

BRINGING UP FATHER

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Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



CONTRACTS SHOW FEW CHANGES IN BROOKLYN CLUB LINEUP FOR 1918

Superbas and Athletics are Considered Rather Poor Contenders for Base Ball Honors; Connie Mack Sold All Old Stars, and the New Ones Are Drafted.

By HUGH S. FULLERTON.

Two rather hopeless ball clubs, Brooklyn and the Athletics—form our study: Brooklyn rather a better club than was presented last season, but still a forlorn hope in the National league, and the Athletics—only the ragged remnants of a once great team.

Mack declared that he was planning to start to build a team up from the foundation. He tore down to the foundation, then tore the foundation away and little remains of the once great team except the deficit and Mack's own uncanny smile.

Brooklyn, hit hard by the war, has been harder hit by the policy of the management in cutting salaries down to the bone.

More and more, as we study the teams that are to contest for the championship this season, we face the fact that the box office is the dominant interest in base ball. We find these teams made more hopeless than ever because of financial rather than playing considerations. Undoubtedly owners are warranted in cutting salaries and in cheapening teams, but where the act of reducing is advertised and exploited so as to arouse the players, it may affect them. It has done so in several clubs, where, perhaps, the cutting has not been greater than in others that have escaped without a murmur, showing that tactful owners may get away with stuff that others fall down in trying.

BROOKLYN.

In service, 7. Liable to first call, 5.

Brooklyn will present a team with perhaps fewer changes than many of the other clubs of the league. Only two alterations that have been made have any effect on the vital strength of the team. The acquisition of Mammaux (if this temperamental bird can be made to work) makes Brooklyn even more formidable in the pitching staff than it could be accounted even before Pfeiffer, Cadore, Smith, Appleton and Miljus decided they would rather be in the trenches than play for this club. To fill this vacancy Ebbitts traded and got Grimes from Pittsburgh. Mammaux from the same club, and Mitchell, secured on a waiver from Cincinnati—all losing pitchers, although Mammaux, under the proper conditions, should be one of the best in the country.

The weakness of the team last season was pitching. The team had quite as much punch as it did when it won a championship, and the pitching slumped badly, resulting, especially late in the season, in half hearted playing by the team.

There is nothing in sight to make the club look even as good as it did a year ago in the pitching line.

Hurt by Cuts.

The team, further, is hurt somewhat by the universal salary cutting, and there was not a high standard from which to cut that some of the teams had to work on.

The second change does not look good for Brooklyn. The letting go of George Cutshaw in the Pittsburgh deal needs explaining. Why a club with a mediocre infield that is strong on the first base side only should trade a second baseman who annually got into more double plays than any second baseman in the league, who hits fairly well for a second baseman and who usually was high in number of fielding chances, is odd, especially since the team got the return, from paper standpoint at least, Ward is a very fair young fellow who is coming along well, but Cutshaw was a known quantity. There was a yarn last season that Cutshaw was clashing with others in the team and there may be a real reason back of the deal further than appears on the surface.

Outfield Has Speed.

The outfield is of first division strength; it has speed and it has punch. The two Grains of Wheat (Zack and Mack) are reported dissatisfied with the financial arrangements, and dissatisfaction on the part of Zack especially would take the kick out of the club to a great extent.

The catching staff is just a little above the National league average and not of pennant winning form by any means.

This team is not and never was a strong one. It is just average and needs a lot of pitching to get it into first division classification. Indications are that a healthier tone will prevail this season, that the men will work better for Manager Robinson. On hitting strength it should be third in the league to New York and Cincinnati, on fielding it ranks way down, and on pitching—well, so much depends upon this fellow Mammaux and whether he is willing to work instead of tango and sing, that it is a hard guess. If he wants to work the team has a top-notch pitcher who can carry the veterans and bear the heavy burden so as to make the old-timers more effective.

THE ATHLETICS.

In military service, 11. Liable to first call, 5.

Connie Mack's Athletics remind one of Rheims cathedral. They are a noble ruin, badly matched. His old stars are all sold, the new fast youngsters he was developing and making into a fast, fighting ball club are mostly in military service. He is patching up a team of veterans secured in trade for his great men, and filling in with players who, if they have much promise, are known only to Mack.

The city to which Mack gave so many championships and from which he has extracted so little money, has turned upon him. It never has been a great base ball town and it has demanded great base ball for half fare and failed to pay the fair. Now it is raging at the club owners because they sold the stars.

If Connie Mack was in any other business than base ball he probably would be rated as one of the most astute of business men, whereas he is being denounced far and wide. Examine the circumstances: He had a great ball club and salaries had advanced immensely. Receipts were not keeping up with the demands of the players. He sold players and cut the payroll to fit the income. Income dropped further. He cut loose his stars and began building a new club—with such wonderful success that his team young and spotty as it was, became hard to beat. The war took many of them.

Live Stock Risky.

Live stock is a risky business nowadays. Mack had a lot of money invested in players who were liable to go into service and be a dead loss. One club wanted them and were willing to take the risk, so he let go and collected players in return who are not so liable to be summoned to the colors. He got Cady, a steady and very fair catcher, and Gardner for Stuffy McInnis, with a pitcher thrown in. Gardner has been a corker for years, can play second after he is through at third, and is liable to come back with a rush under Mack. McInnis a great player, was not earning his keep at Philadelphia and the change will do him good.

In spite of the howl that has gone up in the Quaker city, it looks as if Mack knew exactly what he was doing and that, from the standpoint of useful material, he got more than he gave—and coin to make up the deficit.

Paper Dope Weak.

His team does not shape up well on paper. Until we have seen what he works out of it in the spring training it is impossible to dope it other than an eighth place club in such a strong league. His pitching is about the only thing (outside of third base) that promises to show improvement. His young material is a puzzle to everyone excepting Mack, but then it usually is. He has a way of picking up young talent that is positively uncanny.

Observe how the Athletic teams play: Mack's new club which he started building after disposing of the greater part of his old machine was easy to beat, in fact it beat itself. Then, after a month or two together it wasn't hard to beat, but it wasn't beating itself but was making other clubs work to beat it, and by the end of the first season it was troubling all the clubs. It was playing team ball—the kind of ball that his great club played. Of course it lacked the punch and the power of his great

Today's Sport Calendar

Golf: Open professional tournament for men at Asheville, N. C. Basketball: Kansas state interscholastic tournament opens at Lawrence. Athletics: Annual indoor track and field games of College of the City of New York. Swimming: Western intercollegiate championships at Northwestern university. Wrestling: Eastern intercollegiate championships at Columbia university. Alloghany Mountain Amateur Athletic union championships at Pittsburgh. Boxing: Metropolitan Amateur Athletic union championships at Newark, N. J.

clubs, but some of the championship teams of the league could have learned a lot about base ball from it.

The team—no matter how weak—that plays team ball all the time is not a negligible quality. We must study to see whether the Athletics have any hidden batting power or any camouflaged punch before we can consign it to the cellar. (Copyright, 1918 by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Doane College Celebrates Victories of Its Cage Five

Crete, Neb., March 21.—(Special.)—A big celebration was held on the Doane college athletic field last night in honor of the state championship basketball team. A huge bon-fire was built and speeches were made by members of the team, Captain Wallace Andrews, Clarence Newman, Frank Dredla, William Ellis, L. P. Mains, W. W. McDonald and D. O. Aller, after which talks were given by members of the faculty. The team was hauled through the streets of Crete in a wagon pulled by college girls, led by a "Dutch band," and followed by the students.

Doane has made a record this year with no paid coach and the lightest team in the state. The heaviest player weighs but 165 and Dredla, star forward, weighs only 125. With the exception of the two games with the Nebraska Freshmen, Doane lost but one game during the season and that was to Cotter. The record is as follows: Doane 24 Unl. Freshmen 36 Doane 34 Omaha Unl. 12 Doane 21 Central College 12 Doane 27 Peru 11 Doane 20 Unl. Freshmen 27 Doane 27 Central College 14 Doane 25 Wesleyan 21 Doane 27 Hastings 12 Doane 35 Cotter 22 Doane 27 Wesleyan 24 Doane 40 Wesleyan 24 Doane 28 Hastings 16 Doane 387 Opponents 225

For total number of points made during the season Dredla stands first with 156 and Newman second with 151.

Loie Ray Sets World's Record at Indoor Meet

New York, March 21.—Loie Ray of the Illinois Athletic club, Chicago, established a world's indoor record for three-quarters of a mile, covering the distance in 3 minutes 44.5 seconds at the Commercial institute games at Madison Square garden here tonight.

The former record was 3:07, made by Joe Driscoll of Buffalo, March 15, 1913.

In an attempt to equal or better the one mile indoor record of 4:16, made by Johnny Overton last year, Ray continued on, paced by W. F. Gordon of the Pelham naval training station. His time for this distance, however, was 4:19.8.

In the three-quarter mile event, Michael A. Devaney of the Boston navy yard was second, six yards back of Ray, and 20 yards ahead of E. H. Fall of the Great Lakes naval training station, Chicago. Gordon and Jack Sellers of the New York Athletic club were the other contestants.

Curfew to Ring in London At 10:30, New Proclamation

London, March 21.—The curfew hour has been fixed for London and the southern counties of England at 10:30 o'clock at night. At that hour all places of amusement must be closed, and they must remain closed until 1 o'clock the following afternoon. There will be no lights for shop windows and the hotels, clubs, restaurants and various other designated places must cease hot meals from 9:30 at night until 5 o'clock in the morning.

MANY SIGNS OF NEW BOND WITH RUSS EVIDENT

Entente Missions No Longer Rushing Away; Trotzky Asks America for Help to Construct Railroads.

(By Associated Press.)

Moscow, March 21.—There has been a marked change in the attitude of the entente allies toward the soviet government.

The entente missions are no longer rushing away from Russia. The English, French, Americans, Italians and Serbians now have military missions in Moscow, and they are taking quarters, as they expect to remain.

There are many signs of renewed co-operation between Russia and the allies. Replies to Charge. Leon Trotzky's reply to the entente allies' inquiries concerning reports that the bolsheviks had armed thousands of German and Austrian war prisoners in Siberia, who now threatened the trans-Siberian railway, was: "Send trained officers and investigate. I will give you a train."

The offer was accepted, and tonight Captain William R. Webster of the American Red Cross and Captain W. L. Hicks of the British military mission left for Irkutsk, Tchita and other points where the Germans are reported to be provided with rifles, field pieces and ammunition.

The bolshevik papers charge that the reports of the menace of armed German and Austrian prisoners in Siberia, is part of the German propaganda to discredit the soviet government and encourage Japanese intervention.

M. Trotzky also has asked the American military mission to 10 American officers to assist him as inspectors in organizing and training a new volunteer army, and has requested the services of American railway engineers and transportation experts to assist in the reorganization of the railways. He also has asked for American railway equipment in the way of locomotives and cars.

Loyal Boosters to Meet Churchmen of Omaha

Friday night at the Young Men's Christian association gym, 8 to 9 o'clock, the Loyal Boosters' basketball team of the First Christian church Bible school will play the Wheeler Memorial juniors of Omaha, champions of the Omaha Junior Church league. The lineup: OMAHA, Defenbaugh (G.), R. F. (C.), Miller (L.), F. L. (F.), Ferris Baker (B.), C. C. (C.), Nolan Miller (E.), B. G. (B.), Anderson Day (L.), G. L. (G.), K. H. (H.), John Hanstorn, John League, Nelson Pinkney, substitutes for the Boosters.

Byers Wins Over Reynolds and Murad; To Meet Myers

Clayton Byers, who recently established a record run of 93 at pocket billiards, continues his success at the Grotto billiard room, where he is meeting all comers.

Wednesday he defeated Jess Reynolds, 125-88, and Murad, 125-109. This is the sixth consecutive victory for Byers. Thursday night he will meet August Myers, Brooklyn crack.

No Consistory During War.

Rome, Tuesday, March 21.—There will be no consistory until the war is over, Pope Benedict said today upon hearing that the report had been published that he intended to call a consistory shortly.

PHOTOPLAYS.

SUBURBAN 24 & Ames Col. 2841 Today—WILLIAM S. HART in "THE PRIMAL LURE"

FLASHES from FILMLAND PHOTO-PLAY OFFERINGS FOR TODAY

SEE THEM AT THE MUSE

PEGGY HYLAND

In a Story of a Butterfly Wife in a Gilded Cage.

"HER DEBT OF HONOR"



WM. S. HART

In a Regular Hart Western

"DOUBLE CROSSED"

WM. S. HART

In a Regular Hart Western

"DOUBLE CROSSED"

TODAY AND SATURDAY

AMUSEMENTS.

EMPRESS

Vaudeville and Photoplays

A NIGHT WITH THE POETS
An Artistic Creation in Song, Poetry and Tableau.

FRANK & GRACIE DEMONT
Nonsensicalities.

ROMANO
Novelty Artist

THE ZIRAS
In a Series of Classy Ideas

FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN and BEVERLY BAYNE in "UNDER SUSPICION"
Drama of Adventure and Romance

EVERY EVENING AT 8:30

Orpheum

PHONE 2008-2009
SUPERB VAUDEVILLE

"The Naughty Princess"
Billy Montgomery & George Perry
Bessie Rempel and Players;
Kanawha Boys; Doc O'Neil; The Jordan Girls; Ruth Osborn; Orpheum Travel Weekly.

BOYD

Tonight Until Sat. Mar. 30

THE COMEDY
"MARY'S ANKLE"
Something Worth Going Miles to See.
Mats., Sat., Sun., Wed., Sat., 50c to \$1.00
Nites, 50c to \$1.50.

"OMAHA'S FUN CENTER"

Gayety

Dy's Mats., 15c, 25c, 50c
Ev'g's., 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1

Last Times Today 2:15 & 8:30

The Hastings Show and Tomorrow (Saturday) Matinee and Week
Dan Coleman Musical Burlesque and the LIBERTY GIRLS
Jack Conway and the LADIES' DIME MATINEE WEEK DAYS

Strand

18th & DOUGLAS

Here's a "Love Letter" That Makes Me ALL "Swell Up"

Furthermore, I really believe the lady who wrote this was in earnest, as she didn't sign her name with the expectation of "kidding" me into giving her the prize.

DO-YOU-BELIEVE-IN-ME THOMAS,
MANAGER

"My Dear Mr. Thomas—
"Believe in you? Absolutely, my dear Mr. Thomas. I think you the very best movie manager in the world. (Personally, I would have been satisfied if she had said on Douglas street, between 17th and 18th.)

"Why, I never make plans for the week until I've read the Strand ads in Sunday papers. You always give us programs just as you say you will.

"The taste and delicacy with which you carry out many of your features in fitting stage settings, etc., is most clever.

"I wish every devotee of the screen might appreciate you and your untiring effort to please as I do.

"This is not the love letter you plead for from the screen, but simply a few facts I have long wanted you to know.

"I am going to speak for all of Omaha. WE DO APPRECIATE AND "BELIEVE IN YOU."

"May all success be yours.

TITIAN."

Anyway, when we get letters like this, it simply makes us strive all the harder to give you good shows, and also be perfectly candid in admitting when our features are not exactly what they should be. However, we have on a corking picture today and tomorrow.

DOROTHY DALTON

—in—

"LOVE LETTERS"

So we advise you to come down and see it.

SPOT this hat any- where! There's snap and individuality to it that gets you—then the quality is always beyond criticism. You've simply got to admire the

Lanpher Hat

SON

Today and Saturday
WM. S. HART
— IN —
"The Captive God"

MUSE

Peggy Hyland
— IN —
"HER DEBT OF HONOR"

Hipp

ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW
1508 HARVEY

Today and Saturday
ELLA HALL in
"BEAUTY IN CHAINS"

HAMILTON 40th and Hamilton

Today—DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in
"REACHING FOR THE MOON"

LOTHROP 24th and Lothrop

Today and Saturday
ETHEL BARRYMORE in
"THE ETERNAL MOTHER"