

Cleveland Indians Vice President Robert McRoy announces that the club has purchased star outfielder **Tris Speaker** from the Boston Red Sox. Red Sox manager Bill Carrigan says that his team will receive an undisclosed amount of money and two players, pitcher S.P. "Sad Sam" Jones and another to be chosen later.

The player to be named later turns out to be minor league infielder Fred Thomas, who is coming off a .265, 11-home run season with the New Orleans Pelicans of the Southern (A) Association.

The trade of Speaker, nicknamed "The Grey Eagle" and the 1912 American League MVP, is a result of the inability to come to terms with the Red Sox on the question of salary. Because he was much in demand by teams from the Federal League two years earlier, Speaker is reputed to be the highest paid player in the American League with a yearly salary of \$18,500. With the demise of the Federal League, Red Sox owner Lannin reportedly offers Speaker a contract for the 1916 season in the \$9,000 range.

While not disclosing the actual amount, Cleveland Indians president James C. Dunn says, "We paid more money for Speaker than the Chicago Americans paid for Eddie Collins or the New York Americans paid for J. Franklin Baker."

Speaker will go to hit over .350 in ten of his eleven years with Cleveland. In his first year (1916) with the Indians, he snaps Ty Cobb's unprecedented streak of nine straight American League batting titles by besting the "Georgia Peach" by 15 points (.386-to-.371).

