

PAYROLL OF YANKS MAY RUN \$300,000

TOTAL WOULD SET ALL-TIME HIGH,
ACCORDING TO DANIEL

**Gomez, Only Regular to Take Pay Cut,
Seeks to Reduce Weight; Battle on
for Two Mound Berths**

CT. PETERSBURG, Fla.—Not so long ago, Colonel Jacob Ruppert, owner of the Yankees, confronted with ten hold-outs, headed by a Gehrig with \$50,000 ideas, shouted: "They will take it, or leave it. I am going to buy it, though this year." But the hold-outs were being—surrendering—at close to their own figures—and baseball is confronted with one of the most interesting statistics in index in the days when Babe Ruth rose to \$50,000.

The pay roll of the 1937 Yankees will be around the \$300,000 mark and may set an all-time record for the major leagues. It will go above the pay roll of the Cubs and the William Wrigley hey-day. It is a grand record in conditions, both in baseball and in American recovery.

Among the players recently brought in on contract terms were Monte Pearson, Red Rolfe, Frankie Crosetti, Lefty Gomez, Ellsworth Dahlgren, Jim Tobin and Bill Dickey. Only Gomez of this crew suffered any in the way of a salary amputation.

Up to this point, McCarthy has devoted nearly all of his attention to the younger players. It seems that there is a grand fight for two spots in the White pen—the left-handed job which Kerp, Williams and season, and the right-handed post which Walter Brown has been occupying. "Wicked" West Vito Tamulis, who, after a fine freshman season, was named the best player in the world by the Yanks in 1935, contracted pneumonia and had to slide back to Newark. The betting is that this season will get back on the track. If he does so, he will be a contender for the Brown post, the opposition coming from Frank Makosky, who pitched the winning game for the Yanks in the World's Series last year, and the exciting three-stringed fork ball; Jack LaRocca, who, and; Steve Sundra and Spud Chandler, who, like Makosky, are Newark alumni, and who will be the Oakland graduates. Brown, who won only one game last season, is up against the necessity of beating off these youthful challengers, and the odds are being watched with the keenest interest.

Last Look at Koy for Yanks.
The only other fight on the club is out in left field, where Jake Powell is getting a whale of a debate from Myril Hoag and Ernie Koy, another right-handed hitter, from Newark. Last year, Hoag was going grand when he banged into Joe DiMaggio in Detroit on July 27. Hoag almost lost his life in that smash-up, and had to undergo a skull operation. Now he seems to be as good as ever. But Powell, with a fine year behind him, and the added glory of ten World's Series hits, will take a lot of ousting.

Key presents a problem. He cannot be kept in the minors. The Yankees must use him, or let him go to some other club in the league.

The first week of practice showed that the Yanks have a fine infielder developing in Joe Gordon, a shortstop from the University of Oregon, who played for Oakland last season, and is due to take care of second base for Newark.

Gomez did not get going until March 5. He came into camp with a sober puss, and the announcement that this had to be a very serious year. He weighed 171, and he would pass up his luncheons for that.

"I had a sore arm last season until the final month, and in the World's Series did everything except control," Gomez explained.

"I reported with a bad arm, and opened the season with it. Then I recovered, but only to find the arm got sore once more. I hurt it trying to field a low line drive by Bruce Campbell, and from then on, it was just too bad. I was kidded in the newspapers, 'doubted and made uncomfortable. I had a sore arm, but nobody would believe it. They seemed to say, 'How can a pitcher that a pitcher who won 26 games ever could get a bad arm?'

low, things are going to be different now. I know that, and I know that if I pick up weight, all I will for sure. I got my best speed out of a loose arm. Then folks began to tell me that I was heavier, and had more heft to it behind a ball, I would be faster. I did get heavier, but it did not work out as I had been advised. As I gained weight, my arm tightened up, and then trouble popped on me plenty.

"Having won 28 games with 168 pounds, I am going back to that weight, and stay there. Don't sell me short."

Vernon worked out with the New York university squad between his return from month of golf in Bermuda, and his signing for \$14,000, a cut of \$6,000.

DANIEL M. DANIEL.

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AT BAT OR BASE, HE RATES AMONG ALL-TIME FIRSTS

WHEN EVER GREAT FIRST-BASE MEN ARE MENTIONED UP COMES THE NAME OF GEORGE SISLER HE COULD DO EVERYTHING

THERE IS NOTHING SISSY ABOUT THE WAY THE GERRIG SLAPS THE OBLION AROUND -

NEVER BAD LOU'S FELDING IMPROVES WITH AGE -

JIMMY FOXX IS GIVING LOU THE ONLY BATTLE FOR RANKING FIRST BASEMAN - HE CAN CATCH PLAY THIRD OR FIRST AND IS BETTER THAN A FAIR HAND AT BAT -

HE HAS NEVER HAD A BAD YEAR, AND THE BIG DUTCHMAN'S 1908 CONSECUTIVE GAMES DOES NOT DECREASE HIS VALUE

LOU GERRIG - HE RATES RIGHT UP AMONG THE IMMORTALS AT FIRST BASING -

FOR GETTING AROUND THAT BAG - FEW WILL ARGUE THAT HAL CHASE WAS NOT TOPS -

WILLIAM MATHIAS

But let's look at some more records. Every manager can point out numerous 300-hitter seasons over a period of years, who were excellent hitters with nobody else on base. However, these "personal average" boys

last season and I believe you'll agree with me that between Gehrig and Foxx, it is Lou all the way:

the esteem of his associates for various reasons that have nothing to do with his ability as a first baseman.

MINOR KEY

Gehrig	167	215	25	35	44	363
Fox	167	205	403	37	7	498
Fox	130	198	369	32	41	339
Gehrig	1377	82	9	1468	128	994
Fox	1226	76	12	1314	108	991

1927, Lou batted in 178 runs, while a year later he and the Bambino drove in 142 each. Gehrig in 1931 batted in 184 markers and in 1934 drove in 165.

Foxb led only twice in this respect. In 1932, he batted in 169 runs, while a year

And There Were Comiskey, Donahue, Chase and Sisler!

HAVING settled the comparison between Gehrig and Foxb in favor of Lou, it was interesting to note how

of its greatest batteries.

When Tenney went into professional ball, it was behind the bat, but he was converted into a first sacker and became a great performer at that position. His ability to make throws without turn-

Maybe the scouts haven't discovered it, but Bob O'Mara, a husky backslider for the New York Giants, should make somebody a flashy outfielder one of these days. Wonder if Scout Steve O'Rourke got home safely from Montreal with his cargo of Irish linens.

He sent 163 across. Thus, on this comparison alone—and managers know it is one of the best yardsticks in measuring the value of players—Gehrig enjoys a wide margin over Fox.

might be well to recall that the great first basemen started with the late Charles E. Comiskey, known to two generations of fans as "The Old Roman."

In the days when the game was in its infancy, the first baseman was as stationary as a rock. He was usually a big, powerful player, often a former pitcher, who could hit the ball and throw it back to the pitcher. He was the anchor of the infield, the player who held the line.

Chicago White Sox in the days of fielder Jones, was a marvelous fielder, but his weakness with the stick did not permit him to measure up to the leaders at the sack.

Chase, though, was absolutely flawless. The old master may learn a few tricks from the new. Lyle Judy, who stole from the new, was a very good player.

tion players wait to glory. Gehrig and Fox had been home run leaders in their leagues for two seasons each. Five years ago, Gehrig and Ruth each hit 44 four-baggers. Fox led the league in 1932 with 33 homers and in 1933 with 48, while Gehrig hit 44 in 1931 and 49 in 1932. Gehrig's bat was as good as a lamp post. He covered no ground, but acted merely as a target at which the fielders hurled their pick-ups. Comiskey, however, decided that a first baseman should be more than a motionless figure in each game, so he decided to make a change.

He had a hunch that a player who could run was a revolutionary step in playing the bag. Hitherto, first basemen had relied largely on making the play to second, but Chase decided that he could do it in the field. His ability to race in on bunts and make the throw to third to catch a runner was a revolutionary step in playing the bag. Hitherto, first basemen had

take orders at Baltimore from Manager Gus Sturdy, who held the W. A. burglary man's file of 67 from 1922 until the Judge crime era of 1934.

"Imagine the Piedmont League without Oliver Prentiss . . . Earl Mann's latest phony idea of a new league, the Blue State, is led by W. A. Clark, the Blue State's new president

Gehrig picked up the leadership the following season with 49 home runs.

Gehrig holds the record in the American League for runs batted in, 184, made in five years ago. In addition, **Lou** tied a record for home runs in a 100-inning game.

name on June 3, 1932, when he mangled the ball against the Athletics for circuit playoffs in the first, fourth, fifth and seventh innings. Thus, Gehrig tied a record which had remained undisturbed since Bobby Lowe and Ed Delahanty each hit four in one inning.

men came when we watched the late John F. Morrill gallivant at the sack for the original Boston National team. That was back in a dim and misty past, when first basemen were cut largely from the same cloth as Morrill's.

leagues to come to the aid of their scheduled _____

Florida State Names Combs,

But H. T. Turner Drops Out

Recall also that Gehrig has improved with the years. After 12 seasons in the name, Lou stood fifth among the batters in the American League for 1936. His average was .340, greater than Fox's.

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their' and, to the mind of this writer, was Hal Chase. Hal, we believe, was a collegian from San Jose College in California and he saw his heyday with the New York Yankees.

An anomaly, indeed, was Chase. His 400 for a season, while his record of hitting safely in more than 40 games was exceeded only by the late Willie Keeler.

Frank Chance of the Cubs, and Jake Daubert, once of the Dodgers, must be included among the great first sackers. In

who resigned recently as president in order to become executive assistant to William O. DeWitt, vice-president and general manager of the St. Louis Browns.

Following Prexy Gilliland's withdrawal, the directors unanimously named

Combs, goes on forever.

Look is the perennial youth of the game, just glance at the comparative records for private life seemed to develop a twist that was inexplicable to those with whom he was associated. None disputed Hal's right to be ranked with the greatest first basemen of all time. Yet, he never won the list of high-grade performers at the position is long.

But when the facts are all totaled up, Lou Gehrig cannot fail but to be placed with the immortals.

Combs of St. Augustine to head the circuit, but in an announcement a few days later, Combs said he would be unable to serve.

Another election probably will be held.

ROSTER OF BOSTON BEES FOR 1937

[illegible]

Player's Name.	Position.	B.	Thrs.	R.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Date of Birth.	Winter Address.	Club, 1938.	W.	L.
Ablich, John C.	Pitcher	R	R	6.01	185		May 14, 1913	Richmond, Cal.	Bees	5	8
Adush, Guy F.	Pitcher	R	R	6.00	175		Aug. 23, 1902	Chicago, Ill.	Bees-	7	8
Adams, Arthur C.	Pitcher	R	R	6.01	180		April 13, 1902	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Bees	8	7
Adams, Louis	Pitcher	R	R	6.01	190		May 7, 1913	Chicago, Ill.	Columbia	8	7
Adams, Gene	Pitcher	R	R	5.11	180		March 15, 1907	Alma, Mo.	St. Paul	23	4
Adams, Victor	Pitcher	R	R	6.00	182		June 23, 1914	La. Mt. Enterprise, Tex.	Dallas	14	8
Adams, George	Pitcher	R	R	6.00	182		Aug. 5, 1906	Shady-side, Ohio	McKeesport	9	9
Adams, William M.	Pitcher	R	R	6.01	185		June 23, 1903	N. C.	Bees	10	9
Adams, J. K.	Pitcher	R	R	5.10	180		Aug. 31, 1915	Chicago, Ill.	St. Paul	13	8
Adams, John J.	Pitcher	R	R	6.00	185		Sept. 6, 1911	Asheville, N. C.	Bees	7	11
Adams, William K.	Pitcher	R	R	5.11	170		June 10, 1909	Mass. New Orleans, La.	New Orleans	18	12
Adams, John J.	Pitcher	R	R	5.11	172		June 23, 1911	St. Paul, Minn.	Bees	7	11
Adams, Robert J.	Pitcher	R	R	6.01	175		Jan. 2, 1910	St. Paul, Minn.	Bees	6	10
Adams, B. B.	Pitcher	R	R	6.00	180		May 11, 1903	Albany, Ala.	Buffalo	10	10
Adams, Robert E.	Pitcher	R	R	5.10	175		April 22, 1898	Atlanta, Ga.	Bees	6	7
Adams, James R.	Pitcher	L	R	6.00	185		Aug. 6, 1906	Nolensville, Tenn.	Indianapolis	18	13
Adams, William F.	Pitcher	L	L	5.09 1/2	175		Feb. 25, 1913	Meirose, Mass.	Bees	13	12
Adams, Alfonso R.	Catcher	R	R	5.11	165		Aug. 20, 1908	Tampa, Fla.	Bees	242	978
Adams, Ray	Catcher	R	R	5.09	175		March 8, 1912	Pittsburg, Kan.	Bees	208	975
Adams, Anthony F.	Infielder	R	R	5.07	160		Nov. 8, 1902	Long Island City, N. Y.	Bees	308	971
Adams, Earl P.	Infielder	R	R	5.00	180		Nov. 18, 1918	Milton, Mass.	Bees	343	990
Adams, Ernest	Infielder	R	R	5.00	180		June 1, 1908	Salisbury, N. C.	Bees	343	990
Adams, E. A.	Infielder	R	R	5.11	170		Nov. 15, 1912	Jersey City, N. J.	Columbia	230	943
Adams, Edward	Infielder	R	R	5.11	180		April 15, 1913	Clifton, N. J.	New York	109	581
Adams, William M.	Infielder	R	R	5.00	180		Sept. 8, 1904	Perth Amboy, N. J.	Bees	211	548
Adams, Harold B.	Infielder	R	R	5.07 1/2	150		Sept. 13, 1904	N. Canton, O.	Bees	209	541
Adams, Walter A.	Outfielder	R	R	5.02	188		Oct. 10, 1905	Los Angeles, Cal.	Bees	288	988
Adams, Vincent	Outfielder	R	R	5.11	185		Sept. 6, 1912	San Francisco, Cal.	San Diego	308	988
Adams, Deane	Outfielder	R	R	5.09 1/2	165		June 28, 1908	San Antonio, Tex.	Bees	318	983
Adams, Hal B.	Outfielder	R	R	5.11	180		Feb. 15, 1907	Ruston, La.	Bees	250	977
Adams, Frank B.	Outfielder	R	R	5.11	180		Aug. 8, 1901	Brantford, Conn.	Bees	250	977
Adams, Eugene	Outfielder	R	R	5.11	180		Aug. 25, 1910	Waukegan, Ill.	Bees	293	973
Adams, James F.	Outfielder	R	R	5.10	185		Aug. 21, 1907	Tacoma, Wash.	Dallas	318	978
Adams, Andrew	Outfielder	R	R	5.11	180		Jan. 18, 1913	Chicago, Ill.	Bees	318	978
Adams, James F.	Outfielder	R	R	5.11 1/2	175		Aug. 27, 1914	McKeesport	Bees	332	918

The league has named Peter Schaaf, Orlando, sports editor of the Morning Star, as secretary and chairman.

Hereafter the club finishing in first place, at the end of the regular season will be the pennant winner, while the Shaughnessy play-off will be used to determine the league representative in the inter-league series with the Georgia-Florida League.

Player classification rules were changed somewhat. Clubs this year will be allowed three men of unlimited experience, two with unlimited experience not higher than Class B, three with one year's experience not higher than Class B, and six with one year's experience not higher than Class D.

Sunday, April 18, was decided upon as the tentative opening date for the 120-game schedule being prepared by Secretary Schaaf. The schedule will be adopted at the next session.

Catchers receipts this year will be divided on a home and home basis, the 75-25 split in effect last season being abandoned.

W. LAYTON DINNING.