

# STIRRIN' the DOPE

By VEDDERGARD

MY gosh, \$100,000 to the winner of a horse race! That's what they are talking about in Chicago these days. The "sport of kings"—financial kings, is booming in the Windy City, and apparently the latest bold gesture of disdain for coin of the realm is backed up by more than wind.

The Illinois Jockey Club of Chicago, which will operate the new Washington Park race course plans a revival of the famous American Derby which thrilled race goers in the past. The enormous purse is part of the plan.

It is said that G. Frank Crossant, Chicago capitalist, who has turned to the racing game and has one of the largest stables in America, guaranteed \$50,000 of the rich prize money.

Chicago wants to be a center of the thoroughbred sport and from the looks of things has a great start. The new Washington Park course already is completed. Then there is a new track to be built headed by a syndicate of which Matt J. Winn of Kentucky is the head. Hawthorne has been in operation for three years.

Jefferson Park, New Orleans, celebrated Christmas with the banner crowd of the present racing season. The mutual machines got many Christmas presents from race fans. Only two favorites won.

ANOTHER "city series" net game is on the card for next week. Shortridge meeting Broad Ripple Tuesday night at the Ripple gym. This annual contest is always fraught with interest to the followers of the two schools, which for a number of seasons have been clashing with victories and losses alternating year by year. Since the season 1918-1919 the record stands as follows:

1918-1919—Broad Ripple, 25; Shortridge, 23.  
1919-1920—Shortridge, 13; Broad Ripple, 10. (These sectional games were their only meeting this season.)

1920-1921—No game scheduled.  
1921-1922—Broad Ripple, 35; Shortridge, 26.  
1922-1923—Shortridge, 30; Broad Ripple, 25.  
1923-1924—Broad Ripple, 27; Shortridge, 23.  
1924-1925—Shortridge, 44; Broad Ripple, 20.

So, regardless of dope, it appears to be Broad Ripple's turn to cop this season's battle.

Smatter, Florida, smatter? Only half of those 16,000 seats in the new Coral Gables stadium were filled to see Red Grange do his act. The Galloping Ghost developed twice, once for five yards and once for twenty yards.

But after the game when the "ghost walked" and receipts were checked up promoters and managers were disappointed.

Red probably will have to take up the real sport down there yet. We left out a word—what we meant to say was the real estate sport.

THE New York Boxing Commission is full of queer rulings. The latest is the prohibition of smoking in Tex's new Garden. Rickard went to the expense of installing \$75,000 worth of ventilators which seemed to clear away the fumes in the Berlenbach-Delany bout, but the commission said "No."

At all other forms of entertainment in the Garden the cash customers can puff to their hearts' content.

It might be a good thing for the commission to change its ruling in this case. Tobacco has a soothing effect on the nerves in times of excitement and stress and the fans might take some of the funny, yet tragic decisions of the judges with more grace and less booing if Lady Nicotine were present.

Despercy surely must be hard up about publicity. The old story about meeting Strangler Lewis in a wrestling-boxing match has hopped up again.

WHEN it comes to optimism you must hand it to sports promoters. They never think the public has enough—and that's where they make their mistakes. The New York professional football team now is going to Florida with Be McMillan as the feature of the show. Grange's crowd of 8,000 at his opening game ought to make the Gotham team think twice before heading South—but it won't.

In a picture of the Missouri basketball team which plays Butler at the auto show building, State fairground, Tuesday, we notice a player with a mustache. That makes Butler the favorite in the contest.

Kindly give us credit. We didn't say, "Merry Christmas" in this column at any time. This gives us a world's record. If our restraint holds we will try for another record on New Year's.

SHELBYVILLE High School basketball fans like their bonfires. Some time they're going to burn down that town. They probably will tonight if the team defeats Martinsville. It might be a good thing if Shelby did down the Artesian City club. The size of the bonfire and the heat generated likely would warm up all this section several degrees. The cold wave would be broken.

A pleasant thought—Next year Christmas comes on Saturday. You can recuperate on Sunday. Holidays should be arranged in pairs.

It is a 10 to 1 shot that Manual wins tonight—Varsity vs. Alumni.

# RUTH STARTS SINCERE EFFORT TO RESTORE DIAMOND PRESTIGE

## Bambino Hustles in Gym and on Road—Aims to Strengthen Legs.

By Henry L. Farrell  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—More hits, more homers, more happiness and less fat is the 1926 program that Babe Ruth has set out for himself. The Babe, tiring of putting on weight raising chickens on his New England estate, has abandoned the country and is getting himself in shape for another baseball campaign in a gymnasium here.

He is doing two hours on the road in the morning and three hours in the afternoon on rowing machines, on the handball court and the rings.

Down to 215  
"I weighed 226 pounds when I left the farm, and I'm down to 215 pounds now," the Babe said. "That still sounds like a lot of weight for a ball player, but it's getting solid, and I'm a good-sized fellow."

The Babe did not take offense when he was talked to his bosses at the New York Yankee office had decided aged players and fat players on the club could not spend two weeks at Hot Springs in the spring with all checks paid.

"It isn't the dough," the Babe said, "if I thought it would do me any good I'd pay my own freight and go down there for some baths and some golf. The trouble is that the fellows who go down there try to do too much in a few days."

"I loafed around all last winter and thought I could take a few hikes and a few baths and get myself in shape. I tried to do too much and broke down, and I know the reason now."

Realizes He Slipped  
"My legs went bad on me last year and I know I didn't play real baseball. The fellows told me the only way I could keep the 'dops' working was to keep using them, and I've been using them all winter."

"I went up with Eddie Collins and other fellows into the Canadian woods and I had to pay for a truck for a couple of days, but after a week or so I was able to out-bike some of the boys."

"But the old eye is still good and the arm is all right and I think I can hit a few of them out of the park next season if the 'old dogs' stand up under me, and I'm getting them in shape to stand."

Jinx Broken  
WHEN Case school, of Cleveland defeated Western Reserve, 4 to 0, the past fall it marked first grid victory for the Scientists over their ancient rivals since 1911.

It was the thirty-fourth meeting between the two teams. Case, incidentally, sprung a surprise in winning. Reserve having been favored to continue its long string of successes.

FAMOUS LEATS  
COLLEGE STARS  
ART CARLSON

OLD RECORD LOWERED  
ONE of the most outstanding feats in collegiate track and field athletics of recent years was the smacking of the 220-yard low hurdle record by Charlie Brookins, Iowa star, in 1923.

For twenty-five years no athlete had been able to lower the world mark of 23.5 seconds, established by Alvin Kraenzlein, old Penn all-around celebrity, in 1898.

Many had tried but, none succeeded until Brookins came along. The Simpsons, Wendells, Smithsons and other notable steeplechasers found the task too great. Experts opined or were at least doubtful if it ever would be excelled.

But where countless of others had failed before him, Brookins actually leaped to fame by clipping a fifth of a second off Kraenzlein's time. Shortly afterwards he was credited with a mark of 23.15 on a straightaway track.

Kraenzlein's mark was one of the oldest on the athletic record books. Any performance capable of withstanding the yearly assault twenty-five seasons without being toppled must be out of the ordinary.

That's why Brookins' achievement takes rank with the greatest collegiate feats of modern times.

Y. M. H. A. WINS  
The Communal Y. M. H. A. downed the Ft. Harrison netters, 41 to 19. Sackoff, Becker and Glazier, ex-Manual High basketballers, starred for the winners, while Irvin, former De Pauw star, played best for the losers. The winners led at the half, 23 to 9. The Communal would like to hear from the Penn. R. R., Indianapolis Remblers, Hoosier A. C. and Central "Y." Write Joe M. Burnstein, 1204 Union St.

WOODSIDE JUNIORS  
Woodside Juniors are arranging their schedule for January and would like to book with fast city and State teams in the 120 to 125 lb. class. Write Roy Baker, 2414 South-eastern Ave., or phone Drexel 3161-J.

The manager of the Theta Delta's is requested to call the above number in regards to the game Monday night.

FAVORABLE CONDITION  
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Andy Smith, California football coach, was reported to be in a favorable condition at the Pennsylvania University Hospital today. He was stricken with an attack of pneumonia last week.

NEW YORK PRO FOOTBALL TEAM TO PLAY IN FLORIDA.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Owners of the New York club of the National Professional Football League announced that the players had been retained to play through a series of games in Florida. They will play five games, starting in Palm Beach on New Year's day, and Bo McMillan will coach and captain the team.

DOYLE GIVEN EDGE  
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26.—Paul Doyle, New York welterweight, won a twelve-round decision from Willie Harmon. The decision was not popular.

LOUGHNAN VICTOR  
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Tommy Loughnan, Philadelphia light heavyweight, won a ten-round decision from King Solomon, New York heavyweight here Thursday.

BEAT RUGBY CHAMPS  
VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 26.—The world champion Olympic Rugby team of San Francisco was handed a 1 to 0 defeat by the Vancouver "Rug" team here on Christmas day before a crowd of 5,000.

HE'S ALL-ROUND ATHLETE  
Michigan has a great all-round athlete in Philip Northrup, who stars in the pole vault, broad jump and javelin throw.

## BG PAUL FAILS TO IMPRESS

### Berlenbach Lacks Cleverness to Become Star Heavyweight.

By Joe Williams  
N.Y.A. Service Writer  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Paul Berlenbach never will rank with the immortals of the prize ring, despite all the glowing phrases you may read of his potential powers as a coming heavyweight.

Found "Em Paul, I am convinced after seeing him defend his light heavy title against Jack Delaney, Canadian sharpshooter, is simply a one-handed fighter, possessing incredible stamina and courage. Paul can hook with the left and shoot the punch over straight. Though he does not seem to be a master of timing, the Manhattan Dutchman manages to get considerable power into the blow. The effect is that of a jarring jolt, rather than an explosion.

One-Handed Fighter  
But Paul employs his right hand solely for defensive purposes. If it were not for this it would be easy to enthrone over Berlenbach as a possible conqueror of Jack Dempsey in months to come. A strictly one-handed fighter seldom catches up with lasting fame, and this is what Paul seems to be.

Old Man Hickey, who manages the Dutchman, thinks he is the ring's new man of destiny. Hickey relates how Berlenbach was deaf and dumb at the age of 2, following an attack of scarlet fever; how he had these faculties restored ten years later by accidentally touching a live electric wire; how he took up wrestling and went on to win the Olympic championship; how he decided of his own accord that boxing was better suited to his temperament and muscular gifts and how, starting as a preliminary fighter two years ago, he climbed by gradual degrees to the light heavyweight championship.

Hickey Dominates Berlenbach  
Berlenbach is Hickey all over. The once trainer and mentor of old Bob Fitzsimmons completely dominates him. Hickey's moods are Berlenbach's. Hickey's thoughts are the fighter's. Berlenbach's own personality is completely submerged in the older man's influence.

Hickey is boxing instructor at the New York A. C., that is where he and Berlenbach met. Berlenbach was an amateur wrestler at the time. He began fiddling around with the gloves. Hickey ignored him. Berlenbach worked all the harder. One day Hickey put on the gloves with the youngster. The story is Berlenbach glimpsed the professor with a left hook to the body right off.

Kayoed His Instructor  
Whether this is one of the picturesque little legends that spring up to furnish conversational background for a new and sudden success, I don't know; but at any rate Hickey immediately became Berlenbach's manager.

Hickey is credited with being the author of the famous "shift" with which Fitzsimmons gained so many of his notable triumphs in the years of the sport. This shift consisted of a bluff to hit with the right hand, a sudden shift of body and feet, followed by a quick planting of the left to the waistline.

Berlenbach does not use the shift at all. It is not hard to understand why either. The shift is a strategic maneuver demanding shrewdness and mental trickery. Fitzsimmons was excellently equipped to use it, but Berlenbach is about as cagy as a wooden Indian.

MANY FEATURES DURING 1925 FOOTBALL SEASON

Dartmouth, Michigan, Grange and Oberlander Outstanding—Increase in All-American Selections.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Dartmouth and Michigan, Red Grange and Oberlander made the 1925 football season the most popular and the most interesting in the history of the game.

Attendance records were shattered wherever there was a stadium large enough to provide a record, and Columbus entertained the largest number of paid spectators when 33,000 sat in on the Ohio State-Illinois game in which the great Grange finished his college career.

The 1925 season was one of great teams. Seldom are found in one season a pair of teams to compare to Michigan and Dartmouth and such a large number of good teams as

H. S. Games Tonight

Manual and Alumni at Manual gym, 7:30 p. m. Wood at Indianapolis "Y," 8:30 p. m. Martinsville at Shelbyville, 8:30 p. m. Jeff (Lafayette) at Emerson (Gary), 8:30 p. m. Hammond Invitational tournament, Emerson tonight. Evansville at Vincennes, 8:30 p. m. Stoney Creek Varsity and Alumni.

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT  
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STECHEER-LONDOS  
CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Negotiations for a wrestling match between Joe Stecher and Jim Londos for Jan. 4 are under way here. The managers of the two men met in Omaha, Neb., last week, but Stecher made known at that time that he felt Londos should add "something to his reputation."

LABARBA IS RING PHENOM  
Little Italian Boxer From Coast Makes Tremendous Hit in N. Y.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Just as this old year was about to close the sports book—a book where pages had been marked by a Nurni, an Oberlander, a Red Grange, a Neviers and a Bobby Jones, along came a last minute hero entry and one of the best.

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The smart little lad finished high school in California and when he talked to the head of the household—a father with little means for further education—he was told there were others in the flock who had to be kept in clothes and shoes.

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## SOPHS REPLACE MISSOURI BASKET VETS

By Times Special  
OLUMBIA, Mo., Dec. 26.—Coach George Bond, Trainer Billy Fallon and ten members of the Missouri University basketball squad will leave here Sunday night, and will stop for two days at Indianapolis, where the party will be guests of the Indianapolis Athletic Club and play Butler on Tuesday night.

The Tigers, during their workouts here this week, appeared in fine shape for the trip. The fact that Coach Bond led behind two letter men of last year was taken as indicative that his team will display a great deal more strength during the coming season than it did during the playing of the 1925 schedule.

Dan Joyner, who started practically every game last year, and Newt Laughlin, who played enough during the early part of the season to win a letter, though injuries later kept him on the sidelines, were crowded out of the chosen ten by sophomores who are making their first appearance in the varsity cage game.

The men selected by Bond for the trip included Captain McMillan, forward; Buchner and O'Sullivan, guards; and Bacchus, center, all letter men; McDonough, guard, who was a member of the varsity squad last year for a part of the season, but who failed to make a letter. In addition to them there are five new men, Yunker, McQueen, Flannick and Knight, forwards, and Channon, center.

The game with Butler at Indianapolis Tuesday night will be the curtain-raiser for the Bengals, who have been hard at work for almost three months. Missouri plays Purdue at Lafayette, Ind., on next Thursday and clashes with Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Jan. 2.

NEW COACH  
BY Times Special  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—One football coaching question has been settled and two others rendered still more unsettled by developments within the past forty-eight hours.

"Biff" Jones, first assistant to Head Coach John J. McEwan at West Point for the past few years is succeeding to the post made vacant by the latter's resignation. Jones is a great coach of linemen and is given much of the credit for recent Army successes.

Brown University, which had a new stadium, but only a fair football team this fall, has "fired" Head Coach Edward Robinson and his assistant Reggie Brown. This leaves the Brunclans searching for a football mentor for 1926, as no successor to Robinson was suggested.

Meanwhile, it leaves Harvard free to pick up Brown, if he is wanted by the Crimson athletic advisory committee.

Early in the year there was talk of Robinson going to Harvard, although he is not a graduate. "Robbie" has coached Brown teams for a quarter of a century.

Sad Sam  
SAM JONES, New York Yankee pitcher, lost more games than any other hurler in the American League last season. Jones was defeated twenty-one times.

Ehnlke of the Red Sox was the only other American League pitcher to reach the twenty figure class in beatings, having just twenty.

Which Is Better—Lineman or Back?  
NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The old controversy as to whether a lineman or a back makes the best captain for a college football team remains unanswered after the elections of leaders for 1926.

Taking fifty representative colleges and universities for example, it is found that half have chosen linemen and the other half back carriers. Missouri solved the problem by electing two captains, one end and the other a full back. Notre Dame also elected two captains, but both are in the back field.

Princeton is the only university of prominence where a rule that a lineman shall be chosen football captain is strictly adhered to. Jake Slagle, versatile half back, would have seemed the logical choice for leader in 1926. Instead, Princeton adhered to its rule and named John W. Davis, an inconspicuous guard, a veteran of two seasons.

Yale chose Phil Bunnell, quarterback, while Harvard named Clement Coady, a natural tackle who also does the punting for the Crimson, and who has played in the back field.

Dartmouth, eastern champions, elected "Hooker" Horton, full back in 1925 captain. Horton's work on the championship team last fall was overshadowed by that of "Swede" Oberlander. Colgate, another eleven which went through last season without a defeat, elected Nick Mohler, its quarter back.

It would be rash to say that Princeton is right in its stand that a back field man never should be elected captain of a football team. But players show a tendency to select linemen whenever possible, because they know only too well the inconspicuous services rendered by these men of the silent rushline, and the value of such service to the team.

Y. P. C. - METEOR SERIES  
Local Independent Netters to Play Three Games.

The Meteors basketball team of the W. Washington M. E. Church has signed to meet the St. Anthony Y. P. C. in a three-game series. The date of the first game has been set for Jan. 1 at St. Anthony's Hall. The second game will be played at the Hawthorne Community Center, but no date has been set. The third game will be played on a neutral floor.

The interest in the games is high as the teams are all on the west side and both outfits have fast clubs. The Meteors' roster includes Carpenter, King, Dunn, Stokes, Atkes, and Bennett, while the Y. P. C. has Humesing, Wehr, Roberts, Phillips, Grimsley, Kelly, Higgins and Lentz.

The Meteor team stands undefeated to date, while the Y. P. C. have won nine games out of twelve starts. A dance in honor of the Meteor team will be held after the game Jan. 1.

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High School Grad  
The smart little lad finished high school in California and when he talked to the head of the household—a father with little means for further education—he was told there were others in the flock who had to be kept in clothes and shoes.

La Barba learned to box under the tutelage of George Blake, boxing instructor at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

La Barba's unofficial title was good enough, nevertheless, to get him a match in Rickard's new \$5,000,000 garden here against Lew Perfetti, a little New York bantamweight, who had instilled fear into every little fellow in the Metropolis.

La Barba took the match against a recognized world's champion, and defeated him decisively.

The New York boxing commission, however, refused to recognize La Barba as the champion because he was not of age, and for the reason that the contest was not over the prescribed route of fifteen rounds.

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## TURNERS' SUNDAY GAME

South Side Basket Team to Meet Modern Woodmen.

The South Side Turner basket team and the Modern Woodmen of Indianapolis will play at Turner Hall Sunday at 3 p. m. Fans expect another good game. Last Sunday's battle was lost by the Turners by only one point. The Turners have been practicing this week on free throws as last week's game was lost because of inability to toss fouls.

In a certain sense starting at 2 p. m. the Turner Blues will play a local team. The Turners want a game away from home next week. Address Manager, 306 Prospect St.

THREE-TIME CHAMPION  
Heilmann is Real Slugger for Right-Handed Batter.

Harry Heilmann of Detroit is one of the few right-handed hitters to have led the American League batters three times. He has determination and the nerve to put over big things.

GATES GET DECISION  
By United Press  
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