

Late Gossip Of The Sporting World At Home And Abroad

OAKES SAYS KONETCHY IS BEST EVER

Augusta, Ga., March 13.—"Konetchy is the greatest first baseman in the world—in fact, the best the world has ever known," said Rebel Oakes, manager of the Pittsburgh Reds.

"I'll tell you why I think he is so great," Oakes continued. "He is so different from every other ball player. He does so many things that other ball players would never think of doing. When a ball is hit, he never loses sight of it. He knows where it is going and about where it will stop. He follows every pitch and every movement of the players, whether they are base-runners or whether they are players on his own team."

"Hits that ordinarily would count for three bases are cut down to two-base slams and sometimes to singles just because Konetchy is in the game. He's on the job every minute and is waiting for the return of every ball that goes out of the infield."

"If somebody hits one into left, Konetchy is there waiting for the return. If it is hit into middle Ed is on the job. It doesn't matter where the ball is hit—you can always find Konetchy there to assist in the play. I have seen many a runner die trying to make another base when Konetchy was there to take the throw. He can throw a ball like so much lightning, and the fellow that beats his throw is a runner. I'm not saying all this because he is on my team. He was the same way when he and I played in St. Louis. When a ball was hit into my territory Konetchy was always on the jump. If it was a long hit Konetchy would be out there where I generally play. He cut many a runner down in this manner."

COOMBS IN RARE FORM

Daytona, Fla., Mar. 13.—Jack Coombs, the famous "Iron Man" who helped to pitch the Philadelphia Athletics to more than one world's championship, scoffs at the theory that "they never come back." Jack is coming back he says, and he hopes to help pitch the Superbas to victory in the coming campaign.

"I never felt better in my life," said Coombs in response to a query regarding his health. "I feel as strong as ever in all my life, and, in fact, I may truthfully say that this is the best training trip I have ever put in. Now it may be that I am speaking a little too soon, but all signs point to a complete recovery. I have been testing my arm, and it has stood up well under it. I can put a lot of stuff on the old leather when I cut loose a little, but I'm going along easily."

OUIMET AND SULLIVAN

Francis Ouimet, National amateur golf champion, has changed his plans for leaving Boston for the South, where he will be a competitor in the championship tournaments at Pinehurst the latter part of the month. Instead of leaving next Tuesday he will go to New York Sunday night, with his clubmate, John H. Sullivan, Jr., and to Philadelphia Monday. He will play at the new Pine Valley course near Philadelphia Tuesday with Sullivan and from Philadelphia they will proceed to Washington. They may play a round at the Chevy Chase Club while there. From Washington they will go to Pinehurst, planning to arrive Friday. That will give the National title holder a week to get accustomed to the links.

The dates for the championship tournaments at Pinehurst are: March 26, amateur; March 27, open United North and South championship; March 29, qualifying round of the United North and South amateur championship.

THISTLES, 52; MONCTON, 42

On Saturday night at the Thistle rink the Moncton club, three rinks strong, were defeated by a score of 52 to 42. The following is the score by skips:

Thistles.	
S. W. Palmer, skip	16
W. A. Shaw, skip	11
F. A. McAndrews, skip	25

Moncton.

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Chas. Robertson, skip	16
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After the match the visiting curlers were entertained to lunch.

WANDERERS WON GAME, BUT COULDN'T CLINCH THE TITLE

Montreal, March 14.—The Ottawa Wanderers established their supremacy in the National Hockey Association, and makes them eligible to play the Vancouver, champions of the Pacific Coast Hockey League, for the world's championship. They will leave Ottawa at a very early hour tomorrow morning for the coast, to meet the Vancouver.

The Ottawa lead of four goals over the Wanderers in the game at the capital last Wednesday night gave them the N. H. A. championship, as the best Wanderers could do in the final game in Montreal last night was to reduce this lead by only one goal.

Montreal, March 14.—Allowing the Wanderers to wear themselves down in the early stages in their almost superhuman efforts to get on even terms in the N. H. A. championship, game here last night the Ottawa retained sufficient of their four-goal margin to give them the coveted championship. The Wanderers won the final match of the home-and-home series for the honor by the narrow margin of one goal to nothing. To Donald Smith, a substitute, goes the honor of scoring the only goal of the game. The total on the round of the two games was four to one for the Senators.

Unable to shoulder their heavy handicap of four goals, the reds started out almost as nervous wrecks, while the Ottawas, having much the better position of the two clubs, went into the game showing every confidence, as well as a determination to maintain the lead secured by them on their own ice in the mid-week game. The local players did not start out with the dash and determination that has marked many of their previously easy victories over the Senators, and for the first few minutes they showed marked signs of bewilderment as to what style of play to adopt in their attack. Plays that had been well planned during recent practice hours, were forgotten and the team became disorganized.

The Wanderers were not only out-generalled on the ice, but the judgment shown by those in charge of the players on the Ottawa bench offset every move made by the local management. When a Wanderer regular was relieved for a resting spell, there was also a switch made on the visiting team. The visitors with their four goal margin could afford to wait, and allow their opponents to carry the play to them and the locals were forced to be the aggressors at all times.

The teams lined up as follows:

Wanderers.	Goal.	Ottawa.
McCarthy	Defence.	Benedict
S. Cleghorn	Defence.	Ross
P. Rodgers	Defence.	Merrill
O. Cleghorn	Wing.	Gerrard
Hyland	Centre.	Duford
Roberts	Wing.	Broadbent

LOTZ A SPEED ARTIST

San Antonio, Tex., Mar. 13.—Smoky Joe—what they called him in Oshkosh, Wis., and Smokey Joe Lotz, promises to make Smokey Joe Wood, Fireball Walt Johnson, Iron Man Jack Coombs and Joe McGinnity do the side-step act to make room for his curving fame with the Cardinals this summer. The first trip of the spring training trip has arrived, and it is this Smokey Joe boy from Oshkosh, the town which was made famous by Casey Dolan.

Smokey Joe is a right-hander who stands five feet ten inches on his heels. He's not much down at the bottom, but gradually he increases in width and when you reach the shoulders, take a rear view from the hips upward, and you believe George Hackenschmidt is before you. Smokey Joe has that build; he's also a "ringer" for Casey Hagenman, with the Cards last spring and for that reason they've nicknamed him Casey.

But the Smokey Joe and Iron Man Joe part was gained up in Oshkosh last summer. Oshkosh is a member of the Wisconsin-Illinois League, and when Smokey Joe won so many one to none games with few hits, the baseball scouts immediately began inspecting Oshkosh, and the Wisconsin-Illinois League territory. One sleuth after another arrived. All but Eddie Harn were late. Edward saw the smoke ball and decided it was fast enough for a trial with the Cardinals.

Joe Wood is responsible for the smoke ball. When Joey joined the Boston Red Sox he shot such a fast shot that he was given this nom de plume. Walter Johnston became the Fire Ball owing to his speed, and Coombs and McGinnity were Iron men, because of their ability to rush to the mound in the pinch and out of turn.

O'DAY IS CONSIDERING

Chicago, Mar. 13.—Henry O'Day, after serving the National League as an umpire for sixteen years, and as a manager for two years, has been declared a free agent. He is considering offers, he said today, from the American and Federal Leagues.

O'Day received a letter from John K. Tener, president of the National League, advising him that he was free to sign with any league. He said, however, that he would not consider an offer from the National organization.

The veteran umpire was manager of the Chicago Nationals last season. He was succeeded by Roger Bresnahan.

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In free style swimming Hehner is the record of 54.45 seconds for 100 yards in a sixty-foot pool; at 220 yards he has done 2 minutes 12 seconds, the fastest time ever made under any conditions. In swimming on the back he leads all home and foreign rivals, holding every international standard in existence.

That Hehner cannot claim the quarter and one mile records is due to two reasons—his habit of competing in every event on the calendar, which prevents his training especially for each, and the usual lack of worthy opponents.

THE QUICKEST STARTER.

There are three men in baseball with practically the same amount of speed—Cobb, Lober and Malsel. In a 100-yard dash this trio would probably lead the field and finish together under a clover leaf.

But at the important art of quick starting, Fritz Malsel of the Yanks has something on them all. Fritz is undoubtedly the best man in the game at 40 yards. He seems to bound the first 10 yards as if catapulted from a standing start. Which accounts largely for his great base running.

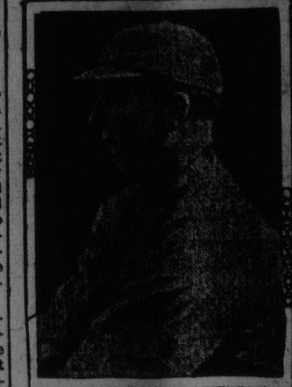
Any man who can bat under .240 and piff 74 bases is a base-running wonder. Milan once stole 88 bases, but he batted over .300. Cobb once led the league with 84 steals, but he batted .420. He had 248 hits that season, while Malsel acquired 74 steals with 131 safe blows. If Malsel ever batted .300 or better he would slip by the mark of 100 steals, something no man has done for many a waning year.

MAY QUIT BASEBALL

Detroit, Mich., Mar. 13.—Pitcher Fred Blasing, who has been a member of the Cleveland club's twirling staff ever since he broke into the major league, is at his Michigan home. Blasing says he intends to quit baseball.

Huggins Wants Beschler for Peritt

It is reported from Martin, Texas, where the New York Giants are training, that Miller Huggins, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, wants "Bob" Beschler in exchange for Pitcher "Pol" Peritt, who was recently acquired by McGraw, but the Giants' manager would not agree to it.



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BRITISH FOOTBALL RESULTS

London, Mar. 13.—The following are the results of the leading British football games today:

English Cup Replay	
Newcastle 0, Chelsea 1.	
Sheffield United 3, Oldham 0.	
English League, First Division	
Aston Villa 3, Middlesbrough 0.	
Blackburn 3, Everton 1.	
Bradford 5, Tottenham 1.	
Notts County 1, West Bromwich 1.	
Bolton 3, Burnley 1.	
Manchester United 1, Bradford City 0.	
Sunderland 3, Sheffield Wednesday 1.	
Liverpool 2, Manchester City 1.	

Second Division	
Woolwich Arsenal 4, Birmingham 0.	
Barnsley 1, Blackpool 3.	
Clapton 2, Grimsby 1.	
Derby 3, Lincoln 0.	
Fulham 0, Preston 2.	
Glossop 2, Leicester 3.	
Hull 1, Bristol 1.	
Leeds 1, Huddersfield 0.	
Stockport 1, Bury 0.	
Wolverhampton 5, Notts Forest 1.	

Southern League	
Bristol 2, Gillingham 1.	
Millwall 2, Brighton 0.	
Queens Park 3, Cardiff 0.	
South End 0, Exeter 2.	
Swindon 2, Luton 2.	
Portsmouth 1, Crystal Palace 0.	
Reading 3, West Ham 1.	
Croydon 4, Norwich 1.	
Northampton 1, Watford 1.	

IS MUCH SOUGHT FOR

Akron, O., Mar. 13.—Johnny Griffiths, crack Akron-Hightweight, is receiving more offers for bouts than he can possibly fill. Manager Bernie Strapp practically agreed to terms offered by Matchmaker Mason of Pittsburgh for a six-round bout with Champion Freddie Welsh at the Duquesne Garden the night of March 18. Welsh will receive \$1,000 with the privilege of forty per cent. Griffith will receive twenty-five per cent.

Strapp received a flattering offer from Dominick Tortorich for a twenty-round bout in New Orleans with Joe Mindot March 22 or 23. Strapp was forced to turn it down on account of the Pittsburgh bout March 18 and the bout in Cincinnati March 23, with Young Denny or Earl Fisher.

MIKE MURPHY'S DIAGNOSIS.

An athlete once went to the late Mike Murphy and groaned: "Mike, I don't think I can run today. I'm sick."

"How do you know you're sick?" queried Mike.

"My temperature is 'way up. I've got an awful fever," was the reply.

Mike calmly placed his hand on the fellow's head and then snapped: "All the heat in your body has mounted to your head. The only thing the matter with you is cold feet. Go on out and run!"

And, strange to say, the fellow did run, and came within a fraction of a second of smashing a world's record.

FEDERALS ARE ANXIOUS TO GET JOE JACKSON

It has leaked out in Cleveland that the Naps' mighty slugger, Joe Jackson, has received a tempting proposition from the Reds. Jackson's friends say that the Reds have offered to pay him \$35,000 a year and will sign him to a three years' contract. President Somers of the Naps is quoted as saying that Jackson's contract last year did not contain a ten days' release clause and that the big hitter sold an option on his services for 1915. Jackson, according to the latest information, is willing to remain with the Naps for a salary of \$15,000. Somers lost big money last season, but it is believed that he will have to accede to Jackson's demands.

When the regular baseball season opens next month many players will be working for new employers. During the past winter more than fifty players and managers who were with major league clubs last year have been released, traded or have jumped to the Feds. Two stars, Bill James, of the Braves, and Frank Baker of the Athletics, have announced their "retirement" from the sport because they want more salary. Four managers who were in power in 1914 have withdrawn from the bench—Bank O'Day of the Cubs, James J. Callahan of the White Sox, Charlie Doolin of the Phillies and Frank Chance of the Yankees. Callahan, Doolin and Chance have been succeeded by Clarence Rowland, Patrick Moran and William Donovan respectively, all experiments in big league company.

Players who have been unconditionally released by their old clubs are the Athletics; Leach, Sweeney, Stack and Charley Smith of the Cubs; Roy Miller of the Reds; Josh Devore, Charley Deal and Leslie Mann of the Braves; George Wilkie and Mike Donlin of the Giants; Edward Reulbach of the Dodgers; Mowrey and O'Toole of the Pirates, and Mike Mitchell and George Schaefer of the Senators. Of these many Combs has signed with the Dodgers, Leach with the Reds and

Sweeney with the Red Sox, while Bender, Plank, Deal, Mann, Reulbach and Schaefer have secured positions in the Federal league.

Among the players who have switched leagues are Combs, Olson and Olson to the Reds and Johnston to the Pirates. Former major leaguers who have jumped to the Feds since last October are Konetchy, Lee Magee, Wingo, Peritt, Dalton, Fischer, Allen, Berghammer, Austin, Walter Johnston, Marquard, Caldwell, Marshall and Hagerman. But Wingo, Peritt, Austin, Johnson, Marquard, Caldwell and Hagerman recently have returned to their old employers. Wingo has been traded by the Cardinals to the Reds, but the latter so far have not turned over a player in exchange.

Eddie Collins will play second base for the White Sox, having been sold by the Athletics for \$50,000, a record price. The Phillies have traded Leach to the Giants for Stock, Demaree and Adams, a young catcher; also Sherwood Magee to the Braves for Whitfield and Dugoy, and have secured Nishoff from the Reds in exchange for Doolin. The Giants have landed a star pitcher in Pol Peritt of the Cardinals in return for several players yet to be named. The Cardinals have bought Ham Hyatt from the Pirates and the Naps have sold the famous Lajoie to the Athletics. The new Yankees owners have paid \$5,000 to the Detroit club for High and Pipp.

Other well known players who have passed out of the big circuits to the minors since a year ago are Tex Erwin, Kid Elberfeld and Bill Steele of the Dodgers; Coleman, Joe Kelley, Jim Kelly and Kofara of the Pirates; eating of the Cubs, Miller of the Browns, Danahill and Vingling of the Reds, and Collins of the Braves. In the Federal league Lee Magee, who jumped the Cards last fall, will be the only new team manager. He has supplanted Bill Bradley in Brooklyn. The roster of each Fed team will include practically the same players who drew salaries last year.

PLAYERS KICK AT THE SALARY CUT

New York, March 13.—The Evening Sun today says: A wholesale reduction in salaries by the International league clubs, which sent out new contracts March 1, has not been favorably received by the players under reserve. It is reported that many of them have refused to sign at the terms offered and are threatening to remain idle. The players, however, seem to forget that the National and American league teams soon will drop nearly 150 men, enough to equip all the teams in President Barrow's circuit. The players who will be looped off the payroll of the big league clubs probably will prefer engagements in the International league to herds in the lower class. President Barrow has ordered his club owners to stand firm in this crisis. His league dropped nearly \$200,000 last year, and the club owners cannot afford to pay the former salaries if they expect to live through this season.

FEDS COMPROMISE.

Chicago, March 13.—Officials of the Federal League headed by President James A. Gilmore, were en route to New York today for a conference with Harry Sinclair, purchaser of the Kansas City franchise, which was transferred to Newark, N. J. They plan, it was said, to induce him to keep the club in Kansas City and thus settle the dispute which was taken into the circuit court here.

A possible solution of the difficulty, it was said, today is the transfer of the Indianapolis Club, which won the 1914 championship, to Newark. It was brought out during the court proceedings here that the league had contemplated the evacuation of Indianapolis.

RACE COURSE ON ONE OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS.



FINISH OF A RACE AT DUNMORE TRACK.
This is not a reproduction of the grand stand and track at an American race track, but of a race course on one of the Bahama Islands, where the natives and English residents amuse themselves at almost every opportunity with horse racing. When there are not enough thoroughbreds to supply the demand for an afternoon's entertainment the owners of polo ponies add to the attractions. The grand stand is on the pill box order, and its thatched roof is typical of the country. But it is large enough to accommodate the crowd. It is unnecessary to say that the natives speculate on every race that is run and look forward to race days with as much interest as an Englishman does to his Derby Day.

COMEDY A DRUG.

President Lannin smiled when Schaefer remarked that he wished that he could be with the Red Sox. Then he said:

"Schaefer is a bright fellow, but we can get along without the comedy this year until after we win the honors. It will not do to grow too confident, and the club that wins will know they have been in a race with the Athletics, with

the Chicago White Sox and the Detroit Tigers also in the running."

The peculiar thing about the Red Sox players who have so far reached the training camp, is that not one player is overweight. In fact, all look as if they needed to take on weight, rather than take it off. I doubt if this will be the same case with the players yet to come, for pitchers, as a rule, are more or less tall and spare of flesh. Weight is not a good thing for a ball player.

Generous Gifts.

St. John curlers who were in Boston last week brought home with them \$25.00, a gift from the Country Club, Brookline, Mass., to the local Patriots Fund. The money has been paid over to the treasurer, C. B. Allan, and its receipt gratefully acknowledged. Another generous gift to the Patriots Fund was \$20 from city workmen employed along the water front.

Bringing Up Father



Shipment enormous will receive

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