

SPOTLIGHTS ON SPORT

by JACK KEENE

THE recent news that Dick Hoblitzell, former star first baseman of the Boston Red Sox, had signed to manage the Reading club in the International league brought out the fact that in addition to eight managers on its payrolls the league has twelve ex-managers ready to play the coming season.

With 20 past and present managers and 32,000 grandstand managers, the circuit seems to be well supplied with bosses. Reminds one of the army that former Governor Walton of Oklahoma employed while the legislature was

giving him the gate. Said army had something like 182 officers and one private.

Much has been written concerning Ermino Spalla, Italian heavyweight, who seems tired of life and wants Jack Dempsey to end it all for him. Little is known, however, regarding his real ability.

Eddie Eagan, Yale boxer who participated in the interallied tourney in Paris after the war, gives what is probably the best line on the Roman gladiator.

Eagan, a light heavyweight, took on Spalla and trounced him in handy fashion. Perhaps Spalla has improved greatly since then, but this carries him into the conjuncture class again.

Speaking of Eagan, he now

holds the amateur light heavyweight championship of England and the collegiate title also. He is a student at Oxford.

Doc Johnston, owner of one of the trickiest Charlie Horses in the baseball circus, is going to show its tricks in the Southern association. The former big league first sacker has just been sold to Little Rock by the Seattle club of the Pacific Coast league. Doc, after varying degrees of success in the big show, reached the peak of his career the year he and George Burns alternated at first and together played an important part in bringing Cleveland its first pennant.

The world in general may not be interested in the news that the Cardinals have released one Lester Sells to the New Orleans club. But the St. Louis and other National league scribes are a bit tickled—albeit sorry for the young man himself. The Cards still have one Lester Bell and a Herman Bell on their payroll and these two names will give the jolly scorers and telegraphers enough of worry without having a Mr. Sells around. Even scribes are entitled to mercy.

The Brooklyn Dodgers will give Richard Loftus, star outfielder of the Bridgeport Eastern league club, a try-out at Clearwater camp. Loftus was plucked by the Dodgers in the draft last fall. He bats left-handed and in 184 games rang up an average of .329. He collected 179 hits for a total of 219 bases and included in his swat were 23 doubles.

Reports emanating from St. Louis that George Sisler has recovered sufficiently from his trouble with his eyesight that he will be able to play next season—at least enough to pitch now and then—are taken with a grain of salt in most quarters. There seems to be little chance that he will play at all. According to re-

cent reports from the Pacific Coast his eyes are still out of focus and he cannot hit or field the ball with any of his old-time skill. If he really is done as a player it is a sad blow to baseball.

HE WAS SURE

An old negro who made his living, as he said, "by takin' in whitewashin', floor cleanin' an' perticular jobs," met one of his customers shortly after the first of the year.

"How are you this morning, Uncle Dave?" asked the white man.

"Well, sah, I'm des dat good 'dat I'm gwine to live fer anuder year," was the reply.

"How can you be so certain of that?"

"Hit's dis 'er way: I allurs notices 'dat when I lives twel New Year's I allus lives anuder year," was the triumphant response.

FASTIDIOUS

A certain group of older men in a small town in Virginia meet quite often and usually have something to drink, states Judge.

The oldest one was observed to always hold his nose while drinking. One night he was asked why he did it and if he disliked the smell.

His reply was: "If I smell the stuff it makes my mouth water, and I don't want my drinks diluted with anything."

ONE ON THE DOC

He "loved" military, as do all the students in universities where drill is compulsory.

"I tell you, doc," he explained at the hospital, "my throat hurts something awful. I don't believe I better go to military for a day or two."

"Not drilling outdoors now, are you?" the doctor inquired.

"No, sir," the student admitted.

"Well, your throat won't interfere with your going to indoor classes,"

"But you see, doc, I play in the band, and—"

"Oh, in that case it's different," the doctor interrupted. "I don't want you straining that throat in band practice. Here's an excuse for three days."

Three days later the student again presented himself at the hospital.

"Well, how's the throat now?" the doctor inquired.

"Pretty good, I guess," the student replied.

"Think you can go back to band practice now?" the doctor asked.

"Guess I might just as well."

"Say, by the way," the doctor remarked, "I used to play in a band a little myself several years ago. Toot a horn a little yet once in a while. That's the reason I knew how hard it would be on your sore throat."

"What do you play?"

"One of the drums," the student replied, and slid hastily out the door.

PARTICULAR

A real estate man was plainly worried, and his wife asked him to tell her about the deal. It seems that he had it fixed up to sell a man a loft building, a marble yard with dock privileges, a factory site, and a summer garden, and to take in part payment a block of frame tenements, a small subdivision, an abandoned lime kiln, and a farm.

"He assumes a \$20,000 mortgage on the loft building," explained the real estate man, "and I take over a second mortgage on the subdivision. Get me."

"I guess I get you," responded his wife. "But what is the hitch about?"

"Well, I want four dollars in cash."

—Pittsburgh Sun.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. McKenzie joined Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bennell, of Los Angeles, and San Pedro friends in a motor trip Sunday to Malibu ranch.

LOMITA NOTES

W. W. Johnston of Torrance was a business visitor here Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Paddock of Narbonne avenue spent part of last week with relatives in Los Angeles.

A. L. Shannon's son left Saturday for a trip to the Orient.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Henderson of Cypress street are driving a new Star touring car.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Paddock and Miss Birds Paddock, of Narbonne avenue, and their guests, Mrs. James Strachan and son, were entertained Friday by Mr. and Mrs. Z. Wing of Newport Beach.

Teddy, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Baker of Narbonne avenue, is said to be seriously ill.

Mrs. J. P. Carr of Narbonne avenue spent part of last week with friends in Long Beach.

Mrs. A. L. Shannon of Narbonne avenue, ill for several months, continues to improve.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Joyner of Oak street joined a party of friends in a week-end trip to San Diego and Tijuana.

R. E. Gilbert of the Lomita Lumber company is building a modern home at Lemon street and Eshelman avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Scarvin of 257th and Walnut streets entertained relatives from Glendale Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Synott of 256th street attended the Elks' dance at San Pedro Saturday evening.

Mrs. Rose Snyder of the S. A. Wheaton store spent Thursday with friends in Los Angeles.

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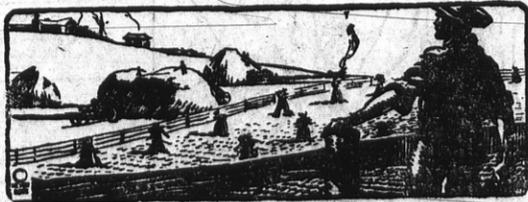
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