

SINCLAIR WAS COUNTRY BOY

Oil Baron Spent Youth in Benwood, Suburb of Wheeling, West Virginia.

WHEELING, W. Va. (INS)—Harry P. Sinclair, millionaire oil promoter, owner of the world-renowned Zev and one of the storm centers in the Teapot Dome tangle, has the added distinction of being a product of Main street. Sinclair was born August 6, 1874, in Benwood, W. Va., five miles south of Wheeling. He was the son of John Sinclair, and obscure and struggling druggist. The house in which he was born still stands at No. 718 Main street, a smoke-blackened brick dwelling, rapidly falling into ruin. Harry never returned, like Henry Ford, to restore the old homestead where he passed his boyhood years. The house is now occupied by persons who had never heard of Sinclair until photographers, directed by local relatives, found the place and apprised them of its history.

Was Typical Boy. Older residents remember Harry as a typical American youngster, whose mother was always fearful lest he fall into the Ohio river as he played along its banks, only a few yards from the Sinclair home. Miss Katherine Travers, who was employed as a nurse for Harry after school hours at a "ponny day," recalls one exciting event of Sinclair's childhood, when he swallowed part of the contents of a bottle of laudanum.

Harry's uncle, Dr. H. T. Ford, to his day Benwood's leading doctor, was out of town at the time, and anxious neighbors of the Sinclair took the case in hand, administered an antidote and forced the youngster to walk, walk, walk back and forth along the pavement in front of his home. The more the youngster complained of being tired and a lumpy the more vigorously was he lured along until finally Dr. Ford appeared and gave assurance of his recovery.

Nurse Waits Letter. Miss Travers, now a woman with fast graying hair, recently wrote Sinclair for the first time in years to ask for his photograph. She waited patiently for an answer, but none came. But she won't believe that Harry forgot. She attributes the neglect to some assistant secretary; for, as she says, "Harry is a busy man now."

The Sinclair left Benwood when Harry was about eight years of age. The drug business in the smoky little mill town proving unprofitable, Harry's father decided to try his fortune in the West, and from Benwood the family traveled to Kansas, where the drug store was opened in Independence. It was in this store that Harry learned the drug business, and thus equipped, set out in his youth for Ponca City, Okla., where he made his first venture in oil and found the highroad to fortune—and Teapot Dome.

BALL PLAYERS DEFY OLD AGE

Johnson, Quinn, Adams and Alexander Invincible to the Ravages of Time.

(By Davis Walsh) NEW YORK. (INS)—Age has its dignity, youth its charm and seldom the twain has both. Notable exceptions are the old-oaken, mess-covered bucket, the fine old ruins along the Rhine and Walter Johnson, Grover Cleveland Alexander, Babe Adams and Jack Quinn. Good friends wear well to commit another brute, and the four gentlemen mentioned and major league baseball have been friends these many years. Like a hoop, they have no end, seemingly. And?

Johnson, 35 years old. Has been playing since 1907 and still is the leading pitcher of the Washington Senators. Alexander, 37 years old. Has been the leading pitcher of the Phillies and Cubs since breaking into the major leagues thirteen years ago.

Adams, 41 years old. Still desired by the Pittsburgh Pirates, although a bit lame. Was the club's best pitcher until last season.

Quinn, 38 years old, yet leading pitcher of the Boston Red Sox. Was veteran of the old Yankees in the day of Hal Chase, Jack Warhop and Russell Ford.

Strangely enough, Johnson and Alexander, the only members of the quartet who have seen continuous service in the majors, are the most effective at this late date. Adams, in fact, is almost through. He may last out the impending campaign, but it is very doubtful that he will return for the 1925 season, even if wanted, which is doubtful also. He can pitch about one good game every ten days and is getting by on what he knows.

Quinn's case is unique. When traded by the Yankees several years ago he notified the Red Sox management that he considered himself over and done with and would not report. He was persuaded to return, however, and has been a more or less consistent winner for two seasons, notably against the Yankees. Quinn's salary is the answer. Spittballers are so few these days that Jack's delivery is a novelty to most hitters.

After several indifferent seasons, Johnson's effectiveness returned last season, and, while his fastball is not what it was, the speedling might easily last for three or four years longer if he cared to. The tip now is that Johnson pines for the berth of minor league manager.

As for Alexander, he was twenty-two games with a second-rate ball club in 1923 and is after twenty-five this season. He may not be as good as in the early days with the Phillies, but you can't prove it by the National League hitters. Alex went fifty-two innings without issuing a pass last season, establishing a major-league record for steadiness. He, of course, is going back. So is the Rock of Gibraltar.

MAN'S "SHAPE" IS ALL WRONG, SCIENCE FINDS

LONDON (INS)—Mankind is the weakest and most imperfect of animals, and is prevented from doing useful work because of his shape, according to Professor P. W. Huxford, dean of the Faculty of Science at Birmingham university.

"If I were to design the men and women of the future, I should make them spherical and provide them with wings and feathers," said the professor in a recent speech.

"A spherical configuration would enable men to establish a four-hour working day and do as much work as present-day men can do in eight hours," he added.

Lawsuit 500 Years Old Ended. BERNE. (AP)—Lithigation more than 500 years old came to an end here recently when the city of Berne was awarded possession of Oeschine Lake. The litigation was commenced in 1499 and countless generations of plaintiffs have used their fortunes and efforts in fighting what is said to be the oldest lawsuit in history.

If he has made frantic effort to get money, and failed, he calls this a world and commercial age.

Girl friends are those who compare their diamonds when engaged and pan their husbands when married.

World Champ!



Mile. Sabo-Plank (above), Austrian champion figure skater, won final honors at Chamonix, when she defeated the American skater, Beatrice Laughlin.

POLYGAMY IS TURK TERROR

Society Threatens to Be Torn Asunder Over Problem of One or Two Wives.

CONSTANTINOPLE (INS)—Turkish society threatens to be torn asunder over the ever-growing problem of polygamy.

The press is evincing more and more interest in the matter, and long articles for and against its continuance are appearing periodically.

The whole question seems to have been brought to a head by the so-called Family Rights bill, which is soon to come up for discussion in the Assembly and is expected to produce some heated debates. Its passage and the abolishment of polygamy at present seem very doubtful, many deputies being frankly against it.

Women of the educated classes are stated to be almost solid for the bill and against the continuance of a practice which, they say, has been abolished by every right-thinking country in the world; and meetings to urge its discontinuance have been held in various towns throughout the country.

Options are divided among the men, one of the great arguments put forward by advocates for its continuance being that it diminishes prostitution, while others declare that this is not so, arguing that if need and poverty are the main causes driving women into immorality it would be better to find such women work rather than increase by polygamy the number of those women who live upon somebody else and consume without doing any useful work in exchange.

A desire to increase the population seems to be at the back of much of the support for polygamy, which, in point of fact, has been discontinued by many liberal-minded Turks for years past; but even this is challenged by people who advocate that greater attention should be paid to the very high rate of infant mortality before increasing the population.

Jackyl-Hyde Film Censored. PAGO PAGO, American Samoa. (AP)—The authorities in Western or British Samoa recently censored as unfit for the Samoans a film of the same name.

Swiss Electrifying Railways. BERNE. (AP)—The electrification work of the Swiss national railways has passed the halfway point. About 300 miles have been completed with about as much more to be electrified.

BUTTERCUPS OUT IN VICINITY OF MEDICAL SPRINGS

MEDICAL SPRINGS (Special).—The weather has been quite cold but the grass is growing and the hillsides are yellow with buttercups.

Mr. Williamson, of Eagle Valley passed through Medical with 114 head of cattle, which he purchased at Elgin. He spent the night at the J. E. Kennedy ranch.

T. E. Kennedy and C. O. Bloom are driving new cars, purchased at Baker last week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Whitten had as dinner guests Sunday, Miss Edith Turner and Cy Turner.

O. Wardman purchased the Cy Turner cattle. There are 275 head and Mr. Turner will feed them until time to turn them on the range.

W. Pearson was a passenger on Monday's stage for Baker.

Miss J. Cassidy spent the weekend in Baker.

Several Medical people motored to Keating Saturday evening to attend the Fleming and Love party. All report a good time.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Powers returned home from Portland Monday morning. Mr. Powers came from Union Monday for Uncle Dunham Wright to attend the funeral of Mrs. Mary Eaton of Salem, who was buried at Union Monday afternoon.

The Grange will hold its regular meeting Wednesday evening. Chicken and noodles will be served after the meeting.

J. R. Wanker, Cy Turner and Frank Whitten were Baker visitors Saturday.

Joe Wirth was a visitor at Medical Monday. While at the store he passed the candy and cigars. Mr. Wirth was married last week at Baker and will leave for Canada in a short time. The good wishes of a host of friends go with them.

George Melow, who has been hauling hay from the Jim Kennedy ranch, quit hauling for a few days as he is too busy milking cows and cooking, as Mrs. Eva Vanorder is visiting relatives at Union.

Zangwill Found No Great Men in U. S. and Democracy on Trial.

PLYMOUTH. (AP)—Israel Zangwill who arrived here recently said democracy is on trial in America, because there are no more great men in America. It was nothing more or less than politics playing down to a crowd which was ill-informed on most subjects and knew nothing at all about Europe, he said.

"There is more justice, sense of honor, and more efficiency in England than in America," he said, before proceeding to describe Americans as being, the "kindest, hearted and most charitable people in the world." "Many of them," he added, "are very lovable and very cultivated, but some are unable to make a stand against a flood of vulgarity."

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