

Fun for the Whole Family

SPARKY WATTS



By BOODY ROGERS

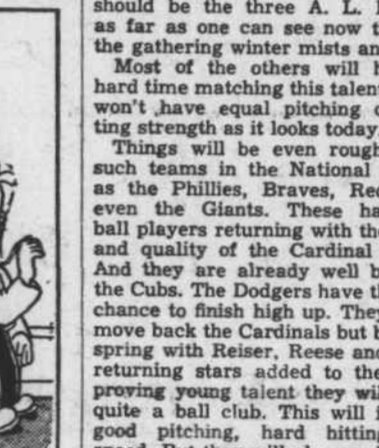
REG'LAR FELLERS—This Way Out



By GENE BYRNES

VIRGIL

By LEN KLEIS

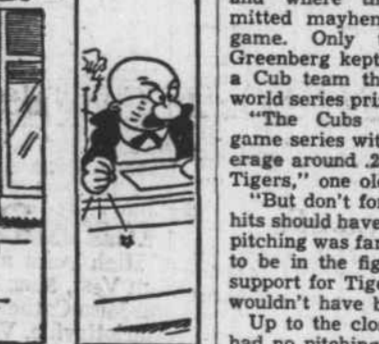


POP—Not Useable



By J. MILLAR WATT

SOMEBODY'S STENOG—Big, Brave Smithers



CROSS TOWN
By Roland Coe

RESTAURANT

WHEATS & HONEY

"Next, a triple somersault back-flip with a half twist!"

BOBBY SOX
By Marty Links

"But Miss Morris, you wouldn't want me to recite in front of the class without looking my best?"

Sportlight
by GRANTLAND RICE

MOST of the club owners and managers in the National league are wondering how they can keep the Cardinals in check through 1946. Many of them are hoping to get in on the big sale when said Cardinals begin to shed some of their surplus talent.

And it might be mentioned that more than a few of the ball players who wore big league uniforms last season are wondering what minor league will get their services when a new season starts.

For there will be many a sad farewell to big league glory when the servicemen start returning in groups—some 200 of them who will be back when the bluebird starts chirping in the sun next March.

The American league shows better prospects of a hot scrap than the National.

The Yankees will have DiMaggio, Keller, Henrich, Lindell, Gordon, Rizzuto, Johnson, Chandler, Rufing, Russo and several others in camp.

This is a formidable group. But don't forget that Joe Cronin of the Red Sox will also have on hand such stars as Ted Williams, Tex Hughson, Bobby Doerr, Dom DiMaggio, Pesky at short, Harris and a few more who can play their full allotment of baseball. Not overlooking Dave Ferris. And don't forget the Tigers will have Wakefield, McCosky, Mullin, Greenberg, with a pitching staff that includes Newhouser, Trout and Trucks.

The Three Leaders

The Yankees, Red Sox and Tigers should be the three A. L. leaders as far as one can see now through the gathering winter mists and fogs.

Most of the others will have a hard time matching this talent. They won't have equal pitching or batting strength as it looks today.

Things will be even rougher for such teams in the National league as the Phillies, Braves, Reds and even the Giants. These have no ball players returning with the class and quality of the Cardinal array. And they are already well back of the Cubs. The Dodgers have the best chance to finish high up. They can't move back the Cardinals but by next spring with Reiser, Reese and other returning stars added to their improving young talent they will have quite a ball club. This will include good pitching, hard hitting and speed. But they will also need a few more good men, especially on the pitching and infield side.

Mandarin Rickey could use a few of the stars he once controlled on the Cardinal farms.

Fumbling Tigers

It was generally agreed, except for its pitching and Greenberg's hitting, the Tiger club was perhaps the worst that ever appeared in a world series. Trout, Trucks and Newhouser plus Greenberg's big bat should have planted the Tigers on top in four of the first six games. But the Tigers' defensive play in the fifth and sixth game and part of its offensive play in the sixth game was something too terrible to look at. It belonged to the sandlot variety where infield and outfield pop-ups were not even touched, where they threw badly to the wrong base and where they otherwise committed mayhem on the grand old game. Only their pitchers and Greenberg kept them going against a Cub team that was certainly no world series prize.

"The Cubs finished the seven-game series with a team batting average around .263, well ahead of the Tigers," one oldtimer points out.

"But don't forget most of the Cub hits should have been handled. Tiger pitching was far better than it looked to be in the figures. With just fair support for Tiger pitching, the Cubs wouldn't have batted .200."

Up to the closing game, the Cubs had no pitching to offer except Borowy and Passeur. The others were on the soft side, easy targets for Tiger bats. The Cubs also had no power punch worth writing about. The two 1945 teams were far below the quality of the Cardinals and Browns a year ago. They were the worst of all the wartime teams in almost every respect. But at least they kept things exciting with every one wondering what bum play or boner they would pull next.

A good part of it all was a travesty on world series baseball, with the big spot and the big stake to be won or lost, yet interest remained at high ebb all the way through.

Cobb on Batting

Recently I asked Cobb if he had any advice to give young hitters, now coming up.

"Here are two main points," he said. "Stand well back in the batter's box. Don't move up forward. By standing back you can see and judge better how a curve will break. Don't crowd the plate. Keep in position where you have the leverage left to hit an inside pitch. Too many hitters stand too far forward and too close to the plate."

Household Hints

To give variety, sprinkle a little grated cheese over top of raisin, apple or mince pie and heat for five minutes in a moderate oven.

Most woolen garments that become stained may be cleaned safely with soap and water.

Soaking clothes overnight is not desirable, as the long soaking has a tendency to let the dirt freed from clothes settle back into the fabric.

Marks caused by matches struck on a painted surface usually can be removed by rubbing them with a cut lemon.

SNAPPY FACTS
about RUBBER

Special sponge rubber tablecloth, developed by E. F. Goodrich, attached to tables in factory assembly lines enables assemblers to pick up small metal parts without fumbling.

Officials predict that the production may jump to nearly 4,000,000 passenger car tires a month during the last quarter of 1945.

Spare tires should never remain idle until other tires are worn out. Rubber needs to be "exercised" to keep it in best condition.

The new E. F. Goodrich all-synthetic Silvertown passenger car tire actually outwears prewar natural rubber tires.

Rene Marney

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DOROTHY LAMOUR

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