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In the World of Sport

MANY PROMINENT ATHLETES

HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE BIG WAR

Haroc Caused at Several Fronts Among Star Performers in All Sports Has Been Startling.

Many prophecies have been made as to the length of the present European war, says the Oakland Tribune. Many present day war experts have estimated deaths and casualties that will result before the dawn of peace, but one phase of this grim struggle that has escaped notice, due no doubt to the stupendous number of daily deaths and casualties, is the effect the bloody conflict will have on the future generation of athletes.

The Olympic games for 1916 were scheduled to take place in Berlin, but it is a question whether any such set of contests will ever again see the light of day. It certainly will be at least a generation before enough high calibre athletes can be developed among the nations engaged in the mortal conflict to successfully cope with the squad of performers that the United States would be sure to enter.

No branch of athletic endeavor has escaped losing a score or more of the most prominent performers. Tennis, polo, shooting, football, auto racing, and in fact, every branch known to the present day athletic followers have contributed in no small measure to the death roll.

COBB AND JACKSON CREEP UP ON SPEAKER.

Tris Has Fifteen-Point Margin on Jackson in American.

Cobb and Jackson gained last week on Speaker in the race for the batting leadership of the American League. Averages published yesterday show that including Wednesday's games, Speaker is ahead of all regulars with an average of .369 to Jackson's .354 and Cobb's .343. Cobb is now ahead in stolen bases with 18. Detroit leads in team hitting with .260. The American League's 300 hitters, counting only those who have played in half or more of their team's games, are: Speaker, Cleveland, .369; Jackson, Chicago, .354; Cobb, Detroit, .343; Burns, Detroit, .317; Nunamaker, New York, .317; Hellman, Detroit, .308; Smith, Cleveland, .305; Sisler, St. Louis, .301; Gardner, Boston, .300.

Daubert of Brooklyn continues to lead the batters of the National League with .349. Carey, Pittsburgh, is ahead in stolen bases with 19. Chicago retains the club batting leadership with .258. The National's 300 hitters are: Daubert, Brooklyn; Robertson, New York, .339; Zimmerman, Chicago, .319; Hinchman, Pittsburgh, .313; Burns, Philadelphia, .310; Wheat, Brooklyn, .305; Chase, Cincinnati, .304; Hornsby, St. Louis, .301.

SEES NOTHING NEW IN MODERN BASEBALL.

Except in Spit-Ball Pitching—What An Old-Timer Says.

Listen to what Adrian C. Anson, who managed a famous Chicago team nearly thirty years ago, thinks of present-day baseball:

"I see nothing except spit-ball pitching. Of course there are more good ball players than we had in the old days, but in quality they are no better than many stars I can remember. Take the pitchers, for instance! You hear a lot about the greatness of Walter Johnson, but Amos Rusie, in my opinion, was at least his equal. How many pitchers of today would outclass Tim Keefe, John Clarkson, Charley Radbourne, Charlie Ferguson and Bill Hutchinson?"

"The spit ball is considered new in pitching, but I remember when Bobby Mathews used that delivery and that was many, many years ago. It seems but yesterday that Mike Kelly, Buck Ewing, Ed Williamson, Fred Pfeffer, George Gore, Johnny Ward and Roger Connor were playing ball. I also recall 'Big Dan' Brouthers, one of the heaviest batsmen that ever lived.

2,000 Hits for Ty.

Ty Cobb—this week is celebrating an epochal event in his career—or if he isn't he ought to be. When the Peach bunted toward third Sunday, raced to first and beat the ball so far that there wasn't a chance to get him, he completed a total of 2,000 base hits for his baseball career, more than any other player ever made in a trifle more than 11 seasons of baseball. The next time the celebrated Georgian came to bat, he rammed a blow through the infield out into centre and started on his way to the 3,000 base hit goal, which ranks a player as one of the grand old men of the national game.

Robertson Replaces Orton
Lawson Robertson, coach of the Irish-American A. C., will take charge of track athletics at the University of Pennsylvania next fall. Robertson replaces George Orton, the former mile champion, and is signed up for the entire collegiate year.

Dillon Offered \$60,000
Jack Dillon, who will meet Frank Moran in a ten-round heavyweight contest at Brooklyn on June 29th, has received an offer of \$60,000 to go to Australia to meet Les Darcy in a forty-five round contest, providing he beats Moran.

BASEBALL BRIEFS.

The Giants are second in batting, fifth in fielding, second in run making and first in base stealing. Buffalo have sold Pitcher Fred Beebe, the leading twirler of the International League last year, to Cleveland.

The indefinite suspension imposed on Manager Birmingham, of Toronto has been raised. The manager has been undergoing treatment for a painfully injured leg and is now ready to get back into the game.

Things have been breaking poorly for the Inter State League, in which Frank Shaughnessy and several former Ottawa stars are figuring. Bad weather has hit all the clubs hard and one or two may be forced to suspend operations.

The signed contract of Clyde Russell, Cornell pitcher, was received Saturday by the Toronto Ball Club. One of the stipulations in the contract, which was inserted by Russell's father, is that the young pitcher will not be obliged to play Sunday ball.

Johnny Lush, a Philadelphian, who first attracted attention as a pitcher at Girard College, and later with the Phillies, and Toronto, has retired from baseball. Lush played twelve years of major and Class AA league baseball, and is said to have amassed quite a fortune by investing his money wisely.

C. P. Parker, the sensational college outfielder from Dubuque, who signed with the White Sox immediately after the Sox played an exhibition game there recently, has been dropped by Manager Rowland. It was discovered that he is on the reserve list of the Lowell (Mass.) Club, of the Eastern League.

HANNES KOLEHMANN JUST A TIN SOLDIER.

Belong To a New York Regiment, But He Refuses to Fight.

Hannes Kolehmainen, the great Finnish runner, has refused point blank to help the 14th Regiment of New York, of which he is a member, to fight the Mexicans. The Finn's defence is that he did not attach himself to the regiment for military purposes, but purely as an athlete. He says that it is a better runner than soldier and that it is his intention to remain in "little old New York," no matter what happens. This action on the part of the Olympic champion is a striking commentary on the manner in which amateur affairs are conducted across the border. Kolehmainen did not leave his native shores until he jumped into prominence at Stockholm. His athletic prowess attracted the attention of the New York club, and he was induced to come to the United States. Though he has been running around New York for several years, it develops that he is not even a naturalized citizen. There are a number of other athletes of foreign extraction in Gothland in the same boat.

HARRY ANXIOUS TO WIN

Preparing For Ten-round Contest Against "Battling" Levinsky
"Battling" Levinsky, the New York heavyweight, who is to meet Jim Barry, the western pugilist in a ten round bout at Syracuse, N. Y., next Friday night, has been matched with the winner of the Dillon-Moran battle, which will take place in New York next Thursday night. Dan Morgan, manager of Levinsky, declares that this great athlete is now in superb condition and confident that he will defeat Barry. Barry is quietly preparing for the battle in Syracuse. When informed that Levinsky had been matched with the winner of the Dillon-Moran battle, the big westerner significantly remarked: "Levinsky is not through with me yet, and perhaps when he is the promoters will be looking in another direction. I hardly think Levinsky has forgotten what happened to him the last time we met in the ring."

"I hope to win so decisively over Levinsky that I can get a chance at either Moran or Dillon," continued Barry. "I met Levinsky once and a majority of the newspapers gave me the verdict. He is a clever fellow, but I know my battering-ram attack will carry me through to victory."

Thrifty the Rule With Ball Players

A few years ago, it was a toss-up whether pugilists or ball-players were the more liberal with their money. The average ball player was a happy-go-lucky chap who chucked his shekels right and left, saved nothing for a rainy day, and, in the winter, trusted to his personal popularity to get him a job by which he could get along until spring. The average pugilist, with a season or two months' long, was just as imprudent, flinging away a nickel for the future. With no reflection on races or nationalities, it must be remembered that the majority of these gay, careless spendthrifts, both fighters and ball players, were of Irish blood; as the merry Irishmen passed out a generation of Jews came upon both ring and diamond, and the Jewish athletes introduced the idea of saving money. Today, all nationalities among the ball players hold tightly to their money, and there are few pugilists who blow in their coin.

BASEBALL AND CRICKET

ENCRIRCLE THE WORLD, BUT BASEBALL LEADS

The Ancient English Game is Behind Baseball and Lacrosse in Canada—The Latter, Some Say, May See a Never Setting Sun.

On its editorial page the New York Tribune comments as follows:

Whether trade ever follows a flag or not, cricket trails the British emigration from Kingston to Rangoon. Americans can be as scornful of the great English game as they choose. For better or worse, it has circumnavigated the globe, and left baseball a poor second among the cosmopolitan games. The sun never sets on cricket, we can be sure.

Our friends the Canadians are the principal exception to the British rule. They have shown themselves as loyal to the Empire in a crisis as the heartiest imperialist could desire; yet they have a liking for their own independence in such lesser matters as sports. Their native game of lacrosse has always had the call over cricket. And today baseball has made such headway that cricket stands a distinctly minor sport, almost as infrequent as in the States in no better with Dominion tastes and tempo than with our own.

Hence the odd result that baseball is at last being acclaimed on the British Isles, not by American example, but by Canadians whom the war has brought to London. Our exhibition teams have visited England in the past with small results. Now a league has been formed of teams composed of Canadian hospital workers and other war units, and interest in the game has spread rapidly. With the decline of other sports since the outbreak of the war there seems a good chance that baseball will survive long enough to receive a fair trial. Skepticism suggests that some deep-seated British characteristic may be modified before it can prevail over British tradition. But it now has its chance, at any rate.

Japan is, of course, the other great conquest thus far achieved by baseball. There a temperamental affinity for the game made its entrance easy. Although comparatively new, it has gone fast and far. Japan has as yet no professional teams, but they are always an afterthought, arriving only when beachers can be filled with graduates from the back-lot diamonds. Baseball is a major sport in the Japanese colleges and is widely played in the lower grades of schools. American coaches have been imported to teach the fine points, and altogether the westward flight of baseball is most promising. Perhaps some day it too, like cricket, will never see a setting sun.

HUGHES BEATS RECORD.

Boston Twirler Pitched 15 Innings Without Allowing Hit

Tork Hughes, of the Boston Braves, broke the world's record for pitching hitless innings in Saturday afternoon's game with the Phillies. He pitched 15 2-3 innings without permitting a hit. The previous record was made by Harry Hedgepeth, of the Petersburg Club, Virginia League, who went 14 innings in 1914.

Save Your Condolences

You lads who ordered lilies To strew on Matty's mound, May just as well go trade them For drums that you can pound: Big Six still is in business With his old arm and head, And ere he quits the harness 'Tis we who will be dead. There's kinks in his old soup-bone, But none in his wise tank— And with his nifty noodle He still can run the bank; In nineteen hundred thirty I reckon we'll still read: "Old Christy still can fool them Though he's slowed up in speed"

Racing Troubles in New Zealand

They have their starting troubles with the trotters in New Zealand. The other day the Committee of the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club decided that the starter should have two paid assistants to help him in the work of marshaling the fields at the start. Any attempt to beat the starting signal will be met with a fine of £10, while a second offence will entail disqualification.

Horsemen Satisfied with Purse

William Walker, the chairman of the Canadian branch of the Kentucky Horsemen's Association, says there is no truth in the story emanating from Montreal that it was the intention of that body to demand larger purses from the tracks which operate under the Canadian Racing Associations. "The horsemen are satisfied with the purse by these tracks," said Mr. Walker.

Olding to Retire

Rube Olding, veteran outfielder of the Philadelphia (American League) baseball team, will retire from baseball on July 1st, according to a message received from Connie Mack, manager of the Athletics. The reason for his announced retirement was not given. Olding is 32 years old and has been a member of the Athletics for ten years. He is a native of New York City.

Orton Loses Job

George Orton, the former mile champion, whose home is in Toronto, has lost his position as coach of the Pennsylvania track team. He will be succeeded next fall by Lawson Robertson of the Irish-American Athletic Club, of New York.

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