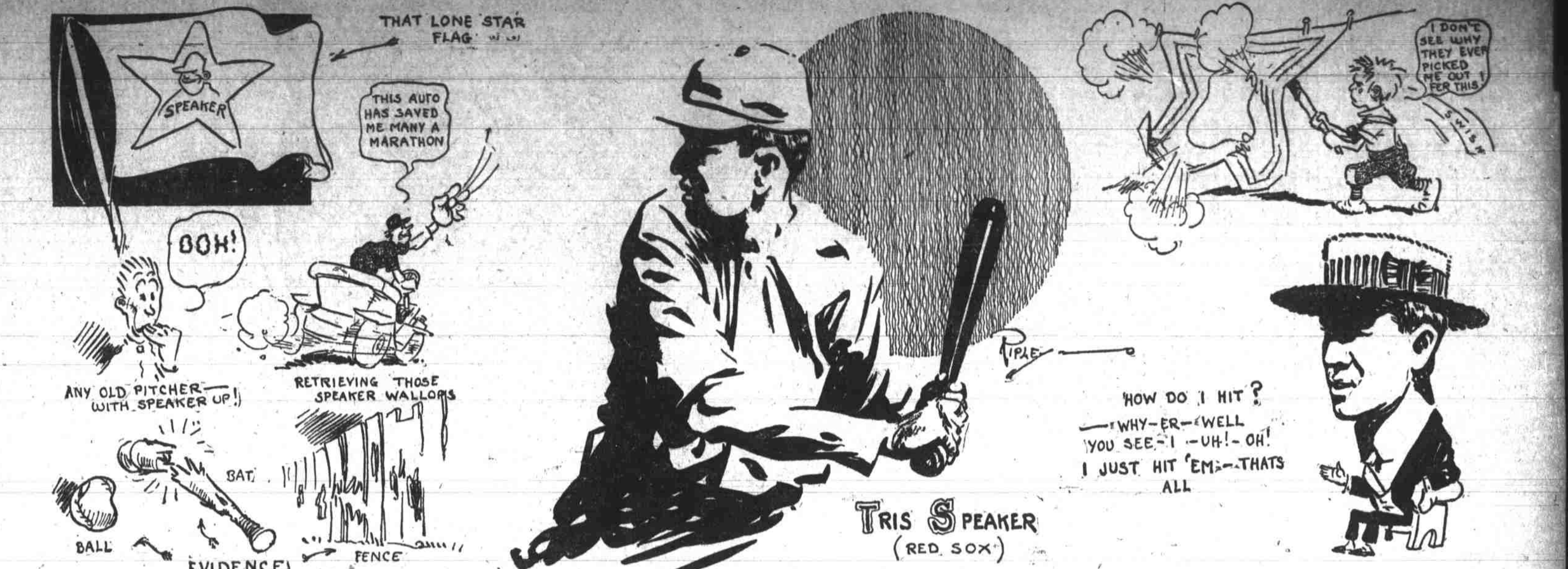


TRIS SPEAKER---By Ripley



"Really, I couldn't tell you how I hit, I just hit 'em, that's all I know." It was Speaker speaking—the famous Tris Speaker, the man who is the "Boss" in Boston and trips up pitchers and cuts up so with the bat. It was not modesty, nor any affected statement on his part—but the exact truth. Speaker, though he is as fluent as his name suggests, could no more tell you how he hits 'em than an armless man can shake dice.

Well, that settled it. If Speaker didn't know how he hit, who else did? I give up. I felt a little struck out at not being able to learn a thing about the most interesting part of him, but I didn't rush away; maybe he could tell me something else about himself. And he did. Hubbard, a little city down in Texas, is where Tris resides when he is home. He decided on that place back in 1888. I am not sure whether that is the reason Texas is called the "Lone Star" state or not—but it would seem only natural that they should at the present time. Anyway Speaker just naturally grew up down there in that large, airy place, among the steers and sandlots.

He grew to be a real Texan—and he is yet—just the same kind of a man as Texas is a state—large, strong, free, and natural, very natural. His boyhood was filled with green apples, spankings and ambitions. Ambition the same that fills 8,000,000 other little boyhoods in the United States—the ambition to become a great ball player and a great pitcher. So little Tris started early—"the sooner the quicker," he argued—and devoted all his spare time, and lots of other time that was not to spare, to playing ball. He would rather play ball than eat—and generally did. But little Tris had work to do, school to attend, and other duties that life in Texas required of him. This all graded

on his ambition—it took his time and his thoughts from the game—and anyway, doing chores and such about the ranch was small time stuff for a ball player. It's funny why parents never seem to understand genius. Speaker's couldn't. They couldn't see little Tris' hopes with a telescope, it was different with our hero, though, he had a foresight like a searchlight, and even at the early age of 10 he could see himself the peer of baseballers, the idol of thousands and er—the owner of an automobile. So in time it was an easy matter for Cleburne, in the North Texas league, to put him on the payroll as one of their pitchers. Speaker did not last long with

Cleburne—and he lasted even a shorter time as a pitcher, for when Tris once got that "natural swing" to working—why he just naturally batted himself out of the pitcher's box and out of the North Texas league into a better job as a fielder with Houston. During 1907 Triphammer Tris just naturally ruined all the fences in the circuit, and at the end of the season was leading the hitter's grand march so far that he never came back. "I always could hit," was his only comment on his batting, while I wondered if it wasn't a good thing that Texas is such a large state, and if it was not for the muchness of it what a bother it would have been to get out

extradition papers for the recovery of all the baseballs. Well, when the American league convention met in the spring, Tris, on account of his wonderful influence with a bat, was chosen as a delegate by the Boston Red Sox. Speaker must have been one of those un instructed delegates we have been reading about, for Boston sent him down to Little Rock for a little more instruction. He must have learned fast, for he was soon promoted back to the Red Sox and is now the most learned man on the Boston team—and it's quite a cultured team, by the way. Speaker is still quite young—only 34—and as his apprenticeship in the business was very short he still retains

that youthful interest and enthusiasm that is so valuable and delightful in a player. "It's a pleasure—not a business," he puts it. I summed up a little courage. "What advice or general rules would you offer to the young hitter?" I asked. He seemed not to hear it, or just naturally ignored it. Possibly he was thinking. So I repeated the question—Would he give some batting pointers for the beginner? Speaker moved about uneasily and un naturally, looked a little confused, and slowly answered: "Why—er—well—just pick out a bat." "Yes." "And—er—then—why—er—just hit the ball with it!"

BILL LINDSAY MADE IMMENSE STRIDES AND NOW LEADS THE BEAVER BATSMEN

PORTLAND THIRD BASEMAN GOING AT GREAT CLIP, .328

Third Baseman Bill Lindsay tops the Beaver batters for the season with the average of .328. Lindsay is slugging the pill harder than ever this season, and if he continues in his present stride he will no doubt finish above the .330 mark. "Dutchman" Krueger dropped below the .320 mark last week. Rodgers put himself in the .295 class again, one point ahead of Willis Butler. Doane improved his average over last week, and if he hits the ball against the Vernon team he will soon be well to the .300 class.

The Portland team has the splendid fielding average of .968 for the season. All season the Beavers have made but 120 errors. The team is hitting two points above the .250 mark, but is improving right along. Heinle Helmlinger still leads the team with the average of .358. Wurfli of Spokane is hitting .360, but has played in but 14 games. Howard Mundorff was in a slump in the series against the Beavers, and dropped 20 points during the week. The individual averages of the Beavers for the season are:

Table with columns: Player Name, G, AB, R, H, PC, PO, A, E, PC. Lindsay: 71, 250, 26, 82, .328, 65, 133, 14, .923. Krueger: 86, 313, 38, 99, .313, 159, 11, 9, .950. Rodgers: 83, 339, 32, 93, .295, 180, 250, 18, .959. Butler: 51, 187, 23, 55, .294, 99, 145, 18, .931. Doane: 61, 218, 30, 62, .287, 72, 7, 5, .949. Fisher: 36, 110, 15, 31, .282, 38, 9, .943. Rapps: 79, 324, 31, 83, .253, 964, 57, 7, .993. Chabourne: 83, 331, 50, 81, .244, 177, 7, 3, .985. Bancroft: 67, 244, 28, 57, .233, 150, 192, 12, .956. Koestner: 27, 82, 6, 18, .219, 9, 78, 3, .987. Burch: 12, 42, 3, 11, .267, 71, 23, 3, .979. Howley: 48, 154, 10, 31, .201, 209, 73, 4, .966. Gregg: 7, 16, 2, 3, .187, 3, 16, 1, .982. Harkness: 2, 7, 0, 0, .000, 1, 2, 1, .867. Klawitter: 24, 64, 6, 12, .187, 11, 67, 1, .985. Butler: 8, 26, 1, 4, .154, 12, 0, 2, .867. Higginbotham: 14, 37, 0, 0, .000, 1, 2, 1, .867. Guber: 1, 3, 0, 0, .000, 1, 2, 1, .867.

Table with columns: Player Name, G, AB, R, H, PC, PO, A, E, PC. Norman Cruikshank: 59, 202, 35, 66, .326, 97, 12, 6, .948. Menser: 55, 183, 21, 59, .322, 107, 108, 6, .970. Fries: 85, 352, 40, 99, .273, 126, 8, 8, .941. Spears: 72, 330, 53, 89, .266, 289, 49, 22, .959. Eastley: 25, 81, 10, 21, .259, 18, 33, 2, .960. Williams: 70, 278, 35, 69, .248, 656, 248, 12, .909. Tonnason: 19, 53, 8, 12, .226, 44, 21, 3, .893. Kibbie: 86, 306, 22, 75, .245, 124, 158, 21, .931. Coltrin: 84, 281, 27, 69, .247, 183, 253, 32, .931. Moore: 89, 318, 35, 76, .239, 86, 243, 8, .956. McDowell: 31, 102, 12, 23, .226, 68, 104, 8, .956. Doty: 20, 49, 7, 10, .204, 8, 26, 3, .919. Harris: 49, 198, 22, 40, .202, 112, 12, .920. Bloomfield: 19, 23, 4, 6, .263, 0, 50, 2, .938. Glrot: 4, 11, 0, 2, .182, 0, 7, 3, .100. Veasey: 14, 39, 0, 2, .051, 1, 22, 3, .885. Totals: 2,727, 342, 681, 2,249, 2,259, 946, 167, .950.

Norman Cruikshank still holds the leading bat position among the Portland Colts. Cruikshank's average is .326, much less than it was two weeks ago. Mahoney hit well in the first four games he played in a Colt uniform, his average being .332, but he slumped against the Indians.

Eddie Menser's average for the 55 games he played before going to Pittsburg was .301. Menser scored 51 runs and made 55 hits. His fielding average was .970. Fries and Spears are climbing the ladder and brought his average up to .266 as the result of his good stick work against the Seattle team. Williams is also climbing, while McDowell is steadily going back. He is now batting .225, while his average two weeks ago was above the .250 mark. The Colts are batting .249 and fielding .950.

EASTERN PAPERS TELL OF COASTERS

Exchanges Give Line on Work of Ball Players Known in Portland.

From Cleveland: Bryon Houck hurled a superb game, allowing the Naps but three hits and having them blanked until the ninth, when he presented them with a pair of tattles by making two fielding bulls which were followed by a double by Ryan. Mitchell pitched good ball after the second inning. Houck was as brilliant and effective as Krapp and Mitchell were wild and weak and the Davis clan only escaped a shutout by scoring twice in the last inning. Four hits in as many innings was the best the Napslanders could get off the Portland flinger.

took the game from the Senators, 4 to 2, with the rain threatening to stop the pastime in every round. White and Groom both pitched good ball, but they were taken out in the middle of the contest with the argument even. The Senators got the worst of the trade when Felly let through three runs in the seventh and ninth. Walsh was steady. Ping Bodie featured the batting with a three bagger, a double and two singles. Weaver's single brought in the winning run, in the ninth.

From Pittsburg: Menser, the new Pirate, singled in the first, doubled in the second, and in the tenth tripled, which won the game, as he scored on Carey's single. Home runs by Miller and Wagner looked like game winners,

From Cleveland: Against Hughes was "Bill" Steen, and the coast boy pitched a beautiful game, though there was nothing spectacular about it. The Nationals got a few hits, but they couldn't find Steen when they had men on the sacks. His pitching and Turner's hitting, four singles in four times up, featured the fray. Stealing bases on Steen is no soft task. He watches the runners closely and gets the ball over to first very quickly. His frequent pegs made the first lining of the game, where he was in a little trouble, last 19 minutes.

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Hawkins Writes of Events Leading to Olympic Trials

By Martin W. Hawkins.

Portland Boy Who Won Third Place in Hurdles at Olympic Games. Aboard Steamship Finland, Stockholm, Sweden, July 7.—The finishing touches are being put on the American Olympic athletes for the trials to begin Saturday, July 6, and to continue throughout the entire week. Every day the athletes practice, some in the forenoon and some in the afternoon. The stadium can be used only in the forenoon, for football games are scheduled for every afternoon. The athletes working out at this time use the practice stadium, which is located a few paces from the new stadium. It is a very large and fairly good track, but it cannot be compared with the Olympic stadium.

The Olympic stadium is a structure of solid brick, in which is laid a track 425 meters in circumference. It is in the shape of a perfect oval. It has a straightaway 104 meters in width and of sufficient length for the 110 meter hurdles. The 200 meter race will have to be run on one curve. The curves are not banked, but this will not interfere very much with fast time being made, because they are very wide and well rounded. It is one of the best and fastest cinder tracks ever made. It is packed hard and will permit very fast time. Inside the track all is turf, with the exception of several jumping pits which can be approached from almost any angle. If several new marks are not made, it will not be because of the condition of the track and field.

The Swedish committee has spared no expense in making a perfect stadium and has succeeded as well as possible. If the weather permits and the athletes are as good as reported, not one or two but several records will be smashed at this, the greatest gathering of athletic talent in modern times. The stadium, which holds 25,000 people, will be packed to its fullest capacity by enthusiastic Swedes and visitors from all parts of the world. Never since the days of the original Olympiad has such enthusiasm been displayed over athletic games. It is up to the athlete to be at his very best and to perform at his best. More than 25

nations have entered teams and will be interested in the result. The American team is living on the steamship Finland, which is anchored out in midwater. Launches ply between the boat and the shore every half hour. No athlete is allowed to go ashore during the evening, but can go as much as he pleases during the daytime. This scheme of anchoring in the bay enables the coach to keep in closer touch with the men all of the time, and has a tendency to make training rules easier for the men. Much excitement prevails among the athletes at present because of the drawing for heats. Some drawings have already been made but only a very few, so nothing definite is known as yet except in a very few cases. In the drawings for swimming Duke Kahanamokow, the swimmer from Honolulu, who made the

fastest time in the American tryouts, will be pitted against the fastest swimmer from Australia, but two men will qualify in the swims instead of one, as is sometimes the case in large meets of this nature, so that perhaps both of these marvelous waterdogs will qualify. Some of the drawings in the hurdles are also known. The writer will run in the third heat against two Frenchmen and one Bulgarian. The heats of the different races will be run in the forenoon of one day and the semi-finals in the afternoon. The finals will be run the next day. Some of the events have already begun. In rifle and revolver shooting the American marksmen are showing themselves to be first class men. So far the Americans have made most of the high averages and bid fair to bring home the best marks in the finals.

CLEVELANDERS CAN'T KEEP MILAN ON BASES

Clyde Milan would steal over a hundred bases if he could play against the Naps all season. Last month, he stole five bases in one game against Cleveland. During the last week he stole again almost at will in the Cleveland games and as a result he has a good lead on his rivals. The record of the leading 10 follows:

Table with columns: Player Name, G, S.B., Av. Milan, Washington: 80, 43, .538. Chicago: 69, 43, .623. E. Collins, Philadelphia: 78, 31, .41. Cobb, Detroit: 70, 28, .40. Speaker, Boston: 78, 31, .41. Moriarty, Detroit: 61, 19, .31. Baker, Philadelphia: 75, 22, .29. Crawford, Detroit: 77, 21, .27. Jackson, Cleveland: 79, 17, .22. Bush, Detroit: 72, 16, .22.

TOP OF RUNGETTING LIST TY COBB'S AIM

You cannot keep Ty Cobb from scoring runs. Early in the season the Georgian was excelled by several in completing the circuit, but Ty has been crossing the plate rather often of late and is now a good second to Tris Speaker. Joe Jackson is sixth on the list of best ten which follows:

Men's Pants Reduced 20%

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Table with columns: Player Name, G, R, Av. Speaker, Boston: 78, 72, .92. Cobb, Detroit: 70, 63, .90. Baker, Philadelphia: 76, 64, .84. E. Collins, Philadelphia: 78, 68, .88. Bush, Detroit: 72, 69, .82. Jackson, Cleveland: 79, 65, .82. Moeller, Washington: 65, 49, .75. Hooper, Cleveland: 72, 57, .78. Rath, Chicago: 76, 55, .72. Milan, Washington: 80, 56, .70.

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O'DONNELL GOES SOUTH THIS MONTH

Portland Heavyweight Has Two Matches in Sight in San Francisco.

Mark O'Donnell, the big heavyweight who has disposed of all the "hopes" in this neighborhood, is planning on leaving for San Francisco the latter part of the month to box two four round bouts before Frank Schuler's club next month. His opponent will be selected from Charley Miller, who is being regarded as a coming champion, or Char-

ley Horn, another promising heavy. The first date offered Mark is August 14 and the second September 3 and in view of the fact that he will be making his first appearance, two quite flattering purses have been offered him as well as two round trip tickets. Tom Tracey, who taught Mark most of what he knows about the ring game, will accompany the big fighter south, and superintend his training. Tracey is confident that O'Donnell will make good and if he gets the best of both Horn and Miller it will be quite a feather in his cap. Mark has not been boxing lately but he has been training faithfully ever since he was offered the two battles in San Francisco and is good shape to begin the hard gymnasium grind to put on a keen edge. You have to hand it to the St. Louis Browns for running true to form. Here's the dope: July 10, 1911, 20 wins, 52 defeats, 274; July 10, 1912, 20 wins, 53 defeats, 274. Journal Want Ads bring results.

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