

BRINGING UP FATHER

Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



Judgments

THE question at issue among followers of University of Nebraska football right now is the selection of a mentor to assume the shoes of Jumbo Stehm, who has resigned to take a more remunerative position as coach at Indiana. This topic is far more vital to football fans than the European war or early Christmas shopping and many are the arguments heard pro and con. Thus far the names of four coaches have been suggested as possible candidates. They are Bill Roper, formerly at Missouri and Princeton; Bennie Owen of Oklahoma; Gil Hebble, who just resigned at Washington; and Jesse Harper of Notre Dame. As far as past records go, and observations of teams coached by these men in action, it appears very probable that any one of the four would be just as successful. If, perhaps, not more so, than Jumbo Stehm. He has made an enviable record at Nebraska. It is not to be denied that Nebraska has ascended to a top-notch rank in western football during the regime of Jumbo, but without in any way discrediting Stehm's ability, there are men who are just as good as he in the line of coaching. Roper, it will be remembered, is the man who won the Missouri Valley championship for Missouri in 1909. Roper won the championship that year from two better teams, Nebraska and Kansas. Kansas defeated the Huskers and Roper, with a very ordinary team, and the odds strongly against him, won from Kansas. He used twenty-three men to do it, but he did it, and the name of Bill Roper to this day stands at the top of the Missouri hall of fame. Two years later Roper took charge of the eleven at Princeton and turned out the only team in the history of Princeton to win from both Harvard and Yale. He is the man who made an all-American end out of Sammy White. This year Roper coached Swarthmore when he wasn't busy practicing law in Philadelphia. Whether he could be induced to abandon his law practice and return to the gridiron, but it would be a ten-strike for the Cornhuskers if fortune should so favor them. Dobbie a few days ago announced his intention of taking up the practice of law and he resigned the position as mentor at Washington to do so. Of course, it may be possible to bring Lincoln, but it seems unlikely. Jesse Harper and Bennie Owen have both made good records as coaches. Harper has turned out good teams at Notre Dame ever since he has been there. And Harper's good teams have largely been the result of Harper's coaching, which is team-work and wonderful interference as exhibited by the Notre Dame eleven this year has never before been seen in Nebraska, and good coaching alone can develop even team-work and good interference. Owen makes his bid for honors largely through his knowledge of the forward passing game. He has made it depend almost exclusively on the forward pass to net gains and this method was so successful that Oklahoma went through the year with a clear slate of victories. It has been said by football students who saw the Sooners in action this year that they have the most wonderful system of forward passing of any team in the country, and an assertion like that is a great tribute to the ability of Bennie Owen as a coach. The Nebraska athletic board will do well Monday to get a line on all four of these mentors suggested for any one of them would undoubtedly be as great, if not a greater success, than the passing Jumbo.

JESS DOESN'T LIKE TO FIGHT

So Says Tom Jones, and from Willard's Recent Activities He Probably is Right.

WILL QUIT THE RING SOON

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—"Do you know," said Tom Jones, the other day, "that Jess Willard doesn't care a rap about fighting? Well, that's the truth. He only intends to fight a few more battles and he'll retire from the ring inside of a year. Jess wants to dispose of all the prominent contenders before he retires, though, to prove that he is a real bona fide champion. But the real truth is that he would rather be doing something else than swapping punches in the ring."

Willard first took up boxing when Jack Johnson was returned winner over Jim Jeffries. It was his ambition to remove the negro from the limelight and prove the superiority of the white race that made the big cowboy take up fist-cuffs.

"The reason that he made such rapid progress and developed from a big, uncouth heavyweight into the best of the sport has produced because of his determination to take the title away from Johnson."

"If Jess liked boxing or its sideline, such as stage and circus work, he could now be making thousands of dollars every week. Instead, he loves his family and home, and he won't be contented again until he quits the ring forever and takes up farm life, or something like that."

"Willard has been receiving all kinds of offers since he quit the circus. It was only the other day that he was offered \$5,000 a week for twelve weeks' work on the stage, but he wouldn't even consider it. He is now back home in Los Angeles with his family, and no offer, no matter how big, would induce him to leave there until after the new year starts."

Only Wants His Price. "Willard will probably fight only three or four battles before he quits his gloves away for all time. Of course, he wants to quit with the title in his possession. This doesn't mean he is going to pick any easy marks. As long as he gets his price, which is \$50,000, he will let the promoter pick his opponents."

Jones then showed the writer the contract for Jess' bout in March with Fred Fulton at New Orleans. Fulton isn't named as the contract was signed before Fulton had been secured. "The contract calls for \$25,000, \$2,500 of which is for training expenses. The contract doesn't say that he can't meet anybody before then, and if somebody slips forward with the required sum a bout between the middle of January and the New Orleans date, he will be accommodated."

"What other champion ever signed to fight eight months from the date he won the championship?" continued Jones. "I guess they have been few and far between. Eleven months from the time that he beat Johnson at Havana he will be opposing Fulton in New Orleans. Some record that!"

"It makes me laugh to see how some of the so-called contenders are demanding exorbitant sums to fight Jess. For instance, Moran has twice been offered \$10,000 for his end, but has turned it down. Can you imagine a fellow who thinks he has a chance to cop the title refusing such a big guarantee?"

Willard Loses Money. "I've had three champions and all three together didn't make half what Moran is passing up when they captured the championships in their respective classes. When Wolgast beat Nelson he got \$2,500, no training expenses or railroad tickets. When People knocked out Ketchal he got about \$1,500. Willard was over \$10,000 in debt after the Johnson fight.

"But the way I always figured it was this: If I had a boxer who had a chance of beating the champion I was willing to let him fight for almost anything. If he won, I knew that it would be a harvest."

Sam McVey, who fought Langford a draw here the other night, heard about Moran's refusal to meet Willard for a \$10,000 guarantee, and he said: "I tell you what I'll do. I've got about \$4,000 in cash left. I won't want a cent for fighting Willard, but I will bet what money I have that I'll stop him inside of six rounds."

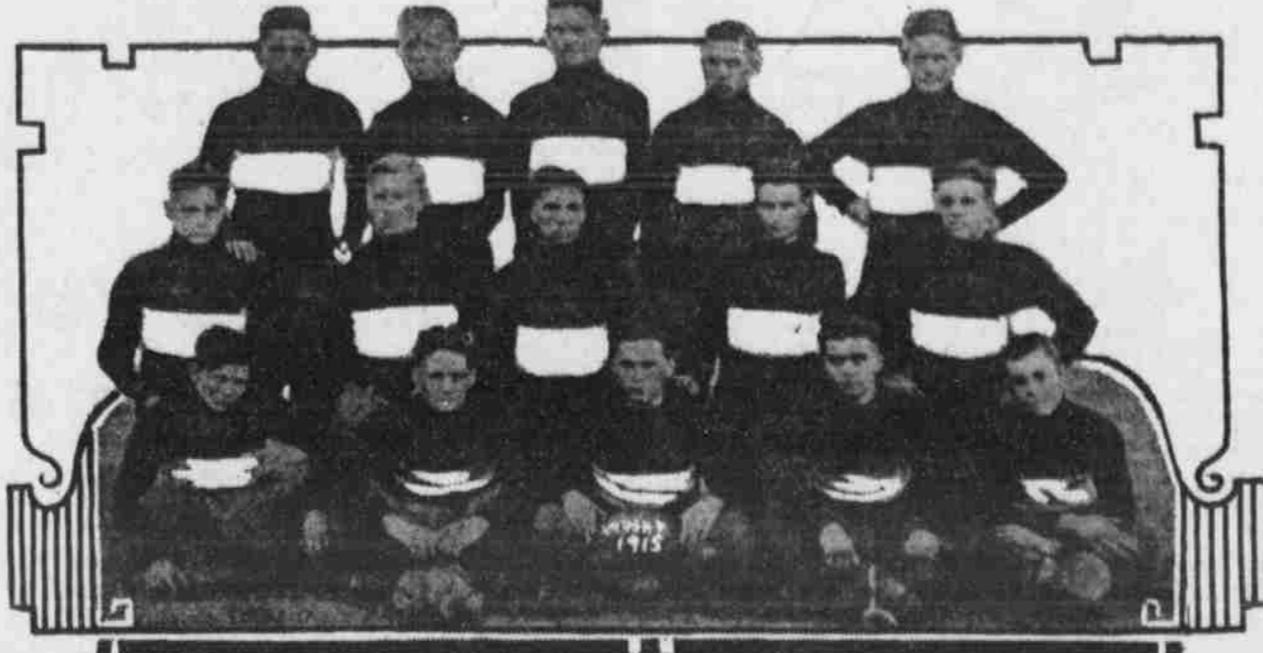
COLLEGE BIG LEAGUERS DO NOT RIDE GOAT NOW

College youths who enter the big league ranks these days are accepted by the veterans without the necessity of submitting to "initiation" ceremonies. In the old days the vets scoffed at college youths as professional ball players. They termed them "stasies," ignored them, made life miserable for them generally, and usually broke the spirit of most college boys who really had enough ability to hold down regular jobs if they had been given a little assistance by their teammates.

MILTON STOCK HAS THE LAUGH ON JOHN M'GRAW

Milton Stock, one of the players who figured in the trade with Philadelphia, whereby Hans Lobert came to the Giants, had the laugh on McGraw, for he latched sight points better than the former Philadelphiaian.

Weeping Water High School Foot Ball Team



COASTERS FAIL WITH MACK

Native Son Athletes Have Never Managed to Deliver Goods with the Athletics.

DALY IS SHIPPED BACK HOME

Pete Daly, the outfielder from whom much was expected when he joined the Athletics a few years ago, has drifted back to the Pacific coast and will play with the Vernon club of the Pacific Coast league next year. Pete's failure to make good with the Athletics or the New York Highlanders brings out the fact that Mack never had much luck with California players, writes William G. Weart.

Gonnie has brought several promising looking outfielders from the coast only to have every one of them fall down on the job. On the other hand, California has been good to the Phillies. No state in the union is so well represented on the Quakers' pay roll as California. Gavy Cravath, Eddie Burns and Joe Osceger are native sons, while Bancroft and Becker now make their homes in that state in the winter.

No less than four outfielders have been brought from the Golden state by Manager Mack. Heine felt unconscious one day when the reputation which had preceded him. Heine Heimtuller, who was probably the largest man that ever wore a White Elephant uniform—and we are not forgetting Socks Seybold—also failed, and was sent to Baltimore, and then back to California. After his return to his native state, Heine fell unconscious one day when he struck out. He was carried off the field and died a few days later of typhoid fever.

Wouldn't Take Advice. Hart Maggert next had a trial. Maggert was a fast, speedy player and he could hit. He looked like an ideal man for the job, but he would not listen to advice and he did not fit in well with other members of the team and was let out. Maggert was one of the few players to put the ball over the right-field wall at Shibe park.

Pete Daly, like Maggert, was fast and a fair hitter, but not up to the Mack standard. He was sent to New York in exchange for Jimmy Walsh.

The most success that Gonnie Mack ever had with a California was with Pitcher Harry Krause. Harry had a wonderful winning streak one year, but the "south-paw" afterwards fell down and was let out.

Wanted a Valet. One of the reasons for Pete Daly being sent back to the minors is said to have been his classy ideas. Those acquainted with the inner workings of the Highlanders last season claim that Pete and some of the other players of the club had an idea that they should be furnished with valets as well as numerous other luxuries.

It is said that every time the Highlanders went to a city some of the players, Daly included, thought some one should be on hand to carry their grips from the car to the street. When the outside of the station was reached, the first question they would ask was as to why taxicabs were not near at hand to take them to the hotel.

Magistrates are tired of players with high-faluting ideas. The limit is said to have been reached when President Hedges of the St. Louis Americans was joked about being seen carrying the suit case of one of the pitchers he feared might jump to the Federals.

WRESTLING PROMOTER TO ENTER FIELD HERE

According to advices from St. Joseph W. S. Barton, the man who promoted wrestling matches at Evansville, Ind., until the Stecher-Lewis match, is coming to Omaha to enter the promotion field here. Barton went from Evansville to St. Joseph, but found the Missouri town too dead, so he decided to come up the river for a trial.

No "Gate" Charged at First Harvard and Yale Contest

Compared with the wonderful exhibition of team play given by the Harvard's eleven of 1915 against Yale, the first meeting of these two university squads would appear almost laughable if it could be staged again today. That contest was played at New Haven on Saturday, November 13, 1915, on a field measuring 60 by 200 feet and was witnessed by about 1,500 spectators, which included several hundred women. The number of players on a team was optional with the captain, the rules simply specifying that from eleven to fifteen might be played. The game was divided into three thirty-minute periods and the only scoring permitted was a goal following touchdown, kicked over the goal bar suspended ten feet above the ground from two uprights twenty feet apart.

Harvard won by four goals to nothing. The Crimson scoring two in the first half-hour and one in the remaining two periods. The ball could be kicked or carried; caught on the bound or fly and the runner could be tackled and thrown as at present. Harvard's cheering contingent consisted of 150 students, who made the trip from Cambridge to witness the play.

No admission was charged and the size of the crowd and absence of gate receipts contrasted sharply with the fact that very close to 120,000 persons paid \$200,000 to see the Harvard-Yale games of 1914 and 1915.

NEW FOOT BALL CAPTAIN AT COMMERCE HIGH

The purchase of the property was a deal involving \$125,000. This price does not include the cost of stand construction, etc. This estimate has not yet been announced, but the total outlay will easily represent an expenditure of \$150,000 when the park is opened next April.

Work on the park will be started within a week, and the arrangements call for the completion of stands capable of seating 50,000 persons for the opening game tentatively arranged to be played about the middle of April. Later additional stands will be constructed that will increase the seating capacity to 55,000 persons.

Successor to Jim Thorpe is Found in Dear Old "Philly" NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—A successor to Jim Thorpe, Martin Sheridan and one or two other all-around champions of note, has been discovered. He is none other than Martin J. B. McDonagh, formerly on the Johns Hopkins track team, and now a resident of Philadelphia. He may show in these parts this winter at one or two big indoor meets. He has been invited to debut at a Brooklyn regiment some time next January.

McDonagh was a star member of Johns Hopkins' outfit while in college, and was holder of the 220-yard low hurdles championship for years in the South Atlantic district of the American Athletic union. He was all-around champion track and field man of that section for five years. He holds several records in relay racing.

This year, McDonagh's first in Philadelphia, he won the all-around championship in the Young Men's Christian association district, comprising Trenton, Reading and other neighboring cities, representing the West Branch Young Men's Christian association.

Back in 1908, while our boys were cleaning up in dear old Lunnon, McDonagh participated in a twenty-two-mile marathon from Westminster, Md., to Baltimore, establishing a cross-country record of 2:17, but technical difficulties prevented the mark standing.

McDonagh runs everything from 200 yards to a marathon, plays foot ball, soccer, swims and jumps. He is 27 years old, of Irish-German descent, and of a wiry build.

FEDS ARE SHOWING SPEED

Outlaws May Be On Verge of Collapse, but They Are Putting Power in Final Kick.

INVEST MILLIONS IN GOTHAM

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The Federal league may be on the verge of collapse, as certain Organized Base Ball men insist, but for an organization that is facing dire ruin, it certainly is putting a lot of power in its final kick. By acquiring the site bounded on the south by One Hundred and Second street, on the north by One Hundred and Forty-fifth street, on the west by Lenox avenue, and on the east by Fifth avenue and the Harlem river, the Feds have dealt the National and American leagues a heavy blow.

They have not only made good their threat to transfer the Kansas City franchise to this city—since the league more or less as a major league outfit—they have centered the invasion in one of the most accessible locations available. They are now in a position to take the Bronx, as well as Manhattan. Adjacent to the property is a bridge across the Harlem river, with a street car line that brings it into touch with the ball park. The subway is within a stone's throw and the elevated only two cross-town blocks distant. Furthermore, it is a thickly populated neighborhood, and with a portion of the property available for other uses than base ball all the revenue to be derived will not depend solely upon attendance at the games.

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Will you manage the Pirates next year?" was the first question fired at the youthful shortstop.

"Man manage the Pirates? Huh! I want to kill some more game before it gets too late. Say, hunting is great this year, only it is tougher because there is no snow."

"Well, Jay, you still lead 'em all in fielding; notice it?" was asked.

"Yes, the rabbits are pretty plentiful and I have bagged my share. Say, I like this hunting stuff more every day," he replied.

"You're looking in great shape; guess you'll be hopping around that short position like a two-year-old next year?" he continued.

"It's all doped out, going to be some fishing parties on the spring training trip next year," replied Honus.

"Yes, it is great stuff, trying to get Wagner to talk base ball in the winter time, or any other time."

GALLIA WAS JINX FOR COBB

Washington Twirler Allowed the Georgia Peach Only One Bingle in Fourteen Times at Bat.

MORTON ALSO BOTHERED BY

Ty Cobb, perennial batting leader of the American league, hit forty-two points better at home last season than on the road, his average at Navin field being .392 and in the other six ball parks .350.

Washington was the only spot on the American league circuit where the Tiger didn't turn in a .300 batting notch. His percentage in Wilsonville being .344. In Philadelphia it was .328, in St. Louis .316, in Chicago .341, in Boston .327, in Cleveland .439 and in New York .463.

There is one American league pitcher who has a right to pride himself on his work against Cobb last season. This man is Bert Gallia of the Senators, who allowed the Georgian only one hit in fourteen times at bat—a percentage of .071.

The safety was garnered by Cobb the last time he faced Gallia, and it drove in three runs, being a double made when the bases were full. Morton of Cleveland was another pitcher who bothered Cobb considerably in 1915. Tyner's average against the Indian star being .125.

Only eleven out of seventy-one pitchers kept Cobb from making hits and seven of the men in question only pitched to him once. The eleven heroes were Wood of Boston, Johnson of Chicago, Callamore of Cleveland, Cottrell and Butler of New York, Mortimer of Philadelphia, Sleser and Koob of St. Louis and Harper, Dumont and Rice of Washington.

Cobb batted 1,900 against seven hurlers, the best known of whom is Jim Shaw of Washington, lately injured in a hunting accident near Pittsburgh, and he batted .283 against Coombs of Cleveland, a southpaw, who distinguished himself by stopping the White Sox last spring when they were having an extended winning streak.

Warhop of the Yanks touched Cobb for a .258 batting mark, and Walter of Cleveland and Cole of New York for .600. Two of these men being fired and the other suspended before the season closed.

Ty batted at a .53 clip against Jim Root of Chicago and at a .56 pace against Eddie Cloutte of the same team.

Getting Wagner to Talk of Base Ball is Some Tough Job

Hans Wagner showed up at the office of Barney Dreyfuss the other day, coming in from chasing the festive rabbit, and the busy scribes, alert to know what he had on his mind, proceeded to interview him.

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Polish Merchants Are Organizing Ball Club

John Badura, former city councilman of South Omaha, is organizing the Polish Merchants' Base Ball club and will enter his team in one of the leagues of the Omaha Amateur Base Ball association next year. Badura has been an amateur follower for a number of years and will be best remembered by his connection with the old Duffys. The Polish team will hold a dance in the near future to raise a few funds for starting the season.

SYRACUSE TRIES TO PULL ALIBI FOR MONTANA WIN

Syracuse has pulled the Jim Alibi that the "raffish air" of Montana hindered its monotons in busting up the Montana defense. The "unraffish" long run of Dries and Roberston also helped some. The idea is growing that there are anywhere from six to sixteen teams in the middle and far west capable of dousing Syracuse through the dew.

COOMBS STILL WIZARD AT BAT AS WELL AS IN BOX

Jack Coombs when with the Athletics was always regarded as a good hitting pitcher. Evidently he has lost none of his cunning in that respect, for in twenty-six games with Brooklyn last season he hit for a mark of .79.

WHEN HOMER MEANT GLOOM

Rube Oldring Looses Out Circuit Drive in World's Series, but it Brings Only Sadness.

AND THERE WERE TWO ON, TOO

There are a lot of heartaches among the ball tossers, some of which are when base hits have gone astray by phenomenal catches by opponents, for a base ball player loves his hits as he ought to love his wife and does love his pay check. There are times, though, when a player gets the hit and yet isn't happy.

Report has it that Rube Oldring is going to retire from the game. If Rube sticks to that determination—and on one believe that he will—he can look back on his career and easily locate the unhappy hour of his life during the time that he wore a uniform. It was a sad day for Oldring, though, when a player about by his own home run hit, and that drive was made in a world's series game.

Most players would look upon a home run hit in a world's series contest as the most momentous occasion in their lives. To Oldring his four-bagger brought only a lot of gloom.

It was in the fifth and what should have been the deciding game of the world's series of 1911 that Oldring banded out his circuit drive. This hit should have clinched the series for the Athletics. The hit was made off Marquard. The game was played at the Polo grounds in New York. Oldring's home was then only a few miles from the Polo grounds, and there were a lot of his boyhood chums looking on.

Two On at Time. In the third inning, with Lapp and Coombs on the bases, Oldring drove the ball into the left field bleachers, making the score 3 to 0. Late in the game Coombs incurred the injury which laid him up for many months, but he persisted in remaining on the rubber. In the seventh inning New York scored a run, making the score 3 to 1. All during the game Oldring was delighted at the thought of that four-bagger and how he would have fun all winter with his New York friends.

Incidentally, Rube was dreaming of the offers he would get from vaudeville agents to go on the stage. Then came the ninth inning, and New York scored two runs and tied the count. That made Oldring's homer fade considerably in importance.

Glamour of Feet Lost. In the tenth inning, with Lapp pitching, the Giants landed another tally and won the game, 4 to 3. The injury to Coombs, the story that Larry Doyle had not actually touched the home plate in scoring in the tenth inning and the sensational manner in which the Giants had pulled the victory out of the fire took away nearly all the glamour from Oldring's feat. Instead of a home run which would go down in base ball history with Frank Baker's two four-baggers in the same series, Rube's hit became a mere incident of the contest.

There were no offers from vaudeville agents for Oldring to go on the stage. His name was not blazoned across the pages of the newspapers as the hero of the final game of the series, and his picture did not decorate the front pages, while no squad of agents asked him to sign papers indorsing cigarettes, dyspepsia cures, chewing gum, soft drinks, and other things. When Rube trotted around the bases on that memorable hit he saw visions of fame and fortune. An hour or so later it had all slipped away like a mirage. No wonder Oldring considers that the unhappy hour of his life on the diamond.

Jim Coffey Hooks Typewriter on Jaw With the Old Left

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The attention of Frank Moran of Pittsburgh is requested by Jim Coffey, proving that the exertion of knocking out "Gumbo" Smith had not unnerved him in the least; Coffey had scarcely removed the bandages from his flats when he proceeded to boldly tackle a typewriter. He evidently thought he was in the ring and that the typewriter was an appointment instead of a friend in need. He swung with his left and hooked with his right and the typewriter has never recovered.

The result was as follows: "I believe that I have convinced the 'fans' that I am a different man than when I met Moran. I am anxious for a return match, and am prepared to offer the following inducements: I will guarantee Moran \$7,000 flat on his end, and I will fight on a percentage basis. I think that is a very fair offer. If Moran refuses to tackle me I will go right along boxing all in sight in an effort to get a championship match with Willard."

FAIRWEATHER WILL RUN FOR DES MOINES JOB

Tom Fairweather, secretary of the Des Moines base ball club and one of the most popular men connected with the business end of the Western league, has announced his intention of running for city commissioner of Des Moines. If Des Moines has enough base ball fans Tom is due to be elected.