SPORT ECHOES

BY NORMAN MACDONALD

Have you read the story "The Firing Man?" It tells of a fellow who got a job in a department store, and the same day he was called in, in front of a customer, angrily denounced, and fired. As he was leaving the building, he was re-hired. This firing routine took place every now and again, and he finally discovered what someone had forgotten to tell him —that that was his job. Whenever a wealthy customer expressed dissatisfaction with the service, the management put the blame on him and fired him in front of the customer in order to hold the customer's good will. Gump Worsley seems to be Phil Watson's "Firing Man". If the Rangers lost a game, it's Gump's fault. Worsley played a standout game last Saturday night in Montreal, but that didn't matter. If the team loses, Gump Worsley's a bum, according to Watson. As a coach, Phil Watson may be colorful, but if you ask us, he smells a little too.

Minor hockey and baseball programs in Summerside, and of course in other centres too, have, as we see it, a two-fold purpose. First and no doubt foremost, keeping the children occupied and interested in healthful, clean recreation, and developing character by promoting good sportsmanship, co-operation, "team over individual" companies, etc. Here in Summerside we don't know if any youngster has been transformed into a Horatio Alger "our herd" or not, but we think it would be reasonable to say that the program here is at least moderately successful. In both baseball and hockey the kids are kept busy, and although there are no statistics in delinquency to show if a significant drop has been in evidence, we think it would have to be argued that when the boys are kept busy at worth-while activities they are getting into less mischief.

The other purpose is to develop good baseball and hockey players, who will represent our town with honor and credit, and perhaps occasionally go on to higher brackets, and thus give added lustre to the town of Summerside in the sports world. If they are worrying about Canada as a whole and her place in the world sports picture, why shouldn't we also be concerned with Summerside's place in at least the Maritime sports picture? For the first purpose you need a leader whose character is above reproach, and who is able to get along with youth. For the second purpose you need a man with the above qualifications also, but in addition one who knows the game from the ground (or ice) up, and who is able to transmit his knowledge and skills to his young charges.

Summerside is fortunate in having a man like Windy Steele for this job. If he were put in charge of young hockey players from, say, Bantam to Junior ages, we predict he would show results that would be clearly evident to everyone. The town council and the S.A.A.A. have been most generous in their finacing of the summer program. It seems to us that there is room for improvement in the hockey program, as compared to baseball. This is particularly true since such a competent leader is here and presumably could be secured.

Two AL Hurlers Challenge Newk's Hitting Supremacy

NEW YORK (AP) — Cincinnati's Don Newcombe continued to display his prowess at bat in 1959 but his hitting supremacy among pitchers was challenged by a pair of American Leaguers, Camilo Pascual of Washington and Jim Perry of Cleveland.

Big Newk finished with a .308 batting average, according to statistics released by The Associated Press Thursday, to top the National League's hitting pitchers. Pascual, a .158 batter in 1958, led the American League with .302 and Perry, a rookie, was next with .300.

The leaders were based on 50 or more at bats.

Newcombe, the major league leader in 1958 with a .361 average, boosted his lifetime mark five points to .275 in nine seasons. The 33-year-old lefthanded swinger compiled 32 hits, most among hurlers, in 104 trips.

Among his hits were two doubles and three homers. He had five hits in 20 at bats as a pinch - hitter and his 21 runs batted in also was tops for pitchers. Newcombe's lifetime home run output is 15.

Pascual collected a hit in his last at bat to wind up above .300, during the season, collected 26 The 25-year-old righthander, who had an eight-game batting streak hits in 86 at bats. Perry had 15-for-50.

Warren Spahn of Milwaukee connected for two homers among his 24 hits, giving him 23 home runs in 14 seasons. He batted .231.

Bud Daley of Kansas City just missed the select .300 circle. He delivered 23 hits in 79 at bats ofr a .291 average and drove in 13 a .291 average and drove in 13 runs.

The Dodgers' Don Drysdale, who tied Newcombe's National League record by hitting seven home runs in 1958, again topped the majors in that department with four homers. He also batted in 12 runs but produced only a .165 average. Jerry Casale of the Boston Red Sox had the most homers in the American loop, three.

Bob Purkey of Cincinnati and Bob Grim of Kansas City were the only pitchers to wallop a home run with the bases full.

Can. Victory Hopes Suffer Big Setback

TORONTO (CP)—Hopes for a Canadian victory in Saturday's running of the $60,000 Canadian Championship received a stunning setback at noon Thursday when New Providence was withdrawn from the autumn classic.

New Providence, owned by Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Taylor and winner of $80,000 in purses this season, might have been the first Canadian-bred horse to win the Canadian Championship since 1951.

Joe Thomas, manager of the Taylor stable, announced that an injury has forced the withdrawal of the horse. New Providence rapped one leg in a brilliant workout over the grass course last Monday. At the time, the injury was considered to be only trivial and stable connection had been expecting the colt to run "the race of his life" on Saturday.

As late as Wednesday there was every indication that New Providence would be in top form for Saturday's race. When the slight filling in his leg still was apparent Thursday morning it was decided to scratch the horse rather than risk ruining a potentially brilliant career.

Etcheverry, Hugo Are Candidates

MONTREAL (CP) — Montreal Alouettes announced Thursday that quarterback Sam Etcheverry and centre Tom Hugo are the Als' candidates for the Jeff Russel trophy.

Each club of the Big Four football league names two candidates and the trophy goes to the player adjudged by league officials as best combining clean play and sportsmanship.

Rigney Is Rehired To Pilot Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Bill Rigney Thursday was re-hired to manage the San Fancisco Giants for the 1960 baseball season.

President Horace Stoneham told a press conference that Rigney would have a one - year contract with the same terms of the pact he held for the 1958 and 1959 seasons.

The terms were not divulged.

The president said that actually he had discussed the one year contract with Rigney during the final home series here.

He told the newsmen:

he had discussed the one year contract with Rigney during the Giants' final home series here.

He told the newsmen:

"'You made this a bigger announcement than I had thought it would be."

There had been widespread conjecture on whether Rigney would again manage the team although all signs pointed to it.

"I asked him to consider staying another year at the same terms," Stoneham said. "It was agreeable. But we decided it was not important enough to make an announcement at that time. I see now where perhaps we should have."

Rigney attended the press conference with members of the coaching staff and Giant officials.

The last Giant home series ended Sept. 20.

POSITIVE PROGRAM

VATICAN CITY (Reuters)—Pope John has told Italian journalists that the Roman Catholic press justified its existence by a "positive program" for present-day problems.

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Hunter's Coroner

(Continued from page 8)

geese paid no attention so long as they remained in the cars. They were leary of strangers walking toward them but paid no attention to the farmer or his son.

THE SERPENTS

There are always the serpents in any Garden of Eden and in this instance they took the form of goose hunters. . .now don't get me wrong there are some goose hunters who are also sportsmen but not this clique. The farmer had to erect a scarecrow in one of his back stubble and eventually had to plough it up. Hunters started sneaking up on the geese under cover of darkness and would run to a nearby woods when the farmer went to investigate a disturbance among the birds. They even followed the geese to the stubble between the buildings and the highway. At dusk one evening the farmer caught a City hunter crawling along a weedy fence row with a shotgun and he was almost close enough for a killing shot, when the farmer caught him. I asked him why he didn't prefer a charge against him under the Migratory Bird Regulations and the reply was:

"He didn't disturb the geese for I stopped him before he fired." "Listen," was my comment, "you're inviting trouble in Box Car letters. The 'intent' was there and next time you may not be so lucky. That's like a burglar caught blowing a bank safe and getting let off with a pat on the back and an admonition not to try the same trick again because he wasn't successful in breaking in to the money.

SPECIFIC FLYAWAY

When flying to salt water the geese have a specific flyway that takes them over the west side of the McCabe property to the south. I told the farmer he had to stiffen up on his attitude if he wished to avoid trouble for the set-up he had created was nothing more or less but an 'Invitation to Murder' The break came Wednesday evening. A beige coloured Coach, a 1953 or 54 Plymouth or Dodge, had been easing the set-up every day for some time past. The geese pay no attention to a car for hundreds pass every day. At 5.15 p.m. on Wednesday evening when there were approximately 200 geese bedded down in the stubble about a hundred yards from the highway the same Beige coloured Coach passed at a fair clip when the whole flock erupted into the air as if a bomb was set off under them. A 22 cal. rifle bullet smacked into their midst would, cause just such reaction. The gunners to the south must have been lined up in readiness for a volley of shots rang out just after they crossed the farmer's south line. At least two geese were seen to fall.

The farmer called on me the same night. He stated that if such actions continued he'd have to sell or otherwise dispose of his domesticated Canadas and drive the wildgeese off his premises. He stated he was not concerned if geese were shot to the south if they made flights of their own accord during shooting hours. If this concentration of geese is broken up hundreds and hundreds of interested citizens will be deprived of witnessing a heart warming sight that would not only be of interest to themselves but a wonderful opportunity for their children to study the noblest of game birds at first hand. There are some people that do not know the meaning of: "Playing the Game.'

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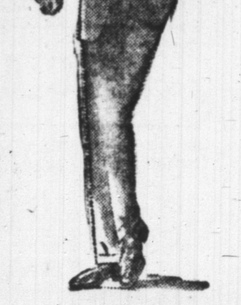

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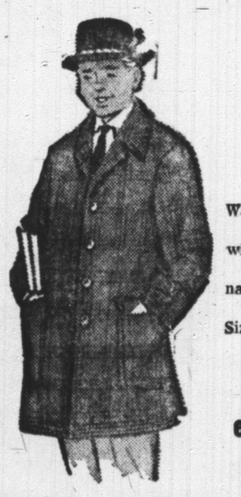

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