

By BOB BOLT

"Surly and hoarse, with blistering force,
Winter yet strives to hold his sway;
Yet all in vain, for soon again
His angry storms will pass away."
—Old Farmer's Almanac 1870

LET'S "GET DOWN TO EARTH"

When the sun gets warm and the smell of freshly-turned soil fills the air, there comes the urge to "get down to earth", get out the hoe and open those seed packets.

Those hairy vegetables such as radishes, peas, carrots, beets and onions should go in right away, but don't be too hasty about the others. Wait until the frost is out of the ground. That means about April 15 in this locality.

DON'T BE TOO AMBITIOUS

Plan your garden to your needs—don't overplant and have a lot of waste. Successive plantings of crops such as lettuce, carrots, sweet corn, etc., will prevent waste and extend the fresh vegetable period. If you plan to do some canning, freezing or storing, be sure to plant enough to provide ample quantities.

With the opening of the new freezer locker, many of you will be planning to freeze your vegetables instead of canning. Frozen vegetables are unsurpassed for flavor, color and quality. A booklet on canning, freezing, and storing is available at the Personnel Office.

CHECK UP NOW

Check your supply of fertilizers, insecticides, sprayers and dusters. Also check and sharpen tools now. Better to do this now and not be caught at the last minute.

The late blight of tomatoes which takes such a heavy toll in this locality can be controlled. Copper sprays or yellow cupricide dusts are most efficient, but spraying and dusting must start as soon as the plants are set out and continue throughout the season, in order to be effective. It is important to wash the fruit and vegetables before using when they have been sprayed. If you notice blight starting in the lower leaves and fruits pull the infected parts off and burn them.

FLOWER BORDER IS ATTRACTIVE

Plant a hardy flower border or at least some annuals in your vegetable plot. Pep up your lawn by raking in some fresh seed and fertilizer in the thin spots. April is ideal for transplanting of trees, shrubs, vines, evergreens, hardy perennials and summer flowering bulbs after the ground is warm and dry. Later plantings require more care and watering. The early flowering shrubs can be safely cut back as soon as they finish flowering. Remove dead wood and restore shapeliness. Some pruning of evergreens is often advisable at this time, but don't give them a "crew-cut".

TOO LATE

All of the garden plots at Ecusta have been assigned. There were

High Spirit, Unselfish Teamwork, Close Games, Highlights Of Boys' Cage Season

Win 6, Lose 9 During Year;
Carland And Head
Pace Scoring

The boys' basketball season has ended, uniforms are in the moth balls until next season, and the fellows are now turning their interests to sports like tennis, baseball, and softball, but before bidding farewell to the cage sport, let's glance at the season's record of our squad.

There are teams which probably came up with more impressive records than our did, but it's doubtful if many teams have a finer spirit or displayed more unselfish teamwork. The boys won six and lost nine against the best competition in Western North Carolina, scoring 663 points against 640 for the opposition. Many of the setbacks were by one, two, or three points. Always, the opposing teams knew that they could not let up for a minute—if they did, Ecusta breezed ahead.

CARLAND LEADS SCORERS

Rusty Carland, scrappy center, paced the scoring with 184 points, closely followed by Roy Head with 165. The remainder of the scoring was distributed as follows: Mitch Taylor, 107; Pete Dockins, 77; Troy Drake, 75; Conley McKinnish, 30; Skipner Holt, 26; and Oliver Taylor, 15.

The season's record is as follows:

Ecusta 24, Enka 36.
Ecusta 44, Canton "Y" 45.
Ecusta 49, Royal Arcanium 15.

(Continued On Page Fifteen)

more than 100 plots available, but they were quickly taken by the "early birds".

Food is still important, but now you can garden for the fun and exercise, indulge your love for flowers and plants, and make your home a showplace.

GIL COAN LOOKS TO GOOD SEASON

Former Employee Here Is
Impressive In Spring
Training

Gilbert Fitzgerald Coan is the formal way the name is listed on our personnel records, but when you see the name of Gil Coan on the sports pages of the nation's press, you can be assured it's the same young fellow who, until March 25, 1945, was employed here as a machine tender.

It was on that date in 1945 that Gil went to Chattanooga in the Southern Association as an outfielder. He had a great year, batting an amazing .375, that led the league in hitting. For this feat and his great speed, he was selected the outstanding minor league star of the season—quite an honor for a 23-year-old kid from the Western North Carolina mountains.

With such a season behind him it was only routine that some major league club would snap him up—and Washington did, at one of the fanciest prices ever paid for a rookie.

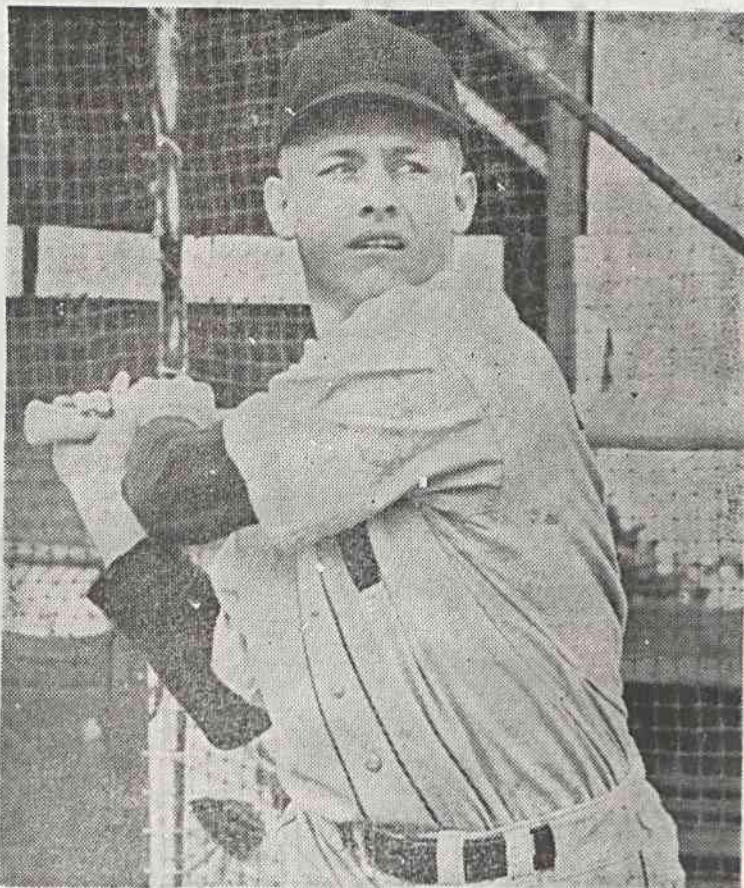
First Season Poor

Once in the majors, though, Gil's burning desire to succeed really affected his playing. He was pressing, was bothered by foot trouble, and wound up with an unimpressive .209 average for the year.

This year, however, Gil seems to be hitting his Chattanooga stride. In a recent exhibition game he cracked out a double and a triple and is regarded by all observers in the Washington spring camp as the fastest man on the squad. The foot trouble is still bothering him

(Continued On Page Fifteen)

Coan Shining In Spring Training



After a so-so season last year, Gil Coan, former machine tender here, is rounding into shape for the coming season with the Washington Senators. Coan is regarded as the fastest man on the squad and has been hitting well in exhibition games.

OUTDOORS

WITH
OUR SPORTSMEN

Feeling that many of you here are keenly interested in wildlife, this column makes its debut this issue. In it, we hope to cover fishing and wildlife activities in the county and to pass along notes on outdoor activities elsewhere in the state and nation. With the help of various wildlifers connected with our companies, we will endeavor to make this corner newsy, helpful and interesting.

We attended the March meeting of the Transylvania County Wildlife club of which Albert Lyday of the Refining department is president. This session came the day after the state senate had passed the new Wildlife bill and the members were enthusiastic about the future of hunting and fishing activities in our state. A new drive was launched for members, so don't be surprised if one of the members taps you on the shoulder soon and invites you out to the next meeting.

We enjoyed the meeting and are looking forward to many more pleasant and worthwhile meetings with the group.

RIFLE EXPERTS TO VISIT CAMP SAPPHIRE

Mr. and Mrs. Lind, rifle experts representing the Remington Repeating Arms company will give an exhibition in Brevard Thursday afternoon, April 24, at Camp Sapphire. The Linds are among the best in their field and a large crowd of marksmen is expected to be on hand. Their visit here is one of thirteen stops they will make in the state.

A THOUGHTFUL, HUMANE ACT

A group of Brevard sportsmen recently chipped in and bought about 250 pounds of rye grass seed and planted it along some old logging trails in Pisgah National Forest so the deer would have ample green feed in case of a late spring. A thoughtful, humane act, we say.

WILDLIFE RESTORATION WEEK

The week of March 16-22 was observed as Wildlife Restoration week, sponsored by the National Wildlife federation. Special emphasis was placed on the need for greater protection and better management to insure adequate supplies of fish and game to meet the increased hunting and fishing pressure already in evidence. It was the 10th annual Restoration Week observed.

WILDLIFE POSTER STAMPS

This corner has recently ordered a sheet of wildlife poster stamps reproduced from paintings by famous American nature artists. The 1947 issue has 40 studies of birds, mammals, fish, flowers, and trees in the 64 stamps on the sheet. You can get all the stamps for only a dollar and the proceeds are devoted to the National Wildlife Federation's program for the preservation of the nation's natural resources. If any of you wildlifers would like to drop by the library and see these beautiful stamps, and if you would like for us to order them for you, we'd be glad to do it.

FURMAN MAKES NEWS

The article in last month's ECHO about Furman Cansler snaring five gray foxes with his ingenious trap was picked up by the Outdoors column of the Greensboro Daily News and given a nice space.