

BATTERS ARE BEING TAMED

Sluggers of Major Leagues Are Being Gradually Subdued by Pitchers

Major league pitchers are slowly subduing the batsmen, as the dope of last season shows by comparison with that of 1915. Part of this is due to the increasing tendency of managers to yank a slabman, even if he be a star, at the first sign that the other fellows are beginning to get to him. Still, individual performances in holding teams to few hits demonstrate that the hurlers are becoming more effective.

In four games last year a pitcher blanked his antagonists without a safe hit. There were three no-hit games in the American league and one in the National. In 1915 there were only two no-hit shut-outs, both of them in the National.

Foster, Leonard and Bush George Foster and Dutch Leonard, of the Red Sox, and Joe Bush, of the Athletics, were the American league pitchers who added their names to the list of no-hit games. Tom Hughes, of the Braves was the only National leaguer to attain that last year.

More pitchers held their opponents to one or two hits in the major leagues in 1915 than in 1916, but the number of eight-hit games that were delivered this season outnumbered those of the previous campaign by considerable.

Altogether there have been only 13 no-hit games pitched since 1909 in both major leagues and four of these were registered in the 1916 campaign, leaving only nine for the previous six years. The teams which were blanked without a swat in 1916 were New York, Cleveland and St. Louis in the American and Pittsburgh in the National.

Hittless Hurling Feats Dates The chronological list of hittless hurling feats follows:

June 16—Hughes (Boston) v. Pittsburgh.

June 21—Foster (Boston) v. New York.

August 26—Bush (Philadelphia) v. Cleveland.

August 30—Leonard (Boston) v. St. Louis.

Only four American league slabsmen held their opponents to one hit in nine innings this year, by comparison with twelve such performances in 1915. Three of these season's feats were credited to St. Louis Brown pitchers—Groom Davenport and Plank. The other was achieved by Cicotte, of the White Sox.

In the National League there were eight one-hit games this season and nine in 1915. Half the 1915 games in which only a single swat was allowed were pitched by Hughes, McConnell, Lavender, Packard and Hendrix qualified in this class. At the same time Hendrix qualified as champion hard luck flinger of the decade. He held the Phillies to one base hit in nine innings, August 1, but was beaten 2 to 2. That one swat came with the bases full. It scored two runs and put the other where he came in on the next out.

Brown's Prominent Babe Adams, of Pittsburgh, whose wing gave out completely before the season was over, held St. Louis to one hit the first game he pitched this year. Coombs, of Brooklyn, and Schupp and Benton, of New York, were the other slab men to register in this season's list of one-hit games.

American League—April 21, Groom (St. Louis) v. Cleveland; June 3, Davenport (St. Louis) v. Philadelphia; July 26, Cicotte (Chicago) v. New York; August 8, Plank (St. Louis) v. Washington.

National League—April 13, Adams (Pittsburgh) v. St. Louis; April 23, McConnell (Chicago) v. Pittsburgh; June 14, Lavender (Chicago) v. Boston; August 1, Hendrix (Chicago) v. Philadelphia; August 29, Coombs (Brooklyn) v. Chicago; September 28, Schupp (New York) v. Boston; September 30, Benton (New York) v. Boston.

There were forty games this year in which a team made only two hits in nine innings. Twenty-three of these occurred in the National league and seventeen in the American. In seven of the forty battles the teams that made only two hits were victorious.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Isn't Ma the Terrible Hypocrite

MA CAN KEEP THE REST OF THE HOUSE FREEZING COLD Y' PLEASE THAT FRESH AIR-BUG FRIEND O' CEDRIC'S, BUT I'M GOIN' TO HAVE SOME HEAT IN MY ROOM, BY JINKS!

PAY WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT STOVE? I TOLD YOU THAT CEDRIC'S FRIEND, SIR BOREAS OZONE WOULDN'T STAY ONE MINUTE IN A HOUSE WHERE THERE WAS A BIT OF ARTIFICIAL HEAT?

I THINK I'D BETTER TAKE CHARGE OF THIS? I'M ASHAMED OF YOU BEING SUCH A BABY? YOU DON'T HEAR CEDRIC NOR ME COMPLAINING OF THE COLD, DO YOU?

WE CAN THANK PA FOR THIS, DEAR I WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT OF IT IF I HADN'T SEEN HIM SNEAKING IT UP TO HIS ROOM.

NATIONAL LEAGUE AND FRAT BREAK

Will Have No More Dealings with Players' Fraternity as a Body

MAY ABANDON STRIKE

Owing to Drastic Action of Senior League, Blocking Negotiations

New York, Feb. 14.—The National League and the Baseball Players' Fraternity came to the parting of the ways here late yesterday when Manager John J. McGraw of the New York National League Club and President David L. Fultz of the Players' Association were in secret conference endeavoring to reach a common ground upon which the so-called strike of the players could be compromised. The senior organization passed unanimously a resolution abrogating the agreement made with the Fraternity at Cincinnati on January 6, 1914, and when McGraw returned to the meeting it first appeared as if his self-imposed mission had been in vain.

Later President Fultz explained that no discrimination was to be made against any player who might have been or continued to be a member of the Fraternity, but that the league would no longer recognize the organization and that all dealings in the future would be with the players as individuals.

That the magnates realized the seriousness of the situation that faces baseball both from internal and external complications was shown by the fact that the baseball writers were called to the meeting of the league for one of the very few times in the forty odd years of its existence, and the following resolution was read after which the magnates stated that they were ready to answer any questions which might be asked:

"Whereas the Baseball Players' Fraternity has violated the letter and spirit of an agreement made between National Agreement, leagues, clubs and players, entered into of date January 6, 1914, therefore be it resolved, by the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs, that in so far as that league is concerned, this agreement be and is hereby abrogated and all relations between this league and said Fraternity are hereby severed and terminated."

When the resolution was shown to Fultz he refused to state what action the Fraternity would take until he had consulted other officers of the organization. Before he left McGraw, arrangements were made to meet again to-day, when Fultz hoped to go before the National League, but the action of that organization has virtually barred the way for such a move.

Whether Fultz will decide to call off the strike upon the strength of the National League resolution could not be learned last night. The Fraternity leaders refused to be quoted upon this point, but pointed out that the Fraternity was not required by the so-called "Cincinnati agreement" to do more than call off the threatened strike of 1914, and having done that he failed to see how the National League could claim that the players' organization had violated the letter and spirit of the agreement abrogated yesterday.

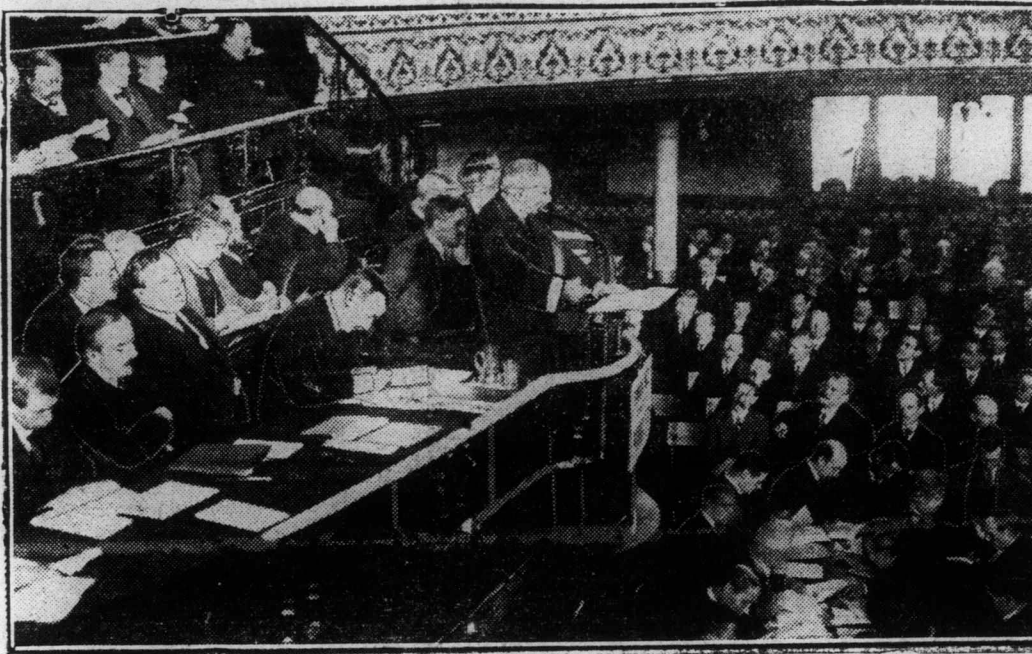
President Herrmann of the Cincinnati club, in explaining the adoption of the resolution, claimed that no major league player had any grievance, and he challenged anyone to prove the contrary. He explained that the requests of the Fraternity had been complied with to the payment of the salaries of injured players. He contended that there had been no violation of the agreement where the unconditional release of a player had been recalled before the ten days' notice that effect had expired.

In concluding, Herrmann said: "Fultz has not lived up to the letter and spirit of his agreement. He has shown the real reason for all this agitation is the keeping up of inflated salaries in a postscript to a letter which he had sent recently to western players."

"In this letter Fultz wrote: 'Keep all contracts sent you and when we have won you will get the biggest salary offered you.'"

President Fultz said that the American League would take similar action at its meeting to-day and that the National Commission would have no further dealings with the Fraternity.

WHEN BRITISH LABOR ENDORSES THE WAR-TO-VICTORY GOVERNMENT



Mr. G. J. Mardle, M. P., delivering his presidential address at the annual conference of the labor party at the Albert Hall, Manchester. The meeting became historic. Lloyd George and his cabinet were fully endorsed.

PSYCHOLOGY OF DOUBLE HEADERS

Double Bills in Baseball Are Not a 50-50 Bet

BASEBALL RECORDS

Prove One Team Wins Both Games in Majority of Cases

By I. E. Sanborn.

There can be only two opinions relative to the results of double headers in baseball: either they result in even breaks or they don't.

Inquiry among the fans disclosed that the prevalent opinion is that when two games are played in one afternoon the result usually is a victory for each team. That was my opinion until a bit of research proved it wrong. The records of a period of years show that two victories or two defeats result oftener than even splits.

Just where the erroneous impression originated or what it thrived on is uncertain, but probably it is due to the fact that an even break usually results when a double header is played between pennant contending teams which perform as fairly evenly matched. These important battles leave a more lasting impression on the memory than those played between weaker teams or between the weak and the strong.

Important Games Impress Fans. The sum total of double headers in a season between first division teams naturally will not be as great as the aggregate of double headers played between first division and second division teams, plus those between two outfits of the second division. In these less important contests the results, being of less consequence in the pennant race, do not make an indelible impression on the fan's brain.

While the foregoing is based on the records of half a dozen years in the major leagues, the details of only three of them are necessary to show the relative chances of a double victory over an even break. In the seasons of 1914, 1915 and 1916 the aggregate figures show that there were 278 double victories in which one outfit emerged twice victorious. The National league in 1914 ran true to double header or form however. It had eighty-five bargain day matinees. Forty-three times these resulted in double victories, thirty-eight times in even breaks, and four times in one victory and a draw.

Another Tangle for Bettors. There have been many cases in which double headers were scheduled, but only one game played on account of rain. A few extra innings as to prevent staging the second encounter. Here again a tangle

usually results in the betting ranks. Still another cause of argument among the sports who can't lose gracefully is the double header that is played when the wagers are made with the idea that there will be only one game between two given teams. Frantic appeals to newspapers usually result.

As in the case of tie games, the honest bettor knows from past experience that the first game of a double header always is considered in the official records as the game regularly scheduled for a given day. Then if the second game is not played for any reason or results in a tie the scheduled game is checked off and the postponed game that was to have been worked off remains to be played some other day.

There are many conflicting opinions regarding double headers. Ball players unanimously dread them, not only on account of the extra work entailed but because most of them believe they cannot do themselves justice when two games are played. Managers dread them because they tangle up the system of working pitchers. Some club owners welcome them because of the extra coin they usually draw, but these are owners of second division teams. Managers of teams who are in the pennant hunt and are fans enough to want to win avoid double headers as much as possible, while the owners of losing teams court them and sometimes force them on by postponing games unnecessarily.

The vast majority of the fans yearn for the bargain days, although a few of them find nine innings plenty for one day. The scribbles have them, of course, because of the extra work and the impossibility of condensing their features into the space allotted. But there seems to be no way to avoid the double header. It is a necessary evil or good, according to one's viewpoint. Pennant races can not be decided fairly unless all teams play practically the same number of games in a year, and the weather man does not postpone games impartially.

AMERICAN WOUNDED By Courier-Ledged Wire.

Queenston, Feb. 12.—via London—Of the three American firemen who were aboard the British Steamer Saxonian, when she was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine last Wednesday, one of them, James Weyard, was wounded by a shell splinter and is now in the hospital here.

Among the parties to outfit in Edmonton for the north next spring will possibly be a fire ranging patrol for the Mackenzie River.

W. W. Woodman, of Moose Jaw, was sentenced to three months in jail and to pay a fine of \$200 and costs for selling liquor.

Actual suffering has already been reported as a result of the coal famine at Lethbridge, Alta., resulting from the coal strike.

Two lumber mills are being operated west of Millet this winter by the Rowley Bennet and the Pigeon Lake Lumber Companies.

Mrs. Arthur Murphy, of Edmonton has accepted the position of advisor to the Woman's Century, the official organ of the National Council of Women of Canada.

Strength comes from well digested and thoroughly assimilated food. Hood's Sarsaparilla tones the digestive organs, and thus builds up the strength. If you are getting "run down," begin taking Hood's at once. It gives nerve, mental and digestive strength.

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"We Shall Break the German Front"—Haig

Commander in Chief Has Confidence in His Forces—More Big Guns Are Needed

New York, Feb. 13.—The following semi-official French communiqué is given out by the Wireless Press:

Certain of the French war correspondents have been received by Sir Douglas Haig. Following are some of the statements made by the General:

War is certainly not merely the clash of armies. In order to conduct it prodigious preparations and intense machinery are necessary. Our two most serious preoccupations at present are railway and artillery. We have had to construct within the past few months in the rear of our lines over 350 kilometres of railway lines, and recently I sent for the managers of the greatest railway companies in Britain. I showed them on the spot what had been done and what remains to be done. They understood the urgency and extent of the task.

As regards munitions, we have realized the maximum. At this moment we can supply our allies in excess of their needs. We must, however, have more artillery, especially heavy artillery. The point is not merely to be equal to the enemy, but to overtake him with the whole of our strength.

Certain of Victory The journalists asked the question whether a great offensive was imminent and whether Sir Douglas thought German lines would be pierced.

The General replied: "Who will commence it? The French, the Germans or ourselves, that matters little. If the enemy commences either in the north or south in a battle which appears to him favorable or on former fields of battle, we are ready to receive him and his effort will cost him dear. We have trained armies and fully equipped so

that his attack may be turned into a rout, and so that at no moment will there be a possibility, even in the rear, that he can be able to re-trench himself. You ask me whether we shall break the German front. Most certainly we shall and severely at many points. The Germans, to defend themselves behind their front, have a very powerful network of railways. The first attacks of the general offensive may find themselves defeated at some points and uncertain at others. But we shall strike with full force until the total destruction of the German army is attained."

Will Decide the War On being asked whether that would take place this year or not, he replied: "The year will be decisive in the sense that one will see take place on the battlefields the decision of the war. That is to say the event after which Germany will be shown to be beaten militarily. It may be said that the year of decision is also the year of peace. We all desire and shall do everything in our power to bring about the desired result. Peace can only come with absolute victory, which will be attained by the force of our arms. The allies must not allow themselves to be deceived by Germany's suggestions."

"In offering peace Germany only thinks of preparations for the next war. If we unfortunately yielded to perfidious appeals the drama would recommence in three years. Soldiers with their good sense and instinct understand that. Those on whom it depends, with their blood wish to create peace by victory. In this respect I have entire confidence in our troops. Their morale is above all suspicion. With regard to peace we are all 'squarely wed,' by which I mean the indomitable will to fight until the end."

CROWDS PRESENT AT HOUSE OPENING

Legislature Starts Work of Session Amid Usual Social Display

ADJOURNMENT MADE

Following Opening Proceedings Until This Afternoon

Toronto, Feb. 14.—Crowded galleries looked down upon the opening of the third session of the Fourteenth Legislature yesterday, and the floor of the House blazed with the same kaleidoscope of color that made openings in the pre-war years a social event. To the expert mind of the male observer there was not the conspicuous absence of display in the costumes of the ladies present that was to have been expected in view of the Prime Minister's suggestion that social display was out of place in these strenuous days, but it was said that most of the lovely gowns worn were "last year's."

The opening of the galleries was not expected to bring the general public out in force, but they were filled with people some time before the House opened. The ceremonies necessary to declare the House in session lasted but twenty minutes.

His Honor Sir John Henry, who drove up to the Buildings promptly at 3 o'clock accompanied by an escort of the Royal Canadian Dragoons. At the Buildings the Government House party was saluted by the Guard of Honor chosen from the 28th Battalion. The Lieutenant-Governor entered the Chamber escorted by Sir William Hearst.

Following the reading of the address his Honor left the chamber and the Speaker took the chair. The members elected since the last session of the Legislature were then introduced. Hon. W. D. McPherson was introduced by Sir William Hearst, and Hon. Dr. Fyfe, George, was introduced by the member for Muskoka, followed by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson and Hon. T. W. McGarry escorting him.

Then came the two Liberals, Hartley Dewar, K.C., of Southwest Toronto, introduced by W. Proudfoot and G. C. Hurdman and Wellington Hay of North Perth, by C. M. Bowman and J. C. Elliott. Mr. Rowell



THE "FAR EAST" TURBAN This hat, now being worn extensively in United States, is of black satin, with a silk braid of white for the crown. It's only trimming is a ball of black silk directly in front.

started a little ripple of applause by hammering his desk and the Conservative members retaliated for the innovation by vigorously applauding when W. T. Allen, member-elect for West Simcoe, was introduced by Hon. I. B. Lucas and Capt. J. L. Hart.

The House adjourned until three o'clock to-day, when a short session was held. Tributes were paid to the memory of the late Hon. J. S. Duff, Hon. J. J. Foy, and S. Armstrong, of Muskoka, who passed away during the interim between sessions.

Among the prominent men present at the opening were Bishop Sweeney, Rev. Dr. Chown, Monsignor Whelan, Mr. Justice Kelly, Mr. Justice Masten, Mr. Justice Ferguson, Archdeacon Cody, Hon. W. A. Charlton, J. L. Englehart, of Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway; D. A. McIntyre, chairman Ontario Railway Board; J. D. Flaville, W. S. Dingman, J. A. Ayers, of the Ontario License Board, Mr. Justice Coatsworth, President Falconer, Provost Macklem, Rabbi Jacobs, F. G. Morley and Sheriff MacCowan, Canon Dixon.

The Legislative Press Gallery organized following the adjournment of the House. The following officers were elected: President, Wm. Logan; the News; vice-president, John Cooper, the Globe; secretary-treasurer, Hew Thrill, the World; Editor, "The Hotairio Gasette," John Hamm, The Mail and Empire.

That Son-in-law of Pa's

MA CAN KEEP THE REST OF THE HOUSE FREEZING COLD Y' PLEASE THAT FRESH AIR-BUG FRIEND O' CEDRIC'S, BUT I'M GOIN' TO HAVE SOME HEAT IN MY ROOM, BY JINKS!

PAY WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT STOVE? I TOLD YOU THAT CEDRIC'S FRIEND, SIR BOREAS OZONE WOULDN'T STAY ONE MINUTE IN A HOUSE WHERE THERE WAS A BIT OF ARTIFICIAL HEAT?

I THINK I'D BETTER TAKE CHARGE OF THIS? I'M ASHAMED OF YOU BEING SUCH A BABY? YOU DON'T HEAR CEDRIC NOR ME COMPLAINING OF THE COLD, DO YOU?

WE CAN THANK PA FOR THIS, DEAR I WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT OF IT IF I HADN'T SEEN HIM SNEAKING IT UP TO HIS ROOM.

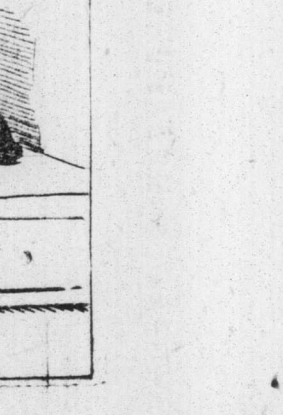
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