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### SAYS THE RAMBLING REPORTER

Being the Highlights of Fifteen Years' Experience in Gathering the News

DOWN in Akron, O., everything revolves around rubber. And the men who head the great tire factories are naturally the leading figures in the city. Though in business for himself now, F. A. Seiberling at one time was the giant of the Akron rubber industry—and he was only five feet tall.

I was doing general assignments for the Akron Beacon Journal in 1913. One morning the city awoke to find snow drifts ten and fifteen feet high blocking traffic on all the streets. The Goodyear factory, of which F. A. Seiberling was president, is located far in the north end of the city. Street cars were not running and thousands of employes who lived at a distance from the shops failed to report for work the day after the big snow.

#### A Long, Cold Walk

F. A. Seiberling lived in the fashionable east end, five miles from the factory. The route from his home to his office passed by the Beacon Journal building. About 3:30 in the morning I saw the little president of the great rubber company trudging through the drifts toward the factory. He was so short that only his head appeared above the snow.

I scented a good news story. And followed it up. Thousands of employes failed to show up because street cars were not running. Seiberling, president of the company, walked five miles to work.

I interviewed him. The incident, together with the embarrassment of his assistants who did not come to work that day, made a front page story.

Seiberling said the walk through the snow did him so much good that he accomplished twice as much as usual that day.

REMEMBER when Jack Pickford married Marilyn Miller? And when the American papers were carrying so many stories about Flo Ziegfeld's opposition to the match? Ziegfeld was in Paris at the time, combing the talent-laden cafes of the famous Montmartre district for new hits for the Follies. Of course the American correspondents were under directions from their home offices to get Ziegfeld's statement about the Pickford-Miller engagement.

I was on the Chicago Tribune Paris bureau at that time, handling cable news. The manner in which one of the Tribune men secured his interview with Ziegfeld may be interesting. It proved the newspaper rule that there are many ways to get an interview from an individual who doesn't want to speak for publication. I'll call the Tribune reporter Jones. Jones defeated the Paris telephone

operators in their perpetual attempt to keep folks from getting the right number or any number at all, and actually reached Ziegfeld by phone at the Ritz.

#### The Conversation

"Hello, Mr. Ziegfeld," he said. "This is Jones of the Tribune. The papers in the States have published stories to the effect that you are opposed to the marriage of Jack Pickford and Marilyn Miller. Is that so?" "Well," said Mr. Ziegfeld, "that is a subject on which I don't think I should talk for publication."

"Well, now, Mr. Ziegfeld," said Jones, "you are married to Billie Burke. Isn't it true that any man who is married to Billie Burke has no reason to be jealous of Jack Pickford?"

"Oh, of course," said Mr. Ziegfeld. "Then you are not jealous of Pickford, are you, Mr. Ziegfeld?" "No. No. Of course not," said Mr. Ziegfeld.

"Well, then, you certainly don't want the American public to think that you are jealous, do you?"

"No. No. No," replied Ziegfeld. "Then you are not jealous and you'll let us deny the silly rumor that you are, won't you? And are you going to get Jack and Marilyn a wedding present?"

"Why, yes, I suppose so." "When will you buy it?" "Oh, tomorrow, I guess," said the famous producer.

"Thanks very much, Mr. Ziegfeld," said Jones, and hung up the receiver.

#### A Good Little Yarn

As a result of that telephone conversation the next morning the Chicago Tribune and other American papers receiving Tribune Foreign News service published a story from Paris which read something like this:

PARIS, Aug. 3.—(Special Cable).—"Any man who is married to a woman as beautiful as Billie Burke cannot be jealous because Jack Pickford is going to marry Marilyn Miller."

Thus did Flo Ziegfeld, Miss Miller's employer and famous producer of the Follies characterize as without foundation the reports published in the United States that jealousy of the film star is behind his opposition to the proposed nuptials.

"I am going to send them a wedding present," added Mr. Ziegfeld, who is in Paris looking for European theatrical talent.

Mr. Ziegfeld will spend the day in the exclusive Paris shops selecting a wedding gift for the dancing star and the film favorite.

That was good publicity for Mr. Ziegfeld, for Billie Burke, for Marilyn Miller and for Jack Pickford—and a good little yarn for the papers—made possible because a good newspaper reporter used his head.

W. H. K.

### SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

By JACK KEENE

The middleweight most deserving of a crack at Harry Greb's title at this writing is Mr. Jock Malone of St. Paul. He may not be a better man than Harry, Gunga Din, but he should be able to give the Human Windmill an awful run for his money. (Nothing mean meant toward Harry by the word run.)

For a time Boston fans swore by Johnny Wilson. Now, however, they have forgotten the ex-champ who always accused folks of holding his feet, and are swearing by Jock. Malone has licked some mighty good boys decisively. He has whipped no less a personage than Mickey Walker, now welter king. Panama Joe Gans, Lou Bogash, Tommy Robson, Ryan Downey and Roland Todd also have met defeat at his hands.

The only gont to give him a thorough lacing is Jack Britton, ex-welterweight champ and one of the cleverest boxers that ever climbed into a ring.

Malone is clever and of late has been surprising the wise boys with a stiff wallop which he seemed to lack for some time. He is a real middleweight as far as poundage is concerned, scaling around 155 pounds at all times.

Greb has been offered several matches with the St. Paul scrapper but has refused to accept the purses offered. Which indicates that the Pittsburgh gent considers Malone a tough bird and wants the purse worth while when he does jeopardize his title by meeting Jock.

The report comes from Shelby, Mont., that Jack Kearns and Jack Dempsey are to be offered—or have been offered—a \$1,000,000 purse for another battle with Tom Gibbons in that optimistic town. The battle that were forced to close by the fizzle last July have been reopened and are itching to close again, apparently.

But that's their business. Fact is, the offer sounds more like a dare than a real bid. One look down the muzzle of a small-sized cannon ought to be enough for Kearns and Dempsey.

#### MADDOX ALL ALONE

For all the years that the Pittsburgh Pirates have been in the National league only once has one of their pitchers hurled a no-hit game. That was accomplished by Nick Maddox in 1907. Nick pitched his hall of fame game against the Brooklyn at the old Exposition park, where he won by the score of 2 to 1. The Dodgers were saved from a shut-out by two wild throws. One of these was made by Maddox and the other was charged to Hans Wagner.

Babe Ruth wishes he could play one full season at the Polo grounds. The Big Boy has found

out that it isn't so easy to sock homers in the New York stadium as it was in the Giants' balliwick, where the Yanks played before the new field was completed. "I think I could beat that 59 mark if I could play 77 games at the Polo grounds," says Babe.

Mrs. "Ad" Topperwein, San Antonio woman and expert marksman, says that women should know how to shoot. There is expert testimony on record, however, to prove that many of them have a fairly keen eye and quick finger right now.

Should the League of Nations ever run out of problems, we suggest they try to define an amateur.



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