

Ginger Beaumont, All-Time Outfield Star, Dead at 79

Helped Pirates Win Three Flags; Beat Out Six Hits, Scored Six Runs in Game

Clarence (Ginger) Beaumont, one of the game's all-time great outfielders, who compiled a major league average of .307 in 12 seasons with the Pirates, Boston Braves and Cubs, died in Burlington (Wis.) Hospital at the age of 79, April 10.

He suffered a paralytic stroke in 1948, but recovered sufficiently to walk with a cane. In 1950 he was stricken again and had been in failing health since.

Among his feats, Beaumont beat out six hits and scored six runs in a nine-inning game in 1899.

Though outshone on the early Pirates by such immortals as Hans Wagner and Fred Clarke, Beaumont was a great leadoff man, ground-covering center fielder and a powerful member of the Pittsburgh club which ran its steam-roller over National League opponents at the turn of the century, winning pennants in 1901, '02 and '03. In 1902, when Beaumont crept past Wagner and Clarke to win the National League batting championship with a .357 average, the Pirates won the pennant by a margin of 27½ games.

Another of Ginger's distinctions was that of being the first player to go to bat in a World's Series. He was Pittsburgh's opening batsman when the first modern Series game was played in Boston, October 1, 1903. The pitcher Beaumont faced on that occasion was the immortal Cy Young.

Playing in the rough, even rowdy, period of the National League, Beaumont had to live down his given name of Clarence. He much preferred his nickname of Ginger, fastened on him because of his shock of red hair. At a time when the name, Clarence, was associated with nice boys of the little Lord Fauntleroy type, such Giant toughies as Mike Donlin, Bud Bill Dahlen and Art Devlin assumed falsetto voices and shouted at him derisively: "Clarence! Clarence! Don't dirty the seat of your pants."

Stole 33 Bases in '02
But Clarence could slide and rough it up with the best of them. Though he didn't steal as many bases as teammates Wagner, Clarke and Tommy Leach, he filched as many as 33 in 1902 and was so fast he beat out more hits than any other player of his day.

Though Ginger was only five feet, eight inches tall, he was chunky and weighed 190 pounds. But, like Wagner, he could move his sturdy chassis over the ground with amazing speed. When Beaumont was in his heyday, a Pittsburgh sports writer clocked his time in going to first and found he averaged 4.4 seconds per hit in his journey from the plate to first base. The crack outfielder batted lefthanded but threw with his right hand.

At a time when few players scored 100 runs, Ginger led the National League in scoring in 1903 with 137 runs. He also led the parent major in most hits in 1902, '03, '04 and '07. In each of

All Hits of Infield Variety in Six for Six Performance

BURLINGTON, Wis. — Clarence (Ginger) Beaumont had many thrilling experiences during his long major league career, but the one he recalled most frequently was the day he collected six hits in six trips to the plate, tying a record that is still in the books.

Beaumont made the 6-for-6 against the Phillies on July 22, 1899. "The amazing thing about that accomplishment," Ginger once said, "was that not one ball was hit out of the infield. On my fourth try, the third baseman stood ten feet from the plate and I still beat out a bunt."

those years, he also led in singles. Over the 1902, '03 and '04 stretch, he set the record for the most consecutive years as the leader in hits. Though Beaumont was a hitter who punched balls through the infield or beat out infield rollers, he also led the N. L. in total bases in 1904.

Beaumont was born in Rochester, Wis., July 23, 1876, the year the National League came into being. His baptismal name was Clarence Howeth Beaumont. He early took a fancy to baseball, playing for Rochester Academy and Beloit College. In those days, Ginger was a catcher, though he also took a fling at the other end of the battery department. Following his college career, Clarence started to play semi-pro ball at Wausau, Wis. At a time when clubs could not afford to carry extra players, Connie Mack, manager of the Milwaukee Western League club, twice wired Beaumont to join his club in 1898 when the Brewers suffered outfield reverses. Ginger filled in so well that he hit .354 in 24 Western League games.

Awkward in Outfield at First
Beaumont's speed and .354 average were sufficient to impress the Pirates and they purchased him for 1899 delivery. It was the last year of the 12-club National League. Manager Watty Watkins used the red-haired Wisconsin boy sparingly in the spring as a pinch-hitter and extra player, but when Patsy Donovan assumed the Pittsburgh management in mid-season, he assigned Beaumont to left field. Ginger had a tough time, as balls bounced off his chest, knees and elbows, but he soon became a capable flychaser and was shifted to center.

Beaumont proved he was a real big leaguer shortly after Donovan put him on regular duty. In a game at Exposition Park, the old home of the Pirates, July 22, 1899, Ginger performed his amazing feat of getting six hits and scoring six runs against the Phillies in six times at bat. All were hits which the fleet-footed Ginger beat out to Phillie infielders or to Pitcher Wiley Piatt, a lefthander, who pitched the complete game, despite the fact that Pittsburgh won by a score of 18 to 4. In Beaumont's first year in the National League, he hit .350 for 104 games.

Starred on Three Flag Teams
Ginger's big chance came the next year, when the National League cut down to eight clubs, and the Pirates merged with the old Louisville Colonels. Barney Dreyfuss, the new owner, brought from Louisville his manager, Fred Clarke, and such great players as Wagner, Leach, Deacon Phillippe and Claude Ritchey. From the 1899 Pirates, Clarke retained Beaumont and Pitchers Jack Chesbro and Jesse Tannehill. Starring on this new merged team, Ginger helped the Pirates jump from seventh to second in 1900 and then win three easy pennants.

After eight seasons of service in Pittsburgh, Beaumont and Ritchey were traded to Boston for Second Baseman Ed Abbaticchio at the end of the 1906 season. With the 1907 Braves, Ginger led in most hits for the last time, collecting 187 while batting .322. Following the 1909 season, Boston traded him to the Cubs for Pitcher Fred Liese, and Ginger was the utility outfielder and pinch-hitter of Frank Chance's last championship team in 1910. Ginger batted three times as a pinch-hitter in the World's Series that fall. However, by this time the snap was

Mrs. Sophia Munzel Dies; Mother of Chicago Scribe

Mrs. Sophia J. Munzel, mother of Edgar Munzel, sports writer of the Chicago Sun-Times and correspondent of THE SPORTING NEWS, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Doris Eltzroth in Jackson, Mich., April 4. She was 75.

Mrs. Munzel was the daughter of C. H. Lueker, a pioneer Lutheran pastor of the Middle West, and wife of E. H. Munzel, Lutheran parochial school teacher, who passed away in 1944.

Other survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Laura Mellenthin, La Porte, Ind., and Mrs. Selma Melser, Elkhart, Ind.; two sons, Alfred, Homewood, Ill., and Carl, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; 15 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

out of Beaumont's legs. He no longer could beat out the infield ball. In 1911, the Cubs sent him to St. Paul and after he hit only .249 in 74 American Association games, Ginger called it a career, but until his death he kept up his interest in baseball, especially in the Pirates and other National League teams.

Funeral services were held, April 13, at Honey Creek Church near Burlington.

He is survived by two daughters, Miss Janet Beaumont, with whom he lived, and Mrs. K. W. Kruckman of Mamaroneck, N. Y.; a son, Charles of Sheboygan, Wis., and two sisters, Mrs. Lettie Ludman of Rochester, Wis., and Mrs. Charles Everett of Kenosha, Wis.

Thomas L. C. Taylor

Thomas Livingston Carlton Taylor, third baseman with the World Champion Senators of 1924, died in Greenville, Miss., at the age of 60, April 5.

A native of Mexia, Tex., Taylor broke into the game with Houston in 1913 and played with Palestine, Abbeville, Beaumont, Birmingham and Memphis before being acquired by the Nats in July, 1924.

Taylor batted .260 in 26 games the remainder of the campaign and was returned to Memphis at the close of the season. He was drafted by the Cardinals in 1925, returned to Memphis again, and drafted a second time by the Nats in '27. He failed to see action with either the Cards or Senators, however.

Later, Taylor played with San Antonio, Nashville, New Orleans and Knoxville. He managed Knoxville, Charlotte, Rock Island and Greenville before brief playing stints with Longview, Bartlesville, Baltimore and Dover, retiring in 1937.

Following his retirement, Taylor entered the automobile accessory business. Later he was elected justice of the peace and was serving his second term at the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife.

Mrs. Helen Fitzgerald

Mrs. Helen Fitzgerald, 50, wife of Sports Editor Eugene T. Fitzgerald of the Fargo (N. D.) Forum, died of a heart ailment at Daytona Beach, Fla., April 8. Fitzgerald had been covering the spring training activities of the Fargo-Moorhead (Northern) Twins at Cleveland's minor league base at Indianville.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Fitzgerald is survived by three sons, Edward Louis, Philip Raymond and John Thomas; two daughters, Helen Jeanne and Katherine Ann; her father, two brothers and three sisters.

George W. Miller, former minor league umpire, died in Fort Worth, April 4. He suffered a stroke in 1955. He was 72.

Miller umpired in the Central Kansas League in 1912, North Carolina League, '13; International, '14; North Carolina, '16; Western, '17, and Texas, '18 through 1924.

Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Lillie Huston and Mrs. Dora Bishop, Kansas City, Mo., and a brother, Jess, Imperial Valley, Calif.

John Edward Pick (Pit) Quinn, who played in one game for the Phillies in 1911, died in Marlboro, Mass., April 9, at the age of 70. He had retired two years ago after having been employed for 15 years by the Dennison Manufacturing Co. of Framingham, Mass.

In addition to his service with the Phillies, Quinn caught for Vancouver and Wilkes-Barre and managed Fitchburg of the New England League in 1919.

Mrs. Grace Fairbanks Estes, recognized as Boston's First Lady of Baseball, died in Somerville, Mass., April 4, at the age of 91.

Mrs. Estes saw her first baseball game in 1875 when her father took her to the old Walpole Street grounds. She developed into a loyal rooter for Boston teams and grew into a keen student of the game.

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Ruth League Expands in Canada

TRENTON, N. J.—Expansion of Babe Ruth League ball into a fourth Canadian province was pronounced here this week as the Wheatbelt Babe Ruth League of Champion, Alberta, filed for admission to the 13-15-year-old diamond program.

Earl Erickson is president of the five-team circuit which becomes Alberta's first BRL, while other officers are Bud Siler and Roger Jensen.

The mushrooming program previously had enrolled teams in British Columbia, Ontario and Nova Scotia, as well as in 46 of the United States. The Alberta teams are expected to be assigned to the Pacific Northwest Region for "World's Series" competition.

Meanwhile, a trend to larger leagues among new circuits applying for BRL membership was noted here as 15 of 31 loops filing entered with more than the four-team minimum requirement. A 12-team loop in Santa Clara Valley, Calif., and an eight-team circuit in Glendale, W. Va., were the largest of the new leagues.



Telecasts by Top Minors

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30)

San Diego—KFSD (Channel 10); Fred Hessler; all Saturday home games; Teller's Supply.

San Francisco—KOVV-TV (Channel 13); Tom Franklin and Walt Harris; all home games and eight road games (at Sacramento); Theo. Hamm Brewing Co.

Seattle—KTWV (Channel 13); John Jarstad and Jeff Heath; all home games.

Vancouver—CBUT (Channel 2); announcer not yet named; all Saturday afternoon home games.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Minneapolis—KEYD-TV (Channel 9); Jack Horner; 20 selected Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday home games; Hamm Brewing Co., Twin City Federal Savings & Loan Assn.

Omaha—KMTV (Channel 3); Steve Shepard; Wednesday night home games starting at 9 o'clock; Ford Moving & Storage Co., Top Value Stamps.

St. Paul—KEYD-TV (Channel 9); Jack Horner; 22 selected Monday, Friday and Saturday home games; Hamm Brewing Co., Twin City Federal Savings & Loan Assn.

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Havana—CMQ (Channels 6 and 7); Jess Losada, Cuco Conde and Gabino Delgado; Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday home games.

Miami—WTVJ (Channel 4) and WGBS-TV (Channel 23); Ed Edwards; 20 selected home games; National Brewing Co.

Montreal—CBF-TV (Channel 2); Gerry Trudel and Jean Pierre Roy; nine selected home games and three selected road games; Molson's Brewery.

MEXICAN LEAGUE

Mexico Reds—XHTV (Channel 4); Pedro Septien and Julio Sotelo; all home games (tentative); Cervesa Carta Blanca.

Mexico Tigers—XHTV (Channel 4); Pedro Septien and Julio Sotelo; Saturday and Sunday home games; Gillette Safety Razor, Corona Extra.

Nuevo Laredo — XEFE-TV (Channel 3); Jose Fernando Nino; selected games.

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION

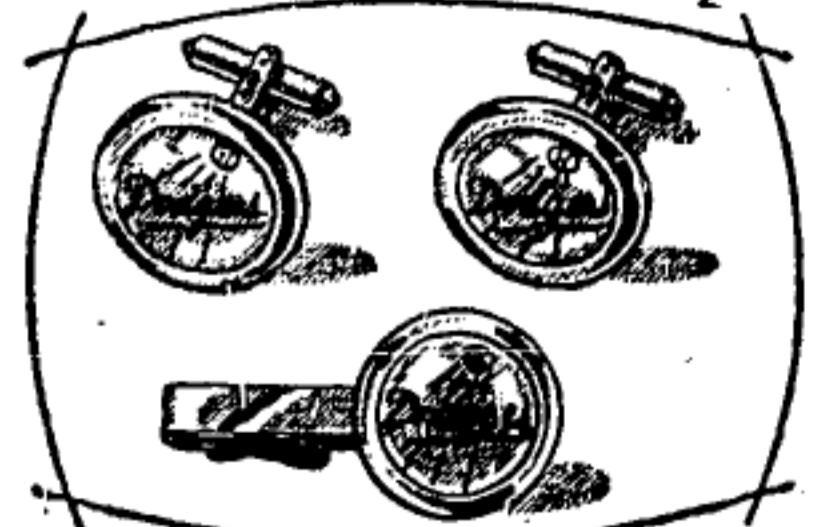
Atlanta—WLW-A (Channel 11); Bob Hendrickson; 30 selected home games; Ford Dealers and National Bohemian Beer.

Nashville—WSM-TV (Channel 4); Dick Shively, six selected home games; Jersey Farms Milk Service, Neuhoff Packing Co.

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