

# MATTY PLANK AND '30' RUN THROUGH FOURTEEN SEASONS

### Famous Veterans Began Conflict on College Diamond Years Ago.

By Grandland Rice.

New York, Oct. 8.—The first scene of this striking drama is at Gettysburg, Pa., 14 years ago. Bucknell comes down to meet Gettysburg college. Mathewson faces Plank, and Mathewson wins. Score, 3-0.

Second scene—Six years have passed, and the scenery has been changed. Mathewson is now pitching a world's series game for the Giants, and Plank for the Athletics. For the second time Mathewson wins. Score, again 3-0.

Eight years have passed as the third and final scene is staged. The Giants of 1905 are scattered. The Mackinn machine of that year has vanished, too. But answering the roll call, Mathewson faces Plank again, and as the battle ends the same figures tell the story, without change through all the mass of 14 seasons. Score, 3-1.

It could be nothing else when the stars of Bucknell and Gettysburg meet, for fate long ago ordained that these figures should be as immutable as the code of the Medes and the scroll of the Persians.

No Sob Stuff on Tap.

I have no intention, beloved reader, of turning on the sob stuff for Mathewson, the veteran, for six, eight and 10 years from now I expect to be writing again about what we are writing about today—viz.: Mathewson looked better than ever, for he is six years younger than Plank, and if Plank has gone back, then Colonel John J. Rockefeller hasn't enough kais left to purchase a short beer.

Plank was far better yesterday than in 1905, and of all the games we have ever seen Mathewson pitch, this undoubtedly was the greatest. The day before he had seen the clouting Athletic clan tear the gory side of Marquard and Grandall, and as he went to battle in the game he had to win to hold his people in the fight, the main backbone was on the bench with a split paw, a pitcher was playing first and an infielder out in center field. Granted that these men did their part, yet the effect of working such a game with so many rents in his team's original lineup would have cracked the confidence of almost any other man.

But not Mathewson. For him it merely meant a little harder work, a little more to do, a tougher fight. No one seeing that ninth round will ever forget it. After eight innings wherein both pitchers had destroyed every semblance of an attack it looked as if the Mackinn artillery had cracked the Giant defense. 'Tis Strunk singled, Barry bunted, and when Doyle pegged high and wide to Wilts, there were runners on second and third and none out.

Here Mathewson rose above the occasion, and being Professor Mack, in our humble opinion, blundered. Through fine work by Wilts, Strunk and Barry were nailed at the plate as Lapp and Plank pumped short drives to first base. Then Murphy closed the rally with an easy poke to Mathewson.

The second night in any affair is of considerably more use than the first guess. If Plank had filed to the outfield nothing would have been said. After Lapp failed, with a runner still on third and one out, the logic of the situation was that Mack should rally his strongest attack and rush it to the front. He had Dan Murphy and Schang under cover and both can hit. Here was the place for the one last desperate charge with the heaviest guns left in the camp. But Connie elected to play things safe, and let Plank go to bat.

Not Time to Play Safe.

What might have happened with Murphy and Schang up never will be known. It strikes us that this was not the occasion to play safe. In rebuttal, for Connie, we can only say that he has won five pennants and two world's series, and we never have won even one pennant or one third of one world's series. But having a second guess, we propose to unseat it, although we admit we suffered quite a shock when we saw Plank come to the bat in the place of a pinch hitter with a keener eye and a stronger swing.

If Mathewson's support had stuck with him, I believe he could have blundered the Athletics' attack for another nine rounds. Ever and anon someone would thump the ball safely, but never when a runner was in striking distance of home. On these occasions he had Collins and Baker marked for slaughter, as three of his strikeouts were issued to this great pair. One outfield fly in the ninth round, however, and Plank today would be the hero of the game. Plank pitched well in 1905. He pitched better in 1911, and yesterday pitched the greatest game of the three. He had the Giants cooked to a brown turn. He had McGraw's best batsmen tied in a knot. Not until the big upheaval in the tenth did he at last lose heart.

The dope was scrambled badly enough, but on the threshold of the third game it is beyond repair—a total loss. Mack now will have to uncover a youngster, an unknown quantity in such a galling fire. But to offset this wide difference in pitching, McGraw has lost Chief Meyers for the year, and Markle is still limping with an ankle puffed. If Wilts and McLean continue their fine work of yesterday there would be no cause to worry. Larry caught a finished game and led the final rally bringing in the victory. As first, Wilts stepping in cold, after Snodgrass had gamely tried to stand on one leg, began to Hal Chase all around that territory. His work in that stirring ninth inning never will be forgotten.

Enter another king for the classic and elastic dope. Bender and Marquard, on a dark day to cover speed, were expected to engage in a pitching duel. Both were rapped and raked in a batting carnival far beyond the ordinary. Plank and Mathewson were tipped for rough work and the two were beyond all beating reach. No two games could have been more unlike. Batting ruled the first day and pitching the second.

From this on the conflict grows more interesting. Mack has three pitching guesses ahead, Bush, Shawkey and Brown; McGraw two, Tereau and Demaree.

## FORMER PORTLANDER'S SINGLE SPLIT PLANK



Larry McLean, who caught for the Portland champions of 1906 in the Coast league, and upon whom the brunt of the world series catching will fall with Meyer's injury. His single in the tenth inning at Philadelphia yesterday started the rally that gave the Giants the 3 to 0 victory.

### GOLF--Trying to Get Distance

Where the longer shots are concerned there is not the slightest doubt in my mind that two thirds of our troubles are caused by our making a conscious effort to get just a little too far, says a writer in the World of Golf. When I say "our troubles," I mean those of us who still know how to foote more or less frequently. I might have used the word "pressing," which, of course, is the same as trying to do too much, but the novice hears so much about not pressing that he is apt to become bored and to regard it merely as a parrot cry without stopping to consider exactly what pressing means to him.

A wild, fierce lunge at the ball is obviously pressing, and even the veriest tyro knows and recognizes it as such, but there are other kinds of pressing which are not quite so apparent.

That is why I used the phrase "Trying to get distance." The average be-

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shots, yet after two or three footees he will relate with unconscious humor what a much longer ball he often gets without hitting half so hard.

That is, of course, the explanation. When not hitting hard it is much easier to time properly and to get more work with the wrists; consequently, although the physical effort is less, the club head is traveling much quicker at the moment of impact, and when all is said that is the determining factor where length is concerned.

Correct timing, wrist action, following through, head steady, and any such hackneyed advice, if followed, has the effect of imparting speed to the club-head at the psychological moment. The novice realizes that the clubhead must move quickly, but he not infrequently commences speeding up in the wrong place. For example, it is no use trying to add 20 yards to the drive by merely quickening the movement of the shoulders. In like manner it is no use moving the upper arm more rapidly than the lower, and continuing still further, it avails nothing to merely move the hands. You can drag the hands forward a considerable distance when grasping a club without moving the head of the club an inch.

Therefore, to sum up, as we can get a greater distance only by moving the clubhead quicker, it behooves us to see that we do not put our extra energy into just swinging our shoulders and arms. What we want to do is to speed up our wrist action first, then it necessarily will move a little more quickly in unison, but in the same way as the hub of a wheel does not travel so quickly as the rim, the clubhead must have the greater speed if our mechanism is to be effective.

STRAIGHT DRIVE.

### MEASURES TO BE VOTED ON WILL BE DISCUSSED

Of interest to voters of the state who intend to vote at the coming special election, November 4, on the five referendum measures relating to the state university, sterilization and workmen's compensation, is an open discussion of the measures to be held at the new public library, October 14, under the auspices of the Oregon Civic League.

Other meetings scheduled at the library include, Harriman club, October 10; Wellesley college club, 2 p. m., Oct. 11; Arts and Crafts society, 8 p. m., Oct. 14; Parents Educational Bureau, 7:45 p. m., Oct. 14; Teachers' association, 4 p. m., Oct. 21; address by Lincoln Steff-

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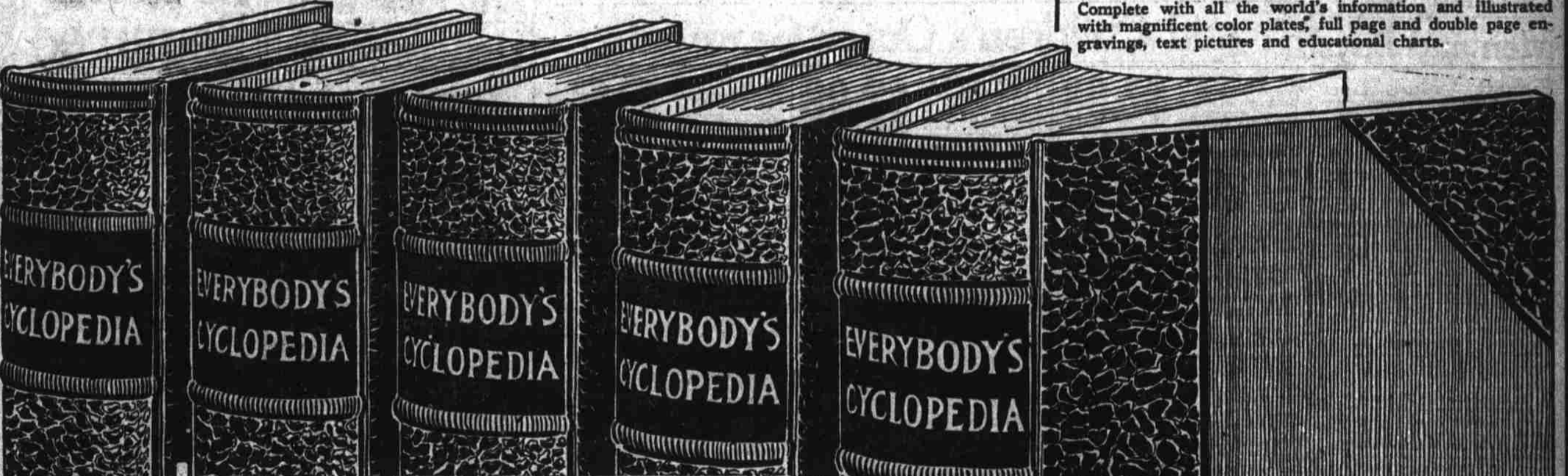
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