

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHBUB

THE RICKY, STONEHAM, McPHAIL, "STRAIGHTEN UP AND FLY RIGHT"

NEW YORK — Branch Rickey and the others who set national league policies ought to be ashamed of themselves. They know that their backs are against the wall on the vexing and unwelcome question of whether the Negro ball player should be admitted to big league competition and, in the manner of the boys on the turf, have been busy laying down a heavy smoke screen to cloak their real intentions of evading the issue at whatever cost.

The year 1945 will go down as significant because of the fact that for the first time Negro ball players were actually tried out by national league clubs. The idea that the national league clubs who granted these trials to colored ball players had no intention of hiring them then, however, never entered the question. However, progress has been made, and the fact must be passed relentlessly to achieve an end which seems to be in sight.

While there is much discussion pro and con about the advisability of letting over a half players like Dave "Showboat" Thomas, the first base genius of the New York Yankees and talkative Terry "The Great" MacDuffie over to Branch Rickey as the best representation of Negro baseball, there is no evading the fact that the gate had been crashed.

Those who remember Larry McPhail when he had the Brooklyn Dodgers, will recall that Larry made no pretense of wanting to see Negro ballplayers in a trial attempt for his club. The fiery redhead, now boss of the New Yankees, plainly stated to a group of us, who waited on him several years ago to see what he would do about giving qualified Negroes a trial with the Dodgers, that he knew the history, and ability of every Negro player in organized Negro baseball, and consequently, did not need to have the trial to see what they could do. He then proceeded to name ballplayers with a familiarity that escapes many of our top Negro sportswriters.

This shows that the national leagues, through their representatives, agents, and various farm clubs, keep a close eye on everything baseball, whether it is played by Chinese, Hindus, Negroes, or Czechoslovakians. They are in the business and baseball is their No. 1 consideration. That's why it seems so phony and roundabout for Rickey at all to stage a series of phony trials, trying to evade the pressure of public opinion at the time when the issue was undeniably hotter.

JACKIE ROBINSON'S ABILITY WAS QUESTIONED

In case I am making an overstatement in connection with these trials, I perhaps would like to qualify the observation with the remark that the Boston Red Sox possibly didn't know too much about the ability of Jackie Robinson, the former UCLA halfback wizard who

also is a whole of a short-stop and played with the West End Coast Institute while in college, but in the case of MacDuffie, Thomas, Jethroe, and Williams, Rickey and Tom Yawkey probably know more about them than the Negro League club owners who have them under contract.

The pressure of public opinion plus the passing of literal laws in various states, particularly New York where the State FEPC poses a formidable barrier to those who seek to continue practicing un-American discrimination against a people because of race, creed, or color, will act very swiftly to eliminate the conditions that now prevail in organized professional sport, in particular baseball.

It is almost a certainty that none of the major league clubs, playing in New York City, in 1946 will get by without Negroes in their lineup. Forces are busy right now to take advantage of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's rather sensational mandate that Jim Crow in employment must be scrapped out in New York and are moving slowly but definitely toward marshalling forces for a showdown battle about the issue this winter and next spring.

NEW YORK CLUBS FIRST TO BE HIT

The New York Giants, the New York Yankees, and the Brooklyn Dodgers are the three clubs who will feel the brunt of the onslaught. Persons interested in furthering this fight have let it be known that they intend to grant no quarters in seeing to it that justice is done to the hundreds of qualified, competent Negro ballplayers who are kept out of the big show because their skins are not white.

The position is inexcusable on the part of the club owners. If Rickey, Yawkey, and Stoneham were located in such towns as Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Atlanta, Birmingham, or Chittling, South, Mississippi, I perhaps would not be inclined to be too hard on them, but here they are in the most liberal state in the union and in the biggest, the most important and the most liberal city in the world, setting themselves up as arbiters of who shall make a living and who shall not and making their conditions and findings on the basis of a man's skin.

FEW WILL FORGET BILL TERRY OF GIANTS

The prejudices practiced by Stoneham in the Polo Grounds over the years is well known. Few fans will forget the insults Negroes received while Bill Terry was managing the team that played under Coogan's Bluff. When Terry was there, an incident happened that I think will never be forgotten. At least by those who recall it. That was when Terry picked up a small Negro kid with kinky hair, had him on the bench and let the players, including himself, rub the kid's head for luck in sight of thousands of fans to see in the grandstand. Such incidents were not uncommon at the ballparks. Stoneham and those who operate the Giants have a lot to live down



CAMP LEJEUNE — MARINE CHAMPS

— Pictured is the Montford Point Camp Marine team. The Marines are slated to meet the Southern All-Stars in the South's Sixth Annual Classic, Sunday August 5, at Greensboro. Recently the Montford Leathernecks annexed the first half championship in the hot 11-team Camp Lejeune League by copping twenty titles — dropping only two during the course. Members of the team, left to right front row, are: Corporal Hayward Neal, formerly of the Delaware Aces; Private O. S. Gaines, Delaware Red Sox; Private First Class William Brown, Sr., Cincinnati Buckeyes; Pvt. Eugene Taylor, Havana Cuban Clowns; First Lt. James H. Hagan, Boston College athlete, and Marine team manager, Private First Class Aaron Watson, Atlanta All-Stars. Marine team captain, Corporal Phedra Mims, Texas Owls; Sgt. James E. Spurling, New York Seals; and Sgt. Thomas Lowe, formerly of the Detroit Cubs Second row, left to right, Corporal Howard Williams, Cleveland Bombers; Private Coleman Faison, Seminole Stars; Staff Sergeant Wilbur P. Baham, Louisiana Crescent Stars; Corporal Herbert Artwell, Philadelphia Clowns; Corporal Henderson B. Smith, Virginia Giants; Corporal Leonard J. Curtis, Roanoke Black Cardinals; Private Theodore R. Moore, Swift Packers; Private First Class Geo. E. Ford, Washington Aztecs; and First Sergeant Clifford C. Roberts, La. Jax Red Sox.

and to live it down they should straighten up and fly right on the issue of whether or not Negroes are good enough to play in that park.

Rickey has a great chance of becoming a top liberal along with Hugo Black, now Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Henry A. Wallace, former Vice President and now Secretary of Commerce, and others. He must make up his mind, however, to take the step even if that step is in defiance of the wishes of such diehard old republicans as Clark Griffith of the Washington Senators, Sam Breaden of the St. Louis club, and others who have yet to see the light. But he has got to be big, he has got to see the thing in its proper proportion, that is, as one of the light of its relationship to real American harmony and goodwill.

The beating-around-the-bush process of rounding up one or two nondescript Negro ballplayers and forcing them in the public spotlight with phony tryouts and meddling in the affairs of organized Negro baseball, as happened in the case of the U. S. Baseball League, branch of Pittsburgh's cagey Gus Greenlee, will have to be put aside.

Perhaps Rickey will prove to be the man. He seems to be of the calibre to do the right thing once he makes up his mind. Since 1946 augurs ill for those who expect to skip by again with anti-Negro practices still in force, Rickey would be wise to get his house straight before the year is out.

In fact, it wouldn't be a bad idea for Rickey to start right now writing his speech for the boys when they gather for the winter meeting wherever it will be held. There he should read the law to them because the handwriting is already on the wall.

POTATO PRICES

DURHAM — The retail ceiling prices may go up soon on some varieties of potatoes it was disclosed to the public by James T. Taylor, Assistant Information Officer.

"A slight adjustment in the growers' ceiling price in a few mid-western states has been found to be necessary," he said. No appreciable difference in the local market is expected, however.

FACING THE EMERGENCY

BY CARROLL L. BRYANT, Director Water Safety Service American Red Cross

Out of 100 individuals confronted with an emergency, it is estimated that 95 can neither think nor act correctly, three can think cor-



rectly but cannot act, and only two can both think and act as they should.

There is the story of the novice swimmer who was standing on the dock when his companion, who couldn't swim, fell into the lake. It was apparent that he would drown unless he had help. The young man on the dock, who might easily have saved his companion by lying down and extending an arm, with perhaps his coat or some other object extended to give added reach, looked on for a moment of unbalanced indecision. Then, slowly staring at the victim as though hypnotized, he carefully removed his watch from his vest pocket, placed it in the side pocket of his coat, took off his coat, draped it over his left arm, and jumped in — coat, watch and all. Others fished them both out of the water. The behavior of brain and body under the sudden stress of a demand for prompt and effective action is unpredictable. Unfortunately, most emergencies in which human aid is delayed or absent do not have the comic twist or happy ending. The long roll of the drown-

ed who might have been saved bears testimony to that fact.

How will you react in an emergency? The chances are 98 to 2 that unless you have acquired some life saving knowledge such as that offered by the American Red Cross you will be just about as helpful as the proverbial bump on the log. However, if you take this training you will establish correct patterns of reaction. The surprise element is largely eliminated, and controlled action becomes easier. Psychologically speaking, "the stimulus is short-circuited through the reflexes and reaction time is speeded up."

The course given by our local chapter of American Red Cross will help you master water safety and swimming. Enroll.

National Negro Sports Week, August 5th-11th

The Negro athlete has loomed large as a contender on the fields of friendly strife, and his accomplishments, like those in war, too often are quickly forgotten. Molineux, Murphy, Lewis, Jackson, Foster, Johnson, Drew, Pacey, Trigg, Pollard, Robeson, Tolson, Melville, Owens, Armstrong, Louis, Peacock, Holland, Woodruff — these names are meaningless to the average Negro. We'll wager that seven out of ten persons cannot fix their first names and identify them with the sports in which they excelled. They were, and a few of them are still recognized as leaders in their respective fields.

It is to keep these names alive, to perpetuate their memory and to those who come after them, that National Negro Sports Week is being celebrated this week, August 5th to 11th.

Let's call the roll of athletes for the benefit of those seven out of ten people who may not know them: Tom Molineux, the first Negro boxer of prominence, 1810. Peter Jackson, boxer, 1880. Ike Murphy, jockey, 3 times Kentucky Derby Winner, 1884. Rube Foster, track, 1906. Fritz Pollard, football, 1916. Joseph E. Trigg, crew, 1915. Paul Robeson, football, 1917. Eddie Tolan, sprinter, 1930. Jesse Owens, sprinter, 1934. Henry Armstrong, boxer, 1934. Joe Louis, boxer, 1935. Fulace Peacock, sprinter, 1935. Jerome Holland, football, 1936. John W. Thomas, track, 1936.

We could go on and on; the list is interminable. It is by no means an official selection; it's but a sample, a cross section of the cream of a very abundant crop of Negro athletes who have brought fame to themselves and prestige to this country.

Too little significance is attached to the importance of sports competition by too many influential people. Scant attention is given the athletic records of the decline and fall of many nations due to this same attitude. Ancient Greece and Rome where sports flourished for centuries, succumbed to soft luxury living and were reduced to impotency as world powers. Scan the list of present-day world powers and you will discover that progressive nations foster intensive sports programs. That the United States has been a sports leader is not coincidental. Yet, there is some indication that unless we continue to foster athletic programs, we too will disintegrate. Negroes, as a minority group, fighting for first-class citizenship in a democracy, have contributed more, in proportion to population, than any other group in America. That too is not coincidental. If we are to win our political, economic and cultural goals, we must maintain our athletic leadership. We cannot falter in this. We must strengthen our desire for physical competition on the fields of friendly strife as well as our intense longing for cultural recognition.

Lately the wave of juvenile delinquency that has plagued our large cities causes us to wonder whether we are using the best advantage of our athletic ability. This curiosity led to the formation of National Sports Foundation, an organization composed of former athletes, prominent citizens from all over the country, and directors of agencies dealing with juvenile delinquency problems.

The establishment of National Negro Sports Week (August 5-11) is an appropriate time for commemorating the deeds of Negro athletes who have been acclaimed by leaders as a marvelous way to point-up the necessity for more intensive sports programs among agencies dealing with wayward youth.

"As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined." As we steer our youth into the sports arena, the nation and the race acquires strength and leadership, enduring qualities of a vigorous democracy.

Let's call the roll of athletes for the benefit of those seven out of ten people who may not know them: Tom Molineux, the first Negro boxer of prominence, 1810. Peter Jackson, boxer, 1880. Ike Murphy, jockey, 3 times Kentucky Derby Winner, 1884. Rube Foster, track, 1906. Fritz Pollard, football, 1916. Joseph E. Trigg, crew, 1915. Paul Robeson, football, 1917. Eddie Tolan, sprinter, 1930. Jesse Owens, sprinter, 1934. Henry Armstrong, boxer, 1934. Joe Louis, boxer, 1935. Fulace Peacock, sprinter, 1935. Jerome Holland, football, 1936. John W. Thomas, track, 1936.

We could go on and on; the list is interminable. It is by no means an official selection; it's but a sample, a cross section of the cream of a very abundant crop of Negro athletes who have brought fame to themselves and prestige to this country.

Too little significance is attached to the importance of sports competition by too many influential people. Scant attention is given the athletic records of the decline and fall of many nations due to this same attitude. Ancient Greece and Rome where sports flourished for centuries, succumbed to soft luxury living and were reduced to impotency as world powers. Scan the list of present-day world powers and you will discover that progressive nations foster intensive sports programs. That the United States has been a sports leader is not coincidental. Yet, there is some indication that unless we continue to foster athletic programs, we too will disintegrate. Negroes, as a minority group, fighting for first-class citizenship in a democracy, have contributed more, in proportion to population, than any other group in America. That too is not coincidental. If we are to win our political, economic and cultural goals, we must maintain our athletic leadership. We cannot falter in this. We must strengthen our desire for physical competition on the fields of friendly strife as well as our intense longing for cultural recognition.

Lately the wave of juvenile delinquency that has plagued our large cities causes us to wonder whether we are using the best advantage of our athletic ability. This curiosity led to the formation of National Sports Foundation, an organization composed of former athletes, prominent citizens from all over the country, and directors of agencies dealing with juvenile delinquency problems.

The establishment of National Negro Sports Week (August 5-11) is an appropriate time for commemorating the deeds of Negro athletes who have been acclaimed by leaders as a marvelous way to point-up the necessity for more intensive sports programs among agencies dealing with wayward youth.

"As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined." As we steer our youth into the sports arena, the nation and the race acquires strength and leadership, enduring qualities of a vigorous democracy.

Let's call the roll of athletes for the benefit of those seven out of ten people who may not know them: Tom Molineux, the first Negro boxer of prominence, 1810. Peter Jackson, boxer, 1880. Ike Murphy, jockey, 3 times Kentucky Derby Winner, 1884. Rube Foster, track, 1906. Fritz Pollard, football, 1916. Joseph E. Trigg, crew, 1915. Paul Robeson, football, 1917. Eddie Tolan, sprinter, 1930. Jesse Owens, sprinter, 1934. Henry Armstrong, boxer, 1934. Joe Louis, boxer, 1935. Fulace Peacock, sprinter, 1935. Jerome Holland, football, 1936. John W. Thomas, track, 1936.

We could go on and on; the list is interminable. It is by no means an official selection; it's but a sample, a cross section of the cream of a very abundant crop of Negro athletes who have brought fame to themselves and prestige to this country.

Too little significance is attached to the importance of sports competition by too many influential people. Scant attention is given the athletic records of the decline and fall of many nations due to this same attitude. Ancient Greece and Rome where sports flourished for centuries, succumbed to soft luxury living and were reduced to impotency as world powers. Scan the list of present-day world powers and you will discover that progressive nations foster intensive sports programs. That the United States has been a sports leader is not coincidental. Yet, there is some indication that unless we continue to foster athletic programs, we too will disintegrate. Negroes, as a minority group, fighting for first-class citizenship in a democracy, have contributed more, in proportion to population, than any other group in America. That too is not coincidental. If we are to win our political, economic and cultural goals, we must maintain our athletic leadership. We cannot falter in this. We must strengthen our desire for physical competition on the fields of friendly strife as well as our intense longing for cultural recognition.

Lately the wave of juvenile delinquency that has plagued our large cities causes us to wonder whether we are using the best advantage of our athletic ability. This curiosity led to the formation of National Sports Foundation, an organization composed of former athletes, prominent citizens from all over the country, and directors of agencies dealing with juvenile delinquency problems.

The establishment of National Negro Sports Week (August 5-11) is an appropriate time for commemorating the deeds of Negro athletes who have been acclaimed by leaders as a marvelous way to point-up the necessity for more intensive sports programs among agencies dealing with wayward youth.

"As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined." As we steer our youth into the sports arena, the nation and the race acquires strength and leadership, enduring qualities of a vigorous democracy.

on the road sends us a favorable report we know that we have a song that is 99 per cent certain to meet with universal acclaim in the music boxes.

Every Gale, Inc., attraction carries a portable record machine while they are on tour and they make acetates of the tunes scheduled for their next recording session. These acetates are sent to the office and we listen to them, making special notes of what pleases the ear and what doesn't. The tunes are played until everybody is satisfied and then finally O.K.'d for final cutting. In short, we put in ten times more work in preparing our records than in the actual studio work.

Our promotion department is advised of every tune we have scheduled for recording and they must work out a campaign for each and every one of them. Not one record leaves the factory without an extensive and highly specialized job being done on the tune.

All this takes a good deal of time, effort and money. But the final result is more than worth the effort. To prove that we are right, we have only to point to Ella Fitzgerald's "A Tisket A Tasket," The Four Ink Spots' "If I Didn't Care," Erskine Hawkins' "Tuxedo Junction," Coote Williams' waxing of "Mond For Coats," "Deed" Watson and the Brown Dots doing the subway serenade "31 Miles For A Nickel," and the current No. 1 juke box favorite, Lucky Millinder's "Who Threw The Whiskey In The Well."

Scratching Itch Fast

For quick relief from itching caused by eczema, athlete's foot, scabies, pimples and other annoying skin troubles, use cooling, medicated, liquid D. D. D. PRESCRIPTION. A doctor's formula. Unexcelled and stainless. Soothes, comforts and quickly calms intense itching. 3¢ trial bottle given free, or money back. Don't suffer. Ask your druggist today for D. D. D. PRESCRIPTION.

BANKERS FIRE INS. CO.

DURHAM, N. C.

Finance or Borrow On Your Car

through the

DILLON MOTOR FINANCE CO.

Wilmington at Davis — Phone 3-3231

TIRE RECAPPING

CRAFTSMEN IN BUILDING AND RE-BUILDING FINE TIRES

All Sizes Passenger Car Tires

Call 3-1533

McNEILL'S TIRE SHOP

Lester McNeill, Owner 325 Cabarrus Street

A Trust We Keep

McNEILL'S TIRE SHOP

Lester McNeill, Owner 325 Cabarrus Street

A Trust We Keep

We keenly appreciate the trust our clients place in us and we make every conscientious effort to keep faith with them. Every detail, from first to last, is given careful supervision. Nothing is too small, too unimportant to do—if by so doing we can console or be of service to the family.

CAPITOL FUNERAL HOME

101 E. Hargett St. Phone 3-2415

RALEIGH, N. C.

Confidence

... YOU CAN BE SURE OF IT WHEN YOU MAKE A PERSONAL LOAN WITH THIS BANK

If it is necessary for you to get money in a hurry, to get it without implicating a friend and without paying exorbitant interest, you will appreciate the services of this bank. Our cashiers or one of their assistants will be eager to help you. You'll be able to put all your confidence in the person who handles your business, for he will treat it as if were his own. This bank is composed of individuals who want to serve, individuals in whom you can have utmost confidence!

Mechanics & Farmers Bank

DURHAM-RALEIGH

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

SPORTS OUT OF ADAM'S HAT

MONTE DIDN'T FEAR THE 13 JINX — HIS PERFECT GAME WAS HIS 13TH WIN OF THE YEAR. THE YANKEES MADE 13 RUNS ON 13 HITS, AND CLEVELAND USED 13 MEN IN THE GAME!

PEARSON IS THE 3RD YANKEE HITTER. TOM HUGHES, WHILE ONE IN 1910, BUT LOST AND SAD SAM JONES WON A 2-0 CLASSIC IN 1923

Monte Pearson

OF THE YANKEES, IN 1938 ACHIEVED THE AMBITION OF EVERY HURLER — A NO-HIT GAME — AND IT WAS HIS 10TH STRAIGHT VICTORY, THE LONGEST AMERICAN LEAGUE STREAK AT THAT TIME OF THE 1938 SEASON!

BUY BONDS AT YOUR THEATRES!

REDDY KILOWATT

Reddy Beats the Heat

IF YOU HAD BEEN CLEOPATRA YOU COULD JUST SIT COOLLY ON YOUR THRONIC WHILE NUBIAN SLAVES FANNED YOU BY THE HOUR. IT TOOK A LOTTA MAN-POWER AND CLEO HAD TO KEEP EM HOUSE EM AND SHE HAD ABOUT AS MUCH PRIVACY AS A GOLDFISH

FOR THE PRICE OF ONE CIGARETTE (Let's say 10¢)

YOU CAN ENJOY A POWERFUL BREEZE IN THE HOTTEST WEATHER FOR ABOUT 3 HOURS... JUST... PLUG IN... IM REDDY!

— BUT YOU CAN BRING OCEAN BREEZES RIGHT INTO YOUR ROOM — INSTANTLY AND AS LONG AS YOU LIKE — WHENEVER YOU LIKE — AND AS STRONG AS YOU LIKE

I NEVER SAW NOTHIN' IN HIM!!

careless speech should be avoided. For example, do not use double negatives as above.

CONSERVATION HINTS

Number Two of a series

DON'T ...

... leave a half-filled stamp album lying around! That is as bad as a half-equipped soldier. Buy a stamp a day for the man who's away — and as soon as one war stamp album is turned in for a war bond, start another.

DON'T ...

... let a cut-back in jobs and general post-war reduced employment hamper the opportunities of your boys and girls. The more you patronize Negro business, the stronger and larger our intra-race enterprises will become. When you buy insurance from North Carolina Mutual agents your premium dollars do double duty by protecting your family's future and making more career jobs for your sons and daughters.

"The Future Belongs To Those Who PREPARE For It!"

NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

C. C. SPAULDING, President DURHAM, N. C.