

THE CALVERT SPORTS COLUMN

by Elmer Ferguson

SELECTING BY vote the one considered, rightly or wrongly, as the outstanding athlete of the year, male and female, is a comparatively easy chore, for the reason that your memory isn't overtaxed in making the selection. It isn't very difficult to look over your shoulder, 12 months back, and name the stand-out, because they're still fresh in your memory.

But suppose you get involved in one of those pointless arguments, pointless because unprovable, about who was the greatest in any one sport over the years, not the year, and then your headaches begin. For instance:

Who is Mister Baseball?

Or Mister Boxing . . . or Football . . . or even Mister (or Mrs.) Racing?

What name comes to mind first when the talk turns to those sports—the all-time hero through the years?

No man or group has ever given the answer, but the arguments make the best fuel when the hot stove league opens up the damper.

The greatest names of sport are not always the finest performers. They do, however, combine ability with the most valuable asset—cost.

Babe Ruth not only hit more home runs than any other man, but every move he made was news. Even his famous stomach-ache. The Bambino was probably the most colorful figure ever to hit baseball. Many declare Joe DiMaggio a greater player, and of course there are legends who insist that Ty Cobb, with his breath-taking speed on the base, and his deadly hitting, and his daring was in a class by himself. And he oozed color, too. To which the Rubensians retort that the Babe was a great pitcher, a catcher, a first-rate outfielder and the greatest home-run hitter of all.

Was Jack Dempsey the top figure in boxing's history? Veteran ring fans insist Jim Jeffries was a better heavyweight champ. Fitzsimmons a harder hitter. Jim Corbett more skilled. The Sullivan was more boisterous. Yet no one has approached the Dempsey attracted and few have matched the slaying fury of the colorful Mauler in the Willard or Fitzo fights. Who gets the nod in boxing?

Since the dawn of football, the fans have fought over their favorites. They bring up Jim Thorpe the Carlisle Indian who plugging and kicking are legendary. Jim has made virtually every all-star eleven listed. But they can't forget Red Grange, the Gallop and Ghost. And in Canada they say that Lionel Conacher was probably the soul of either, and a far greater all-around athlete than Grange.

Racing has its immortals in Citation, Exterminator and Sea Biscuit. Yet most racing fans in America start and finish with one name—Man o' War. The jockey heroes will be Ted Sloan, Earl Sande and right on down to Johnny Longden and Eddie Arco.

Track and field has produced many great names—Olympic and world champions. Who comes first? Is it Charlie Paddock, the "world's fastest man," or Pavo Nurmi, the inscrutable Finn, or fleet Jesse Owens, the scourge of the Nazis in the '36 Olympics? Or Clarence DeMar, seven times winner of the grueling Boston marathon?

What of golf? Is it Bobby Jones, the only man ever to win the "Grand Slam" or Walter Hagen or today's Ben Hogan, Tomia and Bill Tilden, wrestling and Frank Gotch or Ed (Strangler) Lewis.

You want headache? Pick 'em yourself.

Your comments and suggestions for this column will be welcomed by Elmer Ferguson, c/o Calvert House, 43 Yonge St., Toronto.

Calvert DISTILLERS LIMITED

AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO

How Can I?

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I shrink dress goods?

A. Dress goods may be very easily shrunk by placing it folded in a tub of cold water, to which a few handfuls of salt have been added. After a few hours, hang on the line without folding. The weight of the water prevents wrinkles drying in, and the salt sets the color.

Q. How can I render wood waterproof?

A. Soak it in a mixture consisting of 6 parts boric acid, 5 parts ammonium chloride, 3 parts sodium borate, and 100 parts water.

Q. What can I do when cream refuses to whip?

A. Try adding the white of an egg to it. Let both cream and egg be thoroughly chilled before attempting to whip.

Q. How can I prepare better gravy?

A. Use water in which mild flavored vegetables have been cooked, for the gravy, rather than fresh water. A finer flavor will be the result, and it is also an economy as the water contains valuable minerals.

Q. How can I remove marks from stone steps and window sills?

A. Rub with a piece of coarse sandpaper. After rubbing, dust off with a cloth or duster. Stone clean-

ed in this way stays white much longer than by using water.

Q. How can I remove kerosene spots from cloth?

A. If kerosene has been spilled on cloth, scrub the spot with turpentine, then with soap and warm water.

Q. How can I treat hardwood floors that have become scarred with dark marks from rockers or furniture casters?

A. Rub the marks with very fine steel wool, dipped in quite soapy water. Rub with clear water, and then apply a good furniture polish.

Q. How can I increase the quantity of soap on hand without weakening it by adding water?

A. Keep a box of bouillon cubes on hand for this purpose. Add two cubes to two cups of water, to increase the quantity of soap without detracting from its flavor.

Q. How can I blacken tan leather?

A. Try rubbing the leather thoroughly with the inside of a raw potato. Let dry and then polish.

Q. How can I wipe frosted glass for a window?

A. Clean the glass with gasoline. Then cover with white tissue paper which fits exactly and apply clear waterproof varnish thinned 25 per cent with turpentine. The varnish soaks through the paper, sticking it to the glass, and thus effecting a frosted window.

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Treat For Dog Lovers—Some of the most outstanding dogs in Canada and the United States will be seen in the Coliseum, Toronto, during the two dog shows being held in conjunction with the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show, March 19-20 and 21-22, for the benefit of the Toronto Humane Society. Here Sheila Watson, with a prized Yorkshire Terrier, gets ready for the big canine exhibition.

Don't Overcook Those Vegetables

Fresh vegetables are year 'round favorites, and especially so this time of year, and now we like to make the most of them.

Cook only enough for one meal unless you plan use of left-over in salad next day. Reheating reduces vitamin content. Don't use too much water when boiling, it also reduces precious minerals and vitamins.

Vegetables parings should be paper-thin. And the best way to accomplish this is with trick parer . . . quick too. Don't soak vegetables. Prepare just before cooking if possible, or else keep in 'frig. out of water with exception of potatoes, until time to use them.

Start cooking with boiling water, then add vegetables bringing quickly to a boil. Keep lid tight on pan to shorten cooking time, save on vitamins. If you must keep cooked vegetables a few minutes after draining, set pan in pan of boiling water.

Vegetables are best when cooked until tender crisp . . . as a rule don't cook them as long as you think you should.

Legalized Robbery

No matter how thin it is sliced, inflation is legalized robbery.

Selected groups can be protected against it to some extent by parity programs or escalator wage clauses. But the advantage of these groups merely make it tougher for the non-protected groups. The cost of parity supports or wage escalators comes out of the hides of those on fixed incomes, unorganized workers, and stockholders.

As I have said, limited application of such protective devices does not necessarily mean inflation. It is merely robbing Peter to pay Paul. But we are asked to believe that through some kind of financial sleight-of-hand Paul can be paid without robbing Peter. The only source of new purchasing power in the amounts that would be required for this kind of financial bootstrap levitation is the government.

Those on fixed incomes, the unorganized workers, and the owners of the tools of industry would still be behind the eight-ball. The burden of an inflation on the scale of parity supports or wage escalators comes out of the hides of those on fixed incomes, unorganized workers, and stockholders.

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