LOOPING THE LOOPS

By J.G.T. SPINK ===

Leo Looks Back and Laughs

WHAT goes as he's nudging his team into a pennant in a nip-andtuck race?

What does he think about as he lays his plans for a repetition of his flag triumph? There is one major league manager who those questions - Leo Durocher of the

er's head

Dodgers. Leo has been in California, Brooklyn, Jacksonville and Chicago since the close of the pennant scramble, but he is still living over the pennant race. Upon his return from the Windy City to St. Louis, where he plans to remain until the middle of January, we found him the usual outspoken and interesting Lippy Leo. "I know Larry MacPhail wanted me to

play shortstop last September," said the Brooklyn pilot. "He wanted me in there a lot in 1940. But he particularly wanted me in there when it appeared Reese was cracking in the pennant drive last fall. Yes, I could have gone in. I was in shape. And, incidentally, I'll keep in shape if it's only to go in there to squeeze the winning run home with a bunt once a season. "I might have been a better shortstop

for the Brooklyn club for one or two days in there last fall," Durocher continued. "But I knew that over a week, two weeks, the longer stretch, Reese would make the better plays. That was true despite the fact that he wasn't the shortstop last season he was when he broke in. He was Was Pee Wee slowing down-at 22?

"That broken ankle he had," Leo exwas afraid to put too much strain on it. developing.
But remember this—that boy will be a much better shortstop from now on because I did stick with him this year when the going was tough. He's going to have more confidence." ₩at was evident Leo was highly gratified

by the acquisition of Arky Vaughan from Pirates. Although Arky probably will used at third base, he also provides protection at shortstop and adds to attacking power of the Dodgers.

Contract Is Unfinished Business

nay be here that it will come up, was involved. may not be until spring train- | Cramer, whose big league career began

suggested figure was too much money States. pay for just managing a club. We

question of dough has come up beeen us. As the lensman snapped, Larry nded me a dollar bill with a laugh, 'Here, j oney, anyway.'"

would have to be a really good deal, equally sound mechanically. ry did a good job for us the past | Unless war developments necessitate

hompson-not even counting Derringer nd Vander Meer? Thompson had a bad he Reds have to get hitting power. loore from Cincinnati now. I would have iven a lot the year before last, or even

st year, but he's lost his fast one, I Can the Dodgers get along without a ood lefthanded pitcher? "Not really," said Durocher, sighing wiston't think Keller would have batted gainst Casey in that fourth World's Se-

illy. "If I had a good southpaw, you es game, do you? Yes, we need a southaw. Chipman may be it. Why, I would eve put Chipman in there to pitch to eller, young as Bob is, rather than let asey face him.'

Dodgers Socked Only Rivals TTE ASKED about the reports of

ause he's been involved in so many one of the recruits, at third. revious fights in baseball. Funniest ne I remember Joe getting into was hen Big Diz was pitching for the Carinals, and Joe was in left. Medwick layed a fly ball, and missed it, and Joe sade a crack in the dugout about Dean aving no guts. Dizzy was trailing, 3 to I remember. Well, Dizzy started down ne dugout after Medwick, and when he as halfway there, Paul Dean stood up. always has one in his hand-and said: ome on, you two-I'll separate you.' hey came no further. The next inning, Joe There was no answer to that, was State in a trade.

t we have had no scraps on this club, part of the 1941 campaign.

We suggested that the boys must have Jack Wallaesa, Blue Rocks' shortstop in stretch, in a tight race like this year's Philadelphia Athletics.

ONTINUED ON PAGE 11, COLUMN 6.) last season.

Still Time to Take Part in \$400 Cash All-Star Contest--Page 6 FROM ALL POINTS OF COMPASS

Zvorting

VOLUME 112, NUMBER 19

ST. LOUIS, DECEMBER 18, 1941

TEN CENTS THE COPY

can answer EX-SENATOR WILL STEP INTO SHOES VACATED BY GEHRINGER

> Rog Cramer Also Can Be Valuable, Since Greenberg Is Going Back to Army; Fans Regret Campbell's Leaving



ETROIT, Mich.—From the Tigers' standpoint, emphasis in the fourplayer deal with Washington was on James Henry Bloodworth. It is Manager Delmar Baker's present intention to install the young second base-

man as successor to Charley Gehringer. Efforts to get Bobby Doerr from the Red Sox were futile, and Baker believed Bloodworth the best replacement obtainable for the old Fowlerville Flailer, who has decided to retire -from regular competition, at least, There is, of course, a wide gap between

the abilities of Gehringer at his best and a full step slower in the field last season, of Bloodworth, but the newcomer has sufficient skill to relieve, in part, Detroit's main infield weakness. He has youth and three years of experience in the American plained. "It wasn't strong this year. He League. The chances are that he is still

Acquisition of Bloodworth implies that the Tigers have lost faith in Dutch Meyer and that they consider Eric McNair too far beyond his prime to fill the second base position. Meyer, who came to Detroit originally from Knoxville, has been disappointing in two trials, while McNair spent most of last season with Buffalo. Negotiations for Bloodworth were begun

at the American league meeting in Chicago and completed by 'phone the day after Jack Zeller and Spike Briggs returned home. The deal also brought from Wash-UROCHER was asked: "How ington the veteran outfielder, Roger Maxabout your own contract?" well Cramer, who is more familiarly known "MacPhail and I haven't dis- to the fans as Doc or Flit. In exchange, cussed it yet," he replied: "And the Tigers transferred Frank Croucher and never know when he's going to. Bruce Campbell to the Senators. No cash

"MacPhail said he was go- in 1931, when he joined the Athletics, is ng to keep you—" one visitor put in, expected to fill the outfield place that had ep you guessing, you mean," another been reserved for Hank Greenberg. Before the outbreak of the war, the Tigers urocher laughed, too. "My contract is had counted on Hank, who was released rain," he said. "I never know when from the Army, December 5, after slightly going to come. Last year we didn't | more than seven months' service. Greenabout it until February, I think it berg came here from Fort Custer, Mich., I took a look at the figures on it to discuss contract terms with Walter O. said I thought they were too low. Briggs, but before a conference was ar-Phail said my guess was too high, that ranged, Japan declared war on the United

This action threw considerable doubt lly settled it in a compromise—so much upon Greenberg's availability for the Demanaging, \$5,000 or so more for staying troit outfield, since he was a member of the Army reserves and subject to call at The other afternoon a camera man want- any time within the next ten years. Hank a shot of MacPhail handing me some himself removed all doubt by a public ugh. That was actually the first time announcement that he would voluntarily rejoin the military forces.

"The Only Thing to Do," Says Hank "I have not yet been called back," said u're a dollar-a-year man from now on, Greenberg. "I'm going back of my own trocher,' he said. 'You make too much accord. We are in trouble and it is the only thing to do."

Greenberg revealed his plans in Philaants Pitcher, but Not Whitey Moore | delphia, where he had gone for a brief OW THAT the Dodgers have visit. He was undecided as to the exact bought Don Padgett and Johnny date of his return to the Army, but spe-Rizzo and sent Babe Phelps, cific enough on the point that he would Luke Hamlin, Pete Coscarart not be with the Tigers in the spring. Con-Jim Wasdell to the Pirates in sequently, the Detroit officials looked with deal for Vaughan, what about the increased favor upon the opportunity to ie Lavagetto," Leo declared, "but cally more durable than Campbell and

further changes, the regular outfield prob-Pitching? Sure, I want another good ably will consist of Cramer, Barney Mcching it isn't even funny. Who has from an operation performed on his shoulree starters like Walters, Riddle and der last summer. Rip Radcliff and five recruits are others tentatively registered in ear. He's a cinch to come back. But had one or two bids for Radcliff at the Chicago meeting, but turned them down "I'm not interested in getting Whitey largely because of the Ripper's relation to the draft. The combination of dependents and his 33 years gives him deferred classification.

> Detroit parted more or less reluctantly with Campbell, who contributed much to the pennant-winning success of 1940 and drove in 93 runs this year, though he was only a part-time outfielder. Washington, however, insisted on Campbell and the Tigers, eager to get Bloodworth, were persuaded to include the veteran in the trade, The shift of Croucher was no surprise. He spent all of the last three seasons with Detroit and received repeated chances to qualify as a major league infielder. Baker be silly for me to say I do not leave it without a pang," said Hank. was convinced, at last, that Frank lacked the required consistency and agreed to place him on the market.

As a result of the deal, the Detroit infights on the Dodgers. "Ev- field is beginning to take shape. It looks United States had declared war on Germany in April. Hank Gowdy, ery place I go," said Leo, "they now as if Rudy York will start at first ask me about that. Always base, Bloodworth at second, Billy Hitchcatcher for the Boston Braves, walks into a Columbus. O., recruit-Iedwick is mentioned. That's be- cock at shortstop and Pinky Higgins, or ing station and asks: "How does a feller get into the Army?" His query was answered at once. On he went, to camp, to France, to . SAM GREENE.

Wilmington Rock Foundation Reinforced More Deals have gone on to New York, to the home of his parents, and an-

WILMINGTON, Del.-The Wilmington Blue Rocks' rebuilding campaign, which thought he was going to stop Diz, but has been under way almost since the close stead he came along, too, after Medwick. of the 1941 season, continues in high gear, be just calmly picked up a bat-seems with the addition of three more players

They are First Baseman Bob Prichard, purchased from Charlotte of the Piedmont t a homer with the bases full. He came League; Catcher Byron (Tex) Stuart, ck to the dugout and said to Dizzy: bought from Springfield of the Eastern nere now, you ---, see if you can hold loop, and Shortstop Joe Walsh, obtained at lead.' He had the last laugh, didn't from the Reading Brooks of the Inter-

To land Walsh, who batted .277 in 103 Seriously, that Camilli-Medwick trouble games with Bridgeport and Reading last physical instructor, and to other major and minor league players s all the bunk," Durocher reiterated season, the Rocks gave up Catcher Tom amilli was the one most upset about it. Lloyd, who was bothered by injuries in ment. But the decision announced last week by Hank Greenberg Walsh was acquired to fill the shoes of

n pretty tense, though, coming down 1940 and 1941, who was purchased by the for me to do—return to the service. I have not been called back. I Pirates, Vaughan's batting average never Walsh will have to beat out Dick Ad-Tense?" laughed Durocher, "Why, we kins, who was recalled from Newport

News of the Virginia League at the end of JOHN J. BRADY.

Hank Greenberg, Back to Colors,

Becomes the Hank Gowdy of '41



Two days before the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hank

But as soon as the dastardly attack of the Japs had become

"This doubtless means I am finished with baseball, and it would

Let us roll back the years. The time is June, 1917. The

Greenberg was out of the Army. Fort Custer had given to the

former Tiger star an honorable discharge. He was over 28, he had

put in his seven months with the soldier boys, and he looked for-

the armed forces of Uncle Sam, ready to go wherever his country

"But all of us are confronted with a terrible task-the defense of

nounced that he had done his bit, and left younger lads pick up.

Their son had an equal opportunity with the sons of all other peo-

peace; to Bob Feller, brilliant hurler of the Cleveland Indians, who

enlisted last week in the Navy to begin a course of training as a

who have entered the armed forces either by induction or enlist-

baseball, salute him for that decision. J. G. TAYLOR SPINK.

"We are in trouble," said Hank, "and there is only one thing

gave the game and the nation a special thrill.

am going back of my own accord."

Much credit is due to Hugh Mulcahy, pitcher of the Phillies

needs him in this struggle of the seven seas.

our country and the fight for our lives."

discharged as a sergeant.

profession.

ward to returning to Detroit and his \$55,000-a-season contract.

OF CASH IN MIZE AND OTHER DEALS

\$50,000 Goes to Cards as Part of Transaction for First Sacker. Another \$20,000 to Reds for Werber; Yanks Would Like to Have Camilli, but Not for 60 Grand

EW YORK, N. Y.—Pop Knickerbocker certainly grabbed the play away from all the other cities of the major leagues in the action which developed at Jacksonville, Fla., and Chicago, and close in the wake of these media for discussion and trading. Here is what happened: 1-Giants acquired Johnny Mize, first baseman, from the Cardinals, for \$50,000 in cash and Bill Lohrman, righthanded pitcher; Ken O'Dea, catcher, and Johnnie McCarthy, first sacker, who was sent at once to Columbus to replace Ray Sanders. 2—Dodgers acquired Arky Vaughan, infielder, from the Pirates for Luke Hamlin, righthander; Babe Phelps, catcher; Pete Coscarart, second sacker.

and Jim Wasdell, outfielder. 3-Dodgers bought Don Padgett and John Rizzo, outfielders, one from the Cardinals, the other from the Phillies.

4 Giants purchased Bill Werber, third baseman, from the Reds, for \$20.000. 5-Giants traded Bob Bowman, pitcher, and cash to the Cubs for Hank Leiber, outfielder. 6-Giants sold Burgess Whitehead, second baseman, to Toronto, and Joe Moore | desirous to see him pass out of the National

dianapolis. 7-Giants closed tentative deal with At- bad for the Brooklyn club. lanta for Connie Ryan, second baseman.

the Red Sox. 9-Yankees sold Tommy Holmes, out- by George Weiss. fielder, to the Braves.

fielder, and Boyd Perry, shortstop, to Yan- | ready announcing intentions to hold out kees, completing the deal for Bill Hitch- for a reported \$25,000, could bring the same

cock, infielder.

and Morris Arnovich, outfielders, to In- League, where he could do the Dodgers no harm, and could not make the deal look

Barrow offered \$25,000 in cash, and two 8-Dodgers sold Mace Brown, pitcher, to players who were in the Yankee chain system-any two from a list of 15 compiled

MacPhail demurred. He wanted cash-

10-Yankees obtained Eric Tipton, out- \$60,000 worth of it-so he could get Mize fielder, and Johnnie Babich, pitcher, from from the Cardinals, or tempt St. Louis to the Athletics for Buddy Blair, third base- trade Johnny Hopp. However, Barrow laughed at the suggestion that, in times 11-Detroit released Tuck Stainback, out- like these, Camilli, at the age of 33, alsum which MacPhail paid for Dolph to Apart from the deals which the New the Phillies, March 6, 1938. As a matter York clubs completed, there was-and at of fact, the dope is that MacPhail actually this writing, still is-the effort by the paid \$45,000 in that transaction, and threw

'Carry On!'--Bramham Counsels All Minors

URHAM, N. C.-Counselling league officials and club owners not to get panicky over war conditions and to continue plans for the 1942 season, President W. G. Bramham of the National Association sounded the keynote for the minors in a ringing statement issued this week to all league and club presidents, business managers and secretaries. Bramham declares the clubs and leagues will be rendering a real and necessary service to the nation by carrying on, and he is showing the way to them to face the future with courage and determination by his own confidence and resolution.

"We do not claim to know what is ahead of baseball any more than the recipients of this communication," Bramham wrote to the minor league officials, "but we feel safe in saying that the outlook for the game is no more gloomy than that of any other line of endeavor-in fact, not as much so.

"In the World War-1917-18-some of our state officials became panicky and urged professional baseball to cease operations during the then-existing emergency. At that time, we believed this request to be without merit, but acquiesced. Later, it was generally conceded this action of suspending was ill-advised, the continuance of the sport being, in fact, then as now, a necessary tonic to support the morale of the civilian populations as well as the armed forces.

"Baseball ever has been and ever will be ready to immediately respond to the wishes of the government. This has been the patriotic reaction of the club owners and the players. We believe by keeping our clubs and leagues intact as far as possible, we will render a real and necessary service.

"How far curtailment of our player rosters may become necessary remains to be seen, but with the expected and proper co-operation upon the part of clubs and players, even this can be handled so as to greatly lessen what may appear as a troublesome situation. Because we have large player limits does not mean that we should, or that it is necessary to, carry up to the very limit during the emergency now confronting us.

"The minor leagues, alone, played to in excess of 16,000,000 patrons in 1941, an increase of approximately 3,000,000 over our paid attendance in 1940, although we had two less leagues this past season. This was partly attributable to the enormous pay rolls incident to government expenditures. There is no sign of a decrease in such outpouring of government funds-but every indication of

"A number of our leagues already have informed us they are carrying on with their scheduled meetings and plans, and we believe this is the proper course to pursue. Panic can often do more harm to civil morale than machines of war. Baseball is an up-builder of morale. Let us keep it that way.

"This is the time to keep our chins in the air, to face the future with courage and determination. No tents should be folded until necessary. We should be more attentive to seeing that our operations are conducted on conservative and sane financial lines. There is every reason to belive that if we keep our leagues intact, the federal, state and municipal governments, as well as our patrons, will appreciate and support our efforts. So let us face 1942 with confidence.'

League. It would be strange, indeed, if \$15,000 profit on the first sacker. THE SPORTING NEWS had to go to Yankee | Of course, the demand for 60 grand was Stadium to present the National League just the customary poker playing. It was

can League by Joe DiMaggio. Ed Barrow told THE SPORTING News the inside story of the Camilli affair. He said that, much to his amazement, he got a call from Larry MacPhail a week before the Jacksonville session, asking for an offer for Dolph. Barrow at first thought Larry might be trying to use the Bombers as a lever against some National League bidder. But MacPhail indicated he was eager SERGEANT GOWDY-1917 to dispose of Dolph, and was especially

Yankees to buy Dolph Camilli from the | in Outfielder Chet Morgan for the balance; Dodgers, who have waivers on the 1941 thus, after having had four big years out most valuable player of the National of Camilli, MacPhail was trying to make

trophy, as well as that won in the Ameri- left that way when the negotiators quit Chicago, and learned that the Giants had charged in and bought Mize. This placed MacPhail in the open as making an effort to get Hopp, who, Rickey insisted was not for sale.

The purchase of Mize by the Giants entailed the biggest financial outlay since the Brooklyn club gave \$100,000 to the Phillies for Kirby Higbe. Considering the atmosphere in which the New York club turned over the check for 50 grand to Breadon, the Mize deal is even more remarkable financially than the Higbe transaction.

Giants Back In the Headlines It would be silly to say that with Mize, Leiber and Werber the Giants have assured their return to formidable contention for the pennant. They yet have things to do, but with the war on, they may be forced to go with what they have. In any event, they have shown the old spirit and

of the second division. Babe Young seems certain to remain in Class I-A in the draft. It was with that feeling the club officials bought Mize. In Mize, the Giants have one of the greatest hitters in the history of the club. True, he did not go so well last season, when he hit 317, and his home runs dropped from 43 to 16, with 100 runs

driven in.

However, John was the victim of a set of circumstances. In the first place, he broke his thumb, and then injured a shoulder. In the second place, he allowed himself to become confused. The story is that they were not, in Sportsman's Park, as vital financially as they were in Yankee The management had soured on Luke Stadium. The Giants understand that and year out, does not show it, Don Padg- Hamlin, too, because that lean righthander Breadon told Mize he would have to hit ple in this country, and achieved a notable position in a notable ett, erstwhile Cardinal handy man, can threw a "gopher" ball too often and it high in the averages to get the kind of

utility man and pinch-hitter, Padgett hit a be a pretty successful pitcher in that big a consequence, Mize began to hit to left for an average, and nothing went right. The 1942 infield of the Polo Grounders return of only one infielder-Jurges. Ott thinks he can rehabilitate Leiber.

> The Yankees would like to get Camilli, but if they don't they still will have the standout team of the major leagues. To be sure, they do not know what the war will do to their manpower. But at this

time they seem to be in a good position.

DAN DANIEL

public knowledge, Hank Greenberg made up his mind. He was not going back to baseball. He was returning to the Army, back to AS DODGERS' BEST FLAG DEFENSE

> Already-Strong N. L. Champs Reinforced by Bats of Vaughan, event, they have shown the old spirit and initiative, and look like sure bouncers out Padgett and Rizzo; Larry's Failure to Land Mize May Mean Retention of Camilli for First Base

ROOKLYN, N. Y .- One of the | Rizzo from the Phillies. The Pittsburgh

big reasons why the Dodgers deal, not completed until the day after St. Mihiel-and eventually back to the Braves, the first major league won the 1941 pennant was the the Chicago meetings ended, saw four player to have enlisted for service in the first World War. He was fact that Leo Durocher's club players go to the Pirates. Now a similar distinction belongs to Greenberg. He could while offensive department. Well, it's plain | service-he was with Brooklyn for seven to be seen Larry MacPhail and Durocher years-relations between the club and the aim to maintain that edge, for the three burly catcher became impossible after he, he was told by the St. Louis front office But all the time there lay before Greenberg a picture. His players the Brooklyn traders picked up claiming illness, refused to start West with that while home runs were interesting, father and mother had come to this country from Rumania because the way of living there did not correspond to their ideas of in Chicago last week are primarily hit- the team in June, going through life. In the United States, the Greenbergs prospered.

Although his batting average, year in cool .399 in 92 games, his at-bats totaling Pittsburgh ball orchard.)

and first major leaguer to be drafted while the country was still at | 233.

was the league's batting champion, with Hank looked back across the years—and he made the big de-

the towering average of .385. cision. It was: "Back to the Army." Fans of America, and all So far as the Dodgers were concerned,

had the strongest attack in the . Three of the four were on the "must" National League. Brooklyn led list for disposal. Although Babe Phelps the loop in almost every worth- was the oldest of the Dodgers in point of

Hamlin Goes on "Gopher" Ball really whack that ball. In 1939, used as a was hit entirely too far. (Tip: Luke may dough John expected to land for 1942. As

Pete Coscarart, youthful second base-

Jimmy Wasdell, whose inclusion comtold many weeks ago, Arky Vaughan al- the Dodgers, but Brooklyn, with Pete fine picket line with himself, John Rucker

Padgett-Durocher has no notion of using the big redhead as a catcher, an ex-

Johnny Rizzo has spent four seasons in man of rare promise two years ago, had will show Mize at first; Connie Ryan, from the National League. He has been a ter- a lamentable season. A change of scenery Atlanta, at second; Billy Jurges at short, rific in-and-outer, but in two of those might help him, but it was obvious that and Bill Werber at third. This means the seasons he whacked out more than 20 he was all washed up here. As readers of The Sporting News were pleted the deal, had a fairly good year with If he achieves that trick, he will have a

ways was at the top of the Brooklyn Reiser, Dixie Walker and Padgett, had a and Hank. Christmas list. And in ten years with the surplus of lefthand-hitting outfielders. The roles outlined for the new Dodgers | did drop below the .300 mark. In 1935, he at the present time are as follows:

cash brought Padgett from St. Louis and (CONTINUED ON PAGE 12, COLUMN 2.)

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HANK GREENBERG — THE WRITERS' CHOICE

OB FELLER of Cleveland topped all the pitchers of both majors in victories and Joe DiMaggio of the Yankees led his league in hitting for the second year in succession, but when the votes were counted, it was found that Hank Greenberg of Detroit had been chosen over both the Cleveland ace and the New York slugger by the committee for the Baseball Writers' Association of America as the most valuable player of 1940 in the American League. And the majority of fans, we believe, will

Unquestionably, Feller is a great pitcher, and, if he maintains the form he has shown, will rank among the leading hurlers of all time. His record of 27 victories and low-run games in 1940 speaks for itself. Perhaps if he had been with a championship team this year, the distinction of being named the most valuable in his league might have come to him. but that is only a supposition, for the honor has not always fallen to a member of the pennant winner. His achievements on a team riddled by dissension were brilliant-and under ordinary circumstances might have brought him the most valuable rating, instead of the runner-up spot he gained in 1940.

Feller is a glowing example of how a youth without pull or the advantages of a college education can become tops in his profession within a few years. No more interesting success story could have been conceived in fiction, yet it is typical of what the future has in store for many American youngsters, if they are equipped to take advantage of the opportunity

The story of Hank Greenberg is different. Hank came up the hard way, being compelled to prove his worth in the minors before getting his chance in the Big Show. He perfected himself as a first baseman and a slugger and had reason to believe that the initial station would re- ter Navie's home address is 2620 Cermack main his position throughout his career. However, the necessity arose road, Chicago, Ill.; Paul Erickson, 580 Shifor his team to make a change, if it was to present its full strength the past season and trank was selected to move from first to the untamiliar pastures of the outfield so that the hitting power of Rudy York could be utilized.

F. S., WAMPUM, PA.: LOU SCOFFIC the Rock, Ark.: Thomas Willingham, 412 onto the field to attack an umpire in South Macomb street, El Reno, Okla.: Ben-Brooklyn probably considered himself a league this season as a member of the large this season as a member of th

Greenberg not only accepted his new role like a good soldier, but he set out to learn all he could about the position he was going to play. He paid his own expenses, going to other camps to seek the advice of veteran outfielders. While others were sitting in the shade of the dugout, Hank | old Reese lives at 3205 Virginia avenue, was out shagging flies and endeavoring in every way to overcome the Louisville, Ky.; Pete Reiser, 3018 Taylor avenue, St. Louis, Mo.; Johnny Rucker, handicap of filling an unfamiliar berth.

Such a spirit cannot help but get results—as proved by Greenberg's 1940 performance. He wasn't the most graceful outfielder in the game, nor the fastest, but sheer persistence and pride in his work made him a real flyhawk, who guarded his post well and turned in sensational putouts, simply because he never stopped trying, even when catches seemed

At the same time, Hank did not let his unfamiliar role affect his batting, but maintained the terrific pace he has always set at the plate. He hit .340, the second best mark in his 11 years in Organized Ball, and led the American League in runs driven in, home runs, total bases, number of extra-base hits and doubles, besides ranking second in runs scored. His batting, together with his perseverance in the outfield, helped immeasureably in bringing the pennant to Detroit, and without him, it is doubtful if the Tigers could have won the flag.

Only once in 11 years has Greenberg batted below .300 and he has a lifetime major league average of .326. His outstanding performances include: Tying the American League record for most home runs, 58 in 1938. by a righthanded batter; setting major league mark for most times two or more home runs in a game for one season, 11 in 1938; leading league in runs batted in for three seasons, 1935, 1937 and 1940, and topping league for total bases in two seasons, 1935 and 1940, and doubles, 1934 and 1940. The many high figures in Greenberg's averages speak eloquently for

his ability, but his selection by the experts as the most valuable player in his league for 1940 was based on many other factors. Such intangibles as loyalty, disposition and effort counted heavily on Hank's side, and he Graham, 616½ Obispo, Long Beach, Cal. doubtless won a rating of 100 per cent on such qualities.

So, considering all the elements which help to make a player the most valuable to his team, the baseball writers making up the committee did a fine job in naming Henry (Hank) Greenberg, who deserved the honor bestowed upon him in 1940 even more richly than in 1935, when he won a similar accolade.

THE TEXAS LEAGUE STRENGTHENS ITS FOUNDATION EVERSING the trend of the past few years in the minors, the Texas

League recently voted to reduce its player and salary limits and other circuits doubtless will take similar action when they get together this winter. This is a logical move because of conditions the past season and must not be taken as a confession of weakness. Rather, it is looking at a situation in the game today in a saner light, for more than one large minor, after such a tough season as the past one, must realize it cannot operate on the same scale with the majors and that the smaller leagues are unable to keep step with the minors of higher classification.

Although the game has not reached the saturation point in attendance, some circuits have been flirting dangerously close to that point in their dreams, and their ambitions have proven bigger than their realizations. Population is not always a true guide, for a number of smaller towns support the game much better than other larger communities, and until a city is tried and proven, it must be considered as eligible only to the

classification to which its size normally would entitle it. When it is discovered a league or a city is operating in a classification too costly to support, then there are only two alternatives: Either reduce the salary limit or lower the classification scale. If this is not done, bankruptcy is certain to follow, unless financial angels can be discovered, and these are growing fewer and fewer. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each

organization to stand on its own feet and plan accordingly. Evidence has been produced that some leagues and a number of clubs have not been remaining even within the boundaries set for themselves and expenses have mounted accordingly. No person or organization can go when an accounting must be made.

It may be a source of pride that Podunk, normally a Class D town, has membership in a Class C or B league, but unless Podunk can carry the burden, it had better remain in its own class, instead of trying to put.

The strategy of Newsom is typical of the plan of battle on the land baseball authorities, president, board. on a false front. The folks running the club at Crossroads may think it smart to exceed the salary limit by side agreements with players, but the day of reckoning eventually comes, and then it is just too bad.

On the basis of what the past year has shown, there are a lot of club owners and league officials who will have to put their houses in order through sheer necessity. We believe that enough officials have seen the light, so that the trend toward bigger budgets, such as displayed during the past few years, will be checked. It isn't likely that anybody will be asking for higher salary and player limits at the National Association's annual meeting in December, although these requests have been frequent at recent sessions. However, that isn't enough. There must be insistence on observance of the limits established and, in some cases, lowering of

False pride has no place in the picture; nor has chiseling. It is strongly suspected that both have played a prominent part in causing play. Placing yourself in his position, what would you have done? present difficulties. One can be minimized; the other must be sternly suppressed. In any partnership, fair play and honest dealing must be prac- not the rule, there wouldn't have been much question as to which alter- the Cleveland directorate to clean up its ticed. After all, a league is merely a partnership of club owners. The native to choose, but today, when big innings are frequent, a different business in one meeting. partner who doesn't work on the square has no place in any activity aspect is thrown on the situation. Yet there remains that tying run, which with those who do, and it shouldn't require evidence in a legal court to helped the Red Sox to pull up even with the Tigers and go on to win in who will succeed Vitt merely adds to convince his co-workers that he should be tossed out on his ear. His associates cannot help but know the wrecker, or have a good idea of his identify and unless that the Detroit-Boston game. It pro-directorate wants. At least we are insidentify and unless that the latest we are insidentify and unless that the latest wants are reflect on the identity, and unless they take courage in their hands and oust the malefactor, they'll be wrecked along with him. The time for glossing over YOU think? salary violations has passed.

Baseball, under ordinary conditions, can pay for itself, if conducted within reasonable limits and on a budget within the means of each community. It is on that point that club owners and league officials must establish themselves—or PERISH,

WHY GIVE RIVALS THE TYING RUN? ANAGERS and second-guessers in the stands frequently differ as to

how some situations should be met, but none has caused more discussion this fall than the argument heard between many so-called tacticians of the old school and of the present day as to whether it is sound strategy to concede a run in order to make a double play. Seldom, nowadays, do we see an attempt to cut off a run at the plate, when third and first, for instance, are occupied and none out, if there is a chance to make a double play with the force at second. Frequently in such situations, even the tying tally is permitted to cross the plate.

An outstanding instance of the late season might be cited as an example of the lengths to which the defending side goes to make a double play rather than stop a run from crossing the plate. The incident came up in the sixth inning of a game in the final series of the Boston Red Sox at Detroit. With runners on first and third, nobody out, and the score 3 to 2 in favor of Detroit, Bobbie Doerr tapped the ball back to the box. Buck Newsom, on the mound, had the choice of two plays. He could throw to the plate with virtual certainty that the runner from third would be trapped between the bases, or he could throw to second with the probability of starting a double play. Buck decided to throw to second for in advance, but the MacPhail plan modifies this arrangement by includthe double killing and allowed the tying run to score.

Detroit, it so happened, lost the game in the thirteenth inning, but available. The outlay for one seat is not nearly as large as in the case would have won over the regulation distance if the tying run had not of box reservations for the season, yet the plan has the same advantage

the next two batters in that frame had been retired. Newsom, defending his throw to second, explained that his idea was it strikes an effective blow at the scalpers. to "get out of a big inning" and he thought the cost of one run was cheap. have been trapped sure, and we would have had to run him down. While effect.

STAFF OF JOE STRIPP SCHOOL



TREPARING for a new season, Joe Stripp, former major leaguer, is organizing the teaching staff for his baseball school, which sent 30 players into Organized Ball last season after sessions at Tinker Field, Orlando, heartily second the nomination and hail the scribes' action as a wise se- Fla., and which will hold its sixth annual instruction period from January 7 to February 16, 1941. Shown here is the faculty and training staff of the school. Left to right, standing-Ben Cantwell, Van Mungo, Bob Weiland, Don Padgett, Joe Medwick, Lou Hurst and Doc May; kneeling-Joe Tinker, John Cooney, Eddie Miller, Jimmy Jordan, George Andrews and Joe Stripp.

.: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS .:

FAN, DOVER, PA.: SORRY, BUT WE tall and weighs 234 pounds. He lives at do not have record of address of Norman 801 North Mulberry street, Richmond, Va.

FAN, ST. LOUIS, MO.: IN SCORING A sacrifice hit, letters SH are used. Answer may be written or typed.

BOSTON FAN, BOSTON, MASS.: HOME address of Al Barlick is R. F. D. 5, Box 6. Springfield, Ill.; Joe Gaffney played with Cooleemee, Mount Airy and Landis, 1939;

FAN, SAN DIEGO, CAL .: EDWIN Schweda played with Wausau and Hopkinsville in 1938 and Lubbock in 1940.

TEXAS LEAGUER, NO ADDRESS: WALloah boulevard, Zlon, Ill.

Decatur team, his unofficial mark being ABC & QZM, PLAINFIELD, N. J.: HAR-

Louisville, Ky.; Pete Reiser, 3018 Taylor Alpharetta, Ga. A. M. M., BROOKLYN, N. Y.: THE FIRST major league team with which Vito Tamulis

South Boston, Mass. T. N. T., DAYTON, O.: MINOR LEAGUE reserve list for 1940 has not yet been released by the National Association, Will probably be published in November 28 issue of THE SPORTING NEWS,

played was the New York Yankees. His

home address is 347 W. Fourth street,

R. A. Y., GREENVILLE, OHIO: GLENN Moulder was born September 28, 1917; Henry Meyer, July 10, 1917; Virgil Ricketts, January 19, 1919. Johnny Vander Meer lives at 1026 Delaware street, Scranton, Pa.

W. M. M., BENSONVILLE, ILL.: HOME addresses requested are as follows: Bob Mattick, 5365 Geraldine avenue, St. Louis, Mo.; Ken Raffensberger, 653 West Philadelphia street, York, Pa. Eddie Miller, 258 Plymouth street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

H. L. K., BATH, N. Y.: HOME "ADdresses you requested are as follows: Eddie Murphy, 207 Bridge street, Joliet, Ill.; Ed Remorenko, Brookhaven, Chester, Pa.; Pete

UMPS FANS, KANSAS CITY, MO.: JOHN Conlan, was born in Chicago, 'Ill., December 6, 1902, is five feet seven inches tall and weighs 154 pounds. He lives at 5922 Walton street, Chicago, Ill. Forrest Peters lives at Champaign, Ill. You may communicate with him by writing him in care of the Fire Department, Champaign. Hal Weafer was born in Woburn, Mass., March 27, 1900, is slx feet one-half inch

Necrology

Paul J. Fitzpatrick, 34-year-old sports editor of the magazine News-Week, died at White Plains, N. Y., October 28, after a week's illness, following an operation. The widow, a son, daughter and sister

Fred Keltner, 65-year-old father of Kenneth Keltner, third baseman of the Cleveland Indians, died at Milwaukee, Wis., October 26, after an illness of six months. In addition to Ken, another son, a daughter, the widow, four brothers and a sister

Granby and Three Rivers, 1940. Ray Bessom played with Springfield, O., in 1938-39; Wilkes-Barre, 1940. Al Costello was with Jackson, Miss., Meridian, Anniston and Palestine in 1938; Palestine and Oklahoma City, 1939; Dallas and Longview, 1940. "Lots of people

EL RENO, OKLA .: HOME AD-Carl Hubbell, 1105 Fort Worth National Bank building, Fort Worth, Tex.; Dizzy Dean, 4421 Arcady, Dallas, Tex.; Joe Di-Maggio, 2047 Taylor street, San Francisco,

Thanks from Winners

Additional acknowledgments were received last week from prize winners in a contest for listeners, conducted by THE SPORTING NEWS in connection with the recent popularity poll for baseball broadcasters:

William F. Mayer, Jr., Louisville, Ky., who won third prize, writes: "I hope you will not think me unappreciative for not writing sooner, but the pleasure I received from the good news was broken by a sudden death in our family the same day the check came.

"It was very gratifying to receive the award. I have been a reader of THE SPORTING NEWS for about ten years and always enjoy the

Nancy Wright, 4339 Cleveland avenue, San Dlego, Cal., who was awarded a year's subscription to THE SPORTING NEWS, reports the contest was the first in which she ever had won a prize. She continued: "I have been reading THE SPORT-ING NEWS for almost two years. Ever since, as a matter of fact, I persuaded the family to present a subscription to my brother, an usher at the local park, Lane Field, as a Christmas remembrance. The fact that the entire group of us usually manages to read the paper through during the week is indicative of its interest to fans of all

Expressing his thanks for the 12month subscription to THE SPORT-ING NEWS which was awarded him, William J. Hinchman of Philadelphia, Pa., writes:

"I have been a reader of your paper since 1915, though I have lost my copies from that time up to 1928. However, I have saved every issue since that time. Now I am sure of 52 more copies to add to that collection, but shall continue for many more. It is a paper that every player and fan should not fail to read each week,"

have been only one out and either of the two succeeding batters could a new manager. on indefinitely spending more than is taken in, and there comes a time have driven in two runs with a single. As it was, two runners were retired, the bases emptied and one more out was needed to end the in- someone to make a decision on its base- in the park playing ball-and the game was in the seventh inning!" ning, thus choking off what might have turned out to be a big rally, with ball matters as it was many months ago,

diamond today. However, some of the old school have seen fit to differ, land baseball authorities, president, board diamond today. However, some of the old school have seen in to differ, of directors, et al., have been as lacking and yelp over such modern "inside ball." Its proponents point out that if a play had been made for Williams, Cronin could have been kept from going farther than second and Doerr held at first. Even if Cronin and the heat of the battle between Vitt and Doerr each took an extra base, the old school argues that the Red Sox the players was on. It was no secret should have been compelled to drive in the run, rather than to be conceded that Vitt was not going to be retained, the tally. It is further argued that Newsom might have made a wild throw yet we had hoped that when the Cleveto second, in which case all runners might have scored, and even if the land authorities said so officially, they throw was perfect, the runner from first might have made it impossible for might have issued some sort of a statethe shortstop to complete the double play, in which situation a run would ment saying why. have scored and only one would have been out. Here is a moot point of strategy, offering logical argument, pro and Cleveland baseball writers would ask why.

con. However, Buck did not have time to consult anybody. He had to Apparently they did not. Or, if they through college, and to sign a contract with the Yankees. act one way or the other, instantly, and he decided in favor of the double did, the answer, if forthcoming, was re-

In the old days, when the ball was not as lively and hard hitting was vides a very interesting subject for a Hot Stove argument. What do clined to that view, as we reflect on the my boy.

MacPHAIL SCORES AGAIN WITH ADVANCE SALES ARRY MacPHAIL, who introduced night ball to the majors and

has given numerous other innovations to the game, has come up with another idea—a group plan of advance ticket sales for the "big days" of the Brooklyn Dodgers next season. - Under this arrangement, one reserved seat for the opening game, two holidays and seven night games should be inducted into military service McGraw Called Hank 'Too Big and Awkward' may be purchased for \$16.50, with one box seat for the same dates costing in the United States, when it is not at \$22.30. A reserved seat for all these games, plus 12 Sundays, may be obtained for \$36.30, or \$48.40 for a box seat. A small deposit will hold such reservations until February 1. In seeking to build up an advance sale for the Dodgers, the red-

headed Larry is borrowing a leaf from the book of collegiate football. The most successful example of the plan as applied to college gridiron if any duty next season," writes Wilgames is the Army-Notre Dame contest. All of the 78,000 tickets for that liams. "Draft eligibles will simply march game, played November 2 at Yankee Stadium, were sold a month in off to camp and that will be that. No efadvance—thus assuring the athletic departments of both colleges a full forts will be made to obtain deferred financial return, regardless of weather conditions on the day of the game. service. However, the advance-sale idea has two other features that are equally as important. It gives loyal followers of the Dodgers an oppor- not inconsistent, that hockey will prob-

tunity to assure themselves of choice seats for big games at Ebbets Field ably not lose a single star this season. next season, and strikes a blow at scalpers. It is unlikely, MacPhail fig- Practically all hockey players come from ures, that speculators will be inclined to pay out large amounts of money to tie up quantities of seats for big days of the Dodgers several months in advance of their actual use. Numerous major and minor league clubs sell season box reservations

ing only big days, and by making reserved seats, as well as box seats, been permitted to trickle over the plate in the sixth-provided, of course, as far as the loyal fan is concerned, while from the club's standpoint it should bring just as large, or even larger, advance sale. And, finally, Chalk up another hit for Larry MacPhail in pioneering a promotion it's too delicate a subject for us to rassle

Scribbled by ScribeS

Defining the Real Fan ESPITE the fact that baseball is our national pastime, Jimmy Powers,

sports editor of the New York Daily News, wonders how many Americans really love the game for its finer points of play, aside from partisonship, and then goes on to define a real fan. "The skepticism was put into my noodle

by a man who has become a red-hot pro football fan, who is a baseball fan, too," says Powers. "Here is what he told me over our coffee the other day: 'I think the pro football fan comes nearer to being a lover of the game itself than the baseball fan. If you attend the pro pigskin games, I think you will notice that every good play, every daring, brilliant bit of action is applauded on both sides of the field. In short, the fan comes to see the game well played and he isn't nearly as partisan as the ball fan. It seems to me that the greater part of the games excepted, of course) is done by the gambler. "This is not true in baseball. Most of

the fans come to the park hoping that one team or the other will win by skill, or by luck, They root just as hard, many of them whether they are betting or not. At least, that's the way I am impressed when I study the crowds at ball games.' "There is something to his argument. It seems to me that the baseball lover who gets the biggest run for his money is the one who just goes out to see the game. A brilliant catch, a daring piece of base running, a tight, heady game of pitching. . . these are all part of the game, and speech. what's the difference which side per-

eyes. He is able to sense strategy-what each side is trying to pull—he is able to tell what was a 'break' and what was a skillful maneuver. He sees the game as a struggle between 18 men, and the managerial brains behind them. A man like Hoyt not only looks at a ball game-

"Lots of people go to the opera to listen to music, a musician once told me, but dresses of players requested are: Lou Bou-dreau, 14632 Halstead street, Harvey, Ill.; Bill Dickey, 1922 West Second street, Litwas not a baseball lover at all. Neither was the man who dumped refuse onto the head

of Birdie Tebbetts a true lover of the game. "Probably the best fan is the fellow who goes out to the park on a lazy summer afternoon, eats his peanuts, observes the game as a game and perhaps from his vantage point of impartiality, has a bit of fun heckling the home-towners when the visiting team pulls off a good one. In short, real baseball lovers are born, not made. You have to be born with an inner sense of sportsmanship."

Brooklyn Strikes at Scalpers

The new system of seat sales to be adopted by the Brooklyn Dodgers next season is a blow aimed at scalpers, declares Edward T. Murphy of the New York Sun, who says the speculators have been cleaning up on the sidewalks at Ebbets Field.

"Seats for choice attractions at Ebbets Field, such as opening day, two holiday dates, seven night games and 12 Sundays, will be sold to customers under a group plan," Murphy explains. "The new sales system will be in effect until February 1. Meanwhile, there won't be an advance sale of single-game tickets.

"Followers of the Dodgers who have a desire to do their ticket buying in advance will have four groups to choose from: 1. One reserved seat for the opening game, two holidays and seven night games, total cost, \$16.50. 2. One box seat for the opening game, two holidays and seven night games, \$22,30, 3. One reserved seat for the opening game, two holidays, seven night games and 12 Sungames and 12 Sundays, \$48.40. A cus- right girl. tomer can reserve tickets under any one of the group plans by paying a small deposit. Reservations will be held until February 1.

"Dodger fans who purchase tickets under the new system will be assured of having choice seats for the big days next season. Officials of the club are hopeful that the new method of selling tickets will decrease the business of the scalpers who have been cleaning up handsomely for many seasons in the vicinity of Ebbets Field. "In putting the group plan into oper-

ation, John McDonald, the Dodgers' secretary, suggests that a set of tickets might | hard, persistent worker. solve some Christmas gift problems."

Decries Indecision at Cleveland

The same indecision that marked the affairs of the Cleveland club during the

"We even had some hope that the in the dispatch. How much better for visited my home with Mrs. Krichell. all concerned it would have been for

"The delay in selecting the manager spokesman's statement that he enjoyed was the only one in Cleveland who did."

Difference in Service Requirements Joe Williams of the New York World Jean Dubuc of the Tigers eventually gave Hank \$9,000. Telegram wonders why baseball players war, and Canada, which is in the war. does not find it necessary to call in its hockey players. "Baseball owners are resigned to the

fact that a certain percentage of their stars will not be available for full time

"This being so, it strikes us as strange, any hockey star who has served a two- choice. weeks' militia hitch has done his duty for the time being. We are told all the stars have done this and will be on hand when the ice games start. All of which is fine for the hockey owners, much finer than it threatens to be for the baseball

is that Canada is actually at war and America is never going to war. Anyway, 'Suppose I had thrown to the plate," said Bobo, "Williams would plan that other clubs in Organized Ball will find profitable to put into with at length. We just can't help wondering about it, that's all."

"What makes this seem strange to us

hree and Une Looking them over with

"THAT'S MY POP"--DAVID GREENBERG

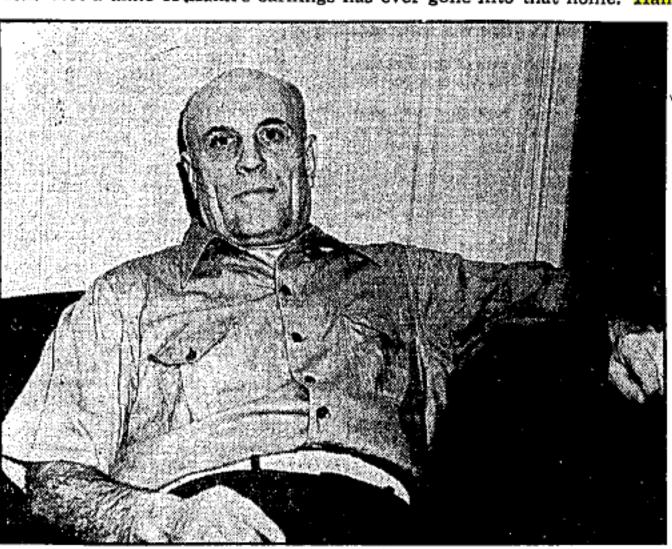
TEW YORK, N. Y.—Sandwiched between two big apartment buildings on Crotona Park North, New York City, is a 16-room brick dwelling —the home of the Greenberg family. Across the street is long, wide Crotona Park, on the diamonds of which Hank Greenberg became partisan rooting at football games (college a ball player. Hank did not develop on the sidewalks of New York, like Lou Gehrig. As a boy, he had only to cross the street from his home to be on playgrounds which had given many another player to professional ball.

At the door of the Greenberg home, you are ushered into the parlor -a pleasant, old-fashioned, quiet, modestly-furnished room-and you are greeted by Hank's father, David Greenberg, a well set-up man of 57. Occupying the place of honor on the wall is a plaque which baseball writers of New York presented to Hank. In and out of the room bustles Hank's mother, Sarah Greenberg. She beams with pride, but has little to say. Hank himself is downtown,

What did the Greenberg family think of Hank's being awarded the Most Valuable Player trophy of the American League for the second time? "Well, without boasting, we are not surprised," replied David Greenberg, whom Hank strongly resembles in appearance, mannerisms and

"Could they have given it to anyone else? What more could a hard-working, earnest ball player give to his job than Hank gave to his "Sit beside a veteran like Waite Hoyt this past season? They asked him to change from first base to left field, and notice how he watches a game. He and he did it. You know how well he handled his new position. You looks at the play with keen, experienced also know that the experts said it could not be done-that Hank was too advanced and maybe too slow. Well, he fooled them all. However, there is no sense in my going over all the accomplishments of my boy this past season. The fans know, and it is in the records."

David Greenberg built that home on Crotona Park North. He has a summer home in West End, N. J. He goes to Miami Beach for two months every winter. He has a prosperous cloth-shrinking plant in New York. Not a dime of Hank's earnings has ever gone into that home. Hank



'HANK'S BASEBALL AMBITIONS MADE ME ANGRY AT FIRST' -but now Greenberg, Sr., takes keen pride in his son's play.

was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, and that makes all the more remarkable his development into one of the greatest hitters of all time. Most ball players are born in anything but affluence. Inevitably, those who come of wealthy parents lack the incentive to become great performers on the diamond. But in many things, as well as ball-playing ability, Henry Greenberg is an exception.

What is Dad Greenberg's chief concern about Hank right now? Well. he confesses he would like to see him married. "Married to some nice, quiet girl from a nice, quiet family-and if she has only sweetness and modesty and a faculty for making my boy happy, she can come without days, \$36.30. 4. One box seat for the a dime." But Hank isn't thinking of marriage, he insists. He is too opening game, two holidays, seven night much taken up with his diamond career to settle down to finding the

Put Sawdust on Lawn--And Pop Saw Red

Hank's development into a ball player "A tell us the keynote to Hank's development into a ball player. "As I look back at it, I think it came when he still was in high school," Greenberg, Sr., replied. "I used to potter around in the back yard, where I had grown a fine lawn. It was my pride and joy. Fishing and gardening were my hobbies. Now I just fish. One day I found the whole lawn covered with sawdust. I was mystified and angry.

"I discovered that Hank had bought the sawdust at our butcher's and was learning how to slide. I ordered the sawdust out of the yard. H would take it out in the afternoon, and bring it back in the morning That, I believe, tells you a lot about the boy. He always has been

'In James Monroe High School, he played baseball, football, baske ball, handball and soccer. To keep up this athletic program, he would be up studying at 6 in the morning. 'I will admit that for a time Hank's baseball ambitions had me angr

I wanted him to go to college, and become a professional man. Baseb season has continued, in the opinion of was nothing new to me. I was a Giant fan. Babe Ruth, though, was nothing new to me. the runner was dodging along the base lines," Newsom argued, "the runner Warren Brown of the Chicago Herald- later idol. Somehow, I could not connect my son with a baseball cared from first would have gone to third and Doerr to second. There would American, decrying the delay in naming "I had a rule that the entire family had to be at the dinner take every evening. Nothing could be served until I came home. Imagine ho "Cleveland is still as badly lacking in I felt when we had to wait evening after evening, because Hank was acre

when the rebellion against Oscar Vitt was first reported," asserts Brown. "The Cleve- Bonus Greenbacks Didn't Budge Greenberg, Sr.

WE ASKED Greenberg, Sr., to go back to the beginning. To about his family, about Hank's start, to clear up certain sto about his family, about Hank's start, to clear up certain stor which have been current about him. For example, the one t the elder Greenberg had sat waiting for John J. McGraw in reception room of the Giants for two days, only to be turned do Well, I was born in Rumania, and I came to this country in 1 at the age of 16," David Greenberg recounted. "My oldest son is Benjar who is in the jewelry business. Then comes Lillian, who was a sch teacher and now is Mrs. Golson. Hank is the third and Joe, also a player, comes fourth. Joe was with Shreveport last season. "When Hank still was in high school, I had a visit from Paul Krich

scout of the Yankees. He urged me to let the New York club send Ha 'I did not care to let Hank go into baseball. I was more interest garded as too unimportant to incorporate in his education. But Krichell was insistent. He made me several offer

> "The whole thing mystified me. Was this all a joke? What was all about? Were they just trying to lure Hank away from college? "I was invited to see Edward G. Barrow, now president of the Ya kees, and he advised me not to let Hank play with an out-of-town clu He warned against the temptations which beset a young man and assured him Hank could take care of himself, and I could take care

"Mr. Barrow started at \$1,000 and after a while got to \$7,500. I to the last season so much. If he did, he him I would go home and think it over. The \$7,500 did not tempt m I had seen that much money before. I say in all sincerity I would no have jumped at \$50,000. I wanted Hank to go to college.

"Along came Joe Engel from the Washington club and offered \$12,00

S THESE offers piled up," continued Greenberg, Sr., "I began to give some thought to baseball. I asked myself if, in discouraging Han from going into the game, I was doing the right thing for my bo I went to see my friend Max Schneider, president of the Sterlin National Bank. He not only was a fan, but knew many of the baseba

"I asked Max to see McGraw and find out what this thing was about. If Hank was good enough, I wanted him with the Giants. McGra told Schneider that Hank was too big and awkward, and never would a ball player. That, naturally, was quite a blow to my pride.

"Hank persuaded me to allow him to go into baseball and try it out f six months before going to college. He did not want to go to Washingto because it had Joe Judge at first base. He did not like the Yankees, cause they had Lou Gehrig. He wanted some club which could give hi Canada. If our understanding is correct, an early chance. He picked Detroit-and you know how wise was the "Detroit sent him to East Douglas, Mass., where he played week-end

> after Hank. My boy became a pal of Win Schuster, the owner's so Hank was coming along. An occasional \$50 bonus sort of proved it. "Hank had gone from high school to the Bay Parkways in Brookl and the offers piled up after that. 'That's the story. He always has been a superior athlete, a super boy, and now he is a superior man. That's not just the opinion of

> I visited with Mr. Schuster, who owned the club, and he promised to lo

father, is it?" We assured him it wasn't.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 1, COLUMN 3.)

The Sporting News

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THEIR PLACE IN THE SERVICE

SKING no favors and even refusing to accept a concession that would have permitted him to participate in the flag-raising ceremonies at Briggs Stadium, Hank Greenberg, the game's highest salaried player and the most valuable in the American League for 1940, entered the service of the United States on May 7, as unostentatiously as the press would permit him. For a year at least, Hank will hear no plaudits from major league stadiums over his slugging feats, but will be a soldier, serving in the ranks with a million or so other young men training in their country's defense program.

However, the question arises whether Greenberg, Hugh Mulcahy and other outstanding players should be kept in the ranks. If a man is an expert marksman, he is given a special assignment on the range to teach others less proficient in shooting. If he is skilled in construction, he is transferred to duty with the quartermaster corps. Talents and experience in various other lines are similarly utilized, as they rightly should be, for men qualified as specialists ought not to be held to the routine of barracks or field duties.

Unquestionably, sports will play an important part in building up the physique and morale of the men in the service. Army officers have emphasized the necessity of such a program and extensive recreational schedules have been prepared. To conduct and supervise them, trained men are needed. It is in such a field that the Greenbergs and Mulcahys of baseball and the stars in other athletic endeavors qualify. Perhaps the government contemplates utilizing them in those capacities, after they have received the rudiments of training. It does seem the opportunity should not be passed up, although it is understood Mulcahy still is at Camp Devens, doing occasional pitching, with his greater utility overlooked or ignored.

As exemplified by Greenberg, baseball is asking no special concessions

and expects no favors that are not granted others. But diamond performers inducted into the service are entitled to the same consideration given those skilled in other lines and should be permitted to utilize their talents by being assigned to work they know better than others.

Although Greenberg is one of the outstanding hitters of his time and Mulcahy one of the game's best pitchers, these distinctions in themselves do not entitle them to any special consideration over others. However, the fact should be kept in mind that they are specialists as much as chemists, physicians, arms experts and all the others and that, as such, full advantage should be taken of their presence in the service. Joe Doaks may be just as good a soldier—in fact, he might be a better one—but he lacks the qualifications to give the special service that Greenberg and Mulcahy can furnish and Joe's name lacks the inspiration theirs carry.

We do not believe the Army will make the mistakes committed in 1917 and 1918, when square pegs were stuffed into round holes without due Walker the Cubs' boss when the Chicago Cubs traded Camilli for Don ing in five minor leagues until taken ill Q.—What are you doing, in managing the Indians, that Vitt did not do? Also, ging the ball for some camp team, but for him to be directing the physical activities of large groups, for which he is especially fitted, and giving more that he was too much of a fan. He watched the batting averages too closely and this span," commented McCann, "came in material aid to the upbuilding of esprit de corps than by merely shoulder- was influenced too much by them. . . . Jimmie Wilson and myself were talking his first year-1915-when he was umpiring a rifle or squinting behind a machine gun. And if Hank is given the about it the other day. . . . If a guy was .larger job, his success during his career is proof enough he will make hitting .360, Mr. Walker wanted himgood at the assignment.

LOCKING THE STABLE DOOR IN ADVANCE

WO OFFICIAL warnings have been issued by President W. G. Bramham of the National Association, in the face of rumors-WARNINGS liked Camilli and knew he was a better against gambling in the parks and against violations of salary limits. player than Hurst, Club officials assert the rumors are groundless, but Bramham, without waiting for tangible evidence, took the bull by the horns to urge F course, Camilli was not hitting the erection of safeguards before it is too late.

Gambling on the game is a danger against which the sport must always be armed. While the speculation in itself may be harmless, especially when conducted on a small scale by the ordinary spectator, its "Used to strike out a lot. . . . But Hurst ramifications are so extensive that any letting down of the bars is likely was pretty terrible at times himself. He to lead into fields where baseball has no place.

Erection of signs that proclaim, "No Gambling Allowed," or the in the Phillies old bandbox park. . . . As warning printed on the back of admission tickets, that holders will be ejected if discovered gambling on games, is not sufficient. There should ting ready to send him back to the be rigid policing of the parks and support of legislation that will provide sufficient grounds for prosecution. It is useless to round up groups of gamblers, haul them into courts and then see them freed for the lack of laws to cover the situation. Some progress is being made toward the adoption of state legislation penalizing so-called "fixers," one measure already having been passed in California and another being introduced in Illinois. Camilli to make the deal. . . . But Nugent Such laws are commendable, since they reach out and grab the men who was so happy to get Camilli, who made previously have been untouchable, but they are not inclusive enough to him a lot of money in the transfer to the

bar many practices which are inimical to the best interests of the game. Heads of clubs should weigh carefully the warning of the president for Galan, of the National Association and see that strict enforcement of available rules and regulations is carried out. In some cases, especially in the smaller towns, the task may be personally disagreeable, for the support at the gate of some of the men likely to be involved is an important addition to the exchequer, but the ultimate gain is greater than the immediate loss. On the other hand, the task of the smaller club owner is easier than in the big cities, for he is more intimately acquainted with his patrons and knows where the weeding-out process should start.

Many of the present generation still remember the jolt the game received from the Black Sox scandal two decades ago. It showed how necessary it is that constant vigilance be exercised. Not even the smallest shoots of gambling should be overlooked, even in places remote from the majors, lest they take root.

Observance of salary limits is equally important. Failure to ad here to such limits dragged down the minors to their lowest ebb a decade ago and those who passed through that period never will forget it. However, men new to baseball have come into the game since then, some of whom apparently have not had impressed upon them the seriousness of But I'll take Camilli on his present rating. rookie why he did it,

There is no surer way to bankruptcy for a club or a league than side you can't put together a deal to get him agreements that permit the paying of more money than the regulations for us." . . . Then Grimm stared straight in two weeks allow. Those limits are established for the protection of all and supposedly within the ability of all members of a league to pay. If one club er. A grand man and a great guy. . . jumps the limitations, others keep pace. Before long, rival owners are en- Wasn't it Shakespeare who said: 'The bad gaged in a race to see which can pay the most, until all of them are deals men make live after them, the good brought up abruptly at the point where the bank balance is exhausted are oft interred with their bones?" and mortgages are piled on top of mortgages. The eventual collapse usually is blamed on failure of local support, but the real reason is juggling with salary rolls.

There was a time when some club officials could exceed salary limits and get away with the practice, but the administrators of Organized Ball, grown hard-boiled through necessity, are not disposed to handle any more infractions with a velvet hand. Heavy fines, suspension from the game and or not. . . . Larry burns a lot of energy forfeiture of franchises, extreme though they may be as penalties, are none too heavy, for the welfare of the game, as a whole, demands that violations of salary limits be stamped out.

KEEPING UP WITH THE PROCESSION

WINNING team is the short road to big gates, and when a club owner has a pace-setter he does not need to resort to any artificial means to attract crowds. However, as there can be only one club on top, the others have to keep on their toes with promotion to attract patrons to the park. It may be color, it may be showmanship, it may be aggressiveness, it may be personal popularity, it may be a feud-but there must be something to draw the fans, when the opposition is supplied by teams other than the leaders.

The example of Larry MacPhail at Brooklyn is too well known to need any detailed description. The Flatbush redhead pulled 'em in when the Dodgers were not as hot as they are today; he is reaping even greater revenue now as a result of his previous missionary work, proving that although the world loves a winner, it also likes a go-getter.

Less well known, because his field is more restricted, is the work of Earl Mann at Atlanta in the Southern Association. Like the Dodgers, the Crackers' turnstiles are spinning this year because of the groundwork Mann laid in the past,

Courtesy is one of Mann's basic principles and he has many ways of putting this into practice. For example, he has even installed special telephones, with hired help to give the scores to fans who call the park for the information. During a double-header last summer, 6,000 persons utilized the service to find out how the games were progressing. Circumstances of one sort or another prevented these people from going out to the park that day, but because of the friendly interest shown in their inquiries, it is dollars to doughnuts they didn't pass up the opportunity when presented later.

Earl holds to the theory that "Men's Nights," as well as "Ladies" Nights," are a profitable innovation. A recent free night held in Atlanta for the men drew about 15,000 of them. Many brought along the wife Dodgers, is a deputy sheriff in Vigo Coun- Larry MacPhail was talking through his or girl friend, who hiked the paid admissions to over 3,000 and made ty, Indiana, with headquarters at Terre headgear.

Politicians, movie stars and other celebrities are featured at many pi, their young second baseman, "Creepy." parks on opening days at Atlanta, but Earl Mann is going to break away . . . Hank Gowdy, Reds' coach, wears an from that routine next year. Instead, the "Unknown Fan" is going to old brown tie when the champs badly have his inning. He will be chosen by popular vote and Mann expects to need a victory. He's been using it overhandle around 50,000 ballots next spring for the innovation. He antici- time of late. pates the park will be crowded when the citizenry files in to glimpse the "Unknown Fan" when he throws out the first ball.

The number of ideas which can be introduced is limited only by the number of idea-makers and the game has plenty of these, who need only an opportunity to express themselves. The chief handicap has been the stiff-backed club owner who wouldn't open his mind and his facilities to them. There are numerous ways in which the game can be further popularized, without hippodroming the sport, and the surface has only been are ready to take a flier at pro football a face-lifting. So there's nothing to do poise and experience—and win the respect about it is a leason which like the ABCs we leave the population of the players—on less exacting testing. their progressive kind—but it is a lesson which, like the ABCs we learned grid loop goes over. But Pop Connie half the managers don't know the eleva- grounds than the hot spot behind the

OUT FOR ANOTHER FLAG

By Burris Jenkins, Jr., in N. Y. Journal and American





T WAS ON the bench with the Cubs. . . . Charlie Grimm, a 100 per cent grin guy, was a trifle glum. . . . "I didn't like to hear about William Walker passing away," said Charlie. "He was president of the who points out McGowan had not missed Cubs part of the time I was manager." . . . Out on the field Dolph an assignment in 16 seasons in the majors Camilli niftied through fielding practice for the Dodgers. . . . "Wash't and only one game in ten years of umpir-Hurst of the Phillies," we asked Grimm. . . . "Yes, he was," reflected one morning last August. Charlie. "That was a bad one. The trouble with Walker, a fine gentleman, was

right now. . . . Neither Wilson, who was managing the Phillies then, nor I, knew a thing about that Camilli-for-Hurst deal. Jimmie wouldn't believe it when Gerry Nugent told him about it, because Jimmie

much for the Cubs at the time the deal was made. He hadn't actually found himself," continued Grimm was making that high batting average a matter of fact, the Phillies were getminors. . . . That's why Nugent almost fell off his chair when Mr. Walker called him long distance and said he wanted Hurst, . . . And here's a funny thing-Mr. Walker wanted Hurst so badly he would have thrown in Augie Galan with Dodgers, that he didn't think of asking

"Yes," continued Grimm, "I would say that Camilli is one of the best first basemen in the majors, . . . Just a natural. . . . No, I never had to show Camilli a thing," protested Charlie, who was quite a first sacker in his day. . . . "Dolph instinctively knew how to do things. . . . He practiced a lot. . . Had the infielders purposely throw in the dirt and to the right and left of him so he could learn to handle all kinds of chances."

"Yeah, a marvel on bad throws and hard batter stepped up, swung-and drove the hit grounders, . . . Great hitter, too. . . . ball out of the park! Jim Bottomley was another good one. . . .

. . . So will Jimmie Wilson, . . . See if

will toss up his job as the high noble-toby of the Dodgers within the looking after the club 24 hours a day and has a spot on the ocean front in Maryland where he plans to go and take things easy. . . . There are 20 miles of shore line on the site. . . In MacPhail's private office, there isn't a picture of a player or a baseball action picture on the walls. . . . The Sacramento park hasn't a flag pole,

but that isn't worrying Pepper Martin. On the side to Charles McAllister, Tuscola, Ala.: Drop a line to Jack Pierce, 87 Henry street, Brooklyn, N. Y. . . . Jim Fitzsimmons, a nephew of the Dodgers' Fred Fitzsimmons, is pitching for the University of Alabama freshman team and doing a good job. . . . Cheer note: Nick Altrock, the Pagliacci of the diamond, will not be a cripple, after all. The leg he broke last winter in a fall from an orange tree is now on the mend and the medicos say he will be able to walk again . . . Frankie Frisch rates Sam Nahem, Cardinal rookie, one of the best young pitchers he's seen in a long time. . . . "Wish he'd have stuck to the law instead of throwing against us," moaned

Clark Griffith, who is feuding about the waiver business, recently claimed a dozen Shibe Park. . . . John P. (Chi News) Car-Haute, . . . The Cardinals call Frank Cres-

T'S Lefty Gomez talkings "Now, if a a coach or manager in his life and never that way for four years, or ever since set his admitted errors. wants no part of it, other than leasing out tion of the mounds in their own parks. | catcher?"

HUMOROUS HAPPENINGS FROM HERE and THERE in O.B.

NOTE-Believing that fans, as well as players and officials, will relish stories dealing with humorous incidents on and off the diamond, THE SPORTING NEWS invites major and minor league scribes to contribute anecdotes to this column. Payment will be made for each one published.

By LES BIEDERMAN Pittsburgh Press

Pie Traynor, the former Pirate manager, who now is looking after the Pittsburgh farm system, says the funniest thing he dropped in on a ball game.

third, one out and a young kid, fresh from that McGowan-and like every umpire, the farm, was at bat," Traynor related. "The manager flashed the double-steal ture of baseball, he has a right to be." sign and both runners were off with the nitch. But the visiting team wasn't to be caught napping. The catcher fired the Grimm checked briefly on great first ball to second, where it was intercepted basemen. . . "That fellow Terry was one by the shortstop, who blazed it back to ball is that a pennant-winner cannot be of the best I have seen," he said. . . ; the plate. To everyone's amazement, the

"The manager raved and asked the

"'Gosh,' the rookie replied, 'that's the first fast ball that's come over this plate in two weeks and I couldn't help taking

By TOMMY FITZGERALD Louisville, Ky., Courier-Journal

Erection of a wall to separate the entrance to the Louisville clubhouse from the promenade beneath the stands has failed to daunt autograph-seekers at the next two years, whether the Brook- Colonels' games. On Saturdays, when lyn Savings and Trust Company likes it members of the Knothole Gang and Maiden Boosters are guests of the club, the autograph hunters are most numerous and most persistent.

Nick Denes, a member of the Male High School faculty, visited the clubhouse with this writer after a recent game. A group of Knotholers, thinking Denes was a Colonel, crowded around him and asked for his autograph when he emerged from the clubhouse gate.

"I'm not a ball player," Denes said. "I'm a school teacher. You don't want and paid for. Thus MacPhail seems to Became Manager of Yankees at 23 my autograph, do you?" "A school teacher!" exclaimed a dirty-

faced urchin, "Hell, naw!" By FRANK YEUTTER Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger

After Dick Siebert hit two home runs against the New York Yankees and Jimmie Foxx of Boston had to be content with a couple of puny singles against the Athletics, the two had an exchange of words at first base. "Do you mind my stealing your stuff?"

Siebert asked. "Not at all," came back Jimmie. "For me, that would be a good day-for you, it's a good season,'

Yankees, but the proffers all were with- michael has reminded Jim Gallagher of drawn. The Old Fox doesn't intend to let the Cubs that when he (Carmichael) wrote another Babe Dahlgren get away. . . . Doc back in March that Billy Herman would be Cramer, who is a pharmacist, also holds wearing Brooklyn bloomers by May 15, his a card in the carpenters' union. . . . Jumbo old press colleague advised him not to go blue could be helped immeasurably in

> Bill (Senator) Zuber expects to be a daddy before the end of the season. Phil Rizzuto is "The Flea" to many of the Yankees. . . . Fred Ankenman, Houston prexy, has placed a \$50,-000 price tag on Howard Pollet, his 19year-old mound ace.

Scribbled by ScribeS

Carmichael Visits Hank at Camp Custer ISPELLING rumors that Hank Greenberg may never return to the diamond, the former Tiger slugger told John P. Carmichael that he has "every intention of returning to baseball next year," when the Chicago Daily News writer visited Private Greenberg at Camp Custer, Mich., May 9.

"As a matter of fact, I thought, four weeks ago, of enlisting in the Marines, but the period would have to be for four years and I didn't want to take that long a period if it wasn't necessary," Hank continued. "But as for baseball this year, Hank is through," comments Carmichael. "'Not Picking Up Some Pointers from Peck knowing whether I'll be able to play, even I dismiss the game from my mind for one year at least, he said. 'But I'll be back. fantry. That was announced by Lt.-Col. state your 1941 aims and Hammond Birks, commandant of this re- objectives." Hammond Birks, commandant of this reception center, and followed a strong plea by the Livingston encampment, where the Michigan National Guard is in quarters, for Hank's services. Filling in his questionnaire, Hank expressed no preference for a future home. 'Anywhere O. K.' he wrote and although he might have desired to remain in Michigan, where he would be near old friends and familiar places he greying. The Court ad-

"'If there is any last message to be given the public, let it be that I'm going to be a good soldier, Greenberg said. 'Other Q.—Mr. Peckinpaugh, do you fellows have been good soldiers before and will be again. Everybody has treated me swell and I'm not kidding. I'll even say this: If I were an officer around here and had to go through the things they did, just because a guy named Greenberg was coming into the Army, I don't know whether I'd be half as gracious as they've A.—If the Court will per-

"The Army isn't making any concessions to Hank. His bed, for instance, is the regulation size and he doesn't fit it on either end. 'He'll have to curl up,' laughed Sgt. Farrell. 'Besides, he'll be plenty tired at night, so it won't make much difference how he sleeps. What's more, he'll like this life when he gets settled down. And it'll like him. If he gets out in a year, he'll be able to walk up to that plate and speak able to walk up to that plate and crack Q .- Are you asking me? I 'em out just as he's always done, Maybe

McGowan on Job Daily for 16 Years Umpire Bill McGowan of the American League, and not Lou Gehrig, has the longest endurance record in baseball, reveals

ing as a 19-year-old boy in the Virginia League. The league was having pains in Q.—What is this specific rule? paid for eight straight weeks, McGowan staged a sit-down strike, thus producing the strange situation of a guy refusing to call a strike by calling a strike, Mc-Gowan's check came the next day. "During his first season, McGowan met

his first mob. He was severely banged up safety of his hotel room, the bruised umpire nursed his wounds and debated upon the wisdom of exposing himself again the next day to the fury of the Portsmouth rooters. He was all for fleeing, but as he a sports writer back home in Wilmington, Del., had scornfully remarked when he started out as an umpire. 'You'll be back in two weeks, McGowan,' the scribe had scoffed. 'You'll never stand the gaff.' "So Bill took his other shirt out of his bag and umpired at Portsmouth the next day. Thirteen years later, after he umpired his first World's Series-the 1928 Cardinals-Yankees affair-McGowan triumphantly wired the Wilmington sports

"Bill's streak had some narrow escapes, Three seasons ago Bill worked ten straight days with a broken toe. Sports writers commented on his Spartan-like courage, explaining he suffered the injury from a ever saw on a diamond took place recent- foul tip. The real truth is he stubbed his ly in Independence, Kan., where Traynor toe on the iron leg of a bed. I'm sure you understand why he let everybody be-"Independence had runners on first and lieve it was a foul tip. He's a proud man, upon whose shoulders rest the entire struc-

writer: 'It's been a helluva long two

Larry and Success in Buying

One of the long-held theories in basebut Larry MacPhail of the Brooklyn Dodgers threatens to upset the form, according to John E. Wray, sports editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, commenting on the possibilities of the Flatbush outfit captur-

ing the National League gonfalon. can't step right out and buy enough standout players who will guarantee you a big league winner," asserts Wray, "That's one of the arguments employed to show that big league baseball isn't dominated by mere money. They'll cite you the cases of Dunn, Ball, Yawkey and others

who tried it and failed. "But they reckoned without Larry Mac-Phail, world champion spiller of the wellknown beans. Larry slaps 'form' around with abandon. And right now he's threatening to smash the theory that baseball winners can't be bought. At heavy cost gether the winning Dodgers. They haven't gone over for a pennant yet, but they may prove strong enough to grab the flag, next October.

"With the exception of two players, Reese and Reiser, the remainder of the pers. He has imposed radical ideas on Organized Ball. He made 'em like night baseball. He introduced the safety helmet, He got away with fireworks and foot-racing. And he wasn't afraid to put up \$125,-000 and players for a man he needed-Medwick. The Brooklyn club has really got something in MacPhail."

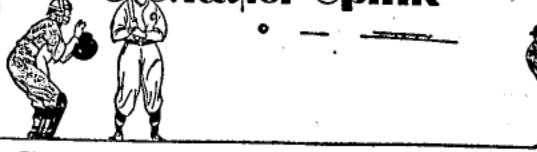
Base Work Only for Rookie Umps Rookie umpires should have a year working on the bases before they are assigned behind the bat, in the opinion of Ed McAuley, expressed in his breezy column in the Cleveland News.

"Major league officials have gone at times to incredible lengths in their efforts to build up with players and public the notion the umpire is a citizen of rare physical gifts and enviable spiritual qualities," notes McAuley. "Yet it seems to this observer that they have overlooked his advance to a position of respect. "Why not let a new umpire spend one

full season working only on the base lines? Not that the newcomer is incompetent to call balls and strikes. But in his mistakes cost him heavily in their naturally prejudiced opinion. "The umpire whom I consider the best

in the business once told me that he There's been some slight grumbling on counts that day well spent in which he few other guys I know will follow the part of visiting pitchers at Sports- 'misses' no more than six decisions on

Ince and One Looking them over with A. Jaylor Spink



MAY 15

on a camp team, makes it imperative that THE court bailiff made the pronouncement. "Roger Thorpe Peckinpaugh, you are the new manager of the Cleveland Indians of the American League. Last year, these same Indians lost the pennant by the mar-After all, doctors and teachers and lawyers go back to their work. Why shouldn't I?' and counter-charges. There were alarums, excursions, uproars, charges and counter-charges. There was strife and recrimination, with Oscar Vitt, ingston, La., where he will join the infantry. That was appounced by Lt.-Col.

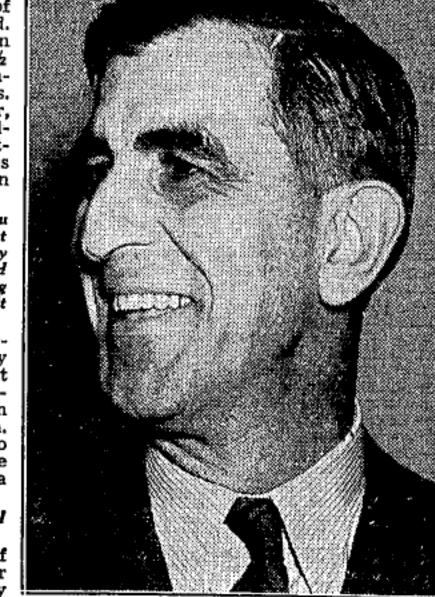
near old friends and familiar places, he greying. The Court ad-accepted his Louisiana assignment without dressed itself to the witness, who was all smiles, as

> mind telling the Court about your early history -about the background which led to your being thrown into the difficult mit, I want to say something about that so-called difficult situ-

ation. I did not land in any difficult situation. Your Honor seems to have been reading the papers. Why was it a difficult situation?

am asking you.

A .- Well, I took charge of a club of young, eager men. I discovered they were great as individuals and great as a



Everything's Jolly for Roger

unit. As to difficulties in 1940, under the leadership of Mr. Oscar Vitt, I know nothing about them. I did not take the trouble to inquire. I was not with the Cleveland team last year and do not know a lot about what caused the hullabaloo.

what are you not doing that Vitt did? I hope you follow the Court. "The lone game McGowan skipped in A .- Your Honor, I do not know what Mr. Vitt did. I did not take the trouble to find out. I did not ask the players what rules had been enforced. I told them I had only one rule.

the pocketbook and when he didn't get A .- It is the well-known Midnight Curfew. As you know, I played for some years on the Yankees, under Miller Huggins. He was a great manager-a very understanding man. He had a difficult job, but he was able to govern players of varying tempers and habits despite his small size and quiet demeanor. I studied this man very closely I felt he had something very vital.

Q .- Just what was this vital quality?

in Portsmouth, Va. In the comparative A .- Well, he led without being overbearing. He demanded a full day's work on the field, but did not pry into a man's affairs too much. He had one rule, too-the Midnight Curfew. For one season he also tried the breakfast deadline at 9:30. But the players would come down, eat, and go back to bed.

was packing his bag, he remembered what Q .- Mr. Peckinpaugh, do you mind expounding this midnight business?

A .- Not at all. It is very simple. You tell the players they must be in their rooms, on the road and at home, by midnight. A man who gets in by then cannot do himself much harm. I do not enforce teetotalism. But if I were to suspect any particular player of abusing the leeway I give him, it would not be so good. I believe I got that all ironed out during the training season. There is not a single drinking man on our club. Keep players out of trouble after 12 and they will do a good job for you in playing hours.

Q.—How has this worked out?

A .- Great! Now that I know the players, now that I appreciate their aims and psychologies, I feel that I need no rules at all. You know, players hemmed in by rules are players under restraint, and players under restraint are likely to be resentful. A resentful player is a bad player. Tie a string to a man and you become tied yourself. See

Roger Rules With Light Hand on Field

Q.—I see how your off-the-field policy works now; how do you run the club once the game is under way?

A .- I run it pretty much as all other clubs are run today in the major leagues. The policy of 1941 is to give full rein and opportunity to initiative. The old stuff of telling the player when to hit, when to run, when to take a ball-well, that went out with prohibition. Not that prohibition and this policy of initiative had any connection. If a player is good enough to be in the majors, he is good enough to assume certain responsibilities.

bought, with many examples being cited Q .- Do you follow this system all the way through?

of men who tried that method and failed, A .- Well, I let the boys run their own game until I feel I should take a hand. Major moves, of course, come from the bench. In a tight battle, you have to use strategy, maybe the unexpected. There are times when the players look to the manager for direction. The manager feels he should take the full responsibility in some situations.

Q .-- How are you on the hit and run? "Even though you have millions, you A .- We use it to some extent. But this club of ours is not one of those

hit-and-run-nutty outfits. Q .- Could you tell the Court more about Miller Huggins, his system and

A .-- Yes, I would be glad to do so. As a player, I competed under ten managers in the major leagues-Jim McGuire, Harry Davis and Joe Birmingham in Cleveland; Frank Chance, Wild Bill Donovan and Miller Huggins with the Yankees; Clyde Milan, Donie Bush and Bucky Harris with the Senators, and Ray Schalk with the White Sox. These ten men represented tremendous variations in temperament and disposition, in style and manner. There wasn't a single poor manager among them. But Huggins had something the rest did not possess. He had the MOST.

for individual stars, MacPhail has put to- Q .- Will you go into that in greater detail?

A .- Well, Huggins was a little fellow. He had to command by superior knowledge and system, and by spirit. He had been an infielder and in order to overcome his lack of height and weight, he had developed inside baseball to a tremendous degree. This knowledge he brought into play as a leader.

have everything. What he touches pros- Q .- How and when did you land with the Yankees? Didn't you manage them? A.—Well that brings me back to the first question. Suppose we start all over again, I was born in Wooster, O., February 5, 1891. My dad played ball. Believe it or not, he still plays ball. He is well past 70. He is the star of the Three-Quarter Century Kids, who play every winter in St. Petersburg, Fla. When I was three, we moved to Cleveland, and I played on school teams.

> Q.-What positions did you play? A.—Shortstop. I never played anywhere else. The Cleveland club lifted me right off my high school team in 1910 and took me to training camp at Alexandria, La. I was farmed out to New Haven in the Connecticut League. I returned that fall and McGuire used me in a few games.

Q.-Where were you in 1911?

Q.—What happened in 1915?

A .- I was sent to Portland and we won the pennant. The Cleveland club recalled me and I spent the 1912 season with it, under Davis. I was traded to the Yankees in 1913 for Jack Lelivelt and Bill Stumpf. O.—Do you remember the circumstances?

A .- Yes. The deal went back to 1912. Cleveland had Ray Chapman in Toledo and wanted to send me there and bring Ray in. But Harry Wolverton, the Yankee manager, had seen me with Portland and he would not waive on me. In 1913, Frank Chance was managing the Yankees and he learned about the club having held me up. So he stopped me that season, and forced Cleveland to make the trade. Chance amazed me by making me captain of the Yanks. I was

only 22. the eyes of the players, he's on trial and Q .- How did you get to be manager of the New York Club?

A .- Well, late in 1914, we were not going so well. The owners, Frank Farrell and Big Bill Devery, got into wrangles with Chance, who was hot-headed. He finally had a battle with them right out in front of the clubhouse. Chance quit. When he had cooled down, he told Farrell and Devery to make me the manager. I was in charge for some six weeks. I was just 23 years old.

A.—The club was sold. Col. Ruppert and Cap Huston took over and they brought in Wild Bill Donovan. I played for him and then for

Huggins, who arrived in 1918. In 1921, the Yanks lost the World's Series to the Giants, and that winter I was traded to Washington. I

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11, COLUMN 6.)