

Aren't You Sorry?

Drawn for The Bee by F. Opper



Judgments

ADJUSTMENT of the base ball situation with two exceptions, and one of them is of minor detail, appears to be at hand. The murky atmosphere of the professional game has been sufficiently cleared and it only remains to distribute the players and start the spring training season. There is but one adjustment the fans await with impatience. That is the placing of Harry Sinclair, the oil magnate, and if reports be true the Oklahoma man will soon be made the head of the New York National league club. Organized ball should not let Mr. Sinclair escape it. The fans have staged Mr. Sinclair up as a real sportsman who has nary an ear mark of the greedy magnate. The drilling of oil is his business and base ball is a sport to him. Base ball needs more men of the character of Mr. Sinclair. Clean sport, clean competition, a ball club that plays ball, satisfaction of the fans, all are of more importance to Mr. Sinclair than a money-making club. Probably Mr. Sinclair would be just as pleased as any one if a club he owned proved profitable, but it is a secondary issue with him. It is to be hoped that organized base ball will shortly find a place for the Oklahoma man. He will be a valuable asset. The other adjustment does not particularly concern the fans at large. That adjustment is the satisfaction of disgruntled Baltimore. Baltimore is very peevish over the peace compact and is inclined to criticize. But the settlement of the Baltimore muddle is an infinitesimal issue smothered by the great general agreement and it is of little consequence to the great majority of fans whether Baltimore has base ball this year, next year, or never again.

Home ownership is a condition always considered best for the game of base ball. The last few weeks has seen the acquisition of home ownership in a number of cities. Upon the amalgamation of Organized ball and the Federal, the Chicago National and St. Louis American league clubs were acquired by home interests. Now Percy Haughton and a Boston syndicate has purchased the Braves from Mr. Gaffney, a nonresident, and in our own Western league a Lincoln syndicate has purchased the club from Hugh Jones, a nonresident. We may also expect to learn soon of the sale of the Cleveland franchise to Cleveland parties. Home ownership is always more popular with the fans and the resident owner can always be more familiar with current conditions and sentiment. It has been freely predicted that professional base ball will perform a real come-back in 1916 and the increase in the number of locally owned clubs makes this prediction more and more accurate every day.

Dr. Stewart has been appointed director of athletics at Nebraska university and Jumbo Stehm has packed up his bag and baggage and gone his way. It would seem that the time has come to forget the little difficulties at the Cornhusker institution of late and to look forward to the future. Dr. Stewart has proved himself a successful coach; he will undoubtedly be a success at Nebraska. He should and in all probability will be as successful as Stehm was, perhaps more so. There are not many men who have felt that Stehm pursued a policy hostile to Nebraska are still a bit resentful toward the former head coach, but even though their view be the true one it is time to forgive and forget. Stehm is gone, he's a dead issue as far as Nebraska is concerned, let's look to the future and be prepared to give the new coach the glad hand upon his arrival.

Tex Rickard, who managed to occupy the center of the spotlight a few years ago by promoting the lamented Johnson-Jeffries fight, has once more pushed his way before the calcium glare by offering a purse of \$60,000 for a ten-round decision bout between Willard and Moran in New York. Rickard must be given the credit for one virtue; he's no piker. It hardly seems possible that Rickard will profit in his venture, figuring the huge purse and the immense expenses he will incur, but Rickard may know what he's doing; he's a dealer in big things. A few months ago doubts were entertained as to the chances of young Mr. Marshall to break even on the Gibbons-McFarland fight, but the amateur promoter came clear and made a snug sum. If an amateur can profit it may be the professional will profit to a larger degree even though he plunges heavily.

The quality of mercy is not strained, but the bonds of gratitude are sorely so. Charlie Somers is the man who made the American league by sacrificing his fortune in order to assist his colleagues. Now Somers is smothered in the breadth of his financial investments and the American league magnates come forth with just enough money to be a benefactor and Charlie Somers is forced out of base ball.

The path of the athlete indeed contains his share of the bumps. Freda of the Cards recently issued an ultimatum that he would refuse to go to the Pacific coast as Manager Miller Huggins has announced that he has transferred Freda to the Pacific coast.

We wonder how Johnny Evers will take the Harvard team, especially as you will remember, Mr. Haughton's first name is Percy.

WILL HE BRING PENNANT TO BROWNS?—With a team of hitless wonders who were not even granted an outside chance, Fielder Jones led the White Sox to a world's championship in 1906. With an ordinary team last year, he missed the Federal league pennant by .0008 points. With the augmented Browns and Sloufeds St. Louis fans are anticipating a pennant next fall. The Fielder should bring it to them if anybody can.



Jackson Will Cost Comiskey More Than Did Eddie Collins

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—When Charles A. Comiskey finishes with the Cleveland club on the deal which brought Joe Jackson to the White Sox the total amount of money represented in Comiskey's outlay may make Jackson a higher priced player than Eddie Collins. When the transfer was made last summer Comiskey paid \$1,000,000 in cash to Somers, according to those in a position to know the real facts. He gave Outfielder Bobby Roth and Pitcher Klopfer as well as the money. At the lowest these two men would represent \$500,000, or double the price paid for one athlete through the waiver process. The agreement called for one more player to be named later, and the third player adds greatly to the total price paid for Jackson. Comiskey has recalled Larry Chappelle from Milwaukee and it is said that he will turn this outfielder over to Cleveland to close up the deal Comiskey originally paid \$1,000,000 for Chappelle, and though he turned him back to the minors Comiskey never gave up his hold on the player. He figured that Chappelle might some day justify the great price paid for him. He has never done much for the White Sox and now Comiskey plans to let him out. And the \$1,000,000 invested here to the cash price for Jackson, also the two Chicago players and the \$500,000 for Eddie Collins does not look so big as heretofore.

Griffith Kicks on Robinson's Ideas

Clark Griffith, manager and stockholder of the Washington club, frowns on the idea suggested by Wilbert Robinson of the Brooklyn Superbas that the Washington club share its franchise with Baltimore. Robinson suggested that the Senators play their home games in Washington and half in Baltimore.

Ad Wolgast Still Believes He Lugs Old Knockout Poke

While the world of pugilism is reeling itself to attend the obsequies for Adolph Wolgast, conqueror of Battling Nelson in forty rounds of a grueling battle at Point Richmond, Cal., February 22, 1910, the fallen battler is crying for vengeance.

Once master of all he surveyed in the lightweight class, Wolgast won't admit he is through, and even while the news of his defeat at the hands of Leach Cross recently was flashed across the country, the Cadillac lad was preparing an alibi and asking wagers of \$5,000 that he would stop Cross in less than ten rounds when the wound in his head, which he said caused his defeat, had healed sufficiently to permit him to engage in another ring battle.

Johnny Evers Comes Right Back at Fans

Playing the Supercas at Brooklyn last summer, Johnny Evers booted a grounder that gave the Dodgers three runs and led in the third inning, 3 to 2. The fans put on the yell: "Johnny lost the game! Johnny lost the game! Johnny lost the game!" Inning after inning the fans sang that ditty into Evers' ear. Came the ninth. Gowdy walked and Fitzpatrick singled. Moran sacrificed and Evers doubled to center, scoring the two runs. Itching to be back, Evers answered: "Johnny won the game! Johnny won the game! Johnny won the game!"

WELCOME AWAITS LES DARCY

Australian Pug Should Prove Very Popular With Fans Who Raved Over Old Lemon Crop.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Les Darcy is a very fortunate boxer. Darcy's record has not been equalled since Neddon's club, and there is no longer any doubt that he deserves the position that he has attained, but there is every indication above par when he arrives in this country.

Judging by the amount of enthusiasm wasted on such names as Bill Entwistle, Dave Smith and others of that type, there is no limit to the popularity a real fighter may attain in this country. America has always been good to victors and Darcy is sure to be idolized when he makes his appearance here.

Darcy is lucky to arrive at a time when all the eyes of his division have passed the turning points of their ring careers. Without wishing to detract from Darcy's performance, it just is admitted that his most noted victims have all seen their best days.

McGoorty began to stop at least two years ago. When Jimmy Clabby was sent here he performed like a worn-out old war horse, and he was thrown out of the ring by the referee and suspended by the boxing commission for not trying. Billy Murray, never better than a second-rater at any time, suffers from weak eyes. The trouble has become so bad that he has been forced to retire from the ring.

Smith All Through. Jeff Smith recently was battered all over the ring at Boston by George Chip, which is evidence enough that the Bayonet himself has long since done his best work in the ring. When Smith was in his prime he easily defeated the slow-moving Chip.

Of the men Darcy has yet to meet, Mike Gibbons is the most prominent. Gibbons has not shown anything like his former form of late. Young Adams is at his best right now, but while clever enough Adams is no great hitter and he is handicapped by having a delicate chin that cannot withstand much rough usage.

McCoey Joke-Fighter. Then there is Al McCoey, who is recognized as the champion in some quarters, although there is a serious flaw in his title. McCoey, of course, by stopping George Chip, fell heir to any honors the latter possessed at the time. But Frank Klaus, from whom Chip was supposed to have won the title, was not generally recognized as a bonafide champion. The weak link in the chain is that Billy Papke, to whom the title reverted after the death of Ketchel, was defeated in Australia by Johnny Thompson and therefore had no title when he lost to Klaus in France.

Had McCoey shown anything like championship ability after he defeated Chip he might have been elected champion, because there was no other who had a better excuse for claiming the title. But since flooring Chip in the first round, McCoey has yet to win a bout, and is regarded as a joke fighter. Yet if Darcy can lure him into the ring and win decisively he will have gathered up all the loose ends, and there will be nothing further to do but proclaim him the champion. Altogether, the future looks decidedly rosy for the Australian crack.

Mullin After Job. George Mullin, the former Detroit and later a Federal legislator, is one of the candidates for the job of managing the Fort Wayne team in the Central league.

Lefty George Flood. The Cincinnati club announces that Pitcher Lefty George has been given his unconditional release.

Taylor Goes Back Up. The Phillies have reacquainted Pitcher Bill (Big Boy) Taylor with the Philadelphia club of the New York State league.

Willard's Tactics of Procrastination Results in Disapproval of the Fight Fans.

HAS NOT FOUGHT FOR A YEAR

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—When Jess Willard knocked out Jack Johnson at Havana last April boxing followers were pleased to hail him as the new heavyweight champion of the world and to accord him all the honors which usually go with that title. In their enthusiasm they were willing to forget the fact which Jess and Johnson's mode of living had played in the defeat of the negro. There was no urgent demand at the time that Willard, centrally regarded as a joke before the bout at Havana, should prove himself a real champion by defeating some of the rugged white heavyweights who had the strength and were of the age to put up a real battle in the ring. It was expected that Willard would prove all this in due time.

Captain of Central High Five While but Sophomore

Captain of the basket ball team in his sophomore year is a distinction and re- of Floyd Paynter, leader of the Central High school floor five, can boast of. Captains of school athletic teams are generally seniors in the school. Occasionally a junior is honored by being made a captain. But for a sophomore to receive such a distinction is not only unusual, it is practically unheard of. It is only an unusual sophomore who can earn the confidence of the coaches and players so that he is rewarded with a captaincy. But Paynter is an unusual sophomore. He has already earned his letter in foot ball, basket ball and track. He earned his basket ball and track letters in his freshman year. He earned his foot ball letters last fall when without any previous experience at all he went out for the team and played as a regular at guard and tackle all year. On the under path Floyd is one of the best half-mile and mile runners in the state. He plays center on the basket ball quintet, and is about the class of the state at that position.

Paynter has two more years to serve at the Central High school, in addition to the present year, and he should make an enviable record for himself in school athletics.

Champion's Tactics of Procrastination Results in Disapproval of the Fight Fans.

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Now this same public which shouted the praises of Willard nine months ago begins to lose enthusiasm in the title holder. He has had plenty of time to exhibit himself as a side show curiosity and the time has arrived for real action in the ring against the men who have achieved something. The Fulton bout never shaped up as a real match and its fate was well deserved. The heavyweights with the just claims to recognition and anything but high class men as compared with the boxers of a few years back, and few believe that any would defeat Willard; but the champion and his handlers, by continually postponing these contests, indicate that they have some reservations as to his Jess's ability.

FIELD CLUB WILL NOT ASK FOR TENNIS EVENT

The Omaha Field club will not ask for the national clay court tennis tournament this year. This announcement comes from Ralph Rainey of the tennis committee. Instead the local club will stage an invitation tourney and invite several of the most prominent sharks of the country to attend.



Floyd Paynter

Caddie Tells Crack He Putts Like Fish

There is often more truth in a caddie's tongue than in the honored flattery of a rival or a partner. A certain famous golfer had reached the final round in a championship. He was playing well up to the green, but putting badly. His caddie had been rooting lustily for every shot. "Alla boy," he would whisper as each shot came off. But finally the star's poor putting began to get on the kid's nerves. And at last, when the golfer missed another short putt, the youngster could stand no longer. "Aw, cusses," he said, as the golfer handed him back the putter, "you putt like a fish."

HARRY WOLTER TO COACH LELAND STANFORD LADS

Harry Wolter, right fielder of the Los Angeles Pacific Coast league team, and former New York American player, has been selected to coach the Stanford university base ball team for the forthcoming season.

Advertisement for 'THE MILLARD HOTEL' located at Thirteenth and Douglas Streets. The ad states that the hotel is now under the management of Mr. Lou Rentfrow, who will also continue the operation of 'The Windsor'. Mr. Rentfrow announces that in his new undertaking he guarantees to Omaha another fine hotel, newly furnished, remodeled and equipped with every modern comfort and convenience possible. Popular rates will prevail. With the change of management, The Millard Hotel may safely take its stand as being second to none in Nebraska or the west. Courtesy and Service are the watchwords of 'The Millard Hotel.' Special Announcement: Mr. A. C. ManGlone, our steward, formerly in charge of America's largest and most exquisite dining palace, 'The Great Alhambra' at San Diego exposition, has been engaged as head of 'The Millard Hotel' culinary department, thus assuring such excellence of cuisine as few first class hotels in America can boast. Try Our Sunday Dinner 'THE MILLARD HOTEL'