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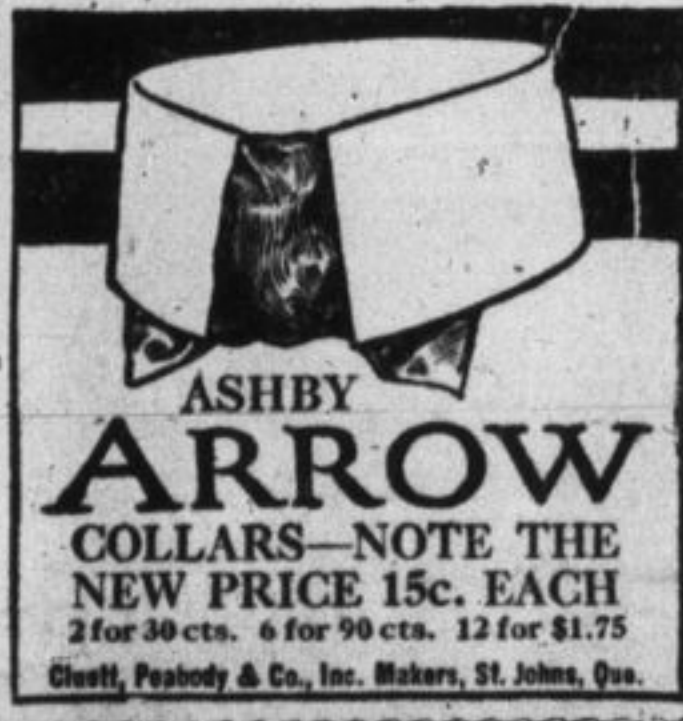
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In the World of Sport

MERKLE IS NO BONEHEAD

AS NEW YORK FANS CALLED HIM SOME YEARS AGO.

McGraw Stuck by Him and Merkle Has Proved Himself One of the Most Brilliant Major League Players.
In the recent trade which sent Fred Merkle, veteran first baseman of the Giants, to the Brooklyn club in exchange for Catcher Lew McCarty, nothing stands out more prominently than the perseverance of John McGraw, manager of the Giants, in making a ball player of Merkle after he later had made his famous bonehead play of September 23, 1906. It was on that fatal day that Merkle failed to "touch second."
Merkle, hooted and hissed by the fans, derided by sport writers and twitted by rival players, but all the time patted on the back by McGraw, has held his head up all these eight years and has proved to the world that he is a real ball player in spite of his lapse of memory which gave Chicago the National League championship. McGraw's faith in his young first baseman is entirely responsible for the fact that Merkle still is a big league ball player.

Stood by Him.
Not only has McGraw stood by Merkle in spite of his failure to touch second, but after the 1912 world's series, when Boston won from the Giants through Merkle's failure to catch an easy fly, McGraw again stood by and insisted Merkle was good enough for him. Fans have howled and laughed at Merkle for those two plays, but always McGraw has stood pat.
Merkle has vindicated the judgment of his former chief. When he perpetrated the first of his famous bad plays he was only a youngster, and McGraw knew that censure probably would wreck whatever chance there was for Merkle to show any class as a first baseman. So, instead of harsh words, Merkle was given encouragement. At every slip McGraw was ready to pat the youngster on the back and urge him on in his effort to live down the miscue. And Merkle did it.

Brilliant Player.
The work of this first sacker has been a prominent feature of every one of McGraw's drives pennantward. Merkle has been a heavy, consistent batter and a heady, dependable fielder in nearly every emergency. His slips have been no more than players considered wonderful have made, but they have come at a time when they stood out. No one ever has taken the trouble to proclaim his brilliant feats under the game pressure, so he has been called a "bonehead."
Merkle has slipped in his hitting this year, but the averages, for the

CANADIAN DOCTOR LIKELY

TO REVOLUTIONIZE METHODS OF ATHLETIC TRAINING.

In United States Colleges—Dr. R. Tait Mackenzie, Formerly of Montreal, Has Been With British Army.

As soon as the college year opens next month an argument will start over the relative values of military and athletic training for college students, says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Those who believe in universal military training for the young men of America appear to be on the increase and are preparing to advocate the introduction of courses for military instruction in private and semi-private universities, colleges and preparatory schools, and likewise in the public high schools. The whole country, stirred to a realization of our own unpreparedness, is looking with more or less favor upon some measure of military discipline provided by our educational institutions.

BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

OF VERDUN SALIENT CLAIMED BY AMERICAN AMBULANCE

French Baseballs Are No Good—A Dozen of Them Are Used In Playing a Full Game.

The American ambulance field section No. 8, under Austin Mason, of Boston, claims the baseball championship of the Verdun salient, having defeated the other three ambulance sections of this sector and also the Norton and Harjes ambulance units. Section 4, under Oliver Perry, of Morristown, N.J., ranks second, losing but two games, and section 1, under Herbert Townsend, of New York, third. Section 2, under J. T. Walker of New York, occupies the bottom berth in the league race.

"French-American" aviators often fly above the grounds, watching the game, but once in a while a German soars over the diamond and must be driven away before he drops bombs and ruins the field," Mason writes.

"The games always are played within range of the Crown Prince's big guns, but seldom does a shell burst in the vicinity stop a contest. When a game is called on account of the rain of shrapnel, bombardment cards are issued for the spectators to return and witness a resumption of the game on another day.

"The chief trouble is that the French baseballs are worthless, and we are using a dozen in playing a full game. We can't get the American-made baseball and wish the patriotic fans or big league officials would send us boxes of used balls, bats and gloves."

Picton Man Chosen Judge.

William Moffatt of Picton, one of the best known horsemen in the province, has been appointed starter for the annual race meeting of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, which is to be held next week in connection with the Ottawa Fair. He is one of the most capable men available, and his choice will be popular with owners.

"Jack" Williams in France.

The Ottawa Citizen says: Lieut. Jack Williams, one of the brainiest half-backs Kingston ever produced, has been attached to the 38th Battalion, which is now on active service in France. Jack went overseas some weeks ago. He will be right at home with Billy McLaughlin and other gridiron stars, who are with the 38th.



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LOOKS LIKE BOSTON IN THE NATIONAL

The Chances Now Appear to Be All in Favor of Braves.

It looks very much as though Boston has the inside edge for the championship of the National League for 1916. Brooklyn will have the gruelling of their lives on the last three series of their present road trip, when they met the other three eastern clubs. And to the minds of well-known critics who have looked this part of the National League race over, it spells doom for the Robins, as really none of these self same critics expect the Brooklynites to win more than a third of these games before landing home, which would leave Boston, at the least calculation, at even terms with the Dodgers and the Phillies, right on their heels.

In fact, it may be said that according to the standing of the National League on the night of September 12th insofar as Brooklyn, Boston and Philadelphia are concerned will represent their standing at the close of the championship race on October 1st next, with the chances all in favor of the Braves to lead the procession.

Not only have the Boston club got the edge in the race at this moment, but they have a manager and team that have proven themselves one of the hardest propositions in the baseball world to beat.

Connie Mack's catchers have had a very bad season. Meyer is now recuperating after an operation for appendicitis, and Haley is out of the game with a split finger. Schang, an ex-catcher, has also been on the hospital list this season.

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