

SPORTS

Portland Inquirer

AMUSEMENTS

BEATING THE GUN

By Alvin Moses

LET'S TALK ABOUT SHORTSTOPS

NEW YORK, (ANP)—JACKIE ROBINSON, most publicized ballplayer in the land, has gone off to Caracas, Venezuela, to play on all-star Negro team there.

Being a shortstop, his prowess at that position recalls to my mind the names of other colored stars who in their day rated with the best in American diamond history. We know of four who rated high among white and colored players, namely Bustamente (who died in his prime), John Henry Lloyd, Chacon and Dick Lundy. It is of Dick Lundy whom we elect to talk at this time.

What a name to conjure with in baseball annals was that of Lundy, as great a manager and developer of players as he was performer between second and third base. The son of Richard and Millie Lundy, he was born on July 10, 1898, at Jacksonville, Fla. His early school days were spent at Florida Baptist academy (now Florida Normal-Industrial institute) St. Augustine, and little is known of his baseball playing there.

It was at Cookman institute (Mary McLeod Bethune's school) back in 1914 that Lundy broke into baseball as a third baseman.

DISPLAYED NATURAL APTITUDE EARLY

One of his former teammates now residing at Raritan, N. J., told me that Lundy displayed natural talents for the game in which he became an outstanding star, even at this early stage of his career. Came the end of the 1915 school season and "Dick" as he was fondly called joined up with the Jacksonville Giants. It was soon discovered that Lundy could fill in acceptably at many positions, namely catcher, third, short, and even the outfield. The following season saw the 18 year old fielding sensation with the crack Bacharach Giants of Atlantic City.

Came America's entry into World War I and Lundy donned the uniform of Ed Bolden's Hillsdales where Dick remained until 1918. John Connors, cabaret owner and one of the strongest men physically who ever lived in Harlem, headed a combine who formed the New York Backrach Giants.

Stars like Dick (Cannonball) Redding, Yank, Treadwell, Rojo, Chanley White, Deas, Cummings and Handy were rounded up as a nucleus. Lundy was heosen to play shortstop in this great company. This club was positively the best colored baseball attraction in the east. Like big league white clubs, they lived the life of Riley. Luxurious, first-class Pullman cars were secured for them. Believe it or not, they had five sets of uniforms like big leaguers did. The ranking white baseball parks welcomed them with open arms, this team playing against major league ball clubs at Forbes field, Ebbetts field and Connie Mack's Shibe park stadium.

From 1922, the last season Lundy played with the Bacharach, to and including the 1933 season, Dick Lundy was the equal of any white or colored shortstop who ever played the game, I thought. The modern counterpart of Dick was Joe Cronin, when the Boston Red-Sox mentor was in his prime. Lundy moved to right or left with equal felicity. His arm might well be likened to a rubber bullwhip, such snap and power it contained. His movements were the very essence of grace and muscle coordination. No man ever possessed a greater urge to win than did gentlemanly Dick Lundy. At the outset a right-handed hitter, the studious Lundy practiced daily until he became one of the game's most respected left-handed swatters.

BOWED TO FEW MANAGERS

He was always successful as a baseball club manager. In 1922 he was promoted to that role with the Priginal Bacharach playing out of Wilmington, Del., where he stayed for a season with good results. The following year he was back in Atlantic City as a player again under Pop Lloyd.

Two years later he was given a free hand with this club remaining as manager until 1928. During those years Lundy won two pennants in the Eastern Colored league and figured in two "world's colored championship" series against the Chicago American Giants. In 1929 Lundy was traded to the Baltimore Black Sox (then managed by the late Frank Warfield) for Ben Taylor, Mack Eggleston and cash. I believe that the gret Oliver (razor-tongue) Marcelle figured in this deal. The Sox under Warfield's handling and Lundy's great playing won the league pennants in 1930-1931.

Appointed manager of the Baltimore Sox in 1932, Lundy was leading the circuit at the time the league was disbanded. Ed Bolden, who had deserted baseball for other interests, decided to return in 1933 and sent for Lundy to organize the Philadelphia Stars. This Pennsylvania club under the astute handling of this great man whipped every team in the east failing to lose a series to any opponent. This record remains as one of the finest for a first year organization in colored baseball annals.

In 1934 Lundy was selected to play short as well as manage the "Eastern" squad in the classic against the "West" at Chicago, the easterners winning by a 1-0 score. That same season Lundy managed and sparkplugged the Newark Dodgers, owned by Charles H. Tyler. The club had such players as Danridge, Lundy, Starks, Hayes, Bailey, Owens, Clark, Byes, Johnson, Evans, Burbage, Quintana, Britt, Arnold, Merrit and McCoy. That team was the running outfit I can remember. Unknown at the start of the season, Lundy won series from the powerful Pittsburgh Crawfords, Chicago Giants, Cleveland and Nashville. These were Lundy's top years as player and manager.

My hat is off to scholarly Jackie Robinson and the best that I can wish for him is the hope that he will develop into 80% of the shortstop Dick Lundy was. If he should do so, you can bet that he'll go from Montreal to the big leagues.

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Premier Negro Woman Plays In New York

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The American Russian Cultural association presented Hazel Harrison, premier Negro woman pianist, and incidentally a member of the Howard university conservatory faculty, in a program of all-Russian music in its club room Sunday afternoon. The event being private, was a benediction in that it was refreshing to aurally perceive the matured mechanism of a Negro pianist once more and coincidentally remind the present generation of Negro pianists that quite a deal was accomplished pianistically for the race during the preceding epoch.

Miss Harrison offered Medtner's three Fairy Tales in G major, B flat minor and E flat major; Rachmaninoff's Prelude in E major and Moment Musical in E minor; Scriabine's Fantaisie in F sharp minor, Op. 28; Prokofieff's Third Sonata in A minor; Two manuscripts from Spanish Shl. houettes by Slonimsky; Aromas de Leyenda and Imperia; Jolobinsky's Valse, Nocturne and Tocata; Stratvinsky's Etude; and Balakirev's Fantaisie Orientale.

The master of ceremonies reminded the audience that the program had been prepared by the artist in but ten days (meaning perhaps re-prepared) and therefore a just summary of the performance affected here and there by lapse of memory would be entirely improper at this time. But the expression of an appreciation we deem in good taste since the artist in question tenaciously holds on to her customary trademark.

As far as technical facility is concerned we feel certain that there is generally speaking nothing like it heard in the Negro race today. And that goes for the swing pianists who these days are capable of some amazing technical stunts. If we are wrong we challenge any Negro pianist in the world to toss off the Schulz-Evler Blue Danube Paraphrase as an encore!

Fort Valley Homecoming Set

FT. VALEY, Ga.—(ANP)—As a part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of the institution, Fort Valley State college will observe Home-Coming day Saturday, Dec. 1.

Plans are now underway to welcome hundreds of alumni who have been invited for this occasion. The main feature of the day will be a football game between Fort Valley and the highly-rated team of Albany State college. In a game played Nov. 17, Fort Valley emerged victors by a score of 27-21, and the return engagement promises to be a real thriller.

The day's celebration will be climaxed with a dance honoring the returning alumni.

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COMMITTEE URGES JIM CROW END IN ORGANIZED BASEBALL

NEW YORK — (ANP)—The abolition of jim crow in organized baseball was urged here last week in a report by the 10-man committee recently appointed by Mayor La Guardia to study the question of racial discrimination in professional baseball.

In recommending to the mayor that major leagues lose no time adopting a policy whereby Negro players would receive equal opportunity for advancing, the committee also submitted a six-point program for integrating Negro players.

The report quoted Judge Kene-saw Mountain Landis that "there was no rule in organized base-

Lichtman to Build Another Theatre

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—One more in the chain of theaters owned and operated by Lichtman interests will go up here according to an announcement by the company last week. This will bring, with the erection of the new Hippodrome in Richmond, the total number of theaters operated by the group for Negroes to 25. Nine of these theaters are in Washington, four in Richmond, two each in Norfolk and Newport News, one each in Roanoke, Lynchburg and Danville. The new theater will seat 800 persons and will cost \$200,000. Construction will start as soon as possible.

Capital to Get Concert Hall

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Erection of a hall for "Negro" concerts and musicals and such is planned by Dave Rosenberg, former owner of the Club Bali, who says that everybody talks about Hazei Scott being barred from the DAR Constitution hall, but no one does anything about it. So on the site of his eatery, known as the "Spot", he plans to start within 10 days erection of a \$70,000 hall plans for which have already been completed.

Recital Brings Artist Acclaim

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Emmerline Jean Kemp, 10-year-old pianist, gained acclaim as well as the assurance that her musical career will be financed by her recent triumphant recital at the Community Temple church where a movement is underway to build a youth center.

The young artist, who has written more than 200 compositions and is a 5A pupil at Throop public school here, was assured last week by Miss Ida Jackson, a Los Angeles school teacher, that the Community church, through Bishop M. W. Hall, pastor, will sponsor her musical career. Emmerline is currently an advanced musical student at the Chicago Conservatory of Music.

At her recent recital, she convinced more than 500 music lovers that previous laudatory statements by outstanding local music critics were true. She entertained them with numbers by Mozart, Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Strauss, Ekstein, Harken, Foster, Ellmerick, Chopin Dvorak, Paderevski, Rachmaninoff as well as a variety of her own compositions.

Sponsorship of Miss Kemp's musical education by the church is in line with Bishop Hall's Christian youth program.

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