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# In the World of Sport

## HARD TO PICK A WINNER PITCHERS ARE STARTING SIX NATIONAL BALL CLUBS

### OF THE DILLON-MORAN FIGHT TO-NIGHT.

Can Dillon Be Trusted To Try His Hardest — Moran Can Be Relied Upon To Do His Best.

Trying to pick the winner of the Moran-Dillon bout to-night is an interesting problem. The Willard-Moran affair was easy. Moran looked to be outclassed from every angle, and no one who was not unduly influenced by the Pittsburgher's pleasing personality went wrong. But there are so many angles to the present match it is hard to arrive at a definite conclusion.

The one thing reasonably sure is that there will not be a knockout. Dillon is not a knocker-out, and Moran, although he swings a heavy right hand, is too slow to finish such a masterly staller as Dillon is when he elects to play safe. If the bout is to be decided on points Dillon would appear to have the advantage, for he is acknowledged to be the superior boxer. But the fighter does not always have to bow to the boxer even when he falls to get over the big wallop. If Moran can force Dillon to go into his shell the latter's superior speed and skill will not count.

Is Not To Be Trusted. That Dillon will win a close decision would look to be the safest bet if it were a sure thing that he would try his hardest all the way. But the so-called Giant Killer is a very uncertain proposition, and he has an unfortunate habit of disappointing in his important fights. He has had many opportunities at various stages of his career to become something more than a \$1,000 fighter, and each time he has failed to make good. For that reason the public lost confidence in him, and despite his remarkable record he is not a big money maker.

Always Does His Best. The best thing that can be said about Moran is that he can be relied upon to do his best. He has never failed to fight up to his best standard. He is thoroughly reliable, and it is easy to figure out what he will do. Those who back him can be sure of getting a run for their money, but his best is not up to Dillon's best. If both perform up to their highest standard Dillon should win, but he has disappointed so often he is a poor bet against a man as steady as Moran is.

## DOUBLE UMPIRE SYSTEM FAVORED BY OWNERS.

### At Least Five Want Two Officials—Wilkesbarre and Scranton Balk.

The double umpire system probably will prevail throughout the New York State League within a short time. The Syracuse club owners favor this method of arbitrating, as it relieves one man of considerable responsibility shortens the games and prevents many arguments arising after close decisions.

It is said the Albany, Harrisburg, Elmira and Binghamton also favor the plan, and that it will be the subject of special legislation before the close of the season. Of the eight clubs in the league, Wilkesbarre and Scranton are the only organizations to oppose the movement. Utica has not reported on the matter, but Ambrose McConnell, Utica manager, is known to have wanted the double system for some time.

It is estimated that the new system would cost each club about \$2 a day. There are at present six umpires in the circuit—McBride, Pirman, Lewis, Kuhn, Dougherty and Johnson.

## HAMILTON BROUGHT TO TIME.

### For Employing Foreigners At Its Race Track.

The agitation waged against the employment of aliens on the Canadian Racing Circuit tracks, and more particularly at Hamilton, has borne fruit, says the Toronto News. Acting under the orders of the Immigration Department, Inspector James C. Mitchell laid down the law to the Ambitious City Jockey Club officials yesterday, and as a consequence nearly all the competent Canadian operators will be on the salary list today. The Government officials, and more particularly Messrs. W. W. Scott and Blake Robertson, the chiefs of the Immigration Department, are to be commended for their promptness in dealing with the matter. Many Canadians were "frozen out" of positions that they were capable of filling by importations from the "other side," and a grave injustice would have been perpetrated had no action been taken.

## The Willard Twins Named.

The stork left twins, a boy and girl, at the home of Samuel McNutt, Wheeling, W. Va., a great admirer of Jess Willard, heavyweight champion pugilist of the world. The proud father named the boy Jess Willard and the girl Hattie B., after Willard's wife. McNutt took the twins to the circus in which Willard is appearing and introduced them to the champion. He presented each of them with a \$5 gold piece.

## Famous Marathon Runner Enlists.

Billy Sherring, the noted marathon runner, has given up his position in the Hamilton customs house, and has enlisted with the Tiger battalion. He is one of the most widely known athletes in Canada, having won the Herald road race twice, the Boston marathon and the Olympic marathon in Greece. His brother is already at the front with the army service corps.

## TO ASSERT THEMSELVES BY THEIR SPECTACULAR WORK.

### From Now On the Fans May Look For a Shrinking in Scores and Batting Averages.

Two no-hit games, a one-hit game and a two-hit game or so within the span of a week in one of the major leagues indicates that in spite of weather handicaps the season has progressed to the point where the pitchers are beginning to assert themselves, and from now on we may look for a shrinking of scores and batting averages, with the twirling department claiming the 80 per cent. that Addie Joss said is its portion.

Albion will be offered for week out, of course. The blame will be laid to grand stand shadows, sky grey fences, advertising signs, and what not, but the real reason will be the old-time mastery of the pitcher over the batter and nothing else.

Whether the fan public would prefer free hitting to tight pitching is another question and one that must answer. The point of it is that pitching we have with us and will have in midsummer of any season until the game is revised in some essentials.

## BASEBALL BRIEFS.

Wilbert Robinson still has faith in the ability of Rube Marquard. He believes that before the season is over Rube will win a lot of games for Brooklyn.

Connie Mack, while in Chicago, picked up a local letter named George Schmidt. He is a second baseman and is 22 years of age. He does not appear to have had any experience except on the Chicago independent fields.

George Bell, the former Brooklyn National League and Newark International League pitcher, is now pitching for a Buffalo semi-pro team.

"Lefty" McTigue is about the most useful player on the Toronto team. When he is not pitching he is in right field and seldom fails to break into the hit column.

The eastern clubs occupy all the positions in the first division in the National League. Cleveland and Detroit are in the American League first division.

Clyde Engle, who played on the New York and Boston American League teams, and who was third baseman for the Newark Federals last year, has been signed as utility man by Manager Le Fohl, of the Cleveland team.

Otto Knabe, formerly second baseman of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh National League clubs, and manager of the Baltimore Federals, has signed a contract to play with the Chicago Cubs.

Pitcher Jess Barnes, of the Braves, has been placed on the disabled list because of a strained shoulder. The other Braves crippled, Collins and Gowdy, are not being put on the shelf, as Stallings believes that both will be able to get back shortly.

O'Mara, of the Robins, is a better hitter than Olson, for which reason he is needed on the Brooklyn team as much as possible.

Manager Joe Tinker wants a second baseman and doesn't care who knows it. Hints have been coming out of Boston that indicate he is feeling out the prospects for getting John Evers. He also has made Columbus an offer for Pat Johns, who had a trial with the White Sox last fall, but the Columbus club has refused to part with the player.

## GET ANOTHER PITCHER.

### Toronto Ball Club Requires Immediate Addition.

The crying need of another experienced pitcher for the Toronto Ball Club was emphasized again Monday, when Shocker (who pitched a full game Saturday) was called in to save the first game for Manning, and again in the second game, when Thompson, an outfielder, had to be brought in from the outfield to pitch after Herbert had been batted off the rubber.

McTigue, a valuable pitcher, also played the outfield in both games, as there is weakness in the hitting end of the outer garden.

Herbert appears to need a long rest, as he is no earthly use to the team at present, except perhaps to pitch to the batters.

Another pitcher, in addition to Clyde Russell, the collegian, is needed, if the Toronto team is to be a factor in the race.

## Tom Sharkey Bankrupt.

Tom Sharkey, former heavyweight prize fighter, has filed a petition in bankruptcy at the United States district court, San Francisco, giving his liabilities as \$299,000 and his assets as \$20,050. He owes \$252,000 to Henry Stein of New York under the terms of an unfulfilled lease. Sharkey is manager of a saloon.

## Black and White Bouts.

Black and white ring bouts may again be staged for New York fight fans. Because Governor Whitman is said to be opposed to the rule of the State Athletic Commission barring bouts between colored and white fighters, it is expected that the commission will lift the ban at a meeting in Albany to-morrow.

## ARE STILL IN THE GREAT PENNANT FIGHT

### Care to Predict Pennant for Team Even with the Season Nearly Half Over.

With the season more than one-third over, critics are still fighting among each other trying to select the dangerous from the weak clubs in the National League. Managers of the clubs are prone to acknowledge strength in opponents, but as to their own entry they are mighty careful to keep quiet, or as the old saying goes, say nothing but saw wood.

Although Wilbert Robinson's cohorts are successfully evading all attacks and are well out in front, few outside of Brooklyn partisans care to predict a pennant for the Superbas. Acknowledging that Robinson is in command of a likely bunch of pitchers, a star first baseman and two better than average outfielders is about as far as any disinterested party cares to talk about the Dodgers.

Brooklyn has been a great spring club for several years, and as consistently has floundered and fallen by the roadside near the end of the season. The weaknesses of the club have told upon it so often that few believe these same weaknesses will not deprive the club of the finishing power necessary to stall off the rush of the opponents.

## Two Tall End Clubs

Picking out the probable clubs that may possess that power is a mighty hard proposition. It seems now that Philadelphia, the Giants strong to make matters decidedly interesting for C. H. Ebbets' aggregation, and many believe that soon Chicago and Cincinnati will be stringing along at a pace rapid enough to overtake the leaders. Only Pittsburgh and St. Louis seem to be out of the running, with a second division berth almost a certainty.

John McGraw's helpers have baffled the best of baseball followers. For the first month of the season the club played miserably. Then, making its first trip of the season, seventeen straight victories were registered. Following this the club came home for an extended stay, and dropped nine games out of thirteen played. At home the pitching, excepting in the Chicago series, was consistently good, but the fielding and hitting fell off to such an extent that the pitching was wasted.

The Giants, on paper, appear to be as strong a team as any in the league. The outfield, with Burns, Kauff and Robertson certainly outranks any in John K. Tener's circuit. Veterans are holding down the infield positions, and are playing great baseball at times. In "Bill" Hardien the Giants have the best catcher in the league, a man whose quick thinking and brilliant work behind the bat should bring the greatest of confidence in pitchers.

## Good Pitchers in Club.

The pitching staff, composed of Anderson, Perritt, Tesreau, Benton and Mathewson, seems formidable enough to stand off the attacks of any other team. Only recently the five above-named were flinging a brand of baseball that excelled that of any other pitchers excepting possibly Alexander, Pfeffer and Mammox.

With all this known strength the Giants have fallen from second place to fourth. McGraw does not know what ails his club. He admits that he has bitters enough to scare most pitchers to death. He says that his pitchers are doing splendidly, and he admits that the club just simply cannot win when victory is necessary. Miserable errors have cost the Giants many games this season, and it is a fact that the "breaks" have favored the opposition just at the time when such unlooked happenings hurt the most. McGraw has not given up hope for a pennant, yet, and certainly will not do so for some time.

The Phillies have been playing good baseball from the start of the race and refuse to be counted out of the running. If "Pat" Moran had one more dependable pitcher to work with Alexander it seems improbable that he could be kept from repeating his performance of last year.

Boston without Evers is as a ship without a rudder. With Evers in the lineup the team seems fortified against attack and possessing enough offensive to drive past the other clubs. Right now George Stallings is getting a lot of good pitching from the youngsters on the club. Nerf, Barnes and Hughes especially doing fine work. Rudolph and Tyler are still dependable, which makes the Braves appear once more as flag contenders.

## Yankees Have Chance.

In the American League the Yankees must be rated the dark horse of the eight entered. To date the men under "Bill" Donovan have not performed any miracles, which makes the club seem all the more to be feared. Baker, McGee, High and Pip have not hit with anything like the regularity that was expected of them, and Caldwell has not pitched as he can. It is not improbable that these men will respond soon, and then the club will be doubly hard to beat. The Yankees, to most followers of the game, have the best chance of winning the pennant in the American League that a New York team has ever had. A great pitching staff composed of Fisher, Caldwell, Keating, Cullop, Shawkey, Mogridge, Russell and Markle, any of whom can serve up enough baffling curves to sidetrack any hitter in the land, makes the team formidable even without counting upon the other luminaries in the club.

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