apparently favorable to employing one outside coach, but does not specify as to the other.

Hunter makes demand. Hunter concludes that when the offer is framed so as to meet these demands, then he will be willing to entertain an offer to hire a coach. The chairman of the foot ball committee has the support of the other members and a majority of the board, so there will apparently be nothing doing in the coach-matter until the offer is revised as suggested by Mr. Hunter.

Offer of Omaha Alumni. Omaha alumni of the state university who are interested in foot ball at Nebraska have concluded that the board of control of athletics at Nebraska does not want the assistance of the local association. An effort has been made for the last two months to get the mentors there to agree on some plan by which the foot ball system could be bettered. Offers of assistance have been met in a brilliant manner, characteristic of one who thinks another is interfering with his business.

Through Clyde E. Elliott, the Omaha alumni made a proposition to the board of control by which the local graduates were to raise funds for hiring one coach, provided the Nebraska board would supply a like sum for a coach. Both coaches, it was stipulated, were to be graduates of other schools than Nebraska. After much delay the board took some cryptic action, and after still more delay, Fred Hunter, chairman of the foot ball committee of the board, replied to the proposition in a letter to Elliott, which came yesterday.

In this letter Hunter says his board will not agree to any proposition that takes the selection of the coaches out of the hands of the Nebraska board. He also states that only one coach shall be a non-Nebraska man.

Make Two Propositions.

To bring the matter to a settlement, Secretary Elliott yesterday answered Mr. Hunter with two separate proposals, they being as follows:

First: The Omaha alumni will supply \$1,000, provided the Nebraska board of control will agree to let a committee composed of two members of the Omaha alumni, Fred Hunter, Coach Stiehler, and next fall's Cornhusker foot ball captain, choose the two coaches who are to be hired with the \$1,000 raised by the Omaha alumni and the like sum appropriated by the Nebraska board.

Second: The Omaha alumni will place at the service and under the direction of Coach Stiehler on the opening day of practice next fall a coach who shall be a former foot ball player of some other school than Nebraska and who shall receive a very generous salary for his work. The alumni will consult with Coach Stiehler before naming the man. All this will be done provided the board of control will agree to accept his services.

In his letter yesterday Secretary Elliott stated plainly that the Omaha alumni did not want to dictate the policy of the Cornhusker board, but that they wished to see foot ball at their alma mater made much better. He said that if they were satisfied with the assistants the board had given Coach Stiehler during the last two years they would not be offering to raise money to get another coach. The fact that the board, in the past, had not supplied the head coach with the aid he needed, Elliott indicated, was proof that it was financially handicapped, an obstacle which the Omaha alumni are seeking to remove through their offer.

Dr. Hart Able to Hold His Own with Evers

CHICAGO, ILL., May 3.—Dr. Frederick Axel Hart, who has succeeded Simmons as trainer of the Chicago Cubs, proved that he was just as able to hold his own with Manager Johnny Evers as his predecessor. When Charles Webb Murphy introduced the manager and trainer Evers snapped out: "Ever play ball?"

Hart looked the peppery one over carefully and replied: "I never saw a ball game in my life, but I can perform an operation for appendicitis."

"So can I," tartly retorted Johnny, "but the patient would die."

"Well, then, you attend to the ball playing and I'll look after the appendicitis," was Hart's parting shot.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SCORERS

Ban Johnson Tells Them How to Figure Up Pitchers.

GET MORE CONSIDERATION

Twirlers Are Not Charged Up with Runs When Fielders Have Good Chance to Retire the Side.

NEW YORK, May 3.—Ban Johnson has issued detailed instructions to his official scorers which are of interest to everybody interested in base ball. Last year John Heydler, secretary of the National league, drew up a table rating pitchers by earned runs off them. This year Johnson has gone into the earned run subject in careful detail and his instructions, as devising a way of forming a correct estimate of a pitcher's value, will appeal to followers of the game as having considerable merit. The American league president's instructions to his scorers are as follows:

Your attention is called to several changes in the official score blanks of the American league for this season, the more important of them being for the purpose of establishing as a basis for computing the official records of pitchers, a modification of the former "earned run" rule. This is designed to replace the old and lost system of rating pitchers' ability.

To accomplish this it is desired to direct a complete record of the runs for pitchers by earned runs off them. The basic idea of the former "earned run" rule is to include in the pitcher's "runs earned" only those runs which are scored by the fielders (including the pitcher) as a result of fielding errors of all kinds or passed balls or sacrifice hits, stolen bases, bunts, balls, batsmen hit, wild pitches and balks before the pitcher retires the side have been offered and missed.

The intent of the rule is to include under "earned runs" all the factors that produce runs for which the pitcher is chiefly responsible.

Runs scored as a result of fielding errors of all kinds or passed balls are not to be charged to the pitcher in this computation. Runs should not be charged against the pitcher, even if scored by clean hitting, after good chances to retire the side have been offered and not accepted by the fielders (including the pitcher).

Complications and differences of opinion may arise regarding certain runs, particularly when a change of pitcher occurs with men on base. In such cases the scorer should use his own judgment or include the facts and the difficulty encountered in his official report of the game, so that fault in the system may be remedied as far as possible.

It will no longer be necessary to determine the winning and losing pitcher, which will offset partially the additional task of computing "runs earned by opponents."

An "earned run" column has been added to the individual record of the batsmen and also columns showing individual bases on balls and strikeouts.

EXPERT TENNIS MEN COMING

Some Extraordinary Racket Sharps to Be Here This Summer.

OMAHA FIELD CLUB IN JULY

Will Be Place and Time for a Series of Games in the National Clay Court Championship Tournament.

Omaha will make a great showing this season in the tennis world if all plans of the various tennis enthusiasts of the city are carried out. Some of the greatest racket sharps in the country will be in Omaha this summer and will display their ability on the clay courts of the Omaha Field club.

McLoughlin, the present tennis champion of the United States, may stop in Omaha during the early part of May and give exhibitions, playing some of the best local tennis men.

For the national clay court championship tournament, which will be held at the Omaha Field club during the latter part of July, there will be some of the fastest players in the country assembled. Four Californians, who are going to New York for the big tournaments of the year and who will leave their own state July 4, have practically consented to stop in Omaha and enter the tournament, taking part in both the double and single matches.

Touchar, who finished tenth for the championship of the United States last year, and T. R. Pelt, who finished about fifteenth, will more than likely play in the singles and in the doubles as a team. These men are among the best players in the country and would prove a great attraction for Omaha.

Harold Hackett and Merrill Hall, present doubles champions of the United States Lawn Tennis association, will probably be on deck also. However, there is a possibility that Hackett will be chosen on the American team to defend the Davis cup in England. In that event Hall may come and play, with someone else and the two men will defend their title as doubles champions.

The following persons of national repute in the tennis world have promised to attend: J. B. Adams, Jr., of Dallas, Tex.; Leon Walhall, Sr. of San Antonio, Tex.; Stewart Gilman of Sioux City, Ia.; Ray Brown of Mitchell, S. D.; Jack Cannon of Kansas City and the McQuilgan brothers of Dallas, Tex.

Washington Picked as American League Winner of Pennant

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3.—(Clarke Griffith declares that Washington is going to win the American league pennant and is equally positive that the Giants will win in the National.

"And let me tell you something," he said. "It ought to be the greatest world's series that has ever been played. It will be the first time that two really fast teams have ever got together, for the big prize. In the past one of the teams always has been superior on the bases, while the other was superior at the bat. The Giants and my club operate along the same lines, and, believe me, when we get together it will be some fight."

"Do you think you could beat the Giants in a world's series?" he was asked.

"Yes," he replied. "In a seven-game series I think Walter Johnson can beat any club, though up to the present I have considered Mathewson the daddy of all pitchers. There will never be another like him, but Johnson is younger and stronger now."

"Don't you seriously think that the Athletics and the Red Sox have it on you in batting?"

"They may have," he answered, "but we are going to beat them out just like the Giants are going to beat out Pittsburgh and the other clubs on speed. There is nothing to it; the lay has come when the main thing in base ball is fast base running. That's what McGraw and myself have."

Al Palzer May Have to Undergo Operation

NEW YORK, May 3.—Al Palzer, who returned from Paris with Tom O'Rourke after the proposed match with Johnson had fallen through, because Johnson's presence was so much desired in Chicago, may not fight again for some time. Palzer is sick and may have to undergo a minor operation. His challenge to McCormick for a return match is necessarily shelved for a while.

Another Varsity Recruit.
Report has it that Scout Jack Ryan, for Washington, has hooked Malcolm, the star pitcher of the University of Vermont team, who will report in June or thereabouts.

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