



JACK GALLEN

SPORTS

By JACK GALLEN

HERE AND THERE ALONG THE RIALTO OF SPORTS

There are weeks when we have news and there are weeks when news is about as scarce as a Democrat in Maine and this happens to be one of the latter weeks. However, we've done some excavating and during the course of said excavating believe we have "dug up" an anecdote that should be of more than passing interest to baseball bugs of Cumberland in general and Lonaconing, in particular. "Inked" by ambi-texterous Jimmy Powers, of the New York Daily Mirror, it concerns Bob (Lefty) Grove. Pipes Powers:

"I wonder did anyone notice that 'Lefty' Grove lost a tough game the other day in Washington in 13 innings? Some people think that Lefty is all washed up, but the managers of other teams don't think so. Every time Lefty toes the rubber the rival pilots shoot their aces at him. Sid Hudson of the Senators recently beat Lefty 2-1 and 1-0. Check back and see how many 'hams' were pitted against Grove. Not many, brother."

Greatest Ever
Golding on Powers sez:
"Speaking of Grove, let me go on a little further. When Lefty won 16 consecutive games to tie the record it looked like he was going to establish a new mark the way he was going but he ran into Dick Coffman and the St. Louis Browns when he tried for the 17th win and, sad to relate, lost 1-0. Mule Haas misjudged a fly ball which cost Lefty the game. After the game, Lefty went on to win 8 straight. Were it not for that hard luck loss, Lefty Grove would have had 25 consecutive wins."

"For my dough, this guy Grove was the best left hander of all time. It is really too bad he is getting old. I should have made it tougher and said if you had your choice of Grove or Ruffing or Hubbell who would you take? Everybody likes Hubbell. Everybody likes Ruffing. But most guys picked Hub because he never had a murderer row behind him. Hub just slaughtered those murderers in the All-Star classic."

Fast As Johnson
Powers doesn't stop there. No sir. What more can he say? Just this.

"I saw Feller three times this year and I like him but he never saw the day he could throw a ball with the speed of a Grove. The man never lived, not even Walter Johnson, who could throw a ball faster than Grove when Lefty was in his prime. Hub wasn't as fast as Grove but he was smarter. And they both were better than Ruffing. Some fans may take exception to this statement, but I guess that's what makes baseball, a difference of opinion. That's all for today, brother."

Powers is right. Grove is the only pitcher who ever led the American League eight straight years in earned run averages. And after all, a murderer row doesn't have anything to do with an earned run average of a pitcher. More than that, when Grove was with the A's, he constantly saw relief service besides taking his regular turn. And at 40 today, he's better than Hubbell who is 4 years younger.

GABS AND GUSHES
In case you're interested in birthdays Charley Keller, Maryland's coveted gift to the New York Yankees, is 25 years old today—When Freddie Fitzsimmons, the venerable hurler of the Brooklyn Dodgers, got the exit in a recent Dodger-Giant melee it was the first time in his major league career that he perished via the umpire route. And the lovable character of the Flatbush brigade was so downhearted he actually wept in the dugout—Hats off to the Frostburg Bi-Staters for their splendid showing in the National amateur baseball marathon—The Frosty City caravan competing against the ace arrays of the land, sliced off two stunning wins before dropping a nose 8 to 7 verdict to a powerful Pittsburgh team.

The Mountaineers have been given reams of copy this season but not too much has been said about likeable Joe McGinn, the fleet ball kidnapper of the Demons—McGinn wasn't any great shakes here last season—Time and time again he went after bad balls and more than once he looked like a contortionist trying to hit a curve—But this year up Frostburg was the Cumberland lad suddenly regained the form that made him a local standout three or four years ago—He "shelled" far over 300 and fielded magnificently. The boys with the microscopes are having their innings these fine fall days—The way the

Cleveland Indians, Detroit Tigers, New York Yankees and even the Boston Red Sox are crowding each other at this particular writing they'll need microscopes to determine the ultimate American League victor.

Feller
A recent Associated Press dispatch carrying a New York date-line, partially blamed Bob Feller for the collapse of the Cleveland Indians—The caption, "Feller's collapse blamed for Indians losing streak," was almost funny enough to make a horse laugh and there aren't many horses laughing these days—Feller's just the best pitcher extant—Right now, as we go to press, he has lassoed himself some 24 victories—Of the eight losses he has sustained, with any break in his luck, he would have won half of them—Two games he dropped to the Yankees, in particular, was nothing short of banditry—Yet they try to shift the fault on the massive shoulders of Bullet Bob Feller, the crack marksman and gunner deluxe of the American League—Need he worry?—I'll say not—When the glimmers go out at the end of the season young Bob will be able to complacently retire to his chateau with the knowledge that he topped 'em all—Frankie Frisch's blistering Pittsburgh Pirates are storming the ramparts of the National League and right now the clouting Corairs are peeling potatoes with such vim and vigor that one wonders just how and why it took them so long to get started—They lead all National League clubs in team batting and from the way they have been incessantly pounding pellets for the past five or six weeks it isn't any wonder—Rome wasn't built in a day and Joe Louis won't be knocked out overnight, either—And it was probably with those two thoughts in mind that handsome Billy Conn changed his mind about facing the executioner's block next month—Or was it?

Celanese Local to Play Pierce Miners In Double-Header
Arrangements have just been completed for a double header game between Local 1874 Celanese Workers Union and the reputable Pierce team of the United Mine Workers of America.

The West Virginia coal-diggers are still smarting under the 4-3 win of Celanese on Labor Day at Lonaconing and an exceptionally large turnout of union men and fans are expected to be on hand at the Cumberland Community Ball Park on Sunday, September 22nd, with the first game getting under way at 1:30 P. M.

In addition to the West Virginia contingent a large group of United Mine Workers and Celanese workers will come in from the Georges Creek to witness the duel.

The event will be used as Local 1874 Booster Day by the silk-men.

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Allegany, Fort Hill In Gridiron Openers

Football, not bullets, will be permeating the air in Cumberland this week-end when the athletes of the chalked-line terrain get their first taste of the 1940 wars. And for those who like their football two games will be on tap, Allegany tackling Ridgeley High Friday night and Fort Hill engaging Keyser Saturday. Scene of both scuffles will be the Fort Hill Stadium.

Forecast as the ultimate winners are the two local schools. Ridgeley, practically an infant in gridiron circles, showed marked improvement last year over its 1938 record, but even so the Blue and White appears to carry too many guns for the West Virginians. Keyser will bring a crack eleven to meet up with Johnny Long's Fortmen, but the Vigilantes are strong themselves.

JUST GAGS
Billy Conn's Go With Joe Louis Off Until 1941

Billy Conn is a wise young man. Just a couple of weeks ago they were talking about "throwing him in" against Joe Louis in October for pure cannon fodder but the Pittsburgh boxing beauty has apparently changed his mind about taking on the Bomber so soon. Result: Bout called off until the spring of '41 making it best for everybody concerned.

Conn isn't quite ready for the dip into the championship pool and nobody knows it any better than him. Consequently, he has decided to wait until at least six more months before going after the belt that now belongs to Louis. In the meantime, he'll continue on his way, meeting any and all comers (Louis excepted) and to this end, the promoters have lined up several rugged foes for him.

Fights In Pittsburgh
First of those opponents will either be Buddy Knox or Arturo Godoy, both well up in the heavyweight chronicles. Present plans call for one or the other to take on Conn in Pittsburgh the night of September 30. Artful Art Rooney, one-time Middle Atlantic League baseball standout, and now connected with things politically and pugilistically in Smoketown, will promote the impending battle.

Many are the Cumberland fistic fans that have never seen Conn in action and many, too, are those who would welcome the opportunity to survey him in combat. Thus, Conn's coming clash with Knox or Godoy offers those same fans the chance they have long been waiting for. Incidentally this same Conn hasn't performed in a Pittsburgh ring for some time and the tiff is likely to attract a record crowd.

Ancient Jess Haines and old

JALOPY RACES HERE

It'll be dust and more dust here Sunday afternoon when 35 of the best auto jalopy drivers from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia "take the turns" at the Cumberland Fair grounds in a four-state championship event and to add zest to the program the promoters, ballyhooing the festivities, will stage a downtown street parade at 5 o'clock Saturday evening. The 36-piece Cumberland Moose Band has also been secured to "play" during the races.

The field fairly sparkles with class and some high class action lies ahead for followers of this thrilling sport. Cumberland is well represented in the entry list and this, too, should augment the attendance.

GIANTS SHIPPING 'EM
NEW YORK, Sept. 11.—New York's professional football Giants aren't losing any time weeding out their players. Coach Steve Owen has just announced that 24 gridders have been shipped to the Jersey City Giants, thus paring the local squad to 37 men.

With the league opener against the Steelers in Pittsburgh only three days away and road games with Washington and Philly scheduled Coach Owen is still uncertain about his regular squad since the veterans disappointed in the clash with Eastern All-Stars.

SPORT SHORTS

Addicts of the arena around these year diggings will get a glimpse of two great champions this month if they so desire. Whom might they be? ONLY Henry Armstrong and Billy Conn. Armstrong "titles" it down Washington, D. C. way September 23 against furious Phil Furr, while Conn lashes out against either Clouting Buddy Knox or Absorber Arturo Godoy in Pittsburgh the night of September 30. Take your choice.

Here's a paradox! Bob Pastor's broken nose, the only sign of his boxing business, was sustained in an automobile mishap several years ago.

Bill McKeechnie, masterful mentor of Cincinnati's "Hitless Wonders," wears a wrist watch that was presented to him in 1929 by the Rochester (International) League baseball club which he steered in that year. Since then he has been the recipient of other watches but refuses to discard his Rochester gift.

Tex Carleton, Brooklyn finger, recently walked a batter with the bases loaded for the first time in 16 years. And wotta fatal walk it proved to be. The Annie Oakley beat him 3-2 in Boston.

Ancient Jess Haines and old

Exclusive
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Eddie Roush recently eyed an encounter between the Reds and Dodgers at Cincinnati. Wonder what they thought of the present day athletes? How that Roush, some years back, could peel those potatoes for the Reds!

Conscription will hit Bucknell University's gridiron entourage hard. Nineteen of the 32 varsity fall within the prescribed age limits of the Burke-Wadsworth bill. All the Seniors and most of the Juniors, as far as age is concerned, are eligible for the draft.

Billy Conn has temporarily escaped the guillotine. Instead of meeting Joe Louis next month he's deferred his fatal night until some time next spring. Time and tide, they say, wait for no man, but Joe Louis is waiting for young Conn.

They're showing off the football forces this week. Allegany's Blue and White battlers raise the curtain Friday night at Fort Hill Stadium against Ridgeley High's up-and-coming warriors and on Saturday night Keyser High's Golden Tornado sweeps into the same Stadium, there to tangle with the sparkling Sentinels of Fort Hill High.

'Ere long baseball's blue-ribbon extravaganza, "The World's Series" rounds into the spotlight and once again the latent "I told you so's" are being refrained by the delirious followers of the New York Yankees. A couple of weeks ago these same chanters were hibernating and nary a sound was heard.

That rousing tussle between the Pierce United Mine Workers and Celanese Local 1874 at the Labor Day picnic still has the fans talking. The ten-innings go ended in a 4-3 win for the silks, but the coal diggers had them extended throughout.

A bouquet to Manager J. W. Long of Celanese for whipping a fine team into shape this season.

John L. Lewis Asks Congress to Pass Safety Bill

The following letter has been sent to the members of the House of Representatives by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America:

"The Neely-Keller bill, now embodied in S. 2420, was introduced in the Congress on May 16, 1939. The bill provides for limited federal inspection of coal mines and publication of findings:

"On January 23, 1940, after S. 2420 had passed the Senate the House of Representatives referred it to the Committee on Mines and Mining. This subcommittee delayed action for months, but finally held some hearings in the month of June, concluding them on June 14. During the ensuing six weeks, the bill has remained in subcommittee.

"During this fourteen-month procrastination by the legislators, a total of 1,538 men were killed in the coal mines. Four major mine disasters have occurred.

"1. July 14, 1938. Explosion in the Duvin Coal Company mine at Providence, Ky. Number of men killed was 28, leaving 23 widows and 50 orphans.

"2. January 10, 1940. Explosion at Bartley No. 1 mine, McDowell County, W. Va. Pond Creek Pocahontas Company, affiliate of Island Creek Coal Company. Number of men killed, 91, leaving 70 widows and 143 orphans. Eleven children have been born since the explosion; seven more children expected.

"3. March 16, 1940. Explosion at Willow Grove mine, Neffs, Ohio, Belmont County. M. A. Hanna Company. Number killed, 72, leaving 59 widows and 117 orphans.

"4. July 15, 1940. Explosion at the Sonman mine, Cambria County, Pa., Sonman Shaft Coal Company, near Portage, Pa., affiliate of the Koppers Coal Company. Number of men killed,

63, leaving 34 widows and 108 orphans.

"This is an appalling series of disasters, entirely preventable by proper mine inspection and proper management of the mines by the operating companies.

"This office has frequently addressed the members of Congress in behalf of this legislation. It would seem that ordinarily humane consideration would cause the average member of Congress to desire to cast at least one vote to prevent the continuous killing of coal miners. This mining bill can be passed within the next week or ten days if each member of Congress will only resolve to take a few minutes' time to exercise his personal influence. Surely, each member of Congress would wish to do this much. The inactivity of the committee in charge of the bill admits no other interpretation than the desire to strangle the measure. This appalling wastage of human life continues and the families of the dead are left to become objects of public charity.

"May I not strongly urge the personal attention and personal support of this measure by each member of Congress. The effort will cost so little and the sum total of the human agony involved is so great that in all sincerity the request for immediate action is justified by every human consideration."



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After all, there is nothing strange about this. Until very recent times, brewing and baking were done right within almost every well-ordered household. There was usually one among the womenfolk who was expert in both bread baking and beer brewing. In many ways, the two household arts touched on a common ground. The yeast developed in the beer was used in the making of the bread dough. The grains were often the same. Both called for immaculate cleanliness. Both responded to skill and care. The lord of the manor whose board boasted good bread and good beer was indeed a man of standing in the community. While to-day, the business of baking the good bread and brewing the sound beer has been largely removed from the home, still folks watch with care and pride over the quality of the bread and the beer which make the foundation for so many wholesome meals.

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