



DOING OVER THE WHITE HOUSE

The White House is to be remodeled and enlarged at a cost of a million and a half dollars.

One item in the program is cited as "entire new floors in the President's personal quarters."

An entirely new heating system is to be installed too, it is announced.

Maybe they mean "cooling" system.

The grounds are to be done over, too. We understand there will be a series of fountains and pools through which a President can wade with his shoes on when the problems are especially hot.

There is also a rumor that Mr. Truman has a chicken run, a well and an old-fashioned hammock on the grounds to give him something of the rural flavor he loves so well.

Mrs. Truman is going to get new rugs, carpets, drapes and curtains, and you know what that will mean to a woman.

Boy, will Mrs. Roosevelt be sore! She was there 12 years without getting what Mrs. Truman is getting in a few months.

Also a large room artificially dampened and equipped with rattan chairs, old fishing tackle and foghorns so that the President may get all the atmosphere of being on his yacht without actually being so.

(Note to Mrs. Truman: Whatever they do to the shebang, you be sure you get the kitchen the way you want it first.)

THE 1946 AUTOMOBILE Oh, fetch the motor ads to me. And let me read, my pet, Of all the beauties of the car I know I cannot get;

What is the radiator style? Full facts I must possess About the car nobody has (And no one gets, I guess);

And what of the upholstery? I hate to fret about My comforts in a limousine Nobody's turning out;

Peace, It's Wonderful Bill Hadden, attorney general of Connecticut, conferred with Dr. Stoyan Gavrilovitch, chairman of the UNO site committee, to sing the praises of Nutmeg State locations the other day.

And, in view of the way UNO is dodging so many issues, how about Duck Island, just off Clinton?

Personally we nominate as a permanent site the Pease House, Saybrook Point.

A passenger plane made the trip to Bermuda in 2 hours and 22 minutes the other day.

WHEN LOVE DINES OUT I scarcely miss connubial bliss And all that it embraces

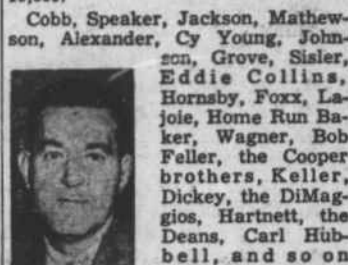
In the racing horse doping is delicately defined as "improper medication."

THE REVOLT "I paid thirty-seven cents for a tube of toothpaste the other day, which looks to me like five cents worth of paste.

"Chinese Armies Violate Armistice."—Headline. Maybe the armistice agreement was all Chinese to them.



IF YOU look over the list of all the leading ball players for the last 30 years, including baseball's hall of fame at Cooperstown, you'll find that over 90 per cent of them came from cities and towns under 10,000.



Cobb, Speaker, Jackson, Mathewson, Alexander, Cy Young, Johnson, Grove, Sisler, Eddie Collins, Hornsby, Fox, Lajoie, Home Run Baker, Wagner, Bob Feller, the Cooper brothers, Keller, Dickey, the DiMaggios, Hartnett, the Deans, Carl Hubbell, and so on came to their fame from isolated and unknown spots on the map.

In towns running from 1,000 to 10,000 population there is always room for a ball field. In these "Sweet Auburns, loveliest villages of the plains," there is space in which kids can hit, run, throw and slide. They can play the game up to the hilt. But in a city such as New York, you can see thousands trying to play on crowded streets as cars come through to drive them back to the sidewalks.

Baseball's hall of fame, now and in years to come, would be extremely thin if it had to look to the crowded, thoughtless larger cities for its talent. If there isn't enough within these cities, there is always space enough outside — and there are still buses running and there will soon be motor cars available.

Complaining about juvenile delinquency, youthful crime, is a waste of time. The responsibility belongs to older people who through sport and the full support of so many hard working organizations can change the entire picture in a few years.

Athletes and Condition

What group of athletes keep in better physical condition—or worst physical condition, so far as professional sport is concerned?

At a recent gabbing session we ran into a number of coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and assistant trainers who know their way around, who have been in charge of various sports for many years. It was their belief that professional football players and professional tournament golfers on the average were in better physical condition than any other group, and that professional baseball players trailed the list.

This statement will bring a loud and lusty squawk from many ball players, but it happens to carry more than a mere shade of truth. Anyway, the coaches and trainers who felt this way about it should know what they are talking about.

"This, of course, doesn't include all ball players," one trainer said. "But it includes too many of them. Most of them couldn't do half the job a pro football player has to face. Watch most of them hit a triple and you'll find them puffing at third base and that's less than 100 yards. They don't turn in enough road work to build up their legs. A pro baseball player should last far longer than a pro football player, considering the punishment the footballer has to take, but few of them do. Last season the New York Giants had Mel Hein, Herber and Ken Strong, each with nearly 20 years of football behind him. There have been many others such as Hutson with 10 or 12 years already cashed in.

"For example I see where Detroit's Tigers this season have 43 exhibition games. This means a total of 197 contests from March to October, a long march that demands the best sort of physical shape. Many of them will be ready for this endurance test. But quite a lot won't be, unless they make a far harder effort to get in shape and keep in shape than so many have made in the past. These fellows heading south early are the smart ones. This will be the toughest season any of them will have to tackle."



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