LIVE NEWS OF SPORTING WORLD

PITTSBURG WRITER TELLS THE REASON

In last week's issue of the St. Louis Sporting News, a very interesting editorial appears, dealing with the winning of the National league by the Boston Braves. Many have perhaps read it by now, but there is good common sense in it, and it is worth reading again.

In all the columns of comment written upon the wonderful performance of the Boston Braves this season, that which appeals to us strongest comes from the pen of Joe Kelly of the Pittsburg Chronicle. Every past master critic has sought to explain this marvel of the baseball world—the rise of a tail-end combination of major league castoffs to championship honors.

Some have argued that it only illustrates the entire lack of class in the National league. Others have given all the credit to George Stallings, described as the "Miracle Man" of baseball. Admirers of Johnny Evers have hailed him as the real factor in the Braves' progress.

But this is the theory advanced by Joe Kelly: The Braves won through concentration of purpose; they made it their business to win ball games, first, last and all the time, and they let nothing else interfere with the business in hand.

While players on opposing teams were letting their minds wander to the subject of long term contracts and their rights under the law and under the fraternity agreement; were making back door trips to the headquarters of the Feds to see if offers could be secured that could be used as levers to pry out more pay from their employers, and generally were absorbing themselves in the side issues that have been to the fore in baseball, the Boston Braves, overlooked in the betting, proceeded upon their way, their hands to the plow, looking neither to the right nor to the left, intent on the one thing that George Sallings had instilled into their minds as their particular business in life—and the reward that Stallings promised them is within their grasp.

We believe Mr. Kelly has hit the nail in his explanation of the success of the Braves. The lesson is obvious.

GREATEST DAY IN BASEBALL

"This see-sawing with the Giants last season reminds me of the finish in 1908," says Johnny Evers, the great lieutenant to Manager Stallings of the Braves. "The Pirates saw their finish on Sunday, October 4, a day that will live longer in my memory than any during my baseball career. Clarke was leading by a fraction, and by winning that game he would have cinched the pennant. By losing, he was eliminated, leaving Cubs and Giants tied for first place, necessitating the play-off.

Before the game Fred Clarke had bought two railroad tickets, one would take him to Pittsburg for world's series fame and riches, the other back to Kansas, with the hopes of the season shattered. He used the one to Kansas. In one afternoon he lost a ball game and a pennant, and an hour later, all alone, crushed and disappointed, he was looking out of a car window on a westbound train.

Contrast the joy of the Cubs with the gloom of the Buccaneers in the adjoining clubhouse that evening. One of the gamest and most wonderful finishes ever made by a ball club had gone up in smoke for them in two hours that afternoon. Long after we had dressed, some of the Pirates sat on benches in a dazed and heartbroken manner. The victors could not help but feel sorry for the vanquished. The Pirates disbanded that night. [illegible] to New York and won the play-off. Yes, indeed, Sunday, October 4, is one day of my baseball career I will never forget."

BARNEY OLDFIELD RETIRES

Barney Oldfield, the veteran automobile speed king, announces that he is through with the sport. The death of Spencer Wishart, one of his closest friends, in the Elgin national race, a few weeks ago, has convinced him, he says, that the time is ripe for his retirement from the dangerous pastime he has followed so successfully for many years. He is afraid, he says, because he has always been unable to resist fascination of high speed work, in spite of numberless narrow escapes from death.

MANAGERIAL RECORDS BROKE BY CONNIE MACK

By winning his sixth championship in the American league, in the 1914 season, Manager Mack, of the Athletics, breaks all records for the major circuits for all times. He has proved himself to be the master of all baseball tacticians since the birth of organized baseball, in 1871. Moreover, all of Mack's triumphs were scored in the same league and the same city. Mack came to Philadelphia in 1901 and since then has won six pennants. This gives the Athletics' chief of staff the baseball supremacy of America. Adrian Anson, Charles Comiskey, Frank Selee, Edward Hanlon and John McGraw come nearest to Mack's great record. They won five major league pennants, but Comiskey and Hanlon did not make their record in the same city. Here is Mack's pennant record and the five nearest to him:

Connie Mack, American league, Philadelphia—1902, 1905, 1910, 1911, 1913 and 1914. Total, six pennants.

John McGraw, National league, New York—1904, 1905, 1911, 1912 and 1913. Total, five pennants.

Edward Hanlon, National league, Baltimore—1894, 1895, and 1896; Brooklyn, 1899, and 1900. Total five pennants.

Frank Selee, National league, Boston—1891, 1892, 1893, 1897 and 1898. Total, five pennants.

Charles Cominskey, American association, St. Louis—1885, 1886, 1887, 1888; Chicago, 1901. Total, five pennants.

Adrian Anson, National league, Chicago—1880, 1881, 1882, 1885 and 1886. Total, five pennants.

Harry Wright, Professional association, Boston—1872, 1873, 1874, 1875. Total, four pennants.

BLACK EYE FOR THE BOXING GAME

Local boxing fans will be particularly interested in the following article, clipped from the Oakland Enquirer. It deals with the recent death of Young Huddie, who died as a result of his bout with Knockout Carroll. It is a straight from the shoulder article and apparently bears a great deal of truth.

S. F. Fight Game Rotten.

The tragedy has revived the bitter criticism of the fight game as conducted in San Francisco. Controlled by a gang of politicians, who pay little regard to the law and none at all to decency or the rights and safety of the poor devils who bring in the golden sheckles for them, the San Francisco fight game has degenerated into a condition of rottenness that has long been a stench in the nostrils of the city.

The Enquirer holds no brief for prize fighting, but it is glad to say that the game as conducted in Oakland has not been marred by the viciousness and rottenness of the San Francisco prize ring. The Oakland promoters have exhibited a decent regard for the rights and well being of the fighters, and it is not the custom here, as it is in San Francisco, to match unconditioned boys and rob them of their health and lives for a few miserable dollars.

Coffroth Responsible.

The men who must bear most of the odium of the San Francisco prize fight corruption are tenderloin political bosses and men who stage alleged fights such as that in which "Young" Huddie lost his life.

For many years they have been the men who have disgraced the boxing game in San Francisco. It has been the complaint of fighters who wanted to be square that under this domination the fight game has degenerated into a farce. Few who have followed the history of prize fighting in California as conducted by "Jimmie" Coffroth believe that even a small fraction of the matches pulled off are on the level. Fights are fixed, they say, for the benefit of the gamblers, tin horn sports and "ace-in-the-hole" men who leek upon Coffroth as their chief and follow his lead.

Only Money Counts.

Worse even than the "fixing" of fights has been apparent absolute disregard for the welfare, rights, health and lives of those who fight under transbay auspices. Nothing matters but money.

In the four-round events that are a weekly feature in San Francisco most of the fighters are either worn out pugilists whose best days are past and who are glad to pick up "grub money" or else boys who are too young to be allowed in the prize ring and too poor or too busy to train prperly. Many of these "pork-and-beans" pugs have been dangerously or permanently injured, while the history of prize fighting in San Francisco contains the records of at least three deaths.

Three Deaths in Ring.

Tommy McCarthy met his death at the hands of Owen Moran on April 29, 1910. Harry Tenny suffered a like fate as the result of his bout with Frankie Neil on February 26, 1906. And now "Young" Huddie lies dead following his fight with "Knockout" Carroll last night in Coffroth's arena.

It will also be remembered that Luther McCarty and Bull Young were killed in the ring in other cities not long since.

It is the opinion of a majority of those who saw fights last night of which the Chip-Murray go was the main event, that carelessness had much to do with the young boxer's death. Huddie was what is known as a "preliminary" fighter—one of those who receive little remuneration for their work, and who generally enter the ring unfit for a hard bout. Their training is usually a joke.

Law Disregarded.

It is true that the law requires that a fighter must have a doctor's certificate of good health before going into the ring, and this is observed in some arenas.

THIS DATE IN RING ANNALS

1891—Tom Williams defeated George Dawson in 4 rounds at Sydney, in a battle for the welterweight championship of Australia, formerly held by Dawson. Williams refused a return battle, and sailed for the United States, where he was defeated by Mysterious Billy Smith in a bout for the world's welterweight title. Dawson came to America three years later and defeated many of the best men of the welterweight division, although he failed in his efforts to annex the title. Bob Fitzsimmons owed much of his success in the ring to Dawson's instruction.

1909—Joe Jeanette knocked out Al Kubiak in 5th round at Paris.

1912—Frank Moran defeated Ray Horn in 10 rounds at Oakland.

1912—Ray Bronson defeated Clarence English in 8 rounds at St. Louis.

SWEEPING CHANGE.

Minneapolis, Oct. 29.—That there will be a sweeping change in the Minneapolis baseball team's lineup in 1915 became apparent, when Mike Cantillon announced that six members of the Washington American league club had been secured for next year.

"We are unable to make known the names of the players at the present time as it might spoil the deal," declared President Cantillon.

THE BIG LEAGUE PLAYERS

BRESNAHAN TO FEDS.

New York, Oct. 29.—Roger Brenahan, former idol of the Polo grounds, and this year one of the mainstays behind the bat for the Chicago Cubs, will manage the Brooklyn Federal league club next year. He was signed late tonight to an iron-clad three years' contract with the proviso that he was to be given absolute control of the playing end of the game at Washington park. The terms were not announced, but it was admitted that he had not only secured a most excellent salary, but a handsome cash bonus as well. The bonus is believed to be $10,000.

BRAVES SIGNING.

Boston, Oct. 29.—All but three of the world champion Braves have signed for next year. Stallings announced that only three men of the entire staff had not come to terms with the club for 1915.

One is Pitcher Bill James and the other two are Outfielders Whitted and Moran. There is little doubt but that the trio will fall into line, for hardly a player who belongs to a world's championship outfit can afford to throw away such a chance to share in another melon such as the Braves sliced earlier in the week for a jump to the Federals.

NO BONUS CLAUSE.

St. Louis, Oct. 29.—The 1915 Cardinals may win the pennant or they may finish last in the National league, but they will not be rewarded extra by Owner Britton for displaying unusual efforts upon the ball field. Britton stated today that the 1915 contracts are drawn up minus the bonus clause.

"We will operate with the players on a straight contract basis, declared Britton. "All the players signed are satisfied with their terms and in removing the bonus clause from their contracts I increased their salaries."

GILBERT WON'T PLAY.

New Orleans, Oct. 29.—Hopes of local fans that they would see Larry Gilbert of the Boston Braves in action this winter fell when Larry, immediately after his arrival, told them that Manager Stallings told him to spend the winter getting over his injury and was not in favor of his playing winter ball.

Gilbert announced that he has signed with the Braves for another year and would report in Macon, Ga., in March.

LOCAL BOWLING

On the Victoria alleys last night in the five men league No. 1 team captured three points from No. 6 team. The individual scores follow:

No. 6 Team.

A. Stevens	79	86	102	267	89
Simpson	83	81	72	236	78 1-3
B. Stevens	90	90	83	263	87 2-3
McDonald	85	88	103	276	92
Ferguson	87	104	89	280	93 1-3
	424	449	449	1322	

No. 1 Team.

W. Gamblin	94	92	85	271	90 1-3
Jenkins	85	89	92	266	88 2-3
Harrison	89	99	71	259	86 1-3
G. Gamblin	101	73	89	263	87 2-3
Sullivan	88	95	128	311	103 2-3
	457	448	465	1370	

Harry Sullivan had the highest average, 103 2-3.

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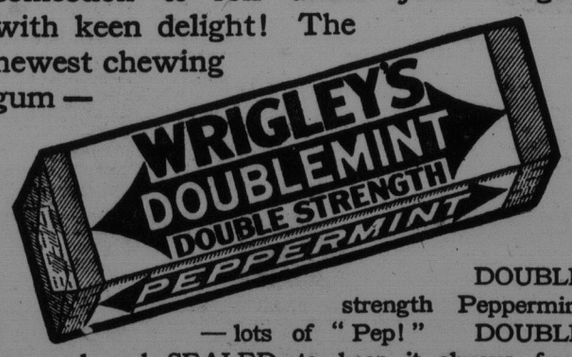

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