FALL JAMS PENCIL NEARLY INTO HEART

Fifteen-year-old George Allen, above, of Newark, N.J., is in serious condition following a freak accident in which he fell and drove a mechanical pencil four inches into his chest, near his heart. X-ray photo at right shows position of pencil.

Know Your Hockey Stars

By ED. FITKIN

Young Jim Thomson, who was not born when Dit Clapper made his debut in the N.H.L., is considered one of the brightest young defense prospects in professional hockey. The Leaf management thought so highly of him that, without benefit of minor league experience, they retained him as one of the six defence men who started last season with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Jim Thomson
Defense

* * *

Despite Thomson's lack of experience, Happy Day paired him with Babe Pratt early last season and young Jim, while no sensation, handled himself fairly well. It was a tough assignment for the youngster and after his first game he said: "I never thought there could be such a difference between major and pro hockey. When I was playing amateur I knew exactly what I was doing at all times but up here in the majors the opposition is stronger and faster and they know more what they are doing than I do."

* * *

That, of course, might be the reaction of any 18-year-old kid crashing into a postwar N.H.L. with most of the prewar stars back in action. Thomson played in a few games for the Leafs, but was later sent to Pittsburgh for seasoning. There, after a poor start, he finished the campaign as outstanding star.

This season, and he's not 20 until Feb. 23, 1947, Jim is giving indications that he is picking up the experence he needs to mould him into a star. He may need more seasoning in the minors—but he's one young man to watch.

* * *

Happy Day considers Thomson on a par with, if not better than, Red Horner when the rock-'em sock-'em redhead first broke into professional hockey. Horner was a fast breaker, though not a flashy skater, could pass as well as any centre in the league, packed a terrific body check but had a very poor shot. In comparison, young Thomson does not break as quickly as Red did, nor has he faculty of bodying a man as hard as Horner. The present day rules and style of play make bodychecking equally difficult but Jim is a much stronger skater than Horner and has that extra burst of speed which great stars seem to possess. He has a hard and accurate right-hand shot and can pass accurately. He plays for keeps but checks fairly hard and seldom is penalized because his moves are made right out in the open.

* * *

Young Jim was born at Winnipeg on Feb. 23, 1927; he is an inch shy of the six foot mark and weighs 175 lbs. He started his hockey career with Winnipeg Excelsiors in the Manitoba Bantam league in 1941-42 and played for the same team when they moved up to midget hockey the next year. Scout Squib Walker selected him as a future Leaf player. Jim came to Toronto and played the 1943-44 season with Marlboro Juniors. When Marlboros were eliminated, St. Michael's College added Thomson to their team as a wartime replacement, and later when Trail's inexperienced team was riddled by injuries in the Memorial Cup Finals, Thomson was permitted to play for them. Young Jim was a standout star with the St. Michael's team when they won the Memorial Cup in 1944-45. He played through the Eastern finals and the Dominion championship series with a broken nose but this did not slow him down in any respect and it was his fighting display under such a handicap that proved to the Leaf management they had an outstanding young star in the fold.

Auctioned for the Dover Battle of Britain Hospital, a 1920 touring car brought £200 ($800).

KITNAPER

Harriet, a chimpanzee at Ft. Worth, Tex., zoo, likes cats and when young Felix romped past her cage, Harriet grabbed him. Crochety old chimp constantly mothers the cat, fixing a bed of straw for him and crooning tenderly over him. Only a banana will tempt her to let him go.

Big Payroll

The Canadian National Railways with an average payroll of 100,000, is the largest employer of labor in Canada. With annual purchases as high as 100 million dollars, it is the biggest individual buyer of materials in the Dominion.

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The Come Back

"I wish," he said in exasperation, "that some brainless idiot had proposed to you before we were married."

"He did," replied the wife calmly, "and worse luck, I married him."

Winged Riches

"Riches," said the teacher, as he was reading to his class, "take unto themselves wings and fly away. What kind of riches does the writer mean?"

Blank looks met his gaze.

"Surely someone can answer a question like that. You, Brown, what kind of riches did the writer mean?"

Brown hesitated for a moment, and then plunged. "Ostriches, sir."

Gravity

"What comes down faster than wood?"

"Stone."

"Faster than stone?"

"Iron."

"Faster than iron?"

"Stocks."

Why?

He was a briefless lawyer, trying his best to look busy and prosperous, but it was a fatiguing process, and at last he gave it up and went out to the club, leaving a notice on the door:

"Back in an hour."

When he returned he was pained to find someone had added a footnote:

"Whatever for?"

Better Still

Blake: Don't you think it a good idea to rate all cars according to their horsepower?

Drake: Not as good as rating all drivers according to their horse sense.

Quite Agreeable

"It is not good for a man to keep too much to himself," states a psychologist. The income-tax authorities are said to share this view.

Unforgettable

Friend: "You will soon forget her and be happy again."

Jilted Suitor: "Oh, no, I shan't! I've bought too much for her on the instalment system!"

Voice of Experience

"Dorothy," said the junior high teacher, "just how would you describe a needle?"

"Well," replied the teen-ager, "It is a bright, shining sewing tool used around the world. It has a butt, shank, slot, latch, rivet, eye, throat and hook."

"Mercy, where did you learn all that?" gasped the teacher.

"I worked in a needle factory last summer," said the bobby-soxer.

Self-Appreciation

The girl was out with an American soldier. "So you really think I'm the most adorable girl you ever knew?" she cooed.

"Uh-huh."

"Do you think I'm the most attractive girl you have ever seen?"

"Uh-huh."

"You do say the most marvellous things, darling! Do please go on."

The Plea

"Baby 1½ years requires house, flat or rooms unfurnished for himself and parents, both ex-service. At present seeing them week ends only. Only those who were babies once themselves need write."

Only Two

Charley was found by his foreman to be smoking near a dynamite dump.

"Whatever are you doing?" cried the foreman. "Don't you know that the last time a man smoked here he blew up twelve people?"

"Yes, but that can't happen here," answered the smoker.

"Why?" asked the foreman.

"Because there's only you and me," said Charley.

Take Your Time

One evening in the "local" the village "strong man" got into a hot argument with a friend and wound up by calling him a liar.

The other man naturally resented the remark.

"Look here," he said, drawing himself up to his full five feet, "I'll give you just five minutes to take that back."

"Ho!" said the big man. "And suppose I don't!"

"Then," said the other, after a slight pause, "I'll extend the time limit."

65 Miles to the Gallon!

The Larmar is the newest thing in English automobiles. It's a one-seater, gets 65 miles to the gallon, cruises at 35 mph. Engine is 2½ hp, length 7-5½, width 2-6. Chassis is in foreground.

Luxuries Provided In Modern Airliner

The latest aircraft put into service by the British Overseas Airways affords an excellent example of luxury in modern air travel. In addition to the main cabin with its deep seats (convertible into bunks), there are promenade lounges providing ample room for movement, a cocktail bar, a ladies powder room, decorated in white and pink and a men's dressing room in white and grey. The color scheme is of blue and fawn grey and the walls are lined throughout with plastic leather cloth. Ceiling lights, operated by "bright," "dim" and "off" switches are reinforced by individual lamps mounted on the back of each seat. The seats all facing forward have hinged flaps which let down to form a table or a book rest. The window curtains are of cream nylon embroidered with designs in blue, gold and grey. As a finishing touch the lining cloth has been specially tested for its capacity to keep out strong moonlight which might otherwise keep passengers awake.

Jews "Accepted" In Great Britain

For generations Jews in Britain have possessed the rights and privilege of citizenship in larger measure than in any other country in the world, says the London Times. The offices and honors of the State are open to them as freely as to any others; they are excluded from no profession or industry; if they are wronged they can appeal with confidence to the even handed justice of the courts of law. Not only that, but Jews who have suffered from persecution and tyranny in other lands have, over a long period, found security in Britain. It is unlikely that more than a small minority of them have any sympathy with the evil deeds committed by members of their race in Palestine.

Luxury

The first of twenty streamlined bedroom-buffet-lounge cars of a new design has been built at the Point St. Charles Shops of the Canadian National Railways.

Filling the Lamps In Farmer's Home

How clear and shining are the chimneys of lanmps ranged on a kitchen mantel shelf can be taken as a glistening gauge of farm housekeeping. On farms to which electricity has not yet brought its bright beneficence there is always a day set aside for the simple but rather fussy ceremony of "filling the lamps". The filling process covers more than appears in the verb. It means also a trimming of wicks, with sometimes one or more to be replaced, and it includes a washing of chimneys in hot suds and a polishing of them inside and out, usually with old newspapers. Then the lamps—which themselves have been rubbed or perhaps washed—go back on the shelf, to be carried that night to rooms from which they have been collected.

Despite the spread of rural electrification, there are still plenty of farms where oil lamps serve long hours on Winter nights and mornings, and in Summer make lures for moth and mosquito. Statisticians report that during 1946 there were more than five thousand more farms "connected up". But even with this good-sized increase in wires and bulbs there remain many thousands of farms where "filling the lamps" is a chore to be accomplished each week. And this filling, of course, counts a couple of barn lanterns.

The kerosene lamp, particularly in its larger sizes, is now ranking as an antique in a fast-moving age when "antiques" grow to commercial maturity with astounding rapidity. But in many country homes tonight a warm, yellow glow from such lamps shines out, through polished chimneys, across near-by snowbanks and a well shovelled path to the barn.

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FUNNY BUSINESS

By Hershberger

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Get a package of Hemroid today at any drug store. Use it for three or four days. If you are not delighted with it go get your money back.

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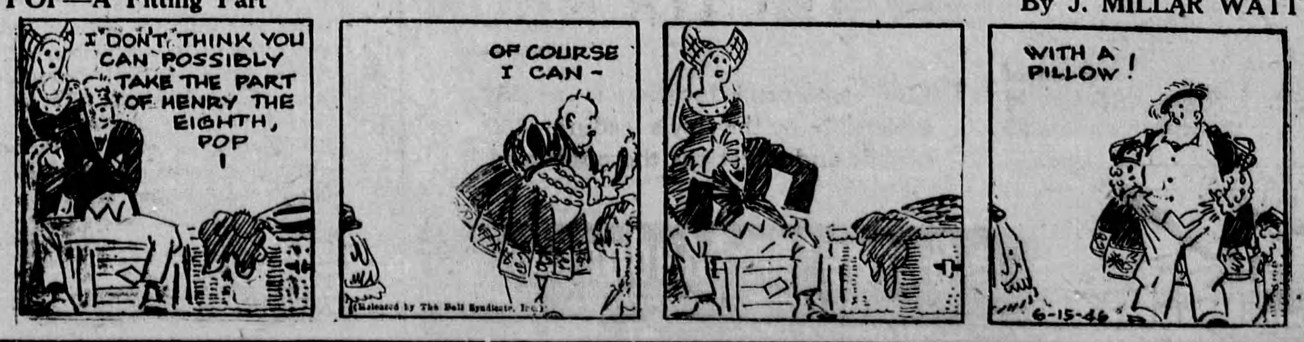
By J. MILLAR WATT