

# The Two Greatest Players In Baseball

## *The Chalmers Commission Picks Schulte in the National and Cobb in the American League*

The Chalmers Commission was a unique institution in baseball circles. Made up of leading authorities on the National Game it was designed to choose in a fair and impartial way the two leading players in the Major Leagues. The Commission conferred upon Schulte the honor of being the most valuable player in the National League, while in the American organization Cobb was found to be the greatest all-round star.

The recent decision of the Chalmers Commission has thrown some interesting light on the problem of the leading baseball players. This problem is one which is annually discussed in hundreds of sporting sheets and by millions of fans. The great race for batting honors of last year, though brilliant, was somewhat unsatisfactory, as it merely decided the leading batters of the major leagues. The motive of the Chalmers Commission for this season was of a broader scope. A sincere effort was made to determine the player, who, on his season's work, had proved the greatest benefit to the team he represented. This gave credit not only to batting ability, but to fielding, base running and general all-round effectiveness.

The Commission was chosen with a view of giving as fair and impartial a report of the situation as possible. The tendency towards local partisanship was in a large measure done away with by having all the big league cities fairly represented. Neither did the decision rest upon the judgment of any one man, but on the combined judgment of a number of leading authorities in the affairs of the national game. As was to be expected, there was a wide range in choice. The maximum number of points which any player could draw was sixty-four, that is a unanimous vote for first place from all members voting. Ty Cobb showed his pre-eminence in baseball circles by drawing this unanimous vote of

sixty-four points. There is no doubt that the Tiger outfielder deserves the high honor conferred upon him, as his season's work has been, without question, the most brilliant in the annals of modern baseball.

In the National League, Schulte, the formidable home-run slugger of the Chicago Cubs, was first choice, but by no means by the same liberal margin as in the case of Cobb. Schulte's spectacular record as an extra base hitter, his brilliant fielding and all-round effectiveness caught the popular attention, and he beat out his most formidable rival, Mathewson, of New York, by four points.

Closely behind Mathewson for honors were Doyle of New York, Wagner of Pittsburg, and Alexander of Philadelphia, all tied for third place with a record of twenty-three points.

In the American League, Walsh, the formidable White Sox pitcher, was second; Collins, the Athletics' brilliant second baseman, third; Jackson, sensational outfielder of Cleveland, fourth, while Walter Johnson of Washington was fifth.

No selection of baseball stars has ever yet been made which won the universal approval of the fans, and the Chalmers Commission has been no exception to this rule. Nevertheless, the work of this body of experts has been conducted in a square and impartial manner. While not perfect in its workings,

the Commission is probably as fair a method of solving a difficult problem as any that can be devised.

The following figures will give in de-

tail the rating of every player in both the National and American Leagues who received one or more votes from the Commission.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Player, Club and Position.	Points.	P. C.
Schulte, Chicago, right field.....	29	.453
Mathewson, New York, pitcher.....	25	.391
Doyle, New York, second base.....	23	.359
Wagner, Pittsburg, shortstop.....	23	.359
Alexander, Philadelphia, pitcher.....	23	.359
Huggins, St. Louis, second base.....	21	.328
Merkle, New York, first base.....	19	.297
Marquard, New York, pitcher.....	19	.297
Daubert, Brooklyn, first base.....	16	.250
Tinker, Chicago, shortstop.....	11	.172
Meyers, New York, catcher.....	11	.172
Sheckard, Chicago, left field.....	9	.141
Mitchell, Cincinnati, right field.....	9	.141
Doolan, Philadelphia, shortstop.....	6	.095
Harmon, St. Louis, pitcher.....	6	.095
Lobert, Philadelphia, third base.....	5	.062
Gibson, Pittsburg, catcher.....	5	.062
Brown, Chicago, pitcher.....	4	.062
Bescher, Cincinnati, left field.....	4	.062
Sweeney, Boston, third base.....	3	.047
Archer, Chicago, catcher.....	5	.038
Knabe, Philadelphia, second base.....	2	.031
Konetchy, St. Louis, first base.....	2	.031
Hoblitzel, Cincinnati, first base.....	2	.031
Walsh, Philadelphia.....	2	.031
Devore, New York, right field.....	2	.031
Luderus, Philadelphia, first base.....	1	.016
Kling, Boston, catcher.....	1	.016
Adams, Pittsburgh, pitcher.....	1	.016
Rucker, Brooklyn, pitcher.....	1	.016

### AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Player, Club and Position.	Points.	P. C.
Cobb, Detroit, left field.....	64	1.000
Walsh, Chicago, pitcher.....	35	.541
Collins, Athletics, second base.....	32	.500
Jackson, Cleveland, right field.....	28	.437
Johnson, Washington, pitcher.....	19	.297
Cree, New York, left field.....	16	.250
Speaker, Boston, centre field.....	16	.250
Thomas, Athletics, catcher.....	12	.157
Milan, Washington, centre field.....	10	.156
Gregg, Cleveland, pitcher.....	9	.141
Baker, Athletics, third base.....	8	.125
Coombs, Athletics, pitcher.....	6	.095
Lajoie, Cleveland, second base.....	5	.078
Knight, Philadelphia, shortstop.....	4	.062

AMERICAN LEAGUE—Continued.

Player, Club and Position.	Points.	P. C.
Bush, Detroit, shortstop.....	4	.062
Lord, Athletics, left field.....	4	.062
Crawford, Detroit, right field.....	4	.062
Ford, New York, pitcher.....	3	.047
Barry, Athletics, shortstop.....	3	.047
Austin, St. Louis, third base.....	2	.031
Laporte, St. Louis, second base.....	2	.031
McInnis, Athletics, first base.....	1	.016
McBride, Washington, shortstop.....	1	.016



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