

# PLAYING the FIELD

With Billy Evans

In considering the pennant chances of a major league ball club, regardless of its strength at the bat, in the field or on the bases, one invariably gets back to the pitching staff as the big question mark.

During my tour of the big league training camps, I didn't find a single manager who was willing to stand pat on his twirling corps. True, some of the pilots were better satisfied than others, but not one would have turned down the addition of either a star southpaw, right-hander or both.

Jack McCallister of the Cleveland Indians wasn't worrying about his pitching, yet he was hopeful Huddlin would come up to expectations. He is the husky right-hander who showed so much promise late last fall.

Connie Mack enthused over his pitching but added there is always room for another good hurler on any staff.

## WASHINGTON'S STATUS

IVE is the Washington Club high class pitching and it will be one of the strongest clubs in the majors. In all other respects it is a great aggregation.

The Washington pitching staff is made up of a rather unusual combination, fading veterans and rising youngsters. The injury to Walter Johnson was a terrific handicap. It temporarily put out of commission a dependable veteran.

If the old-timers hold up and the youngsters come through, by that I mean, say two of the many rookie pitchers Manager Harris has under contract, Washington will be mighty troublesome. Getting such a break is asking considerably.

A similar condition exists in the ranks of the New York Giants. It's a mighty pert ball club that may want for consistent pitching.

# Secrets of 16 Years Successful Pitching

BY GROVER ALEXANDER, ONE SERVICE  
Veteran Pitcher of World's Champions

THIS is my seventeenth season in the National League and I have often been asked how much longer I expect to remain. My future is uncertain, just like it is with all pitchers.

I have passed my 40th birthday, I feel today, by the way I expect to be pitching big league baseball for at least five more years. I believe I will, barring accident.

But pitching arms are not guaranteed against injury. I have very fortunate in this respect. As for a sore arm, well I have had only one in my entire career.

This was several years ago while with the Cubs. I had pitched a tough game in Cincinnati on a hot day and we caught an early train for Pittsburgh. While sleeping I knocked the covers off my arm and going through the mountains a stiff breeze blew through the berth.

I woke up the next morning with a kink in the right elbow. It was very stiff but instead of having it massaged I rubbed some olive oil on it for two days. Then I found a warm spot at the park and in pitching for fifteen minutes the sun just burned out the kinks.

I have had but one serious injury. I blame myself for this, too. While

## AMATEURS, SEMI-PROS

O'Hara Sans will practice at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Brookside No. 3. All players and tryouts are requested to attend. The Sans desire to book a game for next Sunday. Phone Webster 5033-R and ask for Kenneth.

The Indianapolis Cubs will practice at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Riverside No. 1. All players and tryouts are requested to attend.

With most of last year's squad signed up for the 1927 season, the Indianapolis Power & Light Company baseball team is getting into shape for this year's games in the amateur baseball schedule. The team will be in action again on April 11 after taking both the league and city championships. The team, which is now line-up as now completed, ought to make a strong bid for championship honors.

The Kentucky-Indiana-Ohio league has leased the local Power park for the coming season, according to an announcement of the league's president, today. The K. T. O. league will consist of eight clubs, Indianapolis home clubs and eight road clubs. Indiana will play every Sunday, while play every Sunday at Peoria Park. The first game will be played on May 1. John Stuttridge, manager of the Indianapolis outfit which will be known as the Indianapolis Indians, is the new manager. Hoffman of Cincinnati, Ohio, is high commissioner of the association.

The Penny Nine baseball team playing in the 17-18-year-old class, gets a game for Sunday, April 10, following this notice: Lauder, Mrs. Christmore, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Clegg, Mrs. E. A. Clegg, Mrs. M. D. D. and Mrs. O'Donnell. Those desiring tryouts also attend.

All former Yaugen Kamp-Wheeler baseball players are requested to be at Gardner Park Sunday afternoon for tryouts. Tryouts get in touch with E. L. Resiner, 1407 Ringgold St.

The Lincoln Highways, fast independent team, will play their home games on Friday, 11 o'clock. For games with the Highways, write Gus Fleming, 2129 Massachusetts Ave., or call Webster 6774.

The Fidels have about several well-known semi-pros to their team and now boast of one of the fastest teams in the state. For games call Drexel 6754-W and for tryouts call Webster 1124 Fletcher Ave. Games are wanted with Indianapolis, Newark, Peru, Bloomington, Seymour and New Albany.

# INDIANS GET HIGH RATING IN UNITED PRESS A. A. SURVEY

## HORNSBY MUDDLE UNSOLVED

Giants Threaten to Take Case to Courts—President Heydler Firm.

NEW YORK, April 9.—With baseball teams returning from their southern training camps to open the championship season on Tuesday prospect of legal warfare today threatened to involve the National League in a serious muddle.

Acting in behalf of their new second baseman, Rogers Hornsby, the New York Giants will go into court on Monday to seek a temporary injunction restraining the league and its president, John A. Heydler, from interfering with Hornsby's appearance in the New York line-up.

Decision to take the case to the courts followed a conference of National League club owners in Pittsburgh, which failed to unravel the tangled stock situation in which Hornsby is the central figure. The star infielder owns 1,167 shares of stock in his old club, the St. Louis Cardinals. For his holdings he demands \$165 a share. Sam Breadon, president of the Cardinals, has offered \$60 a share.

It will be the Giants against the field. The seven other clubs of the senior baseball circuit are lined up solidly behind President Heydler.

The National League, hoping to avoid legal recourse, the ramifications of which might disrupt the organization, offered a compromise price of \$100,000 for the block of stock, Breadon to pay \$75,000 and the league and the New York club the remainder. The offer was refused and Hornsby advanced a counter-proposal.

He said he had an offer from a person, undisclosed, of \$87,000, and suggested the New York and St. Louis clubs, together with the league, make up the additional \$23,000. The club owners vetoed this proposal.

## How to Use the Putter — — By Ralph Stonehouse



Editor's Note: This is the fifth of a series of eleven golf article written for The Indianapolis Times by leading local professional players. Ralph Stonehouse, who was assistant to Dick Nelson at the Highland Club last year, is head golf instructor at the Coffin

By Ralph Stonehouse

THE putter, shortest club of all, is the most important in the bag. Most golfers will admit it is used more often than the others and used less in practice, which is the biggest mistake most players make.

There are several different styles of putters. The straight shaft putter, sometimes called the putting cleft; the aluminum head putter, and the goose neck or curved shaft putter. That does not mean the wooden shaft is crooked, but that the metal just above the putting blade is curved to the point where it pits onto the shaft and resembles a

goose neck. The latter is the most popular.

The sooner a golf player realizes that putting is the most important part of his game, the sooner that player will register low scores. Appearing at sight to be the simplest part of the game, one soon learns the longer one puts the harder it becomes to drop the ball into the cup.

In learning to putt, take a few balls to the practice green and drop them about eight feet from the cup. Grip the club with the right hand and stroke towards the cup. This will give an idea of the effort required to send the ball to the cup



Municipal links this year and his accompanying article on how to use the putter will no doubt be of especial interest to all followers of the golfing game. This series is being conducted under the auspices of Brassie Birdies, Times golf column.

Nearly every sports editor who was asked to vote on the pennant winner named the Colonels as potential champions of the circuit, despite the records, which show that few clubs capture the flag three seasons in a row.

Bruno Betzel, who accepted the responsibility for the Tribe at Indianapolis when Owne Bush went to the Pirates as manager, recently acquired Outfielder Brickell from Pittsburgh, in addition to Outfielder Walsh from Buffalo and Outfielder Anderson. Though losing Catcher Hartley to Boston, Betzel still has a superhitter receiving set in Bob Snyder, Ernie Vick and Paul Flory.

At Milwaukee, Manager Jack Lelli lost a prize in Fritz Schulte, who was sold to St. Louis, but plugged up the gap with Frank Wilson, who lacks Schulte's mechanical genius, but possesses more fire

Then grasp the putter with the fingers instead of an overlapping grip and extend the index fingers of the right hand. This gives the right hand complete control of the club, as you have practiced.

The stance or address for a putt is more for the individual to determine, using the simplest and easiest with the feet together, and the weight of the body on the left foot to prevent the body from swaying forward.

In making the stroke swing back on a straight line and without jerking or stopping. Bring the club back to the ball and on after the impact.

A good point in establishing a line for your ball to follow is the cup is to pick out some object on the way and try to make the ball roll over it.

Practice these points and watch your score decrease this season.

## WINS MEET

### Illinois A. C. Takes National A. A. U. Swim Honors.

By United Press

CHICAGO, April 9.—Performing brilliantly throughout the National A. A. U. men's indoor swimming meet and climaxing its efforts with record-breaking performances Friday night, the Illinois Athletic Club team today held both the men's indoor swimming and the water polo championships of America.

The I. A. C. swimmers scored 42 points to win the meet, 20 points more than were garnered by the Chicago Athletic Association and Brooklyn Central Y. M. C. A., who

scored 22 and 20 respectively.

Johnny Weissmuller topped his performance Friday night with a record-breaking swim of the 500-yard free style event. The I. A. C. star covered the distance in 5:28.25, eclipsing Arne Floer's world's record of 3:25.2 for sixty-foot pools.

A pitcher must have both hands in good shape to do his best work, the pitching hand in particular. A sore spot or a bruised or sprained finger, often doesn't interfere with the play of an infielder or outfielder. The same condition would be a great handicap to a pitcher.

The balls are hit too fast in the infield for a pitcher to try to handle them. Then there is always a chance that after making a play and fumbling the ball he might step on it and suffer a leg injury. The accident that almost ended the career of Eddie Collins happened that way.

It is usually the case that something happens when a pitcher gets careless as in my case in pitching to Vogel. A pitcher cannot afford to, for he must "baby" his hand.

### Farrell Gives His A. L. Size-Up

By Henry L. Farrell

NEW YORK, April 9.—With five new managers handling clubs in a league that has been reorganized almost entirely, a prediction of the outcome of the American League championship races involves more than the ordinary risks.

It would be a simpler and a more pleasing process to act like the bookmakers and establish two clubs on the same odds as the favorites for the championship.

Accepting the responsibility of being wrong—and very wrong—the standing of the teams in the American League next October looks like this:

### Philadelphia Athletics. New York Yankees. Washington Senators. Cleveland Indians. Detroit Tigers. St. Louis Browns. Chicago White Sox. Boston Red Sox.

### BRAZIL BEATS MANUAL

Brazil track team defeated Manual Friday afternoon at Willard Park, 57-41. Cassidy, with 12 points, was the individual star for Brazil, while Rubush, with 20, was the outstanding local performer. The track was in poor condition from the recent rains.

### INDIANA CENTRAL VICTOR

Indiana Central baseball team defeated Muncie Normal, 5-0, in a seven-inning game at the local's University Heights diamond. Muncie failed to give Summer good support.

### 14 to 6, GEORGETOWN

By United Press

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Ten hits and eleven passes off Dartmouth pitchers gave Georgetown University a 14-to-6 victory in the first of a two-game series.

### RODGER LEAVES N. D.

By United Press

AUSTIN, Texas, April 9.—George E. Keegan of the Notre Dame coaching staff was named Friday night as head basketball coach and assistant football coach of the University of Texas. Before a contract is signed, Keegan must be approved by the board of regents.

Keegan has been head basketball coach at Notre Dame.

### SYRACUSE WINS

By United Press

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Syracuse University tennis team defeated Georgetown University here, four matches to two.

### Action Provided at Legion Show

By Eddie Ash

BILLY Peterson, Detroit, and Emil Baksie, Gary, former amateur champions, Friday night at the American Legion boxing show at the Armory, staged what came close to being one of the best matches ever held in the city.

Almost identical in height, weight and build the middleweights unleashed vicious right and left-hand blows that brought cheers of approval from the fair-sized crowd. Peterson gained an edge in a number of rounds, sufficient to put him slightly ahead on points.

Wally Patterson, Columbus, who was matched against Keween Trimble, East Chicago, should learn that making faces at one's opponent, together with jumping up and down, never would win a fight. The honors were even.

Allen Watson of Indianapolis knocked out Jimmy Hall, Indianapolis, in the second round.

Frankie Graham and Bob Lewsader went six rounds to a draw.

Young Nasser and Frankie Colker fought four fast rounds to a draw in the opener. It was a good card.

Christie played very little ball in 1925 and last year remained out of action altogether. When the Betzelites played in Birmingham recently Christie visited the ball park and his old friends were surprised, he looked so well.

When they pull for Christie they'll boost their own profession.

When he gets a base hit, the dental doctors will point with pride.

And if he gets a flock of safe swats, they'll hurry back to their offices and wait for a rush of customers.

ATTABOY, CHRISTIE, CRASH IT FOR A ROW OF MOLARS!

When Grover Hartley, former Indian, was here last night he blasted a triple in a pinch in one of the games. A Hoosier friend remarked: "Well, Grover replied: "Yes, any blind hog is liable to find a nut."

Some A. A. History

The league was organized in 1902. Mike Kelley managed St. Paul that year and he's still present in A. A. ranks as boss of the Millers.

Largest attendance—Toledo at Columbus, Sept. 1, 1907, 20,531.

Shortest game—Columbus vs. Toledo, Sept. 20, 1919, 53 minutes.

Most extra innings—Minneapolis vs. Louisville, June 8, 1914, 20 innings.

Most errorless games by team—Indianapolis, 1926, 56.

On April 11, 1912, Kansas City and Columbus played an entire game with one ball.

DUTCH HENRY STARS

By United Press

WASHINGTON, April 9.—With Hornsby absent, the New York Giants defeated the Washington team, 4 to 1, for the fourth consecutive game.

Dutch Henry, purchased from Indianapolis, knocked out Don Carson, Indianapolis, in fifth round.

CREW RACE TODAY

By United Press

OAKLAND, April 9.—The varsity rowing crews of the University of Washington were to meet in a three-mile race on the Oakland Estuary today to decide the intercollegiate championship.

### CUBS AND BLUES

By United Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 9.—Rained out.