

Ring Up The Curtain On 1921 Baseball Season

FIRST BALL PITCHED IN BIG LEAGUE SERIES TOMORROW—
INTERESTING FACTS OF THE MAJORS.
THE PAST AND PRESENT

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, April 12.—Amid ceremonies and decorations which have become a fixed feature of the annual event, the major league baseball season of 1921 will open tomorrow afternoon on the circuits of the National and American Leagues. Incomparable by the blare of the bands, the snapping of flags and the wined tows by city or government officials selected to throw out the first ball of the year, the players of sixteen teams will flash away on their six month pursuit of pennants the winning of which entitles the visitors to battle in the world's series, the pinnacle of baseball.

Weather permitting, the schedules will bring together in the National League Brooklyn at Boston; New York at Philadelphia; Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, and St. Louis at Chicago; while in the American League Cleveland plays at St. Louis, Chicago at Detroit, Philadelphia at New York, and Boston at Washington.

Each April within the memory of the past four generations similar scenes have been enacted without losing any part of their thrill attractiveness, and tomorrow baseball parks will be thronged with the same type of enthusiastic fans who have witnessed the opening games of past years. Following the world war the popularity of baseball appeared to leap forward with a fervor little antici-

ated by either player or magnate, and there is little indication that the national game has reached the zenith of its flight.

Record breaking crowds have witnessed the various exhibition games during the southern training trips and advance sales of seats for tomorrow's initial flag contests clearly indicates that the baseball fan has increased in number since that October day when the Cleveland Americans drew the curtain across the scene wherein the Brooklyn Nationals fell before the prowess of Tris Speaker and his brigade of Indian battlers. Despite the many changes in both the playing personnel and managers of clubs, baseball authorities look forward to another banner year in interest, attendance and closeness of the pennant races.

Big league baseball has become an institution in this country, for the history of the National League dates back to 1876, and tomorrow's games will mark the opening of the forty-sixth consecutive season for the senior major league. Raising its first pennant in 1900 the American League contests will inaugurate the junior association's twenty-second season.

The Nationals' 45 Years.
During the period of forty-five years in which various teams have fought for National League pennants those repre-

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senting eastern cities still identified with the organization have won twenty-three championships, while western clubs have captured seventeen. Chicago leads with eleven pennants. Boston is second with nine, and New York third with eight. In the American League, Boston and Philadelphia have each won six pennants, giving the east a total of twelve, while the western clubs have accumulated nine, five for Chicago, three for Detroit and one for Cleveland.

The following compilations show the dates and places of the opening games; pennant winners of previous seasons; managers of the sixteen clubs; and other interesting baseball data:

National League

Opening games Wednesday, April 13.
Brooklyn at Boston.
New York at Philadelphia.
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati.
St. Louis at Chicago.
Return opening games Sunday, April 17:
Boston at Brooklyn.

Thursday, April 21:
Philadelphia at New York.
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh.
Chicago at St. Louis.

American League

Opening games Wednesday, April 13.
Cleveland at St. Louis.
Chicago at Detroit.
Philadelphia at New York.
Boston at Washington.
Return opening games, Thursday, April 21:
St. Louis at Cleveland.
Detroit at Chicago.
Washington at Boston.
New York at Philadelphia.

Pennant Winners in Previous Years.

National League.
Brooklyn, 8—1890, 1900, 1916, 1920.
New York, 8—1888, 1889, 1904, 1905, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1917.
Chicago, 11—1876, 1880, 1881, 1892, 1893, 1896, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1918.
Pittsburgh, 4—1901, 1902, 1903, 1909.
Boston, 9—1877, 1878, 1888, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1897, 1898, 1914.
Philadelphia, 1—1915.
Cincinnati, 1—1919.
St. Louis, 0.
Detroit, 1—1887.
Cleveland, 8—1894, 1895, 1896.
Providence, 2—1879, 1884.
American League.
Cleveland, 1—1920.
Chicago, 5—1900, 1901, 1906, 1917, 1919.
Detroit, 8—1907, 1908, 1909.
Boston, 6—1908, 1904, 1912, 1915, 1916, 1918.
Philadelphia, 6—1902, 1905, 1910, 1911, 1913, 1914.
St. Louis, 0.
Washington, 0.
New York, 0.

Managers This Year.

American.
Cleveland—Tris Speaker.
New York—Miller Huggins.
Chicago—Wm. Gleason.
Detroit—Ty Cobb.
St. Louis—Lee Fohl.
Boston—Hugh Duffy.
Washington—Geo. F. McBride.
Philadelphia—Connie Mack.
National.
New York—Joan J. McGraw.
Brooklyn—Wilbert Robinson.
Chicago—John J. Evers.
Cincinnati—Patrick Moran.
Pittsburgh—Geo. Gleason.
Boston—Fred Mitchell.
St. Louis—Branch Rickey.
Philadelphia—William Donovan.

*New manager.

How the Clubs Finished Last Year.

National League			
	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Brooklyn	88	61	.604
New York	86	63	.578
Cincinnati	82	71	.536
Pittsburgh	79	75	.518
Chicago	75	79	.487
St. Louis	75	79	.487
Boston	62	90	.408
Philadelphia	62	91	.405

American League			
	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Cleveland	88	56	.686
Chicago	86	58	.628
New York	85	59	.617
St. Louis	76	77	.497
Boston	72	81	.471
Washington	68	84	.447
Detroit	61	98	.386
Philadelphia	48	106	.312

Opening and Closing Dates 1920.

National League—Open April 18, close Oct. 2; games, 154.
American League—Open April 18, close Oct. 2; games, 154.
International League—Open April 20, close Sept. 25; games, 168.
Pacific Coast League—Open April 5, close Oct. 2; games, 188.
American Association League—Open April 18, close Oct. 2; games, 168.
Western League—Open April 18, close Sept. 27; games, 168.
Virginia League—Open April 21, close Sept. 24; games, 188.
Eastern League—Open April 27, close Sept. 25; games, 154.
Michigan-Ontario League—Open May 10, close Sept. 5; games, 120.

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LAUNCH NEW CRAFT FOR POLAR VOYAGE

Novel Features in Schooner
Built to Carry MacMillan
Party to the Arctic—To
Explore Baffin Land.

East Boothbay, Me., April 12.—The schooner Bowdoin, built to carry Donald B. MacMillan, the explorer, on his next Arctic voyage, starting in July, was launched last week from the shipyard of Hodgdon Brothers here.

In design and construction the Bowdoin embodies all elements of special provision for the work ahead of her suggested by the long experience of MacMillan, who was the chief lieutenant of Peary in his successful expedition to the North Pole. Her hull is described by the explorer as egg-shaped, with nothing to which ice can cling. Under sufficient pressure from the ice floes, the Bowdoin instead of being crushed, should life out of the water and be carried along with the pack. Conversely, the explorer says that if she rolls up on the ice she will as safely slip back when the pressure is relieved through the shifting of the floes. The bow has been built with a slope that will facilitate running up on the ice.

So confident is MacMillan of the schooner's ability to cope with the frozen channels of the Far North that he plans to pass through the dangerous Fury and Hecla Strait, on the west side of Baffin Land, where former expeditions have been lost or turned back. His plans include also either a return by the strait or the circumnavigation of Baffin Land after exploring a stretch of 1,400 miles of its western shore, on which it is believed no white man has ever set foot. It is said to be the longest strip of unexplored coast in the world.

Studies made by Dr. MacMillan of the narrow strait on previous visits to the north figured somewhat in fixing the size of the new vessel, at there appears to be only a rift in the ice there even at the most favorable season.

The Bowdoin is of about the size of the Discovery, William Baffin's ship, which in 1616 was the first to reach Baffin Land. She is eighty feet ten inches in length, nineteen feet seven inches beam and nine feet six inches draft, with a total displacement of 115 tons. She is of the knockabout auxiliary schooner type, equipped with a forty-five horsepower crude oil burning engine, an installation which the explorer will insure him a cruising radius virtually unlimited by the use of whale oil to supplement the regular fuel supply. If the plan to use whale oil proves practical, he says, the expedition will have a clear advantage over former ones, as the fuel supply has always presented a serious problem in Arctic exploration plans. The schooner will have a generous spread of canvas to enable her to sail home when clear of ice, should the fuel supply give out.

The staunchness of the hull is assured by a heavy frame planked with three-inch white oak, to which has been added at the waterline a five-foot belt of greenheart or ironwood. This armor is said to withstand the grinding action of ice better than steel or any other material as the ice merely polishes its hard surface. When winter sets in, a three-foot covering of snow and ice will be placed over the entire ship, with snow houses after the Eskimo style to cover the hatchways.

The expedition is planned to cover two years, but may be prolonged if it is desired to carry the explorations and scientific investigations further. It will go under the auspices of the MacMillan Arctic Association, largely composed of alumni from Bowdoin College, from which MacMillan and Peary were graduated. The ship has cost \$25,000 and her equipment will add \$15,000 to this amount. The party will consist, beside Dr. MacMillan, of an engineer, three scien-

tists and a cook, all of whom will be carefully selected.
The Bowdoin will remain at East Boothbay through May and a part of June for the finishing touches. She is to be completely stocked and provisioned by the last of June and will start north the first week in July.

TO BAN THE SPITE FENCE.

Albany, N. Y., April 12.—Bills designed to prevent the erection of "spite fences" are before the State legislature. They declare that such structures are a private nuisance and may be enjoined.

HIGH HONOR FOR CURLER.

Winnipeg, April 12.—R. J. McLeod, of Duluth, who lately visited Scotland as a member of the Canadian curling team, has been recommended as life-member of the Manitoba Curling Association to which the Duluth club is affiliated. This is the highest honor in the first of the curling fraternity.

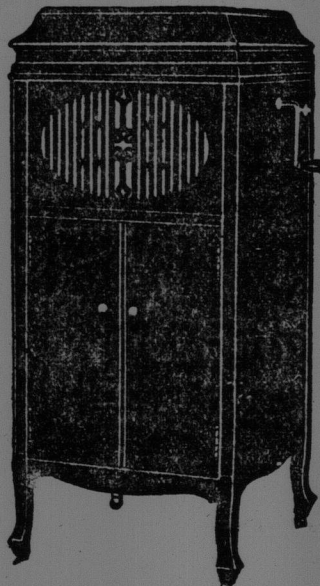
The permanent appointment of Frank Arthur Scott, account clerk, port of St. John, department of customs and inland revenue, dating from April 1, has been gazetted.

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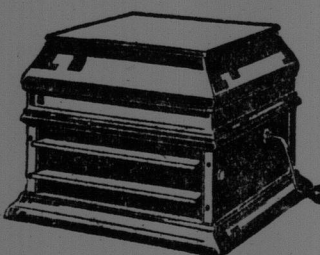
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