

LIVE TOPICS OF SPORT AT HOME AND ABROAD

BACK IN THE 80'S, A FUNNY INCIDENT IN MY KID BASEBALL DAYS, BY "UNCLE DUD"

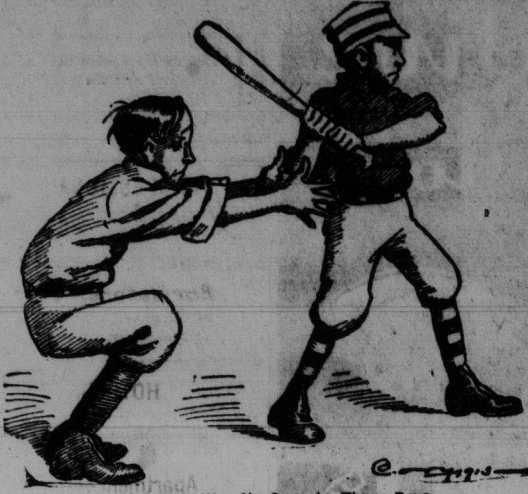
Curve pitching was a great innovation in its day and caused almost as great a commotion as the advent of the aeroplane or the wireless telegraph.

"I think it was back in '80 or thereabouts that I first saw it uncorked and experienced the bitter humiliation of being repeatedly whiffed out by a youngster several years my junior and for whom I had theretofore entertained that feeling of contempt with which the haughty captain of a crack team is wont to view a fresh kid who wears glasses and doesn't approve of slang.



"Clabby" on the Mound

I was a battle scarred back stop, approaching the mature and seasoned age of 17, had been the hero of the local diamond for several seasons, and had, by careful cultivation, acquired the swagger and gruffness of voice which I conceived to be proper attributes of men like Pop Anson, Silver Flint and myself. My broken and distorted fingers were the admiration of the entire village, and source of no small satisfaction to myself.



Catching Was No Snap in Those Days

self, although I would gladly trade them for straight ones today.

Catching was no snap in those days although we stood back for all but the third strike, except when there was a base runner to take care of. It was some time later that the pneumatic protector, the padded mitt and the wire muzzle came into general vogue, and as effective pitching depended entirely upon speed and control, it required good nerve to face the sizzling delivery of "Budge" Merchant, and I am inclined to wince and flinch as I write about it.

"Clabby" Williams was a pale and lady-like sort of a boy who flocked mostly with the girls and made himself still more obnoxious by studying hard and showing us older ginks up at examinations. He looked as much like a ball player as a jack-rabbit resembles a bull terrier.

Of course we had heard of curve pitching, but it sounded like a josh to us wise ones and we passed it up—all but Clabby. It had a scientific sound to him and he began to take an interest in baseball and to work out the curve problem all by himself with his father's barn for a backstop. (Well, it was along late in the season and we were up against our traditional enemies, a scrappy team from

Kenosha. "Budge" had developed a badly lamed wing and I was trying out a substitute who was being mercilessly hammered for a sickening procession of runs. At the end of the fourth inning it looked to be all over when Clabby Williams came to me with the astounding suggestion that I give him a tryout on the mound.

Had he offered himself for a finish fight with Peter Jackson I couldn't have been more amazed. There were hoofs of derision when little Clabby Williams, pale and nervous, but with a gleam in his eyes and a turn in his jaw that we had never seen there before entered the box and faced a big grinning southpaw who had already landed on the pill for two three-baggers and a home run. He didn't use any wind-up and he hadn't much speed, but he fanned every Kenosha gink that came to bat for five straight innings and pulled the game out of the fire.

And ever since that time when I have met up with very proper small persons who are pale and delicate and wear glasses and flock with the shirts a bit, I remember little Clabby, and I say to myself, "Well by thunder! You never can tell!"

UNCLE DUD.

THORNE STARRED AT CAPITAL

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 3.—In a game marked by much unnecessary roughness the U. N. B. basketball team defeated the St. John Y. M. C. A. team at the U. N. B. gymnasium this evening, the final count being 24 to 16. The St. John team were a poor shooting combination. Two field throws were the extent of their scoring in that line, the rest of the points being the result of the U. N. B. team's fouls. This was the one bad feature of the collegians' play.

The star of the game was Bender of the U. N. B. team. He scored sixteen points and twelve of them were on penalty throws. The other two points were scored by Latham on a field throw in the second half. The refereeing was done by Frank McGibson of this city and Physical Instructor Howard of St. John.

The teams lined up as follows:

U. N. B.	St. John
Forwards:	Willitt
Melrose	Thorne
Jago	Centre
Murray	Latham
Bender	Boone
Laughlin	Burton
Referee—Frank McGibson, U. N. B.	
Umpire—Physical Instructor Howard, St. John Y. M. C. A.	
Scoring: Field goals—Melrose, 2; Jago, 3; Murray, 5; Bender, 1; Thorne, 1; Latham, 1. Penalty goals—Thorne, 12; Melrose, 1; Bender, 1.	

As a preliminary the freshmen team played a picked quintette and won by a score of 52 to 10.

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LEAGUE BOWLING ON BLACK'S

In the City league on Black's alleys last night the Insurance took the four points from the Ramblers, the score follows:

Insurance.	
Gilmore	78 95 109 278-93
Armstrong	84 69 85 238-79 1-3
Johnston	100 88 81 289-89 2-3
Machum	84 81 99 264-88
Cosman	75 90 106 271-90 1-3
	421 420-480 1321
Ramblers.	
Wilson	89 84 87 260-86 2-3
Jordan	82 80 82 250-88 1-3
Sutherland	75 74 91 240-80
W. Wilson	75 76 69 220-73 1-3
Howard	100 93 87 280-83 1-3
	421 413 416 1559

The Tigers and Markelmen play tonight in the City league while O. H. Warwick and T. McAvity roll the second game of a series for the Commercial league championship.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

An association football match will be played Saturday afternoon at two o'clock on the Barrack Square between the St. John Association team and a team from the Donatdon liner Saturday.

The last time these teams met the sailors were defeated by three goals to two, and therefore tomorrow's game should be very interesting.

The St. John lineup will be picked from the following players:

A. Coultres, T. Christie, J. Johnston, R. Fernie, J. Brindle, J. Millan, J. Spearman, A. Peebles, J. Coultres, R. Graves, J. Miller, J. Dillon, J. Marsden, J. Telford, A. Spearman.

SPORTOGRAPHY BY "GRAVY"

Frank Klaus, who won the middleweight championship of France by defeating Billy Papke recently, and who is now on the eve of a battle with Georges Carpentier, the French boxer, looks like the most promising of the numerous aspirants for the title formerly held by such great fighters as Mike Donovan, Jack Dempsey, Bob Fitzsimmons, Tommy Ryan, Kid McCoy and Stanley Ketchell. On the recent showings, Gibbons and McGuffey don't class with the husky Pennsylvanian. Carpentier is a clever and finished boxer, but it will be surprising if he is able to withstand the onrushes of the savage Klaus, Marcel Moreau, another French aspirant for the title, was recently defeated by the venerable Willie Lewis. Jack Harrison, the British middleweight champion, was knocked out last month by Harris Lewis, the New York Jewish welterweight, and wouldn't stand a chance against Klaus. Klaus as born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and is now in his twenty-sixth year. He is of German-American parentage, and stands five feet seven and a half inches. He began boxing as a professional at the age of seventeen, and since then has taken part in about eighty battles. He has never yet been decisively defeated, although Billy Papke gave him a hard argument in a six round affair back in 1909. Nearly all of his recent battles, including those with Carpentier and Moreau last year, and his recent bout with Papke in Paris, were won on fouls. Carpentier, the Frenchman, is now in his nineteenth year, and Klaus admits he is one of the cleverest boxers that ever put on a glove. In Frank's opinion, however, Carpentier has been started too young and rushed too rapidly for one of his slender build. Carpentier will soon grow into a heavyweight and a match between him and Bombardier Wells should be a delight to the eyes of those who like speedy, brainy boxing, rather than the rough slugging stuff. Both the Frenchman and the

Klaus is the Most Promising of the Middleweight Boxers.

Englishman are beautiful boxers, but both lack stamina and endurance. In his bout with Klaus last June at Dieppe, Georges led the way most of the time, until Frank put one over that drew blood. At that time Carpentier's manager, who just couldn't bear it to see the idol of France so roughly treated by a canaille Americaine, jumped into the ring, threw his arms about Georges, kissed him on the forehead and dragged him to his corner. Oh, la, la.

KILBANE WILL MEET DUNDAS.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 3.—The night of April 29 has been fixed for the featherweight championship contest between Johnny Kilbane, of Cleveland, the title holder and Johnny Dundee, of New York. They will box 20 rounds at Vernon arena.



ASK AMHERST TO JOIN THE PRO. RANKS

John O'Hearn of Halifax, writing to the Amherst ball teams, invites Amherst to join a league. In part, he says:

We are forming an Inter-Provincial Baseball League, each team consisting of five professionals and four amateurs, and would like a team from Busy Amherst to be represented in the league, as it would then naturally give them a better chance of gaining the professional hockey ranks next winter. The following towns and cities are being invited to compete: Amherst, Springhill, Truro, Moncton, and two Halifax teams. Amherst should be able to support a fast team, having such stars as Rattray, Simpson, Chisholm and others, and the capital fans would be glad to see their old time rivals out on the playing field. We intend having a meeting soon, so if Amherst has any intention of entering such an association, why please be as quick as possible.

THIS DATE IN RING ANNALS

1907—Sallor Burke defeated Joe Grim in 6 rounds at Philadelphia.

1908—Willie Lewis, American, defeated Curly Watson in 4 rounds at Paris.

1908—Digger Stanley defeated Young Sullivan in 6 rounds at London.

1910—Sallor Burke and Jack (Twin) Sullivan fought 10 rounds draw at New York.

1911—Luther McCarty knocked out Al Withers in 13th round at Fargo, N. D.

1912—Joe Jeanette knocked out Black Bill in 3rd round at Lewiston, Me.

HARRINGTON BADLY HURT.

Keokuk, Ia., April 3.—Jerry Harrington, known during the 90's as the star catcher for the Cincinnati Reds, was probably fatally hurt late last night when Tom Moore, a negro convict, struck him over the head with a bucket. Moore was locked up pending the result of Harrington's injuries. Harrington since his retirement from baseball has been keeping a hotel in this city.

WITH THE BIG BALL LEAGUERS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., April 3.—The Giants remained in Knoxville today to play an extra exhibition game before starting for Norfolk. Two picked teams played nine innings at Chickadee Park this morning and more than 500 fans paid admission and were rewarded by the sight of Rube Marquard and Christy Mathewson as rival pitchers. Mathewson felt so good and worked so easily that he lolled over the entire route and his team won by a score of 7 to 3.

TWO VIEWS OF HAL CHASE.

Jack Knight, formerly a Highlander, now with Jersey City, and who played against the Highlanders in Bermuda, says he does not think Hal Chase will be a success at second base. He says that Chase is liable to serious injury for the reason that he knows little or nothing about tagging baserunners.

Manager Schlauf of the Jersey City club does not agree with Knight. "It is only a question of time when Chase will be able to cover second base in sensational style," says Schlauf.

JIM THORPE TO STICK.

John McGraw, to dispel all doubts as to whether Jim Thorpe will remain with the Giants, says that it cannot be stated too emphatically that the Indian will stick with the New York club this season.

"I am thoroughly satisfied with Thorpe's showing, both at Marlin and in the games on the road," says McGraw. "He is not a finished ball player yet, but he possesses in the possibility of becoming a star. I like his build, his action, his ambition and his latent ability. I am sure I can bring that out."

ST. PAUL'S LOST TO ST. ANDREW'S

A basketball match was played last night in St. Paul's church school room when St. Andrew's defeated St. Paul's by a score of 17 to 9. The teams lined up as follows:

St. Paul's	St. Andrew's
McPherson	Defence
Evans	Fairweather
Cunningham	White
Grass	Centre
McKay	Christie
	McIntosh
	Dykeman

HIGH JUMPER INJURED.

Ralph Chandler, one of the stellar high jumpers of the Harvard track team, and at one time international high jumper, yesterday strained a tendon in his right leg while jumping in the stadium, and will be lost to the Crimson team for several weeks if not 4 to 6 good.

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