

BASEBALL DAYS OF ALFRED LAWSON



1888—PITCHER
Goshen, Indiana Team



1890—PITCHER
Boston—National League

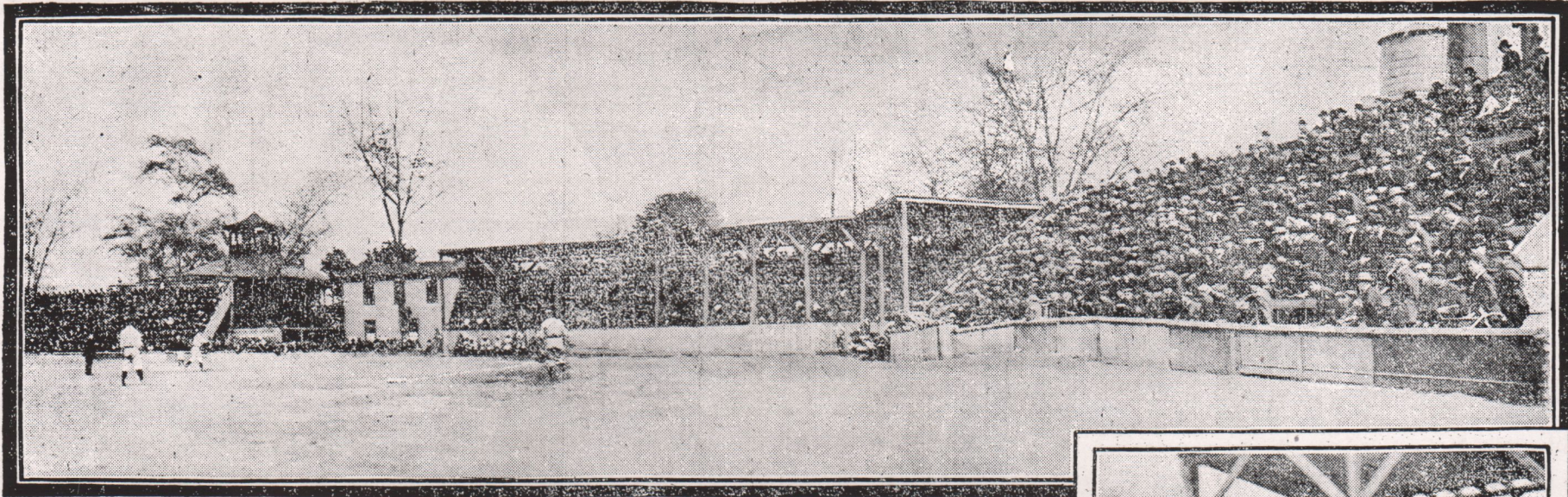


1892—PITCHER
Atlanta—Southern League

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THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 11, 1907

ATLANTIC LEAGUE OPENS SEASON IN TWO CITIES



CROWDS AT READING GAME

READING PLAYS TO BIG AND ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD. 10 INNINGS AT POTTSVILLE

More Than 3500
Spectators Throng
the New Park and
See Their Team Win

Grand Street Parade,
Speech by Mayor Gerber,
Who Throws the First
Ball, Precede Contest

Special to The Inquirer.
READING, Pa., May 10.—With ideal base ball weather the Atlantic League season was opened here today on the new grounds at Lauer's Park before a crowd of more than 3500 persons. Lawson's men had as their opponents the Allentown bunch, and the Reading boys won the initial contest by the score of 8 to 5.
It was a good natured and jolly gathering of base ball enthusiasts, and the way they cheered the home men showed that Lawson has given the city what it has wanted for some years, a professional ball aggregation. The new grounds are perhaps more centrally located than any base ball park in the State. They are but a few minutes' walk from Fifth and Penn streets and centre of the city, and but two blocks from the postoffice. A few weeks ago it was full of trees, and Lawson was the only man who thought that a base ball diamond could be laid out. Today he has as fine a base ball park as any in the State outside of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.
The usual ceremonies, were held to cele-

brate the opening. Prior to the game a street parade, in which the players of both teams, city officials and a band of twenty-five pieces, participated, took place through the main streets. On reaching the ball grounds another demonstration took place.
Manager Lawson made an address in which he thanked the people for the interest they have shown in the new organization. He said it was very encouraging and predicted that this season would be the banner year in the history of base ball in Reading. He then introduced Mayor Edwin R. Gerber, who made a five-minute address. The Mayor wished the club much success, and said that the people of Reading should thank the local manager for securing grounds so convenient to every one. The Mayor officially opened the season, throwing a brand new ball to Twirler "Ollie" Britton, and the first professional league game seen in Reading in eight years was started.
"Ollie" Britton, the local favorite, was the man selected by Lawson to do the twirling in the initial home game. The way the "Peasut Edgers" started in on "Ollie" in the opening inning it looked as if he would not last long, but after the first inning he did better. Dunbar was hit hard. Allentown was the first to score. In the fifth Landgraf was safe on Clark's error. Streaser made a pretty single. McDonald drove one to Captain McClatchie, who caught Landgraf at second. Lembrecht's swipe for two sacks scored Streaser and McDonald. Lembrecht went to third on a passed ball. Britton could not find the plate and Roberts walked. De Lave made a single and scored Lembrecht.
Bill Clark scored the first run for Reading in the first inning. He walked and a moment later started to steal second. Torper, in trying to catch him, threw the ball to centre field and Clark landed on third cushion. He scored on Reilly's single. A home run hit by "Bill" Dobbins, the Reading boy, with the bases full in the fourth inning, gave Lawson's men a lead that MacKinnon's team never overcame. Cox, the first man up, landed on the ball for two sacks. Curry made a nice sacrifice, sending him to third base. McClatchie was given four wide ones. Dunbar was up in the air and walked O'Neill. Britton struck out. With two out Dobbins came to the bat, and picking out one that suited him, sent it sailing over the centre field fence.
MacKinnon's men got one in the fifth inning. Bird's single got past Reilly in left field and he landed on second. Landgraf's infield drive put him on third. Bird scored on a passed ball by Dobbins.
The defeated team got their last tally in the final inning. Torper made a single. He was forced at second on an infield drive by Dunbar. Bird walked and Dunbar scored on Streaser's single.
Reading got a run in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings. In the sixth Britton made a



LANDGRAF OF ALLENTOWN
AT THE BAT



MANAGER LAWSON MAYOR EDWARD
R. GERBER

PHOTOGRAPHED AT READING'S OPENING GAME BY THE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE INQUIRER

two-bagger and "Bill" Dobbins followed with another drive for two sacks. Britton did not touch home plate and was tagged out. Dobbins scored on Clark's two-bagger. In the seventh Curry was safe on Lembrecht's error and scored on Captain McClatchie's two-bagger.
In the eighth Clark made a single and came home on Torper's mad throw made in trying to catch him stealing. The throw bounded past the centre fielder. There were a number of interesting fielding features. McDonald, the

visiting first baseman, made a great running catch in the sixth inning. Captain McClatchie did the best work in the field for Reading.
ALLTOWN.
R. H. O. S. E.
Fld. ss. 1 1 2 3 0 Clark, ss. 2 3 0 3 1
Landgraf, 2b. 0 0 0 3 1 Reilly, lf. 0 1 1 0 0
Streger, lf. 1 2 1 0 0 Shields, cf. 0 0 1 0 0
McDonald, 3b. 0 1 5 1 0 Cox, 1b. 1 1 2 0 0
Lembrecht, 3b. 1 1 1 1 1 Curry, 2b. 1 0 1 3 0
Roberts, cf. 0 0 1 0 0 McClatchie, 3b. 1 1 4 4 0
Lawson, cf. 0 2 0 1 0 O'Neill, rf. 1 0 2 1 0
Torper, c. 0 1 3 0 2 Britton, p. 0 2 1 1 0
Dunbar, p. 1 0 1 2 0 Dobbins, c. 2 2 4 0 0

Totals... 5 7 24 11 4 Totals... 8 10 31 12 1
Allentown... 3 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1-3
Reading... 1 0 0 4 0 1 1 1 2-8
Sacrifice hits—Shields, Curry. Two-base hits—Lembrecht, Cox, Clark, Britton, Dobbins, McClatchie. Home run—Dobbins. Stolen bases—Clark, McClatchie, Streaser, Curry. Double play—O'Neill, Curry and Cox. Bases on balls—O'Dunbar, 2; off Britton, 2. Hit by pitcher—McDonald, Landgraf. Struck out—By Dunbar, 2; by Britton, 2. Passed balls—Dobbins, 2. Time—1:40. Umpire—Phelan.

LAWSON'S READING TEAM WON CHAMPIONSHIP IN 1907