

# Here Are Two All Star Teams Tough to Beat

WHILE striving manfully to dig his way out of the mail that probably should have been attended to days ago your reporter has uncovered two letters unadorned by holly wreaths and pictures of Santa Claus. Just to prove that anything can happen if you wait long enough for it, one of the letters is from the secretary of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. . . . It reveals that organized baseball has at last been convinced that some slight gesture should be made towards honoring those players who have lived so long in memory. So he presents a list of 32 players who have starred from 1900 to the present date, and requests that your reporter join with other baseball writers in voting upon the best of that group.

Since the lucky winners of this balloting are to have tablets erected in their honor in the proposed baseball hall of fame, your reporter was at first disposed to reply with a letter of protest. In it he was going to suggest that the people who pay are the real judges of the men who have deserved such distinction, and so should be permitted to do the voting. On second thought, though, he has desisted from another vain attempt to persuade the club owners to behave like reasonable human beings. Instead he is presenting here a list of players such as the secretary of the B. B. W. A. does periodically, he also is the publicity agent for the mercenary (age) evidently desires.

The list is divided into two sections of ten each. One section is composed of players who were frequently observed by your reporter during the specified years. No doubt he saw some of them so frequently that personal liking entered into the matter. The other section is of players who either were through or were far past their prime by the time he was able to take a mature interest in the game. The list, with asterisks designating the men whose names are not on the ballot and without any maudlin sympathy for athletes who betrayed the sport which had done so much for them.

PERSONAL OPINION	HEARSAY
Walter Johnson	Cy Young
Lefty Grove	Bob Waddell
Bill Terry	Billy Hamilton
Charlie Gehringer	George M. Cohan
Casey Stengel	Napoleon Lajoie
Casey Stengel	Blas Wilentz
Doc Cramer	Jim Collins
Doc Cramer	Joe Judge
Bob Feltz	Ed Delahanty
The Speaker	"Red" Clarke

## Rumor "Explains" Trade of Young Johnny Allen

THINGS the box score forgot to mention: Unkind persons say that Johnny Allen was traded by the Yankees because he couldn't get along with Gehrig. The reason why Madison Square Garden still seeks an opponent for Jim Braddock is that Colonel Kilpatrick kept Max Baucus waiting long in his anteroom on the day the German visited him. . . . Bill Tilden, who is a scared cat, will take his first air-boat ride in a month. He will fly from California to New York so that he may play in the pro tennis tournament. . . . Joe Medwick's correct name is Mollweoc. . . . Although Franks (of Brooklyn) is not in the big gate football class the athletes did well for themselves last fall. Between the halves Indian Babak, the coach, fed them lumps of sugar dipped in pear brandy so that they might be inspired to greater deeds. The American League will send teams to track down those who pirate play-by-play descriptions of baseball games for the radio next summer. This, of course, applies only to the parks in which roadcasting is banned.

GOOD PRINTING can be obtained quickly and economically by requesting an obliging printer at the Eccentric office to give you his attention.

### BROOKLYN fans are up in arms again. They are warning the club owners not to hire Billy Evans as business manager. This is not because they have anything personal against the former umpire who is such a pal of the National league's president. They merely think that Mr. Evans failed so completely in his home town of Cleveland when he had codices of money to spend on the Indians that he could not possibly be a success in strange and straitened surroundings. . . . Thaluis, champion chariot driver in the reign of Emperor Titus in Rome, was the biggest of all time dough boys of sports. He completed before hundreds of thousands of people, more than 1,300 races and piled up more than three million scaterces in purses. Scaterces was the word the Romans had for dollars.

Sports writers, long accustomed to such lame tactics, are chucking at the newest evidence of masterful thinking in the line of the better minds. Penn's athletic press agent was the lecturer on "College Relations With the Press." All this in spite of the fact even the diligent camp compilers at Navy and Princeton are not as adept at antagonizing reporters as is the Penn publicity chore boy. . . . Frankie Frisch and Jimmy Wilson swore cooties as late as last September, lunched together in China so recently. Frisch, by the way, picked up the check. . . . There are 24 members of the baseball family headed by James J. the matchmaker.

A prominent alumnus will tell you that if he wants it, Fred Swan, Temple line coach, can have that Lafayette football job. . . . In Canada they take no chances with the hockey officials. Before the game starts the goal judges are locked in a wire cage so narrow that they can barely stand upright in it. . . . Also, units there is snow on the ground, Montreal fans will not attend hockey games. . . . Although six years ago the Geographic board decided that the Civil war battlefield should be spelled Kennesaw Mountain, Judge Landis, who was named after the spot, still sticks to one N. . . . The Chicago stadium now is imitating New York and Philadelphia by offering big-time money to the best players in the northside college team which has won 36 of its last 37 games, is featured.

### Coaches Praise System of Dean Prep Academy

College football coaches have a lot of faith in the integrity of Danny Sullivan, director of athletics at Iva academy. De Paul, who, when a coach goes to the trouble of sending a promising young football player to Dean, Danny is sure that he is ready for college the boy enters his sponsor's fountain of high school. This, the coaches claim, is unusual since many prep school officials will turn their stars over only to the highest bidder.

French papers, once enthusiastic about him, have stopped printing pieces about Danno O'Mahoney's mad successes. He wrestles too often and the cable toils are too high. One of the signs of the times in Canada is a women's hockey league composed of four very good players.

One of the strangest things in sports is the complex that sports boosters have about performing against members of their own race. Joe Louis is immune from any tendency to draw the color line and to fight only white men.

Football fans (supplied by a Pennsylvania reader that is still a little modest): Chicago—To organize a letter club (1904); to use numbers on the backs of players (1913). Franklin and Marshall—To use the pushing form of wedge (1889). Harvard—to build stadium (1903); to use goal posts (1874); to charge admission to game (1874); to play an international contest (1874) against McGill university; to use the flying wedge to win a game (1874). Yale—To play the game that was broadcast on the radio (1903); to play the game in the United States in the form in which it now exists (1870). Illinois—To employ the huddle constantly. Michigan—to win a Rose Bowl game (from Stanford in 1901).

A resident of White Haven, Pa., recently wrote to Joe Jacobs requesting of all things, I believe, the most difficult, that of Tony Gandy. . . . Babe Ruth always looks carefully at a page sheet of paper he is requested to autograph. That is to make sure that no wise guy has slipped a check or something of the sort underneath it. Babe Ruth. . . . Similarly Jack Dempsey always autographs at the extreme end of the page so that his signature may be placed above his signature.

## The Rogues' Gallery



Always I Am Awakened by an Impatient Chambermaid Grumbling Around Outside My Bedroom Door With a Vacuum Cleaner—Not for Cleaning Purposes but to Bother Me and Get Me Out So She Can Do the Room.

### Mr. Otis Regrets

By JULIAN STREET  
My Dear Mrs. Plamondin: How kind, how very kind of you to ask me to your place in the country for the coming week-end.

Your invitation reached me a little more than two weeks ago, and I suppose I ought to have answered sooner. In fact, I know I ought to have. But for reasons which I shall explain I have kept putting it off.

Having failed to answer promptly, I suppose I ought now to telegraph. In fact I know I ought to. A telegram might ease matters quite a bit. I could say I had just got back from Europe and found your letter. But there's the rub! My wife, Mrs. Plamondin, says: "Always the soul of honor in spite of that trouble about his bank, and he taught me from infancy never to lie if there was a chance of my being found out. If I wired that I had been out of Europe you might meet somebody who had seen me in the past fortnight, or who might have been in town with yourself and caught sight of somewhere—for though I am a lawyer, I ever thought of a member of the Otis family could be. I have devised some little conceits which enable me to get about as much as ever, and I hold to the best places. Father, I know, would wish it so, for though he believed in thrift, he always said there was nothing too good for an Otis."

Well, I probably remember that just after the bank trouble, then father was being prosecuted, the papers used to say there was nothing too bad for an Otis, but that was mere hysteria, and the whole thing is mostly forgotten already. Moreover I want to say that in spite of father's jail sentence, which smelt a little of the bank. People came in and drew out money against father's advice, and after a while the money was gone, so what could father do but shut the doors?

However, I hadn't meant to go into these matters. I was coming to the reason why I hadn't telegraphed—that is, something to do with father, too. I wish you could know him, but of course he isn't getting around these days. He was such a fine man, Mrs. Plamondin. He did everything for his family, even when he had borrowed money from his bank to do it. That's one of the things that you'll find at the same time, a kind of paradox in his nature, father always tried to teach his children thrift. I still have the copy books he gave me when I was learning to write. They are full of quaint old sayings of the pre-Brain Trust era which I had to copy in a careful scribe's hand—things like, "Well, what's the matter with 'em? Economy is the parent of integrity, of liberty and of ease. . . ."

Well, what's the matter with the people who wrote such maxims didn't know what they were talking about. Benjamin Franklin and Aesop are merely funny, and I was much interested to hear, the other day, that there's going to be a new Brain Trust copy-book with maxims containing the best modern thought in economics. I don't know if you've seen it, but it symbolizes the spirit of the age the writing will be backward. My sister is grown up now and of course she doesn't wear pigtail. I don't think you've met her, and I don't think you've met her for at least another year, even if she gets the full deduction for children. In her case it was not the bank. Her trouble was that she had always been told that there was nothing too good for an Otis, so she went ahead on that basis and got into a kind of scrape. Well, what's the matter with this; that in spite of the fact that I still go to the best places, those copy-book maxims ride me a bit at times. When you've had a thrift dinned into you from early childhood it's hard to throw it off.

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