

# Playing the Field

WITH BILLY EVANS

B EAT the Yankees is the pet slogan of the American League and it has no greater advocate than Connie Mack of the Athletics.

Apparently, the taciturn Mr. Mack, in his desire to overthrow the supremacy of the New York Americans, has decided to fight fire with fire. To be more explicit, he intends to give the Athletics an offensive punch that will rival the Yanks.

That is the one and only explanation that can be offered for his signing Tris Speaker and Ty Cobb. While these two famous stars have slowed up in the field and on the bases; they are as dangerous as ever at the bat.

It is one of the phenomena of the game how the outstanding stars at various positions first show signs of going back as to their legs. Such a fault reappears in their work on the bases and in the field, but somehow they retain the old batting eye, which age does not seem to dim.

PROBABLY no manager in the history of baseball ever opened such a field for debate as did Mack when he added Cobb and Speaker to the roster of the Athletics. You can find plenty of supporters pro and con on the question.

If one were to name the twelve greatest players in the history of the game it would be difficult to overlook Cobb and Speaker without being deluged with letters requesting that your sanity be investigated. They have been outstanding as outfielders, batsmen, base runners, smart baseball men.

Not only have they starred as players, but each has had a flag in the managerial game. Speaker in 1920 won a pennant and world championship for Cleveland. Cobb had varying success with the Detroit Tigers.

There are many experts who question the wisdom of Connie Mack in placing two of the game's greatest stars, players who have been big league managers, in the lineup of the Athletics. There is in many quarters a belief that it won't work out.

FEAR is expressed that other players of lesser reputation won't like the situation, the "hogging" of the spotlight by the stars, and there also is a belief a feeling will exist that there isn't the proper ratio to salary.

I am inclined to the belief that, in the parlance of sport, Mack is "shooting the works." In other words, it is my opinion Connie would be glad to retire if he could put over another pennant winner. He doesn't like to get out while numbered among the also-rans after leading the procession for so many years.

For several years the Yankees have literally battered or batted their way to a pennant, as you prefer it. When pitching failed, when slowness of foot handicapped, when errors in the field made the Yanks' defense look like a sieve, the trusty bats of Ruth, Gehrig and Company invariably came to the rescue.

The Yanks have in a sense triumphed as the club boasted the greatest offense in baseball. Mistakes in other directions didn't matter.

In placing Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker in his outfield, Connie Mack is unquestionably adding a real punch but is sacrificing speed on the bases and a defense in the field.

## GIANTS SET FOR RACE

New Yorkers Win 21 Games In Spring Training Grind.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The New York Giants today awaited the opening of the National League season against the Boston Braves Wednesday with the best spring record in many years.

The Giants won twenty-one games and lost four, two to the Athletics and two to the Senators. One tie was played with the Newark Bears. The Giants won thirteen games before they lost to the Senators Saturday.

## ATTEMPT RECORD SPIN

Daytona Beach, Fla., April 9.—An attempt to break the world's motor car speed record was to be made over the Daytona Beach course today by Ray Keech in the J. M. White Triplex special.

A rough beach Sunday prevented the test although the machine went through a practice spin at about 151 miles an hour. The record is 206.95 miles an hour.

**BAKER VS. FRIEDMAN**  
Brooklyn, April 9.—Sergeant Sammy Baker, Mitchell Field, L. I., welterweight, faces Sailor Friedman of Philadelphia in a scheduled ten-round bout at the Broadway arena here tonight.

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Payments as Low as \$1 a Week  
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Cor. S. Ill. and Georgia St.  
Open Till 8:00 p.m.

# Indians Take Light Drill to Top Off Training for Opener

Holke's Condition Improves, and He Expects to Be in Lineup.

## FERD SCHUPP TO PITCH

Yde and Burwell Also Are Ready; Other Gossip.

BY EDDIE ASH  
Batting practice and infield and outfield drill today topped off the Indians' preparation for the big opening when the Minneapolis Millers will be met as the A. A. curtain goes up at Washington Park Tuesday.

Walter Holke, first sacker, who was taken ill Friday night, showed improvement today and advised Manager Betzel he believed he would be able to start in the feature struggle.

Betzel expects to send Ferd Schupp, veteran left-hander, to the mound if he shows well during the warm-up Tuesday, otherwise Emil Yde, the southpaw obtained from Pittsburgh, will be used.

Burwell Also Ready  
Bill Burwell also is ready and in condition to fill the assignment if Manager Betzel makes a last-minute decision to use a right-hander.

Roy Spencer, who came to the Indians with Yde, is slated to do the backstop work Tuesday. Betzel will start at second if his leg injury does not prevent, and Holke will be at first, Haynes at third and Wardsler at short.

Herman Layne will be in the left garden, Jacobson or Mueller in center and Russell or Anderson in right.

**Millers Due Tonight**  
Mike Kelley's Millers won't reach the city until tonight, and they will make their headquarters at the Seaview Hotel. It is thought Manager Kelley will use Benton or Brillman, Randolph of Springfield, Ohio. Both worked out Sunday in local gyms and railbirds were much impressed with the form displayed by both fighters.

Hannibal, shifty and a hard puncher, is expected to limp into plenty of opposition in the tough Springfield pug. Shifty and George Smith, welters, meet in the ten-round wind-up.

**Kentucky Team Wins Prep Event**

One of the features of the all-Negro boxing show at Tomlinson Hall Thursday night is expected to be the eight-round semi-wind-up between Jack Hannibal, Indianapolis light heavy, and Battling Randolph of Springfield, Ohio. Both worked out Sunday in local gyms and railbirds were much impressed with the form displayed by both fighters.

Hannibal, shifty and a hard puncher, is expected to limp into plenty of opposition in the tough Springfield pug. Shifty and George Smith, welters, meet in the ten-round wind-up.

**Uncle Robbie' Confident Dodgers Stronger and Will Make Trouble**

Pilot of Brooklyn Club Believes Addition of Bancroft Plugs Hole in Infield; Likes Pitching.

BY UNITED PRESS  
CHICAGO, April 9.—More than 400 preparatory school basketball players, who competed in Chicago University's tenth annual national interscholastic tournament, returned to their homes in thirty-six States today.

The honors of returning home a champion went to a husky team of mountaineers from Ashland, Ky., who defeated Canton, Ill., 15 to 10, in the finals Saturday night.

**Umpires Powell and McCafferty Handle the Opening Struggle.**

The baseball parade starts moving at 1:30 Tuesday under the direction of Capt. H. M. Franklin, marshal. The parade will form on Delaware St. at Walnut St. and adjacent streets. Line of march: West on North St. to Meridian St., south on Meridian St. to Washington St., west on Washington St. to ball park. Organizations participating in the event are requested to report at their places of assignment at 1:00.

**Legion Baseball in Kentucky**

The Kentucky department of the American Legion has organized the entire quota of boys' baseball teams assigned it in the Legion's national junior baseball program, it was announced at national headquarters of the Legion here today, following a report from Thomas H. Hayden, adjutant and athletic officer of the Kentucky department.

Hayden stated that within thirty days he would have 200 boys' teams playing in the State.

Kentucky is the first State to complete its quota of teams for the Nation-wide competition which the Legion is sponsoring with the support of the national and American Leagues and which will culminate in a junior world series.

**PLAY SECOND EIGHTEEN**

Qualifying Round of North-South Open Postponed by Rain.

BY UNITED PRESS  
PINHEDURST, N. C., April 9.—The second 18 holes of the qualifying round of the North and South amateur golf tournament was to be played today. It was postponed Sunday when a heavy rain fell.

George Voight, Washington, and Eugene Homans, Englewood, N. J., met at the end of the first 18 with 73. More than 200 golfers were entered.

**ENTERS PRO RANKS**

BY UNITED PRESS  
LONDON, April 9.—Mrs. Lambert Chambers, seven times British women's tennis champion, has announced her return to the amateur ranks and will start her career as a professional instructor Tuesday.

**Honest Mark!**

BY UNITED PRESS  
NEW YORK, April 9.—Helen Ballard, cashier at the Hotel Ansolia, found her account \$90 short. Just then a young man walked up to the window and said: "I have \$90 too much money, and I think you gave it to me when you cashed that check yesterday." The man was Mark Koenig, shortstop of the New York Yankees.

Spencer Harris, Orsatti also is an outfielder.

Among the boosters behind the opening day festivities are the following:

George R. Weilbaum, chairman, athletic committee, Chamber of Commerce; Wallace Parade Committee—Frank E. McKinney, chairman.

Yankee Club—Thomas F. Hatfield, chairman; Jack Hendricks Jr., Charles Kenney, nephews and Judges—Charles Kaser, chairman; Robert J. Heuslin.

Publicity—Ed Herman, chairman; Horace Frank, Ed Lewellen, O. R. Robert, Lester Nagley, Ace Herr, Ralph W. Hough, Ad Miller Jr., Ralph W. Hough, Charles J. Quill, Ace Herr, Robert C. Harvey, Elam chairman; Sam Goldstein, George J. Dives, Henry J. Schmitz.

Rawlings, Black, second; Emmer or Devivors, shortstop; Ezeli or Bohne, third. In his outfit he has

Duncan, Smith, Zach Wheat and

Parade Marshal—Captain Harry Frank-

## Hoppe Holds Advantage in Cue Turney

Veteran Billiard Star Unde feated in National Three-Cushion Event.

BY UNITED PRESS  
CHICAGO, April 9.—The veteran Willie Hoppe of New York, with four victories and no defeats, held the lead in the National Three-Cushion Billiard tournament here today.

Hoppe gained the lead Sunday night when he defeated Arthur Thurnblad, Chicago, 50 to 33, in 60 innings. Hoppe had a high run of 6. Thurnblad's best was 4.

John Layton, of St. Louis, fell from the undefeated class when he lost to Leonard Kenny, Chicago, 50 to 47. Kenny's high run was 5. Layton's 6.

Earl Lookabaugh, Chicago, defeated Charles Weston, Pittsburgh 50 to 35, in 64 innings: Gus Copulos, Detroit, won easily over Otto Reiselt, Philadelphia, defending champion, 50 to 26, in 46 innings.

Today's pairings were: Kenny vs. Thurnblad; Kieckhefer vs. Weston; Hall vs. Copulos; Hoppe vs. Lookabaugh.

**Light Heavies on Negro Card**

One of the features of the all-Negro boxing show at Tomlinson Hall Thursday night is expected to be the eight-round semi-wind-up between Jack Hannibal, Indianapolis light heavy, and Battling Randolph of Springfield, Ohio. Both worked out Sunday in local gyms and railbirds were much impressed with the form displayed by both fighters.

Hannibal, shifty and a hard puncher, is expected to limp into plenty of opposition in the tough Springfield pug. Shifty and George Smith, welters, meet in the ten-round wind-up.

**Manager Bruno Betzel**

In common with some of the veteran managers in the American Association, who have been shouting in headlines about "having the best team they ever piloted in an A. A. race," Albert Bruno Betzel, field boss of the Indians, can say the same thing and really mean it. No need of Bruno blushing while making a statement of that kind, for this is only his second season as manager and he KNOWS he has a stronger club than last spring.

Betzel is not given to making wild statements, but he is convinced he has a team that will hustle and fight in a way that will please the fans and grow stronger

later. "We fear no club," says Bruno, "despite the fact that several teams in the A. A. are inclined to think we're not going anywhere. Our spring training exhibition record was not bad and evidently we have some power our rivals are overlooking."

The Betzelites, slightly crippled, go into championship action Tuesday against the Minneapolis Millers and if fair weather prevails Washington Park is certain to be packed. The fans are determined to give the Tribe pastimers a royal send-off and President Hickman will be here to view the ceremonies and game.

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**Uncle Robbie' Confident Dodgers Stronger and Will Make Trouble**

Pilot of Brooklyn Club Believes Addition of Bancroft Plugs Hole in Infield; Likes Pitching.

BY UNITED PRESS  
CHICAGO, April 9.—The best pitching staff in the National League, a tighter defense and increased hitting strength will make the Brooklyn Robins a far more dangerous team than in 1927, Willard Robinson told the United Press today.

"I do not claim the Robins will be

contenders," Robinson said, "but I expect them to be far more trouble some than they were last season.

"I do not think another team in the National League has a pitching staff as formidable as mine. Dazzy Vance is the league's best right-hander and Jess Petty, the best left-hander. Doug McWeeny is a greatly improved pitcher and Bill Doak, Jim Elliott, Watson Clark and Rube Ehrhardt round out the staff."

The addition of Dave Bancroft, Robinson believes, has plugged the gap at shortstop and steadied the entire infield.

"Riconda will help the infield a lot," Robinson said.

Robinson thinks the Pirates and Cardinals shape up as the strongest teams in the league, but would not be surprised if both clubs were headed off.

"It's hard to say what will happen in the National League race this year," Robinson said. "The Cubs are liable to be dangerous; the Giants should make trouble; the Robins will have a far better team."

**With Amateur and Semi-Pro Nines**

There will be an important meeting of the baseball teams of the Westview Baptist Church tonight at 8 o'clock. All entries are invited.

**Urban Shock to Join Yankees**

BY UNITED PRESS  
CHICAGO, April 9.—Urban Shock, veteran pitcher, is expected to return in a few days to the line-up of the New York Yankees.

He resigned early in the spring, intending to retire, and did not make the spring training trip with the Yankees. Recently he applied for reinstatement.

He was reinstated by Judge K. M. Landis, baseball's high commissioner, Saturday.

Shock is still the property of the Yankees, although he has not signed a contract for the season. While the Yankees were getting into condition, the hurler operated a radio shop in St. Louis.

**O'NEIL MAY GO UP**

Braves May Trade Gantreau to Toledo for A. A. Catcher.

BY UNITED PRESS  
BARCELONA, Spain, April 9.—With the South Americans leading two matches to one, Chile and Spain met today in the deciding singles matches of their first round European zone Davis Cup engagement.

**SUNDAY'S EXHIBITIONS**

Yankees, 7; Brooklyn, 3.

Giants, 8; Washington, 6 (14 innings).

Puerto Rico, 6; Cleveland, 0.

Cincinnati, 7; Cleveland, 5.

Cardinals, 2; Browns, 1.

Montreal, 6; Wichita, 5; cancelled, cold.

White Sox vs. Indianapolis, cancelled.

**DECIDING MATCHES**

BY UNITED PRESS  
WILKES-BARRE, Pa., April 9.—Jack Slattery, manager of the Boston Braves, was to rejoin his home team here today for the final exhibition game against the Wilkes-Barre club of the New York-Pennsylvania League.

Slattery has been in conference with Judge Emil Fuchs, owner of the club, relative to a trade. Infielder Doc Gantreau may be traded to the Toledo American Association club for Catcher Mickey O'Neil.

**WHAT FRED MITCHELL TELLS HARVARD PITCHERS**

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