

FIRST SACKERS A SCARCE ARTICLE

Several Major League Teams Hot After Men for the Initial Base.

PITTSBURG NEEDS ONE

PIRATES SEEM TO BE UP AGAINST IT FOR A MAN WHO WILL FILL THE BILL—WHITE SOX IN THE SCARCE BOAT.

Good first basemen have the call this season. Several major league teams are all to the bad without them, and you can't extract one of the live ones from his present employers for any money. Among the clubs that need a first bagger are New York and Pittsburgh, and there are others.

While the New Yorks have two professional first basemen and some eager young subs, the team is nevertheless up against it proper. Fred Tenney, once one of the greatest players that ever drew on the first bagman's glove,



HAL CHASE, NEW YORK AMERICANS' CHACE FIRST SACKER.

is about through. Merkle has been wobbling on the station for two years or so, but he has not even yet shown that he classes with the masters of the job.

Brooklyn has big Tim Jordan, who is all O. K. when right, but his knees are bothering him. Still, the Superbas have a good minor leaguer named Daubert. Daub, old hoss, is not a chicken, having first based for many years, but he is said to have the goods and to be ready to deliver them.

The Boston Nationals don't even know yet just what they will do for a first baseman and are crying aloud for one. They need a lot of other players on that Boston team, but they surely do need first baser.

The erudite and foxy leader Frank Chance of Chicago isn't shy on first basemen, though. He is all there himself, of course.

Cincinnati is all right. Dick Hobbs is the real walloping kid and can play the base besides. Philadelphia is fairly well off with Bransfield.

The champion Pirates are in trouble. They fired their first baser, and now they don't know whether Flynn, the man they are trying out, will do or will prove a flitter. The St. Louis Nationals are all to the good, for Eddie Konetchy is a star both on the bag and at whanging the leather on the heavy pedal.

The New York Americans are all right, for Hal Chase is right in the snout of his playing powers.

Boston's Red Sox are well off with Jake Stahl. The big boy can cover the bag superbly and seems to be getting better all the time as a slugger. Connie Mack still relies on Harry Davis, a most artistic and capable player, but one who is beginning to grow old.

McAfee, at Washington, is perplexed. Bob Unglaub is a pretty good first baseman, but is also useful in other places, and Jimmy would be delighted to land a fresh and ambitious juvenile. Comiskey's two great first basemen, Tabb and Donohue, are both gone now, and he is trying to train a new star from a bunch of candidates, with only problematical success. At Cleveland McGuire, although owning a good first baseman, Stovall, has put Lajoie on the base so that Turner can work on second.

The champion Detroit Tigers are worried, inasmuch as Tom Jones is slowing up and getting a little listless. Jennings would be glad to hear from a lively kid with first base ability.

St. Louis will try a National league discard, Abstein, and may make good with him—or may fail. O'Connor wouldn't mind having a sturdy youngster in reserve.

Great chances for young first basemen these days if there were only a few such to be found.

We Was Not Marry. She—So many men nowadays marry the money! You wouldn't marry me the money, would you? He (absently) I, darling; I would marry you for the money in the world. She—Oh, horrid, horrid wretch!—Boston script.

BASEBALL

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Philadelphia	7	2	.775
Pittsburg	6	2	.714
Chicago	5	2	.714
New York	7	3	.700
Cincinnati	3	4	.429
Boston	2	6	.333
St. Louis	2	7	.222
Brooklyn	2	8	.200

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Detroit	6	3	.667
Philadelphia	5	3	.625
New York	4	3	.571
Cleveland	5	5	.500
Boston	5	5	.500
St. Louis	3	3	.500
Washington	4	7	.364
Chicago	2	5	.286

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
St. Paul	8	3	.727
Columbus	7	4	.636
Minneapolis	7	4	.636
Toledo	6	5	.545
Indianapolis	5	7	.417
Louisville	5	7	.417
Kansas City	4	6	.400
Milwaukee	1	7	.125

RESULTS YESTERDAY.

National League.

Boston 5; Brooklyn 1. Chicago 1; Pittsburgh 0. New York 3; Philadelphia 2.

American League.

New York-Philadelphia—Rain.

Cleveland 3; Chicago 2.

Boston 11; Washington 1.

Detroit 7; St. Louis 1.

American Association.

Columbus 2; Indianapolis 1 (10 inn.).

St. Paul 8; Kansas City 4.

Minneapolis 7; Milwaukee 3.

Louisville 2; Toledo 1.

GAMES TODAY.

National League.

Cincinnati at Pittsburgh. Brooklyn at Boston. New York at Philadelphia. St. Louis at Chicago.

American League.

Detroit at St. Louis.

Boston at Washington.

Philadelphia at New York.

Chicago at Cleveland.

American Association.

Columbus at Indianapolis.

Minneapolis at Milwaukee.

St. Paul at Kansas City.

Toledo at Louisville.

DIAMOND CHIPS.

Frank Smith is doing the best pitching for the White Sox. He held Cleveland down to three hits Monday.

Cleveland's winning streak was shorter than usual this spring. The Naps seem to be the same old crowd after all.

McGuire used fourteen of his players for the game for some time. A line drive from Hartzel's bat broke the big first baseman's nose. Wonder where he was looking. Crawford will run the bag during his absence.

Tom Jones of the Tigers will be out of the game for some time. A line drive from Hartzel's bat broke the big first baseman's nose. Wonder where he was looking. Crawford will run the bag during his absence.

Mike Mitchell, in right, is a fine fielder, swell thrower and one of the best batsmen in the country. In center Griff has his choice among Paskert, Miller and McCabe. Paskert is a neat batsman and fast fielder. Miller is easily the master of the lot with the stick and the best base runner, but has had an almost useless throwing arm. If the wing gets well he will yet nail the regular job; if not, Paskert will take it at the start, as McCabe, though a fine hitter, is crude and also a slow runner for so young a man.

Another member of added power is found in left—Bob Bosher. This man, new to the big league, was the leading base runner of the circuit last season, though he hit lightly. Bosher is by rights a fine hitter and should return to form without fail.

It will be seen, therefore, that Griff can count on all the batting and base running strength he had in 1909.

The catchers, McLean, Clark and a new man named Konnick, are all good.

McLean is a corking catcher and swell hitter when in good condition.

Konnick is touted as a sure comer, and Clark showed more than common quality last autumn.

Froimme, Spindt, Gasper, Rowan, Beebe and Covaleski make up a pitching staff that is good enough to win with more than good enough with a team of sluggers back of them.

Give the Reds the least bit of luck,

start them on a winning streak, and it will be almost impossible to choke them. Pin a deep tack right here: The Reds are going to be the heavy hitters of the league, and if Pittsburgh or Chicago lets go the traces for even a little time that Red team is going to win the flag.

If Jack Knight keeps up his present clip Foster is likely to wait some time before getting in at short again.

Most triple plays are made on line hits and the players making them fall into them naturally.

A thrown bat hit Hank O'Day the other day and kept Wagner from stealing a base.

Mordecai Brown, not generally at his best until hot weather, is as fit right now as any of them.

Hard to Move.

A little boy of six had complained of a pain in his knee. His mother, inquired as to just how it felt.

"Why, mamma," said he, "it feels as if it would squeak if it could."—Delineator.

He Was Not Marry.

She—So many men nowadays marry the money! You wouldn't marry me the money, would you? He (absently)

I, darling; I would marry you for the money in the world. She—Oh,

horrid, horrid wretch!—Boston script.

one Gold Medal Flour.

GRIFFITH'S REDS

A LIKELY OUTFIT

Cincinnati Has Become a Logical Factor in National League Race.

TEAM LOOKS FORMIDABLE

PITCHING STAFF IS STRONGER THAN EVER AND THE ONLY CAUSE OF UNEASINESS IS AT SHORT FIELD.

KLAUS TO MEET PAPKE

Pittsburgher and "Illinois Thunderbolt" Will Travel Over Long Route May 14. With the understanding that the winner will be matched to meet Stanley Ketchel for the middleweight championship of the world, Frank Klaus of Pittsburgh and Billy Papke of Kewanee, Ill., will exchange jabs and uppercuts before Jimmy Coffroth's club at Colma, Cal., May 14, in a battle that will be practically to a finish, as the men have agreed to battle forty-five rounds.

The coming meeting between Papke and Klaus will be their second, but the previous bout was merely a trial spin, as neither man could show what he possessed in a six round journey. In that bout, however, critics gave the Pittsburgher an even break with the one time conqueror of Ketchel, and friends of the new contender for the middleweight crown are inclined to believe that he has a good chance to defeat Papke and get a meeting with Ketchel over a longer route.

Klaus never has been asked to go

more than ten rounds, and for that

Look out for Clark Griffith and his band of Cincinnati Reds this season. Watch out for them from the very jump, and don't let your vigilance slacken anywhere along the route. A little carelessness, a little ballyhooedness, a lack of precaution in dealing with this formidable baseball outfit, and the pennant will be floating over the park near the Ohio river. The Cincinnati aggregation lacks a few numbers of being of championship team caliber, and any slackness in fighting the Reds will mean a jolt that will make Pittsburgh, Chicago and New York howl like lions.

Batting counts terribly nowadays, when there isn't much of it, and the Reds will come very near helping the best batting team in the National league this season. A little money can be found, if need be, that they will outdo Pittsburgh on the official averages when the count is taken. Base running? They are the best base running team in the National league right now, and they are not going to lose any of their speed. Fielding? They were not as good in the field last season as they should have been, but this year they are going to be there with the stops and pickups almost as accurately as even the Cubs, who are the smoothest and dossiest machines in baseball. The pitching department of the Reds held them back last season and now Griffith thinks this has been corrected. Net result: The Cincinnati team comes pretty near being the one best bet in baseball today if anybody offers decent odds. While it is generally accepted as a solid proposition that Pittsburgh and Chicago will fight it out, Cincinnati will fight it out. Cincinnati will be the dark horse.

The batting strength of the Cincinnati team, as Griffith has doled it out, is tremendous and is sure to be much better this season for several reasons. Be it remembered also that both Hobert and Downey are great base runners naturally and that if they come back to their proper batting form this year they will also steal a heap of extra cushions.

Hobart, on first, is a magnificent batsman, a mere boy, and likely to hit better as he gains muscle. Egan, on second, is a splendid hitter and one of the classiest base runners in the game. Hobert and Downey, as has been said, are almost certain to come back to form. These four men were new to one another last season and played the infield raggedly. All of them are natural fielders, and this year they will play infield ball of the machine pattern. Egan in particular will teach the ginger and speed and will mold them into a quartet of winners.

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