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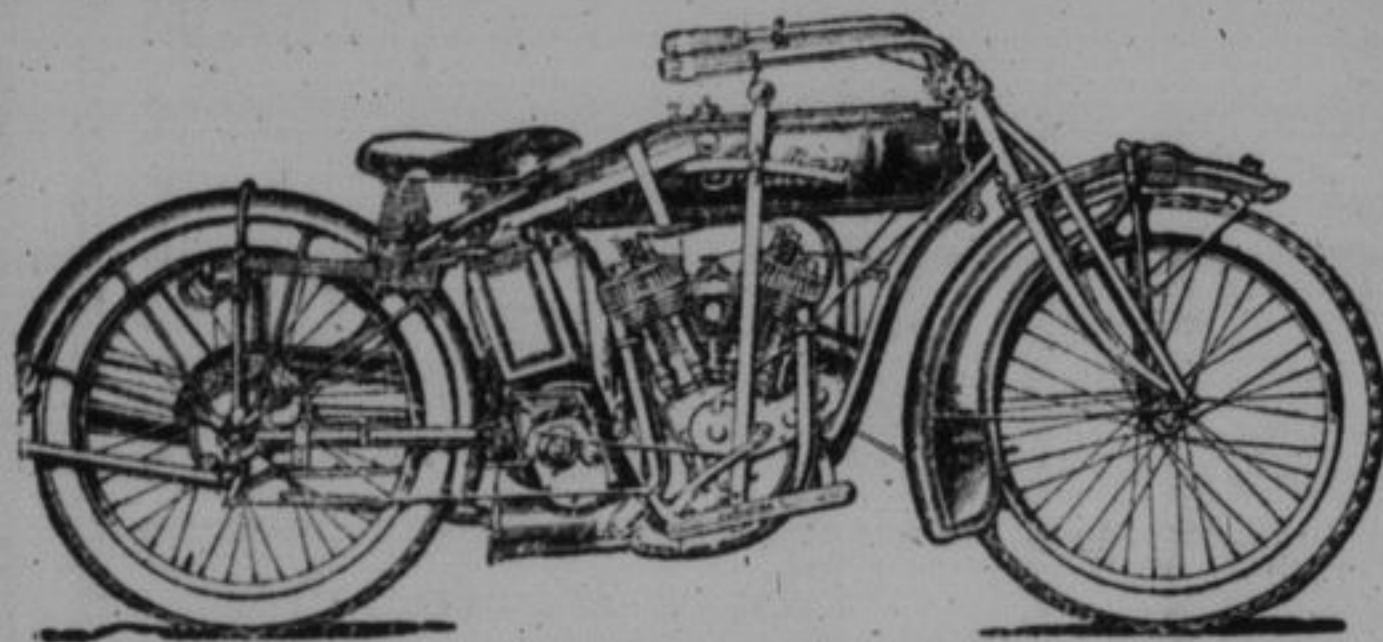
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With Mike Doolan piloting Men—using the Norfolk club, a trio of this, Mike Doolan at the helm with former major league stars have got Rochester, and Arthur Devlin man—under cover for 1917.

In the World of Sport

GIANTS ARE THE BEST BET

FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Club Which Beats McGraw's Team Will Win Pennant—Open Race in American—Red Sox Not Likely to Repeat.

News from the south of baseball practice in hot, blistering weather is music to the ears of the baseball fans in New York. With all the clubs at their training camps preparing for the season's campaign, speculation has already started about the chances of the various clubs. In another short month, the clubs will be back home.

In the National League, there is every reason to believe that the club which beats the Giants will win the pennant, says The Times. Just what club will be able to accomplish this feat is a mystery. Brooklyn is not expected to be able to repeat last year's extraordinary occurrence. Brooklyn, by the way, is the only one of the Major League clubs which has any of the best players outside the ranks. Zach Wheat and Ed. Pfeffer are still holding out. With the addition of much promising new material, the Giants should be even stronger this year than last. There will be trouble, however, from the Boston and Brooklyn clubs because of their strong pitching staffs. Philadelphia will bear watching for the same reason, but none of the western clubs looks formidable enough to cause the Giants serious difficulty. As a fielding and batting combination, it is doubtful if the New York Club has an equal.

Will Miss Carrigan.

It seems probable that there will be a new pennant winner in the American League this season. The Boston Red Sox have now occupied a high place in the game so long that it is only natural to expect them to slip back. The retirement of Manager "Bill" Carrigan, will be a great loss to the club. While Jack Barry may prove a success as a manager, it will take some time before he can instill the confidence and spirit into the men that Carrigan did. The game has never had a cleverer leader than the retired Boston pilot. He had that rare faculty of getting the best out of his players at all times. Carrigan would never admit defeat, a trait which he also imparted to his players. There are several veterans, no matter how good they are, cannot last forever.

Three Contenders.

Chicago, New York and Detroit will be clubs to be reckoned with during the coming season. The Yankees in particular have bright prospects. If Malsel fits in at second base, Donovan's team will be strong in every position. The pitching staff ranks with the best in the league. The White Sox seem to have an abundance of promising talent, but at no one time has Manager Rowland had all his players doing their best. They lack concerted action. It has been an in and out club. Individually its players are among the best in the game. Detroit will again be dangerous, just as the Tigers were last year.

The pitching staff was Detroit's only weakness last season, and Manager Jennings has strengthened this department of his team. With good pitching, Detroit's remarkable batting strength would undoubtedly keep the club in the pennant fight. It would seem that there are certain to be many upsets in both leagues this year, and, after all, there is just about what pleases the enormous baseball public more than anything else.

Chinaman With Portland.

An almond-eyed son of the Orient will appear behind the plater for Portland when the Coast League festivities begin, says a Portland despatch. Manager McCredie cabled from Honolulu that he had signed Kenyon, a Chinese catcher. He showed up in scintillating style while the Beavers were being beaten by the Chinese team in Honolulu.

Working Out in Havana.

Pitcher Earl Hamilton, of the St. Louis Browns, is working out in Havana, Cuba, with a number of Cubans, including Marsana, Acosta, Gonzales and other Cuban big leaguers. The work should put him in the best of shape to start the season with the American League pennant chasers.

CARRIGAN CREDITED

With the Best Inside Play in 1916 Baseball.

Bill Carrigan, the retiring leader of the world champion Red Sox, is credited with directing the best "inside play" of the 1916 baseball year.

The Sox and Yankees were battling in Boston in a four-game series that carried them along to Sept. 30th. The crimson-hosed warriors needed three games to cinch the pennant, the Yanks wanted them to engage for themselves a place in the first division. And bitter battling ensued.

The teams went along to a tie until the last half of the tenth. Then the Sox populated the bases with two men out. The batter was "flagged" on his way to the plate by Carrigan, who whispered words into his sound receiver and then scooted back to the coaching lines.

With two out, the bases full and a hit needed for victory, what would 99 out of 100 batters do? Try to club the ball out of the lot. Right. And that's what the Yankees, as well as the spectators figured would be tried. But they all reckoned with the crafty Carrigan, who had ordered nothing more nor less than a bunt—a seemingly suicidal play at the time.

The batter, followed orders, the bunt rolled slowly, tantalizingly along the base lines. The Yank infielders tore in madly—but too late! The runner on third had crossed the plate, the batter had reached first in safety, the dangerous "squeeze play" had worked—and the Sox had won the game that cinched for them the 1916 pennant of the American League.

SLOW BALL PITCHERS

What Has Become of This Type of Slow Ball Artist.

What has become of the slow ball pitchers? Nap Rucker, who pitched the slowest ball that ever crept up on a big league batsman, has retired from the service of the Brooklyn, while Jean Dubuc, another rather famous slow baller, is also through with the Detroit Tigers after some six years of splendid service.

To the layman it is often a mystery how these slow ball pitchers could get by. Reporters, some of whom had played ball at college and elsewhere, would sit behind Jack Warhop's service and their hands would itch for a bat so they could stick one of Hop's benders into the Harlem River. But Warhop, though never a star, lasted in the big league seven years. And Jack never had any luck, or he would have been rated much higher as a pitcher than was the case.

Then there is Al Demaree, with his dinky little slow curve, which has made monkeys out of the Giants for the last two years. Everybody always admitted Demaree had hardly a thing, but he gets by. While everybody was raving about Al the first year he was with the Giants, 1913, McGraw once said: "No, Demaree is not a great pitcher. He has nothing but a little curve and confidence." Al perhaps has less now than he had then, but the little curve and confidence won five games from the Giant sluggers last season. And Al, always feels so bad after he has taken a fall out of McGraw's bunch!

No Date Trouble.

N.H.A. officials anticipate little or no trouble over dates for the Stanley Cup games on the Coast. The N.H.A. championship will not be decided before March 10th. President Frank Patrick has suggested that the first game on the Coast take place in the night of March 17th. This would necessitate the departure of the N. H.A. champions on Sunday, March 11th, and would force them to go direct to the Coast to play, without a day's break or even an opportunity to rest up after the long journey. Ottawa wants the start put off until March 20th, if the Senators win, but it is possible the Coast will have a play-off too, and a natural delay ensue thereby. If Seattle loses its remaining game to Portland, and Vancouver wins its two remaining games with Spokane, Vancouver and Seattle would tie for the championship, necessitating a play-off.

SPORT

Matty McIntyre, the former Detroit and Providence player, has succeeded Tige Schmidt as manager of the Mobile team in the Southern Association.

As a confirmed bleeder, the mare Virginia M., in the stable of H. G. Bedwell at Havana, will not be allowed to start there again.

BASEBALL BRIEFS

Only flaw in David Fultz's strike plans was that the players didn't know anything about them.

Ball players don't care a rap if their owners snub them, but they get very angry if they are cut.

Benny Kauff was louder than a Caruso record this time last winter, but this year he hasn't made the noise of a weak lamb heat.

Connie Mack has released Second Baseman Harold Cable, formerly of the New York Americans, to the Atlanta Southern League team.

Carl Sawyer, Washington American infielder, has accepted terms for 1917, and will quit the movie game. Sawyer was offered a contract that called for more money than he is receiving in the movies.

Harry L. Frazee, president of the Boston American League Club, announced last week that he was considering an offer made by business men of Honolulu to have the team do the spring training there in the spring of 1918.

Harold Janyrin, who played second base for the Red Sox after Barry was hurt, and all through the world series, has signed, after a long argument, Hooper, Lewis, Hobitzel, Mays and Gregg and the holdouts now.

Jack Nees, former Detroit Tiger, has been cut from \$3,000 to \$2,500 by Comiskey, and says that he will play independent ball rather than sign at the salary mentioned.

Dave Griffith, who was proclaimed as the best catcher in the Western League last year, has been sold to the Mobile club of the Southern League by Wichita.

Joe Benz announces his willingness and eagerness to receive military instructions and says that a drill master will be welcomed by the Chicago White Sox players.

Pittsburg has secured Warren Adams, a young first baseman, whom Brooklyn asked waivers on.

Joe Bush, star pitcher, and Amos Strunk, the fleet outfielder of the Philadelphia American League baseball team, both of whom have been holdouts, have signed contracts.

Charles W. Murphy has sued the Chicago National League club for the rent on the old West Side Park. He wants the court to decide either that the lease holds or that the property reverts to him. If the lease is canceled, then Murphy will rent the park to Billy Sunday, who wants to hold one of his religious meetings there.

FIGHT IN TOLEDO.

Darcy and Dillon Offered Match at That Place.

Following the announcement yesterday that Governor Whitman, of New York, had forbidden the scheduled bout between Les Darcy, of Australia, and Jack Dillon, of Indianapolis, the Toledo, Ohio, Athletic Association sent a telegram to Dillon's manager, Sam Murbarger, offering \$40,000, which if accepted would bring the match to Toledo late this month. Under the Toledo proposal the division of the money would be decided upon by the principals. The bout would be of twelve rounds.

Boxing Flourishes in England.

Boxing is in a flourishing condition in England; despite the war, and the praises of Bombardier Wells are again being sung as a result of the Bombardier's victory over Company Sergt.-Major Dan Voyles, a British army champion. Having eliminated Voyles, Wells is again without a rival for his honors, and all his time, for the present at least, will be devoted to his military duties.

Maranville Signs Contract.

Walter Maranville, crack shortstop of the Boston Nationals, who has been at odds with the club management over his salary for next season, has notified President Haughton that he had accepted the club's terms. It is understood that he will be paid about \$7,500, which is said to be more than is received by any other shortstop in the game.

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