

DEAN BIG FIND FOR THE GIANTS

Youngster's Work on Mound Seems Most Polished of any Young Pitcher in Baseball This Season.

By JOHN B. FOSTER
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New York, April 29.—When the New York Giants bought Dean from Louisville, they felt pretty sure they had landed a good pitcher, despite the fact that some scouts had reported adversely on him to other teams. Before the season is over, and before Dean is through as a pitcher, there are likely to be several owners wishing they had gone into the bidding for him. Even the Yankees could have used him, despite their strong staff.

In his first two starts for the Giants—against Brooklyn—Dean allowed 13 hits in 18 innings. That's good pitching as such things go, but the figures are not as impressive as Dean's performance looked from the stands. To date his work as an artistic success is the most polished of that of any young pitcher in baseball.

This Dean is the same youngster who was first tried out by Louisville and then sent to Daytona, Florida, in 1922. While in Florida, he pitched a no run no hit game against Orlando. That inspired the Louisville management to call him home to try to pitch the Colonels into the lead. He did his share, and then the scouts began to look him over.

Louisville wanted \$75,000 for him at Chicago last December. Then the American Association accepted the modified draft plan and the price of Dean went down. Louisville's owner figured the draft peeled about \$25,000 off the price, and when it was reported that the Giants had taken him at \$50,000 it was generally accepted that Louisville had gotten a good price under the circumstances and that New York had acquired a good pitcher.

When you consider that in 1922 Dean was pitching in the Florida State League and in 1924 is pitching for the National League champions, it may still be asserted that a good ball player can go to the top, no matter in what league he begins. Also it may be asserted that a minor club can still make money by developing good players. Fifty thousand for a player that it cost only the price of a bottle of ink and a sheet of paper to sign is a pretty fair profit.

There has been much curiosity to see how Paul Strand, the Salt Lake City star, would make out in the big leagues as an outfielder for the Philadelphia Athletics. Strand led the Pacific Coast in hitting last season. He had a nice fence at Salt Lake over which to belt the ball. It wasn't expected he would make a long distance record in the majors because ground conditions are different.

There were doubting Thomases who contended that no batter who was not naturally a .300 man ever could shift from minor to major league pitching and hold his own. That is sound logic, and it has worked out so far in Strand's case. He did not hit very hard during spring training. Since the regular season started he has hit well—in spots. But he has not hit as well at any time as he did with Salt Lake City. He is about 50 points away from his Pacific coast record. And rest assured that by now the pitchers' grapevine has passed the word as to what he hits least.

ROMERO IS NOT AFRAID JOHNSON

Whatever Happens to Chilean in Ring Will Not be Due to Nervousness or Stage Fright.

By FAIR PLAY
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New York, April 29.—Whatever happens to Romero in the ring against Floyd Johnson will not be due to nervousness or fear. This Chilean is one guy that seems devoid of any emotions other than those of surly stolidity or angry aggressiveness.

He has no nerves and Johnson means nothing more to him than any other unknown. For it appears today that Romero is so little acquainted with the lesser lights of the American ring that Floyd Johnson means no more to him than would any other fighter of merely national reputation would.

In deciding that Greb and Norfolk would be sufficiently punished by their suspension for six months in Massachusetts, the Massachusetts boxing commission showed itself wise and just and thoughtful.

The action follows the New York commission of the knotty problem of deciding about Greb's appearance in the milk fund bouts where he is to be the principal attraction.

It will be recalled that the suspension of Harry and Kid Norfolk was due to a slugging match in which the two indulged after the bell had rung. This is a fault that might have been much worse. At least the two men showed a willingness to fight—a very unusual proceeding.

Nine times out of ten the kick that boxing commissioners and fans have relative to the unwillingness of fighters to give the fans their money's worth.

BASEBALL QUESTION BOX

If you have some question to ask about baseball—

Write to John B. Foster, the man who helped make the rules under which the game is played today. If you want a personal reply enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise your question will be answered in this column.

Address: John B. Foster, special baseball correspondent of The Daily Advance, 811 World Building, New York.

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Question—Batter hits ball for what looked like a safe hit, but the pitcher took a chance, made a wonderful leap and touched the ball with his glove; the ball was deflected toward the first baseman who picked it up and put the runner out at first. Do you credit the pitcher with an error or an assist?

Answer—The pitcher receives an assist. But for his play the batter probably would not have been out.

Question—If the catcher misses a ball on your last strike how many bases can be taken?

Answer—As many bases as you wish unless there is a ground rule.

Question—A runner on 3rd base, catcher is ready and gets in position, batter steps in position, pitcher standing with one foot in front of pitchers slab other foot just behind it, the runner starts for home on a dead run, pitcher from this position quickly delivers the ball over the plate to the catcher to put out the runner and the batter hit the ball over the centerfield fence thinking all was well and pitcher in position. What was the play?

Answer—The pitcher was not in position. Neither foot was on the plate. He did not wind up according to the query. The runner started from third and the ball was thrown home by the pitcher, not pitched. The batter hit the ball and interfered with a fielding play and was out. This is based solely on the presumable fact that the pitcher did not in any way give indication of pitching. If he did it was a balk.

Question—With two men down, a man on third base, the batter hit a two bagger. The runner crossed home base, the first baseman called for the ball and touched first. The umpire called the batter out for falling to touch first, does the run count?

Answer—The run does not count because the batter was out before reaching 1st base and was also third hand out. Read rule 59.

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Question—A man on third and batter steps one foot out of batters position and swings at ball which came over the plate but he missed the ball. No one advanced, the catcher dropped the ball, but did not claim an interference. On the next pitched ball he did likewise and runner advanced and catcher claimed that the batter interfered with him. Still the ball came over the plate.

Answer—The fact that the batter did not touch the ball made it evident that he was not out for batting illegally. The question of interference is one solely within the judgment of the umpire. If he was satisfied that the batter interfered with the catcher he could have called the batter out but if he could not see interference the batter was within his rights. The batter frequently throws himself out of the box by the violence of his swing when he misses the ball.

Major League Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Monday's Scores

Chicago	4	Pittsburgh	7
Cincinnati	5	St. Louis	4
New York	4	Philadelphia	2
Boston	8	Brooklyn	0

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Monday's Scores

Detroit	7	Chicago	2
St. Louis	4	Cleveland	3
Philadelphia	6	New York	11
Washington	2	Boston	2

COLLEGE GAMES

Monday's Scores

V. M. I.	7	N. C. State	9
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