



TWO FORMER major league managers who were teammates at Brooklyn in the 1940s and with the New York Giants in the '50s, are back at major

league helms this spring and, curiously, in the same city. At left, Eddie Stanky makes a point clear to his White Sox charges at Sarasota, Fla. At right,

Leo Durocher holds court with Cub Vice-Presidents Charlie Grimm (50) and John Holland at Long Beach, Calif.

Double Dose of Action for Windy City

Lip Barks His Commands-- And Cubs Jump to Obey 'Em

By EDGAR MUNZEL

LONG BEACH, Calif.

Old No. 2 is No. 1 again and the impact of his return already has jolted the Cubs. When the season starts, it probably will shake up the entire National League as well.

Old No. 2, of course, is Leo (The Lip) Durocher, who is back in the managerial ranks as boss of the Cubs. He's worn No. 2 on his uniform ever since he came up with the Yankees in 1928. But nobody ever was more of a No. 1 man than Durocher.

The Cubs found that out in the first clubhouse speech made by The Lip before the opening of spring training.

"He told us that he was the No. 1 man on the club," reported one of the veteran players. "He said he wasn't a coach or a head coach, but that he was the manager, period. From now on, there wouldn't be any doubt where we'd have to go to get a decision because he was it."

"He told us, furthermore, that he didn't think we were an eighth-place team. Why we didn't finish higher he didn't know, but it would now be his job to find out.

"He pointed out what the training rules would be and said that we were professional athletes and would be respected as such. He said we shouldn't have to be told to hustle, that it simply was expected of us."

Leo Wants Extra Effort

"From there on out, it was up to us. He not only wanted 100 per cent from each player, but something extra.

"Then he summed it all up by saying he wasn't trying to win any popularity contest, that Mr. Wrigley didn't hire him to lose."

The players like his frankness, his decisiveness and his obvious authoritative grasp of the game.

The players came out of that clubhouse session as if they had been at a revival meeting. But that was not surprising, since Durocher has the zeal of a hot-eyed preacher and a voice with the commanding ring of a Marine drill sergeant.

If any of them entered that session with reservations about The Lip, they were swept aside. Durocher captivated them. He made believers out of them.

But what is just as important

'Nine Stankys Could Win Anywhere,' Lippy Claims

LONG BEACH, Calif.—"If I had nine Eddie Stankys, I could win the pennant anywhere," said Leo Durocher. "All he thought of was winning and he didn't care how. He didn't ask for quarter and he gave none."

"I remember once when Dick Culler of the Braves was out a mile at second base and dove into Stanky and cut a deep gash in his head. We were ready to kill the guy, but Eddie said, 'Never mind, fellows. Never mind.'"

"Two weeks later, Culler came into second again, out just as far. This time Eddie was ready. He side-stepped as Culler slid in and slammed the ball right in his mouth, loosening his teeth and cutting his lips.

"Eddie never even looked. He just turned away and started throwing the ball around the infield."

perhaps, Durocher also believes in them. He likes the talent on the ball club and definitely regards the Cubs as strong enough to finish in the first division.

"I'll tell you how good I think this ball club is," said Durocher. "I believe the personnel is better than the two Giant teams that won pennants for me in 1951 and 1954."

"Willie Mays, of course, belongs

Lip's Message to The Brat: 'Stay on Own Side of Town'

LONG BEACH, Calif.—When Jack Brickhouse and his WGN-TV crew left the Cub camp here and headed for Sarasota, Fla., the training base of the White Sox, Brickhouse asked Leo Durocher whether he had any message for his new cross-town rival, Eddie Stanky.

"Yes," rasped The Lip in sinister Edward G. Robinson style. "Tell that guy to stay in his own territory. If he crosses Madison street, I'm going to have my friends fit him for a cement kimono."

in a class by himself. But where do you go from there?

"I had nobody else in the outfield who could come anywhere near Billy Williams.

"Hank Thompson was my third baseman and he doesn't belong in the same park with Ron Santo, hitting or fielding. And the same goes at first base, where I had Whitey Lockman as compared to Ernie Banks."

Slick Keystone Duo

"This young second base combination of Don Kessinger and Glenn Beckert is far and away better defensively than Al Dark and Eddie Stanky were with the Giants. Dark and Stanky could do more with the bat, but they couldn't cover the ground or make the plays these kids do.

"Behind the plate, I had Wes Westrum, who'd hit about .240, but was fine defensively. We might come up with the same brilliant defensive catcher in Randy Hundley.

"I certainly didn't have any stand-out pitching, either. The staff was headed by Sal Maglie, Jim Hearn and Johnny Antonelli and in the bull pen I had a couple of good ones in Hoyt Wilhelm and Marv Grisom."

"But I believe the Cub staff compares favorably with Larry Jackson, Dick Ellsworth, Bob Buhl, Ernie Broglio and some of the young fellows, along with Ted Abernathy in the bull pen.

"Overall, I'd say this personnel is

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'Think Ahead!' It's Stanky Motto as Chisox Skipper

By JEROME HOLTZMAN

SARASOTA, Fla.

Just about the time Leo Durocher is crawling into bed, Eddie Stanky, the new manager of the cross-town White Sox, is rolling over for the last time. In this one area, at least, Stanky has a definite edge. He's an early riser and hits the deck every morning at 6:30.

"When you have six kids, you get used to getting up early," Stanky explained.

When Stanky took the job as the White Sox manager, he made very few promises. But there were two things he did vow: (1) He would work 24 hours a day, if necessary, and (2) he would have an alert and well-conditioned club.

So far, Stanky seems to be a man of his word. He's been the first one at the ball park each day and arrives at the clubhouse at about the same time as the White Sox milkman, i. e., trainer Ed Froelich. Stanky beat Froelich several times during the club's "early bird" camp and had to wait to get in.

Now, Stanky has his own key. Whereas Durocher derides clipboards and time schedules, Stanky is quite precise. He may be the only major league manager who actually makes spring training appointments with visiting baseball writers and columnists.

He also carries a clipboard which is so thick with papers that he needs a rubberband to hold everything together.

He Knows Percentages

Whereas Durocher is widely known as a "hunch" manager, Stanky, thus far, anyway, seems to be a respecter of "percentage baseball."

For example: He gathered his infielders for a one-hour clubhouse meeting and told them that only 20 per cent of all ground balls, if that many, are hit within ten feet of the baselines.

Therefore, he wants his third and first basemen to move away from the lines.

Stanky calls infielders who hug the lines "goal tenders."

When one of his players asked what about balls that will go, un-

Sox Owner Allyn Enthused Over Brat as His Skipper

SARASOTA, Fla.—White Sox Owner Arthur Allyn, who signed Eddie Stanky as his manager on the same day he met him, said: "I made one heckuva good decision. The more I see of Stanky, the more convinced I am that we picked the right man."

Allyn said before he had met Stanky he pictured The Brat as "... sort of a feisty guy and all that, but he isn't that way at all. He's a real solid guy."

touched, down the base lines, Stanky had an immediate reply.

"I'll worry about them. Just call them 'Stanky hits.' Charge 'em to me."

During the club's three intrasquad games, Stanky didn't sit on the bench. Nor did he plop into the director's chairs which are placed adjacent to the Sox dugout and are used by the club's brass.

Stanky, instead, watched the games from the inner outfield. One moment he would be standing in short left field. Three minutes later, he would be in short center or in right field, about 30 feet behind the first baseman.

"The dugout is the worst place to watch a game," Stanky said. "You get the best view upstairs (in

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Goal-Tending Is No. 1 Sin For Infielder, Stanky Says

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the press box) or, if you're walking, in the outfield."

But he wasn't merely watching quietly. All the time he was reminding his infielders to "quit goal-tending." And as the third and first basemen moved further away from the lines, the shortstop and second baseman were able to move a few more steps over—and tighten the middle.

In the first two Sox squad games, there wasn't a single hit down either line.

But there were four plays in which the infielders were able to take away "base-hits."

Third baseman Gene Freese knocked down a hard smash that appeared certain to skip through the hole at short. And Freese threw the batter out. Second baseman Al Weis made two catches of line drives that he wouldn't have been able to reach if he hadn't been swung around an extra step or two.

Ward Makes Key Play

Pete Ward, the neophyte first baseman, even made a play, a force at the plate, on a slow hopper to his right—a hopper that he wouldn't have been able to handle if he had not been a good 15 to 20 feet off the bag.

"That's nothing new," said Stanky. "A lot of clubs play it that way."

Maybe, and then again—maybe not.

Al Lopez, his managerial predecessor with the White Sox, had one set of signals for his batterymen.

Stanky already has installed two. "It'll give us more deception," he explained.

A newsman asked: "How many sets of signals did the pitchers have last year?"

"You keep thinking back, always talking about last year," Stanky replied. "I think ahead. That's the way to think. Think ahead."

Stanky knows that he's on the spot. Lopez is a tough act to follow, especially in the very important area of handling pitchers. Lopez knew pitchers. He was a catcher who caught 1,918 major league games, an all-time record.

Stanky was an infielder, but he knows the importance of pitching—and also the importance of psychology, an area in which Lopez showed little interest.

No. 1 Pitching Puzzle

For example: One day, Stanky tells reporters that he can't understand why the Sox had only 21 complete-pitched games last year, the fourth-lowest team total in all of major league history.

"I want my starters to finish," Stanky said. That night, the headlines said: "Stanky Wants Starters to Finish!"

But this can be interpreted as a slight to the Sox bull pen, which is probably the best in either league. Last year, the Sox' bull-pen triumvirate of Eddie Fisher, Hoyt Wilhelm and Bob Locker made a total of 199 appearances, all in relief.

The bull-pen pitchers read the headlines at breakfast and were just about to say, "Hey, doesn't the skipper have any confidence in us? We saved this club last year."

But before they could finish the paragraph, Stanky had once again called the reporters covering the club to his side.

"I want Wilhelm and Fisher to get more work this spring," Stanky said this time, only 24 hours after he had declared he wanted more route-going efforts from his starters.

The bull pen hasn't been forgotten. Indeed, the relievers puff out

Devine No. 1 Brat Booster; Says Eddie Has 'Matured'

SARASOTA, Fla.—Eddie Stanky, the new White Sox manager, has a great friend and superb booster in Bing Devine, now a front-office executive with the Mets.

Devine and Stanky spent quite a few seasons together in the Cardinal organization and then with the Mets. Devine is among the many baseball men who think Stanky can lead the Chisox to a pennant.

"He was a good manager when he managed the Cardinals," Devine said, speaking of Stanky. "When he was fired at St. Louis, he was simply another victim of a club that was unable to stay in the pennant race long enough."

"I've told Eddie he has since mellowed with the years," Devine added. "But he doesn't like the word 'mellow.' He says he's 'matured.'"

their chests because now they realize the skipper hasn't forgotten them. He knows they are the glue that keeps the staff together.

Psychology? Maybe, maybe not. But Stanky is obviously a manager who doesn't forget. He makes notes to himself (on that clipboard), and so nothing, or almost nothing, flits by him.

One day he looks at his clipboard and sees the notation "Cuccinello 1st Lt."

"Oh, another thing," he tells the newsman. "If something should happen to me—if I'm thrown out of a game or if I have to leave for a day or two, Cuccinello will run the club."

He Thinks of Everything

Who else but a manager with a clipboard would even think of making such an "announcement" on the second day of spring training? But Stanky did.

Stanky and Durocher have much in common. But their similarities are essentially on the field. Both were light-hitting infielders who played with the guts of a burglar and who had to compensate for their lack of big, natural ability by taking advantage of every trick of the trade, and adding many of their own.

On the field, Stanky says he wants his men with fire in their eyes. "If they're not willing to push and



ONE INCIDENT that Durocher and Stanky will never forget took place at the Polo Grounds in 1951 when they wrestled in sheer jubilation



after Bobby Thomson's ninth-inning homer gave the Giants the N. L. title in a three-game playoff with the Dodgers.

be competitors, I'll have to find someone to take their place," Stanky said.

But off the field, Stanky and Durocher seem to have little in common.

Whereas Durocher has an overwhelming personality, and always occupies center stage, Stanky has what he recently termed "... a quiet disposition."

Eddie Strong for Calisthenics

Whereas, Durocher is firmly against calisthenics, Stanky regards calisthenics as a great physical conditioner.

"The players don't like it and they can hurt their backs doing all those knee bends," said Durocher.

Stanky says they are important. "They bend and stretch the muscles," Stanky explained. "A well-conditioned athlete won't have as many injuries."

"There was a time," said baseball writer Joe Reichler, late of the Associated Press and now of the commissioner's office, "when Stanky would take a beer. Then he switched to champagne ... and wines."

But there in Sarasota, spring training base of the Chisox, Stanky is presiding at a daily late afternoon press conference. The table is sinking with scotch, bourbon, gin, vodka and cranberry juice.

Stanky drinks the cranberry juice and spikes it with ginger ale.

Down here we call them "Stanky cocktails."

DUROCHER

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better, but I'll have to make this one reservation. I believe the National League is stronger now than it was in the early '50s. It is better balanced with more good ball clubs in it.

"In other words, the 1951 or 1954 Giants probably wouldn't be able to win the pennant now. As a matter of fact, I don't believe they were the best team in the league at the time they won.

"And that brings up another point. They may not have been as good as some of the others, but they were confident, aggressive and spirited. They just didn't believe anybody could beat them. And they went out and proved it."

Same Medicine for Cubs

"I believe that's probably what was wrong with the Cubs. I've got to restore their confidence and get them believing in themselves again."

And judging by the reaction of some of the players following the early training exercises, Durocher already is beginning to accomplish his objective. Even Wes Covington, who was at odds with management in Philadelphia and also Milwaukee, is lavish in his praise of Durocher.

"After being around this game as long as I have, I've learned that mental condition is even more important than physical condition," said Covington. "You can have the best players in the league and get them in the best physical condition, but if they don't have a good mental attitude, they're not going to win."

"I believe that's what's been wrong with the Cubs. Drive, aggressiveness and alertness are parts of good mental attitude. Each individual has to give a little extra and everybody must pull together."

Players Respect Leo

"Durocher will get it out of these players. He'll have them playing better than they thought they could."

"The players respect him. I believe he's just the best in the business."

Will Durocher, not having managed since he left the Giants for a TV job in 1955, find the handling of the players any different?

"Not at all," said Leo the Lion. "They're no different now than they were ten years ago. You've got to build a little fire under some of them and others you have to handle gently. In other words, you bully some and baby others."

"For instance, I had to get Sal Maglie fighting mad, but not Willie Mays. If you got on Willie, he'd

Cubs Have Four Swifties, And Lippy Will Use 'Em

LONG BEACH, Calif.—"I've always had running teams," said Leo Durocher, new manager of the Cubs. "That's my kind of baseball. The Dodgers don't have any monopoly on it. As a matter of fact, the Dodgers have only four men with speed—Maury Wills, Willie Davis, Wes Parker and Lou Johnson."

"I've got four, too, in Ty Cline, Billy Williams, Don Kessinger and Glenn Beckert. I'll give them Wills because he's in a class by himself stealing bases. But with the rest, I won't concede anything."

quit you. This is something you have to find out as you go along.

"And I'm not going to use any different tactics playing the game, either. I'm an unorthodox manager. I don't go by the book. When I'm supposed to bunt, I may hit-and-run."

Durocher insists that he actually took a cut in income to come back into baseball, though he has no complaints about his three-year contract with the Cubs. Then why did he come back?

"Well, baseball is my life," said Durocher. "I just wanted to be back in it."

"I wanted to manage again. It's as simple as that."

Offer From Cleveland

"I had several offers to return previously, but they didn't work out. One was from Cleveland and it undoubtedly was the best financial offer ever made a manager. They offered me \$350,000 in debentures that had been owned by Hank Greenberg and, at the end of my three-year term, they would pick them up at a capital gain to me of \$110,000, plus \$27,000 interest."

"My base salary was to be \$53,000 per year along with a \$10,000 annual expense account. But I got greedy."

"I asked for a half million in debentures and they backed off."

"After analyzing the situation, I decided I had no right to make such special financial demands. Nobody owed me that sort of deal."

"Later, there came an offer from Gussie Busch of the Cardinals to succeed Johnny Keane. But when Keane went on to win the pennant, that blew up and I thought my last chance had gone."

"But then along came the Cubs and I'm truly grateful. I'm happy where I am and I just hope I can make Mr. (P. K.) Wrigley and Cub fans just as happy that I joined them."



EDDIE STANKY . . . and Cranberry Cocktails