

# MATTY'S BIG LEAGUE GOSSIP

## BY CHRISTY MATHEWSON

### THE GIANT'S STAR PITCHER



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About the time this article is printed, I will begin reading time tables and Bullinger's Guide to find out the best train from Los Angeles to Marin, Texas. I intend to get into the training camp with the first flight of recruits this spring and work out gradually, because, when age and winter begin to get into the old "soubrette," they come out slowly. However, I have had one of the best rests this winter that I have ever had during the off season since I entered the big league, and I expect to come back strong this spring.

My ambition is to equal "Cy" Young's record for longevity of service in the big leagues. During his career, he hung up more than 500 victories. I still have some distance to go. In my younger days, I was ambitious to do something in the winter, and so I took a whirl at two or three off season propositions. Several weeks of vaudeville filled out one winter, but it did me no good as a pitcher, because I had one of my worst work, and was harder work for me than for those who make it their profession. Although the engagements require only a few minutes when you are actually on the stage, it is necessary to be on hand at the theatre at least an hour before the time the act starts, so that the whole term is always gone. Just about time enough to get some dinner is allowed between the afternoon and evening performances when it is necessary to hustle back to the theatre. The vaudeville performer seldom gets away much before midnight. The life is wearing on health, as the hours are irregular, and I did not like the work. Therefore, no more vaudeville.

Another year I tried insurance, and the business appealed to me because it has just enough mathematics in it to make it interesting, but nearly everybody to whom I attempted to sell a policy wanted to talk baseball to me. I would go in to offer some insurance, and the following dialogue is a fine sample of what generally took place:

"Can I write you an accident policy?"

"Matty, how did Brown happen to beat you in that last game in Chicago?"

"Did you ever stop to consider the risks you run every time you go out in the streets in New York?"

"You can't tell me that 'Johnny' Brown was right on that second base argument of his. Did you see the play? Now, what do you think about it, yourself?"

"I recall devoting an hour one day to a man who was marked on the company's books as a good prospect. After getting all the inside baseball, going in to think to ask about, he concluded with the remark—

"I was reading Mark Twain last night, and I agree with him about accident insurance. Somebody asked him once, before he started on a trip, whether he would not like to take out an accident policy."

"No, I hardly think so," replied Mark. "I have been studying statistics and find that more people die in bed than in railroad trains. Therefore, I'll take one out some time when I am going to spend a few days in bed."

"I feel the same way about it, but I am glad to have met you, and if I hear of any one who wants to do business, I'll let you know."

That's what became of one of my fine prospects.

After the season last fall, I made up my mind that hereafter, as long as I was in baseball, I would devote all my time, winter and summer, to the game. As I have said, I am getting along in years when the time is measured by my period of service in the big league, and it becomes more difficult for me to round into shape each spring. My programme for future off seasons is to hunt in the fall and then spend the rest of the time in California, playing golf. That game has kept me in excellent shape all winter, keeping my muscles just limber without wearing on them. I believe the adoption of golf is one of the greatest things a pitcher can do to help him condition if he will play it in the off season.

When a player is young, spring training looks like a wonderful institution, and he regards the trip south as something of a picnic. I recall that the first time I went south with the Giants, I could hardly wait for the starting time to arrive, and I enjoyed the experience. But as the years roll around, it becomes a necessary preliminary to a championship season, which is a hardship, because the whole thing is so uninteresting and monotonous. However, I will be one of the first in camp this year, arriving about the same time "Dick" Kinsella gets there with his recruits. The veteran scout of the Giants is to have charge until McGraw returns, after his world tour. A letter came to me from McGraw mailed in Nagasaki. He asked me to go to Marin to assist Kinsella in the handling of the flock of fifteen or twenty recruits who always precede the veterans to the spring camp. I expect to be on the job about the middle of February, and had intended to make the early start anyway, whether "Mac" had requested it or not.

For an old fellow, I had a pretty good year last season, and I attribute it to the outdoor life I led in the winter, combined with the early break I made for the training camp. I left early in February with McGraw and his recruits. I went to work slowly and rounded out into shape very gradually. It was a month after I had arrived last spring before I tried to curve a ball. Here is "Mac's" letter:

"Wish you were along, because I know you would like to have given the Japanese the once over. We have been busy since leaving you in Seattle. All the way across the Pacific the captain of the steamer said he thought we were the best bunch of ball players he had ever right about that seashore thing. It certainly kept us busy. Since arriving, we have been eating and speech making, listening to a lot of rot about ourselves in Japanese that the interpreters say are complimentary."

"I want to ask you if you would go back to the theatre, early in the spring, slowly and also to keep an eye on the

### Troubled With Weak Back and Kidneys For 10 Years.

Many people fail to understand the significance of a lame, weak, sore or aching back.

When the back aches or becomes weak it is a warning that the kidneys are affected in some way.

"Take notice to the warning and cure the backache on the first sign, for if you do not, this serious complication are sure to arise and perhaps develop into Dropsy, Diabetes or Bright's Disease, the three most deadly forms of kidney trouble."

Doan's Kidney Pills will strengthen the weak back, and prevent any form of kidney trouble entering the system.

Mrs. Ed. Boyer, Nokomis, Sask., writes:—"I have been troubled with weak back and kidneys. I had terrible dizzy headaches, and could not sleep at night. In this way I suffered for ten years, until I read about Doan's Kidney Pills. I purchased two boxes, and as they helped me, I sent for two more; they put me on my feet, and I have been able to work ever since."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents a box, or 3 boxes for \$1.25, at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. M. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

If ordering direct specify "Doan's."



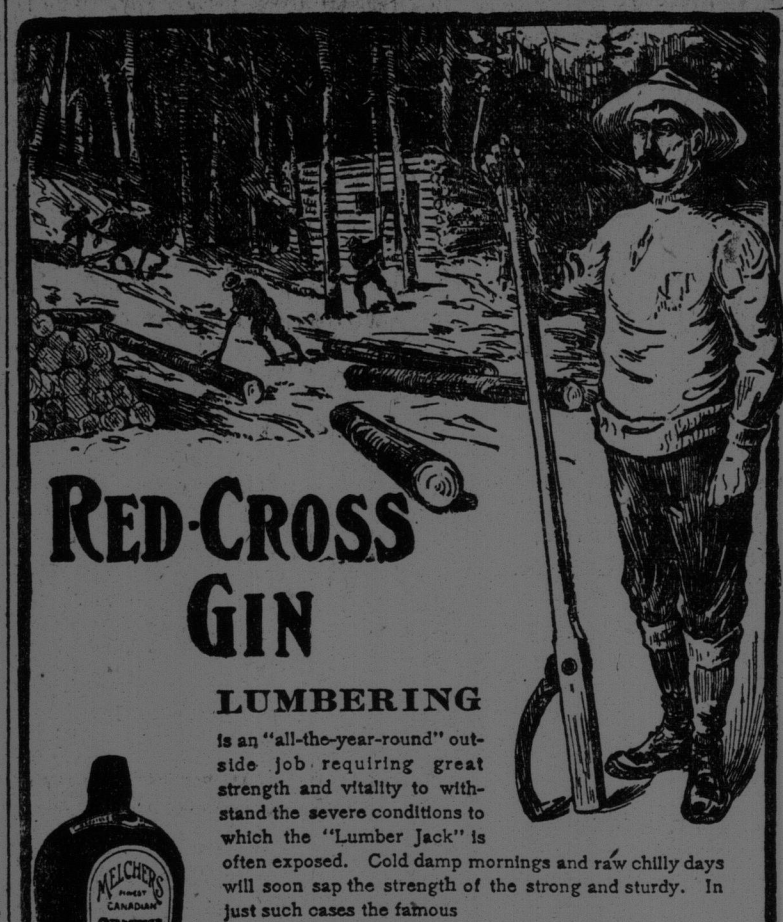
**Radway's Ready Relief**

For Headache, Neuralgia, La Grippe, Rheumatism, Stomachic, Nerve Pain, Toothache, Sore Throat, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Sore Eyes, Itching, Burning, Stinging, Swelling, Redness, Heat, Pain, Discomfort, and all other ailments.

**NEURALGIA**

The Relief is the best counter irritant known, and therefore the best application that can be used in Neuralgia. Rub it on the part affected, and keep the skin moist with it on the seat of the pain until ease is obtained, which will usually be in the course of ten or fifteen minutes.

**RADWAY & CO., Montreal, Can.**



**RED-CROSS GIN**

**LUMBERING**

is an "all-the-year-round" outside job requiring great strength and vitality to withstand the severe conditions to which the "Lumber Jack" is often exposed. Cold damp mornings and raw chilly days will soon sap the strength of the strong and sturdy. In just such cases the famous

**RED CROSS GIN**

is a helpful and stimulating beverage to the man engaged in hard outdoor work.

The Official Stamp of the Canadian Government is on every bottle of RED CROSS GIN. It is absolutely pure.

**BOVIN, WILSON & CO., LIMITED, MONTREAL.**

recruits under "Dick" Kinsella. Look over the young pitchers for me and see if any shows promise. Trusting you are well, etc.

Yours,

"MAC"

I am glad of the opportunity to have a hand in the sorting of the young material this spring. It gives me experience I need, because I have made baseball my business, and I want to learn every angle of it. Some day, I may be looking over some recruits of my own. But I do hate the idea of that training grind in which there is nothing particular to interest one. I never mind playing through the regular schedule, because every game of baseball is different and presents a new problem, but each day of training is just like the one preceding and exactly the same as the day which will follow. However, I will be on the job early, having some confidence in that saying about the luck of the early bird.

### OPERA HOUSE NEWS

**Good Judge of Horse Flesh**

As a horse trader, David Harum, was "some pumpkin" and as a Judge of human nature he was supreme. His humorous method of analyzing the class of individuals makes the play a sermon and a delight.

A farmer says he rid his farm of rats as follows:—"On a very large number of pieces of old shingles I put about a teaspoonful of molasses, and on that, with my pocket knife I scraped a small amount of concentrated lye, then placed the shingles around under the floors and under the eaves. The next morning I found forty dead rats, and the rest vanished. I have cleared many farms of the pests in the same way, and have never known it to fail."

### BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

#### CURED A BAD ATTACK OF ECZEMA.

All skin diseases such as Eczema, Salt Rheum, Tetter, Rash, Boils, Pimples, and Itching Skin Eruptions, are always caused from the blood, being in a bad condition, and it is impossible to eradicate them from the system unless you remove your blood into good shape. This you can very easily do without the slightest trouble by using Burdock Blood Bitters.

It drives out all the humor from the blood, and makes it pure and rich, and not only are the unsightly diseases removed, but a bright clean complexion produced, but the entire system is renovated and invigorated at the same time.

Mrs. C. A. Day, Somerville, N.B., writes:—"Last spring I had a bad attack of Eczema. I tried several patent medicines as well as the medicine of a physician, but they seemed to make the disease worse. I was advised to try Burdock Blood Bitters, and I did so with the result that in two weeks time the sores began to disappear. I continued to take it until I had taken three bottles and they worked a complete cure."

**For Colds, Sore Throat, Croup, For Aches, Pains and Wounds,**

**JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT**

is the never-failing remedy. Keep it in your home and be ready for both internal and external ills.

**IN USE 103 YEARS**

25c and 50c everywhere.

**I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Inc.**

Boston, Mass.

**Parson's Pills**

relieve constipation and headache.

### GRIM TALE OF DONALD SMITH AND LOUIS RIEL

**Bullet From Latter's Gun Ended Life of Man In Coffin**

### PIONEER DAYS IN THE WEST

**Future Lord Strathcona Helpless to Save—How Money Rolled in on Him—Wild 1000 Mile Ride to Defeat Sir John A. Macdonald**

There are many stories of the late Lord Strathcona's great wealth, and the means taken to secure control of so much money, but all agree that not one cent was earned in any other than a legitimate manner.

Dr. Ruthford, ex-M. P. for Macdonald, and now an official of the C. P. R., at Calgary, was discussing Lord Strathcona's wealth the other day, and related what he had heard from his own lips a year or two ago in the London office of the high commissioner, whom he found in the best of spirits, the doctor said: "You seem in good humor this morning? Is there any more money rolling in at this time of day?" and at once His Lordship told of how he and Lord Mount Stephen had gone into a Northern Pacific deal sometime ago, and that morning their checks, amounting to \$7,000,000 each, had arrived, representing the profits in that transaction.

### Another "Small Amount"

Another incident of how wealthy men make money is related by a gentleman who happened to be in the Nassau street office of J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, in New York, while the Canadian and American millionaires were celebrating the centennial of the coming of the rear office at the conclusion of their conference, Mr. Hill addressing his secretary, said: "Colonel, Lord Strathcona, in a small amount to His Lordship's credit?" When the secretary looked up the item he replied that there was a sum of \$1,250,000 to the credit of Lord Strathcona, and the latter simply rubbed his hands and said: "Well, that was very kind of you Mr. Hill," and probably both had forgotten the incident a few minutes later.

### His Most Painful Ordeal

The execution of Thomas Scott by order of Louis Riel while Donald Smith was near at hand (and although the head of the powerful Hudson's Bay Company he was practically a prisoner, and absolutely helpless to bring any relief to the doomed man) was perhaps the most painful ordeal ever passed through by the late Lord Strathcona.

Referring to this painful episode in Canadian history during one of his recent visits to Canada. His Lordship said he was sitting in his office one day or two before Riel had taken possession of Fort Garry with his half-breed escort, when a church of English clergyman named Young, came to him in a terrible state of excitement, saying that a man was to be shot down at the fort that afternoon. A few minutes before this an Ojibwa father had come in and after passing the time of day with the commissioner went upstairs to another office.

### The Murder of Scott

Thinking of the influence the priest might have with Riel Lord Strathcona in his own language, said: "I ran up stairs two steps at a time though I could not do so today, and meeting the priest I said: 'Do you know, sir, that a man is to be shot down at the fort?' When he replied he had heard of it I said: 'And you did not mention it when you came in.' Come down at once and see what we can do with Riel in the way of saving this man's life."

Lord Strathcona related that when they arrived and were ushered into Riel's presence the priest spoke in French, which Donald Smith understood and said: "Riel, is there no way of saving this man?"

Riel replied: "Father, you know there is no means of saving him."

"This is very interesting history," said the interviewer, and His Lordship replied: "Yes, but not to be published while I am alive."

Lord Strathcona also said he saw Scott move in his coffin after being shot.

### A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY

An eminent scientist, the other day, gave his opinion that the most wonderful discovery of recent years was the discovery of Zam-Buk. Just think! As soon as a single thin layer of Zam-Buk is applied to a wound or a sore, such injury is insured against blood poison! Not one species of microbe has been found that Zam-Buk does not kill!

Then again, As soon as Zam-Buk is applied to a sore, or a cut, or to skin disease, it stops the smarting. That is why children are such friends of Zam-Buk. They care nothing for the science of the thing. All they know is that Zam-Buk stops their pain. Mothers should never forget this.

Again, As soon as Zam-Buk is applied to a wound or to a diseased part, the cells beneath the skin's surface are so stimulated that new healthy tissue is quickly formed. This forming of fresh healthy tissue from below is Zam-Buk's secret of healing. The tissue thus formed is worked up to the surface and literally casts off the diseased tissue above it. This is why Zam-Buk cures are permanent.

Only the other day Mr. Marsh, of 101 Delorimier Ave., Montreal, called upon the Zam-Buk Co. and told them that for over twenty-five years he had been a martyr to eczema. His hands were at one time so covered with sores that he had to sleep in gloves. Four years ago Zam-Buk was introduced to him, and in a few months it cured him. Today—over three years after his cure of a disease he had for twenty-five years—he is still cured, and has had no trace of any return of the eczema!

All druggists sell Zam-Buk at 50c. box, or we will send free trial box if you send this advertisement and a 1c. stamp (to pay return postage). Address Zam-Buk Co., Toronto.

and Riel finished him with a revolver in his own hand.

One of the most remarkable episodes in Strathcona's western experience, and one which illustrates his wonderful determination to accomplish his purpose, once decided on, no matter what obstacle might intervene, was his unbroken ride of nearly 1,000 miles from Fort Carlton near Prince Albert in Saskatchewan, to the railway end of communication at Crookston, in Minnesota. The journey was undertaken in order that he might be present to cast his vote on certain questions at the memorable session of the dominion parliament in 1873. His vote defeated Sir John A.'s government.

Donald Smith, M. P., was at Carlton on official business connected with the Hudson's Bay Company, that place then being an important outpost of the company, when he rendered a message to be in Ottawa by a certain date. Overland mode of express conveyance in those days was by horseback or buckboard, and the trip from Carlton to Fort Garry, would occupy by ordinary daily stages of travel from two to three weeks according to condition of the trail. This schedule would not permit of Strathcona reaching the capital on the date fixed so he decided to make a "flying" trip, such as was never undertaken before and never has been since.

### Trip by Buckboard

Anticipating that it would be necessary for him to do this, John McTavish his right-hand man at Fort Garry, had arranged by the courier who carried the message to Strathcona for relays of horses at every possible point along the route. Starting out in the buckboard, Strathcona drove day and night, with stops only long enough to change horses. He both ate and slept in the conveyance, frequently being held to the seat to prevent him from falling out when sleepy. The arrangements were perfect and the traveler arrived at Fort Garry precisely on the day calculated, and from Fort Garry to Crookston the drive was likewise on time, enabling Strathcona to reach Ottawa, doubtless much to the surprise and chagrin of political opponents, in the nick of time to record his vote.

### The Real Situation

Conversation had drifted once more to the ever-interesting subject of marriage. The smoking-room was full, and almost every man had contributed something out of his own personal experience to the discussion.

Some said long engagements were better than short ones, some held that marriage was an utter failure, and some that it was the only thing that made life worth living.

One perky little person insisted that a

Do not suffer another day with Itching, Blood, Pimples, Boils, etc. No surgical operation required. Sample box free if you mention this paper and enclose 2c. stamp to pay postage.

### PILES

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man should be "master in his own house," but was violently opposed by a regular giant, who believed in "leaving things to the wife," and so on.

The subject, however, was side-tracked by somebody observing that it was curious to note how little men almost invariably married large women. At this, a very small, unhappy looking little man burst suddenly into life.

"No, sir, you are wrong!" he protested mildly. "In my opinion, it is the big women who marry the little men!"

### Blaming Mother

"My mother made me what I am," said the political speaker as he proudly threw out his chest.

"Well," said a small man at the rear of the hall, "she must have put in most of her time at other things."—Chicago Record-Herald.

### A Unique Arrest.

Some years ago there departed this life a very popular retired police officer, who told me, a writer in the London Chronicle says, how, under decidedly excusable circumstances, he had drunk too deeply of the flowing bowl, and in that condition had to take charge of two prisoners—man and woman—and to convey them to Holloway from a country district. His prisoners knew him well—he was a very popular man—and gave him their support in the literal sense when he appealed to them. But for their taking charge of him he would have been unable to reach the prison with them! By such pleasant touches of humanity are the annals of crime beautified.

The average hand of the man is 1 1/4 inches longer than the woman's hand.

### Pape's Diapepsin Digests Food

### WHEN STOMACH CAN'T—IT'S GREAT

**Stops Indigestion, Sourness, Gas and Dyspepsia in Five Minutes**

If you feel bloated after eating, and you believe it is the food which fills you; if what little you eat lies like a lump of lead on your stomach; if there is difficulty in breathing after eating, eructations of sour, undigested food and acid, heartburn, brash or a belching of gas, you need Pape's Diapepsin to stop food fermentation and indigestion.

It neutralizes excessive acid, stomach poison; absorbs that misery-making gas and stops fermentation which sours your entire meal and causes Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Bloating, Constipation, Griping, etc. Your real and only trouble is that which you eat does not digest, but quickly ferments and sours, producing almost any unhealthy condition.

A case of Pape's Diapepsin will cost fifty cents at any pharmacy here, and will convince any stomach sufferer in five minutes that Fermentation and Sour Stomach is causing the misery of Indigestion.

No matter if you call your trouble Catarrh of the Stomach, Nervousness, Gastritis, or by any other name—always remember that relief is waiting at any drug store the moment you decide to begin its use.

Pape's Diapepsin will regulate any out-of-order Stomach within five minutes, and digest promptly, without any fuss or discomfort, all of any kind of food you eat.

### BREATHE FREELY! OPEN NOSTRILS

### AND STUFFED HEAD—END CATARRH

Instant Relief When Nose and Head are Clogged from a Cold. Stops Nasal Catarrh, Discharges, Dull Headache, Vanishes.

Try "Ely's Cream Balm."

Get a small bottle anyway, just to try it—Apply a little in the nostrils and instantly your clogged nose and stopped-up passages of the head will open. You will breathe freely; dullness and headache disappear. By morning the catarrh, cold-in-head or catarrhal sore throat will be gone.

End such misery now! Get the small bottle of "Ely's Cream Balm" at any drug store. This sweet, fragrant balm dissolves by the heat of the nostrils; penetrates and heals the inflamed, swollen membrane which lines the nose, and throat; clears the air passages; stops nasal discharges and a feeling of cleansing, soothing relief comes immediately.

Don't lay awake tonight struggling for breath, with head stuffed, nostrils closed, hawking and blowing. Catarrh or a cold, with its running nose, foul mucous droppings into the throat, and raw dryness is distressing but truly needless.

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