He Gets Big Money, And Certainly Earned It.—Putting his "John Henry" on the dotted line is Lou Boudreau, playing manager of the world champion Cleveland Indians baseball team. Although exact terms of the two-year contract were not revealed, it is believed that Lou will make about $65,000 a season, which put him up among the game's top money-makers. That's President Bill Veeck of the Indians looking on.

WHAT GOES ON IN THE WORLD

by Norman Blair

Great Britain

The peoples of the United Kingdom are still along way from being out of the economic "woods" but they have travelled during the past year or so a long distance toward that objective.

In the first half of 1947, Britain's balance of payments deficit against the world as a whole was running at a rate of over $2,600,000,000 annually. When the Marshall plan was first put into operation, the U.S. State Department estimated that this deficit—during the 12 months beginning July 1, 1948—might possibly be reduced by around 40 per cent.

But by the end of last year Britain was beating that estimate at the rate of A BILLION DOLLARS OR MORE per annum. It was hitting the Cripps export target of 50 per cent above 1938. The excess of exports over imports was the highest in all history. Britain was again earning its own way, or was very close to it.

Such sensational gains reflects, in large part, what one American writer calls "self denials more stringent than any other democratic country has ever imposed on itself in times of peace." They also reflect in part, the reduction in Britain's overseas military expenditures.

At all events, although Britain is still running a deficit against the Western Hemisphere—and although she will continue to need some aid from the Marshall plan for a time—the all-over picture is decidedly encouraging. Those pessimists who were "selling Britain short" and saying that the Old Country was worn out and done for are beginning to eat their words. If some of the other Western European beneficiaries of the Marshall plan would use the same sort of strenuous efforts to put their houses in order, the general state of affairs on the other side of the Atlantic would be a whole lot more hopeful than they actually are at present.

Also from Britain comes news of a "blindfold margarine test." Dr. Edith Summerskill is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food. She is also a lady of decidedly definite opinions, and is well known for her positive views about what people should, and shouldn't eat.

Not long ago she announced that nobody could tell the difference between margarine and butter, and challenged all present to come to the Ministry's kitchen and take a blindfolded test. An Oriel College undergraduate, Colin Prestige, immediately accepted. At latest advice Prestige hadn't got round to calling on Dr. Summerskill; but both the London Daily Mail and The Daily Express had him tried out. They reported that Prestige had distinguished between butter and its substitute exactly six times out of six. And when the Daily Chronicle sent a girl reporter around London, armed with supplies, she found that most of the housewives could also tell the difference without too much trouble.

Modest

College alumni attending a dinner in Raleigh, N.C., were asked to name their professions. One shy young undertaker, fearing the derision of the crowd when he told his calling, answered smoothly, "I'm a southern planter."

The United States

They've been doing a bit of food testing on this side of the Atlantic as well. Taking part in these tests were 239 members of 64 urban Pennsylvania families, all in apparent good health. And the findings may have farther reaching and longer-lasting results than a lot of the news which makes the front page headlines.

For these were by no means "under privileged" families. Two thirds of them had incomes of between $2500 and $5000 per year. The other third had over $5000 yearly. All lived well and ate well—or at least ate what they thought was proper food.

Yet until they were tested by representatives of the year-long nutrition study conducted by Westinghouse Electric and Pennsylvania State College, these supposedly healthy and intelligent people never even suspected that they were eating their way into poor health. Yet only 28 per cent of the families consumed enough food to meet proper caloric requirements; and few had enough proteins, minerals and vitamins.

Here are some of the findings. Adult women made the poorest showing. At least 58 per cent were underweight and more than half of them had less than three-fourths of the highly necessary calcium.

Adult males scored higher than females on everything but Vitamin "C"—this being a reflection of general dislike for raw foods such as salads.

Teen age girls copied their mothers in faulty eating habits. Fifty per cent were underweight.

Teen age boys showed better eating habits than their sisters. Children under 12 made relatively good showings, but close investigation revealed that many were underweight and lacking in bone development.

And the proof of the pudding REALLY WAS in the eating. To insure accurate results, the families included in the tests began eating under a controlled plan. Definite quantities of foods were prescribed according to individual needs. Housewives were taught how to market, how to cook food to retain the greatest amounts of minerals and vitamins, also how to store food properly.

In spite of the increase in meat, milk, eggs, and fats, food costs under the new plan rose only around $1.35 per week for each family. And in the end proper foods properly cooked brought amazing results.

All family members reported that they felt better, looked better, did not get irritated so easily, noticed less fatigue and had fewer colds. Individual medical ratings rose as much as 14 per cent. Adult women were still in lowest place when the survey finished—a stubborn 14 per cent of them were still eating less than three-fourths of the required calories. Unlike their mothers, 75 per cent of the teen age girls reached standard weight. Men and boys showed improvement in nearly all parts of the rating. Children under 12 improved satisfactorily, and by the end of the year none was seriously underweight.

"An apple a day" may not be a guarantee of "keeping the doctor away". But it would seem as though proper eating, all along the line, would make medical attention far less necessary.

SPORTS &c

by A Sixbit Critic

Now if there is one phase of the game of hockey about which we claim to be something of a connoisseur—what language!—it is the art of goal tending. There are several reasons for this. Back in the misty past, when we used to play hockey, we were always chosen—by the unanimous vote of our teammates—to tend goal, only we called it "gool".

* * *

This choice, we maintain, was because of our superior agility, keen eye and coolness; although there are some of our contemporaries who basely claim that it was on account of a habit we shared with a one-time N.H.L. referee, whose name we will kindly suppress—said habit being that of doing our skating principally on our ankles.

* * *

Performing on one's ankles, if done in its proper sphere, can win a man both applause and wealth. As The Scarecrow in "The Wizard of Oz" the great Fred Stone used to do an eccentric dance on his ankles which wowed them from coast to coast. But as a forward in hockey—or even as a defenceman—the ankle stuff has its drawbacks. And so we became a goaltender, on one memorable occasion coming within a bare ten goals of scoring a shutout against keen opposition.

* * *

Hence, we have always taken a very special interest in the actions of the stout fellows who guard the twine. Fate has forced us to do a lot of our sport-watching from Press Boxes and similar spots; but from choice, we would sooner sit at the end of the rink where—especially in the days of stick-handling and combimation—you could really see what is going on. (And if we've told you all this before, think nothing of it. Stick around long enough and in all probability we'll do it again and again.)

* * *

We have watched pretty nearly all the really outstanding goalies in action, and with deep appreciation, our memories dating back to the days of Percy LeSeuer, Clint Benedict, George Hainsworth and others too numerous to mention. (Clint Benedict was called, disparagingly, "Praying Benny" because of his custom of dropping to his knees to smother shots, which wasn't considered exactly "cricket' in those days—and we wonder what he thinks when he sees those modern goaltenders who seem to be standing on their ears more often than on their skates.)

* * *

We have also been honored by the personal friendship of several of the top hands in goal tending; and have heard them discuss confidentially the intricacies of their profession. It was from them that we learned that, technically, a "left handed goalie' is not, as you might think, one who holds his stick in the sinister paw. A right hander is one who uses that fin to do the catching, grasping his warclub with the left.

* * *

Just who of all that crew was the greatest of all time, we don't intend to go into here. It's all a matter of opinion, and something like trying to compare John L. Sullivan with Jack Dempsey—there's no definite line to go by. But as we stated previously, we think we know enough to appreciate really high class cage-guarding—and we are here to say that the display staged by Mr. Chuck Rayner, of the New York Rangers, in Toronto recently, ranked with the very best.

* * *

It's taken us over a long and tortuous course to arrive at what we started out to say—but shucks space has to be filled, somehow or other. But Rayner was really worth going a long, long way to watch. At times it looked as though the Maple Leafs couldn't have scored him with a handful of buckshot. And if Frankie Boucher's New Yorkers fail to land in the playoffs, one man they won't be able to blame for their plight is Mr. Rayner.

* * *

Possibly it isn't any of our business to try and wedge ourselves into what looks like a private battle; but in the rumpus taking place between the Toronto Male School Teachers and the Queen City educational authorities, we find our sympathies, for once, on the side of the teachers. (Truly, age must be softening us up greatly, to say a thing like that.)

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