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MONUMENTS

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In The World Of Sport

STAR CATCHERS INCREASE

ELEVEN IN THE BIG LEAGUES HAVE REPUTATIONS.

It is now considered a poor club which has not a star backstop.

Eleven catchers in the big leagues almost one for every club, enjoy the reputation of being stars of the first water. In addition, there are several more acknowledged fine catchers and good ball players in other positions.

There is no other position—not even the outfield with its surplus of performers—which boasts the same number of high-class stars—men who excel day in and day out. The White Sox have Ray Schalk; the Athletics Schang; Thomas is with the Red Sox; Walters, though a youth, is making baseball history for the Yankees; Lew McCarty is one of the greatest ball players in the big leagues; Bill Hariden is still a star; Frank Snyder of the Cardinals is the particular bait of every big league manager; Steve O'Neil of the Indians is a star; Bill Killefer, despite his long service, still looms far ahead of many rivals. Art Wilson has developed into a high class man under the direction of Fred Mitchell; Hank Gowdy, hero of the 1914 world's series, still stands as a high-class performer.

In addition to this illustrious list there is Irvy Wingo of the Reds, who can go into the outfield and play a hang-up game of baseball. Frank Snyder and Lew McCarty have played first base acceptably. Wallie Schang has done duty at third base and the outfield besides his catching chores.

The outfield doesn't present more than a few men like Cobb, Speaker, Jackson, Felsch, Kauff, Burns, Wheat and men in their class. First base stars usually pause when comparisons are made with Sisler and Chase. Jake Daubert is about the only one who approaches, and he has a lot to perform before he attains the all around excellence of Chase and Sisler.

Second base isn't a comparison with the catchers. Eddie Collins, Buck Herzog and Jack Barry are hogging the best part of it.

There are many, many shortstops—stars that can field, but can't hit. Bancroft, Fletcher, Maranville, Hornsby, and Bush predominate. Heinie Zimmerman stands alone as a star among the third basemen, unless one figures Buck Weaver in his class, which is extremely doubtful.

Naturally, a baseball club doesn't carry two or three first basemen, a brace of second sackers, or a handful of third basemen, which gives the catching staffs the edge. Any ball club has two catchers—usually three. But the average is some higher for stars among catchers than in any other department.

The pitchers, of course, hardly can be figured with the others. Pitchers are so plentiful on the clubs that a star or so is the rule rather than the exception. It is a poor big league club that can't flash at least

one shining light among its mound performers. Taking every club there can be picked one star from among its hurlers and judging from the number of catchers who are voted halos, it is a poor club that hasn't a starring backstop.

WORLD'S SERIES HERO RUNNING A MILK ROUTE.

Josh Devore Now Engaged in Milk Business in Home Town.

It may be of interest to fans to know that Josh Devore, former Giant right fielder, and known as the world's series charm, has retired from baseball and is running a milk route at his home town, Chilli-cothe, O. Josh was a great little character. At one time it looked as though he would develop into one of the game's star players. His best year was 1911, when he got his first world's series money.

Josh played on two Giant pennant winners and made a catch in the 1912 world's series which put thousands of dollars into the New York and Boston treasuries. But for a catch by Devore in the third game of the series in four games, one of them being a tie. As it was the series stretches into eight games, and after the fourth game all goes to the clubs.

Devore, Ames and Groh were sent to Cincinnati in the Fromme deal of 1912, but after being released to Philadelphia Devore landed with the Boston Braves in time to get a \$4,000 slice which went to the individual Braves for beating the Athletics in the world's series of 1914.

JACK JOHNSTON AN EDITOR.

Publishes Weekly Newspaper and Works in Bull Ring.

Jack Johnson, the ex-heavyweight champion, won't be pushed out of the limelight. No sah!

Not long ago the news floated about that the big negro had sunk a German undersea boat single-handed, and that he was the hero of the Spanish nation.

This report, published in a newspaper devoted to negro readers, was, of course, untrue, but it made good rainy afternoon reading, at that. But Johnson really is in Spain. That part is true.

Johnson is a resident of Barcelona, and it is said he finds the "picknick" good.

And they say ohson is not worrying about money. He is making the green stuff hand over fist. First he has purchased an interest in a weekly newspaper in Barcelona, and is an editor—a real dyed-in-the-black-wool sports editor. But best of all, the American Ace of Spades has become a treader. He works in the bull ring at least three times a week, and they do say he is about as hard a customer for the bulls as he was for the heavyweight title aspirants of the United States.

Sporting Notes

Frank J. Marshall, United States chess champion, was defeated recently by Dr. John D. Thomas, chess champion of Java. The game was a friendly one.

Pitcher Al. Mamaux has been suspended for breaking training rules. This is his second suspension for the same reason, and he may be out for some time.

Leslie Mann, left fielder of the Chicago Cubs, has been called into the U. S. Army Service and has been ordered to report on August 5th.

Arthur and Willie Spencer, the Toronto boys, won their heats in the Criterion Stakes, with a purse of 1,000, at Newark.

Klefer, who twirled for Cleveland on Saturday, secured his first hit of the season off Pitcher Noyes of the Athletics.

President Barrow of the International League has let out Umpire Blackburn. The Leafs have had much trouble with this umpire.

The Thousand Island Yacht Club's championship cup motor boat races to be contested on the St. Lawrence river on August 8th, 9th and 10th, promise to be of unusual interest this year.

CRUISE AND COBE BATTING LEADERS

Tris Speaker Has Regained Second Place in the American League.

Cruise, of St. Louis, has batted into a tie with Roush, of Cincinnati, for National League honors, unofficial averages released showing them hitting .331. Roush, playing in 73 games, five less than his rival, has driven out 99 hits for 124 bases, while Cruise has stretched 98 hits for a total of 131 bases. The St. Louis outfielder made twelve doubles, six triples and three home runs as against eight doubles, six three base hits and one circuit drive for Roush.

Terrific hitting of six Cincinnati players is keeping the club safely in the first division and in possession of team batting honors. Hal Chase, veteran first base star with Cincinnati, is a point below the 300 class, and Catcher Clarke is hitting .321, but has only played in 36 games.

Hans Wagner, the Pittsburgh veteran, is batting .313 for 35 games. Carey, of Pittsburg, increased his lead in base stealing to 21. Hornsby is in possession of home run honors with eight. The averages include games of Wednesday.

Leading batters for half of their club's games: Roush, Cincinnati, .331; Cruise, St. Louis, .331; Hornsby, St. Louis, .323; Fischer, Pittsburg, .321; Griffith, Cincinnati, .317; Rariden, New York, .316; Rawlings, Boston, .313; Neale, Cincinnati, .311; Burns, New York, .299; Groh, Cincinnati, .299.

Tris Speaker regained second place in the American League, the Cleveland star deposing Sisler, of St. Louis, with an average of .343. Sisler is five points behind. Ty Cobb fell off two points, but is showing the way with .373. Chapman, of Cleveland, increased his lead in sacrifice hitting, and base stealing to 44 and 30 respectively. Pipp, of New York, still leads in home run hitting with six. Detroit clung to team batting honors with .254.

Leading batters for half of their club's games: Cobb, Detroit, .373; Speaker, Cleveland, .343; Sisler, St. Louis, .338; Ruml, St. Louis, .327; Melnis, Philadelphia, .315; Baker, New York, .314; Chapman, Cleveland, .313; Heilman, Detroit, .293; C. Milan, Washington, .293; Veach, Detroit, .292.

ONTARIO TRACKS' BIG YEAR.

Enormous Increase in Revenue to Government.

Preliminary reports to the Government by Clarkson, Gordon & Dillworth, accountants appointed by the Government to report upon business done at race courses throughout Ontario, show that the attendance at meets this year has been larger than any year in their history.

The Government will collect about 150 per cent. more in amusement tax from race course admissions this year than in 1916. This is due to the increase of the tax from 10c to 25c and the larger attendance at races.

Although racing ends on August 1 and there will be no fall meets in consequence, the Government will this year collect over \$100,000 from the race courses alone in amusement tax. It is stated that the firm of official accountants will not have their report completed before September.

Baseball in England.

The London Sporting Times. The advent of 300,000 sporty Canadians in our midst, the game of baseball is fast becoming popular in this country. Since the Military Baseball League was formed by J. G. Lee, of Central Buildings, Westminster, S.W., large crowds are attending games in all parts of the country. At Southend, Taplow and Epsom and Paddington recreation grounds, regular crowds of three thousand to four thousand people witnessed the games.

At the games played in Southend the lord mayor of London and the Mayor of Southend have attended, and the crowds were beyond expectation. Mrs. Ward Astor is taking a prominent part in entertaining the team at Taplow.

James E. Ten Eyck, veteran coach of the Syracuse University crews, has accepted a challenge from James Riley, former world's champion sculler, for a three-mile race on Lake Loneday, Saratoga, in September.

Francis Quimet, western amateur golf champion, is certain to be one of Uncle Sam's new army.

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