Thurs. apr. 4 - 74

first crack out of the box. The Atlanta slugger blasting a homer today in Cincinnatif his first time

up - in the first inning - in the first game of the new
baseball season; thereby tying the immortal Babe Ruth
- as champion home run hitter of all time.

From the fans - a tremendous ovation; followed by another - when the ball was returned by an umpire.

And then the personal congratulations of Vice President

Gerald Ford - who had earlier thrown out the first ball.

"Good luck for seven hundred and fifteen and many more."

said he. Adding: "it's a great day for you - and a great day for baseball."