
THE NEW COMERS

HOW have the newcomers been prospering? Have any of the raw kids from the farm and timberlands been setting the world afire? Any Cobbs, Wagners and Johnsons in the lot? Not so you'd notice it. Well, hardly! Some clever talent has already

(Continued on page 116)

THE NEW COMERS

(Continued from page 114)

shown itself—some more talent that is still unripe, but looks good for the imminent future—but no dazzling wonders, springing into the big leagues and upsetting all the dope from Boston to St. Louis and back again. Here's how the new players of the big show had made out up to May 18:

 NATIONAL LEAGUE:

Boston: Wilhoit, the new outfielder from the Pacific Coast, has not shown any startling form at the bat as yet, except in the laying down of bunt sacrifices. He hits the ball hard and far when he does collide with it; his base-running has not been amazing, and his fielding has been very clever. Looks like a good prospect for the future. Tra-gessor, relief catcher, has been on the Boston string for some years, and is now getting some small show at the opening, instead of the finish, of the season. Barnes, a right-handed pitcher, who was on the payroll toward the end of the 1915 campaign, has shown middling good form. Nehf, who dazzled the circuit by pitching some startling shut-outs last fall, didn't show much in the first two or three games he twirled this spring.

Brooklyn! Johnston, an outfielder, who has had several brief trials in the big show before, is about the only newcomer on the payroll. He has been used on several occasions in place of Wheat or Stengel when a left-handed pitcher was on the slab, and has done fairly well.

Chicago: Eddie Mulligan, shortstop, who played a few games last fall, was held over from the former regime. He looked so good in the training camp that Tinker sent him on the job in preference to Doolan or himself, but, in the actual battling, seemed afflicted by stage fright, making flocks of errors and hitting wretchedly. His showing, in figures, has been inexpressibly bad, but he is considered a sure comer, and John McGraw is said to want him even if Tinker should decide to let him go. Pepper

(Continued on page 118)

THE NEW COMERS

(Continued from page 116)

and ginger are in his makeup, and he may yet become a star.

Cincinnati: Earle Neale, an outfielder seems to have clinched a berth in center. Neale, a big fellow and a left-hand hitter, has a trick of crashing into the first ball pitched for an extra base wallop. He is fast on the sacks, and a brilliant outfielder. Emmer, a kid infielder from the Ohio State League, has been held for future developments, though he has not yet shown his skill in actual play. Mitchell, a Denver left-hander, is counted one of the most valuable men on Herzog's hurling staff, having nerve, coolness and all-round pitching power.

New York: Kelley, who had a try-out last fall, has been used as a pinch hitter, but, up to May 17, had the remarkable record of one hit in 21 times at bat. Hunter, a new third baseman, started nicely at the difficult corner after three or four others had fallen down, but was hurt the second day he played the bag. Kocher and Wendell, kid catchers, had short trials. Kocher, if memory serves me right, has been in the big show before, and is said to be good enough to stick. Palmero, a Cuban left-hander, whom McGraw has farmed out for two or three seasons, has shown a lot of cleverness, but has been jinxed and unable to win.

Philadelphia: Apart from giving a little work to Oeschger, recalled from Providence, the Phils have been going on a standpat policy.

Pittsburg: Barney, the outfielder who played a number of games in the twilight of 1915, has been showing great speed on bases and fair hitting power. One player who got right into the thick of things was Schmidt, the new catcher. He did most of the backstopping during April and May, catching finely but failing to hit with any vigor. Miller, Hill and Jacobs, new pitchers, got little chance to perform during the early spring.

St. Louis: Jack Smith, a Northwestern League outfielder, has made himself a home with the Cardinals. His batting, so far, has been only around the

(Continued on page 120)

THE NEW COMERS

(Continued from page 118)

.200 mark, but he is tipped off as a future wonder well worth retaining. Hornsby, who short-stopped some last fall, has been playing third this spring, doing it quite well, and hitting surprisingly hard. Corhan, a Coast shortstop of several yearss experience, who suffered from a lame arm during April, has recently started on the job, and looks almost up to his advance notices. Brotem, an extra catcher, hasn't had many opportunities. Steele and Williams, new pitchers, worked a little, while Jasper, who has been "up there" before, but never had much chance, has been pitching some sassy ball and winning sundry games.

 AMERICAN LEAGUE:

Athletics: Stellbauer, a new infielder, has shown unmistakable symptoms of being a batter. Pick, third baseman, has hit fairly well, and in timely fashion, while his work round the tertiary corner has been very pleasing to Uncle Cornelius Mack. Witt, juvenile shortstop, has done some shaky fielding;, but shapes up as a sure comer for the future and a fair hitter. Myers, a tall young pitcher, picked up last fall, has already shown himself a high-class slab performer. Another Myers, a catcher, hasn't been given much to do. Neither has much pitching been assigned to Weaver, a new slabster.

Boston: Outfielder Shorten has been given considerable employment and has shown fairly good quality as far as he has gone.

Chicago: The White Sox started Terry, a coast infielder, at short. He failed with the willow, and has been decorating the bench of recent days. Danforth, a left-hander, who has been in fast society before, has been making good, despite loud howls to the effect that he uses a roughened ball and an illegal delivery. Lynn, a highly touted catcher from Salt Lake, has forced Wally Mayer off the team, and become a regular grabber at the pay-window.

Cleveland: Much of the success of

(Concluded on page 122)

THE NEW COMERS

(Concluded from page 120)

the Clevelands in their surprising dash to the front has been due to the neat pitching of Bagby, Klepfer and Coveleskie—the latter one of the numerous tribe of Coveleskies now subsisting from the national game.

Detroit: Cunningham, a new pitcher, has done clever twirling for the Tigers, while Erickson, another new pitcher, has not been as lucky. Harper, a sub outfielder, has shown pretty neat class in gardening and hitting.

New York: Joe Gedeon, seldom given much of a chance in fast company before, should really be called a new player. He has been smiting the pellet with great vigor and fielding nicely round second. Gilhooley, a comeback who is still in the youthful class, started well, but has been falling away with the stick of late. Fine pitching by little Markle, whom the Reds had some years ago and turned down as being too small, has kept the Highlanders up near the top; two or three other junior pitchers, haven't met with any great measure of success.

Washington: Judge, the much-touted first baseman who displaced Chick Gandil, hasn't batted in Gandil's way—not at all. Rondeau, recalled from Minneapolis, hasn't smitten the pellicle much, either, but has fielded well in the rhubarbs. Harper—who pitched a few wild games for Griffith last season—is alternately very good and very bad, but seems to hold great promise for the coming summer.

Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

"The attitude of hotel keepers toward ball players is the best evidence that the game has advanced wonderfully. There was a time when many managers of first-class hotels did not want their patronage; but now the majority of them are anxious to have it. Only a few years ago a bus would drive up to the hotel, and the players, fully uniformed, were taken to the ball park. They returned just at a time when the majority of the guests were attired for dinner, and they were by no means pleasant to gaze upon. They returned unkempt and perspiring, and many patrons objected."