

When October Tumbles Around Giants and Athletics on Deck

At Present Stage McGraw and Mack Appear to Have Best Men Under Their Command in National and American Leagues, Thinks an Eastern Critic.

American League Selections.
First Division—Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, New York.
Second Division—Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis.
National League Selections.
First Division—New York, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Philadelphia.
Second Division—Chicago, Brooklyn, Boston, St. Louis.

By W. J. Macbeth.
New York, April 12.—The fan has his inning at last, the major league campaigns are under way. For a few frenzied weeks the followers of sixteen different clubs may have pennant visions for their favorites. After that the respective races will straighten out, in all likelihood, as they have been in the habit of doing in the past until the prospective world's series fans into new flame the hopes or disappointments of the drive.

Sentiment makes baseball as it made horse racing when it was a sport of kings. Individual opinion does not cut a whole lot of ice when it comes to splitting up the world's series wags. But the gentle reader may pardon the effrontery of a wild guess as to how the contenders of the two major leagues will stand when the strife is over. It must be borne in mind that the writer makes no predictions in his selection. He would not bet a head nickel against a Swiss movement that the clubs would finish as he names them because after all a prediction at the beginning of a campaign is nothing short of a wild guess. The selections are made before having seen the teams in action and based solely upon the strength of the respective clubs on past performances. The uncertainty of the game—which is more than half of its charm—is not taken into consideration. Condition of athletes, unproven managerial ability and a thousand and one other very important phases of the national pastime enter not into these prognostications. The writer's opinion is given for the privilege, if he disagrees with any of the following arguments, to go out and make selections of his own.

Giants and Athletics in October?

The world's series of 1913 should bring together the Giants and the Athletics. Pittsburgh is the only club in the National league that appears to have much chance of upsetting McGraw's champions. Cincinnati and Philadelphia should fight for the show position with the Cubs, Dodgers, Braves, and Cardinals trailing along in the weaker set. Connie Mack justifies expert opinion as voiced by the greater majority of baseball critics he will at least know that he has been through a fight. A world's champion must always be considered a worthy rival and the Boston Red Sox of 1912 formed one of the most consistent winners of baseball history. Washington, too, is likely to be a much improved club over a year ago; the host of youngsters who made Griffith a pennant possibility right up to the very end of the past season should be far more capable with the experience of a whole year together. These three American league clubs are likely to furnish one of those old fashioned finishes for which Fan Johnstone's circuit used to be noted.

New York has a mighty good chance for the first division. It will do well to finish fourth but has as much license to trail Philadelphia, Boston, and Washington as anything else in the league. The three contenders are the class of the organization; the rest are very uncertain and may finish in almost any old order. Frank Chance has a better ball club than last season's sorry exhibition would indicate. It is every bit as good and possibly better than the 1910 team with which George Stallings and Hal Chase finished second. The Peerless Leader may be in the hunt from start to finish. He will have a good ball club before the end of the year. But it will take time for him to get his men playing Chance baseball.

Opposition Greater Now.

He will find far stronger opposition for first division honors than faced Stallings in 1910. If he comes among the first four he will have assured a real pennant contender for 1914.

Detroit has Ty Cobb and Sam Crawford, a pair that makes just about half an ordinary team. Jimmie Fisk is a lot of promising materials last fall but he has a bad pitching staff and none too strong a catching corps. Jean Dubuc is his only reliable veteran tinner; George Mullin may be good, but he is likely to be bad. With strong battery material Jennings would be dangerous. As it is he will have to fight his hardest to stave off Chicago and Cleveland.

Jimmy Callahan is seriously regarded in some quarters—principally around Chicago—but he is too weak in the box to cut much of a swath. Ed Walsh is to the White Sox what Walter Johnson is to Washington; Joe Wood to Boston and Chief Bender to Philadelphia. Walsh has been pitching about half of Chicago's games for years. He cannot for-

ever go on doing this. His arm showed the wear and tear in the fall end of 1912, disastrous year for Walsh would be far more disastrous for Callahan, who is on the tobbogan, also, so far as his athletic prowess is concerned. Cleveland has a better club than either Detroit or Chicago, but Joe Birmingham, the manager, is undependable and likely to encounter his downfall with an aggregation which for years has been torn asunder by strife and petty factions. Indeed it would not be at all surprising if George Stovall, Browns' moved up a few pegs at the expense of some of the more favored. Stovall at least is a manager of ability; the trouble is that he has little with which to work.

Red Sox Not Great Team.

The Red Sox won the pennant last year by going through the whole run without a slump or without a serious accident. In the world's series it looked like anything but a championship array. The Athletics of 1910 and 1911 were fully twenty per cent stronger than Stahls' much vaunted red hosed clan. And the Athletics of 1913 will be the equal of the old guard if the veteran pitchers show anything near their average form. Bender, Plank and Combs form the backbone of an invincible twirling brigade. Connie has a few live young wires to help them out. He has fine catching, the best infield in either league and an outfield second to none in all around effectiveness. That is why he should win.

McGraw will take his men to the barrier perfectly conditioned and ready to jump into the lead in the early running at the expense of the weaker eastern clubs. Mathewson is still one of the greatest pitchers in the country while Jeff Touseau is just beginning to find himself. Marquard is questionable. It is more than likely to win half his games at worst and with the improvement of Touseau such a performance would justify McGraw's faith in his battery strength. Pittsburgh lays its over New York in battery material. The Pirates have the greatest pitchers in the National league. In other respects the Smoke Town lads do not frame up with the champions. They are sadly lacking by comparison in reference to speed. The great strength of the infield lies in Hans Wagner—a grand old man, but a winning star. Every year leaves him more liable to serious injury, which would completely demoralize the team. McGraw's greatest strength lies in his substitutes; it would be almost impossible to cripple him.

Good Scrap Coming Up.

Cincinnati and Philadelphia are likely to furnish a very thrilling scrap for third place. If the Red Sox win, they lay off Joe Tinker he is liable to show something. He is the best shortstop in the league—bar possibly the "Flying Dutchman"—if his managerial duties do not interfere with his playing. He will fill a long felt weakness for the Reds, and being one of the wisest players in the game should prove one of the most capable managers. "Red" Doolin is now working for Billy Locke, manager of the Philadelphia Athletics. The manager free rein. If the Phillies evade the tough luck hoodoo that has pursued them for years they should surely land among the elite.

Brooklyn has first division possibilities and a new park. Mr. Ebbetts may confine himself to his new suite and allow Bill Dahlen one last opportunity of showing something. The likelihood, however, is that the Dodgers will continue on their disappointing way and trail the Cubs across the second division horizon. The Cubs still have some of their kick left but Evers has yet to show a flash of the old Peerless Leader spirit that made his club the wonder of the baseball firmament. Stallings has one good ball player in Sweeney but the "Big Chief" is a resourceful fellow and likely to beat the distance flag in any sort of competition. He should beat out the Cubs at any event. Miller Huggins is not likely to get very far with a woman owner who "canned" such a valuable asset as Roger Bresnahan.

Fans Don't Like Mill.

(Special to The Journal.)
Cottage Grove, Or., April 12.—Foy Johnson and Leon Arms are billed for a ten-round boxing bout before the Cottage Grove Athletic association Tuesday evening. From past records of both men a fast performance is expected. The Johnson-Underwood mill Saturday night turned out to be a sort of pink tea party and proved a big disappointment to club members in attendance. Tactics used by Underwood in avoiding his opponent whenever crowded took all the ginger out of the contest. Johnson did all the forcing and easily won in 10 rounds.

Chehalis Opens Athletic Club.

(Special to The Journal.)
Chehalis, Wash., April 12.—An athletic club will be opened here Thursday night, the Geissler hall under direction of W. W. Mackey. Carl Nelson, wrestler, will be athletic instructor. Several boxing preliminaries are on the card and a feature will be a wrestling match between Nelson and George Hall, Eli's 25-pound policeman, who is said to know the game.

AGGIES CLOSE SEASON AS CHAMPIONS



Left to right—Captain Kelley, 145 pounds; Muck, 153 pounds; Captain-Elect Amort, 125 and 135 pound champion.

Special to The Journal.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, April 13.—The wrestling season of the Oregon Agricultural college closed last week with the Pullman battle, and later the election of the captain for the coming season. The Aggies ran away with three of the seven weights wrestled in the Northwest conference, winning the championship of the conference by virtue of securing more individual titles than any other institution in the section. Pullman and the University of Washington each securing two.

The most notable incident of the season was the work of the little 125-pound wrestler, Paul Amort, who, after winning his Northwest title in that weight, turned around and took on the aspirants to the 135-pound belt, winning in both weights.

For his brilliant work, he was elected captain of the squad for the coming year. Muck, a sophomore, winner of the 153-pound championship, has two more years of wrestling, and should be able to maintain his supremacy over all comers. He is a physical giant, and understands the wrestling game thoroughly.

Prospects for the coming year are already being investigated by the captain-elect. He finds that he will have four wrestlers on his squad next winter when the season opens. The only weights which will have to be picked will be the 145, 175 and the heavy weights. In the 145 pound class there is a very heavy "Rook," Hawkins, who has much experience on the mat around Eugene, who gave Kelley a hard run for the position on the team.

Williams Is Confident.

"When October comes you will find the Portland Colts right up at the top of the heap," said Manager Nick Williams of the local Class B team. "My club has been greatly strengthened and in addition we will start the season in better shape than ever before. I have the best infield in the league, my outfield ranks with the rest of them, and my pitchers are showing promise. My catching staff bids fair to improve before the season is very old. I think we shall get off to a good start; I am hoping so at least. If we do the other clubs had better watch out for us."

Mike Lynch Confident.

(Special to The Journal.)
Victoria, B. C., April 12.—Mike Lynch and his reorganized team will take the field at Seattle next Tuesday in as good shape, if not better, than any team in the Northwestern league. Lynch has had his cohorts for over a month now and the club has been favored with ideal training weather for the past three weeks. The former Tacoma boys are confident that he can get away to a good start and it is his intention to "jump" the field if such a feat is at all possible.

There have been quite a few changes in the team and the bees look fully 25 per cent stronger than last season. Lynch is now awaiting the arrival of a hard-litting outfielder from a Coast club who will complete his squad. His catching staff is much better balanced and both Smith and Knutson are greatly improved twirlers. He also has Dick Kaufman and "Kiddo" Wilson, two standbys who did good work last year. Narveson is back with a much better assortment of curves, while Bob By Steele and Schoutz will battle it out for the sixth position.

Lynch has four backstops and two will have to go. Meek, Grindle, Shea and Hauser comprise the quartet and the first two are fancied to stick. The balance of the team will line up as follows: Brooks, first base; Delmas, second base; Rawlings, shortstop; Burrell, third base; Weed, right field; Lynch, center field; Morse or a Coast league outfielder in left field. Lambe may be carried as utility.

Indians in Good Shape.

(Special to The Journal.)
Spokane, Wash., April 12.—"My men are all in pretty good shape and from now until the opening game with Portland Tuesday, I am going to have all of the boys get right down to business," said Captain Ostedek of the Indians.

"Up to this time in our practice games we have been letting the youngsters go about as far as they liked just for the fun of it. I have been keeping Melchior, Altman and Johnson out of practice games because I wanted them in better shape at the opening with Portland and they are certainly ready for business." "For the opening game I have decided that the line-up and batting order shall be practically as follows: Million, center; Yohs or Altman, third base; Johnson, first base; Powell, left field; Redmond or Altman, second base; Morse, shortstop; Melchior, right field; Auer or Ostedek, catcher, and Gordon or Toner, pitcher."

Seattle Manager Conservative.

(Special to The Journal.)
Seattle, Wash., April 12.—"I'm not making any rash predictions, but we have a very fair club," said Tealey Raymond, leader of the Seattle Giants, in referring to the season's opening. "We have some mighty good men, but of course the departure of Walling and Mann left a big gap in our line-up. It will be hard to tell how we stack up until we get around the circuit, but we are up to our eyes in it." "Killing is a good game and with Schneider, Melkie, Dell and Gipe going good, our pitching staff is in nice shape. Of course, we have had miserable weather and couldn't get into the condition we

Northwestern Managers Are Confident

of fact I don't expect to be called upon for excuses. The prospects were never brighter for a more successful season in Vancouver. Our new park is the finest in the league and now all I am looking forward to is the honor of hoisting the pennant after the 1913 race."

McGinnity Is Feeling Happy.

Tacoma, April 12.—Although the preliminary season has been cold and wet, the Tacoma Tigers say they are ready to take up the grind of the regular playing season Tuesday with the confidence of success as a college graduate. Good weather for taking the winter kinks out of their joints has been lacking, but the Tigers have been hard at work, nevertheless.

In the opening game the line-up will be something like this: Stadler, center field; Keller, second base; Cox, left field; Neighbors, right field; Norydie, first base; Chick, third base; McMullen, shortstop; Byrnes, catcher; Kurfess, Concanon, Criger, pitchers.

Never in the history of Tacoma has there been such a widespread interest in baseball as this year. President Joseph J. McGinnity expended \$10,000 in Tacoma before he took in his first dollar, and the fans are faithful to the man. Things have even gone so far that they have organized booster clubs to "root" for the team and obnoxious knockers will find their work personally unpleasant when they take up the hammer this year.

On the opening day practically all of the business houses will close. Several civic organizations will parade with the ball team. The opening attendance is estimated at 6000 and it is predicted that baseball in Tacoma will be on a revival that will astonish even McGinnity.

Heretofore McGinnity has had little to say. He has not come out with flamboyant promises except that he will save wood.

"I am new to this section of the country and have never seen a game in the Northwestern league," said the former New York star. "I may have misjudged the speed of this circuit, as some have said, but I do not believe so, as I have been guided almost altogether in baseball matters by Lou Norydie, a man who thoroughly understands conditions in this circuit. I have tried to build up a club which would make a good showing in any minor league, but the weather conditions have been such that I have not had an opportunity to put them to a test. Rest assured of one thing, Tacoma will not be down in the rank if I have to pitch every other game myself."

The title of "Iron Man" through sitting on the bench, and I can still pitch ball. If necessary, I am going to do the major part of the pitching for the Tigers."

Of the players given in the above line-up, all but two are known in the Northwest league. Cox is from the Southern league, where he hit .345 last season, and Kurfess is a promising young pitcher.

Vancouver Team Best Ever.

(Special to The Journal.)
Vancouver, B. C., April 12.—"Vancouver is not claiming any pennants, but after the showing of the Beavers in their spring games, particularly against the colored Giants, I don't hesitate to say that I have a better team than has ever represented Vancouver in the Northwestern league and that we will be right up in the race all the way."

declared President Bob Brown of the Vancouver club, on his departure for Tacoma, where the Beavers open the season Tuesday.

"I have never had a more promising staff of pitchers, while the infield is 25 per cent faster than last year. Kippert, Fisk and Halster in the outfield compare favorably with any other trio in the league. Konnick and Lewis are two great catchers with good arms and they are strong at the bat. I will have no excuses to offer if we fail to keep up in the first division, but as a matter

of fact I don't expect to be called upon for excuses. The prospects were never brighter for a more successful season in Vancouver. Our new park is the finest in the league and now all I am looking forward to is the honor of hoisting the pennant after the 1913 race."

High Waves Interfere.

Monte Carlo, April 12.—High waves caused by a 40-mile wind today stopped the hydro-aeroplane "Derby," known as the Grand Prix de Monaco. There were seven starters and when slight accidents happened to Charles T. Weyman, an American, and Mr. Fisher, Louis Gaubert, Gabriel Espanel, the others refused to go on.

Jess Willard Has Size, But Is Lacking That Ferocious Face

Kansas Giant Says He and Cutler Are Old Cronies but as Business Combination They Are Not Getting Money Fast Enough to Suit.

By W. W. Naughton.

San Francisco, April 12.—Jess Willard, the Kansas cowboy, who is ambitious to box for the white heavyweight championship, and who, in support of his right to entertain such an ambition, points to the fact that he once defeated Luther McCarty, the present titleholder, is in San Francisco. Willard, who is on his first visit, is being chaperoned by Tom Jones, of the Ad Wollast camp, and it is quite likely that Jones will assume the management of the big man from Kansas.

Willard is the tallest heavyweight in captivity. He tapes six feet six inches and weighs two hundred and thirty five pounds. He has hands in keeping with his bulk and stature but he lacks the fierceness of expression that is generally associated with the men of the ring.

Willard has not come here on any special mission. He became restless because matches were few in the east and he meandered west with Mickey like hopefulness, ready for anything that turned up.

Probable Separation.

He says that while he has not parted with his former manager, Charlie Cutler, of Chicago, it is more than probable that there will be a separation.

"Cutler and I are not only good friends, but old cronies," said Willard. "I like him and he likes me but just the same we have not made much progress as a team. This is the time when I should be getting matches and making money and I find myself idle most of the time. I need some one who knows the managerial game and who can further my interest as well as his own. I have wired Cutler what I think is best to be done and if he agrees with me and tells me to go ahead and do what I think is best for myself, I will probably place myself in the hands of Tom Jones. I want to guard against being accused of leaving Cutler in the lurch and this makes the position embarrassing. I think it will work out all right though." Willard will go to Harbin Springs today with Tom Jones and will spend a few days at Wollast's camp.

"I have no match in view, but think I will be able to land one," said Willard. "Naturally I prefer Luther McCarty, of all the heavies, but I bar nobody. I would like to box either in San Francisco or Los Angeles in the near future."

For obvious reasons Tom Jones is saying little and saying much wood. If matters adjust themselves so that Willard goes under Jones' management, it will be different. Then Luther McCarty had better look out.

Another Strong One Wins.

Another Russian strong man has wilted under the fervor of the Gotch toe hold. A year or more ago it was George Hackenschmidt who raised himself on his elbow from a Chicago wrestling mat and urged the fowls in the name of humanity not to exert full pressure on a suffering pedal digit.

This time it was George Lurich, who for some months has ached for a chance to wipe out the indignities thrust upon

Hack, Gotch and Lurich had it out on the carpet in Kansas City and Lurich's shoulders kissed the mat twice.

The report of the proceedings says "The fatal toe twist did much to undermine the confidence of the Russian. When he began to feel the pressure of the expression of agony appeared on his face and he was forced to rest both shoulders on the mat."

Didn't Want It Again.

That was the way the first fall was gained. In the next Gotch did not have to bring his prehensile fingers into play in the manner described. A man who elects to be thrown twice by the toe hold in one night is a glutton and Lurich's appetite for suffering is apparently normal.

An awful thing this toe hold. Had it been known in the dark ages it would have been listed with the thumb screw, the boot, the rack, the scavenger's daughter, the Baptism of Fire and other methods of torture. Compared with the excruciating pain of it the twinges of gout merely tickle one and the weight of a fat man on your favorite bunions is a pleasant caress.

In wrestling the toe hold covers a multitude of suspicious circumstances. Some times when a fall is secured by other methods there are lynx-eyed watchers who insist that the man thrown put up a feeble resistance. When a wrestler becomes a mark for the toe hold however all he has to do is to muster up a look of agony and sink inward like a tired child. It is in a measure a labor saving device.

Sullivan Strong For "Punch."

John L. Sullivan saw plenty to commend in the opening baseball game between San Francisco and Portland, but he deplored the fact that there was little disposition on the part of the majority of batsmen to take a whole hearted swipe at the ball.

John L. says it's the punch that counts in every branch of human effort and he is right beyond question. According to the Sullivan code baseball's biggest hero is the man who grips the bat determinedly, waves it as a tiger bent on springing waves its tail, and then knocks out a home run. There is never any danger of a feat of that kind being branded "a lucky punch."

Talking of lucky punches, they still continue to upset calculations and involve explanations in the boxing game. Word comes from New York that Rodol, the South American white hope who was knocked out by Jim Coffey in New York some nights ago was the victim of the "lucky punch." It was so lucky in fact that Coffey could scarcely believe his own eyes—or his own hands.

Jimmy Walsh, who manages Joe Mandot of New Orleans, goes this one better. He says that the blow from Leach Cross which did for Mandot was "the lucky punch" ever seen.

It is just possible that Jimmy will copyright this latest basic for an explanation of defeat so that other managers may not wear it threadbare.

Player Piano Sacrifice

See sale of Player Pianos and others. Page 4, section 1, this issue, in advertisement. The closing out sale, etc.

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BASKETERS HAVE GOOD YEAR



The Christian Brothers' Business College Basketball team, which won six out of eight games played in the Independent league. The players, from left to right, are, back row—O'Shea, Berling and Biebert. Front row—Winters, Powers, captain, and Gaynor.