

### IN THE MAJOR LEAGUE TRAINING CAMPS

(THE FOURTH ARTICLE OF A SERIES IN WHICH JAMES CRUSINBERRY, FAMOUS SPORTS WRITER, WILL SIZE UP THE VARIOUS BIG LEAGUE SQUADS FOR THE READERS OF THE STAR. TODAY HE WRITES OF THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS.)

Brownsville, Tex., March 17.—If the law of averages worked in baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals would win this year and the next, too, for they never have won one and they have lost 100 in the last 10 years. But Maj. Rickey, who runs things on the St. Louis outfit, isn't counting on the law of averages to do one thing for him. He's concerned only over his pitching staff.

If he can get any kind of pitching staff that could create quite a stir in the coming fight. If he doesn't get any kind of pitching staff, he's likely to be a trailer once more. Rickey has a strong hitting club. No one can doubt that when it contains such men as Roger Hornsby, U. S. Smith, Stock, Jacques Fournier, and Bert Shotton, besides a couple of the looking youngsters in Clifton Heathcote and Austin Moinary, he has a speedy club in base running.

**Heathcote Fast on Paths.**  
The major says Heathcote is the fastest man in baseball and is willing to wager a new hat with the tall end of the league. Shotton, Fournier, Hornsby, Stock and the rest of them are fast-footed, too. He has a team capable of doing some great offensive playing, but the defensive power of the club is doubtful.

Unless a couple of youngsters come through as pitchers, the Cardinals are likely to trail along with the tall end of the league. They were last in the league last year, and they were last in everything that was done for pitchers. The St. Louis staff allowed more hits than any other staff during the 1919 season. They allowed more runs per game than any other staff. They hit more home runs on balls. They hit more batters. They made more wild pitches and they fanned fewer batters. Maj. Rickey has all the dope to prove it, and he is working desperately to correct these faults.

**Counting on Schupp.**  
"I've got to improve my pitching staff or I can't see much hope for us this year," frankly admitted the St. Louis leader. "But at the same time I have a ball club that can do a job of business if the staff is improved on a slightly, and it looks as if one or two of my old pitchers will have better form and as if one or two young fellows are ready for the big show. A lot depends upon Ferdie Schupp, and I really believe he is going to be in his old time form. I can bank on Willie Dook's doing well. Kansas City coachin should be able to handle his game."

Then there are Bill Sherdell, Jake May, and Elmer Jacobs of the older set. They know enough about pitching to go along in the big leagues, and I feel sure of a great deal of help from Jess Haines, who won twenty-five games last year, and Walter Schulz, a youngster whom I picked off the St. Louis semipro. He beat us last year in an exhibition game at Mount Vernon, and he can beat anybody with pitching such as he showed us that day.

**None in the Outfield.**  
"With all that I can't see but feel somewhat optimistic about my pitching staff. I have outfielders who make mistakes. They throw to the wrong bases and sometimes do a lot of other things that you wouldn't think possible by big leaguers, but there is hope and they'll still learn. You know if you just keep on telling a fellow the right thing when he's done it wrong nineteen times, there's a possibility that he'll do it right the twentieth time."

Rickey would like to make a trade that would give him either a high class pitcher or a high class catcher—one who could help his present pitching staff—but it looks as if no such deal could be made. The Giants would like to have Milton Stock, and Rickey would give them Stock, but only for some stars. He said they could have him for outfielder George Burns, Catcher Smith and some young infielder. That makes a deal practically impossible.

**Backstop Loose Tempers.**  
At present Vernon Clemens is chief catcher for the Cards, and his main fault is getting mad at the umpires.

"Pickles" Dillhoefer, formerly of the Cuba, is second string man, and a youngster named Henry Roth, a soldier, is trying for a place. With Stock back in line, the Cardinals will have a set of infielders that has plenty of class. Jack Fournier has improved since he fielded since the days he was with the White Sox, and he sure can hit. Hornsby will play second and he's a whale of a man for the table. Johnny Lavan, formerly of the Browns, is the shortstop, and Stock will be on third.

As a substitute, Harold Janvry, who trailed with the Red Sox several seasons, is here and going in better style than ever. Jim McLoughlin and Ray Blades are two St. Louis semipro with speed but little experience. **Stagging Batters Seek Jobs.**  
Shotton, Heathcote, McHenry and Jack Smith are the outfielders of experience. Joe Schultz, also a veteran, may hold on as utility man, while two youngsters, Ed Bogart and Lloyd Silcott, aspire for jobs. The former hit over 300 in the Canadian league last year, and was credited with twenty-two homers.

While Shotton handles the job of chief assistant to Rickey, the St. Louis boss also carried old Joe Sugden as coach. Joe, however, devotes most of his time to the job of teaching the pitchers the tricks of baseball. Charley Barrett, scout of the team, also is helping in the work at camp.

Rickey has the most picturesque and unique training camp I ever visited. Being on the Mexican border, the boys have to know a bit of Spanish, to order ham and eggs and get what they order. After they have learned a bit of the talk, they can go over to Matamoros, on the other side of the Rio Grande, and enjoy for one dollar a dinner consisting of jack snipe, quail on toast and a venison steak, with all the necessary side things to make such a dinner complete. In Chicago, one couldn't get such a feed, but if he could it would cost about eight dollars.

**Camp Run on Army Discipline.**  
Rickey's method of running a training camp makes a fellow think he's in the army. At 6:30 a. m. comes the call. Over at Fort Brown, two blocks from the hotel, one can hear the bugle call fifteen minutes later. Even the soldiers don't get up so early.

The Cards eat at the Rotary club, where a special table is provided. Immediately after breakfast, they group themselves in front of a desk and Rickey presides in a meeting of one hour, during which baseball things are discussed and lectured on, just as if it were a class in college. From 8:30 to 9:30 a. m. the athletes are at liberty, but at 9:30 they are dressed for a session at the parade grounds of the fort.

There Rickey gives special work, maybe one day to a trio or quartet of pitchers on fielding bunts or holding bases, or maybe one day to a set of outfielders and infielders on sliding to bases, maybe another day an hour of work by the infielders on drill to break up the double steal.

This is followed by the regular sessions of batting and fielding practice. There is a two hour rest at noon, then a long afternoon of work, usually winding up with a nine inning game between two picked teams. No other set of players seems to work so long and hard as this outfit. It may pull St. Louis out of the joke class.

**INVENTIVE GENIUS MAKES ASPIRIN SAFE FOR HEART**

Improved Tablet, Called Aspiritone, Retains All The Medicinal Virtues, But Is Slightly Stimulating Instead Of Depressing To The Heart—Does Not Upset The Stomach.

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