

Twenty-Five "Old Men" in Baseball Still are Able Performers at 36 Upward, Have Just Started



(By Brian Bell)
Associated Press Correspondent
NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Old men for counsel and young men to do the fighting goes very well in war, but there are 25 old men in baseball who are willing to fight it out on hit and run lines all summer.

If any one of them has heard that youth must be served he has acquiesced only with the reservation that youth must wait until the veterans have passed their plates for seconds.

Twenty-five major league players in active harness are 36 years old, or over. Two grand old men are 40. Tyrus Raymond Cobb and Grover Cleveland Alexander, Cobb at two score years, is good enough for Connie Mack to pay him somewhere between \$50,000 and \$75,000 and promise to let him bat third in an offensive array in which 300 hitters are no novelty. Alexander still has his crown on straight from a world series in which his pitching was a model of defensive strategy.

Tris Speaker, 39 and gray bearded, will be Washington's regular center fielder and bat third, right behind Sam Rice, a callow youth of 36. Walter Johnson will be found doing business at the same old Washington stand, but Zack Wheat, who is 38, has changed clubs and leagues, and by switching from Brooklyn to the Athletics in his old age. He will not be lonesome for in addition to Cobb, Connie Mack has available Edward Trowbridge Collins, 38, and John Pincus Quinn, 39. "Stuff" McInnis will manage and play first base for the Phillies

at 37, but he is not the senior on this club. "Cy" Williams is 39. Clarence Mitchell is only 36.

Grover Hartley is up from the minors to catch for the Red Sox at 38, and two pitchers, Urban Faber of the White Sox and George Dauss of the Tigers are the same age. Two other pitchers are 37, Bob Shawkey and George Mogridge.

A pair of good 36 year old catchers are on the same club, Steve O'Neill and Wallie Schang of the Browns, and Walter Genger at shortstop is also a perfect 36. Sherry Smith will continue to catch players off first base for the Indians and Eppa Rixey, another 36 year old, is one of the Red's best pitchers.

Max Carey will sing as loud as any of the Robins and Bill Doak is trying to tune in on the same chorus after an absence from the nest. They have left their 36th birthdays behind them.

The Red Sox are depending on Jacobson, and the Braves think well of Eddie Brown, the same age, who made 201 hits last season.

A good team could be assembled from these veterans. There is no third baseman in the crowd but McInnis could move to third and turn first over to Clarence Mitchell in an infield that would be completed by Collins and Gerber.

The outfield with Cobb, Wheat, Speaker, Williams, Carey, Jacobson, Brown and Rice available would furnish as much competition as a pitching choice of Alexander, Johnson, Smith, Quinn, Faber, Dauss, Shawkey, Moz-

ridge, Rixey and Doak. Schang O'Neill and Hartley could divide the catching.

Counsel may be had from these "old men" but some of them have just begun to fight.

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(By Associated Press)
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These business-getters stand outside the shop and yell prices, shout the merits of a leg of lamb or a "bifteck" and even take the maids and the matrons gently by the arm to lead them to the things they ought to buy.

The bally-hooing became quite general soon after the armistice when inflation began and nearly everyone felt money ought to be spent quickly. The custom went out when business got down to brass tacks again. Now that depression is present or in sight the storekeepers are trying the form of advertising that brought results during prosperity.

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