

Nail-Studded Bats Latest Trick to Boost Distance Clouting in the Majors

PLAYERS FOUND EVADING RULES TO AID HITTING

52 Nails Discovered in One War Club Examined by Umpire.

LIVELY BALL HAS RIVAL

Catchers Say Some Bludgeons Being Used Are Cause of Hefty Slugging.

By RILEY EVANS

The lively bat is the very latest thing in baseball.

For several years most of the hard hitting has been charged against the so-called lively ball.

Now there comes the question as to whether or not the bat is playing a part.

Major league catchers are of the belief that the bat is doing its bit to ward feeling along the slugging that now features.

Here is the latest rumor that is going the rounds relative to the increased hitting.

Favorite Bats Are Spiked
Major league players have their favorite bats. In order to preserve these favorites bats it has been the custom for years with players to drive a few small nails or tacks into the bat where it showed signs of splitting.

Although the rules say that the bat shall be entirely of wood, little attention has ever been paid to the custom of driving a few nails into a favorite bat in order to preserve it.

It is a well-known fact that the hardest hit balls come into contact with the bat at a point from six to twelve inches from the end of the bat.

Some players evidently got the idea that it would be a clever stunt to stud the bat with nails at the favorite point of contact. Only a week or so ago, I ruled out a bat that had fifty-two nails driven into the bat close to the end.

It is said that the practice has become general in both big leagues. It is easy to picture how much impetus such a studded area would give to a ball that was properly hit.

While umpires never essay to play the role of detective, the catchers are all beginning to watch the bats closely, and I understand any number of bats have recently been ruled out in both major leagues.

It wouldn't be at all surprising if some definite action was taken against this dishonest practice by both leagues and the umpires giving orders to throw out all bats that contained even a single nail.

SISLER DETECTS FAINT FLUTTER OF A PENNANT

George and Other Browns Confident of First American Loop Flag.

By United Press
PHILADELPHIA, July 22.—George Sisler, leader of the American League in most departments of the game, hears the faint faint flutter of the first pennant that has flapped from a St. Louis flag-pole in thirty-four years.

Sisler predicts the Browns will beat out the Yanks, Tigers, Indians and White Sox for this season's banner, which would be the first major league pennant ever won by St. Louis.

George said the whole club felt the same confidence. Then he explained that the Browns are a game and a half ahead of the Yanks now, almost as far ahead as they were when they came East. Their lead then was two games.

Further, Sisler called attention to the fact that the Browns have only one more short road trip this season, play many of their remaining games against the weaker clubs, and the majority of their remaining games at home.

ROUSH CASE DEADLOCKED
Although Player Is Reinstated, He Demands Original Terms.

By Times Special
CINCINNATI, July 22.—Although a dispatch from Oakland City, Ind., George said the whole club felt the same confidence. Then he explained that the Browns are a game and a half ahead of the Yanks now, almost as far ahead as they were when they came East. Their lead then was two games.

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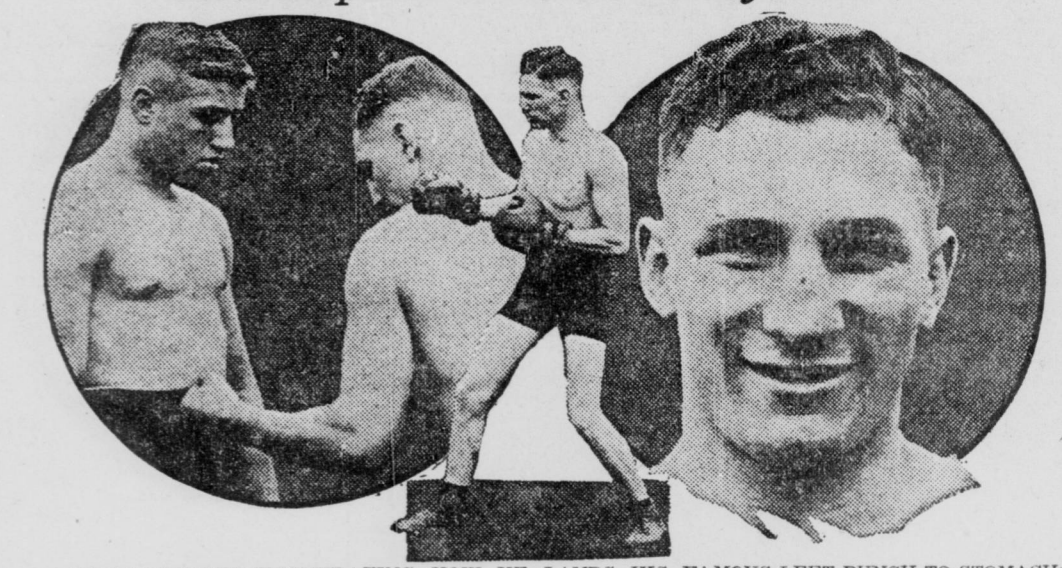
City Colored Net Finals
Price and Brown won the semi-final match of the city tennis tournament being conducted by the Colored Y. M. C. A. Price defeating Cable, 6-3, 6-1, 6-5, and Brown defeating Hawkins, 6-2, 8-6, 8-6. The final match was to be played today. The winner of the meet will go to the national colored tournament at Philadelphia.

Another for the Sox
SEATTLE, Wash., July 22.—Frank C. "Stubby" Mack, young right-hander of the Seattle club, has been sold to the White Sox for cash and players amounting to \$50,000, the club announced Friday.

HOMER AND DOUBLE
By United Press
NEW YORK, July 22.—Ty Cobb, the poor old guy, had another of his feeble days at bat in the game which the Tigers lost to the Yanks Friday. All he made was a homer and two men on base and a double.

Two hits for six bases in four times up for a feeble afternoon's batting average of .500.
The poor old guy.

Lew Hopes to Win With Body Punch



(LEFT) TENDLER ILLUSTRATING HOW HE LANDS HIS FAMOUS LEFT PUNCH TO STOMACH; (CENTER) HOW HE LOOKS FACING AN OPPONENT; (RIGHT) A CLOSE-UP OF THE CHALLENGER.

By NEA Service

DELANCO, N. J., July 22.—Lew Tandler is hard at work here developing his left smacker, which he hopes will win him the lightweight title.

He is leaving nothing undone that will tend to put him in shape to remove the crown from Benny Leonard's brow when they meet the night of July 27 in the arena at Boyle's Thirty Acres in Jersey City.

Tandler is confident he will be re-

turned the victor.

He says: "I hope to wear Leonard down with crashing lefts to the body and then drop him with the same punch. It's worked on lots of other fighters and I believe it will work on Benny."

"Boxing as I do with my right hand and right foot forward his left mitt will be useless to him for offense. He can use it only on the back of my neck or shoulder or, if he wants to, he can

slam me on the top of my head.

"His right, which is his dangerous hand, is the only one I will have to watch.

"Another advantage that my style of fighting gives me is the fact there are so few fighters using it that when a man does go up against it it is awkward for him to solve.

"I'll admit Leonard is one of the greatest lightweight that ever lived, but I have high hopes of winning from him."

JACK DEMPSEY VS. BRENNAN IN MICHIGAN CITY

Champion to Defend Title Labor Day on Hoosier Soil if State Permits.

By United Press
NEW YORK, July 22.—As a work-out for the match with Harry Wills, Jack Dempsey will fight Bill Brennan, who he has twice knocked out, next Labor Day, according to Leo Flynn, manager of Brennan.

Flynn is going to Detroit, where Dempsey is showing in a theater, to sign for a 10-round no-decision bout between Dempsey and Brennan to be held at Michigan City, Ind.

Floyd Fitzsimmons of Benton Harbor, Mich., will promote the fight if the authorities do not interfere.

NO DANCING, SAYS REFEREE
Ertle to Force Tender and Leonard to Box Properly.

NEW YORK, July 22.—The flapper pastimes of necking, muzzling and hopping which have characterized some of Benny Leonard's and Lew Tandler's no-decision fights in the past will be suppressed by Harry Ertle, referee, when the lightweight champion defends his business asset against Tandler in Jersey City next Thursday night.

"They will have to box from the first ring," Ertle said today. "When I say 'break' they must break and I will not stand for any pulling or hugging."

Friday Fight Results
NEW YORK.—Willie Spencer, New York heavyweight, won a ten-round decision from Roy Moore, St. Paul.

BAYONNE, N. J.—Johnny Curran, Jersey City, knocked out Joe Clifford in the sixth round.

BROOKLYN, Mass.—Jimmy Frazzetti, Brooklyn lightweight, retained the championship of New England by defeating Johnny Clinton, New York, in ten rounds.

FINALS IN INDIANA MEET
Hubbard and O'Connell of Chicago Play for Singles Title.

GARY, Ind., July 22.—A. P. Hubbard and George O. O'Connell, both of Chicago, were to meet today in the singles finals of the northern Indiana tennis championships. Hubbard is defending his title.

Kaiser and Rolley, Chicago, were to meet Hubbard and O'Connell of Chicago in the doubles final. Miss Leighton and Mrs. Robert Stewart of Chicago were to clash for the women's championship.

DUGAN MAY BE TRADED
BOSTON, July 22.—According to a rumor here, Joe Dugan is going to be disposed of by the Red Sox.

If there is any truth to the report, it is a safe bet that Dugan will go to the Yankees, who could use him at third base. There is also a chance the White Sox might put in a bid for him.

Leading Major Hitters

American League
Sisler, Browns, 415; Cobb, Tigers, 407; Meusel, Yankees, 362; Spahr, Cleveland, 360; Helman, Tigers, 354.

National League
Hornsbay, Cardinals, 367; Hollocher, Cubs, 365; Brier, Pirates, 364; Grimes, Cubs, 362; Johnston, Dodgers, 357.

How They Are Hitting (Fifteen or More Games)

G. AB. R. H. SR. Pct.
Purcell, .38 .84 19 32 2 .380
Brown, .37 .83 28 59 2 .378
Seib, .36 .80 19 30 3 .367
Caval, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Kruener, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Hill, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Covington, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Sicking, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Belt, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Bartlett, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Schreiber, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Hard, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Whelan, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Weaver, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
Petry, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351

Pitchers' Records (Yesterday's Game Included)

W. AB. R. H. SR. Pct.
Weaver, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72
Caval, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72
Seib, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72
Hill, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72
Petry, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72
Bartlett, .24 15 5 .750 175 158 72

'I AIN'T GUILTY OF NOTHING,' IS PLEA OF SHOELESS JOE

By HENRY PARRELL
NEW YORK, July 22.—Blind as "Shoeless" Joe Jackson and introduced as the "greatest outfielder of all times," the former White Sox star made his first public speech here last night in his campaign to get back into baseball.

"I ain't guilty of nothing. I'm standing on my own reputation as a clean-cut, honest ball player and asking the jury of fans for a square deal," Jackson told a crowd of about two hundred.

"I ain't wantin' back in professional baseball, but I want to play with the semi-pros."

"I played my hardest in the 1919 world's series. I fielded 1,000 and batted .375 in the series."

"I tried hard to win and no one had

CLUB STANDINGS

American Association

St. Paul, .40 .84 19 32 2 .380
Indianapolis, .38 .84 19 32 2 .380
Milwaukee, .37 .83 28 59 2 .378
Minneapolis, .36 .80 19 30 3 .367
Louisville, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351
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Toledo, .35 .78 18 29 1 .351

W. L. Pct.
St. Louis, .52 .37 .584
New York, .52 .37 .584
Chicago, .49 .43 .517
Cleveland, .46 .44 .511
Pittsburgh, .45 .45 .500
Philadelphia, .45 .45 .500
Detroit, .45 .45 .500
Washington, .45 .45 .500

W. L. Pct.
New York, .52 .37 .584
St. Louis, .52 .37 .584
Chicago, .49 .43 .517
Cleveland, .46 .44 .511
Pittsburgh, .45 .45 .500
Philadelphia, .45 .45 .500
Detroit, .45 .45 .500
Washington, .45 .45 .500

W. L. Pct.
Decatur, .49 .43 .517
T. Hunte, .46 .44 .511
Evansville, .45 .45 .500
Birmingham, .45 .45 .500
Mobile, .45 .45 .500
Montgomery, .45 .45 .500
Savannah, .45 .45 .500
Augusta, .45 .45 .500

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COLORED BOXERS END WORK

Gans and Blackburn Close Hard Training For Monday Scrap.

Panama Joe Gans, colored middleweight champion, and Jack Blackburn, formerly of this city but now of Chicago, closed their ten-round bout at Tomlinson Hall Monday night.

It will be the headliner of an all-star colored card being staged by the colored Knights Templars. One Round Bouts and others will appear in the preliminary bouts.

Jack Blackburn, though a veteran, has displayed ability to go the route in recent matches and he is expected to give the hard hitting Gans a hard scrap.

Howard Wiggam will referee the main go Monday. The first bout will start at 8:15 o'clock.

INDEPENDENT AND AMATEUR BALL

The Seal Fast baseball club will play the Riverdale A. A. at 3:30 Sunday. All players are asked to be at the end of the S. Meridian car line at 1 o'clock Sunday. For games with the Seal Fast address Mark Montague, 3005 W. Michigan St., or call Belmont 2037.

The Riverdale A. A. will play the Y. M. C. club on Sunday at Riverdale No. 10 at 3:30. Hackman or Schmitt will be on the mound for the Riverdale.

The Indianapolis Stars, a colored team, will play at Fayette Sunday. All players are asked to be at the end of the S. Meridian car line at 1 o'clock Sunday. For games with the Seal Fast address Mark Montague, 3005 W. Michigan St., or call Belmont 2037.

The Jones Transfer and Midway will play at Riverdale No. 10 at 3:30 Sunday. All players are asked to be at the end of the S. Meridian car line at 1 o'clock Sunday. For games with the Seal Fast address Mark Montague, 3005 W. Michigan St., or call Belmont 2037.

The Springfield Cubs will meet the South Side Juniors at 9:30 Sunday morning at the Noble St. diamonds. Frazer and Rinehart will form the battery for the Cubs. Prator and Vecko will work for the Juniors. Long will play center field for the Cubs.

The Minute Men will play the Maroons at Riverdale, diamond No. 9. All Minute Men are requested to be on