

### Queer Things In Baseball Arena

(BY MONTY.)

New York, Aug. 26.—The unexpected happens in all walks of life: all work and play. Baseball is no exception. Every season yields its quota of "new stuff." At the end of any year, it is easy to look back over the details and say that everything possible in baseball has now been done. But it hasn't, as the following season will prove. It is said of the game of chess that there is an endless number of possible arrangements of the pieces on the board. The same seems to be true of baseball, excepting that the diamond takes the place of the board and men take the place of the pieces.

The other day one of the queerest things in the history of the game happened—that is, from the standpoint of the official scorer. After scoring an error for the catcher, a strikeout on one thrown ball. A runner was pondering over the play, he remembered that the batsman had two strikes against him. The pitcher cut loose one that was so low it hit the ground before reaching the plate, but the batter "hit" at it for the third strike. The catcher could not stop the ball and the runner on third came home, while the batter got to first base. As for the scoring—a pitcher gets a strikeout whenever the batter swings for the third strike, whether the catcher gets the ball or not. The catcher gets an error when he fails to catch a third strike unless he throws the runner out at first, which he of course could not do in this case. As the runner from third scored on the obvious crooked throw of the pitcher, the latter had to be held responsible for a wild pitch. Therefore one thrown ball produced a strikeout, a wild pitch and a catcher's error.

Two funny ones were perpetrated by "Germany" Schaefer, of Wash-

ington, in recent games. With the New York Yankees as opponents, Schaefer rolled a slow cue down the first base line to Hal Chase. The latter was about to tag Schaefer out, but "Germany" had an inspiration. He put on the reverse and turned back toward home, with Chase after him. "Germany" touched home, but didn't stop. He set sail for third, Chase still in pursuit. After rounding third and aiming towards second, the situation proved too much for him. Holding his aching sides, he stumbled and fell to the ground, Chase tripping over him. The two lay there a full minute, roaring to their heart's content, while the howls of the crowd echoed the humor of the situation.

Schaefer, the real comedian of the big leagues, got off another one several days later that was equally as amusing and much more unusual. The White Sox had such a big lead that there was practically nothing that Schaefer and his teammates could do to bring victory. So, when he stood on second base, with another Washington runner on third, he got his fertile brain to working. Before anyone could realize what he was trying, he was off like a shot for first base. The catcher pegged to Zeider, holding down the bag, but "Gehman" slid in before him. It was the first time a man had stolen first base. Then Zeider winged the ball back to the catcher to head off the other runner, who had started for the plate. Pandemonium reigned, and the entire Sox bunch marched on to the field to see what the umpire would do. In the excitement, Schaefer raced back to second, and the other runner returned solely to third. After the game "his umps" explained that if Zeider had tagged Schaefer while the latter was on first base, he would have been out, as second base was the only safe ground for him until he reached third.

Pat Neuman, the former first baseman of the St. Louis Browns, now once more a member of the Houston team of the Texas League, was the victim of an odd ruling recently. Another Houston runner was on second when Pat knocked the ball out of the lot for a clean homer. Pat never loafs on the bases. He didn't time this, even though the ball was out of the park. So he steamed around the bases, catching up to the other runner at third. He passed him and ruled Eddie Heidrick's run counted, but the other man was out because he didn't cross the plate before Pat. The decision was based on the force-out rule.

Ever hear of a center fielder tagging a man out at home plate? So far as we know, that has been done but once in the history of the game. Emmatt Heidrick, of the old St. Louis Browns of 1902, was the hero. A hot one was lined over second base. Heidrick came in on the dead run for it, but the ball slipped through him. Jesse Burkett, the left fielder, finally captured the ball and hustled it in to Heidrick, who had coasted on almost the second base. The runner by this time was nearing third and Heidrick pegged to the third baseman, but the throw was wide and the runner made progress towards the plate. Heidrick kept running in and took the throw of the catcher, who had backed up the third baseman. He was just near enough to make a head-first dive for the runner, who was sliding for home, and he slapped the ball on him in the nick of time, ending the comedy of errors and putting the runner out.

"Wife back from the seashore yet?" "Yes, but confined to her room." "To bad. What does the doctor say?" "We have no doctor. The washerwoman says she'll have her out in about four days."—Washington Herald.



EDDIE COLLINS

Eddie Collins, great second baseman of the Philadelphia Athletics, whose remarkable work with the bat and on the bases has been the big factor in the raising of the Detroit Tigers by the Connie Mack clan. The Quakers are now several full games ahead of the Jennings band and it looks like another pennant for them. Since Collins' return to the game after recovering from his injury several weeks ago, every member of the Athletics has been playing an improved article of ball. The dash, vim and spirit of Collins are contagious, so it seems, as the team is a listless sort of a machine with him out of the fray.

### Morathan Finish in The Big Lots To be Exciting

By W. S. FARNSWORTH.

New York, Aug. 26.—Gather up your sporting sheet, you fans, and pause long enough to look over the standing of the clubs in the two major leagues. Then when the season comes to a close compare the final ratings, with those of today, and you will, in all probability, find that, with one or two exceptions, the positions remain intact.

This is generally the stage of the baseball campaign when a winner can almost be picked without "knocking wood." There have been years where the ultimate victor was in abeyance until the final day of the season. But you will invariably find that with the beginning of September, the race has

carry off the laurels.

The Cubs and Athletics have the advantage of playing a majority of their remaining games on home soil. There is an untold advantage for teams of their strength in finishing up the schedule at home. With the confidence born of success, these two teams will rip into the opposition relentlessly, and they should have little trouble in winning more games than they lost from now until the season's close. But there is always the unexpected to be reckoned with. There may be a general upheaval in the standings ere long but that is hardly likely.

There are many who will dispute the assertion that the Cubs and Athletics

showing very bad the following period. "Babe" Adams, the hero of the world's series of 1909, is beginning to show the strain of overwork and will have to be handled delicately hereafter. While the Pirates are a pack of sluggers, they are not the best base runners in the world and their lack of speed on the bases has lost quite a few games.

The Quakers and Cardinals do not appear to have a look-in for the big honors. Both teams have been greatly hindered by injuries to star players. Philadelphia suffered immeasurably while Macek was under the ban. His heavy at-bats would have gone a long way toward bringing victories to the Quakers in their series against the



TOP LINERS IN BIG LEAGUES

Top-liners whose grand work makes their teams the favorites for the pennants in the two big leagues. Mordecai Brown, otherwise "Miner" and Three-fingered, (above on the left) is the chief defensive strength of the Cubs in their battle to bring the National pennant to Chicago. He is again in the wonderful form that won three other pennants for Chance. Frank Schulte (at the bottom) is the Cub's best man in the aggressive department. The hefty outfielder is threatening the home-run record with the Philadelphia Athletics. His consistent hitting and brilliant base-running feature every game played by Connie Mack's charges. Jack Coombs (above on the right) is the best of the Quaker pitchers. In event that the Athletics and Cubs come together in the world's series, which now seems likely, fans all over the country will watch the duels between Brown and Coombs and between Collins and Schulte.



CATCHER MADDEN

Catcher Madden, of the Philadelphia Nationals, who is doing the bulk of the receiving for the Phillies since Manager Doolin's incapacitation, thereby causing a surprise and rumors of internal dissensions, as Patsey Moran was declared on all hands to be the man who would fill the shoes of the wonderful leader. Madden however, has been doing better work since he has been working regularly than Moran is believed to be capable, thereby causing surprise number two. For several days he was laid up by a slight injury, but even then Moran didn't go behind the bat. Hack Spencer, formerly of St. Paul, filled the breach—surprise number three. And Spencer did such good work that, although an old-timer and a "comeback" being a former member of the St. Louis Browns it seems certain he will be kept by the Phillies—surprise number four. However, Spencer is now doing little except warming up the pitchers, while Madden pulls off his daily stunt of working in the game.

### Boxing Hungry Fans Want Fight

By W. W. NAUGHTON.

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—With boxing "coming into its own," as Tim McGraw says, and with a marked scarcity of fighting talent staring the promoters in the face, many are asking how it is that the men of the ring disappear so quickly from the scenes of their activities.

The sport-hungry fight fans keep asking where are the cracks of yesterday? Why can't they be located and urged to return to the game? Surely the glove play with old masters and past masters would be more entertaining than the amateurish efforts of the "white hopes" we are being plagued with at present.

Assuredly many good ring men have gone out of commission and the fact that the majority of them turned their backs on the game before they reached the age of 35 is testimony that pugilism is a strenuous profession. A glance at their records makes evident that old Bob Fitzsimmons was the wonder of fighters of all ages, not only as a workman, but so far as endurance is concerned, the fellest one fought his first battle for the championship from Jack Dempsey at 29 defeated Jim Corbett for the heavy-weight title at 35 and held it until he was past 37. He lost to Jeffries but "came back" a year later and made chopping blocks of Gus Ruhlin and Tom Sharkey.

Fitz did not know when to stop. Only a couple of years ago he took up the game again and lost to Bill Lang in Sydney. At that time Fitz was 47 years of age and had been a score of years in harness. Where in a the annals of fustiana has such a career been duplicated? A distinct contrast to the story of Bob Fitzsimmons' long life was that of Eddie Hanlon of San Francisco, who probably holds the record for quick aging. Eddie was fighting at 15, was on the down grade at 20 and was regarded as a good old "has been" at 21. He potted along a while and dropped completely out of the game at 23.

"How old was Jim Corbett when he won the championship?" was asked of the writer recently. In order to head off similar queries, posted myself regarding the coming and going of all heavyweight champions from John L. Sullivan's time. Sullivan was 24 years old when he became champion under the old rules. When 34 he lost to Jim Corbett under the Queensbury system of milling. Corbett was 26 when he became the world's champion and he held it until he was 31, giving way to Fitzsimmons. Fitz, as I have already stated, became heavyweight champion at 35 and enjoyed the distinction for two years.

Jim Jeffries was 24 years old when he defeated Fitzsimmons at Coney Island. Big Jim retired from the ring when he was 29 and was coaxed back into the storm region, to his sorrow, when he was 35. Jack Johnson was 32 years old when he did for Jeffries at Reno. Many of the fighters now regarded as belonging to a past generation are comparatively young men. Take Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, for instance. Some of the New York sporting writers described the efforts of "old Jack" in the recent affair with Sam Langford, yet Jack is only 33. Young Corbett, who was a bright and shining light of the Queensbury realm a few years ago, is also 31, and Terry McGovern, who is about the retired list, apparently is the same age. Tom Sharkey cried enough of the ring at 29. Pat Nelson, who is only 29 at present, has to admit that he was no longer the durable Dane when he went under to Ad Wolgast on Richmond Field, a year and a half ago. Abe Attell, who is just 27, is evidently of the opinion that he should not be asked to tackle the youngsters of his class unless he is well paid for taking the risk.

From the look of things at present, the promoters will try to lure some of these old-timers back into the game. Something will have to be done for a few years ago, is also 31, and Terry McGovern, who is about the retired list, apparently is the same age. Tom Sharkey cried enough of the ring at 29. Pat Nelson, who is only 29 at present, has to admit that he was no longer the durable Dane when he went under to Ad Wolgast on Richmond Field, a year and a half ago. Abe Attell, who is just 27, is evidently of the opinion that he should not be asked to tackle the youngsters of his class unless he is well paid for taking the risk.

### POULTRY ASSO. GETS A CHARTER

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 26.—The state charter today the Guilford Poultry Association, of Greensboro, for promoting in Guilford and adjacent counties the raising of thoroughbred poultry through the holding of annual poultry fairs and awakening interest in chicken raising of the most improved sort. The capital is \$2,000 and the principal incorporators are W. R. Golden and W. M. Montgomery. There is also a charter for the Crystal Ice and Ice Cream Co., Lexington, capital \$15,000 for making ice and doing business of a kindred nature. H. E. Cartland is the principal incorporator.

Judge George W. Ward, who has been prevented by illness from holding any courts for several months, has so far recovered as to be able to resume official duties. His first court will be Edgecombe court, beginning September 11, which he holds for Judge Ferguson, who will in turn, by permission of the governor, hold the Pender county court for a week, beginning the same date.

If a movement started by Rev. Robt. Drane, D. D., president of the Roanoke Island Memorial Association, materializes, as it promises to do, there will be a splendid memorial pavilion erected there in honor of Virginia Dare, the first white child born in America. He is bringing influences to bear on the state department of education for the setting apart of a Virginia Dare Day in the public schools during the coming school year, so that there can be an offering for a memorial fund to Virginia Dare, to be used in erecting a permanent pavilion. The movement is being heartily seconded by leading citizens all over the state and a \$10,000 fund is raised in this way will be supplemented by private subscriptions. Rain interfered seriously this summer with the celebration of Roanoke Island Day.



NAPOLEON LAJOIE

Napoleon Lajoie, great second baseman and slugger of the Cleveland Americans, who although slowed up on account of the recent injury to his foot, is again battling at the delectable career on the Diamond began. The big Frenchman is putting in a strong bid to run a close second to Cobb for the batting laurels of the league and is almost certain to finish the season with a percentage better than .350.

### Had Liberty On His Luggage

Paris, August 26.—The manner in which the traveler has his character written on his luggage for the benefit of porters and hotel servants is described in the Matin. Little scratches on the bags are made after the traveler has given a "tip," and these marks are understood by all porters and other employees. A horizontal line on the right hand corner of the bag means that the owner gives very small "tips" and should be boycotted when possible. A diagonal scratch on the lower left-hand corner signifies "exact and disagreeable." A cross in the lower right-hand corner means "exact" but "generous" and "small vertical marks erous," and "very generous." A near the lock—"very generous." A curved mark on the left-hand upper corner signifies "inexperienced, has not traveled much."

### A Lady Diver Enters Water

Paris, Aug. 26.—There is no stemming the tide of feminism and women, anxious to be on a footing with men, are taking up occupations which have by their very nature been considered exclusive to the male sex. The latest novelty in this direction is a lady diver—the wife of a man following the same pursuit—who has been excited to emulation by watching her husband descend into the dark depths of the sea around the harbor of Havre.

A pretty girl tries to give people the impression that she is tired of being admired. It's a pity we can't see others as we see ourselves.



GEORGE MULLIN

George Mullin, the veteran flinger of the Detroit Tigers, who now remains practically the sole hope of the Jennings band to beat out the fast rushing Athletics for the American League banner. When all the other Tigers are becoming ineffective, Mullin has remained steady and is developing his best goods for the speckled leader of the team.