

# LEAGUE PARK HAS SHORT RIGHT FIELD

## Home of Indians Resembles Brooklyn Park in Outfield— Plans for 28,000 Fans.

League Park, Cleveland, the home of Tris Speaker's Indians, is situated at Lexington Avenue and Sixty-sixth Street, or about three miles from the centre of this thriving city on the banks of Lake Erie. The park was constructed by Charles W. Somers, who owned the Cleveland Club before James C. Dunn acquired control in 1916. When erected it was thought that the seating accommodations would answer all demands for years to come, but this year the park has been totally inadequate.

The permanent seats at League Park will accommodate about 21,000. This includes the double deck grandstand and the covered pavilions in right and left field, parallel to the foul lines. During the season now drawing to a close President Dunn erected some new bleachers in left centre field and he has a force of men now at work on temporary stands which will enable him to handle about 6,500 in these outfield sections. The total capacity of the park for the world's series will be in the neighborhood of 28,000.

Like Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, League Park is shortest in the right field section. There are no seats in fair territory in right field, the line running direct from the plate to the Lexington Avenue wall without touching any seating section. This right field space at Cleveland is one of the shortest in either major league. On top of the cement wall, about twenty feet in height is a wire screen extending twenty-five feet higher, yet the wall is so close to the plate that it has been possible for several batsmen to drive balls over it. Babe Ruth has found the target fairly easy, which is not surprising, but Speaker, Pipp, Elmer, Smith, Frank Baker, Joe Jackson and other right field hitters have also been able to do the trick.

Centre field, like that at Ebbets Field, is deep and no balls will be batted over the wall in this section. It is possible that the new stands now being constructed will make possible a home run into centre or left field, drives which were rare on the field under conditions formerly prevailing. A homer could be made inside the grounds, but only on a misjudged drive which made it necessary for a fielder to retrace his steps. The furthest point in centre field was no deeper than the Polo Grounds outfield, and the new stands will reduce the distance. In left field the foul line also went to the fence without touching any stand. The pavilion extends all the way to the fence, running parallel with the foul line. A small bleacher section extended along the fence from left to centre field. The new section erected during the Summer and the temporary bleachers will reduce the left-field territory during the world's series, but it will still leave plenty of space for the outfielders.

Left field is the sunfield at League Park. Brooklyn outfielders may experience some difficulty in right field as it is necessary to play the ball off a high wall, instead of the low concrete as at Brooklyn. The Cleveland fly chasers may be expected to show better judgment in fielding drives off the high wall and its higher screen.

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