

INTIMATE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE IN PACIFIC COAST AND NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE BASEBALL IN PORTLAND.

# MORE THE BOSS FADEAWAY CURVE

## President of Portland Teams Was First to Use Famous Trick Ball.

### LOCAL MAN TELLS TALE

#### Ball Magnate Declares Christy Mathewson Was Not Discoverer of Curve That Has Fooled So Many Clever Batters.

BY ROSCOE FAWCETT.  
Christy Mathewson has been given credit for unearthing and fostering the famous "fadeaway" curve and "Big Six" is entitled to all the boasts that have been heaped. But, for a' that, the fadeaway is no new pitching parabola. It was discovered by a pitcher some 20 years ago by none other than our W. W. McCredie, president of the Portland baseball teams.

So there you are: W. W. McCredie, the Columbus of the fadeaway; next a schoolteacher, then a lawyer, Superior Court Judge, United States Congressman and finally president of two baseball teams in two of the strongest minor leagues, in America, the Pacific Coast and the Northwestern circuits.

The Portland mogul supplied a portion of this information. "Yes, it is true that I pitched the fadeaway curve back as early as 1884," admitted the 240-pound Portland magnate. "I was in Iowa, a classmate recalled early Hawkeye state ball games at baseball headquarters a day or two ago. "It came about in a peculiar way and may be of interest to you."

Started at Cornell.  
"I broke in at Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Ia., in 1879, and remained there for six years. First I played second base and then I pitched. I remember pitching when our catcher broke his hand. Then the curve ball began to make its appearance. Finally a fellow came along and taught me one game or so. Those days the backstops used only ordinary infielders' gloves with the fingers out, and the new curves almost chopped my hands to pieces."

"I began experimenting," continued M. W. McCredie. "Finally I mastered the ordinary curve, the fadeaway followed the 'in' curve. That set me thinking and I reasoned it out that if the ball could be made to curve sideways they could be made to curve down and at various other angles."

"The 'down' curve or present-day 'drop' accrued from that set of experiments, and the fadeaway came between an outcurve and a drop, soon followed. Then I was converted into a pitcher and pitched a good success at Cornell for two years."

"I have fanned as many as 25 men in one game while pitching."  
So much for the pitcher's pitching. In 1885 the future magnate threw his arm out while playing against one of the big professional teams, and gave up active pitching to become a school superintendent at Parkersburg, Ia. "Judge" entered the University of Iowa, school, graduating the following season. He was the first base for the varsity team the season of 1890.

"When I entered Iowa," explained William Wallace McCredie, "I found there another Cornell boy, E. A. Wiswall, and we became quite chummy, in fact, when we were both in the same course the two of us headed westward and located in a partnership at Astoria, at the time a friend named McCaustland, now in Seattle, I believe."

Returned to Portland.  
"We remained at Astoria only a week or two and then retraced our steps to Portland, and finally, two or three months later, settled at Vancouver, Wash."

"Oddly enough, both boys later were elevated to the Superintendency. Wiswall became judge later. He was drowned several years later in the surf at Seaside. Attorney McCredie plunged into the law, practicing until 1904, when the voters honored him with the same emblems worn by his former pal."

After the years on the bench he was re-elected without opposition in 1908, but resigned in 1909 to go to the United States Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Frank Cushing. The term lasted until 1911.

In the meantime, back in 1905, to be exact, Lawyer McCredie had become interested in his favorite pastime, baseball.

The year prior to that Walter McCredie, son of his father's oldest brother, had come West to play ball with the Portland team, and with things in a terrible mess in a baseball sense, the nephew finally came to the uncle to help on the purchase of the Portland Coast League franchise.

Inasmuch as the team had lost \$23,000 in 1903 and nearly as much in 1904, it was a hazardous venture, but both saw the possibilities of the National frolic on the Coast.

The results of that partnership are too well known to need repetition. Portland has since won four pennants in the National League. W. W. McCredie has sent enough talent up into the major leagues to produce a world's championship team were the men headed by the manager.

Among these stars must be mentioned: Sweeney, Mitchell, Gregg, Steen, Seaton, McLean, Kuhn, Olson, Peckinpaugh, Graney, Groen and a host of others.

Had Portland been exempt from major league drafts, in other words, had the McCredies been afforded the same opportunity under which Connie Mack and Muggsy McGraw have been laboring, Portland would now boast of a team fully as strong as either of the big league champions. While, by the same token, the Macks would now find themselves ennobled in history as among the greatest greaters of the baseball firmament.

These four Pacific Coast pennants adorn the walls of the headquarters in the Yeon building, and for fear some one may forget the dates, they are: 1906, 1910, 1911 and 1913.

"I ran across an old family Bible a few years ago," said the local magnate, when the subject was broached, and this I found scribbled across the fly leaf.

"William Wallace McCredie, born Sunday, April 27, 1862, 10:10 A. M. "My father was the president of the church and that's why I have always held that the church people are entitled to their Sunday mornings for worship, and why I have always opposed Sunday morning ball games."

# FANS CAN MAKE OR BREAK BALL PLAYER

## Pitcher, Failure in Hostile City, Proves Star Where Spectators Cheer.

### LEFTY LEIFIELD EXCEPTION

#### Billy Evans Says Many Games Are Decided in Grandstand and Compliments Help Always.

BY BILLY EVANS.  
CLEVELAND, Jan. 10.—(Special.)—How many games are decided in the grandstand? That is perhaps a rather unusual question. By it I mean what part does the rooting of the fans play in the result of many games. Concerted rooting really narrows itself into a battle between fans and the pitcher, for nine times out of ten the pitcher is the target for the verbal volleys of fandom.

Players, pitchers in particular, will insist that they pay no attention to what is being said to them. Players are human, although many fans seem to think otherwise, and there is no getting away from the fact that the concerted rooting of the home fans in the pinch has its influence. On nine out of every ten recruit pitchers the influence is very marked. That is one reason so many of the youngsters blow up in their early try-outs, and in spite of their years of experience, which is supposed to take the sting out of the attitude of the fans, feel keenly the effect of adverse criticism or complimentary applause.

Every player will admit that good ball players, when things are breaking toughest, will give him or her to greater efforts. Severe criticism at such a time, unless the player has a hearty and a college team, appears to him part to seek the shower bath. That is one reason why college cheering spurs on the varsity men to do their best. A strike starts in others. Why beaten, has taken new life because of the encouragement given them by the student body, and attained a glorious victory. A strike starts in others. Why the game as lost by the fans helps create a similar desire in the players.

Criticism Spoils Star Pitcher.  
There is no doubt that some players pay more attention to the attitude of the crowd than others. It would be possible to cite a dozen cases of players who failed, dismally in certain cities and cities, and who were successful elsewhere. Why? Simply because the attitude of the fans toward them was entirely different. I know one pitcher who shuddered every time the manager ordered him to start a game. The pitcher was game enough, but for various reasons the fans had taken a dislike to him, and the very mention of his name stirred up a feeling. Often before the pitcher would throw a ball, hundreds of voices would be yelling for the manager to take him out. If he happened to pass a mound and allow a hit, everyone in the grandstand seemed demanding such action on the part of the manager. As a result of this feeling, the pitcher never walked to the rubber in the proper mood or spirit. He was simply waiting for a signal from the bench that would finish him as a performer for the afternoon. This pitcher was sold to another major league club and has been highly successful ever since. Instead of being booed and jeered at as he steps on the field he is usually greeted with a signal from the bench that would finish him as a performer for the afternoon.

There are, I believe, a few pitchers who are absolutely indifferent to the attitude of the crowd. They might be classed as great money pitchers, fellows who appear to get at their top speed when pressed hardest, and when most is at stake. Christy Mathewson is one of the great money pitchers. For years he has been the mainstay of the Giants, and he has been at the stake. Chief Bender, of the Athletics, is another such pitcher. Connie Mack has often said that Bender was the most he always called upon in the pinch, and that the big Indian had never failed him.

Bender Best in Pinch.  
I have worked many games back of Bender and know for a fact that his greatest exhibitions have been against the crack clubs, with much depending on the result of the game. Against tall-end clubs have been the Chief Bender's ordinary. Perhaps no pitcher is jeered and kidded more than Mack's famous twirler. The fact that he is an Indian causes spectators everywhere to greet his appearance with a bunch of wild war whoops,

# PAT CONLEY REAL FIND FOR DUGDALE

## Seattle Magnate Gets Crack Felder and Clean-Up Hit- ter From Montana.

### CONFIDENCE PUT IN MARTINI

#### Walla Walla Outfielder Will Get Thorough Tryout in Left Field. Pirates Place Dependence on Pitcher Kantelehner.

BY PORTUS BAXTER.  
SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 10.—(Special.)—The unusual good nature of President Dugdale just now, despite the trials and tribulations of baseball, may be traced to the discovery that he picked up a better prospect than he imagined when he signed Outfielder and First Baseman Pat Conley, of Lewiston, Mont. Conley is not an inexperienced hand right from the bush. He has played ball for several years in the Central Kansas League and in 1910 led the Central Kansas League with a batting average of .352.

The showing he made that year gave him a reputation as a clean-up hitter on the ladders but he did not like the offer made and finally dropped out of the game. Later on he took up independently, and finally landed in the same section where First Baseman West, of the Tacoma team, played. He was a clean-up hitter over there, and judging from reports, got around the bases in good shape.

Mr. Dugdale is hoping that Conley will prove to be the man he seeks for right field, a position that was filled by Charlie Fullerton toward the end of last season, after Lester Wilson blew up. Charlie would be all right in the outer garden for the coming race, but President Dugdale is figuring on having him back on the bench. Mr. Dugdale is hoping that Conley will prove to be the man he seeks for right field, a position that was filled by Charlie Fullerton toward the end of last season, after Lester Wilson blew up. Charlie would be all right in the outer garden for the coming race, but President Dugdale is figuring on having him back on the bench.

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# AMATEUR TEAMS EXPECT BIG YEAR

## Semi-Pro Baseball Receives Boost in Northwest When Bushers Step Up.

### OREGON BOYS BACKWARD

#### Better Organization for 1914 Assured by Co-Operation of Teams With Portland Branch of A. G. Spalding Company.

While it is too early to make predictions regarding baseball, amateurs and the "semi-pros" in and about Portland and the Northwest in general are looking forward to the best season in the history of the game.

There are several reasons for the advance in spirit of the game. The biggest factor probably is the fact so many of the "bushers" from Oregon towns entered professional ball last year. Many of them made good and more will have a chance next season.

There seems to be no logical reason for the fact that a majority of the boys taken on the Northwestern League and Tri-State come from California and the South. Oregon boys have been a bit backward in putting themselves in the front. A more thorough organization of teams, so that more games can be played is one of the needs.

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# EDWARDS FINDS PERTH MINNIVILLE CATCHER TO PLAY WITH SEATTLE IN 1914.

## Brinker to Coach Washington Team in Place of Lou Nordyke—Horr Is After Soccer Games.

### SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 10.—(Special.)

President Dugdale, of the Seattle club of the Northwestern League, announced today that A. Edwards, a catcher of McMinville, Or., had accepted terms from Seattle. Dugdale now has four backstops, Cadman, Wally, Hohn and Edwards.

Dode Brinker will coach the University of Washington baseball team if Vancouver will give him permission. Lou Nordyke is out of the running, as he will manage Edmonton in the West-Canada League.

The varsity team will take up soccer immediately, according to Graduate Manager Horr. He hopes Oregon will play the first annual game this winter.

Sullivan to Umpire Federals.  
ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 10.—"Big Bill" Sullivan, last year one of the Federal League's umpires and prior to that an official of both the American Association and Eastern League, has been offered a contract by the Federal League for 1914. Sullivan has been requested to negotiate with Tom Kelley, the veteran International League umpire.

Dolan Goes to Outlaws.  
CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—A. J. Dolan, third baseman of the St. Louis Nationals, has signed to play with the Baltimore Federals. It was announced today by Manager Knabe, of Boston. Knabe said he had telegraphed an offer to Pitcher Zabel, of the Chicago Nationals. Knabe expects to leave for the East this afternoon.

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# HERZOG WORRIES OVER CRITICISM, FIGHTER AND MATHEWSON PREDICT MANY UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCES AS LEADER OF REDS.

## Effects of Worry Over Playing Position and Directing Game Is Told by Christy.

### FAILURES LAID TO TASK

#### Herzog Worries Over Criticism, Is Fighter and Mathewson Predicts Many Unpleasant Experiences as Leader of Reds.

BY CHRISTY MATHEWSON,  
The Giants' Star Pitcher.  
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10.—(Special.)—There is one phase of big league baseball which many fans and ballplayers overlook in their calculations of a man's ability. It is the big strain of the game and this, I believe, is responsible for the failure of so many playing managers. It is the case of a playing manager there is the strain of playing the position and the added one of trying to manage the club and worrying about it when it is losing. And those who know from actual experience tell me that this worrying is some strain all by itself.

Chance and Fred Clarke have won the two big successes of recent years as playing managers. Stahl was successful for many years, but he won the world's championship for the Boston Red Sox, and I believe he would have put it over again if he had given him the same strain of a manager, but they fired him as soon as the club began to go a little bad the next summer. It takes a certain delicate compound or temperament for a man to be a success as a player and a manager at the same time, and even then the job is a hard one to follow.

Chance, Stahl and Clarke all have even dispositions, but it wore on every one of them.

Cubs Enough to Worry.  
Chance showed that he was forced to quit the game actively earlier than he probably would have done if he had been only a player throughout his career. The great strain of leading the Chicago Cubs—a fighting, "crabbing" crowd, and a hard bunch to manage—was enough to give anyone chronic headaches. He was always scrapping among themselves, and also always scrapping for themselves when the game was over. The old Cub machine was one of the most peculiar ever put together in the big leagues. It was a team with a great amount of "heat" and nearly every man having a remarkable personality. It was the clash of these personalities that made the club a hard one to manage. The chance of old had the iron personality of them all, and he managed with words or fists or fines, whichever he thought would be to his advantage.

There are many interesting "inside" stories of the old Cubs that I am going to tell some in when they won't hurt anyone's feelings.

Chance has a nerve of tempered steel. He won with this nerve, but the nerve was a curse to him. He was worn on him. Perhaps the many times he was "beaten" helped to affect his head, but he told me that he believed Summer would even be better than club and playing on it were largely responsible for making the recent operation of the club what it is.

This job of managing and playing is a tough one, Matty. Chance said to me in the season of 1912, when he was trying to get through the heat of mid-summer at first base, with his head splitting open with pain.

Clarke Affected by Strain.  
Fred Clarke has a more even temperament than Chance, but he has not the iron-driving methods. Nevertheless, he has a great deal of heat, and he has now become a bench manager, pure and simple. Clarke climbs all over the bench, and he has made a show on him three or four years ago, and he has now become a bench manager, pure and simple. Clarke climbs all over the bench, and he has made a show on him three or four years ago, and he has now become a bench manager, pure and simple.

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Up to this point I have been speaking of playing-managers who led winning teams. Look at the list on the lower Miller Huggins was flitting with the fringe of nervous prostration last summer. He was a great manager, but he was not a playing-manager. He was a manager, and he was a great manager.

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