

ATHLETICS ARE GIVEN THE EDGE

Philadelphia Favored to Win Pennant, Although Upset is Held Possible.

(Note: This is the first of two stories reviewing major league baseball prospects, based on the observations of spring training by the Associated Press. Next the National League will be discussed.)

By Alan Gould NEW YORK, March 25 (AP)—The Philadelphia Athletics, class of baseball in general and the American League in particular for two years, will start the 1931 race favored to make it three pennants in a row.

The odds in support of the A's may not be quite as long as they were a year ago, after their 1929 stampede. Observers have detected a few cranking points in the world's championship machine guided by 68-year-old Connie Mack.

The probability is that the Athletics, as a club, are getting no better. They were at the peak when they led the Yankees to the wire by 18 games in 1929. Last year they were pressed to finish right games ahead of the surprising Washington Senators.

Upset Possible The margin may be slimmer this year, if an upset is not actually sprung by one of the other contenders, but there is no substantial evidence on which to dislodge the A's as favorites.

The champions will go into action two weeks hence with their "big five" still the greatest winning combination in baseball, assuming that Al Simmons is persuaded to sign a contract in time to support the efforts of Grove, Barnshaw, Cochrane and Poix. They have an infield combination whose ability to continue at a championship pace is problematical, but the essentials of punch and pitching remain.

Washington and Cleveland, the second and fourth place clubs last year, if they fulfill early prospects and continue the development manifested last year, have to help make the race closer and more interesting than it has been in years.

Yankees Dangerous The New York Yankees, under Joe McCarthy for the first time, will be dangerous at any time because of their tremendous punch, but their pennant hopes depend on finding the

Hansen Winner Over Thyne But Crowd Hisses

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Hansen took the first fall in the second round on a body slam. Thyne took his fall in the third with a combination of knees and armlock. Thyne's butting tactics drew several reprimands from Referee Warrinski, and in the fifth round the match was awarded to Hansen.

Leo Numa, Seattle's "Swedish Lion" took two straight falls from Cowboy Roy, Texas. In the third Numa knocked him bloody with a terrific body slam, and merely laid his shoulders to the mat in the fourth. They are heavyweights.

WRESTLE TO DRAW TACOMA, March 25 (AP)—John Freberg, Tacoma, and Joe Malcewicz, Newburg, heavyweight wrestlers went eight rounds to draw in a major wrestling match here last night. Both grapplers obtained falls. Freberg was the first fall in the fifth round with a body slam while Malcewicz used a flying head scissors to down Freberg in the seventh.

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The disorders were the most serious of three successive days of rioting at the school in behalf of the public and of amnesty for political prisoners.

30 KILLED, 100 INJURED CAWNPORE, United Provinces, India, March 25 (AP)—Thirty persons have been killed and more than 100 injured in rioting which has developed here in protest at the execution of Baghat Singh and two companions at Lahore Monday night. The rioting began yesterday, was suppressed by the military during the night, but broke out again today after order apparently had been restored.

Motorcars passing along the streets were assaulted and several European and Indian occupants were injured. Two companies of British troops were called out today to restore order and 200 additional police were summoned for Allahabad and Lucknow. An auxiliary force was raised here to patrol the residential area.

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AMBASSADOR'S WIFE REALIZES DREAM OF DEBUTANTE DAYS IN AFRICAN TRIP



Walter E. Edge, United States ambassador to France, accompanied by Mrs. Edge, is starting a tour of the French colonies in northern Africa, storied lands of desert warriors and Barbary pirates.

Two New Clubs Are Organized; Mr. Bell Leader

By Mrs. A. G. Conklin (Observer Correspondent)

COVE, Ore. (Special)—Leonard Allen, assistant state club leader and H. G. Avery county agriculturist, formed two livestock clubs on their visit to Cove last week. A Cove dairy club with 17 members was organized.

The stock club was headed by Guernsey, both registered and grade. H. B. Bell was elected leader. The members include Robert and Billy Duncan, Allen, Lloyd and Gale Mills, Gertrude and Roberta Bell, Robert Clark, LeVon Koger, Junior Van Donge, George and Virgil Chadwick and Lloyd Murchison.

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American Tennis Forces Facing Defeat Tonight

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP)—With tennis history repeating itself and the United States losing the doubles, the Star Spangled forces tonight face France in the final two singles matches of the "winter Davis cup" competition, expected to last.

The score stood two to one in France's favor today with Jean Borotra, Davis cup veteran and leader of the French team, favored to defeat Berkeley Bell in one of the singles matches and clinch the victory for the tri-color.

Frank K. Shields, on the basis of the form he showed Monday night in handling Borotra a surprising straight set defeat, was favored to take Christian Bousus in the other singles but to no apparent purpose, other than to make the final score two to three.

Borotra and Bousus defeated George Lott Jr. and John Van Ryn in the doubles match of the international competition last night to give France what may prove to be the margin of victory. The Americans' defeat was achieved in straight sets, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4, with the happy-go-lucky Borotra playing the major part.

A similar situation prevailed last summer at the end of the second day's play for the historic Davis cup with America trailing one match to two.

"Spanish Alarm" The North Carolina Historical society says that the "Spanish Alarm" was the attacks on the North Carolina coast in 1747-48 by the Spaniards. In 1747 an expedition attacked Beaufort, and in 1748, Brunswick.

Large South American Rodent The South American capybara, the largest animal of the rodent family, often attains the size of a small donkey, and with its web feet as a much at home in the water as on the land.

Blindness No Handicap Two blind men were arrested in Mansfield, England, recently for breaking into a club house and stealing \$13, police testifying that the pair could work as easily in the dark as in the light.

Useful Servitors "He who is so powerful that he can always have his own way," said H. H. Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "should take care to have servitors who can be held responsible for his mistakes."—Washington Star.

Double Education Every man who rises above the common level receives two educations: the first from his instructors; the second, the most personal and important, from himself.—Gibbon.

The Young of Doves Doves and pigeons, including both wild and domestic varieties, generally lay two eggs to a setting. The biological survey says that in about three cases out of four the two squabs hatched from these eggs are male and female.—Pathfinder Magazine.

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AMBASSADOR'S WIFE REALIZES DREAM OF DEBUTANTE DAYS IN AFRICAN TRIP

By Adelaide Kerr PARIS (AP)—Mrs. Walter Edge, wife of the United States ambassador to France, is realizing a ten years' dream—a trip to northern Africa.

She is accompanying her husband on a tour of the French colonies along the southwest coast of the Mediterranean.

The young hostess of the American embassy in Paris, daughter of a Maine shipbuilder, is going to collect Moroccan ship figureheads and models to complete her marine collection, one of the most extensive private ones in existence.

Her collection of souvenirs of the sea, now housed in her mother's home in Bath, Me., was acquired on travels through Europe and the United States. It contains a variety which ranges from models of Guinea vessels to whaling ships.

Mrs. Edge has maintained a lively interest in both maritime and political affairs since she graduated from her father, Loyal Sewall, a shipbuilder of Bath, was United States minister to Hawaii. She spent her debutante days in Washington, D. C. There she met Edna, then Republican senator from New Jersey.

Although she is the youngest wife of any ambassador in the United States diplomatic corps, she is only 28—she is credited with many a sound piece of political counsel. The ease and tranquility with which she presides have given her social affairs a flair.

"You can't compare her to anyone else," say attaches of the embassy. "She has too much personality to be like anybody. She always dresses simply, in black and white, and her costume color, and she seldom wears a jewel."

Between the demands of diplomatic plans and receptions, charity work and honorary presidency of many organizations, she finds time to hear daily the lessons of her children. She has three, Camilla, 7; Mary Esther, 4; and Loyall, 2.

Crow's "Shot" Helps Golfer While playing the tenth hole at Wentworth, Virginia, Walter, England, a golfer, put his second play into a small clump of trees for an impossible shot. A big black crow, which had been strutting about the fairway, flew to the ball, picked it up and carried it to an open spot in the wood, where he dropped it within a few feet of the green. The golfer then had an easy shot to near the cup.

Fish Commit Suicide Starfish commit suicide. When one is caught in a net it dissolves its corporation into a dozen or so fragments, and the pieces escape through the meshes. In time each becomes a perfect animal. To preserve the starfish whole, it must be plunged into a bucket of fresh water before it has time to take the alarm. Fresh water is instant death to it, and thus only can some varieties of the starfish be preserved.—Grit.

Worthless Character "The phillanderer" is one without any knowledge of the words loyalty and faithfulness. He plays with love as an amusement. The "phillanderer" is named after a character by the name of "Phillander" in the book, "Orlando Furioso," by Ariosto, published in 1510.—Kansas City Times.

Dates From Old Times The shout, "Fourteen Hundred," is the cry raised by the London Stock exchange to give notice that a stranger has entered the "House." It is said to have originated at a time when for a considerable period the number of members had remained stationary at 1,280.

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We can hear the echoes from Catalina Island: What about Elwood English of the Cubs? For the time being they can't be compared on the spot by this observer, but the records and the testimony are strong enough to enable English to dispute Gelbert's claim to top rank, confining the debate for the moment to the National League. English outdid Gelbert by a substantial margin last year, posting an average of 335, the best of his career. The Cub star is 24, but this is his fifth major league campaign, whereas Gelbert is just starting his third.

English also came along like a house afire last year and no less an authority and neutral observer than Cal Dan Howley of the Reds thinks that Elwood's batting gives him the edge over Gelbert, up to the present.

But JOE HIT 346 So far as the American league is concerned, the boys can argue all evening about the respective merits of English and Gelbert, then look over the scores of the shortstoppers, Joseph Groun, who batted 346 and had as much to do as any individual with the sensational rise of the Washington Senators last season.

Cronin, also 24, is National league player in 1929. He is a National league player in 1929. He is a National league player in 1929. He is a National league player in 1929.

All three of the youngsters,