

BASEBALL

It was a cold day for the opening of the Big League season. But Babe Ruth certainly did warm things up a bit. I bet every youngster in the land was rooting for the old boy to smack one over the fence on the first day of his appearance as a cast off. That's how the King of Home Runs must be listed - cast-off, a player not good enough for the New York Yanks and shifted to the Boston Braves, sold down the river. There was all sorts of sentiment and the memory of glorious days as he stood at the plate in the fifth inning, that familiar portly figure with a rather lordly stomach and such slender ankles.

Carl Hubbel was pitching, the Giant Ace. Then came that mighty swing which has broken so many a pitcher's heart. And the next thing you know the venerable Babe with the burden of years on his shoulders, was loping around the bases. The first game of the season! His first appearance in the National League - and he blasted out a home-run! A darb too! And Boston, the Babe's team won the game.

And there were exciting doings for the Babe's great

rival in the field of popular acclaim -- Dizzy Dean. Dizzy was hit by a whizzing ball. It hit him in the ankle. It sounds as if some pitcher might have had poor control, but it wasn't that. The Dizzy one was on base in St. Louis, when a Chicago batter slashed a vicious drive, and a crack! It hit the "blaze-ball" pitcher whose intellect is said to be always in a whirl. Luckily, it didn't hit the great Dean in the head. He's Dizzy enough as it is. It smacked him on the nake. According to the rule of getting hit by a batted ball, he was out. He was also out of the game. They carried him off the field. It isn't known how badly his ankle is damaged.

Those two incidents were enough to make today a memorable baseball opening. A spectacular incident for each of the two most colorful figures in the game, the old Babe and the young Dizz. But otherwise, as a baseball day, it wasn't so hot,

WEATHER

Old Man Weather certainly is a cantankerous cuss this year. Along with the menace of drought and dust storms, the farmers awoke this morning to face a new threat - frost. The unseasonable cold wave over the east and Middlewest extend as far south as the Ozarks in Missouri. In some places it was so frigid smudge pots were lighted to keep the fruit trees from freezing.

INGALLS

Somewhere in the sky a lady is streaking her way eastward, Laura Ingalls trying to beat the trans-continental flying record for women. The present record was made by Amelia Earhart, and it stands at seventeen hours. That's the ladies' record. Perhaps it's morally uplifting to remark that the girls don't seem to be so fast. The regular transport planes make the trans-continental run day after day in sixteen hours. And the men's record ~~is under~~ ^{is ten} ~~was eleven~~ hours.

Disburse all P.W.A. funds. Meaning - that now, according to
state law, any government relief money spent in Louisiana shall
be put under Kingfish control. But will it? It's part of the
scrap with Huey, the administration has been giving Louisiana
funds for state officials to handle. The money that has been
sent into Louisiana has been kept out of their hands. Secretary
Huey has his own administrators directing the relief budget in
that state.
That new law intends to change this. It's a Kingfish
check at the administration. But now Secretary Huey says it
the result in Louisiana being deprived of P.W.A. funds altogether.

LONG

The quarrel between the Louisiana Kingfish and the Washington administration bristles more raucously today than ever. Will Louisiana be deprived of Federal funds altogether?

The Louisiana Legislature is now assembled in its fifth special session for this year. It was called to put through some special powers for the Kingfish machine, and acted according to schedule. The Legislature passed a law which gives a State Board, controlled by Senator Long, the right to handle and disburse all P.W.A. funds. Meaning - that now, according to state law, any government relief money spent in Louisiana shall be put under Kingfish control. But will it? As a part of its scrap with Huey, the administration has been giving Louisiana no funds for state officials to handle. The money that has been going into Louisiana has been kept out of their hands. Secretary Ickes has his own administrators directing the relief budget in that state.

That new law intends to change this. It's a Kingfish smack at the administration. But now Secretary Ickes says it may result in Louisiana being deprived of P.W.A. funds altogether.

OHIO

9
Some news from Ohio. A new rug for the Governor. Over the weekend the Ohio Legislature refused to grant Governor Davey any funds for office expenses, postage stamps and a new rug. The Legislature has been fighting the Governor ever since the Relief Administrator brought ^{those} charges against him concerning political corruption in the spending of relief funds.

So the Governor has appealed from the law-makers to the people. He asked the folks of Ohio to send in a contribution so that he could have postage stamps and that new rug.

One citizen sent the Governor a penny, ^{indicating} ~~indicating~~ "That's all your administration is worth." But, on the other hand, one woman sent in Five Dollars, declaring that she would miss her dinner for five nights ^{rather than let the Governor go rugless - or unruged.}

The Ohio prison situation is still tied in a knot tonight. Warden Woodward pleaded with the prisoners today. He talked to them persuasively for half an hour, but it had no effect. They refused to return to work in the prison factory. So the ^{penitentiary} ~~prison~~ strike continues, the convicts isolated in their cells. They are demanding more paroles and less delay in granting them - or they won't return to work.

MOFFETT

There isn't much indication of who the new Federal Housing Administrator will be, save that the retiring head recommends a business man to succeed him. That was James A. Moffett's advice in a long conference with President Roosevelt, during the course of which Mr. Moffett resigned his office. And the President accepted the resignation. That's today's angle. Mr. Moffett will stay in office for two weeks more.

The retiring Administrator of the Government home building and renovation campaign tells us that Seven hundred and fifty thousand persons have been put to work by the home enterprise, and that a million, four hundred thousand more will get jobs in the course of the spring and summer.

He leaves office with an excellent record to top off a notable career. He left Princeton to become an office boy at Twelve dollars and a half a week and rose to be a Hundred thousand Dollar a year Vice-President of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. He is suave, patient and athletic. When two crooks threatened to kidnap his daughter and her fiance a few years ago, he personally frustrated the plot and landed the criminals in prison.

Davis.

Apr. 16⁷
1935.

DIONNE

I have a most important bit of news from Canada tonight. Important news from the Dominion to the north, commonly concerns the Dionne quintuplets. And that's what it's about. But I think I'll let the man who brings the tidings break the glad news. You tell it, Mr. Davis.

--o--

FRED DAVIS:- Well, Yvonne has cut her second tooth. I had a telegram from Dr. Dafoe this afternoon, telling of the appearance of that precious tooth.

--o--

L.T.:- Fred Davis here is the official photographer to the quintuplets. He's a newspaper man from Toronto, who was sent to get the first pictures of the five, and has been snapping pictures ever since -- two thousand of them altogether; the only man allowed to do it. ^{Another gentleman from the north, Harold Plat, brought} Right now, ~~he's~~ on a quintuplet mission ^{Fred Davis is} to New York -- to procure a telescope, not for the babies to look through, however. What did you say the telescope was for, Fred?

--o--

52
FRED DAVIS:- To help solve the visitor problem. People come by the thousands, three or four hundred cars a day. And all that sight-seeing disturbs the babies. A ruling has just been passed keeping visitors away on Saturday and Sunday. So now the idea is to let people do their looking from a distance, and gaze upon the quintuplets through a telescope. They are going to build a glass-enclosed nursery. Outside, some distance away, there will be a stand, with a telescope, so that the sightseers can have a look at the quintuplets without disturbing them.

--o--

L.T.:- As if they were stars! Which they are. But, which star twinkles the most?

--o--

FRED DAVIS:- They're all pretty, but Cecile is the prettiest. Yvonne has a haunting smile. Annette looks so much like Yvonne you can hardly tell them apart, except that Annette doesn't have Yvonne's fascinating smile. Emily is the serious one. Marie is the pet, because she has always been the ~~we~~ frailest and most ~~del~~ delicate.

— o —

L.T.:- And now Yvonne with the haunting smile has cut her second tooth! And you've come for a telescope so astronomers can gaze at it!

GENEVA

There are a lot of words, a flock of sentences, in the resolution which France presented to the League of Nations today. But all of the diplomatic verbiage boils to one key sentence in the document which Foreign Minister Laval read. And that key sentence is: "Germany's act of March sixteenth, repudiating the military clauses of the Versailles Treaty, must be condemned." France calls upon the League to go on record with a clear-cut, emphatic condemnation of German rearmament.

No sooner had the Foreign Minister from Paris spoken his piece, than the Foreign Secretary from London arose. Sir John Simon announced that Great Britain and Italy were joined with France in the resolution of condemnation. And he added that the Three Powers would sign a pact of mutual assistance, as agreement to stand together and take common action, if the Berlin government got out of hand and showed too much defiance.

graphic way.

The League session today was a tense and dramatic affair. Not only because the Big Powers acted together in such ^{outspoken} ~~dramatic~~ fashion, but also because the little powers are not chiming in with a chorus of perfect harmony. The little fellows are not saying to the big fellows - "Splendid, magnificent, we join you in condemning the German treaty violation." In fact, some of the smaller boys are definitely opposed. They don't want the League to point so stern a finger of censure in the direction of Berlin.

The line-up of ^{these smaller nations} ~~the nations that object~~ makes a curious assortment. They are Poland, Denmark and some of the Latin-American republics.

Polish opposition was to be expected. We've known all along that Warsaw does not want to join up in any anti-German combine. The Poles prefer to keep on the fence in case of any quarrel. Denmark is a little more surprising. But then it must be remembered that the Scandinavian kingdom is a small and feeble neighbor of a big and powerful Germany. The Danes most decidedly do not want to ^{get fresh} ~~pick any bones~~ with the sixty-five million people of

the Reich. As for the South American nations, they have the cool, disinterested feeling that the European squabble is none of their business, and they don't want any part of it.

This small-nation opposition to the British-Franco-Italian attitude is sharp and outspoken. Those smaller countries refuse to serve ~~xx~~ on a committee which France proposes, a committee designed to devise means to punish treaty violators in the future. But the real core of the matter is the League of Nations rule that all decisions must be unanimous. So the only way the denunciation can be put across is for the little fellows to be persuaded to refrain from voting.

Here's one of those sidelight~~x~~ stories, ^a side-light on the big diplomatic doings in Europe. It tells about the railroad trip of British Prime Minister MacDonald from the Stresa conference to the League meeting in Geneva. The train was crowded. A whole flock of newspapermen were aboard, and they were hungry. They made a rush for the dining car. It was empty, save for three men. They were told that the entire diner had been reserved for the Prime Minister of England. The British newspapermen didn't know what to do about it, but several American reporters marched in and sat down. The stewards refused to serve them and one of the men with the Prime Minister asked them to leave, saying that their pipe smoking annoyed Mr. MacDonald. So the newspapermen had to get out. They had to wait until the Prime Minister finished his meal.

The hungry journalistic crowd stood outside looking in. They watched while Mr. MacDonald, ~~j~~ having finished eating, leaned back and lighted a cigarette. He smoked leisurely. Having finished he lighted another cigarette. That was too

56

much for the reporters. They rushed the dining car. When the Scotland Yard's men saw the mob coming, they surrounded the Prime Minister and rushed him out. It was apparent that nothing would stop that gang of starving reporters.

year, a surplus of some twenty-seven million dollars. We know the question that would occur to an American mind. But there's no use of my saying it. Because that query was asked in England, right in the House of Commons when James Martin, Labor member from Glasgow asked and spoke thusly: "It is easy," said he, "to figure on a surplus. But did not the good Chancellor of the Exchequer forget to figure on the item of the American war debts?" There was no answer to that. Because the British surplus is figured without taking any account of those war debts.

But, of course, James Martin is not much interested in the financial culture of your country. He is merely crying for milk because his little Government is particularly in need of it. The man to be the leader of the Labor Party

57

There is one question many Americans are sure to have been asking. It follows yesterday's announcement in London, when Sir Neville Chamberlain arose and told the House of Commons that His Majesty's treasury will have a surplus this year, a surplus of some twenty-seven million dollars. We know the question that would occur to an American mind. But there's no use of my saying it. Because that query was asked in England, right in the House of Commons when James Maxton, Labor member from Glasgow arose and spoke thusly:- "It is easy," said he, "to figure on a surplus. . . But did not the good Chancellor of the Exchequer forget to figure on the item of the American war debts?" There was no answer to that. Because the British surplus is figured without taking any account of those war debts.

But, of course, James Maxton is ^{not} so much interested in the financial welfare of ~~those British~~ ^{Britain's} cousins across the sea. ~~He is merely trying to make life miserable for His Majesty's Government and particularly for Prime Minister Ramsey McDonald, who used to be the Leader of the Labor Party.~~

~~The Member from Glasgow is forty-nine, lank and~~
~~cadaverous.~~ He specializes in insulting the British ruling class,
and especially ~~British~~ royalty. He calls them parasites. He
is a stern fanatic from the stern land of the Scots. And when
he mentions those American war debts, it reminds one of the
reason why the Puritans prohibited the sport of bear-baiting --
not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave
pleasure to the spectators.

58

KING

There's one little boy in this world who certainly is in luck. He is Lord of the Land of the White Elephant, Supreme Arrestor of the Ebb and Flood of the Tides, and Brother of the Moon. Not only that, he is a pupil who doesn't have to take an examination.

Little Prince Ananda, who is slated to succeed the abdicated King Prajadipok as King of Siam, is still at school in Switzerland. Or at least he was, until examination day - only he didn't have to take his exams.

Word comes that the Swiss schoolmasters certainly know how to pay tribute to royalty. They decided that a king of Siam shouldn't be bothered by any of those questions and quizzes. They've passed him and promoted him without troubling to find out whether he would get good marks or bad ones. However, Ananda's smaller brother and sister in the same school, had to buckle down and go through the grind. They passed with good marks.

The nine year old Asiatic ruler will soon sail for Bangkok, where he will be crowned king. Only in Siam they don't do it with a crown. They do it with an umbrella. The boy will

be enthroned under the golden umbrella of royalty. And with all the pomp and ceremony of the orient he will be hailed as the Supreme Arrestor of the Ebb and Flood of the Tides.

And now I'll arrest the flood of this tide of words and say,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.