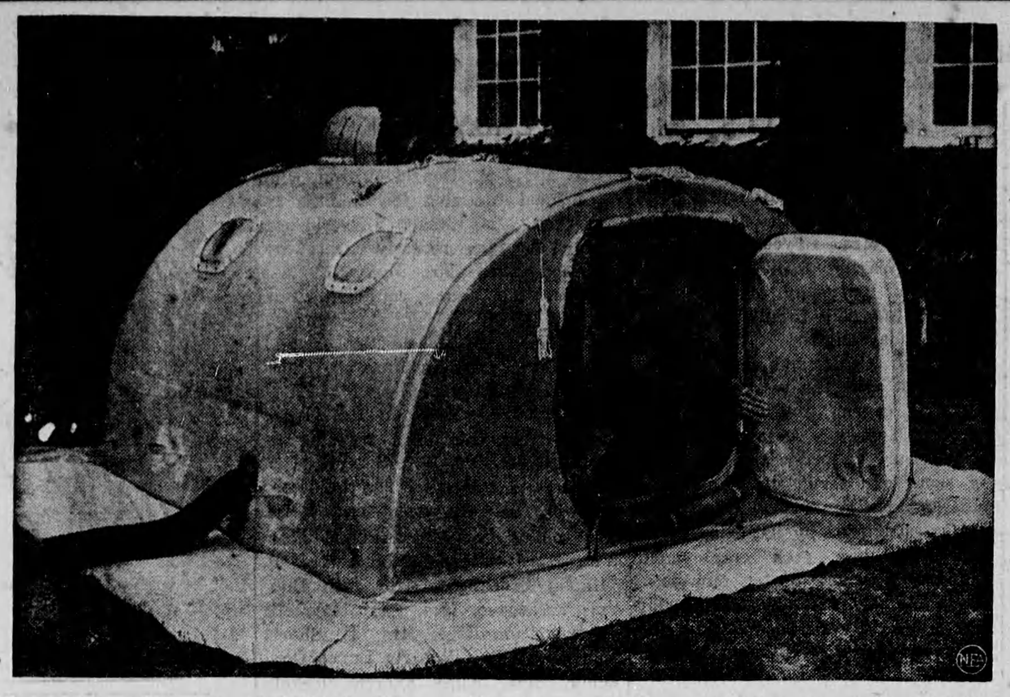

Dream House For Stranded Arctic Airmen—The pneumatic Quonset hut above, made of cotton fabric coated with a low-temperature neoprene compound to withstand extreme cold, is expected to help save the lives of airmen forced down in the Arctic. The hut is draftproof, snowproof, waterproof, compact and easy to carry. It houses four men comfortably and can withstand 100-mile-an-hour gales. It is bright orange in color, making it easy to spot from the air. A 10-foot-long air duct on the sidewall and a four-foot canvas, igloo-like entrance keep out icy blasts, but allow for ventilation.

SPORTS-&

by A SIXBIT CRITIC

"A good name," according to Solomon, at least we hope it was Solomon, "is rather to be chosen than great riches." And in the sports dodge it is of the utmost importance, as there a good name—of at least a tag which takes the public fancy—often leads to wide-spread fame and even great riches.

* * *

Men like Jack Dempsey, Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Joe Louis and Louis Angel Firpo had, of course, a certain amount of athletic talent and ability; even though, in the case of the last mentioned, it was mostly ability to take it. But in spite of that, the sports cobblers who tagged them "The Manassa Mauler," "The Georgia Peach," "The Bambino," "The Brown Bomber," and "The Wild Bull of the Pampas," assuredly helped no little in planting them firmly in the public esteem.

* * *

One of the most famous of these nicknames—one that is still well remembered, even after a quarter of a century has passed—was bestowed by one of the best of all sports writers, not on a single athlete, but on a quartet of them. Just about the time a certain United States college football team, and especially its four-man backfield, was making the sports headlines, a novel entitled "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" was sweeping the country. (Reviewers of that day said it was "one of the greatest novels of all time," "A book that would live forever," and the like. We wonder if anybody ever reads it now).

* * *

Anyway, the eminent Mr. Grantland Rice saw an opportunity and grasped it. He dubbed the aforementioned quartet "The Four Horsemen of Notre Dame," and the name caught on big. And when the late Knute Rockne, then coach of the team, had the four of them photographed astride four huge draft horses, practically every paper south of the border, and a good percentage on this side as well, published the picture, and Notre Dame became the best known team in football.

* * *

Even most of those who vividly remember "The Four Horsemen" as a unit have probably forgotten the names of those who composed it. They were Elmer Layden, full-back and almost unstoppable when he got into full stride; Harry Stuhldreher, clever quarterback and passing genius; Sleepy Jim Crowley and Don Miller, halves.

* * *

And here's the thing that makes this foursome worth thinking about in these days when football, both here and in the United States, seems to be running so largely to beef and brawn in wholesale quantities. Those four, who highlighted a team which lost only two games in three full seasons, pulled down the scales—when at their best—for a grand total of only 638 pounds.

* * *

That's right. Layden, the heaviest of the four, weighed 162; Stuhldreher, 156; while Crowley and Miller balanced the beam at 160 each. As Arthur Daley recently pungently remarked, nowadays a high school coach would hardly give any one of them more than a passing glance.

There should be some food for thought in this on the part of a lot of our high school football coaches—and some of those in the upper brackets, too. In recent years, Canadian football has so slavishly followed American trends that now it's almost impossible to recognize what was once, for our money, the best and most thrilling of all games to watch.

* * *

Why, just the other Saturday when Bert Haigh, of Ottawa, cut loose the lengthy punt which finally ruined Argonauts' play-off chances, spectators and sports writers alike spoke as though it were something phenomenal.

* * *

It was a good punt, all right, long, well placed, and coming at the exact moment when it would do the most good—or harm, depending on who you were rooting for. But to those who recall booters of the calibre of Gordon Southam, Hughie Gall and a whole lot more we might mention, it was the kind of punt you expected to see several times per game, not just once or twice a season.

* * *

But what can you expect? During the past couple of months, we have noticed at least 200 kids of from 12 to 17 practising, on various corner lots and vacant fields, the recondite art of heaving and catching forward passes. During the same period, we have seen just one youth practising punting. And he was doing it all alone, with nobody even to shag his punts, let alone return them.

* * *

So why not let's go the whole distance and make booting the ball—except on third down and inside your own 10-yard line—strictly illegal. And at the same time, it might be an idea to pass a law whereby any youth who scales less than, say 185, on reaching his 17th birthday, would be told to turn in his pads and go play lawn tennis?

Witch Weigh—Four hundred years ago this scale at the little town of Oudewater, Holland, was used for weighing suspected witches. If the suspect weighed less than normal ("light enough to travel on a broomstick") she was accused of witchcraft and tortured to death. If her weight was normal, she got a certificate stating "I am not a witch." The old scale has been preserved intact for tourists to see.

Why the Door Has No Handle

Best known painting by the famous English artist, Holman Hunt, is "The Light of the World," which shows Christ standing in a garden at midnight.

He is holding a lantern in His left han' and His right hand is knocking on a heavily-panelled door.

An art critic who was present when the picture was unveiled approached Hunt and said: "Excuse me, Mr. Hunt, but surely you haven't finished the picture? That door has no handle."

"That is the door to the human heart," Hunt replied. "It can be opened only from the inside."

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ISSUE 47 — 1949

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BEAUTIFUL reproduction of oil painting, of the landing of British, American and Canadian troops at Normandy Beach, D-DAY, June 6, 1944. Complete with text, ready for framing. One, 25c postpaid. Edward Shaw, 3561 Lorne, Montreal 18, Quebec.

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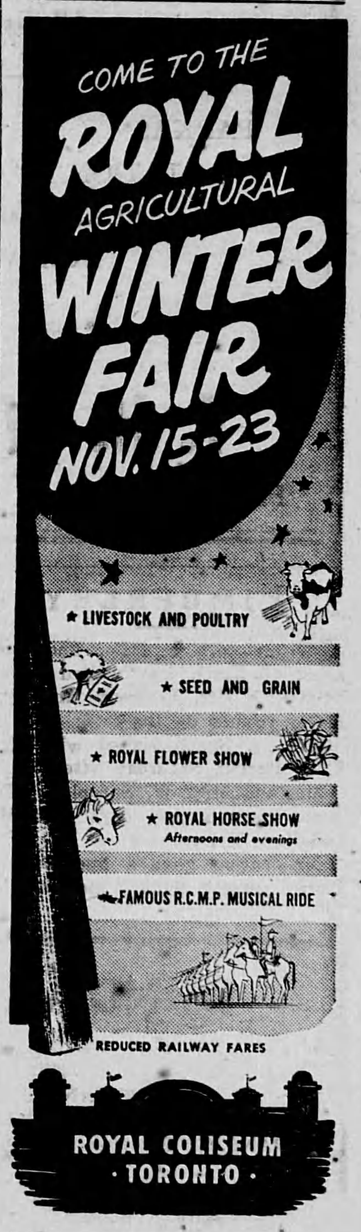

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The savage African tribe of Ubangis have a habit of stretching the lips of their women around circular wooden discs until finally they become about eight inches in size, sticking right out from their faces like two plates.

One very hot day two Ubangi girls met in the jungle. One of them stuck her face close to that of the other, and rapidly repeated: "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers! Now, you fan me for a while."

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