OPPORTUNITY GIVES REDS ITS LAST CALL

MORAN'S TEAM BOOBS CHANCES TO GO TO THE FRONT.

Plays Wretched Ball While Rivals Lose and Absence of Rousch Is Only One Poor Alibi.

CINCINNATI, O., Sept. 10.—Opportunity, which day after day kept knocking at the Reds' door, seems finally to have grown tired of the [illegible] clamor. The Giants, playing third-rate ball, caved in and have been kicked all over the lot—and yet the Reds have refused to take advantage of the golden chance that was handed them upon them. It may be well to take account for blow that was dealt the Reds when they were handed that awful beat by the Giants—that five-game whipping at Redland Field. That's gone and [illegible] the fact remains that if the Reds had taken advantage of chances fairly crowded on them since that series they could be out in front today by so fat a margin that the Giants wouldn't even know they were living.

Day after day, with the Giants losing, the Reds kicked away contests that should have been a cinch. Day after day, instead fattening their percentages when the opportunity was obvious, the Reds lost out. Now, according to the forecasters and the dopers, they still have a chance, [illegible] this as better golden [illegible] chance's up something like 2,000 sheets to the inch in thickness." If the Reds go at a .800 per cent pace from now until the end, and the Giants go at less than a .500 per cent pace, the Reds can win. Yes, I'm serious, but it's a pretty big gamble, [illegible].

The defeat at Pittsburgh put bones in the coffin, so to speak. In those games the Reds played very poor ball, while the Pirates, who had been kicked around by everybody, rallied and played as a real ball club should. It wasn't so much fight hitting as utter inability to apply the hits where they would count. Let it go at that—the two beatings knocked the Reds for a row of monkey peanuts. And then came the series of games at St. Louis—four games that might rejuvenate us for keeps with the Reds, finally growing to curl up and quit cold.

Making It Strong for Rousch.

No question about it—the absence of Edd Rousch has been a fearful blow to the Reds. More and more as the games go by the Reds and the Cincinnati fans realize what Rousch means. It is unfair to expect even so fast a man as Harper to step in and fill one gap on short notice, after a greater part of the bench. Harper has done splendidly, but the timely smashing hits that Rousch is wont to deliver in the time of need have been sorely missed.

Besides the actual loss of batting and defensive strength caused through Edd Rousch's absence, there has been the intangible but unmistakable loss of team morale, confidence and self-assurance. That hurts as much as any actual reduction of the hitting or fielding. Fine piece of luck that this should come in the home stretch and just when the club was fighting for its life for the flag. It [illegible] for good luck when Jake Daubert [illegible] at St. Louis, though it [illegible] Louis Kolb has been all [illegible] and he looked as a substitute for [illegible] First Baseman.

[illegible] back in the line-up in the [illegible] week. The Reds may hold on by [illegible] hanging until then, and his return [illegible] the team more than the [illegible] of half a dozen small-time [illegible] league people. Edgar [illegible] of Cincinnati, has been asked to report [illegible] Larry Young, Mr. Puck is highly [illegible], and may prove a real help [illegible] staggering team, but the return [illegible] of Rousch is what the fans and [illegible] of the Reds desire above everything else.

Defeat of Luque a Jolt.

The pitching stock a little at Pittsburgh. Adolfo Luque's defeat was unexpected and a heavy jolt. The analysis of the game shows that decent hitting and quicker work on bases would have reversed the result and made it an easy victory for the Cuban. Luque is dead set on winning 20 games this season, and is quite likely to come through. There is also the chance of his assistance from Bill Harris, the left hander, who has been a relief pitcher this season, but looks as if he could be trusted to go in and take a regular turn. Sensitive. One thing must be fixed in a hurry, though—an improvement in the Reds' offensive methods.

[illegible] figures on the Reds' pet play—the hit and run—show a number from record, will come out and nobody or nothing prove beyond an dispute the uselessness and utter absurdity of the performance. During the Eastern trip and the games at home since the team came back from Boston, the play has been attempted ten times, [illegible] exactly one occasion—in one of the Boston games—the runner was advanced and finally scored. Twice the runner was advanced, only to have the next batsman pop up weakly or take a foolish cut at a pitch that a man on third couldn't cross the plate. Once, at Brooklyn, an error let the runner down to third when he should have been picked up with ease, and only once, at Philadelphia, after two high strikeouts at bunting smashed a hit. Twice the batter lifted pop flies. Three times the runner was nailed, pitcher to catcher.

The operation fared little better, this year, than the play is a miserable bust, no matter who tries it. They tried the play 11 times in the same games, just twice the runner was advanced by the hitter. Once, at Philadelphia, Cy Williams banged one over the fence when an attempt at a bunt had failed. Twice batters got onto after failing to make the bunt go through. Two men popped out, a pitcher doubled the rest; usually pitcher to third.

And This Is the Conclusion.

Cold enough, as shown by the records of both Reds and rivals, the bunt with runner on first and second usually sets up a play with a man on second, and no chance for a double play. It keeps the batter's hands and the runner mechanically running down, although it doesn't have to run, at there is no one to be called.

The play is rotten, worthless, and it is foolish and yet the Reds keep right on using it.

The Reds' scandal suit—the case brought against a Chicago racing paper by Manager of the Cincinnati Club and players Bolme, Duncan—ought to be settled legally, early and warm reparteeing. Duncan has his side had engaged a lawyer named O'Hara to do the fighting. When the two O'Haras meet, the courtroom should be full of noise and spittle fever. It is not believed that the players will get very much money, but they want redress. If they want to be legally clean establishing their honor and high reputations. Any coin they get, so both players say, will go to some worthy charity. President Herrmann made a trip last week to discuss the case and filing of [illegible] with attorneys [illegible].

[illegible] BROOKS.

GRAND STAND SAYS OUT AND UMPIRE SAYS SAFE

Result Is That "Reputable" Citizens of Syracuse Run Riot and a Game Is Finally Forfeited.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Sept. 9.—The Syracuse Stars had won nine out of 11 games on their return to the home lot, getting a firm hold on sixth place, and arousing hope in local fandom that the fifth position was not impossible for them to attain, when along came Jack Dunn's big league aggregation and put a crimp in the Stars' winning streak. Shag's aspiring athletes took one game from Dunn's Birds, and but for an unpopular decision on the part of Umpire Magerkurth would have split even with the Orioles.

Syracuse was leading, 3 to 2, in the seventh and final inning of the second game of a double header with two out and a man on second base when the play arose that caused trouble. Maisel had singled and went to second on a passed ball. Jacobson hit a grounder which was relayed to Red McKee. Syracuse first sacker, for what all fans thought the final out and a Syracuse victory. Magerkurth ruled the runner safe and gave Baltimore another chance. Maisel having reached third in the meantime. There was no question about the throw, but the question was as to whether McKee had touched first base.

Shag Leads the Mob.

No sooner had the decision been made than Manager Frank Shaughnessy rushed across the field in protest and fans began pouring out of the grandstand and bleachers. A near riot followed and it was impossible to resume play, so Umpire Perr forfeited the game to Baltimore.

The decision given by Umpire Magerkurth was a raw one, as many of our dependable citizens, who were in a position to see the play, and who would prefer to see Syracuse lose than profit by an unfair decision, have vowed that Jacobson was out beyond question.

This series was also disastrous to the Stars in the loss of Watty Hohn, through injury, for possibly the remainder of the season. Hohn injured a leg when he collided with Jimmy Walsh beating out an infield hit, and has been confined in a hospital since the accident. Watty had been playing the outfield since McCarthy was shifted to first base, and doing creditable work, both in the field and with the stick.

Bartelme Prays for Help.

The Stars are at the present writing in badly crippled condition. McCarthy has been out of the game for several weeks, and McKee has been guarding the initial sack. Walter Keating is playing on his nerve and should be in a hospital instead of on the ball field, but the plucky little shortstop realizes Shag's predicament and sticks to his guns.

President Bartelme has kept the wires hot trying to get Binghampton to send on Outfielder Brick Mason. Mason has been repurchased by the Stars, but was not supposed to report until the close of the New York-Pennsylvania season September 9. He has been clubbing well over the .300 mark, and his fielding has been brilliant. He would be a great help to Shaughnessy now, as Shag has to fill his outfield with a pitcher or play Catcher Daugherty in that position.

Whitey Glanson, one of the cleanest and most conscientious ball players that ever wore a Syracuse uniform, is one of the big factors in the rise of the local team. An idea of his value to the team may be gained by a glance at his fielding record in the last home stand. He made an error the first day the team was home. Then he recorded 31 put outs and 64 assists, a total of 95 chances, without an error. In three games he had ten chances each. Two others were marked by eight chances.

LUTE R. VROMAN.

POPULAR JACK MILLER DEAD

As Much Famed for High Character as for Playing Ability.

John R. (Dots) Miller, former National League second baseman and later manager of the San Francisco Coast League team, died in a sanitarium for consumptives at Saranac Lake, N. Y., on the night of September 5, and the news cast a spell of sadness over thousands of fans and scores of players from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for probably a more popular ball player never lived, at least not in this generation.

Miller's death was a shock because he had been assuring his friends generally that he was going to get well; it was the spirit of the man—the same spirit that kept him from giving up until it was too late to save his life. He had not been in good health for a couple of years, but refused to believe there was anything constitutionally wrong, until two or three months ago when physicians told him his one chance was to go to some health resort, as he had tuberculosis. He resigned the management of the San Francisco team and went to Saranac Lake, but it was too late.

Jack Miller was a native of Kearny, N. J., where he was born September 9, 1885, and that place was his home town throughout his baseball career; indeed he was proclaimed by Kearny as its most prominent citizen. He began his baseball career there in 1907 with an independent team, played a year in a minor league, then jumped to stardom as second baseman of the Pittsburg Pirates in 1909. He spent four years with the Pirates and to him much of the credit for their success was due.

After the season of 1909 he figured in a big trade that sent him to the St. Louis Cardinals, and with that team he remained until the war came, when he was among the first to enlist, choosing the Marines as his branch of service. At the same time his wife, who survives him, became an Army nurse. They made Miller manager of ball clubs at various camps of Marines, but he had enlisted to fight and finally declared himself so strongly he was sent overseas. Returning from the war the Cardinals released him to the Phillies and he played the season of 1920 and part of 1921 with that team, then retired. Before the opening of the 1922 season he was engaged to manage San Francisco and won a pennant with that team his first year out. He had his team in first place this season when forced to quit baseball for good.

Not only was Miller a great player before his health broke, but he was a man of such personality that he was a great asset for any team with which he was connected. Magnates, managers and players alike all pay tribute to his high character and spirit.

NATIONAL AIDS JAP SUFFERERS.

A gift of $1,000 to the American Red Cross fund for the relief of Japanese earthquake victims was made by the National League. John A. Heydler, president of the league, issued the following statement in announcing the gift: "The eight National League club owners and myself believe the league cannot act too promptly in extending aid to Japan in its hour of national calamity. It is not alms, it is human aid, but it is a personal act. Japan has taken more kindly to baseball than perhaps any other country in the world, unless it be Cuba. She has entertained our professional and college teams royally on the occasion of every one of their many tours. Japan has become wonderfully proficient at the game [illegible] baseball over [illegible] as well as been [illegible] sportsmanlike."

QUINN BUYS 'EM IN FLOCKS FOR RED SOX

HINTS OF NEW ONES MAKE MEN ON HAND HUSTLE.

Mitchell's Braves Having Sneaked Out of Cellar the Optimistic Rooney Talks of Sixth Place.

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 10.—President Bobby Quinn of the Red Sox continues busy at the task of darning the Red Hose for 1924. Every day he has news for the fans in the way of new players purchased and he will have a squad in training next spring out of which he believes he will be able to pick talent that will help him land the Boston team in the first division in the American league race. New players obtained by Quinn since last report include:

Stokes, a catcher from Rockford, of the Three-I League. Bethan, a right-handed pitcher from Frederick of the Blue Ridge League; Jenkins, an outfielder from Paris of the Kitty League; Catcher Adams and Southpaw Ross, star battery of the Mayfield team of the Kitty League, and Donahue, an outfielder from Waterbury of the Eastern League.

The youngsters of the Kitty League were scouted for Quinn by Rudy Hulswitt, former big league infielder. Where the tips came from to Quinn on the players we don't know, and Bobby has announced nothing relative to their respective records. However, the Boston fans feel that Quinn is working every minute to help the Red Sox and it won't be long before they are some ball club.

One of the young players obtained by Quinn we are able to tell something about. He is Donahue, who comes from the Eastern League, which is right here in New England. According to late data the new outfielder had 171 hits, including 40 doubles, 11 triples, seven homers, and an average of .360. He is described as a good fielder and a ripe prospect for the big show.

They Need Only a Little Help.

If only four or five of the new players make good the Red Sox will be a better ball club. Recently the team has been showing as fine class as any team of the American League, and while Connie Mack was here with his Athletics to take his bumps, he informed Quinn that he could not understand why the local club was so far out of the first division.

Manager Frank Chance made a shift in the infield recently, and instead of playing McMillan at shortstop, where he was for many weeks, Johnny Mitchell was put back in the game and is doing excellent work. It seems that a layoff every so often does Mitchell considerable good. In the games with the Athletics he played sensational baseball in the infield. The way Johnny performed inspired the other players and they also went to it. Joe Harris again began working his big bat and began hitting the ball hard. Twice in three days he lifted home runs over the centerfield fence, and let me tell you this is some drive in the Boston American League park. Harris also has been going great guns in the outfield and is one sweet bird covering that bank in left made famous by Duffy Lewis when he was the leaping Boston left fielder.

Harris has company in the outfield for John Collins and Ira Flagstead have been playing as good a game as any of the patrols in the American League. They have come through grandly for Manager Chance and if he were asked what he thought of their work he probably would say that it is as good as any he had seen in the league, and to my mind it is.

Boosting Shanks and Fewster.

The infield goes along smoothly, with Howard Shanks playing a clever game at third base. The fans of Boston like the brand of game he has been playing, and think that third is his real position. Until Chick Fewster became ill he was going great at second base, and also was hitting the agate hard. It was unfortunate for Fewster that he became ill, because he was fast forcing his way into the list of leading second basemen in the league. However, Chick probably will finish the season on second, and the fans are sure to see some fast work in the position, because this boy always is on his toes, and covers plenty of ground.

George Burns? well it is just like this about George. He plays the game all the time, and hits all the time, and what more is wanted or needed on a big league club?

This Red Sox team with a little better pitching could start another season and win many ball games and by no means come near being the cellar champions. The chances are that President Quinn knows this as well as the fans of Boston and probably that is why he is working overtime lining up pitchers and catchers for 1924.

The attendance in Boston has been really better than Proxy Quinn expected. The fans are coming back strong, and perhaps that is another reason why the club looks so much better than it did at the opening of the season. The fans of Boston now are saying "The Red Sox are all right, and under Quinn they will be better," and that being a lot.

Braves Also Looking Up.

Manager Fred Mitchell's Braves are beginning to look better and have played themselves out of last place. It certainly is some consolation to say good enough baseball to get out of the cellar, and the fans here look for Mitchell to keep the boys at it and climb into sixth place if it is possible.

There has been much better pitching shown by the Braves' staff. Rube Marquard is going nicely, and Little Johnny Cooney, a southpaw, is the lad who pitched the Braves out of the cellar. Benton and McNamara also are showing better form, and Joe Oeschger is doing the kind of work that he was counted on doing earlier in the season, and that is tossing some winning ball games.

Manager Mitchell has not obtained as many youngsters as President Quinn of the Red Sox, but is looking ahead nevertheless. He has closed a deal for Eranerich, a classy young outfielder, and Pitcher Stryker of the Eastern League, and they will report at the close of the Eastern League season, so that Manager Fred can get a peek at them before the season of 1924 rolls around.

Mitchell certainly has had his troubles with the Braves, but the more he has the more he seems to get busy and to straighten things out. While the Braves were in New York for a recent series with the Giants he had to keep Catcher Earl Smith out of a jam. This catcher, who came to Boston with Pitcher Jess Barnes from the Giants for Pitcher Watson and Catcher Hank Gowdy, in some over the move, as it knocked him out of a chance to win some World's Series money if the Giants win the National League Championship.

Smith, it is alleged, endeavored to hit a home run off John J. Grawn's chin, missed and then was assaulted by fellow players. And so the trouble for Mitchell continues. If Smith could take the game more seriously he would be a better catcher and it might be well for him to let McGraw alone, for John is one of the pillars [illegible] admirer [illegible].

JAMES ROONEY.

ALL ST. JOSEPH DOES NOW IS MAKE TROUBLE

That's Small Satisfaction for a Bunch of Fans Who Feel They Have Been Gyped All Year.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 9.—Our noble Saints, who have been doing considerable on their present road trip to tighten and complicate the Western League race between Tulsa, Wichita and Oklahoma City, return home September 21 for their final stand of the summer. Baseball interest here has just about thumped against bed rock. In fact, ever since Oklahoma City blew in and knocked the Saints off for five straight games and a complete series early last spring. Interest here hasn't been so good as it should be.

Since then much has happened to hurt baseball, and little has occured to help it along. Players shifted between St. Joseph and Minneapolis didn't whet up new interest here. Rube Schauer was getting so he could win down here. Then he was taken away. Wally Gilbert was developing into a nice prospect when he was called away and then later suspended for the rest of the season over some argument or other. Brinzda was pitching nice ball here and Joe Cantillon chanced to hear of it and promptly was Brinzda jerked away.

Milwaukee needed strength and so Sherry Magee was taken away to bolster Milwaukee. Magee has been hitting about .326 since he left here, but then fans wish Sherry well indeed. He was too good a man for this sort of baseball, a sixth place club. Sherry may be gone as a fielder, but the guy who thinks he cannot still maul that old nugget is due another thought indeed.

Filled With Low Grade Talent.

Too many youngsters, players of inferior quality for Class A play, have kept Wally Smith's club down in the rut all season. Haid has pitched some hard luck games. Mangum was of little use to the club during the first half of the summer on account of illness. McColl hasn't been himself the entire year on account of a sore arm. Ledbetter found St. Joseph's three-mile limit too close to town to stay in shape, so was cut adrift to shift for himself. Cy Williams, after winning 13 games for Enid, was recalled and has pitched five great games only to lose by one or two runs because his teammates couldn't stake him to a lead. And so it goes.

But why worry? There's Tulsa fighting out in front now with Oklahoma City pressing hard on its heels in second place. Wichita, after making a gallant race of it all year, has slipped into third place. At that, Howard Gregory goes down scrapping like the silent fighter he is. He showed them how it's done while he lasted, and will give them hell next year.

Interest here is centered upon whether Tulsa or Oklahoma City will win out, or whether St. Paul or Kansas City will cop the American Association chase. Fans are pulling for Kansas City, in that they want to watch Jack Dunn's Baltimore team perform in the proposed post-season series.

Aside from that, the rest of the season holds but little for St. Joseph. Much talk of late about George Belden peddling his interest here. It is known he wanted $12,000 for the franchise to the territory and Sherry Magee alone, the prospective purchaser wanting Magee to manage the club.

A Bid for Mr. Muehlebach.

Some fans have suggested that George Muehlebach of Kansas City should purchase this franchise. Surely, it would be more convenient for his Blues than it is for Belden's Millers. It would develop players who could step into the American Association better than can Enid or Springfield. Muehlebach is widely respected by baseball fans of this neighborhood and many would love to see him take over the club for his farm.

Whoever operates the club should start off the season by sending players here and leaving them until the end of the season before taking them away. Then, after the confidence of the fans has been regained, he could operate the franchise here without losing money.

Somebody has said that if Belden keeps the club for 1924 he will send Eric Fisher here to manage it and play first base and that Roy Massey will be sent here for outfield duty. Let this be done and perhaps new interest will be created. A playing manager is a good thing for the fans and cheaper for the magnate. Wally Smith has been unable to play in many games this year on account of health. The club has been without a utility player all summer. Magee played short, third, second, first, right and center field and even pitched in one game. Sherry's too far along for such strenuous work—but rather than lay down on the job, he took over every vacancy that bobbled forth. And they came fast for a while.

ERNEST A. PHILLIPS.

WEATHER MAN SPOILED HOPE

Terre Haute Had an Outside Chance to Overtake Decatur.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Sept. 9.—The Three-I League season has ended with Decatur the pennant winner, Rockford finishing second and Terre Haute third. The Decatur team has been out in front since June 3 and has been able to hold its slight lead, though Rockford and Terre Haute made a game effort to catch the Commies.

During the last home stand Terre Haute split even in a four-game series with Danville, and then took three out of four from Decatur and four out of five from Evansville, but starting the final road trip the Tots slowed down. Three games were scheduled at Evansville, but bad weather permitted the playing of only two. Terre Haute lost one of these and tied the other. Then came the crucial series at Decatur, with five games to play in three days, and the weather man so upset things that Decatur, with a four and one-half game margin to go on, was saved possible overtaking.

The first three games of the recent Danville series at Terre Haute produced the wildest baseball of the season here. This three-game nightmare included 56 runs, 88 hits, 17 errors, a protest by Manager Rudy Hulswitt of Danville, a small riot which made police protection necessary to get the umpires out of the park, and most anything else imaginable. Danville won the first game, 9 to 5, while Terre Haute won the next two, the scores being 13 to 12, and 12 to 5.

Changes were being made in the Terre Haute lineup to the end. Catcher Walter Cadman was released and in his place behind the bat Don Dougan, from the St. Paul American Association club, has been working. Dougan has made a decided hit with the fans and has done most of the catching for the past two weeks.

Infielder Kibby Sprangler, secured from Minot, of the North Dakota League, on an option, has become Terre Haute property, as President John Cleary has decided to exercise the option. Pellecher's broken finger left a bad hole at second base. Sprangler was tried there, but was later moved over to short to take the place of Young, who has been nursing a bad leg. Then Robert (Ribby) Murphy of St. Louis was signed for the piece corner, but his work was not up to the required standard and so Mike Brannigan was put on the job at second. Brannigan played third base for Terre Haute early in the season, and took his loss [illegible] Milling, but was recalled for the final road trip of the season.

ARTHUR R. WATERS.

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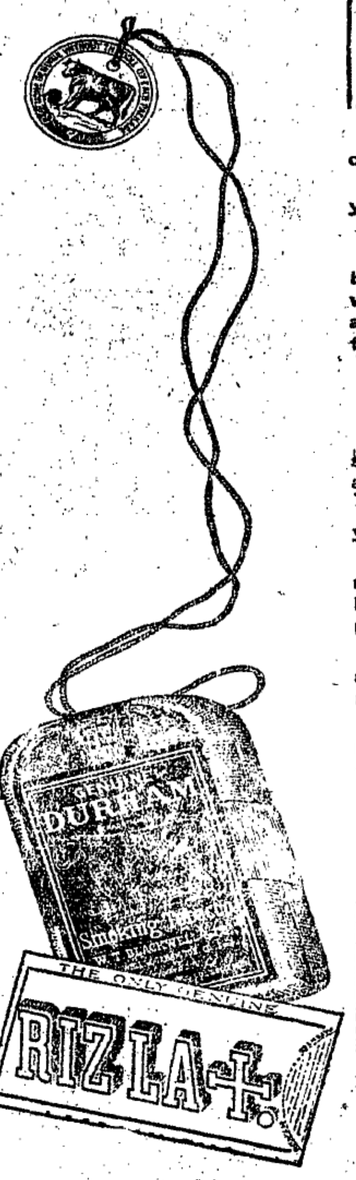

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GLORIOUS DAYS FOR TULSA

Beat Wichita Rivals Five Straight and Take League Lead.

TULSA, Okla., Sept. 8.—The champion Oilers are leading the Western League pennant race for 1923 and from the brand of baseball the Lellvett men are playing, it appears they will again win the flag. The Oilers returned home last Saturday, after their most disastrous road trip of the year. On the trip only three games were won and six lost. The team was badly crippled with four men on the hospital list and Manager Lellvett suspended on account of attacking Umpire McDonald in a game of the Oklahoma City series.

The home stand opened with Wally Smith's Saints and the locals took four straight games from the St. Joe century, with Lellvett's place at the infield block taken by Luke Stuart and Paddy Bauman, acting pilot, on third, was a new man, Bill Rice, from Danville of the Three-I League, succeeding the crippled Thompson. Rice made good from the start. The youngster is hitting at a terrific clip and has imbued the team with new life.

Winning the St. Joe series, Tulsa tied with Wichita for first place, and the Witches came to Tulsa for a crucial series of five games in three days. Completely outplaying Howard Gregory's men in each and every department, the Oilers swept the series clean. Five thousand fans went home happy on Tuesday afternoon after cheering the Oilers' double victory, which put them two games in the league lead. Black, the locals' star southpaw, won the first game 10 to 1, allowing only six scattered hits, while McDonnell, the Wichita hurler, was touched for 15. Bob Clark pitched the second game, a protested one which Tulsa lost, but the Oilers played from the third inning. Clark allowed 12 scattered hits and three runs, while Lefty Sellers was given a severe beating by the locals, who gathered 15 hits and 14 runs. Harry Rice was the hitting star getting five hits in six times at bat. Misfortune again hit Tulsa when Lyman Lamb sprained his ankle when sliding for second base in the second game Stuart had to replace Lamb and Lellvett returned to finish the game.

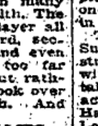
Tulsa won both games of another double header on Wednesday. Lellvett was again back in the game, his suspension having been removed without question by President Teasney. While Tulsa was taking this second double header, Jack Holland's Oklahoma City Indians were winning a twin bill from the Saints and going into second place and the faltering Wichita team dropped to third place. Four thousand and five hundred enthusiastic fans witnessed the Indies' fourth defeat in two days. Plummer won the first game 8 to 2 and allowed only six hits, the second game was a hitting contest the Oilers winning by a score of 17 to 11. McLaughlin started on the mound for Tulsa, but was replaced by Black, the Oilers' iron man, who chalked up his twenty-fourth victory for this year. Howard Gregory started the hurling for his Witches but after allowing 11 runs and 14 hits in six and one-third innings he called in Conlan from center field and later Smith was called in from right held to finish the game. Harry Rice again starred in hitting. Rice was at bat seven times and made five hits including a home run. The final game on Thursday found the Labelle demoralized and was all easy victory, 15 to 5, for Tulsa.

Business Manager Fred Thompson that the club has bought Filipon, a shortstop from Sapulpa, and has secured Wilcox, a right-handed hurler from Sapulpa. Also a right-hander named Mellen, but was recalled for the final road trip of the season.

[illegible] has been purchased [illegible].

LIKE A MYSTERY PLAY, THIS STORY GIVES NO ANSWER

Question of Why Armando Marsans Got the Can Something Louisville Fans Can't Answer and Club Officials Refuse to Lift the Veil.



LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 9.—This old town of Louisville is in the throes of a mystery. All bald tandem is wondering and conjecture runs rampant. The community's best guessing talent is working day and night. Out in the far reaches of the countryside, hereabouts, there's a perfect epidemic of "I reckons" and "I swans." Expressions of surprise and wonderment collide, one with the other, as they chase each other over and about the physiognomy of the bugs.

"Why was Armando Marsans let go?"

That is the problem, and the solution remains carefully covered, in the laps of the gods. Nobody knows why Marsans was released. Everybody would like to know.

All sorts of stagers are being made at an answer to the query, and none of them seems to fit. Some say that Marsans was not signed, anyhow; that he came up here from Cuba out of the goodness of his heart, just to all in. Another element insists that Marsans sneaked away when Cap Noal wasn't looking, so that he could get back to Cuba and start the formation of a ball team that he runs down there in the winter.

Still others are positive that the Cuban beat it away from here because the management would not or could not pay him the stipend he demanded, and they say this with an air of finality that would be impressive to all save those who know that a little thing like money never stands between Knoebelkamp and a ball player. Still others cling to the theory that Marsans had an attack of homesickness, but who ever heard of a prohibitionist getting homesick for Cuba? One lonesome bug was heard to remark, soliloquizingly, that Marsans was not playing up to A. A. requirements, whereupon that bug was immediately and forthwith contributed to the Ohio river's merciless ravages.

Sports Section Is in Dark.

The newspapers here threw no light upon the mystery, probably because they had no light to throw. They merely said that Marsans had been released, and let it go at that. The Cuban had not been played with any degree of regularity during his brief stay with the Colonels, and if a curious opinion from an humble fan is in order, that is one reason why our team experienced a slump that took them out of the running. Marsans is aging, as all people have a way of doing, until dissolution stops the process, and it is probably true that some of the wonderful speed with which he was wont to startle the natives along the N. L. circuit years ago is missing, but whoever undertakes to intimate that this swarthy gentleman from the rose ropics is not up to A. A. class, warbleths much nonsense through his chapeau.

Marsans took part in but 66 times this season, scored ten runs, made 21 hits for a total for average of .318. He fielded the hides in the same high manner and [illegible] the same speed, but he circled the [illegible] he was permitted to do, was a revelation to the bugs in this circuit, and Earl Combs, himself an adept on the paths, profited well by Marsans' presence, and studied his style so closely that one may easily discern the benefits that came to him from that study.

One should be slow to criticize in the absence of full knowledge of his subject, and therefore, we are not going to pan the management for Marsans' release, or retirement, or whatever it may have been. There may have been a very good reason for the Cuban's departure. Temperament, with which Armando has always been bountifully blessed (or otherwise), may have been a contributing factor, if not the sole reason for the divorcement. We dunno. But the management ought to come forth and tell the whys and the wherefores, just to absolve itself from suspicion of pulling a boner, if nothing else.

A Reply to Kansas City.

It is noted that Kansas City is blaming Louisville for some bumps the Kaws are encountering on the pennant road. Kansas City should put her lily-like hand upon her massive brow and ponder the fact that one of the missions of a ball team it to make life unpleasant for other teams. The Colonels trimmed Kansas City every time they took a notion, and this seems to peeve the folk along the Kaw. But what peeves them most sorely of all is that the Colonels were the victims of successive drubbings at the hands of St. Paul, when St. Paul retreses meant much to Kansas City's dreams of a flag. Kansas City should not get riled up about this sort of thing. It ought to be patent to them that if Kansas City can't win the flag by beating Louisville, then Louisville is not going to pull any of the Alphonse-Gaston stuff by beating St. Paul just because Kansas City wants 'em to. Our boys do not propose to act ugly toward a team that has never done anything to them, except to hand them trimmings once in a while, or perhaps oftener.

We are frank to admit that the Colonels are definitely out of the running, and are destined to decorate third place when the season closes. All Louisville knows the team "done its dummedest," but it didn't figure much better than it had done its dumbest. Two words that bear a similarity as to sound, but are vastly different in meaning. Bad conditions, accidents and a few other circumstances used their influence with General Jinx, and got him to frown upon the Colonels. But we've got a good team, brothers; a mighty good team, and if there is no radical change in the roster, it is going to throw some bonecing darts into the eyes of every traditional [illegible] 1924.

The team will, of course, see some changes; there will be sales and there will be purchases, while players coming in expectation, and all that. But Manager Cap Noal now is in the East, and the next time we answer is news of dickers that has been, but all in all the Colonels are a ball club, as they stand, that, getting off on the right foot, can not be beaten in the clinch.

A. H. TARVIN.