

# Last Year's Baseball Players Slow in Signing New Contracts

## Officials and Players Disagree Over Salary

**President Fowden Offers Conditional Release To Several**

**Manager Rodgers Is Negotiating with Several Rookie Players**

The ground may be covered with snow today and freezing weather will be felt for a while yet, but spring days aren't far away and Pete Fowden, local baseball club president, is preparing for those days. With the help of Manager Frank Rodgers he is rounding up a team to match anything the other clubs will have to offer. But he is encountering much difficulty as time for signing on the dotted lines approaches.

Hardly half of last year's team is expected back, and President Fowden is having difficulty in signing that half. "They are holding out for more pay, and while there is some keen competition offered by the Army, steel mills and other defense work, we are not going to let the bars down and make the sky the limit," Mr. Fowden said in explaining that he had studied the situation at length and had made fair offers to the players.

Returned receipts have been received for all contracts sent to players on the team last year, but several of the players have not answered, Mr. Fowden stating that he had not heard a word from Red Swain.

"Several of the players are asking twice as much as they received last year or unreasonable increases," Mr. Fowden said. "In those cases we are advising the boys that they will be conditionally released, that no such pay is to be expected by players on Williamston's club this coming season," he said.

An offer of a class pitcher for Lee Rock has been received by the club officials, and the exchange is being considered.

In a letter received by Mr. Fowden yesterday, Manager Rodgers stated that he had interviewed a

### To Eire for U.S.



**Major John W. Wofford, cavalry officer, will be the first military attache ever sent to Eire. Washington officials declared the appointment was necessitated by the increased duties of the attache in London, not by the expectation of war coming to Eire.**

number of prospects, but had definitely signed only one in the group. The manager and president are both working in lining up a team, and they have several promising prospects on the string, but final contracts will hardly be drawn before early April in a number of cases.

Manager Rodgers is to report in early April and a final round-up of players will follow about that time.

Summing up the salary situation, President Fowden in a letter to Manager Rodgers yesterday said: "To be perfectly frank with you, we didn't have but about five players that I was especially anxious to see back this year, and so far, I have been unable to get them under contract as they are not only asking more than they are worth but a ridiculous price for Class D ball players."

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### Jamesville Enters Team In Tourney

Jamesville will be well represented by its all-star team in the Gold Medal basketball tournament opening in Rocky Mount next Monday night, it was announced today by "Shorty" Corey, the deluxe manager of the fast-stepping quint.

Pairings have not yet been announced, but the Jamesville All-Stars are not worrying about the opposition. Manager Corey explaining that they had been strengthened and hold a good chance for honors. "Pap" Diem and "Bosko" Anderson have just recently signed up for duty with the All-Stars from down the way, adding power to the strong team.

The starting line-up will likely see Anderson and H. Walters playing the forward positions, "Shorty" Corey at center, and Diem and Chris Walters, Bear Grass High School coach, in the guard roles.

### Employes Receive Increased Salaries

The nation's factory employees are now getting nearly a quarter-billion—\$250,000,000—weekly in their pay envelopes, topping any peak periods of 1929 or 1937. Greatest payroll gains since July, 1939, have occurred in the five states adjacent to the Great Lakes. Here are located most of the country's steel capacity, many of its auto and truck plants, and a multitude of other light and heavy industries which normally turn out nearly one-third of the nation's manufactured products. Total payrolls in this area have averaged a jump of more than 50 per cent in the last 18 months. The mid-Atlantic section of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania is not far behind. It ordinarily accounts for about a fourth of national manufactures and payrolls there have whooped up by 37 per cent. Pacific Coast states have found their factory employment boosted mostly by increase in aircraft and shipbuilding activity—and payrolls there show a 38 per cent rise.

#### NOTE OF THANKS

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### Uncle Sam's Nephews—'17-'41



Here is a comparison of the uniform worn by the doughboy of 1917 and the snappy ensemble of the warrior of 1941. Left, John M. Rice, of Jersey City, N. J., is wearing the 1917 model. Right, John J. Murphy, at Fort Dix, N. J.

#### Corn

Corn accounted for more than one-fourth of the total farm value of all crops produced in the United States in 1939, according to a recent estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

#### NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the authority contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded in the Public Registry of Martin County in Book H-3 at Page 227, said Deed of Trust having been given to secure a certain note of even date and tenor therewith, and the stipulations therein contained not having been complied with, at the request of the parties interested, the undersigned Trustee will, on Tuesday, the 1st day of April, 1941, at 12:00 o'clock M., in front of the Court House door in the Town of Williamston, N. C., offer for sale at Public Auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate:

Lot No. 1: Being Lot No. 16 in the Moore Field, adjoining Amy Purvis on the West fronting N. Street 78.8 and running back to two parallel lines S 41-45 East, to the depth of 130 feet. Being same land purchased

from Williamston Land and Improvement Company by George and Jane Rice. Recorded in Book E-1, Page 112.

Lot No. 2: Beginning 73 feet from Broad Street on a Street at corner of Lot No. 1 in Block B in the Moore Field plat, thence Eastward along the line of lots 1 and 2 about 130 feet to Lot No. 4, thence Southerly along Lot No. 4 to Jane Rice back corner, thence along Jane Rice corner about 130 feet to a Street; thence along said Street to the Beginning Being same land purchased of H. M. Burras by George and Jane Rice.

Lot No. 3: Beginning at the corner of Pine and North Streets in the Williamston Land and Improvement Company, Moore Field, running N. 42 East 72.8 feet to Augustus Purvis corner, thence along his line S. 41-3-4 W. along Pine Street to the beginning and being Lot No. 19. Being same land purchased from Williamston Land and Improvement Company on the 24th day of October, 1904. Recorded in Book MMM, Page 225.

This the 27th day of February, 1941.

WHEELER MARTIN,  
Trustee.

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