

THE WORLD OF SPORTS

HANS WAGNER QUITS AGAIN.

Famous Player Says He is Through With Baseball—Appears to Be Sore Because Club Has Not Yet Treated Him a Contract—He Grows Sarcasmic.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 2.—John "Honus" Wagner, king of hitters and king of shortstops, will play no more baseball. The king's edict was issued Saturday in the form of an interview in which the famous player sets forth his intention to retire permanently from the diamond and devote his remaining years to peaceful pursuits.

Wagner was seen at his home in Carnegie to-night. When asked if the rumor concerning his retirement was correct, he said: "Yes, son, I shall not again play baseball."

"But your contract—the fans are under the impression that you are tied up tight with the Pittsburg team for 1909," faltered the reporter.

"Yes, I know, but as to a contract, that was outside talk. I never said I signed one. Mr. Dreyfuss has not sent me any contract for this year. I'm a free man."

Concerning the Wagner tented show Honus said 16 cars for its transportation will arrive in Carnegie within a few weeks. The advance car is expected not later than next Tuesday, and will be immediately for properly heralding the show's coming.

With a chuckle the star swatsman switched back to automobiles.

"I got a letter the other day from Sam Leever," he said. "It was in answer to one I had written asking him to race one of my cars in the endurance contest to take place in the distance March 17th. Sam agreed and he would beat the life out of me. Now I'm going to race one of my cars myself. I don't care much about winning the contest, but I do want to beat Leever most thunderingly bad."

DETROIT TO HAVE NEW PARK.

Owners of Tigers Purchase Site and Will Build at Once.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 2.—Detroit will have a new baseball park. A deal was completed Saturday whereby the Detroit baseball club comes into possession of a tract of land in the north-eastern portion of the city 563 feet wide and 735 feet deep, the ball club paying \$50,000. The ball club has a lease upon Bennett Park until 1911, and it is planned to have the new park ready for the opening of the season in 1911.

Hans Lost His Money.

Some years since, when Marty Hogan handled the Youngstown, O., Club, Hughes was a student at a Pennsylvania college. He got away in good shape against the collegians, so Hogan picked him up. Hughes was always tired, or at least, appeared so. He believed in the least work to accomplish the greatest results.

A Story in Every Picture.

Each one of the 100 or more pictures of ball players which adorn the office of President Havenor and President O'Brien in the majestic building is worth a "story." If one were to listen to McCloskey, he knows what a thing good about every player whose picture is displayed, and what's more, he has only good words for the players. He didn't find fault with any, but told only of the good work they did on the diamond and of being good fellows when off the field.

REAL BASEBALL COMEDY IS CONFINED TO MINOR LEAGUES

Jimmy Casey Writes Some of the Incidents of Unique Variety He Encountered in Eastern League—Green Hands Do Some Funny Things.

"You've got to go to the minors if you want to get hep to the real, live juicy comedy in baseball. You fellows up here in the big league miss half your fun because you don't get it."

Doctor James Casey began rolling a cigarette in the office of the Detroit baseball club, and, as usual, quite an audience collected for the entertainment.

"Now, during the past season I saw about as many funny things as one would care to crowd into an annum. I can remember but a couple of them."

"One day he comes to me and says: 'Say, Casey, I'd like to go home for two weeks. I got to go home.' 'What you got to go home for?' I asks."

"'Casey, the food up here's pretty good, but say—there hasn't enough of it. Now at home my mother knows just what I want and she can cook the best in the land and there's none of this here acute stinginess about her layouts. What I want, Casey, is one square meal.'"

"'What's up?' he repeats, 'what's up?' 'What do you mean?' 'Mean, I yells, 'mean? Why, why didn't you throw that ball to me?'"

"'Andy looks me over, then this: 'Why you yells, 'Throw it here,' an I looks as first an I see that man get safe there, and I looks at second and I sees no chance there, and I see there's no chance to get a man on first, and no chance to get the guy on second, what chance has I to get a man on third?'"

"'Andy gets pretty bad and one day I gets a chance to put him with one of the minor Eastern teams. He hears about it and looks me up. 'Well, Casey,' he starts, 'I guess I got to go.'"

"'Casey,' returns Andy, after thinking a minute, 'you're makin' the mistake of your life. You'll be sorry that you let the best twirler in this here league get through your hands an' mind, Casey, mind you, I'm givin' you a friendly tip, but I'll be back here with you, Casey, before the season's out.'"

"'A few weeks later a bundle of papers came to the hotel. There was a paper for every member of the team but myself. It was an hour later one of the players came over and handed me the sporting page of a newspaper. It was badly marked up with blue ink and red ink, and the ink surrounding a headline which reads something like this: 'Andy Pitches Two Games.'"

"'Above the headlines in big type, Andy had written this: 'Show this to Casey, he'll understand.'"

"'I had another fellow who was playing second base for us. He was pretty much of the punk variety. Couldn't do a thing with him. I got another man for second, who played the bag to perfection, and I was figuring on letting Willie go. He got wise to my plans and started to make preparations. I just switched him to first base.'"

"'I can't play first,' he says to me. 'I never played first.' 'I didn't have anybody else for first so I tells him to stick there. I handed him a first baseman's mitt and told him to get busy. Well, the first day he was on he showed up pretty badly. About that time another fellow came on who was good for first base job, and Willie figured all afternoon on how he could get something other than first base and still stick. That night he goes to the roller skating rink. He weighs about 250 pounds, and when he took a couple of falls and got his right hand under him every time he tumbled, he caused some commotion.'"

"'The next afternoon when the team took the field for practice I noticed that Willie was swinging the bat with one hand. 'What's the matter?' I yells to him. 'I can't use my other arm, it's hurt,' he yells back at me. 'Well, get back to the bench then an let some one hop up who can drive with two wings.'"

"'Oh, I kin get along with one wing as well as two,' he yells back, and he yells back, and just about that time I goes up and tells him where to get off. I then called to the new man and told him to go to first. The recruit was injured Willie for his glove. Would he give it to him? Not much. He threw it over the fence. 'That night Willie bid us a last farewell.'"

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SENATE WRESTLES WITH CRUM CASE

Tillman Leads Fight Against Negro's Re-Appointment.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The Senate went into executive session at 1 o'clock to-day to consider the nomination of William B. Crum, for re-appointment as collector of customs at Charleston, S. C.

GOVERNOR'S DAUGHTER REFUSED A DIVORCE

Mrs. Edythe Lea Chase Fails to Get Decree Against Army Captain.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 2.—Captain Arthur W. Chase, of the United States army at Fort Howard, learned to-day through a press dispatch that the Supreme Court of Wilmington had refused his wife, Edythe Lea Chase, a divorce, for which she applied on the ground of desertion and on the additional allegation that he had caused her to be confined in a sanitarium without justification.

BOSTON'S MAYOR IS A KEEN FINANCIER

In Annual Report Shows He Has Saved City \$1,250,000 in Past Year.

Boston, Feb. 2.—According to figures given out by Mayor George A. Hibbard at the end of the fiscal year to-day, he has saved the city during his first year in office \$1,250,000. The city auditor's figures show that the largest saving has been accomplished in the street department.

Good Cough Medicine for Children.

The season for coughs and colds is now at hand and too much care cannot be used to protect the children. A child is much more likely to contract diphtheria or scarlet fever when he has a cold.



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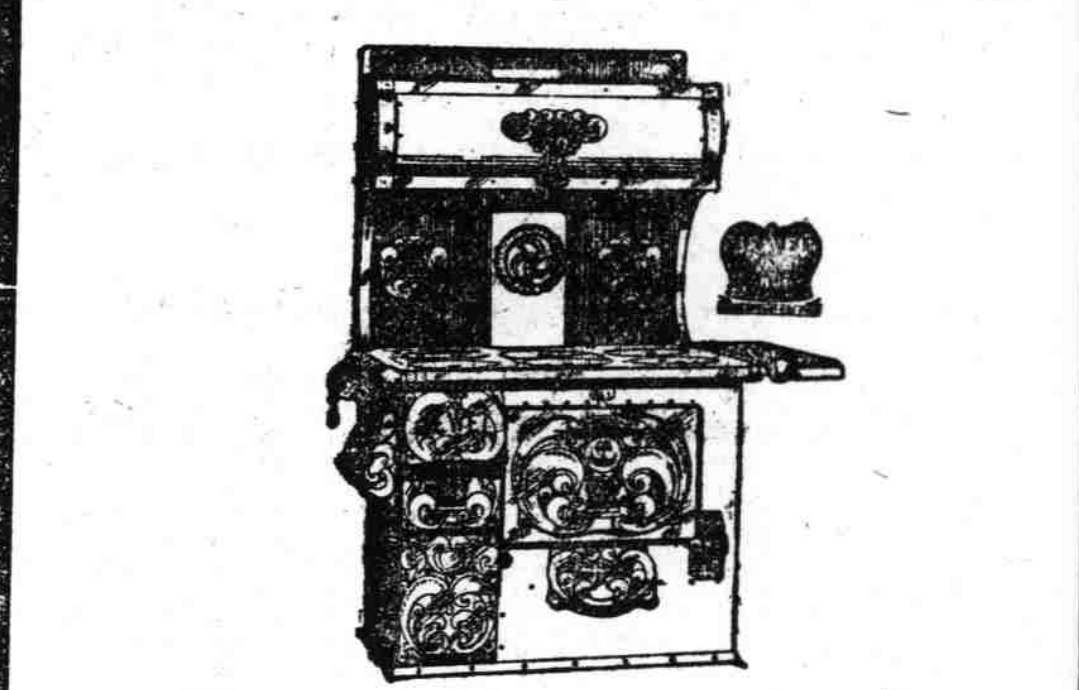
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January 23d, 1909.

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The subscription books of which will be open on Monday,

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