

REVIEW OF MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS BY JOE PAGE

Well Known Baseball Promoter and Big League Scout Gives Some Facts About 1923 Pennant Race.

(By Joe Page in Canadian Sports Review)

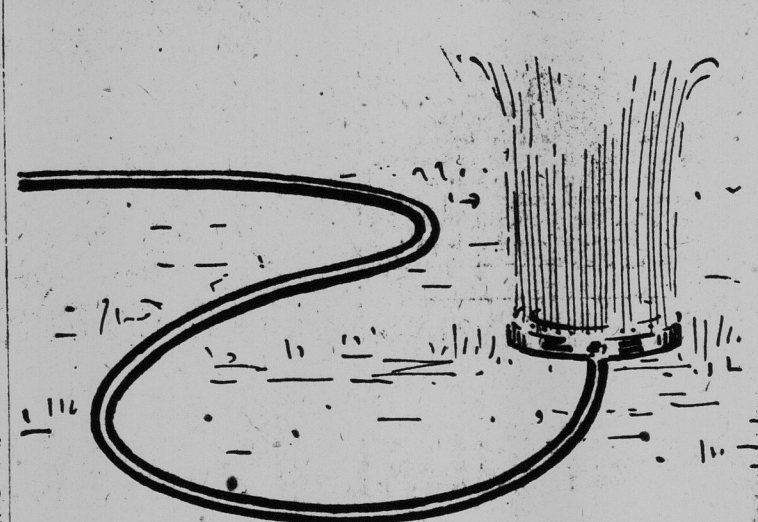
The American League race starts out with practically the same prospect as last season. The Yankee aggregation will again be top heavy favorites to finish first in the 1923 race. Some of the wise critics seem to think they have a far easier and better chance to win the American League pennant than the Giants have to land the National League flag. With all due respect for the American pennant holders and their ability as ball players, individually, they are probably as good if not even better than the McGraw combination, but collectively and working as a team, with the little Napoleon to lead them on, the Giants are easily the superior squad, I honestly think.

However, back to the American League race for 1923. The only doubtful spot one can find in the make-up of the Yankees, so far as the fielders are concerned is to be found at center field. Witt as a member of the Athletic team several seasons back, was looked upon as one of the coming outfield stars of the game as a fielder, batsman and base-runner and when Connie Mack sold him a year ago to the Yankees, the deal was looked upon with a good deal of disfavor and to the discredit of the usually astute Connie Mack. Events have since proven that the leanest and lengthiest manager in the Majors evidently knew what he was doing, if one can judge by the work of Witt last season, especially during the world series games.

Will Witt Play Regular?

Hinkey Haines and Tucker, both outfielders from the college world, who have been on the pay-roll of the Yankees for several seasons, are both touted for Witt's position. The latter will certainly have to show more life, certainly under where his cap usually rests, if he expects to retain his position and the applause of the Yankee rooters. Last year the Huston and Rupert pennant winners went out and won without the pitching staff showing much of the ability they were capable of. The Yankees' pitching staff, consisting of Bush, Jones, Hoyt, Shawkey and Mays, should prove to be much more effective than last year. Mays, this year has worked hard and earnestly to get into condition ever since he went to Arkansas this spring and reports credit not only him, but the others mentioned above, as doing

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the same. If such is true, look out for the Yankees. As for the Red Sox added to the staff, one of the star side-wheelers of the game, in condition, it looks like one sweet pitching corp.

Gothams Will Have Plenty of Opposition.

But don't overlook St. Louis, Detroit and Chicago. The Tigers seem to have the best chance to upset the Yankees. During the winter season Ty Cobb made a swap that landed him Del Pratt and Rip Collins, for which he gave the Red Sox Elmer, Hollings and Herman in exchange.

As a result, the weakness of the Detroit team at second base and the pitchers' box, has rounded out both places and makes the Tigers a stronger combination than last year.

Pratt hit for over 200 last season, besides diving in 86 runs, while Collins was winning 14 games with a team that finished last.

Here's Cobb's main batting and Tiger winning combination of hitters: Cobb, 389; Hillman, 356; Haney, 352; Woodall, 344; Blue, 300; and Hickey, 300.

Herman Pillette, a young pitcher, uncovered last season, won 19 games and finished second in percentage of earned runs allowed last season. Pillette furnished about all the effective pitching for the Tigers in the race last year. Another one likely to be heard from, is pitcher Stewart Johnston, sick the better part of the season on getting away, however, he managed to win 7 of 10 starts.

Unless the Tigers get another one or two pitching aces, the Tiger wrecking

crew will have to score a mass of runs to win for the others. As for the St. Louis Browns, if Young Pillette comes through, and shows the goods displayed last season, he will be one of the most sensational southpaws of the present and past generation, and if Shocker, Van Gilder, Kelp and Dixie Davis repeat on last year, the Browns will make it mighty interesting all the way to the finish line, and with a good chance for first money.

Chicago Strengthened.

With Willie Kamm, the \$100,000 beauty, covering third sack, the White Sox look to be an even money favorite with Detroit and St. Louis to beat out the Yankees. Faber on past performance, should be able to repeat his splendid work of the past. He is one grand baseball athlete, gentleman and scholar and a man universally liked and off the field wherever met. A pity there is not more like him in the game. With Faber, Liverette, Robertson, Blankenship and the others, Gleason, with his knowledge of the game and ability to handle players and with such players as Eddie Collins, Hooper, Sheehey, Mostil, Ray Schalk, Strunk, Bib Falk, and Kamm—well, readers, what do you think? Have they got a chance to fly a pennant for 1923?

The Cleveland team, starting the 1923 race, will probably take the field with the following players: Glusto, or Brown at first base; Wambagans, at

second; Joe Sewell at short; Lutzke, late of Kansas City, or Stephenson, at third; Jamison, Speaker and Swanna in the outergarden; O'Neill, Glen Myatt and Luke Sewell will do the receiving, with Coveleski, Uhl, Smith, Morton, Boone, Edwards, Lindsay, Metever Bedgood, and some others doing slab duty. Nobody knows what this ball club can do. So there you are! However, it don't cost anything to guess.

Rommell, the Iron Hearted.

As for the Athletics, one pitcher, Rommell, won 27 games for seventh hole team, and the answer is, when a team can't finish better than they did with a star of this magnitude to pare the way for them and with practically the same line-up again this season, their chances look slim.

Has Rommell got the Iron Heart to go out and double his last season's average? If so, the Athletics will finish better than seventh; 'nough said. Clark Griffith and his band of Senators have a fighting chance to beat out Cleveland, Philadelphia and the Red Sox of Beantown.

As a matter of fact, to my way of thinking, there will be almost as much interest in watching the race between the four last named clubs to keep out of the hole as there will be interest in watching the race for first place between the first four.

New Racer Starts On Fishing Trip

Gloucester Gives Royal Send-off to Schooner Columbia

(Boston Herald)

Accorded a royal send-off, the Gloucester schooner Columbia, aspirant for international honors, passed out yesterday, bound for Shelburne, N. S., where she will take on additional supplies before starting for the banks of Newfoundland for a season's fishing.

This vessel was launched at Essex but nine days ago and the celebrity with which she has been prepared for sea is considered remarkable. The big main sail was not bent, a triangular riding sail having been set in its place. Under the dead of gift governing the international trophy contest, the schooner must leave her last port of departure on or before April 30, next Monday, unless conditions are waived in her favor.

Therefore Capt. Alden Geale, the Columbia's skipper, will attend to the odds and ends of fitting out while the schooner is on the way to Shelburne where, given average conditions, she should arrive Saturday or Sunday. Having dropped anchor, the snug little harbor, 20 dories will be taken on board and members of the crew who live in the provinces are to be picked up.

Will Not Tarry Long.

Beyond this, there will be nothing to detain the schooner at Shelburne, which may be regarded the last port to be touched before proceeding to the off-shore grounds. At the outset, the moderate breeze was well ahead, necessitating long and short tacks, but the vessel somewhat lagged under restricted area sail. Leading winds are looked for before making the Bay of

Fundy and the Columbia should then step out lively.

No bait will be taken at Shelburne, as the first part of the trip will be with "jigs." In other words, the fish will be impaled on hooks protruding from a lead sinker close to bottom in many fathoms. At this season, the fish are moving in dense schools and it is comparatively easy to hook them once the schools are intercepted. Later in the season, the schooner will call at Canoe, N. S., for bait and the trawl will supplant the jig.

The Columbia has capacity for about 300,000 pounds of fish and may be at sea several months, or until a paying trip is assured. Capt. Geale has been identified with the salt banking industry ever since boyhood and is regarded as among the most successful skippers of the North Atlantic. For a number of seasons he was on the Gloucester schooner Elsie which failed in 1921, to defeat the Bluenose of Lunenburg, N. S., in a match off Halifax.

Kent of Cap Calibre.

The Canadians have a new schooner of cup calibre to meet the Bluenose for honor of defending the trophy she won, off Eastern Point, last year. This craft is the Kent, recently launched for Capt. Albert Himmelman of Lunenburg and outfitted by Zwicker & Co. This schooner is about the size of the Columbia, but it is considered doubtful if it can be made ready for sea before April 30. Should this be found impossible, the trustees of the trophy may waive the clause relating to final departure, as was the case with the Henry Ford of Gloucester, unsuccessful challenger of last year.

Father folk will be kept ignorant of the Columbia's speed, as she has left her main sail at home and will cling to the riding sail until the time arrives when she is to be tamed up for the trial races to select a Yankee challenger for the cup. Nothing more than a general idea of her qualities will be known to the Canadians, and Capt. Geale is not the sort to put his vessel through spectacular stunts; at least not yet. As a mascot, the Columbia carries the Esperanto's bell, that Gloucester winner of the trophy in the initial contest ending her career on Sable Island.

DROVE WIFE TO DEATH IN POND, HUSBAND CONFESSES

Connecticut Man Said to Have Held Her Head Under Water When Both Survived Dive.

New Britain, Conn., April 30.—John A. Carlson, whose wife, Freda, was drowned on March 24 when their motor car plunged into a pond in Willow Brook Park, is said to have made admission to police which may result in a charge of murder being made against him.

According to the police, Carlson, who is a plumbing contractor, acknowledged that he and his wife had quarreled over his refusal to buy a \$300 fur coat for her. Detectives say he admitted driving the car into the pond with the intention of ending his wife's life and his own.

Carlson said, according to the police, that, finding that he survived the dive and that his wife was lying with her head almost submerged, he sat on her and held her head beneath the water until she ceased to struggle, when he crawled out of the car and called for help.

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Grand Jury Finds A Still In Prison

Also Buys Drugs in Eastern Penitentiary—Reports the Food "Unsuitable."

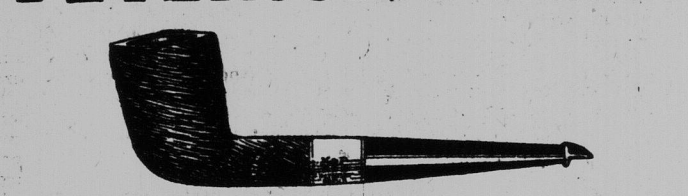
Philadelphia, April 30.—The County Grand Jury in a report to the court on its inspection of prisons and city hospitals stated that in a visit to the Eastern Penitentiary it "saw prisoners under the influence of drugs and liquor, found a still in actual operation where liquor was being made, and that the jury was able to purchase heroin from one of the prisoners."

The report was eagerly awaited as a result of the resignation announced last Saturday of Warden Robert J. McKenley and the declaration of a prison inspector that a self-constituted committee of desperate prisoners known the inmates as the "Four Horsemen" were running the penitentiary.

The Grand Jury report stated that much of the trouble at the penitentiary was due to the fact that more than 1,700 prisoners are confined in 900 cells, with 119 guards working in three shifts. Three women are confined in cells built for two. Unemployment among the men and women is also noted, most of the women prisoners sitting idle in their cells all day, it is stated, and that the existence of the men is even more depressing, only a little more than 800 of them being employed.

The report stated that two babies born in the penitentiary have been

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sharing the cells of their mothers for nearly two years.

"The food at the prison was unsuitable," the report said, "and on one occasion the bread was sour and the meat was indescribably tough."

The prison, the report said, has a commissary department where prisoners who have money can buy tea, coffee, sugar and other articles of food, with luxuries such as cheese, sardines, cookies, etc.

The report made many recommendations to correct the evils it pointed out.

and urged the abolishment of the old penitentiary and that the prisoners be placed on farms where shops could be built to give employment to the convicts.

The hearing of the application from the New Brunswick Power Company for an injunction restraining the city from entering into competition with the company has been set for May 15, it is understood. The hearing before the Chancery court into the Mayor's injunction matter has been set for May 8.

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Certificates may be secured from the local Fire Wardens, County Councillors, Game License Vendors, or other persons who may be authorized. Name, route, destination, purpose and duration of trip, together with dates, will be required for registration purposes before certificates can be issued to applicants.

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C. W. ROBINSON, Minister of Lands and Mines.