

SPORTS

M'Graw Is Seeking New Pitchers

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Leader of Giants Hopes To Strengthen His Staff

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Mr. John T. McGraw of New York and M. William F. Baker of Philadelphia may be about to exchange gifts of holiday cheer, it was learned today. It is said that John has made the first advance in the matter of a ball player or two and that William has several tied up in many red ribbons and tissue paper. It is said that the exchange may be effected already and that only the delicate tact of the gentlemen in question has thwarted an official announcement.

The only difference between John and William and other Yuletide friends that no element of surprise is involved in the exchange. Candid souls both, they have informed each other of what they want in advance. John tried to interest Garry Herrmann of Cincinnati in a similar offer some days ago and went over to see to signify his preference for Adolfo Lague, the all-Havana pitcher. Our Mr. T. would deny that Sid is a brunette.

John has informed William that he wants a nice new pitcher, preferably Les Meadows or Jimmy Ring. Just what Mr. William craves has not been made known but it is understood that John has offered Jess Barnes, the pitcher and Ralph Shinn-

ers, the \$40,000 outfielder who now sells at the waiver price. This offer has been declined with thanks but another will follow.

The Giants must do something about the round shouldered condition of their pitching staff and John is aware of the fact. Like a good base ball man he knows that a few well pitched games in a brief world's series do not mean that his pitching worries are over. On the other hand he is looking forward to a season of 154 games and the memory of how his pitchers reeled into the wire last season is not at all reassuring. They may be even louder and funnier, in 1923, he realizes.

Earnes is to go if an advantageous sale can be swung. That is as sure as slow poison. He hasn't shown a thing since 1920 except in a pair of world series, and John is turning just the slightest bit sour on him. Art Nehf is certain of his job but John can't and Hugh McQuillan have a record of season injuries, the former in an exhibition game and the latter in an automobile smash up, and the ability of both will be under suspicion until the training season is on. Either or both of them may be incapacitated for the season for all that is known of their condition now.

Farmers Of The State Making Good Progress

RALEIGH, Dec. 23.—Despite the fact weather conditions have been unsettled during the past two weeks, farming progress has been general in North Carolina, according to the semi-monthly bulletin issued by the North Carolina and United States departments of agriculture.

The bulletin follows:

More cotton has been ginned than expected, indicating a larger crop. Practically all of the crop has been picked. The percent ginned to date is slightly less than last year. The quality is good. The production for the state is estimated at 325,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight, or 495,389,000 pounds of lint. The production is greater than last year by about 75,000 bales, and is 57,000 bales greater than the ten year average. The price of 24.5 cents is about 3 cents higher than a year ago.

The auction sales of tobacco sold to date total 154,000 pounds. The average price is 31 cents per pound, or about 4 cents better than last year. The heaviest sales were reported on the following markets: Wilson, Winston-Salem, Greenville, Winston and Rocky Mount.

Hay prices are generally firm. The receipts are ample for the demand. This has been one of the state's largest hay crops in yield and acreage. Pastures are furnishing some feed for livestock due to the continued rains and normal temperatures.

Future grain prices advanced during the week ending December 2, and regained a good part of the losses of the previous week. The week closed at \$1.18 3/4 for the December

wheat and 70 1/2 cents for the December corn. Red winter wheat is reported scarce.

This has been a record breaking year for shipments of pears in the country as a whole, with California the leading state, with a production of 5,000,000 bushels. This state's commercial pear crop is comparatively small. Large quantities of apples are being marketed from this state.

The total shipments of leading lines of vegetables and truck have dropped sharply. Potato markets weakened in spite of decreased shipments. Prices of cabbage and onions have advanced. Sweet potatoes advanced. Sweet potatoes advanced slightly, due to decreased receipts.

This season's shipments of sweet potatoes to November 25, total 536 cars, which is almost half of the shipments of 1921-22 for the same date. The production is considerably greater this year than last.

The last two weeks have been generally unsettled, with changeable weather. The temperatures have been about normal as a rule. General rains and cloudiness were reported in many parts of the state during the period, with light snows in some sections, accompanied by low temperatures. However, no serious damage has been reported from the cooler weather. Farm progress has been general throughout the state. The comparatively mild weather was favorable to plowing and seeding of grains.

Dr. J. M. Cunningham left last night for Greensboro to spend Christmas with his parents.

HUCK FINN AND TOM SAWYER - - - - - By DWIG



Basketball Quiz

Charged Time Out.
How many charged "time out" is a team entitled to in a game?
Each team is entitled to three charged "time out." A "time out" is charged when the captain of a team requests or when "time out" is ordered by the referee for the benefit of a team, or when a substitution except for injury requires more than two minutes.

Length Time Out.
What is the length of time granted when for some reason "time out" is requested by one of the captains?
In no case shall time out consume more than two minutes.

Double Foul.
Is the ball considered a play after a double foul has been called by the referee?
When a double foul is called, "time out" is taken, and after the second free throw the ball is put in play at the center. It is not in play until the game is resumed by the referee.

Limited Space.
If, because of the limited space of

the playing floor, a player getting the ball out of bounds hasn't enough room to properly place the ball in play, what is the correct procedure?
In all such cases when a player gets the ball out of bounds, no player of either team shall be nearer than three feet to the player out of bounds. The referee on all such floors is aided by having a thin white line drawn in the court three feet inside the boundary lines.

Sport Notes
Pittsburgh, Dec. 23.—The University of Pittsburgh football squad left here last night for Palo Alto, Calif., to play the Leland Stanford eleven on December 30. The party included Coach Warner, 24 players and a half dozen others.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 23.—Harry Greb will not defend his American light heavyweight championship title against Jimmy Delaney of St. Paul here on the night of January 8 as scheduled. Greb's manager telegraph-

ed Dan Lackey, local promoter today that because of injuries received in recent bout with Bob Fopier and other difficulties, Greb would be unable to appear.

Athens, Ga., Dec. 23.—George C. ("Kid") Woodruff of Columbus, Ga., was named football coach at the University for Georgia by the board of athletic control at a meeting here today. Herman J. Stegman, who resigned about a week ago as coach, was elevated to an assistant professorship at the university in charge of physical culture.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 23.—Tommy Gibbons, local heavyweight, who recently outpointed Billy Miske in ten rounds, has received an offer from a New York promoter for a match with Jack Dempsey it became known here today. Gibbons was asked to state the terms he would ask.

New York, Dec. 23.—Ugo Frigerio, famous Italian walker and winner of both pedestrian events in the 1920 Olympic games at Antwerp will compete in this country during the coming indoor athletic season. This announcement was made by the Amateur Athletic Union today.

Experts have found a way by which oysters may be eaten with safety. Probably it done by tucking a napkin in your collar.

SISLER AHEAD OF TYRUS COBB

Official Investigation Shows That St. Louis American Player Holds Honors

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—George Sisler, of the St. Louis American, and not Ty Cobb, is entitled to recognition as holder of the highest batting average in the history of the American league, examination today of official statistics revealed.

The Detroit manager's mink of .420, made in 1911, has been accepted generally as the league's high mark while records for 1922 credited Sisler with an average of .419. Analysis of the two records, however, shows that Cobb's actual percentage in 1911, was .41862, whereas Sisler's mark for the past season, carried out the same number of decimal places, was .41979, thus giving the Brown's first sacker a margin of .00117.

Giving Sisler's average the benefit the fraction exceeding one half, such as was done in Cobb's case, and as is generally customary in average computations now, his record is round figures would be the same as that of his Detroit rival, .420.

Cobb's percentage is based upon figures carried in baseball guides of 1912, regarded as official, which gave him 249 hits in 591 times at bat. Official American league averages for 1922 gave Sisler 246 hits in 588 times at bat.

STATE HIGHWAY IS PLENTY WIDE

Frank Page Calls Attention To Road Between Chapel Hill And Durham

CHAPEL HILL, N. C., Dec. 22.—Frank Page, chairman of the state highway commission, has advised the Town Club here that the right of way of the state highway between Chapel Hill and Durham is sixty feet wide, and in order to prevent any misunderstanding he has instructed the engineering force to take out the boundary lines.

The club's communication to Mr. Page two weeks ago, asking him to establish sixty feet as the legal width of the right of way developed from the large number of sign boards, along the edges of the road, it was stated. Many of the signs will have to be removed as a result of the commissioner's announcement.

In his letter, Mr. Page stated that the sixty foot width along every highway, except where buildings are already standing within less than thirty feet of the middle line of the road, is maintained. Where such buildings are standing, the state uses a narrower strip.

MURDERER HAS DISAPPEARED

Earth Seems To Have Swallowed Alleged Murderer of Albert Farmer

GOLDSBORO, Dec. 22.—What has become of Jim Greenfield, colored, charged with the murder of Albert Farmer, near Mt. Olive, two months ago, is a mystery that is bothering the people of Farmer's neighborhood and Sheriff Grant. Apparently the earth has opened and swallowed Jim Greenfield, for since the Sunday Albert Farmer was killed no living soul has admitted having seen the tall darky. Various rumors have come to Goldsboro as to the whereabouts. Some in that neighborhood have intimated to the local officers that some of the others connected with the killing of Albert Farmer have had way with Jim. Others say that he is still down in that locality distilling whiskey. Officers though, have combed the county from end to end, and have had all the officers in the surrounding towns watching the highways and byways, but the darky has vanished as completely as if the earth had swallowed him or his spirit transformed into one of the lonesome pines that spill their needles into a carpet over the scene of the tragedy.

All the others said to be present at the time of the murder are now free agents.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Tingle returned home to Reidsville last night after spending the day here shopping.

JOE DIXON SENDS CHRISTMAS CARD TO GOV. MORRISON

RALEIGH, Dec. 22.—Governor Morrison today received a Christmas card from "Death Row" at the state prison. The card bore a picture of Mary and the Christ child and was sent by Joe Dixon, negro, who was sentenced to death from Craven county for first degree burglary and who is now under suspicion until the governor can consider the application for his commutation, which is signed by the judge and the solicitor. "I thank you for what you have did for me," wrote the prisoner, "and wish for you a happy Christmas."

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We take this means of expressing to the public our appreciation of their patronage during the past year. And to all our friends we extend our heart-felt wishes for a most joyous Christmas season; one that will be filled with delight for them and those whom they hold dear.

Still Time To Do Your Christmas Trading

We are prepared to give last minute shoppers the service that they desire. Our stock of toys, chinaware, cutlery, etc., is still large and varied. Come in and let us assist you in making your selections.

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