

# The Dawn of Tomorrow

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## TRULY GREAT IS SATCHEL

(Reprinted from Time Magazine)

In the midst of a torrid political campaign, some years ago in a Central American country, Pitcher Leroy "Satchel" Paige and his barnstorming Negro team arrived in town. One of the candidates, a longtime aficionado of beisbol and Satchel, made his rival a sporting proposition: let the lection turn on the game; he would bet on Satchel, and whoever won the bet would win the election. The bet was made, Satchel won in a breeze, but didn't stick around for thanks: he detected the flash of machetes from the defeated candidate's supporters.

It is characteristic of Satchel Paige hero and narrator of this tale, that he does not remember when or where the episode took place. He is hazy about his age, his won-lost record, and the number of no-hitters he has pitched. Last week, when the Cleveland Indians signed him up, Paige became the first Negro pitcher in the American League.

(The Brooklyn Dodgers gave 17-year old Negro Pitcher Dan Bankhead a brief trial last year, sent him back to a Dodger farm.)

(His name is also arguable: it came perhaps from his suit-case-shaped shoes (size 12), perhaps from his early days as a Mobile redcap.)

### Born, but When?

Satchel has been around the game so long that his memory—and his arm—ain't what they used to be. But he still makes the modest claim that he is the "world's greatest pitcher." Satchel Paige was born in Mobile, Ala., 39, 43 or more probably 45 years ago, son of a landscape gardener and a mother who hated baseball. He was one of a family of nine—or sixteen. This mathematical inexactitude did not trouble Cleveland's President Bill Veeck last week. For all Veeck cared, Satchel might be "two or three decades" older than the next man—as long as he could pitch. Bob Feller had told Veeck that Paige was the relief man the league-leading Indians so desperately needed.

Satchel Paige figures that in 20-odd years he has pitched at least 2,000 games. Record books in the Negro leagues are mostly blank or spotted pages, but even the authenticated feats of the long (6 ft. 3 in.) and languid Satchel are almost as incredible as the legend.

In 1933 Satchel pitched in 42 games, won 31, lost four. In 1936 he pitched (and won) five games in one week. His idolizing Negro fans expect him to play in every game. Satchel once pitched a no-hitter in Pittsburgh, drove all night to Chicago, shut out another team in twelve innings next day. Pitching for the Kansas City Monarchs in the 1942 Negro World Series, Showoff Satchel purposely passed a man to get Catcher Josh Gibson (Negro baseball's Babe Ruth) at bat, then forced him to send up a pop fly.

In exhibitions against white teams, Paige has faced and humbled the best. He struck out Rogers Hornsby five times in one afternoon. Joe DiMaggio nicked Satchel for one slim single in five games (said Joe: "Best pitcher I ever saw"). After dropping a 13-inning, 1-0 pitching duel to Paige, Dizzy Dean paid Satchel a dizzying tribute: "Me and Satch could win 60 games in one season." (To a reporter, Satchel Paige once confided the secret of his success: "Diet. I eat only fried foods.")

### Born With Control

Playing summers in the U.S. and winters in Central and South America, Satchel Paige earned \$36,000 one year, and spent it in handfals (he has a white Lincoln, a red Cadillac, a red jeep, a pallid station wagon and an arsenal of over 20 shotguns). Lately he has pitched only in three to five-inning stints. Some of Satchel's speed is gone, but not his control ("I was born with control").

Last week, just before signing Paige (for a reported \$10,000 for the rest of the season), Bill Veeck watched him throw about 50 assorted pitches to Manager Lou Boudreau, second best hitter in the American League. Only three or four were wide of the plate, and most of them had stuff. In his two-inning relief debut against the St. Louis Browns three days later, Satchel allowed two singles, no runs, struck out one, walked nobody.

Did he think he could last in the majors? Said Paige: "Plate's the same size."

### "SATCH" TO DO RELIEF PITCHING

Cleveland (NNPA) — Leroy (Satchel) Paige, pitching ancient, was signed by the Cleveland Indians on July 7th as a relief pitcher who has something on the ball and can keep the ball in the strike zone.

That is the opinion of baseball experts who know that the Indians have badly needed this season a relief pitcher. How much help Paige can give the Indians now is problematical. But ten or fifteen years ago he might have been a sure-bet to win thirty games and pitched them to both American League and world championships.

Bill Veeck, president of the Indians, insists that he did not sign Paige as a publicity stunt. He believes Paige can supply some of the pitching help the Indians need to keep them in front of the American League pennant chase.

So does Lou Boudreau, the Indians' manager. At a secret tryout, Boudreau warmed up Paige, and then grabbed a bat and hit against him. It was the first time Boudreau had seen him in action.

Paige is still fast. "I ain't as fast as I used to be," he admitted, "but I'm a better pitcher. I used to overpower 'em; now I out-cute 'em." One thing, major leaguers will not scare Paige. He has pitched against enough of them in exhibition games to know that he can fool them just as he has ball players in the colored circuits and down below the border.

## Friends Celebrate Joint Birthday

When two men share the same birthday it's an occasion to celebrate, believe Frank Howson, 95 Glenwood Avenue, and Jack Davis, of Toronto.

Although unrelated, the men have been close friends for several years, and plan their birthdays together each year. They celebrated their 54th at the home of Mr. Howson on Saturday, with 100 guests present.

Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Howson are former school chums, both being from Chatham.

At the joint birthday party, held on the lawn of the Howson home, friends were present not only from the city, but from Toronto, Detroit, Cleveland, Brantford and Ingersoll.

Among the out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. R. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. John Mallott, of Brantford and Mr. and Mrs. James and Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Vant, of Ingersoll; Dr. and Madame Brewton of Toronto accompanied by Mrs. Hopewell; Mrs. May Smith, Cleveland; Mrs. J. W. Marshall, Toronto; Mrs. Mamie Prior, Toronto; Mrs. Rose Armstead, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. Edith Archer, Detroit; Mrs. and Mrs. Leon Harris, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. Dean Proctor, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. John Van, Detroit; Mr. Lloyd M. Johnson, Detroit and also the staff of the Detroit Tribune; Mr. Louis Harris; Mrs. Alicia M. Davis, Cleveland and a great number of friends and well-wishers of the city.

## Anniversary Of Chatham Church

The month of July is to be observed by First Baptist Church, Chatham, Ont. as Anniversary and Memorial month. I shall have been pastor here 3 years. The plan is to use all the Sunday afternoons in the month, 4, 11, 18, 25. Sunday, July 4th, 3:30 p.m., Minister's Day. All the assistant pastors and pastor's assistants of Amherstburg Association will give music and messages.

Sunday, July 11th, 3:30 p.m. — Deacons' day. Program by all deacons from the First Baptist Buxton; Shrewsbury; Prince Albert; Union Baptist; Queens St.; Dresden and Home Church.

Sunday, July 18th, 3:30 p.m. — Choirs' Day. A battle of Church music. Choirs of B.M.E. and First Baptist, Buxton; Prince Albert; Union Baptist; Queen St.; Dresden; and Chatham City Churches.

Sunday, July 25th — Missionary Societies' Day. Missionary Circles from First Baptist, Buxton; Prince Albert; Union Baptist; Queen St.; Dresden; First Baptist, Chatham.

On each Sunday afternoon memorials will be dedicated. Hymn books—Mrs. Anna Hurst; Outside, Vestibule, Office, Rest Rooms, Lights etc.; Transom over street door presented by the Amherstburg Association.

## Slave Escapes From Louisiana Farm

ST. LOUIS (NNPA) — Henry Williams, a colored boy who said he has been enslaved for as long as he can remember on a 560-acre farm owned by a Louisiana parish official, was assured of a permanent home Tuesday, July 6th, with the family of William Brown, Venice, a St. Louis suburb.

The 15-year-old boy who exhibited 1½ inch square scars on the left side of the abdomen and the back of his left hand, which he said were the marks of branding, escaped from the farm by diving from a window of a loft in a barn, swimming and wading through ponds and swamps and hitch hiking a ride on a produce truck.

He told his story to Mrs. Mary Franklin in Venice. He told her his master had a small piece of tin with a wire handle.

He branded the youth with this and threatened to shoot a hole in his heart if he ran away.

Williams said he had never been off the farm which is in Tangipahoa Parish, sixty miles north of New Orleans. The barn loft in which he slept was locked during his sleeping hours. To escape he broke the only window.

When he reached the highway, he assisted a produce truck driver change a tire on his truck and was offered a ride in return. He came to the East side, because that is where the trucker was headed.

### Barefoot, Ragged

When he arrived he was barefooted and his clothes were ragged. He told Mrs. Franklin he had always worn cast off clothes of other farm workers, most of whom were white people who had been convicted of law violations and whose freedom had been purchased by the farm owner.

### Lives With Friends

The husky youth, who appears older than 15, is not in good health, a physician said, because of diet deficiencies.

He said he had been fed beans for every meal on the farm. His parents, he was told, were killed in an automobile accident.

Since shortly after his arrival on the East Side, Williams has been staying with Otis Butler and Edward Miles, Kerr Island.

On Tuesday, however, he moved in with the Browns. They will send him to school and try to build his health through proper diet.

## PICNIC AT SPRINGBANK, CIVIC HOLIDAY! COME ONE, COME ALL!

The Community Family Club will hold a Union Picnic on Monday, Aug. 2nd, Civic Holiday at Springbank Park. Clubs and organizations are invited to unite and make this picnic the best ever had. Ball games, races, refreshments and dancing are to be staged for the day. Baskets will be spread at 4 o'clock on plot No. 16.

## E. Embree Heads The LiBeria Co.

Dr. Edwin R. Embree, President of the Julius Rosenwald Fund until its termination June 30, has been elected President of the Liberian Foundation, it was announced last night in New York City by Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., chairman of the Board of the Liberia Company.

The foundation, whose leadership Dr. Embree has already assumed, will assist in the advancement of health, welfare, and education programs in the West African Republic of Liberia.

The Liberian Foundation was set up last fall in conjunction with the Liberia Company, a joint American-Liberian organization which is developing both the human and natural resources of Liberia. Ten per cent of the stock of the Liberia Company has been given to the Foundation as its initial grant.

## BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS HOLD THEIR ELECTION

Election of officers of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters held their election of officers at the Home Service Club. Mr. Frank Cromwell, president by acclamation, also Mr. L. Cromwell as Secretary Treasurer, Mr. Leo Chaviler was elected 1st vice-president, Mr. Stanley Grazell, 2nd vice-president; Mr. Desmond Davis was elected to act as delegate to Detroit, Mich. in September to the international convention of Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters. Other offices will be filled by appointment.

## JACKIE ROBINSON CHANGING BOSSES' MINDS

Brooklyn's Jackie Robinson is fast changing the minds of his Brooklyn fans and bosses. He has been subjected to heavy criticism all year from the New York press. Jackie has really been showing great speed in the infield and considerable power at bat. All those crepe hangers who went about bemoaning the misfortunes of Jackie's sophomore jinx and overweight problems will have to change to a livelier tune. Jackie and Campanella will be in the lineup when the Brooks hit Cleveland Wednesday.

## AND STILL ANOTHER

After making American League history by signing a colored pitcher, Cleveland has signed another Negro, Al Smith, of the Cleveland Buckeyes. Smith is batting .302 and leads the Negro American League in stolen bases with 27. Smith has been a standout hustler in the outfield for the Buckeyes all season. Veeck is leaving no stone unturned to improve his team. In the meantime he is being subjected to much criticism from fans, and he certainly deserves credit for his courageous action.