

# BUCK HARRIS IS PRIDE OF TAMPA

### New Boss of Washington Senator on Playing Field Comes Pretty Near to Owning the City for Time Being.

By JOHN B. FOSTER  
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Tampa, Fla., March 26.—Stanley Raymond Harris, better known as "Buck," the new boss for Washington on the playing field, owns Tampa for the moment, and is having the time of his young life.

Some folks have contended that Buck—who was born in the Empire State, at Port Jervis—is the best second baseman in the American League. Jealous chaps in other cities have refused to give this New York state apple such a distinction, arguing that he was weak in this, that or the other, but never with much conviction.

Then suddenly Griffith made him manager of the Washington Club, and folks have been having fits ever since, while Buck has been bossing winning ball games, and occasionally doing some of the winning himself.

Buck ran up against Branch Ricker in Tampa the other day and out-generated him. At least that is what the Tampa fans insist, and they must be given some show, because they have adopted the Senators, even to the extent of putting "Tampa" up on the score board in place of Washington. If Washington should happen to win the pennant this year Tampa will move on the capital emprise and simply bury the place under orange blossoms and grapefruit marmalade.

The croakers were sure that Harris and Peckinpaugh could never get along together if Harris got the managing job instead of Peck. If they can't get along it certainly doesn't show in their double plays. They make them faster than ever, and Nick Altrock, who is clowning with more artistic zeal than ever before, waves his hands wildly around his head, imitating a split second watch trying to catch the time on them.

Harris never had a minute's experience managing anything in his life unless maybe it was a balky colt back up-state. He fell into baseball out of a clear sky. The rumor went around that there was a great second baseman up at Port Jervis and the scouts went up and looked him over. Most of them reported he couldn't hit, but Washington grabbed him. Now the scouts are throwing alibi's around the premises—but then about 50 per cent of a scout's job is alibiing.

The Washington Club is playing better ball than it was this time last year. Maybe that's Harris's managing. Maybe it's something else. But Washington is getting there and Tampa, at least, credits Harris with the change.

The team is working more smoothly than it did in 1923. That is evident. It also is hitting more vigorously. The fielding is bulky.

Young Lance Riehbourge, out in right field, has not more to learn but the boy looks more like a ball player than he did when the Giants took him from the University of Florida in 1919. His leg is still bothering him some—he broke it last season at Nashville—but that should wear off soon, and with it his hard luck.

Grif says that if Riehbourge comes through the Washington team is made. "Right field well filled is what we want most of all," he said. He can stand plenty of outfield strength. Goslin is a smashing hitter, but an awkward fielder yet, despite his experience.

Griffith has one thing that nobody seemed to know about, and that is a third baseman. Bluege has his bad knee left over from last season. The joint turns hand springs every now and then, which is very embarrassing to an otherwise good player. The man who will take third base until his knee assumes full responsibility is Prothro, who has been playing with Memphis. Prothro is a dentist when he isn't playing ball.

"If that guy can yank 'em out of your jaw like he yanks 'em off the field, I'm not going near him when the game is over," said Jack Smith of the St. Louis Club. "I'll beat it for the train or he won't leave me enough to eat with."

It looks as if Prothro, if he can maintain his present gait, would nicely fill the third base gap that has left the Washington infield like a stocking with a hole in the big toe. If he whoops it up all season, the American League will have another sterling third sacker to blow about.

that a molded, manufactured and hardened tee was not artificial so long as it was made of clay taken from the field of play!

The new rule eliminating all tees, will be very much in the minds of the spectators as the next season starts, and the kickers will feel very much like the golfer who has been playing winter rules and is suddenly called upon to play the ball where it lies. They will find some difficulty at first, especially when they wish to get the ball well up into the air to give the line time to get down the field under the kick.

Placement kicks will be rather more difficult to make, but otherwise the effects will not be great and the kickers probably will soon adjust themselves to the change.

As had been predicted, the committee made no radical changes in the balance of attack and defense or in the general method of play.

The change in try-for-point of placing the ball on the three yard line may tend to tempt teams to essay a running game but the writer rather doubts it. It will slightly favor the kick.

The permission given the defense to intercept a forward pass after it has hit an ineligible player will not prove a very vital change, although some think it will. But the endowing of the referee with power to prevent interference will help the defense.

The key move of the meeting was to speed up the game, prevent stalling and unreasonable delay, and sufficient power is placed in the hands of the referee to do this. Moreover, the penalty of five yards instead of two for time out after a captain has used up all his allotment will be quite effective, even though partially balanced by increasing the allotment.

## BERLY IS BACK IN SEMIFINALS

### Meets Krohn at First Regiment Armory Next Monday Night in Preliminaries to Stribling-McTigue Fight.

By FAIR PLAY  
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New York, March 26.—It didn't take Paul Berlenbach long to drop back to the semi-final rank. He will occupy this position next Monday night when Stribling and Mike McTigue offer the big attraction in the First Regiment Armory in New York. His opponent will be Harry Krohn of Pittsburgh.

Krohn is not supposed to rate in Delaney's class but he is a strong, hard hitting boxer, and if Berlenbach topples him over it will do a lot to restore Paul to popularity. Krohn has stood off young Stribling in two bouts and has met a lot of other good men, always making a fight, even if not winning.

If Berlenbach stows the Pittsburgher away, Rickard will put him on at the Garden against some one as classy as Paul's manager, Dan Hickey, will allow. Hickey is not going to rush his man any more, that is certain.

It looks as though Luis Vincentini's first fight in this country will find him facing Pal Moran. At least this will be his first real test. Frank Flournoy, Rickard's matchmaker, is dickering with the young Chilean now and if arrangements go through the bout will be set for May 2 at the Madison Square Garden.

A study of Berlenbach's style indicates that he can knock out almost any boxer he meets who hasn't the art of skilled foot work. But where a fighter steps around on his toes as Delaney did, Paul, it is believed, is going to have great difficulty in delivering his knockouts.

Reports from Buenos Aires say that Luis Firpo made more money out of his Jim Tracey bout last year than he made subsequently out of all his Argentine fights. Which shows that Firpo's fellow countrymen don't care any more for set-ups than fans elsewhere.

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New York, March 26.—There seems to be more than a chance that the elimination of mud or artificial tees from football will play the mischief with the game, particularly in the kick-off. To make an accurate placement kick when the ball is lying upon the turf even in the most advantageous position is extremely difficult; one might almost call it a matter of luck. Certainly the ball will carry neither so far nor so high. This may well revolutionize this important department of the game.

Balls will go low, often into the arms of the nearby defense, or will roll along the ground. Often there will be miserable direction. The object of the change is to save time employed in building tees, in having the ball roll off, etc. If this was the only trouble an artificial tee to be removed by an official immediately

the kickoff is made would have solved it. It looks like an extremely ill-advised piece of legislation. Advancement of the kick-off from the 40 yard line to midfield is a poor sop.

The decision to place the ball on the three yard line instead of the five for play after touchback is another poor sop. The play should be done away with altogether.

Penalties of five yards—raised from two—for time out more than three times in a half will prove beneficial.

Granting of power to referee to refuse to take time out when intent to delay is apparent, is good. So is the rule that at the end of each quarter a gun shall be fired.

The clearing of the on-side kick rule was a necessary act. The warning against ineligible players going down as screen for forward pass receivers will do no good until it is something more than a warning.

Finally the provision for declining a penalty when a defensive man catches a forward pass which already has struck or been touched by an ineligible member of the attacking side, is quite all right.



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New York, March 26.—The drastic change in the football rules which sweeps away altogether the "tee" from which the ball has been kicked adopted by the football rules committee at its meeting here Saturday, will find little favor among coaches or players, in the writer's opinion.

Doubtless they would have been better satisfied if the building up of an earthen tee for the kick-off, at least, had been permitted to continue.

The officials, however, will be glad to see this change, for all sorts of puzzling questions have been put up to them as to when an "artificial" tee, heretofore prohibited, really was. One captain contended

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