

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGEBUR

This is the story just as it was told to me. It is about a young man who was excellent in athletics, then transferred his knowledge and skill in the field of sports to an entirely new profession — and made good.

Once a flashy shortstop, a prize fighter and a track man, Chick Solomon, who is only five feet three inches tall, today at 33 years old, is close to the top in news photography, and is constantly adding to his prestige in his new field.

A rather plainspoken sort of fellow, Chick seldom bothers to be diplomatic, insisting that diplomacy is just another word for hypocrisy. He rarely takes sides in a dispute, and believes devoutly in the law of averages.

As a baseball player and as a professional photographer, Solomon has mingled with some of the most celebrated of the "Who's Who" in the world. Among the persons he has ordered around in his work are the late President Roosevelt, Governor Dewey, General DeGaulle, Molotov, Mrs. Marshall Field, Dr. John Haynes Holmes, Mayor LaGuardia, Admiral King, McKenzie King, the former King of Siam, Pope Pius, the former Cardinal Ratti, Archbishop Spellman and the Dionne Quintuplets.

Entirely without inhibitions, Chick is one of the most aggressive photographers in the business. Perhaps this represents some of the spirit that won him laurels on the athletic field. An example of Chick's aggressiveness and his determination to get a picture, occurred this Spring in the State Capitol in Albany at the time Governor Dewey was about to sign the Ives-Quinn Bill, which established the State Commission Against Discrimination.

The Governor was being subjected to a barrage of hot flash bulbs, while the other boys were "shooting." Chick was busy showing chairs and flags from one place to another. Some of the objects that "historical" "Big Room" here hang pictures of all former Governors of New York State, hadn't been moved for years except for the purpose of cleaning. But Chick was determined to "compose" just the shot he wanted. The Governor obliged, and Solomon scored again. There is a picture which Chick says he wants to make and the sooner the better. He desires a good shot of Senator Theodore Bilbo being put in his last resting place. Chick declares that picture will be "on the house," that he will pass it out without charge.

Solomon doesn't regard himself as being particularly important, nor does he make much fuss over so-called celebrities. Peoples to him, are people, and if he doesn't like a person he doesn't hesitate to put it on the record, but directly to the party involved.

As a youngster, Chick tried his hand at mechanical drawing, and for seven years while attending

SOME OBSERVATIONS
(Continued from page four)

The plight of Afro-American children in the rural areas is quite distressing. About the rural areas of the nation, he said, such areas get only nine percent of the national income, but give birth to 31 per cent of the nation's children. The South, with eight per cent of the income, produced 32 per cent of the children. Therefore he argued that this disproportionate burden on the poorer region of the country was unfair.

In closing his plea Dr. Graham declared, "I would like to see the nation's economic problem Number 1, become one of the greatest hopes for the future." With North Carolina making a pattern for other Southern states in education and a sustaining respect for the rights of every human being, there is some hope for the future.

Dr. Graham uncompromisingly supports the bill to make the FEPC a permanent act. As president of a great liberal institution backed by a population in North Carolina that responds to a liberal leadership, he is doing much for the cause of humanity.

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SPORTS OUT OF ADAM'S HAT



FRANKIE CARLE, POPULAR COMPOSER AND BANDLEADER, TOOK UP MUSIC AFTER BREAKING HIS HANDS IN THE RING — A FORMER MIDDLE WEIGHT STAR HE NEVER LOST ONE OF HIS 40 BOUTS!

PAUL ROBESON, ALL-AMERICAN END IN 1918, ALSO WON LETYERS IN BASEBALL, BASKETBALL AND TRACK AT RUTGERS.

LANNY ROSS, THE RADIO, STAGE AND SCREEN STAR, WAS TRACK STAR AT VALE — HE WON THE QUARTER MILE IN THE 1927 PENN RELAYS IN 48 1/2 SECS.

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school in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, he won prizes. He attended Junior and senior high school in the Virgin Islands, and was graduated at the University of Madrid.

Up to 1943 his principal interest was baseball, and in that year, Chick went on tour with the St. Louis Stars and the Dizzy Dean All-Stars for the Treasury Department to promote the sale of war bonds. He served as the advance man and handled promotion and publicity.

In High School, Chick played shortstop for a team that was undefeated through two and a half seasons of play before dropping a decision to an all-star aggregation of high school players. He began playing semi-pro baseball, and at the end of his semi-pro career he turned to amateur baseball and practically single-handedly sparked the New York sports to the first championship by a colored outfit in New York City Baseball Federation. Later, a manager of the "Seals" of the New York Community League, Chick again managed an outfit composed of Negro and white youngsters to the Federation's Championship in borough-wide playoffs. The "Seals" were the most aggressive manager, practiced what the big league clubs are afraid to attempt. He granted an opportunity to all kids, regardless of race, creed, or color, to come and try out for his club. A winning ball club was the sole desire, as he puts it, was to put up a good job at all times. In 1942 when the "Seals" won the title, there were three white youngsters in the regular lineup.

Just why Chick switched from baseball to photography he doesn't say. One might suspect it was to earn more money. However, Chick was considered smart and fast on the ball field. Folks who have seen him play say he was always mentally alert and was always hustling. In the newspaper and photography game the term "hustle" can have an ugly connotation but surely Chick has brought over to news photography all the tricks he learned in sports. He says baseball and boxing, particularly have come in handy in his relatively new field where trigger-quick decisions and movements are a "must."

Picture editors agree that Chick somehow weaves a naturalness into his pictures that makes the work of caption writers easy. In fact, he believes firmly that an intelligent story-writing camera man is better able to explain his pictures than others who may be entrusted with the task. The story telling notes accompanying the pictures Chick submits are complete and usually tell a full story, making it unnecessary in some cases for editors to use separate stories.

Many of Chick's news pictures are hung up by picture editors of some of the larger dailies to act

CONSERVING ENERGY IN SWIMMING
BY CARROLL Y. BRYANT
Director Water Safety Service
American Red Cross

An old gentleman who, at the age of 84, still swims his mile a day parallel to a seashore resort in New England, took his time, using the breast stroke, and conserved his

energy. The young "athletes" nearby, who would swim a good imitation of a powerful eel — for a distance of perhaps a hundred yards — at the end of their swim were much more exhausted than the old gentleman at the end of his mile.

Speed has its uses, but acquiring speed does not come at once. Only when the swimmer has mastered a sufficient variety of strokes and skills to enable him to feel thoroughly at home in the water, and to cope successfully with any water conditions, that any speed should be attempted to gain speed.

From the very beginning he must acquire and practice the habit of rhythmic and correct breathing, and he must bear in mind that his body buoyancy coupled with the momentum of swimming, is sufficient to keep him afloat. Then he is free to utilize all his stroking movements in propulsion. This will also enable him to acquire the very essential habit of resting and relaxing his muscles between strokes.

If some such orderly procedure is adopted and carried out, with adequate knowledge of the fundamentals, or, better still, under the tutelage of a competent instructor, the whole process of learning to swim can be easily and pleasantly accomplished by most people.

There are only nine recognized swimming strokes, and five of these are variations of the other four. It is impossible to attempt to teach these strokes or even to describe them adequately on paper. As a rule the several kicks and arm strokes are learned independently. They can be practiced first on the shore, then in shallow water. The beginner can then utilize them in experimenting with various styles of swimming to determine which strokes are best adapted to his own physical make-up

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Black Yankees And Homestead Grays To Play In Wilmington

WILMINGTON — The New York Black Yankees and the Homestead Grays (Penna.) will visit for baseball honors Tuesday night, July 17, 8:30 o'clock, at Legion stadium.

Both teams are nationally known. The Grays being national Negro champions, who delighted local fans last year at the stadium.

Local promoters stressed the fact this week that local fans must give more support to these national teams if they are to continue coming here. A great deal of expense is involved in these projects, and the public's support is urged.

An improved cotton tire cord has been developed in research laboratories. There is also a new development in retproofing cotton goods.

South's 6th Annual All-Star Game To Greensboro

GREENSBORO — Two teams of the South's most outstanding Negro diamond performers will be seen here Sunday, August 5th, in the South's Annual All-Star Game in the Memorial Stadium, sponsored by A. J. Hammonds, veteran sports promoter of this city, and the South's Original All-Star Committee.

For this unusual attraction the promoter has been successful in securing a selected group of players from the Negro Marines, who will be representing the north. They will meet a squad of "Top" Stellar performers from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Oklahoma and the lower south.

The appearance of the Marines aggregation will mark the first appearance of these members of the elite Sam's fighting forces in this vicinity. The Leathernecks will include on their roster such noted baseball figures as "Stars" from the National and American Leagues.

Greensboro becomes the site of the game this year because of increasing interest and demand of fans of the city who recall the game of other years last year the big classic staged here in the Gate City, while other cities in the upper and lower south have offered interesting bids for the diamond attraction this year.

A. J. Hammonds, founder of the attraction, says that he preferred to keep the classic at Greensboro this year, its birthplace, the game was founded 1940 and has been annually since. The players to be selected by South's All-Star Committee, from Clubs of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Oklahoma and as far west as Texas and Kentucky will be represented.

North Carolina will be represented by top players from several state clubs. The Marine Club of professional ball players, who defeated in 1944 by 1-0, or South 6-4 with their Star pitcher, Dan Bankhead being sent to the shower.

Again they are making threats that they will be victorious in 1945 classic, data they expect to cut the lower south to pieces.

"We are coming to Greensboro August 5th with a club superior in any yet presented by any group of Fence Busters," states a spokesman for the Marines.

Clowns Tie Up With Raleigh Grays Sunday

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Clowns will play the Raleigh Grays Sunday, July 14th, 1:30 p.m., at the local high school track east of 11th and Ann Streets.

Manager U. Galbreath says there will be several new faces in the lineup of the Clowns. He says the fans will really be pleasantly surprised.

The Grays have played in Wilmington before and their ability is well known.

GRAYS WIN OVER GIANTS, 4 TO 2

Raleigh, N. C. — The Raleigh Grays became a dominant band of ball players as they eked out a 4-2 decision from a bunch of young, hustling Raleigh Giants before 500 fans at Cassin Park.

The first two innings were scoreless. Bill Wilder, Evans, Grays and Clay of the Grays held to their pitching strategy. The Grays broke the deadlock in the third when Jack Taylor was safe on an error, moved to second when Clay was thrown out. Thomas to first, came home when Williams scored Brewer's seventh in the second. Three runs came in the fifth. Clarke singled, Brewer singled and Bill Wilder, Evans singled scoring Greene, and took second on Jack Taylor's slow return of the ball from the outfield. Evans stole third, advance to scored on Thomas' single past third. Clark was thrown out at second, scored the third and all the Grays for the day.

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Washing on — A series of experiments which will increase the safety factors of flying in instrument weather, especially in zones of traffic saturation around busy airports is now being conducted by the Civil Aeronautics Administration. In these tests the CAA is using 10 carloads of radar equipment loaned them by the Army and Navy.

Two of the main objects of the research are the perfection of a receiving device to allow the control tower to visualize the actual position of all aircraft within 25 miles; and a collision warning device to be installed on the instrument panel of the plane which would give constant visual indication of the relative position of other aircraft within a certain radius.

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The Grays came scoring back in the eighth, when Greene was safe on Jim Taylor's error, moved to second while Taylor was throwing out Bill Wilder. Evans singled scoring Greene, and took second on Jack Taylor's slow return of the ball from the outfield. Evans stole third, when he scored on Thomas' single past third. Bill Wilder forced Thomas at second end the threat and all the scoring for the day.

Brewer with two for three, and Cozart whose homer provided the margin of victory, with one for two led the Grays' offensive. Clay and Foster combined their pitching efforts to hold the Giants to five hits and nothing but one run and batting in the other. Bill Wilder's pitching featured on the defensive, holding the vaunted Gray batting attack to seven hits. Evans leaping one hundred steps of Pemberton's liner over first in the seventh was the fielding highlight of the contest.

Batteries — Grays — Bill Wilder and Delmar Wilder; Grays — Clay, Foster and Brewer. Umpire-in-Chief: Harvey Hart.

The Red Cross courses in swimming and water safety are available in all Call your local chapter and enroll.

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