



SPORTS...

By Eddie Ash

WHATEVER the U. S. army may lack otherwise, it is strongly fortified with Washington third basemen. . . . Four of them are now in military uniform and that's the reason why Manager Bucky Harris faces a very definite problem with the start of spring training just around the corner.

Writing in Sporting News, Shirley Povich sums up the situation in this fashion: "World War II's impact has been felt hardest at the far corner on the Washington team. . . . Buddy Lewis, who used to do a pretty fair job at third, is now Private John Kelly Lewis Jr. of the mechanized forces at Ft. Knox, Ky."

"Cecil Howell Travis, who was supposed to replace Lewis at the third base job this season, followed Buddy into the army by only a few weeks and is now at Camp Wheeler, Ga."

"With Travis unavailable, Manager Harris began to vision young Hills Layne, hard-hitting Chattanooga rookie, as his 1942 third baseman, but Uncle Sam grabbed Layne last week. . . . Harris then surmised that his third baseman would be rookie Bob Moren, up from Greenville in the Sally League, but he was reckoning without Uncle Sam again.

"Twenty-four hours after Layne was inducted, Moren received his marching orders. . . . As a result the only third baseman on the Washington roster at this time is young Stan Galle, claimed from Milwaukee in the 1941 baseball draft. . . . He will get first chance at the job, although the Senators' bosses are turning no mental hand-springs of delight at his .268 American Association batting average. . . . Galle, however, may get the job by default."

"There are, however, a couple of other possibilities. . . . Ossie Blaue, 41 years old, who retired as a player three years ago, may try a comeback, and Bob Estalella may be brought in from the outfield for a trial at the hot corner. . . . Estalella was a third sacker several years ago but didn't last long at it in the big time."

Three Grodzicki Brothers Are in Service

JOHN GRODZICKI, the ace of the Columbus Red Birds' mound staff last year, the third member of the family to enter the service. . . . John is training at Ft. Knox, Ky., one brother is in the medical corps and another is in a parachute troop outfit. . . . The St. Louis Cardinals were banking on John to be a winner for them this year as he posted a great record in the 1941 American Association regular season, play-offs and little world series.

As a farm boy Bob Feller was taught to get up early, but the navy arouses him even earlier. 4:45 a. m. . . . He is stationed at Norfolk, Va. . . . Bob Berger, former Cleveland, Chicago White Sox and Brooklyn infielder, is a second lieutenant and is stationed at Arlington cantonment, near Washington, D. C. . . . He played with the Seattle Pacific Coast League pennant winners last year.

THERE WAS NO HOOKEY to the column Bob Hokey, sports editor of the Ohio State Journal, filled Feb. 14, when he registered for selective service under the new order calling men from 20 to 45. . . . Bob, however, did a lot of pondering over the question, "color of hair," and finally answered: "One-third brown, one-third gray, one-third gone."

Going-Away Party Tossed for Tribe Coach

WALTER TAUSCHER, Indianapolis' new pitcher-coach, was given a farewell dinner by Mike Kelley, Minneapolis Millers' president, in Minneapolis recently. . . . Tauscher was made a free agent by Kelley early in the winter so that he might sign with the Indianapolis Indians.

At the dinner, attended by Miller club officials and ball players wintering in Minneapolis, Tauscher was presented with a portable radio and during a "ribbing bee" with old Miller mates the veteran promised "to win at least five games for Indianapolis from Minneapolis right in ancient Nicollet Park."

SIX MEMBERS of the Montreal ball club have joined the armed forces and Clyde Sukeforth, manager, has called upon Brooklyn for replacements. . . . Royals now in service are shortstop Stan Rejek; George Pfister, catcher; John Douglas, first baseman; Joe Gallagher, outfielder, and Joe Smolko and Bill Sample, pitchers. . . . Claude Corbett, Montreal's 1941 star shortstop who was promoted to Brooklyn, also is in service.

'Man With Scythe No Match For Man With a Shotgun'

PORLTAND, Ore., Feb. 19 (U. P.)—The nation's greatest trapshooter turned 60 today—but to Frank Troeh the birthday was just another figure in a lifetime of figures, most of them good.

The best marksmen in a gun-minded family, Troeh has run up an average of 9750 out of a possible 1,000 for 32 straight years. Since 1917 his yearly percentages have not fallen below .970 and in 1928 he reached as high as .9838 for 6260 "birds." Two other men—Charles Young of Springfield, Ill., and Mark Arie of Champaign, Ill.—have been shooting longer, but not so accurately.

"Hell, what's 60 to me," Troeh scoffed today. "The man with the scythe is no match for a good man with a shotgun. Me and my brother, Jesse—he shot 88 this year—are going to the International Flyer Championships at Kansas City on March 2 and offhand, we aren't going there to be beaten. Sixty—huh. What difference does that make?"

Has 500 Trophies

Troeh has won more than 500 trophies, among them the governor's cup symbolic of three consecutive victories in the Grand American Handicap. He can't name a single individual title that he hasn't held, but won't say he has won everything—"because some guy might remind me of one I'd missed."

For one thing, he has broken better than 139,000 out of 143,000 registered targets—the best mark ever scored, on that amount of shooting. He set a world record in mixed targets in 1927 at Eugene, Ore., with 394 out of 400 and broke 100 straight in the Idaho state shoot. He is proudest of the fact of breaking 149 out of 150 at Modesto, Cal.

Frank Troeh isn't alone in his feats. He had four brothers who narrowly missed competing as a squad in the Grand American five years ago. The five hung out an average of .96 for 10,000 birds during the year but en route to Dayton, O., for the shoot, one brother became ill.

The boys were trained by their gunsmith father, John Troeh.

Wade for Ice

COLUMBIA, Mo., Feb. 19—Red Wade, who was the replacement for Harry Stoen on the 1941 Missouri football team, may be his successor on the football team this season. Wade is a lieutenant in the army.

Indians Lose Mazgay and Arnovich to Army

Elward Quits; Purdue Hunts For Successor

Grid Coach Under Fire; Rejoins Navy

LAFAYETTE, Feb. 19 (U. P.)—Purdue University was faced today with the "difficult job" of finding a successor to Allen B. (Mal) Elward, 49, head football coach, who resigned to offer his services to the university trustees.

Elward, whose reappointment four weeks ago, reopened a storm of controversy on the campus, announced his decision last night in a letter to President Edward E. Elliott and the university trustees.

"After due and careful consideration of the matter," Elward wrote,

"I have come to the conclusion that I can best serve my country in these perilous times in some other position. Therefore, I have already made application to rejoin the navy."

Elliott Expresses Regret

Elward expressed "personal regret" at Elward's resignation and said "selection of a successor will be a difficult job."

Elward, a member of the Purdue coaching staff for 15 years, had been offered a new contract retaining him as head football coach until Dec. 31, 1942, after both alumni and students had expressed dissatisfaction with Purdue's poor 1941 football showing. At the same time he was relieved of the athletic directorship.

He had been head coach since 1937. It was the second time that war had brought a voluntary close to Elward's long coaching career. After piloting St. John's at Danvers, Mass., to the East Catholic prep championship in 1916—his first year as a coach—Elward resigned to serve as lieutenant second grade in the navy for four years.

Elward's five years as head football coach brought 16 wins, 18 losses and six ties to the Boilermakers.

In 1938, Elward had his best year, winning five games, losing one and tying two. In 1940, the poorest record of the five years was rung up with two victories and six losses, but 1941 brought only two wins, five losses and one tie.

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