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Major League Managers Worried Over Wave Of Injuries To Players

By JOE REICHLER
 NEW YORK, April 15 — (AP) — Major league managers, alarmed over the recent wave of injuries to key players, today are anxiously counting the days before the official opening of the baseball season. It can't start soon enough to please them.

The injury jinx has hit the high and the low alike. Both New York Yankees and Brooklyn Dodgers, last year's World Series rivals, will make their 1948 bow minus their No. 1 catcher.

Larry (Yogi) Berra, who was expected to handle the catching duties on opening day in Washington Monday, instead will be sidelined with a split hand. He injured his mitt while attempting to catch a foul ball in an exhibition game early this week. Gus Niarhos, young hopeful from Kansas City, will do the honors instead.

The Dodgers' World Series catcher, Bruce Edwards, also will see the opener from the bench, thanks to a constant sore arm.

Boston Red Sox and St. Louis Cardinals, generally regarded as the most dangerous challengers of the Yankees and Dodgers, are facing injury problems.

The Red Sox probably will be without second baseman Bobby Doerr. The infielder suffered a back sprain two weeks ago. Manager Joe McCarthy plans to use rookie Billy Goodman in Doerr's place.

The Cardinals, besides worrying over the condition of ace southpaw Howie Pollet's pitching arm, are still uncertain of Marty Marion's physical condition.

The Giants, who last year were forced to open without outfielder Whitely Lockman, will start this time without second baseman Billy Rigney.

An injury to first baseman Ed Robinson of Cleveland has forced Hank Greenberg to vacate the vice-president's office for the Indians' bench.

Bill (No-Hit) McCahan, formerly with Toronto, who was counted upon to pitch one of the games of Philadelphia Athletics' double header with Boston Monday, definitely will not.

Maple Leafs Home To Rousing Reception

TORONTO, April 15 — (CP) — Hockey's world champion Maple Leafs came home from Detroit today to a rousing reception.

Some 10,000 persons jammed into the small city hall square to cheer the club which won the National Hockey League championship and brushed off Boston Bruins and Detroit Red Wings in the playoffs for the Stanley Cup.

Thousands more lined Bay Street in the heart of the financial district as the champions rode in open cars from the Union Station to the City Hall for a civic reception.

The band which headed the parade chose as its theme, "Happy Days Are Here Again" in fitting tribute to coach Clarence (Hap) Day who is eight years as coach guided the Leafs to four world championships for an unparalleled hockey achievement.

Mayer Hiram McCullum told the players in a brief speech of welcome that they had done the city high honor. Though most came from other parts of Canada "we welcome you as citizens of Toronto."

Managing director Conny Smythe thanked the Mayor for the welcome and the players for their triumphs. He singled out particularly Syl Apps, the team captain, "for all his good years" and then made it known officially that 22-year-old Ted Kennedy will become captain now that Apps has decided to retire.

Autograph hunters and well-wishers almost mobbed the players at every opportunity, even as they rode along Bay Street on the way to the reception. Policemen linked hands at the City Hall to hold back the surging throng.

The Leafs became the fourth N.H.L. team to win the Stanley Cup in successive years — duplicating the achievements of the old Ottawa Senators in 1920 and 1921, Montreal Canadiens in 1930 and 1931 and Detroit Wings in 1938 and 1939.

Many of the 13,000 fans who jammed the Forum had started for the exits when Nationales,

Bowling

MONDAY AFTERNOON

Ladies' Bowling League
 Mrs. J. P. Clarke, Captain—Total, 2264; points, 35.
 Mrs. Smith, Captain—total 1875; points, 18.
 Mrs. Allan, Captain—total 1909; points, 21.
 Mrs. F.B. Clarke, Captain—total 2018; points, 14.
 High single: Mrs. J. P. Clarke, 615.

Race Horse Flow.. From Europe To U.S.

NEW YORK, April 15 — (AP) — Imprudence, leading three-year-old filly in France and England last year, arrived in the United States today after a 20-hour flight by cargo plane from Paris.

Officials of the air line said the animal travelled well.

The filly, winner of the Oaks at Epsom Downs last year, was sold recently by Mrs. P. Corbiere to Omdr. Harry F. Guggenheim, owner of the Cain Hoy Stable.

Although imprudence was purchased primarily for breeding purposes, she will be taken to Belmont Park here and put into training for races later this season.

Apparently on the ropes, bounced back and the full house was on its feet for the final four minutes.

Flyers, a fast-breaking team, turned the tables on the Montrealers when they jumped into an early lead. Usually Barrie fails early in the first period and save their scoring punch for the final two sessions.

SPORTING NEWS

APRIL 16, 1948

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PAGE SEVEN



Kid Poulton Retains Island Title; Fine Boxing Card Witnessed

Local mid-sluggers staged a fine boxing card at the Sporting Club last night, and all five events provided the large crowd of fight enthusiasts with plenty of action for their money.

In the main event, Harry "Kid" Poulton successfully defended his Island Lightweight title against Lloyd Carr, fracturing his opponent at the 1:05 mark in the seventh round, in a ten round contest, while in the semi-final cent, Island Heavyweight Champion, Big Boy Peterson added another to his string of victories by taking a T.K.O. over Owen Mullins of St. Peter's Bay at 1:47 of the final round in a six-round non-title encounter.

One of the feature attractions of the night was the six-round, hard hitting non-title bout between Tiger Steel, Island Featherweight Champ, and Jackie Bradley of Peake's Station, who fought to a six round draw decision with both boys displaying plenty of boxing ability, and giving the fans an action packed battle all the way.

In the second of two, three-round, preliminary events, A. Squarebriggs of Maple Hills won a decision over A. Cormier, City, in another fast moving, hard hitting affair. Although Cormier was game and aggressive, he was no match for his opponent who had a decided advantage in reach and superior hitting power. In the first bout of the evening, Unk Smith and Ray MacKinnon fought to a draw decision, in a three-round encounter.

Officials — Judges — John F. Cameron and Allan Macdonald. Time Keeper — Billy Acorn. Referee and Announcer — Gus Longapple. Promoter — Joey Macdonald.

Sport Forum

THE OFF-SIDE QUESTION

Box 194,
 Macdonald College,
 McGill University,
 April 11, 1948.

Editor Sports Echoes from Prince County,
 Sir:
 I've glanced occasionally at your column and have found it rather interesting to hear a bit about Summerside terms, though I am from Charlottetown, myself. You certainly take a fair-minded view of things... quite a rarity among small town sports-writers.

I particularly remember your bringing up the question of whether a player was creating an offside if, while his feet were in the centre zone, he stopped the puck from coming out of the opposing zone with his stick over the line, while teammates were still in the opposing zone. This is a frequent occurrence in NHL and amateur games here and certainly represents an important question. It is invariably ruled "on-side" by N.H.L. and Q.H.L. referees.

While on the subject, I'd like to remark on the uniformity of refereeing here, as compared to "every official for himself" in the Maritime. The Q.H.L. takes a real interest in its referees and sees that they are properly qualified and instructed.

I would certainly not criticize the referees, back home, as individuals, but they should certainly receive some training. As anyone familiar with the rule-book knows, individual players often show a pathetic lack of knowledge. The mere fact that a player has played the game for years does not qualify a man as a referee. Changes in rules since his "day" will probably have made him even less adequate.

Certainly our officials do not get instructions, for I have handled a whistle in City League play-offs, and Inter-City exhibition games without a word of advice from anyone of authority. My only recourse was to buy myself a rule-book and once the game was underway, adopt a hard-bolled attitude to all and sundry.

On one of those occasions, I got into a pretty bad light with Summerside High supporters. They were playing a scoreless game with West Kent. Several mis-plays occurred on both sides, early in the game. As it was just an exhibition, I decided to let them pass with warnings. In the third period, however, I decided to lighten up. The first victim was a Summerside boy who had previously been warned for tripping. On the next play, a rather hefty Summerside lad handed a West Kent boy a good trimming in a scrap behind the Summerside net. From where I stood, the Summerside boy appeared the sole aggressor, so I had no choice but to give him a major. That brought an immediate howl from the player and his teammates along with the coach. He refused to go to the box, but got into his own bench. Rather than let the game get out of hand, entirely, I slapped on a ten minute mis-conduct and refused to have any further say in the matter.

West Kent won 1-0, but that is a bit beside the point. I have often wondered if I had been a bit too severe, and shouldn't have penalized the West Kent player, too. What has finally convinced me I was right was the opinion expressed by Mike Rodden, a former NHL referee, passed on in Pat Power's column a few days ago. He apparently has little use for referees who take the easy way out, giving double penalties where only one is deserved.

Maybe it's a little bold for a youngster only a few years out of the junior ranks to suggest, but it would be a good idea if our

Barrie Flyers Win From Nationales 5-4

P.W.C. Juniors Winners Of First Game

MONTREAL, April 15 — (CP) — Barrie Flyers advanced to the Memorial Cup finals here tonight when they edged Montreal Nationales 5-4 to take the best-of-five Eastern Canada junior final series in three straight games.

Nationales behind 5-2 made a game bid in the final minutes of the game rapping in two goals in less than a minute but Barrie kept the Montrealers from getting a shot at the goal the rest of the way.

The game was rough all the way with neither team giving an inch. Penalties were a dime a dozen with 19, including one major, being handed out.

Gil St. Pierre paced the Flyers scoring attack with a pair of goals, one each in the first and second periods. Rusty Aikin, Bill Barrett and Whit Mousseau netted one goal each for the Ontario champions.

Gil Trudel led the Nationales up-riding in the final canto when they outscored Barrie 3-2. He netted one goal and set up the other two, scored by Claude Dolbec and Claude Robert. Jean Paul Jeanneau scored Nationales only other goal, coming early in the first period.

REMEMBER WHEN

By The Canadian Press

George (Twinktoes) Selkirk of Huntsville, Ont., picked to succeed baseball's mightiest hitter, Babe Ruth, made his debut with New York Yankees with a slashing single at New York 12 years ago tonight. Selkirk is now managing a Yankee farm club.

Aitken 0 0 1 0
 Anderson 2 1 0 5
 Crockett 5 1 0 11

Totals 14 3 12 31

SAINTS PG FS PF Pts
 Lachance 4 2 1 10
 Clifton 0 1 3 1
 Coyle 2 0 1 4
 McPhee 0 0 1 0
 Carmichael 2 0 5 4
 McQuaid 0 0 2 0
 Deighan 1 0 0 2
 Dunphy 1 1 1 3

Totals 10 4 14 24
 Referees: Nicholson & McLean.

Possibility of the second game of the best of three series taking place Saturday was seen yesterday but no matter what date is set for it basketball fans are in for a sensational struggle. And it is not surprising for all season long the same two squads have been battling each other hammer and tongs in City League warfare and despite the fact that Bob LeClair, P.W.C. guard is ineligible for intercollegiate play Prince of Wales showed conclusively in the first skirmish that they too have adequate replacements scattered throughout their roster.

Toronto Maple Leafs left little doubt in the minds of Detroit fans Wednesday about their superiority over Detroit Red Wings in the Stanley Cup finals. The handwriting seemed to be on the wall for the Detroit Club once Leafs had replied to Detroit's first goal with one of their own. That made the score 4-1 at the time and from then on Leafs distinctly had the upper hand.

The team that Conny Smythe rebuilt two seasons ago showed their greatness by sweeping the series in straight games. In many quarters it is regarded as the greatest squad ever to represent Toronto and judging by their performance they are just about that. But it must also be remembered that the Leaf crew of 1937 knew their way around a hockey rink pretty well but that is something for those far closer to the scene of National League play than this writer, to judge.

When a recent poll was taken to find the opinion of sports writers concerning the June heavyweight battle between the two Joes, Louis and Walcott, the experts leaned heavily toward the champion.

Recently, Louis sent word from across the Atlantic that he expects to do all right in the forthcoming slugfest and, in checking on the reason for the champ's confidence, newsmen have discovered that Brown Bomber is in excellent condition, is working hard to keep in shape, and is fully prepared, with

There have been many stories indicating that Louis will or won't retire following his scrap with Jersey Joe. Some have it that the champion is not nearly as well fixed financially, as many believe, and that he will keep on fighting until he has his future protected sufficiently.

Others point out that with such money as he had previously tucked away, together with the estimated eighty grand he received for his Old Country tour, he will be able to quit in June without fear of travelling over the hill or lining up at some soup kitchen.

The only fairly definite information to hand is that the Bomber's pride hurt a great deal by his miserable showing against Walcott in their last scrap, is taking special pains to be in fighting trim for the next show and, if condition, is right, he can still spot Walcott years, reach, weight and ambition, and finish the fight with one solid punch unless Walcott may again stay out of the champ's reach, which we doubt.

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Joe O'Brien Takes First Money With Pacer War Master

ARCADIA, Calif., April 15 — (AP) — Sheppard Hanover, eight-year-old gelding owned by W. O. Wright, came through for the form players today to win the second section of the \$3,750 Riverside Trot in the day's feature harness race at Santa Anita Park.

Results:
First Race—30 Class Pace, 3 year olds and up, California bred, one mile, \$1000 purse.
 Victor Tass (Ajou)
 Helen Perkins (Celdeburg)
 Time 2:15 1-5.
 Also started: Gildamont, Jim Perkins, Vers Gift.
Second Race—32 Class Trot, 3 year olds and up, one mile, \$1000 purse.
 Toby Leon (Reeves)
 Georgia Tass (Rodman)
 Simon Pure (Brown)
 Time 2:08 2-5.
 Also started: Doctor Tom, Senator Lou, Duke Mc, Wayward.
Third Race—Pace, Three Year Olds and Up, one mile \$1000 purse.
 Mitchell Hanover (Hodgins)
 Brownwood Lilly (Cruise)
 All American (Thomas)
 Time 2:05 4-5.
 Also started: Chief Billy Nobie, Theodores First, Ethel H. Flaxy Hal, Miss Pegasus Logan.
Fourth Race—18 Class Trot, 3 year olds and up, one mile, \$1000 purse.
 Jimmiekin (Cruise)
 Visalia Mac (Hansen)

Referees, in future, could skate onto the ice wearing uniform sweaters, bearing the official crest of the MAHA, as the Quebec referees, down to those who handle minor games do. Needless to say, those uniforms would have to be earned, and the examination would need to be pretty stiff.

Someone might start on the basebal umpires. Perhaps they know the rules, but I've seen evidence that they are not too sure. Certainly the players don't appear to think so.

I am, Sir, etc.
 FORMER CHARLOTTETOWN HOCKEY FAN.

Navy Hockey Team Will Meet Tonight

It was announced by Navy hockey officials last night, that the Navy hockey squad will hold their final meeting for this season at the H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte tonight, and all members of the team are asked to be present.

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