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## In the World of Sport

### SUNDAY BASEBALL BOOM

GREAT CROWDS WILL PACK NEW YORK POLO GROUNDS

Helps the Workingman—Boston, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Bar Play on the Sabbath.

Sunday baseball in New York, following the playing of Sunday games in Washington, will open a new era for baseball.

Instead of Sunday being an off day for players, practically every big league team will be engaged on the first day of the week. Fourteen out of the sixteen teams now can play each Sunday.

Were two parks available in Manhattan it would be possible for every team to play each Sunday. This, however, would entail a lot of conflicts in New York.

Unquestionably Sunday baseball in New York will be a big boom to baseball in general, particularly to the New York club. Instead of having only one big day Saturday afternoon, the local clubs now will have two days when they may expect crowds of 25,000 and upwards.

Clubs spending a week end on the Polo Grounds will get out with a bigger cheque than ever before.

In some cities in the West Sunday baseball hurt the weekday crowds. But it is unlikely that Sunday ball in New York will be different, as they are in Chicago and other large cities permitting Sunday ball.

The weekday crowds are made up largely of men who can afford to shut up their offices on a hot summer day and journey out to the ball-park. They like to avoid big crowds.

On the other hand, the Saturday and Sunday games are attended by men and boys who work hard during the week. The Saturday half holiday affords many such fans a chance to see their favorite team in action.

But there were many men who worked six days a week in New York who now will get the opportunity of seeing their favorite sport on Sundays.

It is interesting to note that Sunday baseball, like woman suffrage and prohibition, started in the West, and found the North Atlantic coast the last to surrender.

Sunday baseball has been moving steadily eastward, until Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Boston remain the only big league cities which permitted Sunday games—Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati.

Charley Ebbets tried to introduce it in Brooklyn and several times put on Sunday games in his borough, leaving boxes at the entrance for honest fans to drop coins into. However, each time the stunt was attempted the opening battery was arrested. Finally the National League discouraged further attempts in that direction.

Sunday ball has been played right along in the Far West and Chicago and St. Louis have had it for over a quarter of a century. Cincinnati had Sunday ball long before the Ohio Legislature passed a Sunday baseball bill, but when the Reds first attempted it they got into frequent jams with the Cincinnati authorities.

Before Ohio declared in favor of Sunday ball Cincinnati was able to play only because of the tolerance of the Cincinnati Police Department.

About ten years ago Detroit got Sunday baseball, giving the American League three Sunday ball towns—the same as the National. About four years later Ohio passed a Sunday baseball bill, which enabled Cleveland to get on the band wagon.

That enabled every western American League club to entertain on the first day of the week.

Washington was the next to get in line. There were such crowds in Washington with no place to go that the Commissioners of the district of Columbia informed Clark Griffith he might play Sunday games last summer. They immediately proved a big success, and until the season was terminated Washington's Sunday

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crowds were well in excess of 15,000.

Now the great metropolis of the Western Hemisphere has been assured of Sunday baseball adding the Giants, Yankees and Brooklyn to the number of clubs who now may entertain visitors on Sunday.

In other Eastern territory official sanction has lately been put on Sunday ball. Baltimore for the first time in its history is permitted to play Sunday ball on its own grounds.

In former years the Orioles used to play Sunday ball at a park outside of the city limits. The same was true in Providence, but ball was made legal in Rhode Island last week when the Governor signed a Sunday baseball bill.

Perhaps elite Boston, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh will get tired of standing apart by themselves and be the next to get in line.

### JOHNSON MEDICINE MAN.

Ex-Champion Being Lionized by Citizens of Mexico City.

Anyone who thinks Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion, is down and out should take a trip to Mexico City, where the negro boxer is living like a king in one of the palatial residences of the Mexican Capital.

Johnson wants for nothing. He is still looked upon as a champion by the Mexicans, attracts attention on the streets, and has access to all places of business and amusement.

Besides branching out as a bull-fighter in Spain, Johnson became a "doctor." He obtained the formula for a medicine said to cure nervousness. The Spaniards fell for it, and Jack derived a neat revenue.

Johnson was taken to Cuba by a syndicate of Mexicans, headed by Gen. Juan Merigo and Alfredo Brocades. The former is a member of President Carranza's staff and the latter owns one of the finest residences here. Johnson has his gymnasium in the basement.

That these men are among the most influential in the city was shown by this incident: The owner of an American drug store refused to serve the former champion a glass of soda water. Jack made this known to members of the syndicate, who promptly escorted Johnson back to the drug store and compelled the druggist to serve him.

The syndicate plans to arrange for American boxers to go to Mexico and give exhibitions with the Negro. They are particularly anxious to get Fred Fulton, although overtures will be made to Jack Dempsey, Jess Willard and other heavyweights.

The ex-champion still maintains that his bout with Willard was fixed and that he agreed to lay down to the present champion after Jack Curley and the other promoters had promised to fix it with Federal authorities for his safe return to the United States.

Rowed For Oxford in 1844. Canon William Chetwynd-Stapylton, the oldest Oxford oarsman, whose death in his ninety-fourth year occurred recently, appeared for his University against Cambridge four times in eight-oar races, and each time over a different course.

He rowed bow in the winning crew at the Thames Regatta, from Chiswick Eyot to Putney Bridge, in 1844. There were two races in 1845, Cambridge winning over the Putney to Mortlake course (Chetwynd-Stapylton rowing "2"), the Light Blues being also victorious in the Grand at Henley, when he was back at bow for Oxford. In the following year he was at "7" in the crew beaten by Cambridge in the Boat Race proper, which was rowed from Mortlake to Putney.

Marathon Winner Says "Get Married." "A married man has the best chance of becoming a successful Marathon runner," declared Carl Linder, of Quincy, who crossed the tape ahead of the field in the annual B.A.A. Marathon on Patriots' Day.

"The secret is in the diet," he explains. "If a man gets the proper kind of food, he has plenty of strength and his stomach is in good order. No man can run a Marathon unless his stomach is in shape. And it's the married man who gets the good food, as a rule."

Linder, who was refused admission to the army on two occasions because of "flat feet," is a modest chap. He is employed in a pattern shop.

Evans to Defend Titles. Owing to the amateur championship of the Western Golf Association being scheduled to be played at the Sunser Hill Golf Club, St. Louis, June 16-21, Chick Evans, who won both the national open and amateur championships in 1916, the last year they were held, will not be able to defend his open title this year at Brae Burn June 8-11. In the first place he will not be able to leave his business for two weeks in succession and travel from Chicago to Boston and then to St. Louis before returning to Chicago. He expects, however, to defend his amateur title at the Oakmont Country Club, Pittsburgh, August 18-23.

The Golf Ball Tree. Going on to a tee, how would you like to be confronted with the sign, "Don't pick golf balls." Would cause you to lose your stance, or something, wouldn't it? Out in Lincoln Park, San Francisco, this placard has been posted by Tom McCue, caretaker of the course. Several balls have been hit into a tree, which is at the railway near the eighth hole, and they have lodged in the forks of the branches. It is considered a breach of the rules to pluck any of the blossoms. As one of the players over the course put it, "The blooming tree is full of 'em."

Shortstop Jimmy Shannon, of the Jersey City team, turned his ankle in the game with Red Sox on Monday.

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