Myer's .349 Lowest for A. L. Batting Leader in 27 Years

TY COBB'S .324 IN 1908 LAST CASE OF A CHAMPION BEING UNDER .350

Official Figures Confirm One-Point Margin Senators' Second Sacker Gained Over Joe Vosmik Last Day of Race; Greenberg's Hits Good for 389 Total Bases

A NAME not heretofore associated with the upper flight batters, although its owner is a veteran of ten years' service in the majors, appears at the top of the American League official averages for this year. It is that of Charles (Buddy) Myer, Washington second baseman, who nosed out Joe Vosmik, Cleveland outfielder, on the final day of the season by registering four hits to give him a .349 to .348 advantage. Vosmik might have fared better had he not chosen to sit on the bench in the first game of a double-header on closing day, apparently confident that a slight lead he held assured him of the laurels. Although Myer's mark was the lowest for a leader in the league in 27 years, the batting of the circuit, as a whole, advanced from .279 in 1934 to .280—this in face of the fact that only 20 players taking part in 100 or more games registered above .300. In 1934, 30 were in the select circle.

The last time an American League batting champion fell below the .350 mark was in 1908, when Ty Cobb took the honors, with .324. In 1905, Elmer Flick finished on top of the heap, although registering only .306.

Individual laurels were closely contested in almost every department, with Vosmik and Hank Greenberg, Detroit slugger, taking down most of the top marks. Vosmik made the most hits, 216; most doubles, 47, and the most triples, 20. Greenberg tied Jimmy Foxx of the A's in homers, with 36, and led in total bases, 389.

Lou Gehrig of the Yankees, last year's batting champion, was first in scoring runs, with 125, and carried his consecutive games-played-in record to 1,653 straight by getting his name in every Yankee box score during the season. Gehrig, however, dropped from a percentage of .363 to .329 and finished sixth.

Six players registered more than 200 hits, with Myer, 215, and Roger Cramer, Athletics, 214, finishing right behind Vosmik. Greenberg, Charley Gehringer, Detroit, and Julius Solters, St. Louis, were the others in the 200 bingle group.

For the second straight year, the champion Tigers finished on top in batting, although their figure shrunk ten points under 1934 to .290.

The best batting streak of the season was carried out by Ervin Fox of the Tigers, who hit safely in 29 consecutive games. Solters hit home runs in three straight times at bat against Detroit, July 7, while Frank Higgins, Athletics, made three June 27, although not on consecutive times at bat. Joyner White, Detroit, drew five bases on balls, May 18.

Following are the official figures, which were compiled by the Howe News Bureau:

CLUB BATTING.

Club.	G.	AB.	R.	OR.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	SB.	CS.	LB.	RBI.	Pct.
Detroit	152	5423	919	665	1573	2358	301	83	106	70	45	1223	837	.290
Washington	154	5592	823	903	1591	2132	255	95	32	54	37	1305	763	.285
Cleveland	156	5534	776	739	1573	2330	324	77	93	63	54	1146	737	.284
New York	149	5214	818	632	1462	2169	255	70	104	68	46	1156	755	.280
Philadelphia	149	5269	710	869	1470	2137	243	44	112	42	35	1110	671	.279
Boston	154	5288	718	732	1458	2072	281	63	69	89	59	1209	660	.276
Chicago	153	5314	738	750	1460	2028	262	42	74	46	28	1195	690	.275
St. Louis	155	5365	718	930	1446	2058	291	51	73	45	25	1194	675	.270

INDIVIDUAL BATTING.

Player—Club.	G.	AB.	R.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	SH.	SB.	CS.	Pct.
Bean, Washington	11	8	2	3	8	2	0	1	0	0	0	.375
Grube, Chicago	12	25	4	9	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	.360
Myer, Washington	151	616	115	215	288	36	11	5	4	7	6	.349
Vosmik, Cleveland	152	620	93	216	333	47	20	10	5	2	1	.348
W. Ferrell, Boston	75	150	25	52	80	5	1	7	8	0	0	.347
Foxx, Philadelphia	147	535	118	185	340	33	7	36	0	6	4	.346
Snyder, Philadelphia	10	32	5	11	12	1	0	0	1	0	0	.344
Ruffing, New York	50	109	13	37	53	10	0	2	1	0	0	.339
Cramer, Philadelphia	149	644	96	214	268	37	4	3	15	6	7	.332
Gehringer, Detroit	150	610	123	201	306	32	8	19	17	11	4	.330
Gehrig, New York	149	535	125	176	312	26	10	30	0	8	7	.329
Greenberg, Detroit	152	619	121	203	389	46	16	36	4	4	3	.328
Moses, Philadelphia	85	345	60	112	154	21	3	5	9	3	4	.325
Campbell, Cleveland	80	308	56	100	153	26	3	7	3	2	1	.325
Fox, Detroit	131	517	116	166	265	38	8	15	13	14	4	.321
Solters, St. Louis	151	631	94	201	314	45	7	18	4	11	2	.319
Cochrane, Detroit	115	411	93	131	185	33	3	5	11	5	5	.319
Travis, Washington	138	534	65	170	213	27	8	0	6	4	2	.318
Peerson, Philadelphia	10	19	3	6	7	1	0	0	1	0	0	.316
Roy Johnson, Boston	149	553	70	174	234	33	9	3	5	11	12	.315
Stone, Washington	125	454	78	143	209	27	18	1	1	4	5	.315
Estalella, Washington	15	51	7	16	24	2	0	2	0	1	0	.314
W. Brown, New York	20	32	3	10	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	.313
Wilson, Boston	23	16	2	5	10	2	0	1	1	0	0	.313
Powell, Washington	139	551	88	172	236	26	10	6	12	15	7	.312
Selkirk, New York	128	491	64	153	239	29	12	11	3	2	7	.312
Rowe, Detroit	45	109	19	34	50	3	2	3	3	0	0	.312
Marcum, Philadelphia	64	119	13	37	47	2	1	2	4	0	0	.311
Winegarner, Cleveland	65	84	11	26	41	4	1	3	1	1	1	.310
Hayworth, Detroit	51	175	22	54	72	14	2	0	6	0	0	.309
Appling, Chicago	153	525	94	161	204	28	6	1	7	12	6	.307
Cooke, Boston	100	284	51	90	129	18	6	3	6	6	8	.306
Heffner, New York	10	36	3	11	16	3	1	0	0	0	0	.306
Hale, Cleveland	150	589	80	179	286	37	11	16	6	15	13	.304
Bolton, Washington	110	375	47	114	160	18	11	2	2	0	1	.304
E. Miller, Boston	78	138	18	42	61	3	1	3	5	0	1	.304
R. Ferrell, Boston	133	458	54	138	189	34	4	3	13	5	8	.301
G. Walker, Detroit	98	362	53	109	164	22	6	7	8	6	4	.301
Galatzer, Cleveland	93	259	45	78	93	9	3	0	6	4	5	.301
Rolfe, New York	149	639	108	192	258	33	9	5	7	7	3	.300
West, St. Louis	138	527	93	158	233	37	4	10	12	1	6	.300
Salveson, Chicago	20	20	3	6	11	2	0	1	0	1	0	.300
Bob Johnson, Philadelphia	147	582	103	174	297	29	5	28	2	2	4	.299
Knickerbocker, Cleveland	132	540	77	161	205	34	5	0	10	2	12	.298
Piet, Chicago	77	292	47	87	123	17	5	3	8	2	1	.298
Kress, Washington	84	252	32	75	102	13	4	2	2	3	3	.298
Higgins, Philadelphia	133	524	69	155	264	32	4	23	5	2	2	.296
Cronin, Boston	144	556	70	164	236	37	14	9	8	3	3	.295
Bonura, Chicago	138	550	107	162	267	34	4	21	1	4	0	.295
Clift, St. Louis	137	475	101	140	207	26	4	11	5	0	3	.295
Pytlak, Cleveland	55	149	14	44	55	6	1	1	1	3	3	.295
Linke, Washington	40	68	14	20	27	4	0	1	1	0	0	.294
Hill, New York	107	392	69	115	153	20	3	4	10	14	4	.293
Hughes, Cleveland	82	266	40	78	99	15	3	0	8	13	3	.293
Goslin, Detroit	147	590	88	172	245	34	6	9	3	5	4	.292
Haas, Chicago	92	327	44	95	125	22	1	2	15	4	1	.291
Carey, St. Louis	76	296	29	86	112	18	4	0	2	0	2	.291
Almada, Boston	151	607	85	176	230	27	9	3	13	20	9	.290
Hemsley, St. Louis	144	504	57	146	192	32	7	0	10	3	2	.290
Chapman, New York	149	553	118	160	238	38	8	8	14	17	10	.289
Averill, Cleveland	140	563	109	162	279	34	13	19	4	8	4	.288
Dykes, Chicago	117	403	45	116	156	24	2	4	9	4	3	.288
Radcliff, Chicago	146	623	95	178	252	28	8	10	2	4	4	.286
Burns, St. Louis	143	549	77	157	202	28	1	5	20	3	2	.286
Conlan, Chicago	65	140	20	40	49	7	1	0	7	3	3	.286
Berg, Boston	38	98	13	28	39	5	0	2	2	0	0	.286
Ostermueller, Boston	22	49	3	14	15	1	0	0	2	0	0	.286
Sewell, Chicago	118	421	52	120	151	19	3	2	5	3	2	.285
Washington, Chicago	108	339	40	96	148	22	3	8	3	1	0	.283
Combs, New York	89	298	47	84	108	7	4	3	1	1	3	.282
Coleman, St. Louis	119	410	66	115	160	15	9	17	4	0	2	.280
W. Dickey, New York	120	448	54	125	205	26	6	14	2	1	1	.279
Hudlin, Cleveland	37	86	10	24	34	7	0	1	1	0	0	.279
Rogell, Detroit	150	560	88	154	217	23	11	6	7	3	6	.275
Newsom, Washington	35	84	6	23	27	2	1	0	6	0	0	.274
Manush, Washington	110	479	68	131	187	26	9	4	1	2	0	.273
Lazzeri, New York	130	477	72	130	199	18	6	13	1	11	5	.273
Finney, Philadelphia	109	410	45	112	135	11	6	0	4	7	2	.273
Phillips, Cleveland	70	220	18	60	81	16	1	1	0	0	0	.273
Trosky, Cleveland	154	632	84	171	296	33	7	26	1	1	2	.271
McNair, Philadelphia	137	526	55	142	180	22	2	4	9	3	7	.270
Reynolds, Boston	78	244	33	66	105	13	4	6	5	4	1	.270
Lary, St. Louis	132	474	66	127	176	29	7	2	10	28	4	.268
Schulte, Washington	75	224	33	60	80	6	4	2	2	0	3	.268
Simmons, Chicago	128	525	68	140	224	22	7	16	1	4	6	.267
Hayes, Chicago	89	329	45	88	114	14	0	4	16	3	1	.267
Garms, St. Louis	10	15	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.267
Miles, Washington	60	216	28	57	66	5	2	0	3	6	4	.264
Dahlgren, Boston	149	525	77	138	206	27	7	6	12	6	5	.263
Owen, Detroit	134	483	52	127	167	24	5	2	16	1	4	.263
Bluege, Washington	100	320	44	84	104	14	3	0	2	2	2	.263
Saltzgaver, New York	61	149	17	39	54	6	0	3	1	0	2	.262
Kuhel, Washington	151	633	99	165	214	25	9	2	8	5	4	.261
Hogsett, Detroit	40	23	4	6	12	0	0	2	0	0	0	.261
Holbrook, Washington	52	135	20	35	47	2	2	2	0	0	0	.259
Berger, Cleveland	124	461	62	119	171	27	5	5	8	7	5	.258
Crosetti, New York	87	305	49	78	131	17	6	8	1	3	1	.256
Werber, Boston	124	462	64	118	196	30	3	14	14	29	7	.255
Clifton, Detroit	43	110	15	28	33	5	0	0	4	2	1	.255
Hoag, New York	48	110	13	28	37	4	1	1	2	4	2	.255
Melillo, Boston	125	462	53	117	140	16	2	1	4	3	2	.253
Pepper, St. Louis	92	261	20	66	99	15	3	4	2	0	2	.253
Berry, Philadelphia	62	190	14	48	70	7	3	3	2	0	0	.253
Warstler, Philadelphia	138	496	62	124	167	20	7	3	17	8	4	.250
Bell, St. Louis	76	220	20	55	76	8	2	3	0	1	1	.250
Schuble, Detroit	11	8	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Kennedy, Chicago	31	73	5	18	23	3	1	0	7	0	0	.247
Tamulis, New York	30	57	8	14	20	3	0	1	3	0	0	.246
Williams, Boston	79	261	26	64	85	12	0	3	7	2	0	.245
Richards, Philadelphia	85	257	31	63	87	10	1	4	5	0	0	.245
White, Detroit	114	412	82	99	142	13	12	2	3	19	10	.240
Bridges, Detroit	36	109	9	26	33	5	1	0	4	0	0	.239
Wright, Cleveland	67	160	17	38	57	11	1	2	5	2	1	.238
Ryan, New York	30	105	12	25	32	1	3	0	1	0	0	.238
Jorgens, New York	36	84	6	20	22	2	0	0	2	0	0	.238
Heath, St. Louis	47	93	10	22	25	3	0	0	1	0	0	.237
Glenn, New York	17	43	7	10	14	4	0	0	2	0	0	.233
Mazzera, St. Louis	12	30	4	7	12	2	0	1	0	0	0	.233
Wyatt, Chicago	30	13	2	3	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	.231
Bishop, Boston	60	122	19	28	36	3	1	1	11	0	2	.230
Shea, Chicago	46	122	8	28	30	2	0	0	2	0	0	.230
Hooks, Philadelphia	15	44	4	10	13	3	0	0	1	0	0	.227
Carson, Cleveland	16	22	1	5	7	2	0	0	0	0	1	.227
Caster, Philadelphia	26	22	2	5	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	.227
Allen, New York	23	67	12	15	19	1	0	1	3	0	0	.224
Burnett, St. Louis	70	206	17	46	58	10	1	0	6	1	0	.223
Hopkins, Chicago	59	144	20	32	41	3	0	2	8	1	0	.222
Lyons, Chicago	29	82	5	18	22	4	0	0	3	0	0	.220
Strange, Washington	69	201	11	44	56	8	2	0	6	0	0	.219
Brenzel, Cleveland	52	142	12	31	38	5	1	0	6	2	2	.218
Richardson, New York	12	46	3	10	13	1	1	0	2	0	0	.217
Auker, Detroit	36	74	8	16	23	3	2	0	4	0	0	.216
Van Atta, St. Louis	58	43	5	9	11	2	0	0	6	0	0	.209
Hornsby, St. Louis	10	24	1	5	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	.208
Starr, Washington	12	24	1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	.208
Newsome, Philadelphia	59	145	18	30	42	7	1	1	1	2	1	.207
Harder, Cleveland	42	102	11	21	28	1	0	2	7	0	0	.206
Russell, Washington	43	35	7	7	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	.200
C. Brown, Cleveland	23	10	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Bowers, Boston	11	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Tietje, Chicago	30	61	4	12	15	3	0	0	3	0	0	.197
Lee, Cleveland	32	61	6	12	14	2	0	0	3	0	0	.197
Hadley, Washington	35	77	5	15	19	4	0	0	2	0	0	.195
Stewart, Cleveland	25	31	2	6	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	.194
Bejma, St. Louis	64	198	18	38	56	8	2	2	5	1	0	.192
Mueller, St. Louis	16	27	0	5	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	.185
Whitehill, Washington	34	104	10	19	23	4	0	0	4	0	0	.183
Crowder, Detroit	33	93	6	17	19	0	1	0	5	0	0	.183
Burke, Washington	16	22	1	4	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	.182
Sington, Washington	20	22	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.182
Vance, Chicago	10	11	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.182
Welch, Boston	31	50	8	9	11	2	0	0	2	0	0	.180
Pearson, Cleveland	30	62	8	11	15	4	0	0	1	1	0	.177
Mahaffey, Philadelphia	27	51	3	9	10	1	0	0	1	0	0	.176
Redmond, Washington	22	34	5	6	10	1	0	1	1	0	0	.176
Morgan, Detroit	14	23	2	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	.174
Fischer, Chicago	27	23	3	4	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	.174
Cain, St. Louis	37	65	3	11	12	1	0	0	3	0	0	.169
Jones, Chicago	22	49	8	8	8	1	0	0	3	0	0	.167
Hildebrand, Cleveland	34	55	9	9	12	1	1	0	6	0	0	.164

Perfection in 'Lost Art' of Dragging Bunt

Big Aid in Myer's Rise to No. 1 Swatter

Harris Rates Veteran Star 'Tops'--A 3-2 Shot to Beat Tap in a Pinch

Gehrig, Trosky, Bonura Easiest for Nat to Catch Off Guard; Werber Model Bat Another Factor in Surprising Splurge

By SHIRLEY POVICH

THE guy who, last spring, might have made so bold as to venture that the American League batting champion of 1935 might be Charles Solomon Myer would have been put down as not only "teched in the haid," but plumb crazy. Why, Buddy Myer never batted over .313 in ten years in the big leagues. His lifetime average was only a decently-respectable .297. Buddy Myer the batting champion? It was to laugh.

Oh yeah? Take a look, brother, at those final official figures. If that isn't the name of Buddy Myer leading all the rest, then Abou Ben Ahdem was an also-ran and Ty Cobb a flash in the pan.

Who's looney now? Nobody but those guys who tried to keep pace with that red-hot bludgeon Buddy Myer was swinging for the Washington Senators all season. Several others set the pace at one time or another—Roy Johnson, Roger Cramer, Joe Vosmik, Hank Greenberg—but in the stretch run it was Buddy Myer, with the bit in his teeth and the fire of determination in his eyes, who passed a lot of tired horses and won out.

When four hits were needed on that last day of the season—four, no less—it was the bat of Buddy Myer that produced 'em, and if that isn't rising to the occasion and the emergency, then you can safely look for the sun to rise in the West tomorrow morning instead of the East, which has been its habit for a zillion years. But that final-day finish of Myer's, that's yesterday's news; let's go behind the scenes.

How did he get that way? How did this commonplace hitter become red-hot last season? How did he stay up there when the others—the big shots—started to fold? How come he handed the past performance figures that awful sock? What made him tick as a great batter?

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Some Say Golf, Some Say New Bat, Buddy Says "Hits"

MOST anybody who claims a friendship with Buddy Myer by reason of possessing his autograph—procured through a third party—can tell you the secret, and will, of Myer's long-delayed success as a hitter. And each of their reasons is different. To cite a few:

Clark Griffith, no teetotaler but a firm advocate of non-use of tobacco by ball players, attributes Myer's rise to his abandonment of the cigar-smoking habit. Until this season, when he quit 'em cold, Myer consumed a dozen vile-smelling cheroots daily.

A Washington correspondent with the team claims to have discovered that Myer's recent devotion to golf strengthened his legs, improved his wind and otherwise fitted the little second baseman for his best season in the majors.

Manager Bucky Harris declares Myer's batting average rose steadily from the day that Bill Werber of the Red Sox, presented Myer with a Werber-model bat—longer and more slender than the Myer model—which Buddy used throughout the last three months of the campaign.

And so they explain it, with those and a hundred other reasons, ranging from a new tilt to his cap to patient manicuring of his nails, but this correspondent, curious as to the low-down, hit upon the brilliant idea of asking Myer himself. I found out.

"Shucks," said Buddy. "What's all the shoutin' about? There's only one reason why I was a better hitter this year. I'll tell you confidentially—I was meeting that ball better. That's all."

But that isn't quite all. One reason Buddy Myer led the league in hitting is because he is, unquestionably, the greatest drag-bunter among the few good drag-bunters in the game today. You can count the others on the fingers of one hand, according to Griffith and Harris. They count 'em for you in the order of their talent—Roger Cramer of the A's; Joe Kuhel of the Nats; Jo-Jo White of the Tigers and Mel Almada of the Red Sox. The others are not to be mentioned in the same inhalation with this quintette.

I am quoting Bucky Harris. "Buddy Myer was a 3-to-2 shot to turn the trick any time he wanted to drag a bunt against half of the first basemen in the league last season., Hal Trosky, Babe Dahlgren, Zeke Bonura and Lou Gehrig were set-ups for him. Any time Buddy needed a hit against those clubs, he'd simply lay down that drag-bunt of his, draw the pitcher and first baseman out of position, and half the time there wasn't even a throw attempted to first base."

If Harris wasn't speaking the gospel, it will do until the gospel appears in serial form in the tabloids, because Buddy Myer, indeed, was the best bunter in the league last season, using not only his native speed but an ability to lay 'em down when they weren't expected.

They don't include Buddy Myer among the list of high-priced players for some reason—mebbe because he was no minor league star when he made his entrance into the big leagues almost unheralded and without fanfare. But it cost Clark Griffith, actually, $97,500 to install Buddy Myer as his second baseman in the spring of 1929.

And it shouldn't have cost him a penny more than one grand. That was the price the Ellisville, Miss., lad demanded as a bonus for signing a professional contract after his graduation from Mississippi A. & M., where Hughey Critz was the college's outstanding baseball product until Myer matriculated in 1921.

Buddy was tops in southern college baseball as a second baseman. The Cleveland club got wind of his talents, invited him to Cleveland for a try-out in 1925, watched him perform in one morning practice and hastily drew up a contract for him.

But Myer was no raw college kid unlearned in the ways of professional baseball. He'd sign, he said, if the Indians would lay $1,000 on the line as a bonus. He knew all clubs paid bonuses, he said. In righteous indignation, the Cleveland management flared and bade the rookie be gone; that it wouldn't be held up by a raw kid who wasn't grateful for an opportunity to make good in the big leagues.

Back to Ellisville Myer made his way, rueing his tactics and bemoaning his lost chance at a big league try-out. Through the channels by which such news travels, Scout Joe Engel of the Senators learned of Cleveland's rejection of Myer's demands and from Little Rock, Ark., Engel sped to Ellisville to offer Myer the $1,000 bonus he asked and sign him to a Washington contract.

Somewhere in Louisiana, trains bearing Engel and Myer passed each other. The New Orleans club had invited Myer for a trial and he was New Orleans-bound when Engel finally reached Ellisville. Informed of Myer's departure, Engel boarded the first out-going train for New Orleans, raced into the club's office, and located Myer—just as the ink was drying on a contract Buddy had signed with New Orleans.

In July of the same season—1925—it cost the Washington club $17,500 in cash to buy Myer's contract from New Orleans after he had batted .336 in 99 games and had already begun to exhibit at shortstop the infielding talents that were to stamp him as one of the outstanding big league second basemen of all time.

Troubled with an infected spike wound, Myer found his way into only four games with the Washington club before the season ended, with the Nats boasting their second straight pennant. But a week later—with the arrival of the World's Series against the Pirates, Myer was to get his break.

In that second game at Pittsburgh, a fast ball unloosed by Pitcher Vic Aldridge collided with the head of Ossie Bluege, the Senators' regular third baseman. Manager Bucky Harris scanned the bench for a substitute and his eye fell upon Myer. In less than a year out of college, Myer found himself in a World's Series.

To third base Harris assigned the rookie. He was not long in receiving his baptismal. On the first pitch of the next inning, Max Carey lifted a high twisting foul toward short left field. Buddy Myer caught that ball with one hand on the railing of the left field boxes, one foot in the gutter, and held onto it in a superb play that was to be an index to his future greatness.

While Ossie Bluege was undergoing examination at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Myer performed in three games of that World's Series, compiling the respectable batting average of .250 and setting the stage for his installation as the club's regular shortstop in 1926.

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After Old Fox Let Buddy Get Away, He Went High to Get Him Back

THE Ellisville lad hit .304 in his first full season with the Senators and played a tolerable game at shortstop, but he was no star at the position. The next season—1927—he was to part company with the Washington club despite his impressive debut.

With the Senators that season was Tris Speaker, purchased from the Athletics by Griffith for $25,000. The veteran Speaker was the first lieutenant of Manager Bucky Harris, who had failed the season before to lead the Senators to a third straight pennant. Speaker's coming led the way to Myer's departure from the Nats.

Speaker, enjoying the trust of Harris, declared to the young manager of the Senators that the club needed only a veteran shortstop to win the 1927 pennant. Topper Rigney, former Detroit shortfielder, then with the Red Sox, would put the Washington team over, Speaker declared, urging Harris to attempt to acquire Rigney.

Harris took Speaker at his word, offered young Myer as bait, and the Red Sox snatched him up in return for Rigney. It proved to be the most costly trade ever sanctioned by Clark Griffith. Rigney was a flop, Myer rose to be a star at third base with the Red Sox, and Griffith rued the deal from the moment it was made.

Harris had left the Washington club by the end of the 1928 season, and Walter Johnson was appointed manager in 1929. Walter's first move was to recommend to Griffith the purchase of Myer from the Red Sox. Johnson almost promised Griffith a pennant if Myer could be obtained.

Griffith opened negotiations with the Boston club in the winter of 1928, and finally submitted a proposition that the Red Sox accepted. He was forced to turn over to the Boston club five players for the man he had sent to Boston two years before in exchange for the ill-starred Rigney.

To Boston Griffith sent Pitchers Horace Lisenbee and Milton Gaston, Infielders Bobby Reeves and Grant Gillis, and Outfielder Bigelow. In actual cash, this quintette had cost Griffith $80,000. Add to that sum the $17,500 he was forced to pay New Orleans for Myer's contract four years before, and if Myer didn't end up costing Griffith $97,500, then Mussolini is the Apostle of Peace.

And at $97,500, my friend, it was still a swell investment.

BUDDY ALSO PLAYS STAR ROLE AS HUBBY

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES S. MYER AT HOME

MYER FACE TO FACE

Player—Club.	G	AB.	R.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	SH.	SB.	CS.	Pct.
Sullivan, Detroit	25	43	6	7	8	1	0	0	1	0	0	.163
Walberg, Boston	44	37	3	6	7	1	0	0	3	0	0	.162
Murphy, New York	40	32	6	5	8	3	0	0	2	0	0	.156
Bronca, New York	29	80	4	12	12	0	0	0	5	0	0	.150
Whitehead, Chicago	28	82	7	12	12	0	0	0	4	0	0	.146
Rhodes, Boston	36	48	3	7	8	1	0	0	1	0	0	.146
Coffman, St. Louis	41	41	4	6	8	2	0	0	4	0	0	.146
Lieber, Philadelphia	19	14	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.143
Heckette, Boston	23	14	1	2	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	.143
Hansen, St. Louis	10	7