

In the Field of Sport.

BY HAROLD C. McGATH.

LELAND GIANTS CHALLENGES ANY BALL CLUB IN WORLD.

Rube Foster's Leland Giants challenges any ball club in the world for a series of games to decide the championship, for a side bet of \$500 to \$3,000, or for 75 per cent to winner and 25 per cent to loser, or for all the gate receipts. The Lelands will play on the above terms any place in the United States. I offer this inducement to all the so-called champions; I want the public to be convinced as to who is really the champion. I will deposit \$500 with THE FREEMAN any time the challenge is accepted. That we will live up to our agreement, I want the readers of THE FREEMAN to be convinced once and for all that all the clubs that are advertising how great they are, are only looking for advertising and are afraid to play us. We are open to play any place or any club. Now watch them all crawl in their hole. If our challenge is not accepted this year, we will claim the undisputed right to championship of the world.

ANDREW (RUBE) FOSTER, Manager Leland Giants.

WHERE TO WRITE BALL CLUBS.

Their Names and Addresses of the Managers.

The following are the names and addresses of managers of prominent colored baseball clubs in the United States:

FRANK LELAND'S CHICAGO GIANTS
—Frank C. Leland, general manager,
2551 State street, Chicago, Ill.

BROOKLYN ROYAL GIANTS—Nat C. Strong, World Building, New York City.

PHILADELPHIA GIANTS—Nat C. Strong, World Building, New York City.

CUBAN STARS—Nat C. Strong, World Building, New York City.

CUBAN GIANTS—Nat C. Strong,
MINNEAPOLIS KEYSTONES—Kidd
F. Mitchell, 1313 Washington avenue,
South, Minneapolis, Minn.

SAN ANTONIO BRONCHOS—Charles Bellinger, 236 E. Commerce street, San Antonio, Tex.

NEW ORLEANS EAGLES—Charles Stevens, 8838 Oak street, New Orleans, La.

NASHVILLE STANDARD GIANTS—J. W. White, 136 Fifth avenue, South, Nashville, Tenn.

CHICAGO UNIONS—D. D. Gordon, 3001 Wentworth avenue, Chicago, Ill.

THE OKLAHOMA MONARCHS BASEBALL CLUB—C. H. Young, 11 West California avenue, Oklahoma City, Okla.

KANSAS CITY, KAS., GIANTS—Tobe Smith, 430 Washington Boulevard, Kansas City, Kas.

INDIANAPOLIS A. B. C.'S—Ran Butler, 462 W. Fifteenth street, Indianapolis, Ind.

LOUISVILLE CUBS—J. W. Reccius, 228 Market street, Louisville, Ky.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., BASEBALL TEAM—Charles A. Bridges, 261 Main street, Chattanooga, Tenn.

ST. LOUIS BLACK BRONCHOS (female baseball club)—Conrad Kuebler, 3133 Briadway, St. Louis, Mo.

BIRMINGHAM GLANTS—Charles L. Taylor, corner Center and Core streets, Birmingham, Ala.

BLUFF CITY TIGERS—J. P. Redwood, 351 Beale avenue, Memphis, Tenn.

DIXIE PARK BASEBALL CLUB—David P. Johnson, 64 Government street, Mobile, Ala.

THE RAMBLER BASEBALL CLUB—William McPhail, Carthage, Mo.

THE CAVALRY DETACHMENT BASE BALL TEAM—First Sergt. Melvin McCaw, Cavalry Detachment, West Point, N. Y.

POLAMTO'S NEW ORLEANS BASEBALL TEAM—Charles Stevens, 8838 Oak street, New Orleans, La.

THE PARK CITY GRAYS—Charles Winson, 240 Chestnut street, Bowling Green, Ky.

THE NEW YORK COLORED GIANTS—Moses Corbin, 52 West 135th street, New York.

THE MARIANA GIANTS—William Holden, Mariana, Fla.

THE WEST BADEN SPRUDELS—C. J. Taylor, West Baden, Ind.

THE MOSS POINT GIANTS—Judge Pope, Box 234, Moss Point, Miss.

THE ILLINOIS GIANTS—D. A. Wyatt, manager, 3517 State street, Chicago, Ill.

ATHENS BASEBALL CLUB—Franklin, manager. Address, 270 Pope street, Athens, Ga.

THE KANSAS CITY ROYAL GIANTS—Jack Johnson, manager, 1005 McGee street, Kansas City, Mo.

THE LELAND GIANTS—Rube Foster, manager and captain, 6227 South Halsted street, Chicago, Ill.

THE MUSKOGEE ATHLETIC CLUB—S. E. Edwards, room 6, Esco building, Muskogee, Okla.

Pensacola Special Giants, G. W. Garner, manager, R. F. D. 1901 North Davis street, Pensacola, Fla.

The St. Louis Cubs are among the best. They have their own park at 61 North Broadway and are ready to meet all com-

ers. Address G. Hamilton, 3133 North Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

The Dunbar High School baseball team of Muskogee, Okla., defeated Fort Smith High School. Score: 6 to 4.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., May 19—The A. & M. College of this city and Burrell Normal Institute of Florence, Ala., crossed bats at Huntsville May 2 and 3. The first game was won by A. & M. College by a score of 14 to 7. The second game was won by the A. & M. College by a score of 12 to 8. The third game was won by Burrell by a score of 7 to 3.

The feature of the first game was a double play by Ware, Hopkins and Duncan of A. & M. College and a home run by E. F. Potter of Burrell. The second game H. C. Portlock had to leave the game with a lame arm in the fourth inning.

OKLAHOMA MONARCH TEAM AT FT. WORTH, TEX.

The Monarchs played their opening game at Ft. Worth May 7 with a score

of 5 to 2. Batteries: Webb and Bolden, Black.

The Sunday game was withdrawn. At eleven innings the score was 0 to 0. The cause of the withdrawal was a bad decision at second. Capt. Donald called the men off the field and protested the game and it was thrown out. Monday's game was lost. Score, 4 to 1.

SOL WHITE BECOMES MANAGER OF ROYAL GIANTS.

Veteran Thinks Team Will Win the Championship.

NEW YORK, May 19.—Sol White, the veteran baseball star of the City of Brotherly Love, has been engaged for the season of 1910 to manage the New York Royal Giants for Mr. J. W. Conner, and everybody is happy over the happening. It is said that the Royal Giants have the nucleus for a very strong team, and their new manager believes them to be able to hold their own with any team in any section of the country.

WEST BADEN SPRUDELS WIN FROM VINCENNES.

The West Baden Sprudels beat the Vincennes club, May 10 and 11, 7 to 1 and 10 to 5. The Vincennes' are the champions of the Kitty League, and played

some fast ball, but the Sprudels just outplayed them. The Sprudels have not lost a series of games this season, and are very anxious to meet some of the best teams, so they may be able to show the public that they are the best in the West. Captain-Manager C. L. Taylor says they cannot show their superiority by beating French Lick, but will show it when he has an opportunity to meet some of the so-called champions from Chicago, Kansas City and Brooklyn. The owners of the Sprudels, Messrs. Burnett, Pollard and Rogers, want to thank Sam Dickson ("Litte Sam"), Will Perry ("Blunt"), Will Hill, John Marshall, Dudley Sebree and others for their excellent rooting. Come around, boys, Sunday and get a pass.

LIST OF GAMES PLAYED BY WEST BADEN AND FRENCH LICK.

The following are the games played by West Baden and French Lick:

April 10.

W. B.	.3	0	2	5	0	0	3	0	0—13
F. L.	...2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0—2

April 11.

W. B.	...0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2—3
F. L.	...0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1—5

April 13.

W. B.	...1	0	3	1	0	0	0	5	0—10
F. L.	...0	0	0	0	1	8	0	3	0—12

April 14.									
W. B.	....0	0	0	1	2	0	3	0	1—7
F. L.	....1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1—3
April 15.									
W. B.	...0	3	0	6	0	0	0	0	3—12
F. L.	...0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0—1
April 17.									
W. B.	...6	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0—10
F. L.	...0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0—0
April 21.									
W. B.	...0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	3—7
F. L.	...0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	3—7
April 28.									
W. B.	...3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0—4
F. L.	...0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0—1
April 29.									
W. B.	...0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0—12
F. L.	.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0—1
April 30.									
W. B.	...0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0—4
F. L.	...0	0	0	3	0	0	2	3	0—5
May 4.									
W. B.	.0	0	6	0	1	2	0	0	1—10
F. L.	.0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0—5
May 5.									
W. B.	...1	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	0—5
F. L.	...3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0—4
May 6.									
W. B.	...0	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	0—6
F. L.	.1	3	0	1	0	1	2	3	0—11
May 8.									
W. B.	.2	1	0	1	2	4	2	0	0—12
F. L.	.1	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	1—8
May 9.									
W. B.	...0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0—6
F. L.	...0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0—1

May 13.									
W. B.	....0	1	0	4	0	0	1	0	0—6
F. L.	....0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0—1
May 14.									
W. B.	....1	0	0	1	3	2	0	1	0—8
F. L.	....1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0—6

SIGNALS AND COACHING.

By HARRY DANIELS, New York City.

Every player on the team must be a coach. When an outfielder turns his back with the crack of the bat and tears toward the fence at breakneck speed to intercept a mighty wallop, he is not running blindly. He depends on one of his associates to steer him right. His associate, facing the ball, and with a long experience, is able to judge about where the ball will drop. He figures everything to a nicety, wind, speed and flight, and directs the unseeing pursuer of the ball just where to go, where to stop, and so on. Outfielders have been credited with miraculous catches when, in fact, some fellow who did not figure, so far as the stands were concerned, was really entitled to all the credit. That is a part of the game to which the spectator seldom gives a thought.

In former times the field captain directed the players in all these emergencies. But the field captaincy today is practically an honorary title. An infielder can no more coach the outfielders than an outfielder could properly coach the in-

fielders. So it remains, then, with every player of the team to assume a portion of this responsibility. No player should call for a ball unless he is sure that he can handle it properly. Once a player calls for a ball he should be allowed the chance, even if he has to go away out of his territory. At least no one else should interfere unless in a much better position, and then only after the one calling for the play is absolutely warned.

Signals are but silent coaching methods—simply, a means of letting every player on the team in on a contemplated play and keeping the opposition in ignorance. It is merely a silent language. Every move on the diamond today is planned. Every player on his side knows what sort of ball the pitcher intends to deliver to a batsman. They must know in order to place themselves properly for the emergency. It is necessary that the opposition be kept strictly in the dark as to what the various signals mean. The fan sees the catcher and pitcher signaling on almost every pitched ball. He does not see the signals that are flashed between infielders and outfielders at the same time. If he did, those signals would be worthless. Signals must be disguised so that the opposing players cannot fathom them. Then what chance has a fan? Why, if but one sign were employed for each sort of a play, it would not take a cunning opponent long to fathom any signal code. That is why as many as half a dozen systems have to be mastered before the season opens.

Baseball stupidity can generally be traced to crossed signals. The player with average sense can master this phase of the game. Some break into the big leagues who can never get the various codes through their gray matter, but they do not stick long in fast company. Many sets of signals are necessary for various reasons. One of these is that, careful as a catcher may be in guarding his sign, he cannot always hide it from a wide-awake base runner. Especially is it difficult to do the trick when the runner is on second. Now, at second base that runner can watch the ball. He can tell what a certain sign means. The sign must not be employed twice in the same sense while he is on second or he will profit. When any one of half a dozen signs mean a curve, the runner is just as much at sea as if he were on the bench.

As to coaching on the base lines, none but experienced and heady players should be employed. You want men here who can size up a situation in a twinkling. They should be those in whose judgment the players have implicit confidence. But the coach should shoulder no more than his own responsibility. He is useful to a player only when his, the latter's, back is turned to the ball. As a general rule, the base runner himself should be his own coach except when finishing a long sprint to stretch a base hit.

BASE STEALING.

By EDDIE WILLIAMS, New York City.

There is no thrill quite so delightful as the one which goes through you after seeing a base stolen. It is a pleasure for me to see a two-bagger hit and more especially agreeable to me when I see a home-run hit, but give me the sensation of seeing stealing a base once in a while. The art of stealing a base is the most spectacular in baseball. It is no great sight to see a splendid batter like MacCellan, Earle, Lloyd, Duncan, Gordon, P. Hill, Wallace, Hutchinson, Grant, Johnson, James and many other great hitters strike out. There is nothing that will especially send a fan to his feet with his heart in his mouth, neither is a well-placed hit so very exhilarating.

Of course everybody likes batting and lots of it, but it is no imposing sight. But take a well-stolen base, one in which the runner disappears in a cloud of dust and whirls around the base with one spike firmly landed in to keep him from slipping away. That brings out the noise that an enthusiast has stored in him. There are many star base stealers among our profession. But there is plenty of base stealing during a season among the boys, but few players make it stand out like a masterpiece. Anyone can steal a few during a season by lumbering down the line with all sails set, for many a throw goes wild. The science or what might be

called the essence of stealing is different. Harris, Winston, Wallace and Green of the Chicagoeland Giants. Dava D

the Chicago Leland Giants; Payne, P. Hill, Duncan and Petway of Foster's Lelands; Earle, Monroe, Bradley and Bowman of the Royal Giants; Wilson, Barber, James and Poles of the Philadelphia Giants all have it. These magnificent base runners are finished artists, yet each one has his own style, very much so in the case of Harris, Hill, Monroe, Earle, Gordon and Petway.

Take Harrison and Hill for example. They are the restless type, always in motion. They jump back and forth trying to draw a throw from the pitcher. They bend low and then they seem to spring into the air and finally dash for the next base. They are such graceful runners that it is difficult to tell just how fast they are running, but their records for stolen bases is eloquent enough. Duncan and Bowman in action make few motions, but hover over the line until they are good and ready; then they tear down so fast with such an impetus that it takes a lot of nerve for a player to tag them. Lloyd is another such a base runner. Ray Wilson gives no indication of speed or race, but he possesses these two qualities in a surprising degree, and his stealing is magnificent. His strong point, however, is avoiding the man with the ball. He has the slide which carries him outside the base and around, his spikes clinging to the base. This leaves about a foot to be touched as far as gracefulness is concerned. Earle is one of the foxiest ball players I ever saw. He has the speed of a human deer. Harris, P.

Hill, Duncan, Coles and Bowman are about the nerviest base runners I have ever seen.

BASE STEALING NEGLECTED.

By WILLIAM MONROE, of Royal Giants,
New York City.

Some day a man will break into baseball who will revolutionize the game. He will tear down the hive of luxury and ease in which, at the present time, the leaguers loll in careless abandon, drive out all the drones and bring about a new era in the great American sport that will perfect a system of play deemed impossible in the past. He will be despised and hated. He may even be banished from the game before his mission is complete, but he will have begun a reformation that all will follow.

The idea was conceived upon watching a theatrical company rehearsing for a new production at one time. The man who was drilling the company knew he must have every movement of his players perfected or it would never take with the American public. The hours and hours of drudgery put in by those actors would have driven many a ball player to distraction. One man, a leading man, too, was compelled to make an entrance in one part of the play at least fifty times in one rehearsal before he did it in a manner that suited the exacting producer.

Is there a ball player in leagues today

who would slide to second fifty times in practice, just to get the form of that action exactly as his manager wanted it? Baseball has grown into such prominence with the American public that it cannot much longer carry the fans along on tradition. It must be inventive. It must progress. Old fans will tell you today that the present-day players do nothing on the ball field that wasn't done in the days when Comiskey and Hamilton were stars of the St. Louis and Philadelphia teams in years gone. Also Frank Grant, Sol White, Ben Holmes, and ever so many other stars of colored teams.

If nothing new can be invented, managers can at least teach players to do the present things with greater accuracy and dispatch. A few players are masters, but in every instance it seems due to the player's own efforts or to their natural ability.

Cobb and Speaker in the American, Wagner, Magee, Egan and many other stars make up the big league stars on the bases with Harris, P. Hill, Earle, Coles, Petway, Gordon and myself represent the colored profession fairly well on the bases.

Managers tell of one player being valuable because he's a good base runner, another because he can hit, another because he can handle a ground ball so accurately, or another because he can go back on a fly ball. There's no reason why every player in the major leagues shouldn't improve in all these matters.

Incredible as it may seem, few man-

agers drill players in running and sliding to bases, yet that is conceded to be one of the principal features of the game. Outside of the bit of sliding one might do in a practice game, there is little effort made to teach even the beginners this important feature.

SPIT BALL.

BY HARRY DAINELS, New York City.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

It is the private opinion, at least of the majority of the owners of baseball teams, that the spit ball is objectionable, and in more ways than one, but when it comes down to the supreme test of their sincerity, they have thus far refused to move to abolish it. There are many good and convincing reasons that could be advanced in favor of abolishing it, where there can be only one advanced in favor of its retention. It is not only a filthy practice, objectionable to the great majority of spectators who patronize ball games, but it is a source of danger to the catchers and a detriment to clean baseball and fielding. It is just possible that its abolition will be considered this season by owners, along with other relics of baseball barbarism, including the steel plates, which players have screwed into the soles of their shoes, but it is doubtful, very doubtful, if anything will be done to do away with either.

No less celebrated pitchers than Rube Foster, Dan McClellan, Charles Earle

Foster, Dan Mack... and John Nelson give it as their opinions that there is little to choose between the good pitchers in colored baseball. They contend that to get a reputation as being the leading pitcher of a league or a team is much a matter of luck, and there is and must be a difference in pitchers, even though their natural ability is equal. The good pitcher, who frequently gets out of a tight place, may get the credit of being lucky, but it is something besides luck that makes it possible for him to avoid defeat, though frequently threatened. It is of course but natural that the pitcher on a good team should win more often than one on a poor team, but much of it is due to his own efforts and judgment when threatened. The pitchers who hoist the distress signal cannot win. There are many who make their wild pitches and give bases on balls only when in a pinch, and that surely cannot be a matter of luck, but is more apt to be a lack of nerve.

Bluff City Tigers

OF MEMPHIS, TENN.,

Would like to hear from all first class teams. We own our own park. Memphis is famous for its big crowds. Address all communications to J. R. Redwood, 351 Beale Avenue, Memphis, Tenn.

The Indianapolis Freeman, Indianapolis, IN

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