

Cross Town
by Roland Cox

"PLAYING FOR KEEPS AGAINST HIM AIN'T GAMBLIN! THE WAY I UNDERSTAND GAMBLIN, Y' STAND SOME SLIGHT CHANCE OF WINNING!"

Bobby Sox
by Marty Links

"WAIT HERE. I'LL GO IN, TURN ON THE CHARM AND GET ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF US TO SEE A SHOW!"



Salaries of Athletes

THEY were talking about the money a professional athlete could make, and how much most of these athletes were worth.

In the first place, among eight or ten old-time writers, in the discussion it was generally voted that the ring business was the most lopsided. This means that a few were far overpaid and the others were far underpaid.

For example, Joe Louis has bowled over close to four million dollars for his 62 fights. Now four million dollars is quite a chunk more than any other contestant could collect from any other game.



Above that we'll say Louis picked up 350 thousand dollars for his last fight. Babe Ruth That is about the pay that 10 of the highest-paid ballplayers would get for an entire season of 154 games.

But after all, the fight champion collects because he can draw. When two ball clubs meet there may be 50 ball players engaged. When fighters meet, only two in the main event get any real money, and one of these gets most of it. After all, a contestant is entitled to get his part of the swag which his drawing power can earn.

Babe Ruth was paid as high as \$80,000 a year. He was actually worth more than double this amount to his team, the league and baseball in general. It would be hard to measure how much he actually earned. I've seen home teams drawing 1,500 a game jump to 33,000 when the Babe came along.

Few Get Rich

But, while Jack Dempsey, Louis and Gene Tunney have all collected huge amounts, and a few others have picked up important checks from the fight game, the vast majority get little except queer noises in their skulls. It's a tough game, if you make good. It's a thousand times tougher when you don't.

Commissioner Eddie Eagen tells me there are more boxers than one might think who are putting away from \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year. This is amazing when you figure the cut the manager and his helpers get.

The fight game is good only to the few. For the others it is largely a matter of scrambled brains. It is not a profession to be recommended too highly to the youth of the land.

Baseball and football are the two best average paying games, especially in the higher circuits.

Oddly enough, more than a few young stars who dabble in both sports have to make certain drastic decisions.

Alvin Dark of the Braves was offered more to play football than he gets playing baseball. Dark picked baseball and the Braves.

Charley Trippi tried out both games, and this season the ex-Georgia star decided to give all his time to the Chicago Cardinals, leaving baseball flat. He found the combination too much to handle.

Chuck Conerly of Mississippi and Bobby Layne of Texas were two baseball stars. Both had bright baseball futures. Both picked football with the high guarantees now offered.

Years ago, Walter Hagen could have been a noted big league star—one of the greatest in the game. Hagen picked golf and then proceeded to roll up a million dollars in a few years—which the carefree Haig promptly spent.

Joe Gordon was an Oregon great at football before he switched entirely to baseball. Torgerson of the Braves was another football star who picked baseball for a money-maker. There are many others I could mention.

Ballplayers Last Longer

One thing to be remembered is that one lasts longer, on a general average, at baseball than he does at football. The wear and tear isn't so expensive.

A big league ballplayer with any particular merit should be good for 12 or 14 years. Few football players last that long. The Mel Heins, Sammy Baughs and Sid Luckmans are scarce.

Bob Feller leads both leagues in the way of a pay check at something like \$85,000 a year, which, so far this dizzy year, Rapid Robert hasn't come close to earning.

Ted Williams is next, and Joe DiMaggio is third. They get from \$60,000 to \$75,000 and are earning it every day as two of the leading stars. Stan Musial gets nothing like these amounts, although the Cardinal brilliant is worth as much as any man in the game. There will be a big reshuffling of values next year—up and down.

Musial is drawing something like \$32,000 this season, but at his present pace if he isn't a \$60,000 entry they have no ballplayers in the National league.

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ASK ME ANOTHER? A General Quiz

THE QUESTIONS

1. How many matches can be made from a pine tree?
2. How many doughnuts are eaten in this country every year?
3. What is the largest printing plant in the world?
4. What color will keep flies away?
5. What is the only insect capable of fertilizing clover?
6. What states does now allow divorce?

THE ANSWERS

1. Not all the tree is made into matches. Average pine yields over 300 board feet of lumber plus enough plank to make a million matches.
2. Over seven billion.
3. The U. S. Government Printing office, Washington D. C.
4. Blue, according to some experts.
5. The bumble-bee.
6. South Carolina.

Farm Fire Protection

Department of agriculture estimates that the damage caused by gasoline and kerosene fires costs American farmers approximately six million dollars annually. Incomplete storage of these liquids is responsible for the loss. Underground tanks provide the best protection for large amounts of flammable liquids, while galvanized steel gas or oil cans are best for small amounts.

STUFFY NOSTRILS?

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38% BRIGHTER TEETH in 7 days!

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A McKESSON & ROBBINS PRODUCT

NANCY
By Ernie Bushmiller

SLUGGO'S TWO HOURS LATE FOR OUR DATE

OBSERVATORY

OH, PROFESSOR FLOOGLE--

---WILL YOU TAKE A LOOK DOWNTOWN AND SEE IF SLUGGO'S AT THE BALL PARK?

LITTLE REGGIE
By Margarita

COME ON RUMPUS LET'S PLUNGE IN AND SWIM ACROSS!

GOSH!

MUTT AND JEFF
By Bud Fisher

HELLO, ROOM 202? THIS IS JEFF, THE ROOM CLERK!

YOU WANTED ME TO CALL YOU AT 8:30 IN THE MORNING?

YES?

I JUST CALLED UP TO TELL YOU IT'S TWO A.M.!

WHAT? WHAT'S A BIG IDEA GETTIN' ME OUT OF BED AT TWO A.M.?

WELL, I GO OFF DUTY NOW, AND MY PAL, MUTT, GOES ON! HELL CALL YOU AT 8:30!

BLANKETY! ?

BLANK!

JITTER
By Arthur Pointer

WHO'S BLOWING A GALE OUTSIDE. PORCH CHAIRS MAY BLOW INTO THE FRONT WINDOWS

DON'T SHUT THAT DOOR!

PUNK PUNK

HEY SUSIE!

NOW YOU'VE DONE IT... IT'S THUNDERING SO LOUD SUSIE CAN'T HEAR THE KNOCKER

REG'LAR FELLERS
By Gene Byrnes

JIMMY DUGAN! THAT'S NO WAY TO CARRY EGGS!

HUH?

WHY DON'T YOU STOP THAT SILLY JUGGLING AND CARRY THEM SENSIBLY AND SAFELY!

OKAY MARY!

BUT IT SEEMS A LOT SAFER, T'HANDLE 'EM TH' OTHER WAY!

SUNNYSIDE
by Clark S. Haas

WHY, STRETCH!?—COME ON IN! WHY YOU LOOK LIKE A MILLION!!

AHEM!

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD, MY DEAR FELLOW? I'VE FINALLY CONSENTED TO EMPLOYMENT... AND MR BIMBLY WAS FORTUNATE ENUFF TO SECURE MY SERVICES!!

DON'T MISS THE BIG SUIT SALE BIMBLY'S ALL HERE!

VIRGIL
By Len Kleis

SHUX—I'M NOT READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL, YET

DO YOU NEED A VACATION VISIT IOWA

IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA

DO YOU NEED A VACATION VISIT IOWA

NOBODY THERE KNOWS ME—SO NOBODY WILL KNOW I'M SKIPPING SCHOOL