

Sport News and Gossip

WORLD'S RECORD PRICE OFFERED FOR WALTER JOHNSON BY RED SOX LEADER

Jimmy McAleer Willing to Pay \$50,000 for Washington's Star Pitcher; "Old Fox" Griffith Refused to Consider the Offer

"I HEAR all you guys talking about Rube Marquard and the papers put columns in about him, but why don't they say something once in awhile about Walter Johnson?" This remark was made the other day by a well-known local fan down in Chan's "Home Plate". The remark was directed chiefly toward a local newspaperman who happened to be present. Perhaps the fan was right. Rube Marquard's remarkable performance has so eclipsed everything else that the newspapers and fans generally have overlooked Walter Johnson. This young Westerner, however, has been burning things up in the East and has broken the world's record formerly held by Jack Chesbro. Last Friday he was defeated in a great pitching duel with Joe Wood of Boston by the score of 1 to 0. It was his first defeat in seventeen straight games.

But if Johnson has been overlooked in the dope so far, an incident which happened last week will gain him all the publicity that he deserves.

James McAleer, president of the Red Sox, has offered \$50,000 cash for Walter Johnson—the highest price ever offered for a baseball player—about twice the Marty O'Toole figure.

That shows just how anxious President McAleer is to win the world's championship. Here is the story: McAleer, with Ban Johnson and Clark Griffith and a number of other friends, was dining at a club in Washington. The talk was baseball and McAleer finally looked at Griffith and said: "I'll give you \$50,000 for Johnson and you turn him over to me tomorrow. Here's a thousand dollars right now to bind the agreement."

"Are you kidding me?" was the reply of the Senator's manager.

"No, I'm not kidding," replied McAleer. "Here's the \$1,000 on the table." Griffith refused to consider the offer. Unassuming and quiet, Walter Johnson is hailed as the greatest pitcher the game has ever seen. He has the speed of Rube and a slow ball that ought to be pinched for jittering, curves that break like a whip and just enough control to install fear in the hearts of batters.

Johnson is pitching better ball than ever, although his individual superiority does not stand out as in the past, for the reason that Washington is playing better ball than any Washington club has ever played.

It is probable the "Big Swede" will finish with the best pitching performance since the National and American league became the "big leagues."

Walter Johnson joined Washington in mid-season of 1907, after Cliff Johnson, scouting for Washington while recovering from an injury, wired Joe Cantillon, from Boise, Idaho, "Grab this guy while the grabbing is good."

Johnson's record in the American league follows:

Year	Won	Lost	Pct.
1908	14	14	.500
1909	12	25	.324
1910	23	17	.576
1911	23	15	.605
1912	28	10	.737

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PERTINENT FACTS ABOUT WALTER JOHNSON

He was born in Kansas. First engagement, Weiser, Idaho, 1907.

Blanked opponents, 57 successive innings, 1907.

Fanned 19 batters, Idaho league, 1907.

Signed by Washington, 1907. Stopped Detroit in American league debut, 1907.

Fanned 313 batters, 1910. July 8, 1910, fanned first eight New Yorkers to face him.

Sept. 4, 5, 6, 1910, blanked New York, 27 innings.

This spring pitched 36 innings against strongest teams. Los Angeles turned him down without a trial, 1907.

He is 24, unmarried, and draws \$7,500 a year.

Joe Wood is the only pitcher who really leads Johnson this year, and Wood is with a team that has won consecutive games since Washington has been handicapped.

Johnson did not hit his stride until well along in May. Any American league batter will say he preferred to face Wood to Johnson.

Popular With All. One of the most popular players in the game, Johnson is called for by Washington fans from President Taft to the peanut boy when the score is close in the closing innings and his ability as a lifesaver is shown by the box scores every week.

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HEARS CITY CHURCH SERVICE OVER RURAL TELEPHONE LINE

Camrose, Alta., Sept. 8.—No better example of the benefits that may be derived from modern science can be cited than the experience on Sunday evening of Miss Barbara Jones, an invalid living in her little canvas home, heard with positive clearness the anthems, hymns and sermon they were sung and pronounced seven miles away in the Metropolitan Methodist church at South Edmonton.

In the Metropolitan church an electric apparatus has been installed that people hard of hearing who attend the church may receive the full benefit of the service. Partially, almost wholly secluded, in front of the pulpit is a large transmitter, which is directly connected with a number of telephone receivers, which may be used by the listeners, and which make very audible all the words that are spoken.

Through the kindness of church officials and the telephone department one of these receivers was attached to rural phone No. 712, which was installed in Miss Jones' tent five miles away. Here, sitting comfortably in her chair, the invalid listened to the words of the pastor and the music of the choir.

The new government of China is being founded on the same fundamental principles as the American government. The American constitution, the court system, the civil and criminal codes, are all being adopted by the new republic as typifying to the greatest extent the aims and desires of those who have overthrown the Manchurian dynasty, according to Gen. Lan Tien Wei.

"China has awakened," said the speaker. "The era of progress is at hand. We now are a nation of the people. We stand equal before the law. We shall bring within our doors the civilization of the Western nations and we shall do so as have the people of Japan. We no longer sleep."

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CHINA SUCCEEDS BY GEN. LAN TIEN WEI TELLS CHICAGO CELESTIALS HOW REPUBLIC IS BEING REARED

Chicago, Sept. 8.—The alliance of the people of all Chinese provinces for the unqualified support of the new republic of China, the elimination of "tongues" and secret societies hostile to each other and the banding together under a common patriotism for the government by all Chinese people were the things for which Gen. Lan Tien Wei, noted revolutionary leader, pleaded at a meeting of the Chinese population of Chicago.

The meeting was held in Foo Chou hall, 311 South Clark street. To convey his remarks to his auditors, Gen. Lan Tien Wei used two interpreters. He is a Mandarin, although one of the strongest supporters of the new republic. His remarks, delivered in the Chinese language, were translated by C. P. Yin into the English language and another interpreter again translated them into Cantonese, which is the language spoken by the Chinese of Chicago.

The new government of China is being founded on the same fundamental principles as the American government. The American constitution, the court system, the civil and criminal codes, are all being adopted by the new republic as typifying to the greatest extent the aims and desires of those who have overthrown the Manchurian dynasty, according to Gen. Lan Tien Wei.

"China has awakened," said the speaker. "The era of progress is at hand. We now are a nation of the people. We stand equal before the law. We shall bring within our doors the civilization of the Western nations and we shall do so as have the people of Japan. We no longer sleep."

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