

SHARP AX FALLS ON ONE MANAGER'S HEAD; WILD BILL DONOVAN FIRST TO GO THIS YEAR

Major League Owners Contemplate But Few Changes in Leadership for 1918 Campaign.

This is the open season for major league managers. Club leaders are beginning to rubber anxiously to find if their jobs are on straight. There seems occasion for anxiety in but a few cases, this year, although the real gunning has scarcely started.

Beginning at the top of the list we find Clarence Rowland, who saved his bacon by winning the American league pennant, and clinched his job for at least two more years by landing the world's championship.

Rowland must be accorded more than passing praise, for he labored under a strain throughout the season, in that it was put strictly up to him to win or get off the payroll.

In announcing that Rowland would be retained for the 1917 season, Comiskey shouted the news—but added in a whisper that Rowland had to cop the flag to hold his job. He did, therefore he sticks. So much for No. 1 in the table.

The pinch of war is going to be felt in base ball next year, and chiefly in Boston. Jack Barry, who succeeded Bill Carrigan and ran a fading aggregation of stars into second place to boot, enlisted in the naval reserves in midsummer. If the European struggle endures another year, Harry Frazier will be put to the task of selecting another leader. On the other hand, should hostilities cease, Barry will return for one more ride down the stretch.

Evers Declines Offer. Thus far, there has been no definite announcement as to Barry's successor, should Jack have to fulfill his end of the bargain with Uncle Sam. Recently gossip has had it that Johnny Evers will draw the choice. Several things are against this, which may prove sufficient to keep Trojan John away.

Chief among them is Evers' statement made here only recently that he would either return to the major leagues as a player in 1918 or not come back at all. The second is that Evers' methods wouldn't make a very big hit with Ban Johnson, who is strong for discipline and a sworn enemy of umpire baiters.

Leaders of the Cleveland and Detroit clubs are linked in reports which have it that the managerial map of the American league is going to present a distinctly different aspect next year. Lee Fohl has finished three successive years in Cleveland. Whether it is his capability or Tris Speaker's is a matter of argument. Fohl is practically certain of a job, as Jim Dunn, owner of the Indians, has confidence in him, and Bobby Roth is authority for the statement that the players, to a man, are for him.

However, they do say in some parts that Lee will hear the rattle of tin some time this winter. Until such a thing comes to pass there seems to be a strong foundation for the opposite theory that he will tarry.

Hughy Jennings is certain of a berth—somehow. Like Fohl, under-ground reports are in circulation to the effect that Jennings has spent his last season in Detroit.

The case of Clark Griffith is worthy of just enough comment to say that he will return as manager of the Senators unless he fires himself. Griff owns enough stock in the club to make his job certain.

Real Trouble Here. Bill Donovan—ah, here's the case. If there's ever a Hard Luck league organized, put a bet down on the Smiling One to land the flag. Brought in as manager two years ago when Rupert and Huston bought the Yankees, Bill was given a free rein and told to win a flag. Because he couldn't keep players from breaking legs and arms, not to mention their heads, in falling off the water wagon, Bill was doomed. With the Giants as rivals, the American league demands a winner in New York, and Donovan is martyr to this exactation, as he hasn't produced the goods. He drew the gate early to appease the fans and Miller Huggins signed to take his place.

Fielder Jones will be back with the Browns. Forget the many rumors about Tom Thix and Jack that managing Phil Ball's club. Jones is looking ahead at next year, which is proof enough that he'll return. Connie Mack is the Rock of Ages personified. As sure as there is a base ball in Philadelphia, Connie will be there.

St. Louis is without a pilot. The Cards lost Miller Huggins to the Yankees when Branch Rickey and Hug could not agree on terms. It is said Rickey may take the reins himself, but this is taken with a grain of salt. No intimation of who would succeed Hug in St. Louis has been coaxed from the recent Rickey, so the St. Louis situation as far as the Cards are concerned is one grand mystery.

Fred Mitchell provides the sole remaining doubtful case in the Reproduction league. Much was expected of Mitchell this year. He was given one pitcher and told to win a pennant. He couldn't. Whether the same faction of the directorate can sever his head as they did Joe Tinker's remains to be seen.

John McGraw, Pat Moran, Christy Mathewson, George Stallings, Wilbert Robinson and Hugo Bezdek are sure things.

Sox All Buy Bonds; Benz Takes \$3,600

Each member of the champion White Sox who came in for a split of the world's series profits invested in at least one \$100 Liberty bond, as ordered in advance by President Johnson of the American league. A \$100 bond wasn't enough for Joe Benz, Sox pitcher, and he purchased \$3,600 worth. "Silk" O'Loughlin and Bill Evans, American league umpires in the big series, each received \$1,000 for their work. Each bought a \$1,000 bond. Joe Benz said he could think of no better investment for his world's series dough.

Major League Leaders for 1918

| American League. | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| CLUB | MANAGER | STATUS | REMARKS |
| 1—CHICAGO | Clarence Rowland | Sure. | The bushier vindicated. Has enlisted. |
| 2—BOSTON | Jack Barry | Doubtful | Rumor had him fired twice. |
| 3—CLEVELAND | Lee Fohl | Fairly safe. | |
| 4—DETROIT | Hugh Jennings | Safe. | May change clubs. |
| 5—WASHINGTON | Clark Griffith | Copper-riveted. | Owens stock in Walter Johnson. |
| 6—NEW YORK | Miller Huggins | Just signed. | Former Card leader. Owner has faith in him. |
| 7—ST. LOUIS | Fielder Jones | Sure | A life sentence. |
| 8—PHILADELPHIA | Connie Mack | Welded. | |

| National League. | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| CLUB | MANAGER | STATUS | REMARKS |
| 9—NEW YORK | John J. McGraw | Bomb-proof. | Under \$50,000 contract. |
| 10—PHILADELPHIA | Pat Moran | Safe. | Good while Alex Leta. |
| 11—ST. LOUIS | None in sight | ? | Sh-h-h-h-h-h-h! |
| 12—CINCINNATI | Christy Mathewson | Sure. | Huggins' rival as 1917 league man. |
| 13—CHICAGO | Fred Mitchell | Just so-so | Showing in excusable. |
| 14—BOSTON | George Stallings | Safe. | Probably will return. |
| 15—BROOKLYN | Wilbert Robinson | Safe. | He won a pennant once. |
| 16—PITTSBURGH | Hugo Bezdek | Sure. | Already signed. |

QUIET WEEK FOR FOOT BALL FANS

Nebraska and Central High Rest, While Creighton Tackles Weak Nebraska Wesleyan Eleven.

This will be a quiet week for Omaha and Nebraska foot ball fans. Only two games are scheduled and they are of little importance.

Saturday Creighton plays Nebraska Wesleyan at Omaha, but Wesleyan is woefully weak this year and the blue and white eleven is expected to score a comparatively easy victory.

The other local game is between South and Commercial high schools. This probably will be an interesting contest, as both elevens are pretty evenly matched, but the game will have no bearing upon the local or state championship.

The Cornhuskers rest this week. The next Husker combat is with Missouri at Lincoln, November 10. The Missouri game will be the occasion of the annual homecoming at Lincoln and a special train will be run from Omaha to carry old grads back to their alma mater.

Central high also enjoys a week of rest. The next Central high game is with Lincoln here November 9. This is the big game of the year for Omaha and the state championship hinges upon the result.

Bull Sign Hit Eight Times In Western League Plants

Eight times the Bull Sign in Western league parks hit by batted balls during the 1917 season.

The sign in Rourke park in Omaha was hit twice. Tony Brottem pasted it on May 10 and George Boehler of Denver hit it on May 13.

The sign at Wichita was duck soup. I. M. Davis hit it twice and Lyman Lamb and John Butler hit it once each.

Morrie Schick of the Rourkes hit the Sioux City sign, as did Grover Gilmore. Frank Metz registered at Lincoln. The signs at Denver, Des Moines, Joplin and St. Joseph were untouched. The Bull Durham people paid out \$200 to Western league players for hitting the sign. The total sum paid by the tobacco people was \$5,050.

200 Turn Out For Rugby At the U. of California

University of California had a turnout of 200 candidates for Rugby foot ball a few days ago. While St. Mary's college, the University of Nevada, and practically the solid quota of southern California colleges have switched back to the American style of game, Leeland Stanford and the University of Santa Clara will have their big English style Rugby game at Leeland Stanford Thanksgiving day.

Soccer League Assesses Each Member 25 Cents

The Foot Ball Association of Eastern Pennsylvania and District, the soccer council governing the game in and about Philadelphia, will assess each player 25 cents to be registered this season.

Earl Caddock Reports For Service in the Army

Earl Caddock, world's champion wrestler, reported yesterday at Camp Dodge, Ia., for service in Uncle Sam's great draft army.

Caddock was caught on the first draft, but failed to pass the first physical examination, owing to bad tonsils, which had completely poisoned his system.

He spent the entire summer resting and taking treatment, with the result that when he was called for examination a second time he passed and was accepted for service.

BENNY LEONARD IS GIVEN CALLOWN

James Joy Johnston Wants to Know Why Champ Refuses to Box White, Welling and Dundee.

By RINGSIDER.

Chicago, Oct. 27.—Benny Leonard may be champion, all right, but how can they call him the greatest lightweight we ever had when he hasn't even agreed to meet the three best second-raters in the business?

This modest query was flung off here a few days ago by James Joy Johnston, New York manager and boxing impresario, as he dashed westward with Ted Lewis, welter-weight champion. Lewis and Johnston were on their way to the coast, where Lewis has several bouts lined up.

James was in a truculent mood and he brought forth his words of condemnation of the conqueror of Freddy Welsh and Johnny Kilbane with considerable energy. Jim had a chip on both shoulders. He talked like he would fight at the drop of the hat and was willing to drop the hat himself.

"That's exactly what I mean," roared the "box hand" of Gotham. "Yes, he's champion because he got a technical knockout over the old champion, but why doesn't he battle Charley White or Joe Welling or Johnny Dundee? Did you ever hear Leonard or his manager give any reason for not meeting one of these three? I never did."

"White has an excellent claim for a match with Leonard. His claim is recognized everywhere, but you don't see Leonard agreeing to anything that looks like a match, do you? Why hasn't Joe Welling a right to insist upon a match with the champion? And Dundee, who has done almost everything that has been asked of him, is pining for a match and grieving his heart out because of Benny's slight."

No Lightweight. "Want to know the reason for all this, coupled with the reason Leonard is taking on Jack Britton, a near middleweight?" snapped James with a burst of feeling. "Well, this is the reason, and it's a betting proposition with me, Leonard is no more of a lightweight than Britton. He can't do 133 pounds to save his life."

"I'll put up \$2,500 and donate it to a fund named if Leonard will agree to meet Welling at 133 pounds ring-side. Joe can make. He weighed only a trifle more than that when he boxed Jimmy Duffy in New York. I have been howling about Leonard's weight for a long time and intend to keep right along until I expose this fellow. I am not so sure about Charley White's weight, but I know Dundee can box strong at 133 pounds ring-side."

Fooled With Cards. "Why should Leonard go out of his class to meet Jack Britton at 139 pounds, when there are men in his own division that are just aching to get at him, and good men, too? I happen to know that Britton weighed more than 150 the other night. How do you imagine he is going to get down to 139? There's some fooling with the cards somewhere."

James laid himself open to an argument right away when he spilled all this talk, and Tommy Walsh took up his cudgels in defense of Leonard. Walsh recently had Vic Moran in New York to meet Leonard and the champion climbed on the scales, despite the fact that he might have exercised the champion's prerogative and declined to weigh in. Walsh says Leonard weighed 134½ in his ring clothes.

"Johnston's assertion that Leonard is a welterweight is too broad," Walsh said, "Leonard is a real lightweight, no question about that. Johnston told me they must have had the scales doctored on me, but Moran weighed on the same scales and I know his weight was right."

NEW MANAGER OF YANKEES—Miller Huggins, former St. Louis Cardinal pilot, who has been named to succeed Wild Bill Donovan at helm of New York American league club.



MILLER HUGGINS.

EARL SMITH IS SURE OF BERTH WITH ST. LOUIS

Former Rourke Is Only Brown Outfielder Certain of His Job When 1918 Season Rolls Around.

Earl Smith, former Rourke star, is the one outfielder on the St. Louis Browns who is sure of his job in 1918, according to reports from the Mound City.

Fielder Jones, manager of the Browns, expects Smith to be one of the American league stars next year. Breaking in at the middle of the season this year, the Omaha lad cracked the pill at a 284 clip and ranked second to George Sisler as the Browns' leading hitter.

Smith outbatted Jacobson by 40 points and Bert Shotton, another former Rourke, who has been a Brown outfielder for six years, by 50 points. He even outbatted Bill Rumlur, retained because of his hitting, by 20 points. In the city series with the Cardinals this fall, Smith was the leading hitter of the American league club, even outbating Sisler in this series, and Sisler hit at a .300 rate, too.

Smith will be given one outfield when spring rolls around and Shotton, Ray Demmitt and Kenneth Williams will fight it out for the other two gardens, according to the dope.

Old Foot Ball Stars Play On Army and Navy Elevens

Old college foot ball stars will be seen in action in the Harvard stadium November 3, when Percy D. Haighton brings his soldier squad from Camp Devenis, at Ayer, to play a team representing the Boston Navy Yard and coached by Leo Leary, also a Harvard foot ball tutor. The receipts will go to the War Camp Community fund, for which a campaign to raise \$700,000 in New England is to be conducted from November 5 to 10.

Eddie Casey, Harvard's great 1916 halfback, heads the list of college men on the Navy team. Others are Enright and Murray of Harvard, Talbot, Yale captain of two years ago, and Cancell of Dartmouth. Haughton's team material will include Charles Coolidge, old Harvard end; Dave Henry, Brown; Hugh Harborsen, Yale; Cy Toolman, Williams, and Lieutenant Day, West Point.

War Tax Takes Jolt At Cost of Sports

The high cost of sport gets another jolt Thursday, when the special war tax on amusements goes into effect, and the sport fan who wishes to follow his pet activity will have to stand a 10 per cent boost.

All sport is amusement and the war tax applies to all paid sport entertainments. Next summer it will cost 55 cents to occupy a grandstand seat to see the Rourkes play. Foot ball games that cost \$1 after Thursday will cost \$1.10. Five-dollar seats at wrestling matches will jump to \$5.50. Fifty-cent basket ball games will cost 55 cents. They all go up right along with theaters, movies and other forms of amusement.

OMAHA PIN MEN MEET TODAY TO PLAN TOURNEY

Gather at Omaha Alleys to Pledge More Teams for Middle West Event; Eleven Already Entered.

A special meeting of all Omaha bowlers has been called for 3 o'clock this afternoon by E. M. Tracy and C. E. Terrell of the executive committee of the Middle West tournament. It will be held at the Omaha alleys.

The purpose of the meeting is to pledge additional Omaha teams to enter the Middle West tourney at Des Moines next month.

Omaha pin enthusiasts are anxious to lead a record-breaking aggregation to the Des Moines event as the gate city has put in a bid for the 1918 tourney. Only by taking a large entry list to the Iowa capital can that be achieved.

Eleven teams already have entered from Omaha. These eleven teams are: Central Furniture Co., Harry Edson, captain; Scott Tent and Awnings, C. E. Terrell, captain; Omaha Alleys, Lounden, captain; Huntington Stars, Dad Huntington, captain; Bankers Realty, Arthur Cummings, captain; Pete Lochs No. 2, Old Boys, Herman Beselin, captain; Sam's Indians, Sam Bond, captain; South Siders, Fritscher, captain; Old Bowlers' Home, E. M. Tracy, captain.

Max Carey Pulls That Old Retirement Stuff Again

Max Carey of the Pirates is going to leave the winter in California. As he spends he pulls that old retirement stuff. It will be remembered that Max decided last winter that he was a free agent and concluded to quit the Pirates—but the records show he played some 150 games with them this year. Goodbye Max, for ever—see you again next season.

Hank O'Day Says Pirates Will Be Flag Contenders

Umpire Hank O'Day thinks well of the Pittsburgh team as now made up. He says it has the most likely looking lot of youngsters he ever saw and that with a little more hitting it will give them all a rub next year.

Great Zim's Chase of Eddie Collins Recalls Old Story of Jake Beckley

Heinie Zim's effort to outrun Eddie Collins from third base home in the sixth game of the world's series recalls that old story of Jake Beckley which is good enough to repeat. It was in the long ago when "Eagle Eye" Jake was playing first base for Cincinnati. The National league then had Louisville in its circuit, and there was considerable rivalry between the Reds and the Colonels.

Beckley had been slowing up some and was coming in for a lot of nannin' and criticism. Fans were calling him "Slow Foot," "Ice Wagon" and other phrases which were particularly galling to Jacob.

It seems that Louisville had just secured a kid player named Tommy Leach—later with the Pirates, Cubs and other teams. Leach was a little chap and was called the fastest runner who had come up to the majors in years.

Beckley read all this stuff, of course, and it got his goat. In fact any talk of speed was irritating to "Eagle Eye" those days. As luck would have it the Reds and Colonels staged the first game in which young Leach appeared.

Some way or other Leach managed to reach first base his second time at bat. Beckley eyed the youth from head to foot, with cynical air. "So you are the fast frow call the fastest thing goes on wheels, eh?" he said.

Modest Tommy Taken Back. "Tommy was taken back. He was a good kid, but slow, and especially slow in the big show."

"Why this is my first day here," Tommy replied. "I don't know how I will turn up here, I'm sure."

Beckley grinned, "Well, they say

OMAHA SURE OF BERTH IN NEW AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AS READJUSTMENT PLAN LOOMS

Indianapolis, Louisville and Toledo Break from Hickey Organization and Omaha to Be One of Cities Given Franchise; Magnates to Give No Heed to National Commission.

Latest Developments in Pending Readjustment of Minor Leagues

Indianapolis, Louisville and Toledo break from American association. New league to be made up of Indianapolis, Louisville, Toledo, Buffalo, Baltimore, Toronto, Newark and either Providence or Dayton, O.

American association to put clubs in Detroit, Indianapolis and Omaha. Change to be made regardless of National commission. Leagues will go it as outlaws if commission refuses to sanction plan.

Omaha is almost certain to land a berth in the American association before the opening of the 1918 season.

CHARLIE PETERS ON THE WARPATH: WANTS STECHER

Papillion Carpenter Says He Can Beat Dodge Lad Now, and Joe Knows It, and Won't Wrestle Him.

Charlie Peters, Papillion carpenter and wrestler, is carrying a grudge of extensive proportions. Charlie journeyed to Omaha the other day, stamped into The Ice office, and amidst snorts of rage, loudly demanded an interview with the sporting editor.

"What's happened to all the wrestlers?" asked Peters. "What's become of all these homebushers who were looking for trouble? Have they all joined the knitting societies? I can't find one that doesn't run a mile and a half when you even suggest a match."

Charlie says he has been trying for over a month to coax some accommodating wrestler into a ring, but that they all shy. He declares he bars no one.

"Ever since Caddock threw Stecher I have been trying to land a match with Caddock," said Peters, "but there wasn't a chance. I guess mention of my name scared him to death, for I couldn't even get a nibble out of him. Now he's in the army and there's no chance to meet him. A jim must be following me. I could break Caddock in two if I could get him in the same ring with me."

Chooses Stecher. "Then, there's Stecher, too," continued Peters. "Do you suppose he'll wrestle me? When we met last February I gave him some run for his money and I had so many boils on me it looked like I was trying to raise a crop of them. I had also just recovered from a long siege of bronchitis and my wind was bad. Stecher threw me because I couldn't last any longer owing to my weak lungs and the boils. Now I'm O. K. and I can beat Joe and Joe knows it. Stecher is the guy I want."

While Peters talks mostly about Caddock and Stecher, he says he bars nobody so any wrestlers who have a grievance are invited to correspond with the Papillion lad.

Cornell Willing to Enter Three-Cornered Match Race

Cornell has expressed willingness to compete in a three-cornered cross-country race with Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Tech is anxious for the meet and it is now up to Harvard.

During the last week developments of the plan to rejuvenate the minor league territory of the country resulted in several changes in the scheme and indications now are that Omaha is the only Western league city likely to benefit.

Indianapolis, Louisville and Toledo last week made it known they will quit the American association and join with four or possibly five International league cities in the formation of a new circuit.

Ed Barrows, present head of the International league, is to be president of the new loop.

To Be Outlaw League. That the league will positively be formed whether the action is sanctioned by the National commission or not, is the assertion of the men behind it. If the National commission refuses to vote, the new league will go it alone as an outlaw.

Buffalo, Baltimore, Toronto and Newark are the International cities to merge with Indianapolis, Toledo and Louisville. Providence or Dayton, O., will be added to the list to complete the eight-club circuit.

A new American association will be organized to include Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Detroit, Columbus, Indianapolis, Kansas City and Omaha.

Omaha's Position Sure. For several weeks countless under-ground rumblings have been heard in the world of base ball. Redistribution of territory has been the keynote and many possible plans have been suggested. Omaha, it has always been believed, would profit, but developments of the last week make it a practical certainty.

The whole thing comes about as the result of internal politics in the American association. There has been much hard feeling among the magnates in the American association and the three disaffected cities, Toledo, Indianapolis and Louisville, threatened to pull out. Now it is understood the other magnates have told them to do as they like.

The International has been involved in financial difficulties for some time now and the four leading cities of that circuit are eager to line up with the association insurgents in the hope of forming a circuit which will pay dividends.

Option in Detroit. It has been learned that certain base ball interests have obtained an option on a large, centrally located tract in Detroit. A Detroit millionaire, it is said, has been tempted to back a club in that city.

It is supposed good authority that this scheme to rejuvenate the territory of the two Class A leagues will come about no matter what the National commission does. If the National commission, in conjunction with the National association, the governing minor league body, works out a satisfactory adjustment everything will be lovely, but if the commission refuses, it is said the club owners will take matters into their own hands. This would cause an automatic violation of protection in base ball's usage, but the magnates, it is said, will disregard this and proceed as outlaw leagues.

A break is bound to come among the minor league leaders because of disaffection with the precincts of the American association and the large losses suffered by International magnates the last two years. The pending earthquake, probably, will crash at the minor league session at Louisville in November. Hair has been torn and fur has been scattered before at these minor league gatherings, but this promises to be the warmest one on record, with some accomplishments likely before everything is over.

Club in Philly to Have Twenty-two Soccer Teams

The Germantown Boys' club of Philadelphia will boast 22 soccer foot ball elevens this season, made up of junior and senior members.

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