

Western Mail Bag

Diamond Great Of Bygone Era Still Kicking

By RUSS NEWLAND

SAN FRANCISCO, May 26 (AP)—Old Bill Lange underwent an operation a couple of weeks ago. The word got around the country this famed baseball player of the last century was on his last legs.

Actually it was his last (and first) appendix from which Bill parted company after 76 years of harmonious relations.

"Friends all over are writing to inquire about my 'serious illness' and I have had to deny that I have departed from this pleasant earth," Lange said. "The fact is I feel great and I think I could steal a base, at least in a class D league."

In his prime the Bill—so graceful he was nicknamed "Little Eva"—while with the old Chicago White Stockings—was a terror on the baseball footpaths.

Those fans who still remember the National league, when its Chicago team was first the White Stockings, then the Colts and now the Cubs, may recall Bill Lange. He was the working center fielder from 1893-99. One season he stole 100 bases.

Lange played in the days when the ball was dead as a door nail.

Lange, prominent local realtor, who quit Chicago after the 1899 season and refused to go back at triple his salary because his bride wanted him to stay home, is very much alive today and send regards to his friends.

On the short side we submit the gate receipts and attendance figures of a wrestling program that failed to come off recently as a record for the year to date. The show was billed for Lakeview, in the Northern California resort region. Such prominent grapplers as Jim Casey, Flash Gordon, Terry Lee and three others were

GRAPPLE DOCKET ROUNDED

Another five-round match and a four have been added to the Friday night wrestling card. Promoter Mack Lillard announced today, completing what appears to be a very strong docket.

Bob Keneston, the Gold Hill favorite, has been put into the semi-windup fracas along with Al Szasz and the opener will have Milt Olsen against Billy Hunter.

Olsen is an off-and-on performer on the Northwest circuit and the little guy is returning from a recent series back east. Hunter will be making his second appearance here, having bowed in last week. Their bout will be four heats.

The main event of the card will bring together Pete Belcastro and Glen (Buddy) Knox in a five-round duel, a fight which has been in the making for a long time.

Belcastro and Knox have locked horns in team frays but not as individuals.

Trojans Zip Up To Pullman

LOS ANGELES, May 26 (AP)—Coach Sam Barry and his University of Southern California baseball team leave by plane today for Pullman, Wash., to play Washington State in a two out of three game series as a preliminary to the NCAA playoffs.

USC won the California Intercollegiate Baseball association title for the third consecutive year. Washington State is the champion of the Northwest.

Ike Williams Takes Nod Over Bolanos In Fifteen

LOS ANGELES, May 26 (AP)—The Ike Williams camp was happy today and the followers of Enrique Bolanos were unhappy—and irate.

That was the aftermath picture of last night's blistering 15-round lightweight championship fight before a record crowd in which Williams, the champion, retained his title by a split decision over Bolanos, the challenger from Mexico.

Referee Charley Randolph gave his vote to Bolanos, but the two judges, Johnny Indrisano and Frankie Van, voted for the lithe negro lad from Trenton, N. J.

A crowd estimated at 28,000, which paid a gross gate of \$152,000, witnessed the scrap. The gate receipts broke Los Angeles' old outdoor record of \$126,625 set in 1929 by Mickey Walker and Ace Hudkins.

The fight was action-packed from start to finish. Williams stalked in flatfooted, forever trying to land his well-known knockout wallop, and Bolanos, a shifty, jabbing left hook artist, moved in and out, never letting the champ get set.

Williams' big round was the 10th. Williams weighed 135 and Bolanos 134.

Foot Ailment Hits Walcott

GREENLOCK, N. J., May 26 (AP)—An infected right foot has sidelined Jersey Joe Walcott for a few days but the challenger for Joe Louis' heavyweight boxing crown isn't worried one bit.

"I needed the letup," said Jersey Joe as he lounged about his well appointed Greenloch lake training camp. "I weigh 198 pounds and that's only three and one-half more than when I met Louis last December."

The fight is scheduled for June 23 at the Yankee stadium.

"Just one of those things, probably a splinter," said Trainer Danny Florio.

Bob Lemon Is Standout Factor In Current Success Of Indians

By The Associated Press

The Cleveland Indians are putting the squeeze on the rest of the American league clubs with a "lemon"—Bob Lemon, a converted infielder-outfielder.

Lemon, the No. 2 pitcher on the Tribe's staff—second only to Bob Feller—has been knocking the bats out of enemy hands with even greater éclat than his tutor, Rapid Robert himself.

Each has won five games, but Lemon has lost only two to Feller's three. The pupil also tops the teacher in complete games, six to four; shutouts, two to one, and, strange as it may seem, in strikeouts, 37 to 27. Lemon's totals in complete games, shutouts and strikeouts are also high for the league.

He shut out the Washington Senators last night, 4-0, allowing only four hits and fanning 11—a season high.

He helped win his own game with a third inning double which high-lighted a two-run rally. Ken Keltner, Cleveland third sacker and leading home run hitter with 13, suffered an army injury when he was hit by a thrown ball. He will miss several games.

The victory enabled the Indians to retain their half-game margin over the runner-up Philadelphia Athletics.

The battery combination of Pitcher Bob Savage and Catcher Buddy Rosar led the A's to a 4-3 win over the White Sox in a night game in Chicago. Rosar's sixth inning single scored Hank Majeski with the winning run.

With everybody in the New York lineup hitting safely, the Yankees raked four pitchers for 32 hits to plaster a 16-5 defeat on the Tigers in Detroit. Behind this heavy barrage, Righthander Vic Raschi coasted to his fourth straight victory.

Assaulting four Boston pitchers for 17 hits, the surprising Browns whipped the Red Sox, 9-4, in a night game in St. Louis and moved into a virtual tie with Detroit for fourth place. They trail the Bengals by four percentage points.

Paul Erickson, making his first start for Philadelphia since being acquired from the Chicago Cubs, pitched the Phillies to a 4-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates in a night game in Philadelphia. The tall righthander gave up only four hits in 6 2/3 innings before he retired because of a pulled shoulder muscle. Schoolboy Rowe held the Pirates to two hits the rest of the way.

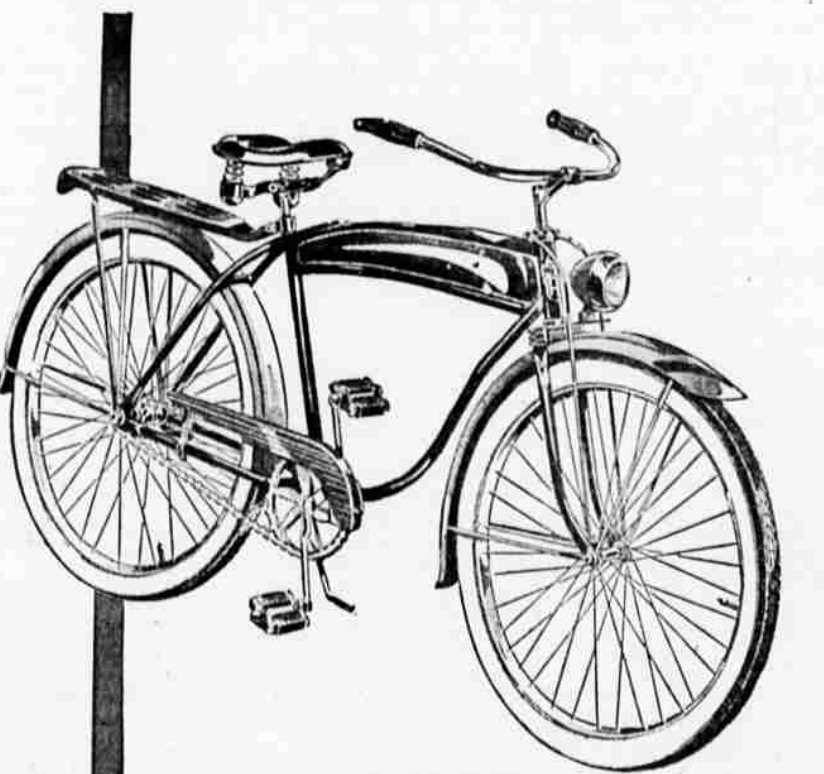
The scheduled games between the St. Louis Cardinals and New York Giants at the Polo Grounds and the Chicago Cubs and Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets field were postponed by rain. A great fog combined with rain washed out the scheduled game between the Cincinnati Reds and Boston Braves at Braves' field.

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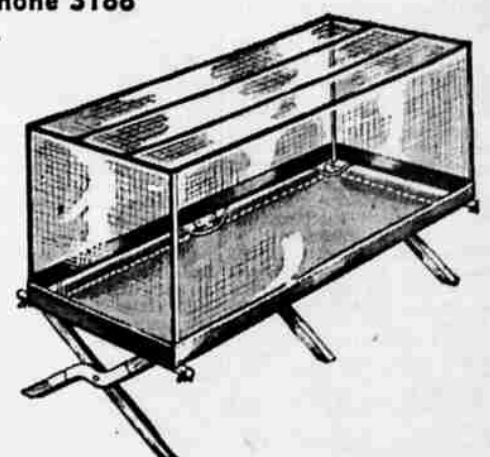
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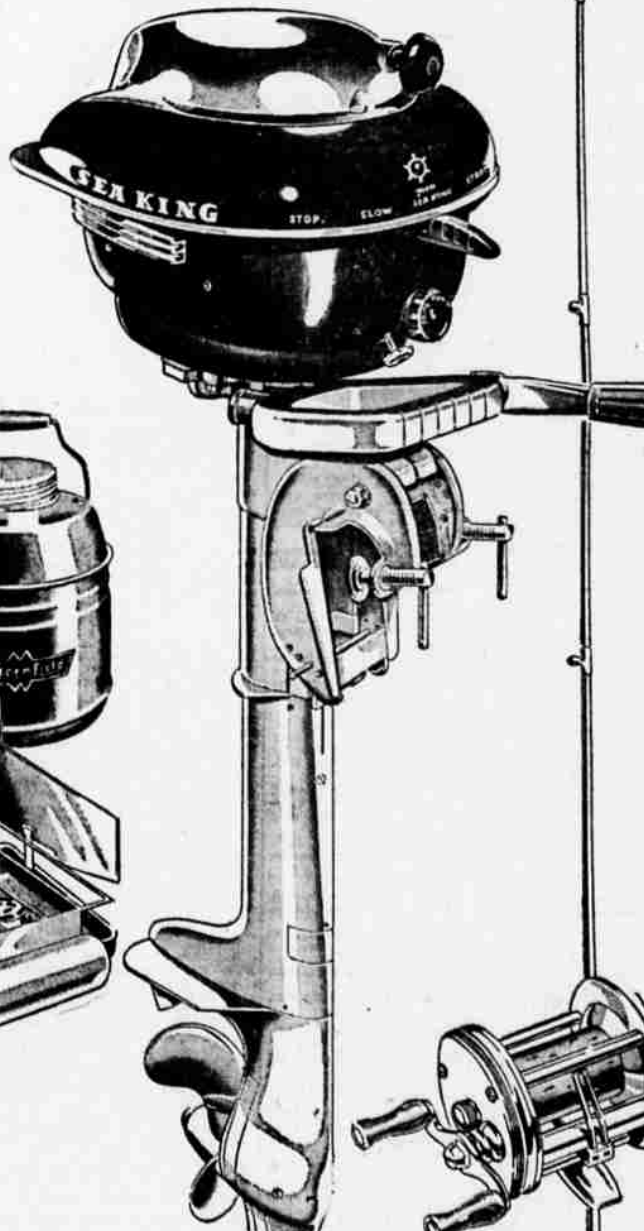
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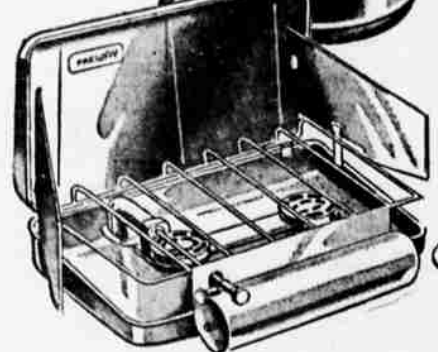
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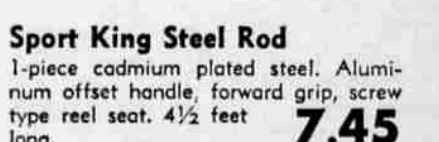
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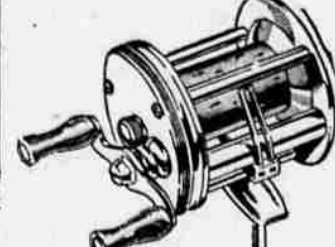
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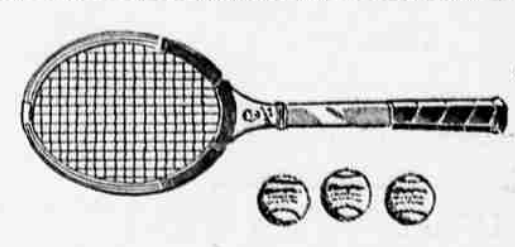
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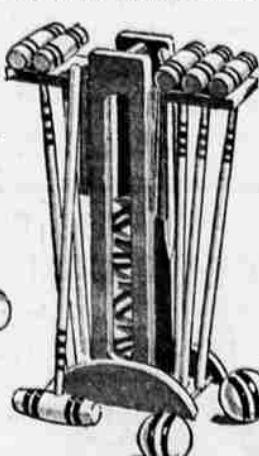
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