

MONSTER ALTERATION SALE IS ON!

MEN! THINK—REALIZE—WHAT A SALE LIKE THIS MEANS TO YOU?

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF HIGH CLASS CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS SELLING AT ONLY A FRACTION OF THEIR WORTH—MOST CASES LESS THAN MILL PRICES. THE BUILDERS ARE AT WORK — WE MUST HAVE THE SPACE.

Read This List of Mighty Bargains for FRIDAY

Men's Fine Tweed SUITS

AT ALMOST "GIVE AWAY" PRICES

MEN'S \$15 FINE SUITS, Alteration Sale price **\$10.85**

MEN'S \$18.00 FINE SUITS, Alteration Sale price, only **\$13.85**

MEN'S \$20 AND \$22 FINE TWEED SUITS; Alteration Sale price, only **\$15.85**

Men's Stylish Overcoats

ALMOST GIVEN AWAY

MEN'S \$15.00 OVERCOATS Alteration Sale price **\$9.95**

MEN'S \$18.00 OVERCOATS, Alteration Sale price **\$12.95**

MEN'S \$20, \$22 OVERCOATS, Alteration Sale price **\$15.95**



Mighty Bargains in Men's Wool Underwear—Buy Now and Save

Men's Scotch Knit Underwear

worth today \$1.50; shirts and drawers; all sizes, for quick selling, each **87c**

Men's Heavy Ribbed Wool

Shirts and Drawers; worth today \$1.25 and \$1.50; while they last each **98c**

Men's Heavy Fleece Lined

Shirts and Drawers. The price for next season will be \$1.25; buy now, **69c**

Men's Combination

Watson's make, fine ribbed, only **\$2.95** per suit
Other lines at \$1.49, \$2.50 and \$3.95 up

Men's Heavy SWEATER COATS

Good assortment to choose from, high collar and all colors; reg. values up to \$5.00; on sale at—
\$2.95, \$3.95

Men's Pyjamas and Night Robes at Old Prices

Men's Pyjamas

Striped Flannelette Pyjamas, all sizes; worth \$2.00 to \$2.50; On sale while they last **\$1.49**

Extra Special Pyjamas

White and stripe material; worth \$3.00; while they last; suit **\$1.95**

Men's Striped Night Robes

Good quality, striped Flannelette; turn down collar, worth \$1.50; on sale, each **\$1.00**

Heavy Flannelette Night Shirt

worth \$2.00; heavy quality; English Flannelette; a big snap; on sale at only **\$1.25**

Big Bargains in Men's Fine Shirts—Buy Now

Fine Shirts

light stripes, soft and stiff cuffs, worth \$1.25; on sale, only, size 14 to 17 1/2; each **87c**

Soft Cuff Shirts

Fancy Stripes, old quality materials, soft cuff; best makes; sizes 14 to 16 1/2; at **\$1.29**

Soft Cuff Shirts

Scotch zephyrs materials, tan stripes; sizes 14 to 16; worth up to \$2.50; on sale, ea. **\$1.49**

Men's Pure Wool Sweater Coats

with high roll collars and pockets, good assortment of colors and all plain shades, beauties at, only **\$4.95, \$5.95, \$6.95**

WILES & QUINLAN, The "Big 22" Live Store for Men and Boys

Sporting Comment

Pitchers Who Can Stand Lots of Work.

The method of ranking pitchers for their effectiveness is fair enough. But the outstanding pitcher of the big winning pitcher though he has allowed opponents many runs, it does help the pitcher who has lost many games through fielding bobbles behind him.

There were just 15 pitchers out of the 100 odd hurlers in the majors last season who allowed less than two runs per nine innings pitched and naturally enough they were for the most part outstanding stars. But through the fairness of ranking pitchers for their effectiveness in one season is appreciated, it is after all the pitcher who can do the most work and turn in the most victories with consistent regularity who is most valuable to any ball club. The more a pitcher works the greater will be his victories and losses. But it is for such pitchers that the managers are constantly hunting.

Twenty or More
The star hurlers of the big leagues number perhaps twenty or more. But the outstanding nine selected here are far and above rivals in consistency. Grover Cleveland Alexander through his wonderful pitching last season and for several seasons prior to that, stands out as the greatest of them all. He turned in thirty victories last season and was strikeout king of the lot. He is placed at the head of the list.

Walter Johnson, playing with a losing club, worked like a Turk. He has done the same in years gone by. He is still a great pitcher, regardless of his losses. He is ranked second. Eddie Cicotte, the wonderful comeback, is ranked third. Cicotte, apparently, has just found his true level as a pitcher.

Ruth Ranked Fourth
Babe Ruth stands fourth in the estimation of some. His classification will not be agreed upon by more than one in twenty fans, if by that many. Another left hander, Ferdie Schupp, is placed fifth among the great pitchers. Schupp has risen to fame in two short seasons. Sixth on the list comes Jim

Babgy, of the Indians, with Carl Meyers, of Boston, seventh; Jim Vaughn of the Cubs, eighth, and Fred Toney of the Reds, ninth. Following is the list of rankings, together with the 1917 performances of the pitchers:

Leading Nine Pitchers		
	W.	L.
1. Alexander, Chi.	30	13
2. Johnson, Wash.	23	16
3. Cicotte, Chi.	23	12
4. Ruth, Bos.	24	13
5. Schupp, N.Y.	21	7
6. Bagby, Cleve.	24	12
7. Mays, Bos.	22	9
8. Vaughn, Chi.	23	13
9. Toney, Cinn.	24	16

BASE RUNNING ON DECLINE.

Numerous theories may be advanced to show why American League total in steals for 1917 showed a decline of 535 thefts in comparison with the 1912 figures, while the National League figures fell 546 steals below the 1911 mark. These particular seasons are picked out simply because they represent the high tides for a period when baserunning was one of the bright features of the game. It may be that pitchers and catchers are doing their work better than in the games of a few years ago, the former making the runners hug the bags and the catchers foiling the base running efforts by super marksmanship. Then, again, it may be that the players new at the top in the present season carry no such speed as the players of six or seven years ago. Another theory may be that the sacrifice or hit-and-run play has superseded the straightaway steal.

WORST RECORD IN YEARS.

Whatever the reason for the decline there can be no denying that it has set in. The base running marks for 1917 in the two major leagues are positively the worst in either organization over a stretch of eight consecutive years, or since 1910, inclusive. From 1911, when 1931 thefts was recorded in the National League, there has been a steady decline, excepting a slight spurt in 1916, over the preceding campaign, until the latest season, when only 1145 stolen bases were recorded. In the American League the decline has been steady from 1912 to date, the figures being a record of drops in each succeeding

year. The total for 1912 was 1810; for 1917 it was 1274.

ALL CLUES AND ALL PLAYERS.

Practically all clubs appear to be affected by this blight on baserunning, and it is even apparent in the records of the individual player. Ty Cobb led the American League last season with a total of 55 steals, the lowest mark to carry off first honors since 1908. The leaders in the American League had averaged 80 thefts a season for seven consecutive campaigns up to 1917. In the National League Max Carey led with 46, the second lowest figure since 1902. An idea of the decline may be had from the fact that only two National Leaguers pilfered more than 30 racks last season, and one other reached that mark.

Bill Phelon had the courage a fortnight back to offer a prophecy as to the outcome of the National League race. This encouraged Gus Avelon to take a fling at the prophet game in behalf of the American league, and here are his conclusions: Face up on the table, the cards will show that Washington has a fair chance to cop the batting, especially should the White Sox pitching staff fail to deliver the goods. The present world's champions have been counted on to repeat by the majority of prophecists and well-wishers, but should the draft look Urban Faber, for instance, what would happen? That would probably be considered the greatest upset of the game, but be prepared for surprises.

Harry Frazee of the Boston Red Sox has riddled another major league team in order to strengthen his own, so why should not his team figure one, two? But take a look. He has wound up with a phenomenal pitching staff—on paper, at least. —in Bush, Ruth, Leonard, Foster and Mays, but so far he has only a two-thirds outfield, even with Strunk, and an infield composed of Stuffy McInnis and Evert Scott, should Gardner be sent to the Athletics. He is in possession of a first catching staff, but not a winner, especially if Cady should keep Gardner company at Shibe field.

The White Sox and the Red Sox, it is pretty generally agreed, present the strongest front at present. Now take a peek at Washington. The Senators do not class with the champion Hose, but with Faber out it

would be different, and especially if Conmy's recruits should fall to make good. Manager Griffith has "Walter Johnson. That's a good start. Then he has his infield and outfield practically intact, and his catching staff as well. He would have been more formidable had Doc Lavan not jumped the traces, but even without him the Senators compare favorably with the riddled Red Sox.

We do not expect to see Washington cop the flag, but this will be a season of strange happenings. If the military draft gets its normal quota from the players who are but it will wear a race which has not been matched since the game began. Yes, even Connie Mack might be able to elevate his sorrowful Athletics into the first division, though just now it appears he has been hit a harder blow through the draft than any other manager in either major league.

Sees Change for Yankees

The Yankees will be another dark horse. Up to date they have not suffered from drafters and enlistments and they will have the peppery Miller Huggins as leader. That they will be hit in the second draft is certain, but they start out with five teen married men and several of the single men will be exempt. They also have men over and under age, which will be another boost. Had Colonel Ruppert been able to swing that athletic trip which went to Boston to his own club, the Yanks would have outlasted practically every team in the league.

Detroit might have been figured near the top under the present uncertain conditions and with an army of seventeen married men, but the desertion of two grievously wounded players, the enlistment of a first baseman Burns gave the already wobbly infield a staggering blow, and when Pitcher Elmer enlisted the Tigers lost their best pitcher and they were not particularly strong in twirling material even with him in. Who will pick a niche for the Tigers? We won't just yet.

The lowly and despised Browns, who came within a few points of landing last during the past season—how do they stack up? Fairly well, according to the present lineup. Fielder Jones is not assigned any particular position in the race, but with the provost marshal snooping around he may get a chance to give

his rivals the laugh and finish in unfamiliar surroundings. Even though Lavan and Pratt are gone, he has not such a punk infield in Staley, Johnson and Austin, and the players secured from the Yankees may be of use. He has a corking catcher in Severoid, with Nunamaker to help out. He has a field full of pitchers, but it looks bad for him in the outfield. Should Weillman recover and Lowdermilk gain control he will have a formidable staff of twirlers.

CLEVELAND TEAM HARD HIT.
Cleveland has had a gloomy past and a darker future, but despite the hordes the army and navy have made the Indians are not out of the race and a little strengthening would do wonders. The late of the team has not been settled. Pitchers Joseph and Morton, and Firstbaseman Harris have been drafted, but not called. There is still a chance that they will be able to stick with the team, but it is slim. Outfielder Smith, Catcher De Berry and Firstbaseman Guisto, besides two recruit twirlers, are already in the service of Uncle Sam.

Speaker is still on the team and so is Roth. Both are eligible for draft. With this gone it would be curtains for the Indians. While the uncertainty prevails Lee Fohl's hopefuls should be placed betwixt and between.

Connie Mack, man of sorrows, faces the coming season just now with a fair bank roll, Ping Bodie and a franchise. He is credited with having picked twenty or more recruits to replace the remnant of the old guard which was transported to Boston. The majority of these are eligible for service in the army and navy. Many are likely to be in class one, division A, but as the majority are classed as "unknowns" they may escape. Something like that would have to happen in order to make Ban Johnson's prediction come true. It is a cinch that practically all will be strangers to the rest of the American League pitchers, and, as they threatened to do last season, they may clout themselves out of the cellar. It will be a key life in the league if they do, despite Ban's optimism.

Having taken a slant at the cellar champs it is a long jump to the White Sox. How will they fare in the general round-up? Unless the draft rules are twisted for the sinister purpose of invading the camp of the world's greatest they are in condition just now to face the future with equanimity. Among the regulars only two are eligible for the draft,

but one of these is mighty important to the success of the team.

It is certain that the Sox will not be strong in pitchers, and should hurt. Some youngsters are coming, but all are untried. Robertson and Metz have great records in the pitching box, but they are of a minor league and semi-pro flavor. With the pitching problem solved the White Sox, despite the formidable Red Sox twirling staff, should repeat, or there is nothing to the dope.

The weak strengthening of a couple of other teams in one or two spots would upset calculations. Bolster up the Red Sox infield and the work of the Hose would be cut out from the start. Add a couple of major leaguers to the Yankees and there would be more tough opposition. Slip a pair of real ball players to Griffith and the Senators would be dangerous, no

from the riddling of the other teams but actually.

The best which the fans can hope for, however, will be an uncertain race, one of the greatest guessing contests in the history of the league and with an absence of real class and closeness. One team is just as likely to go to the front and stay there, with the rest trailing far apart. It will all depend on your Uncle Samuel. He will have the last guess.

INCREASE ALLIED CREDITS.
The United States War Office has announced that the Allies' credits have been increased to \$4,684,400,000 by a loan of \$155,000,000 to France. The funds will be spent largely in this country for military supplies.

Friday is bargain day at Noll Shoe Co.

Try this on your dining or library table top—

Take a little Old English Wax on a soft cloth and go over a small surface at a time. Use the wax sparingly—a thin, light coat gives the best results. After a few minutes, rub to a rich, dull lustre with a clean cloth.

This will give your dining table a finish that will be especially attractive when mats are used. It also forms a hard surface that will protect your table tops from scratches and wear. Get a can of Old English Wax today.

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