

ODD MALADY FOOLS CHANCE

TINKER CLAIMS CHANCE IS DUE TO "DIE."

Has Habit of Thrusting Head Into the Ball's Course Often.

Manager Tinker of the Cincinnati Reds is much worried about Frank Chance, manager of the New York Americans, and fears that he will be killed during the 1913 season if he carries out his announced intention of playing regularly.

"Chance," said Tinker recently, "has fallen a victim to the same strange ail-



Photo by American Press Association.
LATEST PHOTO OF FRANK CHANCE, MANAGER OF THE YANKEES.

ment that retired Hughie Jennings from active participation in baseball. He is seemingly hypnotized or fascinated by a fast pitched ball whizzing along at the level of his head. Instead of switching his head aside or stepping back, Chance deliberately steps forward, thrusts his head at the ball and actually seems to follow the progress of the ball with his skull.

"It is not a brain disease, Jennings is surely as brainy as any one since he left the game, and Chance would be all right if he'd keep off the field, but Jennings to this day isn't anxious to face a pitcher, knowing what would probably happen, and Chance should give up the game just as Hughie did."

Chance wears a leather guard on his head, which he says will prevent the ball from denting his dome. The Yankees' leader strained a tendon recently, which kept him out of several games.

HOW WAGNER RECOMMENDS A YOUNGSTER.

Hans Wagner is brief, among other things. Joe Sugden tells a story on Hans which illustrates Hans' system.

Two years ago Joe managed the Newcastle club. Barney Dreyfuss sent Joe a letter telling him to grab a player named Nixon. Hans Wagner had sent Nixon's name to Dreyfuss. Barney could not use Nixon, but thought Joe might have a job for the youngster. Joe immediately wrote Wagner asking him about Nixon. Hans replied on the stationery of his garage. The reply: "Friend Joe—Yours received. Seen that boy Nixon. Good boy. Don't drink. Can lick his weight in wildcats. Played on my basket ball team. Your friend Hans."

GERMANS FAVOR GOLF.

Put It on Olympic Program, Though Not First.

It is announced that the Germans are to include golf in the program of sports at the Berlin Olympic games in 1916. The Germans are progressing rapidly in golf. They publish an excellent handbook each year, and courses in the fatherland are steadily increasing in number. The Teutons are claiming the establishment of golf as the first time in the history of the games, but are not correct in this assertion. Twice before has it been included in the program.

It was put in when the games were held in St. Louis in 1904, and then a splendid trophy was offered, which was won by George Lyon, the Canadian champion, the competitors then being mostly Canadians and Americans.

CHRISTY MATHEWSON.

Veteran Pitcher of New York Nationals Warming Up.



Photo by American Press Association.

Town Topics.

One example of doing a perfectly useless thing is giving a smoker in Pittsburgh.—Cleveland Leader.

Only three persons were arrested for intoxication in Cleveland last year, says a paper of that city. But how many ought to have been?—Detroit Free Press.

They are still hunting in New York for that elusive individual, the man higher up. Indications are that he will eventually be reached only by an stretch.—Baltimore American.

RICHARDS GETS RECORD.

His High Jump at Olympics Equal to 6 Feet 4 Inches.

Alma Richards of Brigham Young university, the Olympic champion high jumper, is going to come into his own on the record books, for at the first meeting of the record committee he is to be credited with a leap of six feet four inches at Stockholm.

An investigation of the performance by Frederick W. Rublen, chairman of the committee, showed that Richards had been slightly wronged and that 133 meters is equivalent to six feet four inches. On the official list the jumper's winning height is given as 6 feet 3 9/10 inches, and to figure out how much this is short of six feet four inches requires some delicate calculation. To give a satisfactory answer or demonstrate it on paper would need a clear eye and a steady hand.

When Rublen huddled down to keen accuracy he said the difference was the width of two blond hairs placed



Photos by American Press Association.

TWO VIEWS OF ALMA RICHARDS.

side by side, and that is a space hardly discernible to the naked eye. Anyway, it is a custom in dealing with the metric system that if the fraction comes near the inch the full inch is given.

Of course the compliers of the annuals did not seem to detract the fraction from Richards, nor did it make the least difference to him, for he says he will go higher ere the snow flies again. When the tall Utah boy bounded over the bar and held the spectators spellbound at Stockholm there was full three inches of bright Swedish daylight between himself and the obstacle. It was a thrilling moment for the American contingent, for that one jump saved the stars and stripes from an ignominious treading at the hands of Germany.

PITCHER DAHLGREN A UNION MAN.

This big Dahlgren, whose home is in Minneapolis, who returned to the Cincinnati Reds this spring after a year's absence, is a character good enough for loads of fun if he only lasts with the club. He has his own ideals all the time, and Waddell's were no funnier. They tell a story that two years ago Dahlgren was pitching a strenuous game, and the score was 0 to 0 in the ninth. As his team started for the field to begin the tenth Dahlgren suddenly dropped the ball and started for the bench.

"Hey, Dahl, what's the matter?" cried his manager.

Dahlgren held up a large brown hand for attention and then made oratory. "Meester Manager," Dahlgren is reported as saying,

"Ay ban gude hard vorker. Ay ban villing out Ay skal peetch dus nine eenings. But ten Ay ban ask dat Ay skal go das overtimes Ay ban made kick. Ay ban gude union mans, an' Ay not vork overtime unless Ay skal get overtime pay!"

And it is said that the manager had to promise him \$5 on the side before he'd go back and finish the game.

BUSH GREAT LEAD OFF MAN.

His Crouch at Plate Makes Him Hard Mark For Pitcher.

Donie Bush, the peppery little Detroit shortstop, batted only .231 last year, and yet players to a man claim he is the greatest lead off batsman in the American league.

Detroit scribes figured out that Donie drew 110 bases on balls in his games last season, and that is more passed



Photo by American Press Association.

DONIE BUSH, DETROIT'S STAR SHORTSTOP, than any other player off the opposing pitchers. It's Donie's crouch that makes him one of the hardest marks in baseball to put the ball across the pan for.

Ty Cobb told some of his fellow players that if Donie would only spread his legs farther apart as he stood at the plate and combined that with his crouch to make himself a shorter mark there would hardly be a pitcher in the league who could pitch to him.

RUSS FORD'S SPITTER BEST.

Umpire Bill Evans Declares Peculiar Twist Puzzles Batters.

"I've seen all the great spitball pitchers in the American league and some of those in the National," said Umpire Bill Evans. "I've studied them. And you can say without fear of going wrong that Russell Ford of the New York Americans did more with it than any man who ever lived."

"Chesbro made it a factor in baseball, and Ed Walsh has had more success, in the way of winning with it, than any one else. But Ford's spitball had more break than that of either of those two great masters. Russell had only one great year with it, but I never expect to see any one get the breaks that he did."

No Time to Think in Big Leagues. Branch Rickey, former catcher of the New York and St. Louis American league teams, says baseball is too majors is so fast that players don't have time to think.

HOW TOPSY HARTSEL BAWLS OUT HIS PLAYERS.

Manager Topsy Hartsel of the Toledo team in the International league has an original way of bawling out his baseballers.

Those whom he would bawl out he first dines with. Suppose a Mud Hen has made a stupid play in the afternoon. Topsy picks that person to eat dinner with. After he is seated at the table with the victim and the orchestra has started playing Topsy takes his hide off to music.

He tells him what a large, tomato colored excuse for a human being he is and how it gives him mal de mer every time he thinks of his boneheadedness. Then the incident is closed, as they say in diplomatic circles.

INVENT NEW BALL TERM.

French Coaches Have Coined Word For Base Stealers.

The Paris baseball season was officially opened with a game between the Latin quarter American artists and the Racing Club de France, which resulted in a victory for the artists by the score of 22 to 16. Consul General Mason pitched the first ball.

The players of the racing club were mostly Americans, but the coaches were French. When they wanted a player to steal they shouted, "Avancez, avancez!"

When You Are Tired Mentally.

Are you weary? Breathe more; eat less.

Active exercise will not rest you from mental work.

"When you are tired with mental work," says a well known physician, "do not think you must take active exercise. That will make you more weary. All you need is rest and more air in your lungs. Sit down quietly and comfortably and breathe deeply twenty-five times. Rest a moment and repeat."

"This air forced into the body removes the waste material which makes you weary."

"Don't eat all you want. Food not needed for support of the system is so much extra work for the body and requires more air to dispose of it."

"This regimen will diminish your grocery bill and save your shoe leather."—San Francisco Chronicle.

BRANCH LINE BALL PLEASES

FANS IN THAT TERRITORY ARE TREATED.

Strong Pitchers on all Clubs Insure Strong Finish.

Towns along the Joseph branch are enjoying, on the whole, a good brand of semi-pro baseball this season. Wallowa, the weakest sister in the quartet at the start, has recouped in Culver a clever pitcher, and from now on will be in the running on a strong basis, though probably not able to overtake Enterprise. Elgin and La Grande Moose have a fine race in view for second place honors, and Enterprise even is not so certain of first place, though is the probable winner.

Good pitchers are now, more than ever, the rule on the league. The Wallowa pitcher completes the circle of high grade pitchers, giving the well known Bilyeu, Culver, Smith and Oswald, and McInnis a quintet of pitchers that are always sure to make good games. True, amateur teams of this sort are pretty apt to have weak spots in their fielding proclivities but strong pitchers such as the five enumerated invariably add strength to a team.

The league is half way long in its schedule and interest has never waned. There have been the ups and downs of course, but as the season advances, there is every appearance that the same teams that were weak at the beginning will finish with a burst of strength unexpected of them. With McInnis in the Moose lineup, the team is not to be sneezed at, with Culver pitching for Wallowa, that team becomes a formidable organization, Elgin with Smith, and Oswald to fall back on, are always in playing shape, Enterprise being a pretty well balanced team that needs no boosting to be a drawing card.

It is doubtful if the territory embraced in this league will enjoy better ball for years to come than has been the quantity of that dished out at the

past games—with one or two exceptions. Last year's games were especially good two thirds of the way around and it looks like a repeat this year. Here's to the Branchline league—they furnish a pretty good sample of the national game for three out of four towns that otherwise would be dull and quiet in a baseball way.

La Grande Moose go to Elgin tomorrow, and Enterprise goes to Wallowa.

MOTORCYCLES MULTIPLY

Total Number in La Grande Has Swollen to Thirty and More.

So rapidly has the motorcycle fever spread in La Grande that at present there are about 30 of the noisy machines in the city's confines, representing a great variety of makes, shapes and sizes. Various models are popular. Two years ago, they were a novelty, and now they are so numerous that businessmen come to work on them, and drug stores run deliveries with them. Local agents for the leading makes have enjoyed a brisk trade the past 12 months for it was only a year or so ago that the machines met with any sale in this city.

BASEBALL GOSSIP

Contractor Kelly has the grandstand roof sufficiently far advanced to cover an ordinary crowd at the game, and hot or not hot, the crowd tomorrow afternoon will be protected from the elements.

Sunday is roof benefit day and every cent that can be taken from the gate will apply on the repairs to the grandstand, a repair project amounting to more than \$1000.

President Sweet may have more reason for dismissing Umpire Burnside than the famous exhibition game at Walla Walla. True enough it was a strange caper for Burnside to cut, but anyway Burnside is not a Sweet man, and Boise and Walla Walla carried no more respect with the young arbiter than did the other clubs of the league. He was the fairest of the bunch of regulars. Strange man, this man Sweet.

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