

In the World of Sport

Lajoie Not Oldest Big League Veteran

Bobby Wallace Three Years Senior to Toronto Manager in Big Show.

The scribes have said much about the coming of Napoleon Lajoie to Toronto and the minor leagues and Honus Wagner and Eddie Plank have been heralded continually as players of great endurance, but there is an old-timer who is passing along into the major league discards who will get much less praise than he deserves.

He is none other than Bobby Wallace, who has played big league ball around St. Louis as long as the younger generation of baseball fans can remember.

Lajoie served nineteen years in the big leagues. Honus Wagner is strutting his nineteenth season. Wallace is quitting after twenty-two years as a player and umpire. He put in twenty consecutive years as a player in Cleveland and St. Louis.

It was in 1894 that Bobby Wallace started as a pitcher for Pat Tenney's team when Cleveland was in the National League. He pitched for three years and then became a third baseman. In 1899, when St. Louis got the Cleveland team, Wallace went along as shortstop. After 1901 Wallace went to the Browns and he is just finishing up with that club.

Twelve years of crack short-stopping for the Browns is the record that Wallace can point to with just pride.

During his career in the majors, Wallace has been a manager, too. He finally gave up his managerial job to George Stovall. But now Bobby, who is forty-three years old, says his playing days are over and admits he is slowing up. He may become a scout for some big league club, and whether he remains in baseball in any capacity, he will have little to worry over, for he has made a lot of money and has been smart enough to lay the large end of it away for the time when his ball-playing career came to an end.

WILL CALL OFF STRIKE

In the Event of the United States Entering War.

The war cloud has brought about a decided lull in the impending baseball strike situation.

"This is a national crisis," said President Tenor of the National League "when we are all concerned with greater things than baseball."

President David L. Fultz of the Players' Fraternity repeated what he said on Saturday night—that the strike issue would be shelved in the event of a national crisis.

Ten Seconds for Safety

The Grand Trunk Railway system is displaying in prominent places in their stations, shops and other places conspicuous notices calling public attention to the necessity of taking safety precautions in crossing railway tracks or in being around in any capacity a railway.

If people would take but ten seconds of forethought many an accident would be averted. Attention is called to the fact that 3,300 motor drivers were reported last year as having run over and killed or maimed persons and 11,815 people did not take the precaution to look in either direction at public crossings, thus bringing sorrow and suffering to many homes. Ten seconds of forethought would avert many an accident.

Up to Les Darcy.

Les Darcy must make good with McCoy. If he doesn't there is small chance of his ever getting another \$50,000 guarantee. He has promised Grant Hugh Brown that he will box again in three weeks if he is successful against McCoy, and Brown has practically agreed to guarantee to meet either Dillon, Miske or Gibbons. Darcy will fight Gibbons some sweet day, but from present indications he wants to clean up a few of the lesser lights first. Gibbons and Darcy will always be the attraction, no matter when they decide to box.

Chinese in Canadian Sport.

Out in Vancouver, it is not a strange sight to see Chinese boys taking the same place in sports as the white jads. The champion public school football team of Vancouver for the past season had five Celestials as playing members and one of them was captain of the team. Perhaps the time is not far distant when the Chinese will be taking part in every line of Canadian sport.

SPORTING NOTES.

Charles ("Heinie") Wagner, coach of the Boston American League Baseball Club, sent his signed contract to President H. H. Frazer.

California paid out \$60,000 in bounties for mountain lions at \$20 each during 1916. Statistics show that a mountain lion will kill 50 deers a year.

Portland, Ore., is the only city in the United States that has a trophy competition in which only 20-gauge guns are allowed.

It is claimed that the 1916 bag of rabbits in Pennsylvania will exceed 4,000,000, thirty-five muskrats were trapped in Wisconsin in 1916.

Ad. Brennan, veteran pitcher and former Bison, who was with Atlanta last season, broke his right arm in an automobile accident near Iola, Kan., the other day. Note that it was his right, and that Brennan is a southpaw.

William Abstein, of St. Louis, veteran first baseman, has been named manager of the Hartford team, of the Eastern League. He expects to get several young players from the St. Louis Cardinals for his team. Bill formerly played for Providence, in the old eastern days.

First baseman Clarence Kraft, last year with Milwaukee, has been sold to the Wilkesbarre club. Kraft was with "Bill" Clymer's Louisville club the early part of last season.

Grouchy Gus says: You can't blame some ball players for wanting to call a strike. They've had so many strikes called on 'em by umpires that they want to see how it feels to call one themselves.

Boxing fans were somewhat surprised to learn through an interview from Governor Whitman his belief that a bill to repeal the Frawley boxing law in New York State would not mean the end of boxing.

OTTAWA ICE RACES HAVE SUDDEN CLOSE

The Club Would Not Continue Them With a Losing Proposition.

The annual midwinter race meeting on the Ottawa River wound up Monday. Though it had been advertised as a six-day meeting to conclude Wednesday, officials of the Hull Driving Club announced that it closed with the free-for-all this afternoon, explaining that the new laws passed by the Province of Quebec, which layed harness meetings heavily, made it impossible to continue. They will have a deficit of about \$15,000 on the meeting. One of the directors said the decision of the Quebec Government to collect the new tax meant the death of trotting and pacing in the Province, as it was impossible under present conditions to install pari-mutuel machines.

LIEUT. O'HARA WOUNDED.

Former Ball Player is in an English Hospital.

Lieut. "Bill" O'Hara, formerly of the Toronto Baseball Club, was wounded on the Somme, but is rapidly recovering, according to a letter received by President J. J. McCaffery, the Toronto baseball magnate. Writing from the Westcliffe Hospital at Folkestone, the baseball bomber says that he was knocked out by a blow on the back of the head which affected his eyes; but that after two weeks in the hospital he is pretty nearly fit again to return to France. He also mentions that he was cut about the face, but does not tell how he sustained his wounds. While in the hospital O'Hara was visited by Col. "Dick" Greer and Captain Tom Flanagan, of the defunct Sportmen's Battalion. "Bill" likes the life and he is eager to get back on the firing line.

Welsh Suspended.

Freddie Welsh, lightweight champion boxer, was suspended from participating in bouts in Wisconsin for one year, the maximum punishment under the State law. He was charged with "shamming and stalling" in his recent bout with Ritchie Mitchell in Milwaukee.

MUST GET IN LINE OR GET BLACKLISTED

Major League Owners Will Issue Ultimatum to Ball-players.

While all of the club owners in the National and American Leagues will term with their respective players as individuals, it is known that the owners have agreed that there is to be no leniency in dealing with the situation; that the demands of the players are to be met only so far as they are considered reasonable, and that the threatened strike is not to be considered in the guise of a club to make the owners accede to the demands of the players.

The club owners are of the opinion that the contracts they have offered the ball players are fair, and that the terms stated therein are as fair as they can go in paying salaries under existing conditions. They have determined to put it squarely up to the players—they can either accept them or leave them.

It is further understood that all players who are not in line when the big league seasons open on April 12 and who have no good excuses for their failure to be in line, shall be blacklisted. Of course, club owners will not make statements to that effect, but it is reported that such is their intention.

THE O. H. A. CONTESTS

Are Now at Most Interesting Stage of Season.

The Toronto Telegram says: The respective races in the three series of the O.H.A. are now at the most interesting stage and from now until the end of the season the fans throughout the province will be busy watching the work of the various series. With the exception of the senior series, the group winners have been practically all decided and many second-round games are down for decision this week. In the senior series it will be about three weeks before the winners are declared. Riversides are certain to get in the final, but their opponents will be problematical. Local fans look for Dentals to oppose the champions, but they must first win their group and then dispose of either Sarnia or Preston in the semi-final. Eastern fans look for the Depot Battery team of Kingston to go a long way, but in the intermediate, while Kitchener are being counted upon to provide the competition in the west, in the junior series there are many good teams, and it is a very open question. Aura Lee will not have the easy time they had last year, and it would not be at all surprising if the junior title left Toronto.

TOM FLANAGAN AT FRONT.

"Keep Your Head Down and Be Careful"—Trench Warning.

A letter from Capt. Tom C. Flanagan, paymaster of the 180th Sportsmen, was received in Toronto from the general Irishman yesterday. It is dated France, Jan. 22nd. He writes: "Just a line to let you know that I am still on the job. I got over here a few days ago. Remember me to all the boys." He adds in conclusion the famous trench warning: "Keep your head down and be careful."

English Breeding Hit Hard.

Many racing stables are selling out and a lot of the small breeders have quit business in England because of the demands of the war, according to Philip Chinn, the Kentucky breeder and horseman, who has returned from the British Isles after buying thirty horses from John A. Drake, seven mares for R. T. Wilson and two 2-year-olds for his own stable. The indications are for fewer racing days in England this year, with tests restricted to Newmarket Heath, probably 50 days in extent.

In Defence of Boxing.

Down in New York State there is talk of repealing the bill which permits boxing bouts—in other words, of killing the boxing game. It doesn't require legislation to kill the boxing game as it has been conducted in New York. The promoters and managers will kill it themselves, without any legislative assistance.

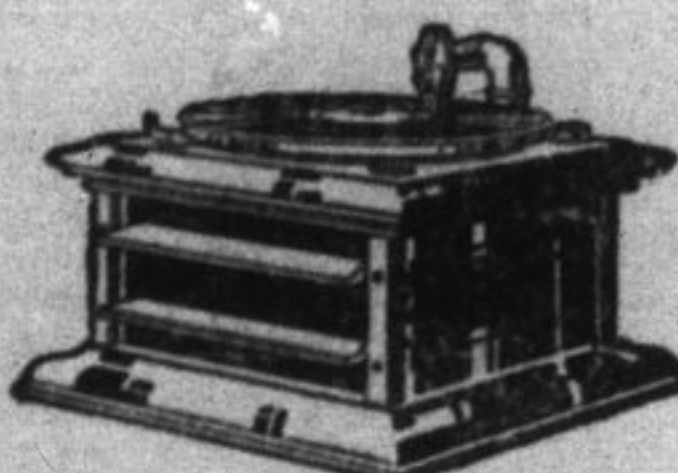
What New York State does need is

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Driving 33 Years Then Wins. The harness races on the Ottawa River brought out a unique record last Friday. Driver Humphries, who handed the reins when R.O. won the classified race. Humphries, who is a man about 55 years of age, has been driving harness racers for about 33 years and Friday he piloted home his first winner.

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