

14 SPRING CONTESTS FOR OKLAHOMA CITY

INDIANS' TRAINING PROGRAM RUNS SCALE ALL WAY TO YANKEES

Hillin and Hamel Giving Prexy Holland Contract Problem; Ray Moss Wants to Stay in Southern League

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—The most ambitious pre-season program ever undertaken by an Oklahoma City club has been announced by John Hillin, club president, and the Indians will enter the 1937 Texas League race with 14 exhibition games under their belts. These will include 11 tilts either at the Jacksonville, Tex., training base, or on visits to other spring camps, and three in Oklahoma City. A fifteenth date is open and probably will be filled soon.

In addition to these games, there will be two big league exhibitions at Holland Field in Oklahoma City, the Pittsburgh Pirates meeting the Chicago White Sox here on April 12 and the Chicago Cubs playing the St. Louis Browns on April 13. Included in the Indians' pre-season schedule are the following games:

March 20-21—Fort Worth at Jacksonville; March 22-23—St. Paul at Marshall; March 24-25—Fort Worth at Fort Worth; March 27-28—Dallas at Dallas; March 30-31—Tulsa at Seguin; April 1-2—Minneapolis at New Braunfels; April 8—New York Yankees at Oklahoma City; April 10-11—St. Paul at Oklahoma City.

Open Season at Home, April 16. This heavy spring program will clear the baseball stage for the opening of the Texas League season with the Indians in Tulsa on April 14 and 15 and the prying off of the lid at home.

Owner Holland carries a belief, inherited from his father, the late John Holland, Sr., that the best way to condition a team for a pennant race is a heavy schedule of games. With only a few nine-inning contests before the season last year, the Indians faced the barrier in poor condition.

The first games come only two weeks after the winter Tribal camp has assembled at the Jacksonville camp. The pitchers, catchers, club officials and newspapermen will leave Oklahoma City on March 7 for the camp and work will start the next day. A week later they will be joined by the remainder of the 30 players on the roster.

Two definite hold-outs have developed. Outfielder Peck Hamel, secured from Atlanta, and Pitcher Ash Hillin, bought from San Antonio, both have expressed dissatisfaction with the pay offered them and Pitcher Ray Moss, secured in a trade with Knoxville, has asked that he be transferred back to some Southern Association club, in order that he may look after his business interests in Chattanooga.

The first game will be played at home by Manager Jim Keesey, Shortstop Lou Brower, Pitcher Jack Brillheart, Clay Touchstone and Homer Davis. Third Baseman Jim Stroter, Rookie Infielder Al Summers and Rookie Catcher Marvin McNulty.

Borgmann Named Manager of Cards' Mid-Atlantic Farm
PORTSMOUTH, O.—Benny Borgmann, veteran second baseman who managed Huntington in the Mid-Atlantic League last season, has been named pilot of the new Portsmouth club in the same circuit, it has been announced by Sam Pollitano, Portsmouth business manager. Branch Rickey of the St. Louis Cardinals recently transferred the Huntington franchise to this city.

The 35-year-old Borgmann, who can play second, short or third, has had considerable success at Huntington the last two years. In 1935, he piloted the Red Birds to the first-half championship and then beat the Dayton Ducks, second-half champions, in the play-off for the league title. Borgmann played shortstop and was considered the best in the league at that position, being named on the all-star team.

Last season, the Red Birds failed to finish in the money in either half, but Borgmann's individual play did not suffer. He was even better season at second base than the previous year at shortstop, batting .314.

ON THE AIR LINES
Arrangements have been completed in St. Louis for the broadcasting of the games of the Cardinals, whereby Johnny O'Hara, under the sponsorship of General Mills, will play the game by radio from the station KWKW, and France Laux, sponsored by Kellogg, for KMOX. It is understood each station is paying the Cardinals \$7,500 for the privilege, the same as last year with Sunday and holiday games excluded. Final arrangements for the coverage of the Browns' games have been held up, pending an agreement as to price.

Following a conference with Old Gold cigarette officials, his new sponsors, Bob Elson of Station WGN, Chicago, is heading for the Pacific Coast to view at first hand spring training activities of the Cubs and White Sox, preparatory to embarking on his fourteenth straight season as announcer.

Lou Chiozza, New York Giants' third baseman, appeared as guest star on the radio sports program of Bob Phipps, WGN, Memphis Commercial-Appeal station, last week, before departing for his team's camp at Havana, and among other things predicted that the Giants and Yankees would again meet in the World Series of 1937. Chiozza said that Carl Hubbell, noted Cincinnati pitcher, was harder to hit than Dizzy Dean of the Cardinals, although admitting that Dean thrunked a meeting on one. Chiozza rated Bill Terry, Paul Waner and Mel Ott as the champions of present day hitters. His biggest thrill, he said, came last year with Philadelphia when he made 12 hits in 17 trips against the Giants.

Three of the five play-by-play accounts of the games of Chicago Cubs and White Sox this season will be sponsored by breakfast food makers, the oil company and the other by a cigarette firm. Wheaties has station WBBM; Kellogg's, WJJD; Goldies, WIND; Texaco, WCRN, and Old Gold Cigarettes, WGN. It is understood that Old Gold, which replaces the Walgreen drug chain on the station, is paying WGN approximately \$25,000 for the privilege.

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Lee Handley, Hero of House That Buc 'Jack' Built, Made Way Against Hardships as Boy



Player, Who Bought \$13,000 Home for Widowed Mother Out of Money Pirates Gave Him for Signing, Worked in Restaurant to Go to College

By FRED W. TUERK
Sports Editor Peoria Star

PEORIA, Ill.—When Judge Keneas M. Landis, Organized Ball's high commissioner, declared Lee Handley a free agent, he paved the way for the former Bradley College star to carry out one of the finest and most generous acts ever made by a rising young player—the purchase of a home for his widowed mother, who had sacrificed many pleasures to give her children their chance in life. As fans already know, Handley, who leaped from the Bradley campus here to big time in approved Horatio Alger fashion, took advantage of his free status to sign with the Pittsburgh Pirates for \$20,000, but not many are aware of the fact that the check had no sooner been received than Lee took \$13,000 of the money, put it into the house and furnishings and told his mother, "This is yours, mom."

Handley was born at Clarion, Ia., but the family moved to St. Louis, Mo., where Lee and two younger brothers, Gene, attended Soldan High. His father died in 1931 and it was tough sledding for the Handleys. Lee and Gene eventually came here and worked their way through Bradley. They toiled in a rooming house and in payment received living quarters; they served in a restaurant for their meals and did odd jobs about the campus for their tuition.

Mrs. Lulu A. Handley, the mother, at length moved to Peoria with her third son, E. A. Handley. When Lee and Gene finally hit the baseball trail, Mrs. Handley

went back to St. Louis, but hard times have passed and the entire family is now quartered at 608 West Lawndale, Peoria, where stands the \$13,000 monument set up by Lee.

"Judge Landis' ruling in making me a free agent was the biggest and best surprise I have ever had," said Lee the other day, as he lounged back in his den, which is specially reserved for the trophies of boyhood. "I wasn't particularly eager to leave the Cincinnati Reds, with whom I originally signed, but when the judge made his ruling, I naturally made the best of the opportunity to cash in on my services. So I sold myself to the highest bidder."

"I first heard rumors last June that because of the handling of my contract by Cincinnati, I was to be made a free agent. I finished the year with Toronto, came back to Peoria and then received the good news in December."

He Chose From Among 11 Offers. Lee revealed that 11 major league clubs had made offers to him before he finally signed with Pittsburgh at the minor league meeting in Montreal.

As Toronto's third sacker in 1935, he batted .272. Last year, he rapped National League pitching for a .308 mark as the Reds' second baseman before being farmed back to Toronto, where he compiled an average of .301.

Eagerly awaiting the spring trip to San Bernardino, Cal., with the Buccaneers, Lee believes he has a splendid chance to win the keystone assignment. His rival for the job is Floyd Young.

"I think the Pirates have a good chance to win the pennant," said Handley, "if they get the pitching they had two years ago and the hitting they got last year. The addition of Brandt should bolster the pitching staff."

Thrilled at Playing Next to Vaughan. Lee is elated at being able to play for Traynor. "He's one of the swiftest fellows in the game," says the ex-collegian, who thrills at the prospect of being lined up next to Arky Vaughan in the Pirate keystone combination.

Naturally, Lee delights in browsing around the new Handley home, located



GOOD business men come and good business men go in the ranks of major league ball, but few ever started with the record for astuteness of Lee Handley, infielder of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who obtained \$20,000 from the Buccaneers for signing after Commissioner Landis freed him from his Cincinnati contract obligations, because of alleged optioning irregularities. Hardly had Lee received the windfall from the Pirates than he began shopping around for a home for his widowed mother, where he and his two brothers might also live. (1) The house situated in a new residential district of Peoria, Ill. Handley saw that it was completely furnished from cellar to upstairs bedrooms. (2) A young fellow coming into dough, of course, couldn't pass up a little pleasure and luxury for himself, so he bought an automobile. (3) Lee, as he looked dressed in as a Red, last spring. (4) The Handleys—all of them—comfortably situated in their new home. Standing, youngest of the boys, who prefers to be known as "E. A.," and is a student at Bradley Tech in Peoria, alma mater of his older brothers. Next, Gene, who batted .401 for Mt. Airy last summer and joins Durham this spring; Mrs. Handley and Lee.

In a newly-built section of the city, before making his getaway with the Bucs for their camp in California. The house has two stories and contains seven rooms. In addition to his own den, Lee has a recreation room. The house is air-conditioned and has practically every accommodation available. Following his success, the new Pirate is keenly interested in the progress of his

NEW SACRAMENTO CLUB CAPITAL ONE--KILLEFER

Pilot Says Busher Idea Is Ancient History; Will Visit Johnny Vergez, Who Is Said to Plan Retirement

SACRAMENTO, Cal.—It's baseball blossom time in Sacramento, with sunny days and incoming contracts and players turning fans' minds toward the prospect of happy times at Cardinals' Field. Manager Bill Killefer rolled into town on February 17 from the snow country around Port Chester, Pa., on orders of Branch Rickey and now that he is here, the work of organization for the new season has begun. It was a vastly different outlook for Killefer, as compared to that of last year, when he was forced to accede to a busher club idea from the Cardinal higher-ups.

Said Bill, in giving his own views on the 1937 outlook: "This is a different year. We will have a club that will not have to be excused under the cloak of innocence and inexperience. I won't have to go down alleys and stay off the streets this summer. We'll be hard to beat. This may sound like a chamber of commerce speech, but it's the real dope. I know what I've got coming."

Bill was reminded that the Cardinal office announced the acquisition of a Western League first baseman—Dutch Prather, from Omaha, while Bill was on the train heading west. "I don't know Prather," he said, "but I can say he'll have to measure up, or else. In fact, I don't think our first baseman has been really announced yet."

Bordagary Still a Cardinal. When asked about the possibility of Frenchy Bordagary being sent here from St. Louis to fill the gap in center field, Killefer said he knew nothing about any such plan, though it was possible the deal with Brooklyn had been made in behalf of Sacramento. Insofar as Bordagary was concerned, Killefer is "sold" on Nick Culp and said he was certain a first-class outfielder would be assigned to help Culp. Buster Adams and Lou Verzelich.

Bartelme and Killefer will make the rounds of San Francisco and Oakland to contact several players in person, among them Johnny Vergez, who is reported thinking about quitting the game to devote his full time to a cleaning and pressing establishment in Alameda, Cal. The Solons will report at Riverside, Cal., for spring training on March 8. Killefer will take the pitchers and catchers to Elsinore Springs, a Southern California resort, on March 1 for a week's conditioning.

The signing of Prather, on the surface, completes the infield for the Sacs, with Art Garibaldi, Dibrrell Williams and Vergez filling out the horn and Frank Morehouse as utility.

The catching will be cared for by Tom Cooper and Cap Clark, newcomers here. The pitchers are Tony Freitas, Tom Seats and Bill Seinsath, left-handers, and Dick Newsome, Bob Kingler, King Murray, Henry Phippen and Bill Schmidt, right-handers. STEVE GEORGE.

brothers and is confident that they will make the grade and wind up in the Big Time. Gene still belongs to the Reds, but is at present on the roster of the Durham club of the Piedmont League. Last year with Mt. Airy, N. C., he hit .403 and was second high batter in the many minor leagues scattered about the nation.

Gene didn't play ball until he came to Bradley, but under the able direction of Athletic Director A. J. Robertson, to whom Lee pays great tribute, Gene developed rapidly.

The youngest boy of the trio now attends Manual High here and is on this year's basketball squad. He likes baseball, is fast, has large hands and shows signs of becoming much taller and heavier than Lee and Gene.

This picture, of course, is painted from the gloomy side. Castleman and Schumacher may slip back to their 1935 stride. Gabler may win again, as he did in late July and early August, Al Smith's sore arm may have mended and maybe Gumbert and Melton will rate starting jobs. Or maybe some unknown may pop into the limelight and steal the show. TOM MEANY.

TERRYMEN IN CUBA, BUT TERRY IS LATE

GIANTS' PILOT DELAYED AT MEMPHIS HOME BECAUSE OF FLU

Snyder and Luque Take Charge of Early Activities; Problems of First and Third Still Unsolved

HAVANA, Cuba.—For the first time since he was a player and a perennial holdout, Bill Terry was not on hand as the Giants opened their spring training for 1937 in this city. The manager of the National League champions usually is at the training site well in advance of the reporting date, but influenza interfered with his plans this trip. Terry is confined to his home in Memphis, recovering from a bout with the flu, but is expected here soon.

Fancho Snyder, Terry's trusted lieutenant, and Dolfo Luque, the old cabellero, are handling the early workouts of the Giants.

When Terry does arrive, he will find a number of problems confronting him, not the least of which is four unsigned players. Jo Jo Moore, the thin man; Dick Bartell, Hank Leiber and Harry Danning are the players whose contracts have not been received and it is expected they will bring the papers along with them.

Terry is by no means settled on his first baseman and there is no guarantee that Lou Chiozza will be able to make receive a thorough test. In extension of the Italian, it must be said that it was the myriad of difficulties confronting the Phillies, rather than any visible shortcoming on Chiozza's part, which caused Manager Jimmy Wilson to shift him so frequently.

First Base Another Big Problem. Terry has gone out on a limb for John (Slick) McCarthy, the Newark purchase. Despite the fact that McCarthy hit only .267 in the International League, the manager of the Giants declares that Johnny will hit enough to get by in the big time. However, lumbering Sambo Leslie, the wounded lion of last season, can't lightly be read out of the party. Leslie is a real hitter and his bat may win him the job in the face of McCarthy's admittedly superior fielding.

Les Powers, the Baltimore acquisition, doesn't figure in the plans at the moment. And then there is Terry himself, who is not yet on the inactive list, and may do a job on the base if his knees permit. One guess will be as good as another until the training season is farther advanced.

The pitching set-up of the Giants is rather scrambled, too. Carl Hubbell and Freddy Fitzsimmons thundered down the home stretch, winning 25 of their last 27 starts between them, but that was about all. Slick Castleman and Hal Schumacher can't be rated until it is determined if they have recovered from their disabilities of last season, while Frank Gabler was shaky in the final months. Harry Gumbert didn't have many complete games to his credit, and Cliff Melton may or may not be ready.

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TOM MEANY.

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