



Card New Publicity Man

OLD-TIMERS DINE AT CINCINNATI... RESERVATIONS for the first anniversary dinner of Ball Players of Yesterday...

James C. Bassford

WITH Mel Jones leaving the Cardinals to become traveling secretary of the Dodgers in the new Branch Rickey administration...

MILLERS PICK TERRE HAUTE

THE Minneapolis Millers of the American Association have arranged to train at Terre Haute, Ind., during the winter...

KIDS AND KUBS KEEP GAME ALIVE

ALTHOUGH THE NEW YORK Yankees and St. Louis Cardinals will not train in St. Petersburg, Fla., this spring...

NIGHT GAME FAN'S OWN RISK

THE 2nd District Court of Appeals at Columbus, O., held last week that a fan who sits in the bleachers...

BLADES TO LEAD MONTREAL?

RESIDENT HECTOR H. RACINE spiked the Montreal Canadiens' chances of winning the 1934 Stanley Cup...

"ROCK GARDEN" IN ATLANTA

FLYING AWAY from the field of the Atlanta Southern Association park are going to have a surprise next season...

TOO MUCH WATER FOR REDS

ONE REASON why officials of the Reds are not anxious to commit themselves to using the new stadium is that the club's 1934 training camp is that folksy...

BEVERLY COBB, 21-YEAR-OLD WEDS

BEVERLY COBB, 21-year-old daughter of Tom Cobb, was married to Thomas Dick McLean at the chapel of the Castle...

LOU ADAMIE, MANIPULATOR OF THE ELECTRICAL

LOU ADAMIE, manipulator of the electrical scoreboard at Sportman's Park, home of the Cincinnati Reds, for several years...

Boost Jimmy Collins

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Jimmy Collins, considered by many old-timers as the greatest third baseman the game has ever seen, has a birthday this week...

BURNED ALLEYS FORMERLY SCHALK'S

THE Chicago bowling alley in which six persons were burned fatally and 73 injured in the fire of January 5, formerly known as Schalk's, is being rebuilt...

HANDLEY DOES NOT BLAME BUST

HIS major league career cut short last season by a bus accident, Handley does not blame the accident and released to Toronto of the International League by Pittsburgh...

BLUE ROCKS RELEASE BRETT

THE Wilmington Blue Rocks of the International League have released pitcher Herb Brett...

ROLFF'S RETIREMENT STICKS

ROLFF'S RETIREMENT sticks to the Yankees were spiked by the former third sacker himself, last week, when he declared that he was not going to return to the team...

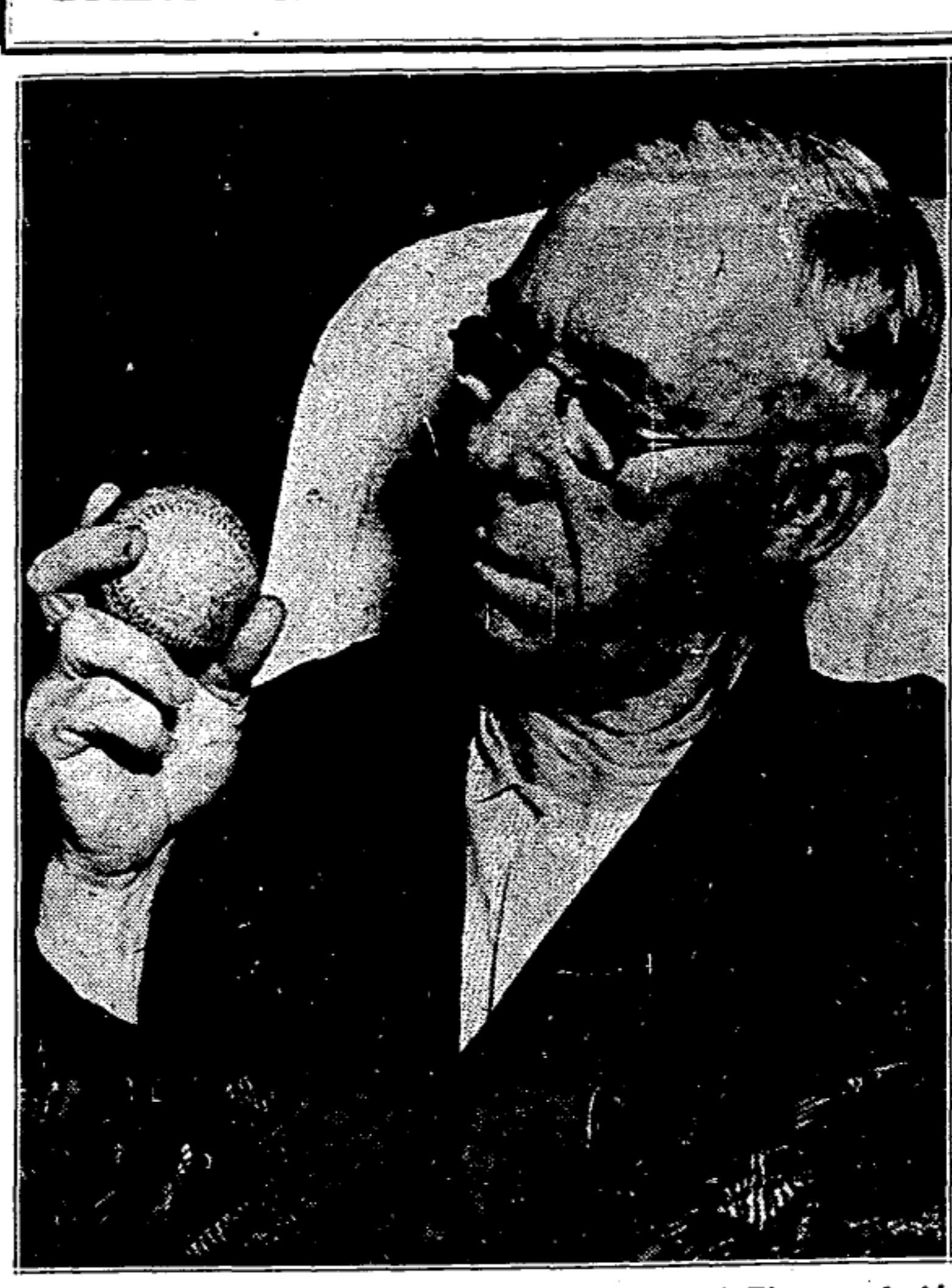
ROGELL CONTINUES SCHOOL

BILLY ROGELL, a councilman in Detroit and former infielder, will continue to operate his municipal baseball school in the Motor City again next summer...

ARKY VAUGHAN, INSIDER OF THE BROOKLYN

ARKY VAUGHAN, insider of the Brooklyn Dodgers, became a papa for the fourth time, New Year's Day, when Mrs. Vaughan...

GREAT UMPIRE CALLS HIM OUT



THIRTY-NINE years ago this spring Jack (Silent John) Titus was looking forward to his first season in the majors and it left such an impression on him that he retained through the remainder of his life a ball he saved from the first game with the Phillies in 1903...

McDonald's 'Memo'

John McDonald, former traveling secretary of the Dodgers, is known for his 'parlez'—and he doesn't know a two-hour wagger. John is known up on his French in preparation for his new job as vice-president and general manager of the Montreal International League club...

Managed' Prince of Wales

WHEN the Prince of Wales came to this country in 1919, Jack, still a captain, was designated by official Washington as his aide de camp. He picked up the Prince in Canada and took him all over the United States...

Ready to Get Back in Game

POTTER'S other experience in the executive side of the game came in 1933 at Harrisburg, then the New York-Pennsylvania League. Emil Fuchs, who was in charge of the Boston Braves, had just returned as a farm and placed Jack in charge as president...

William Scattered Homes

Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox outfielder who captured the American League hitting honors for a second straight season in 1932, spent his leading total of 36 homers with another circuit, falling to 20 any pitcher for more than two years each of the deliveries of Ted Marchionni, Russ Christopher and Roger Wolf, Philadelphia; Virgil Trucks and Al Benton, Detroit; Ed Williams, St. Louis, and Washington...

Highlights of the Week

JANUARY 4—James Sanders, secretary of the Southern Association for 13 years, announced retirement to go into business in Washington, D.C. He was replaced as manager of Albany Eastern League club...

LOOPING THE LOOPS

By J. G. TAYLOR SPINK (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Improvement Company in Philadelphia, he went with a cotton yarn concern as field representative. Then came the war. Jack enlisted for ground work in aviation and went overseas as a lieutenant. Later, he was advanced to captain and became aide-camp to General John C. Biddle...

On a visit to Paris, after the Armistice, Jack ran into Hank Gowdy, the first major league player to enlist in World War I. It was in the Red Tabarin," relates Potter. "I noticed a tall American sergeant whose figure seemed familiar. I went up closer and found it was Gowdy. He was leading a group of attractive chorus girls in singing 'Madelon.' They were doing fine, too, except that Hank couldn't sing in French, and the girls didn't know any English."

Jack then joined John Golden, also a producer, who at that time had Gertrude Lawrence under contract, and was with him two years. He is in his third season with Miss Lawrence's present show, "Lady in the Dark."

Between times, Potter has handled such celebrities as Leopold Stokowski, Fred Stone, the Duncan Sisters, Jack Whiting, Clifton Webb, Constance Bennett, Marion Davies, Gladys Swarthout, Beatrice Lillie, Jack Buchanan, A. E. Matthews and Herbert Marshall. The four last-named, like Miss Lawrence, are English.

That Victorian Order medal has done pretty well for me, quipped Jack. Roger was so taken back by the unusual eloquence that he went so far as to apologize and never attempted another foray against Titus.

Titus made a practice of saving his monthly pay checks until the end of the season and cashing them as he needed money, often causing headaches in the club's bookkeeping department. Off the field, he wore a derby, as well as a vest adorned by a heavy gold watch chain, keeping the vest as a part of his costume even in the hot summer months.

John Alexander (Biddy) McPhee, acclaimed by old-timers as one of the greatest second basemen of all time during the 18 years he played with Cincinnati in the American Association and National League, died at his home in Ocean Beach, Cal., a suburb of San Diego, January 3, at the age of 83 years. He was born at Massena, N. Y., November 1, 1851, and early in life moved with his parents to Keithsburg, Ill. Following his retirement from the game, McPhee moved to Los Angeles and had resided in San Diego for 20 years.

McPhee began his diamond career as an outfielder with Davenport in 1879. After playing several positions with the club, he joined Akron as a second baseman in 1880 and performed so brilliantly at the key-stone sack he was signed by Cincinnati of the newly-organized American Association in 1882. He continued playing ball in that city from that date to 1889 in the A. A. and from 1890 to 1899 in the National League and managed the Reds in 1901 and part of 1902.

His first season with Cincinnati the team won the pennant—the last for the Rhinelanders until 1919—and he remained at second base for the same city for 18 consecutive seasons until he voluntarily quit playing. Over that stretch of time, Biddy was one of the most capable and faithful guardians of the keystone position any club ever had. To him also went the distinction of working under the colors of the Cincinnati team more years than any player ever connected with the club. Few players took care of one position with the same team as long as did McPhee, playing more than 2,000 games during that time.

In 1896, after 14 years of continuous play, McPhee had his banner season in fielding. With an average of .982 in 116 games, he led the second sackers of the 12-club National League. This mark stood in the National League for 29 years—until Earl Culp eclipsed it, with .983 in 1925.

As a batter, Biddy also was proficient. He didn't compare with Collins, Lajoie or Hornsby, with the stick, but he was a dependable hitter, with a lifetime average of .272. In 1886, for example, when hurlers worked from the 50-foot distance and used a hop-skip before delivering the ball, he drove out nine home runs, 12 triples and 25 doubles.

McPhee also was clever in base running in the 129 games he played during the season of 1887. Biddy stole 96 bases. His record of stealing bases exceeds that of any second baseman in the game, Biddy being credited with 714, or an average of .033 a game. Eddie Collins ranks next to McPhee, with an average of .026 a contest. McPhee scored 101 or more runs each of ten seasons, ranking him close up to the leaders. He also led the league in fielding his position in seven different seasons, in six others was second and in only one did he finish below the first four second sackers—a record for consistency rarely found.

Biddy stepped out of active pastime of his own accord. In 1899, when he announced his retirement, he had shown so well, hitting .283 and setting the fielding pace for the 20 second sackers who played in the 12-club circuit, with a mark of .958. Called Silent John, because of his taciturnity, Titus seldom had trouble with the umpires, when being them was a prevalent. He always had a toothpick in his

mouth, at bat and in the field. He claimed he used it to keep his teeth clear of chewed tobacco, as the weed had a tendency to wedge itself between two teeth in the back of his mouth.

One day Catcher Roger Bresnahan of the New York Giants sought to have some fun at the expense of the toothpick. Rival pitchers had tried in vain to knock it from his mouth. Lefty Leifield, then with Pittsburgh, coming the closest, but only grazing the button of John's cap, as he ducked the pitch.

Bresnahan was a strategist, however, and one day reached around, while Titus was concentrating on the pitcher, and jerked the toothpick from John's teeth. Elated as a schoolboy, the Rajah ground the toothpick in the dirt. The Silent One, after calling time, turned on the burly Bresnahan, his face scarlet with rage, and torrents of words poured from his mouth. Roger was so taken back by the unusual eloquence that he went so far as to apologize and never attempted another foray against Titus.