"Gussie" Gets a Rubdown—In her dressing room at the "Forum Italico" in Rome, Gertrude "Gorgeous Gussie" Moran, of lace-panty fame, gets a massage before meeting French tennis ace Anne-Marie Seghers in the Italian Tennis Championships. Gussie won the match.

SPORTS-&

by A SIXBIT CRITIC

Looking at the results of the first week of the Toronto Maple Leafs' home "stand" one cannot help being reminded, somehow, of the deathless dispatch a Washington newspaper correspondent sent home after having a couple of peeks at the Senators going through their paces in training camp.

* * *

"The Senators haven't got any pitching, or hitting, or defensive strength," the wire ran. 'Outside that, they're loaded."

* * *

But maybe, by this time, the Leafs have taken a turn for the better; in fact, that's about the only direction they have left. But it's too bad. The advance build-up the Leafs received—especially over the matter of Sunday ball at last—was only slightly less than terrific. On opening day, and the first Sunday, the crowds moved down to the air (polar) conditioned spaces of the Stadium in huge and highly profitable numbers in a mood of eager expectation, completely forgetting that neither wishful thinking or attendance records ever won many ball games.

* * *

And right now a few thousand of them are wondering if the expert observers, who accompanied those Leafs on their Southern travels, mightn't have been the victims of fraud or deception. In other words, when they asked for sun-glasses, some slicker must have slipped them the rose-colored variety.

* * *

As for the babyish tactics which spoiled opening Sunday for so many, so much has already been written that we have but little to add. Except this. Frank Shaugnessy has been around for quite a while; and while he has developed a slight tendency to take off his hat and bow whenever the sacred word "baseball" is mentioned, that is probably due to his official position. Anyway, Shag knew enough to hit those guilty of the stalling in the only place where your modern ball player can be hurt. We were just about to write "in the bankroll" when we recalled that today's ball artists carry theirs in pocketbooks—padlock-equipment. So make that "in the wallet" and you'll get our general meaning, we hope.

* * *

Baseball magnates vehemently deny that there has been any change, that they are aware of, in the makeup of the baseball itself. So far as they know, the poor innocents, the apple that Ted Williams, Ralph Kiner and the rest of today's sluggers swing at is identical with the one that used to serve as a mark for Cobb, Wagner, Lajoie, and the rest.

* * *

Those same magnates also laugh to scorn any suggestions that seating arrangements are changed, fences moved and so on, in an effort to make it easier for the boys to smack one out of the park. "Ridiculous," they say, "We just do those things for the comfort and convenience of our dear friends, the cash customers."

* * *

Well, far be it from us to odubt the word of such an important person as a baseball mogul. Still, here are some statistics which would appear to prove that either the breed of baseball slugger is improving very fast or else that things have been happening behind their backs.

* * *

On the first Saturday in May there were exactly nine major league games played. And in those nine games there were exactly thirty-one home runs belted. The only occasion on which more homers than that were scored in a single day's play was back in June, 1937, when the count was one greated, thirty-two in all. BUT, on that June afternoon, there were fifteen games played, which makes quite a difference.

* * *

Just to keep the record clear, the 31 four-baggers of May 6th, were divided up thusly. The American League accounted for 16 of the bumper crop with the Boston Red Sox collecting the most, an even half-dozen. Boston Braves led the National with a quintet, and the Chicago Cubs—of all people—tied a major league mark by busting three of them in a single inning.

* * *

Yes, gentle reader, it looks very much, from where we sit, as though the breed of modern ball-player must be undergoing vast improvement. In fact, if the breed of Thoroughbred had been improved with equal celerity, this year's Kentucky Derby would probably have been run in around 1.55 instead of 2.01 and 3/5. Maybe Bill Corum, the new impresario at Churchill Downs should borrow a leaf from baseball's book, and have somebody shorten the track by a hundred yards or so. While his back was turned, of course, and without anybody telling him about it.

* * *

Still, on second thought, maybe Corum had best let things stay as they are. A home run in baseball used to provide an authentic thrill. Now, they've cheapened them to such an extent that the last quotation we heard was a dime a dozen—with no bidders.

His System

An FBI investigator discovered evidence of some amazing marksmanship in a West Virginia town. On trees, fences, and walls were countless bull's-eyes, with the bullet-hole in the absolute centre. The FBI man demanded an introduction to the Dead-eye Dick responsible for this spectacular shooting and was led to the village half-wit. "Greateset shooting I ever saw," marvelled the FBI man. "How in the world do you do it?" "Nothing to it," deprecated the half-wit. "I shoot first and draw the circles afterward."

Artists Without Arms—Despite the handicap of no arms, these two painters in Deisenhofen, Germany run a flourishing art publishing business and have become well-known painters. Bruno Schmitz-Hochburg, left, lost his arm in an accident 30 years ago. Arnulf Erich Stegmann, right, was paralyzed when he was two years old and never regained use of his arms. They employ several handicapped persons in their business.

THE FARM FRONT

by John Russell

Driving through the country, almost anywhere in southern Ontario, there are few sadder sights than some of the ancient barns. You know the kind I mean—roof sagging, no doors, great gaps in the sidings. In fact I often think it would be a fine thing if lightning struck, and the poor deserted things burned to the ground.

* * *

There are lots who feel the same way; but we may be mistaken, at that. Writing in a United States farm magazine Harry R. McConnell hands out the advice—"take a good look at your old barn; maybe it too, has years of service left in it. Then he goes on to tell about a specific instance.

* * *

Don't be too hasty with the wrecking bar on that old horse barn—his article starts—it may have years of service left in it, although the horses are gone.

* * *

Of course, it may look pretty tough. But if it's the right size, if it's located on the right spot, and if the framework is good—stop and do some figuring.

* * *

That's what K. B. Huff, agricultural engineer did, when he needed a poultry house.

* * *

He had an old barn. It never had been painted, the sills were rotten, the roof sagged, and the walls were out of line.

* * *

But Huff found that it had good oak framing, and his figures showed that it would cost less to remodel than to build a new poultry house.

* * *

First he raised one side of the foundation with. house jacks, and nailed new timbers in place 16 inches above the old sills. Then he sawed off the old siding just below the new sills.

* * *

Next he dug a trench, 3 feet wide and 2 feet deep, under the sills. In the bottom of the trench, directly under the walls, he dug a footing trench, 14 inches wide and 6 inches deep.

* * *

He filled this 14-inch footing with concrete, and then laid five rows of concrete blocks to bring this new foundation within an inch of the new sill.

* * *

He cemented ⅜ by 12-inch bolts every six feet in the foundation, then lowered the sills and bolted them down.

* * *

Then Huff raised the other side of the barn and built a similar foundation. The old barn already looked better.

* * *

The walls still were out of line, though, so he used jacks with heavy timber extensions to force them into line before nailing and bracing the barn. He pulled the gable ends into line with a set of woven wire stretchers.

* * *

He put in a good stairway to the loft, which is the poultry house part of the building. On the ground floor, he built a garage, stalls for some cows and a horse, and storage rooms for feed, hay, and smaller farm tools.

* * *

If you have an old barn, Huff says, take a look at its possibilities. Huff's total cost was $1800— but he wound up with exactly the all-round service building he needed on his small farm. Your old barn may have some life left in it, too!

What To Do Before The Moving Starts

Moving — whether done from choice or of necessity—is a pretty miserable business. However, it sometimes has to be done, like it or not; and the following hints as to what should be done BEFORE THE MOVING MEN COME may save you a lot of bother, work and, possibly property damage or loss.

* * *

Important papers should be placed in the bank or elsewhere for safekeeping. Papers are one of the most frequently lost of household items, and are apt to be needed in a hurry.

* * *

Make a complete inventory of household goods and note the value of each grouping or important individual pieces.

* * *

Ask your electrical dealer what to do to protect your refrigerator, freezer, range, sewing machine, radio phonograph, and so forth. It is advisable to have these delicate and expensive pieces of equipment prepared for moving by a serviceman, but if you are accustomed to caring for them yourself, he will probably tell you what to do.

* * *

Give the telephone and electric companies ample notice of the move.

* * *

If you have a freezer, arrange with the locker plant to store the food during the move and utilize the time it is disconnected to defrost. In normal weather food can be moved long distances in the freezer without damage, if the box is kept shut. You can speed settling operations if you have frozen meals and sandwiches available.

* * *

Start collecting pasteboard cartons and newspapers a month in advance. You may be able to borrow mattress containers from a local store. Have plenty of heavy string and rope on hand.

* * *

Prepare an emergency box containgin screw driver, hammer, scissors, thumbtacks, shelf paper, needle, thread, tape measure, Band-Aids, washcloth and towel, tea towel, cold drinks and cookies.

Power From Sound

It's said that 68-year-old George Constantinesco, the man who invented the device for firing through the first world war, believes it may one day be possible to run the world by propellers of aeroplanes during the sound.

At present he is busy in his workshop by Lake Coniston developing sonic motors. He claims that by transmitting power by sound-waves he can run factories, heat water and drive ships.

"But," says Constantinesco, "perhaps I am a little ahead of my time. I'm sure this development will come sooner or later."

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