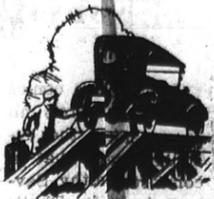


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SPOTLIGHTS ON SPORT

by JACK KEENE

Western baseball fans who have seen Jimmy Walkup, Okmulgee (Okla.) pitcher, in action this year expect him to walk up to the big show before the close of the present baseball season. Walkup has drawn new notice this year by piling up a long string of victories without a defeat. He registered his tenth straight win by shutting out the Springfield club of the Western association, and on his next appearance won again.

He has drawn the attention of the big league scouts before this season, however. When the minor league averages for 1923 were compiled scouts found that Walkup was one of the eight pitchers outside the big show who had won 25 or more ball games for their teams. He won 25 and lost but 8. His season was shortened a bit by an injury in the closing weeks which kept him from making his regular turn.

He's a southpaw and has made what rep he has won to date without the aid of a fast ball. He has a beautiful curve and a slow ball, and can get both over.

Pitcher Slim McGrew of the Washington club boasts of one record for the season. He struck out Harry Hellmann twice in one game recently. No one else had turned this trick up to a few days ago, at least.

The main demand made on a lead-off man on any ball club is that he get on base. That being the case, Bill Whaley, former St. Louis outfielder and now with the Los Angeles Pacific Coast league club, deserves some mention in this column. Over a recent stretch of eight games Whaley "got on" the first time up in every contest and in 34 trips to the plate.

Which is considerable "lead-offing."

The interest of Cuban baseball fans is not centered on the big league these days, despite Adolpho Luque's presence and the catching of Miguel Gonzalez. The minors furnish them with a team that is managed by one of their native brothers and boasts of Cuban as its star player.

The team is the Elmira club of the New York-Pennsylvania league. Armando Marsans, former Cincinnati and St. Louis National league outfielding star, piloting the team. Manuel Parrado, Cuban rookie, is playing first base in a wonderful style. Parrado is a recent addition to the team, having been obtained from the Louisville A. club.

Elmira fans believe that Parrado will step into the big show the minute he improves his hitting. His sliding is now compared with that of major league first basers.

Moses Solomon, the Jewish lad led out by McGraw and since then shipped to Toledo, Waterbury and Bridgeport, has no fear that the atrimental league will treat him as much as baseball is mauling him. He is just married his home-town sweetheart. His home is in Columbus, O.

Fourteen years ago Mike Devaney broke into track athletics as a runner. That other day he won the 3000-foot steeplechase event in the Olympic tryouts at Travers Island. A victory placed him among the members of the Olympic running team which will meet Europe's best. He is now 38 years of age. He has it in training virtually every minute of those 14 years. He is a gray-haired veteran in point of service. Yet he seems to grow better instead of worse as the years roll on.

Speaking of veterans of the sport in who defy time, we offer to the public (in a political convention style) the name of Rabbit Maranville, infielder extraordinary. Twelve years ago he joined the Boston Braves from

the Springfield club for his major league debut. Today finds him as peppy as ever—albeit not quite as speedy—and one of the stars of the game. This spring, at 31 years of age, when many vets of 12 years are looking for soft places, he is playing a rip-snorting game at second base for the Pirates.

Maranville's philosophy explains the main reason for his ability to defy time.

"Never take the game home with you," was the sage tip he handed out to Frank Graham, an eastern scribe, the other day.

"The place to do your worrying or crabbing is on the field or in the clubhouse right after the game," he said.

"When I step out from under my shower I'm through with baseball until the next day."

Here is a short sermon that young athletes in every branch of the sport game should heed. Fretting and worrying over your form, the breaks of the game and the tribulations generally, will not help you. They will cut down your athletic life.

Here's an interesting sidelight on another sport veteran. Jack Quinn's ability to turn back the rank and file of the American league batters at an age when he ought to find comfort and enjoyment in an arm chair before the grate is always a topic for discussion.

Now Danny Murphy, veteran aide to Connie Mack of the Athletics, comes through with an unusual slant at the venerable Jack. Quinn's ability to deceive the batter regarding his delivery is his main asset, in Murphy's opinion.

Batters can "read" the delivery of most pitchers, Danny points out. Every pitcher has a different movement for a curve ball, fast one and splitter, if he uses the latter.

"Quinn," says Danny, "gets off all of these with the same motion—or so nearly the same that the batter cannot tell until too late just what is coming. This leaves the man at bat uncertain and off his stride when the ball comes over."

Jimmy Sullivan, a youngster tried out as a catcher by Connie Mack at Montgomery, Ala., last spring, is now playing first base for Hagerstown in the Blue Ridge league, and making good.

President Bobby Quinn of the Boston Red Sox says that he wouldn't listen to an offer of \$100,000 for Ike Boone, slugging outfielder of his ball club. And few experts could see Ike when he first came up.

Here's something for the department of justice to investigate: All members of the Chicago Cub infield wear red shirts, with the exception of Charley Hollocher.

Urban Shocker, star pitcher of the St. Louis Browns, glories in the fact that in the eight years he has faced Babe Ruth he has given the home-run star an intentional pass but once. This is something to be proud of, but our tip to young pitchers is to use judgment and not try to emulate Urban until they're sure of their stuff. One ball tucked where Babe wants it means a ball game ruined.

While Harry Hellmann, batting leader in the American league, and Rogers Hornsby, ranking slugger in the National, are righthanded hitters, the majority of the men fighting for

the leads now held by this pair hit from the first base side. Joe Harris is the keenest rival Hellmann has among the righthanders.

FOOLISH QUESTION

A very small boy with a very large gun was standing in a country road. "What are you hunting, bub?" asked a passer-by. "How can I tell?" was the reply. "I ain't seen it yet."

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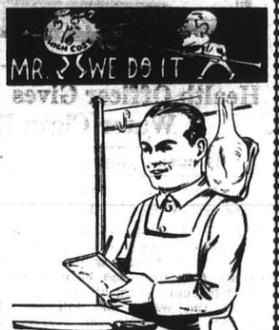
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