

Today's Game of Cricket

Claim Lajoie Was Given Hits

Miss Thomson Qualified

Lajoie Once More King of Batters; Carries Off Fine Auto

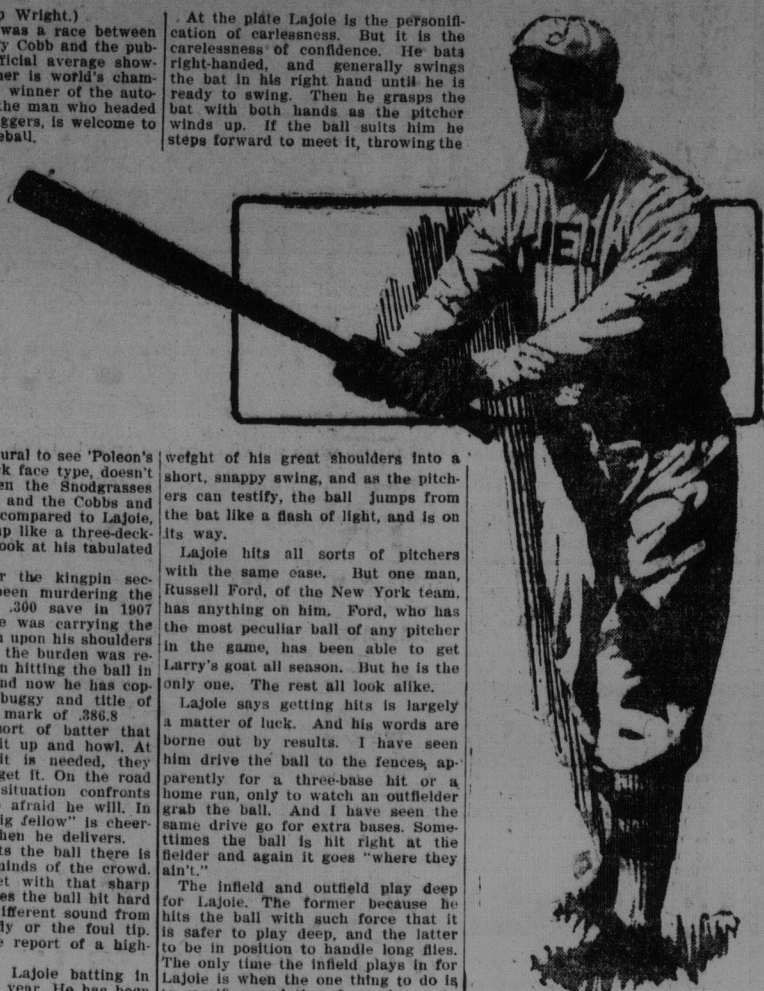
MISS THOMSON QUALIFIED AT PHILADELPHIA

JOHNNY EVERS OUT OF THE GAME

JOAN ADDS TO LAURELS AT LEXINGTON

(By Tip Wright.)
 It was a race between Nap Lajoie and Ty Cobb and the publication of the official average showing that the former is world's champion batsman and winner of the automobile offered to the man who headed the big league slingers, is welcome to all lovers of baseball.

At the plate Lajoie is the personification of carelessness. But it is the carelessness of confidence. He bats right-handed, and generally swings the bat in his right hand until he is ready to swing. Then he grasps the bat with both hands as the pitcher winds up. If the ball suits him he steps forward to meet it, throwing the



NAPOLEON LAJOIE, WORLD'S GREATEST BATTER.

Looks sort of natural to see "Polon's" monarcher in black face type, doesn't it? After all, when the Snodgrasses and the Hoffmans and the Cobbs and the Speakers are compared to Lajoie, the latter looms up like a three-decker in a fog. Just look at his tabulated record.

Year after year the kingpin second sacker has been murdering the ball, hitting over 300 save in 1907 and 1908 when he was carrying the weight of the team upon his shoulders as manager. Once the burden was removed Larry began hitting the ball in the olden style. And now he has copied the benzine buggy and title of champion with a mark of 386.8.

Lajoie is the sort of batter that makes the fans sit up and howl. At home, when a hit is needed, they know Larry will get it. On the road when the same situation confronts him, the fans are afraid he will, in both cases the "big fellow" is cheered to the echo when he delivers.

When Lajoie hits the ball there is no doubt in the minds of the crowd. Ball and bat meet with that sharp crack which denotes the ball hit hard and true. It is a different sound from that of the pop fly or the foul tip. It sounds like the report of a high-powered rifle.

I have watched Lajoie batting in his best form this year. He has been hitting them on the nose, and the majority of his hits are lightning fast drives over the heads of the outfield, or terrific ground hits which infielders found hard to stop, let alone handle in time to catch the big fellow at first.

Lajoie's Averages For 12 Summers.

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