

GENE MACK'S
Hall of Fame
CARTOONS

MAJOR LEAGUE BALL PARKS

50
CENTS



This on-line edition of Gene Mack's booklet is provided by *Old Cardboard* magazine

(www.oldcardboard.com)



Gene Mack, left, author of Hall of Fame cartoons, poses with an old friend, Connie Mack of the Philadelphia Athletics.

Meet the Author

GENE MACK, whose cartoons have spiced the sports pages of the *Boston Globe* for more than 35 years, created his masterpiece when he penned his version of the major league ball parks.

Gene's real name is Eugene G. McGillicuddy, a distant relative of Cornelius McGillicuddy, the famous "Connie Mack," manager of the Philadelphia Athletics for half a century.

Gene was born in North Cambridge, Mass., and has always idolized Connie, a Brookfield, Mass., product, who made good in baseball, Gene's favorite game.

During the years he has followed the fortunes of Boston's two big league clubs — the Braves and Red Sox — Gene has developed a technique of describing games that has been copied by many in his profession, but equalled by none.

In a typical Gene Mack cartoon, as the sketches in this series will reveal, the reader can gaze at a tiny figure of a ballplayer and immediately identify him, even though the player's name is not attached thereto.

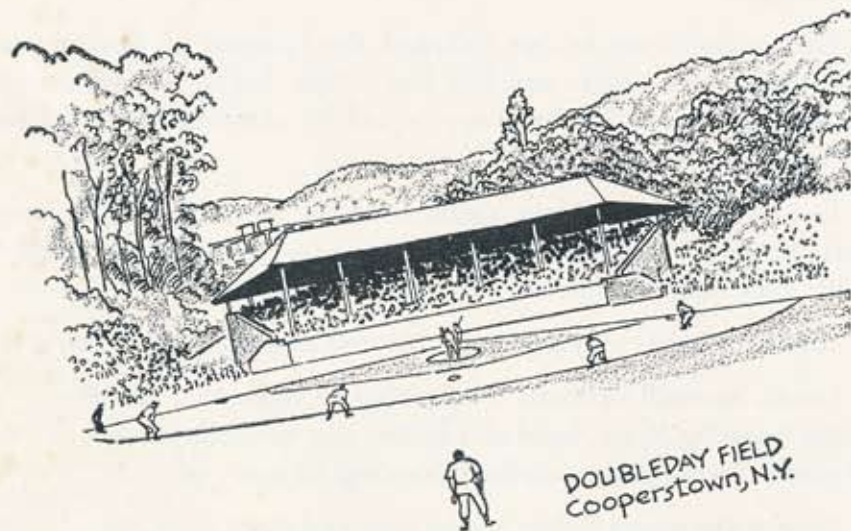
It's a knack that only a gifted artist and expert on sports could possess.

Gene's baseball cartoons are familiar to readers of the *Boston Globe* and the *Sporting News*, baseball's bible. But his ability is not confined to that game. He produces excellent drawings of every other sport as well.

Gene is the proud father of two sons and three daughters.

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*Here's one of the many
reasons for this book*



DOUBLEDAY FIELD
Cooperstown, N.Y.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL of FAME
and MUSEUM, INC.

Cooperstown, New York

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May 9, 1950

Mr. Gene Mack, Cartoonist
Boston Globe
Boston 7, Massachusetts.

Dear Gene Mack:

Your cartoons have had a wonderful following since we put them up in the Hall of Fame. Personally, I wonder why you do not put them in book form and have them distributed throughout the country. They are historical and cover, as completely as anyone could, the different baseball parks and the many odd things which happen in these parks.

I am sure from the interest displayed in your cartoons here that you should have quite a following throughout the country.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

Bob Quinn
Director

Introduction

"Gene Mack's cartoons will live forever in the memory of thousands of readers who have enjoyed them."

Thus wrote Jerry Nason, sports editor of the *Boston Globe*, in appraisal of the Hall of Fame cartoons, which are herewith produced in book form to fill a demand for the drawings that has never ceased since they were penned four years ago.

"There have been many agile pen pushers who have cartooned the sport of baseball over the years, some of them quite famous," Nason went on. "Until Gene Mack came along there never was one completely equipped to grapple with such an exacting assignment as is represented by these ball park sketches."

Hailed by thousands of the game's followers as a rare baseball treasure, Gene Mack's original cartoons of the major league ball parks were requested by the directors of the Hall of Fame. They now adorn the walls of the baseball shrine at Cooperstown, N. Y.

Until this printing they were available in book form only in New England and through the pages of the *Boston Globe* and the *Sporting News*.

The author has brought each cartoon up to date, augmenting the series with baseball gems that occurred since the first printing.

Ford C. Frick, President of the National League, came to bat with this statement:

"Gene Mack's work on the National League parks rates more than one orchid, particularly for many of the old-timers. For, in this series, he has brought back memories of some of the outstanding happenings of the yester-year.

"There is enough of the humorous touch in Gene's work to bring many a chuckle.

"Frankly, I would say that a person fortunate enough to have this series by Gene Mack has a worthy condensed history of the league, with all the important incidents reported by an artist who not only is skillful with the pen, but is recognized as one of the best-informed about the game, both past and present."

Will Harridge, President of the American League, scored with this comment:

"Gene has done a remarkable job in recapturing, with his pen, a thousand memories of great plays and great names that go to make the history of our national game so fascinating to all fans, young and old.

"Fenway Park, Briggs Stadium, Comiskey Park — Ty Cobb's flashing spikes, the home run that Ted Williams smashed to win the 1941 All-Star game, the war-cry of Hughie Jennings, the drives of Babe Ruth, Jimmy Foxx, Lou Gehrig. What memories those names and feats conjure!

"To you, Gene, my sincere compliments on a fine job which qualifies on every count for the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown."

Gene Mack's famous series has been of untold value to those who follow baseball via radio and newspapers, to shut-ins and others who never have had the opportunity to enter a big league park.

Virtually every epic play in the game's history, including World Series' highlights, has been recorded for posterity in a manner far more arresting than the written word.

Gene Mack's book belongs in every sports library. Its pages will give hours of delightful reading to every American, from nine to ninety, who knows and loves the game. As a source of information and a fund of baseball lore, it is unique among sports publications.

Braves Field ♦ Boston Braves

TY COBB stood at home plate a few days before the dedication of Braves Field, Aug. 18, 1915, and predicted that a ball would never be batted over the fences. This prediction didn't quite prove true, but the distances to the outfield boundaries did present a problem that caused more foul line shifts and erection of more synthetic fences and screens than in any big league park in the country.

When the new park was built, the cement wall that marked the limit in left field was 396 feet from home plate, the distance to the extreme center field corner was 550 feet and to the right field bleachers, known as the "jury box," 375 feet.

With the famous Boston east wind blowing, the park was truly a pitcher's paradise. Center fielders, like Rabbit Powell and Eddie Brown, had field days, and many sluggers suggested that the place be given back to the Indians.

Almost any line drive hit between the center and right fielders was good for a triple and often a home run, but it was something like seven years before a ball was hit over the left field wall. Frank Snyder was the slugger and the ball cleared the premises at the foul pole in the extreme left field corner of the field. Walton Cruise hit the first circuit clout into the "jury box."

The clamor by fans for more home runs of the "over-the-fence" variety caused the first shift in the scenery. It was decided to shut off the wide-open spaces and build bleachers

in left and center, with 26 rows of seats, fronted by an eight-foot wall. This barrier was approximately 70 feet closer to the playing field. Furthermore, the diamond was shifted toward the right by some 25 feet, thus moving the right field foul pole well into the right field pavilion.

All this was planned in the Fall of 1927, when Shanty Hogan was being hailed as a new home run hero. Alas, when the new pint-sized park was opened in 1928, Hogan was a member of the Giants, going as part of a swap for Rogers Hornsby.

Home runs fell into that short bleachers like rain, most of them, unfortunately, from the bats of the visitors. By early June, 47 of the "Chinese" round-trippers had been recorded and it was decided to dismantle the whole thing as a bad job. During the "synthetic" bleacher period, Lester Bell, for the Braves' side, did cut himself in on a three-homer day, with a fourth wallop bouncing off a screen in right center.

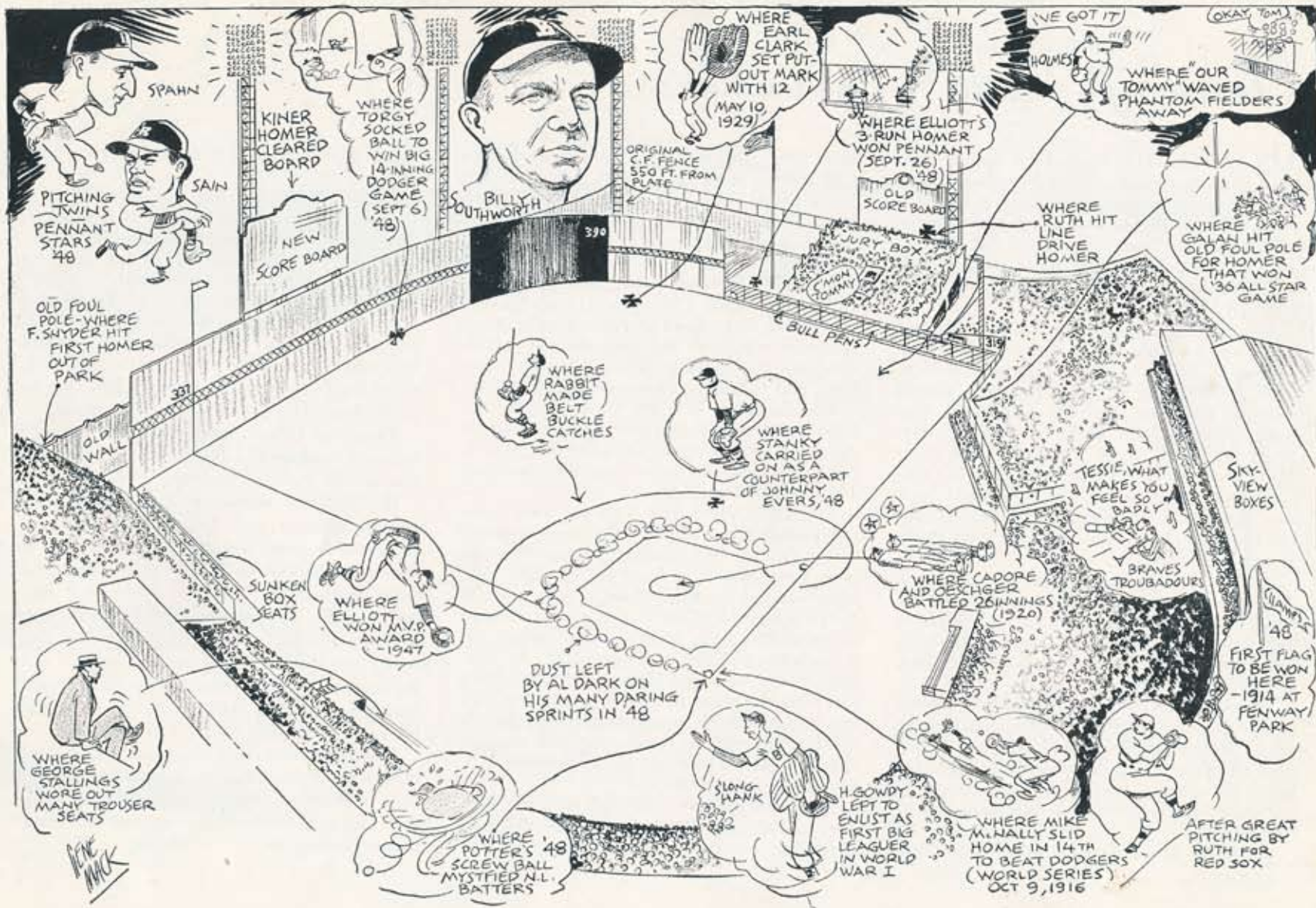
There have been many changes in the park since then, both in diamond shifts and new fences. The bleachers in left have gone and a high wall in left and left-center have been moved several times. Last year the Braves officials seemed to hit a happy medium. The curving fence measures 337 feet in left and 390 in center. Ten-foot screen, well out from the "jury box," measures 318 feet at the foul pole and makes a pretty fair target for left-handed hitters. The park seats approximately

40,000 and now boasts one of the finest lighting systems in the majors, also a mammoth scoreboard atop the left field wall.

The Red Sox used Braves Field for their World Series games in 1915 and 1916 and again when Sunday ball was legalized. At that time, the proximity of a church prevented the use of Fenway Park.

Until 1948 the Braves had never won a pennant at Braves Field, but the new owners, Perini, Rugo and Maney, are definitely on the march and in the not too distant future threaten to equal the feats of their predecessors of the "nineties," Conant, Soden and Billings, the triumvirate whose Boston Nationals of Collins, Duffy, Long and Tenney's time were the toast of the baseball world.

Some of the highlights that Boston fans like to recall are the "grand slam" by Wally Berger on the final day in 1933 that gave the Braves fourth place and a cut of the first division dough. . . . Earl Clark's busy day on May 10, 1929, when he established a put-out record with twelve catches in center field. . . . The 26-inning game between the Braves and Dodgers on May 1, 1920, with Oeschger and Cadore pitching the entire distance. . . . Babe Ruth's line drive homer in a Yankee-Red Sox Sunday game that hit the scoreboard, probably the hardest hit ever made at the field. . . . Babe's debut as a Brave in the opening game in 1935. . . . In typical Ruth fashion he won the game with a homer off Carl Hubbell and contributed a circus catch of a foul fly. . . .



Fenway Park ♦ Boston Red Sox

ON April 21, 1912, the Red Sox opened Fenway Park by nosing out the New York Highlanders, 7 to 6, in an 11-inning game. On May 17 amid flag raising, floral presentations and dignitaries from all parts of the baseball world, the place was formally dedicated with a defeat of the local Hose at the hands of the Chicago White Sox.

Meanwhile, several important revelations had come to light. It was discovered that the revamped Red Sox, second division club in 1911, were going to make it rough for all comers. Also that the left field wall, that looked mountainous high on opening day, could be "had." Hugh Bradley cleared it on April 26. Finally the treacherous-looking embankment at the base of the wall might be a stumbling block for visiting left fielders but not for an Alpine climber like our own Duffy Lewis.

The wall, much higher than the old fence at Huntington Av.; the cliff, the small bleachers in center field that seemed miles away and the slanting screen down which foul balls rolled, were features that attracted the fans at the opening game.

A steel single-deck grandstand swung around from behind first base to point beyond third. Adjoining the grandstand a covered pavilion stretched far down the right-field foul line. An opening beyond the grandstand in left gave fielders room to handle foul flies in that direction.

By World Series time the open spaces had

been filled with bleachers even along Duffy's Cliff where seats were built behind a low fence which called for ground rule two-baggers. These seats were pretty chummy for a right-handed hitter even in those days of the dead ball.

The park retained pretty much the same architecture until 1934, when Tom Yawkey introduced New Fenway Park, a magnificent structure which at the time seemed wholly adequate for housing Boston's baseball fandom, and is said to have cost \$2,000,000.

The Senators, with Joe Cronin in the villain's role, ruined the opening festivities on April 17, 1934, winning from the Sox, 6 to 5. Oddly enough, this game, like the opener in 1912, went 11 innings.

About five years later Tom did some more remodeling, this time in the reconstruction of the famous "Williamsburg" area. The bull pens were placed in front of the right field bleachers and the whole thing moved closer to the playing field. This change proved to be of no great advantage to left-handed hitters and it made for a slightlier playing field. As presently constructed the foul pole in left is 315 feet from the plate; in right it is only 302 feet, but it circles back rapidly and is 380 feet to the Sox bull pen. At the deepest part in right-center it is 420 feet and at the flagpole 379. Seating capacity is 34,474.

At Huntington Av., the club won the pennant in 1903 and 1904. In '03 they defeated Pittsburgh for the first world championship

and in 1904 the Giants refused to play the post-season series.

After winning the flag and world title in 1912 the club was sold in 1913 to Joe Lamin and under the aggressive leadership of Bill Carrigan won pennants in 1915 and 1916 together with the World Series gold.

Then came the disastrous Henry Frazee era. Although this theatrical magnate had a championship team in 1918 under Ed Barrow's leadership, he sold the cream of the Sox players to the Yankees. Ruth, Mays, Lewis, Dugan, Scott, Bush, Hoyt, were among the group.

Theatrical failures caused most of Frazee's financial troubles and brought about the sales that set the Red Sox back many years.

In 1924 the desperate American League officials induced Bob Quinn, then the very successful business manager of the Browns, to take over, backed by Mid-West money. The early death of the principal backer left Bob high and dry and with beastly luck in the way of rainy holidays and a disastrous fire that wiped out the left-field bleachers he sold out to Yawkey. With Eddie Collins as business manager, the club bought star players with the same speed that Frazee had sold them.

They also developed their own talent and built a team that Manager Joe Cronin piloted to a pennant in 1946. Under Joe McCarthy they fought to the final days in 1948 and 1949 before bowing out.

SCENE OF
ONLY A.L.
PLAY-OFF
(OCT 3, '48)

SITE OF
DUFFY'S
CLIFF
MADE
FAMOUS
BY DUFFY
LEWIS

FAMED
LEFT
FIELD
WALL

OOH-IT'S
OVER
WHERE
BRADLEY
HIT FIRST
FENWAY
HOMER
(APR. 26, '12)

SPOKE OLIVER CRAMER FLAGGY DOM
CENTER FIELD
BALL HAWKS

SNODGRASS'
UNFORTUNATE
MUFF ('12
SERIES)

WHERE
HOOPER
CATCH OFF
DOYLE SAVED
1912 SERIES

WHERE
TED'S HOMER
BROKE GENT'S
STRAW HAT
IN 37TH ROW
OF BLEACHERS

SIGN
THIS,
BABE?

OKAY
KID

WHERE KID
RAN ON FIELD
FOR RUTH'S
AUTOGRAPH

WHERE CRONIN DRIVE
OFF HALE'S HEAD TURNED
INTO TRIPLE PLAY

A DWARF RAN OUT
TO 3RD BASE WHEN
CLEVELAND'S "WILLIAMS
SHIFT" LEFT THE POSITION
UNCOVERED ('47)

WHERE
SPOKE STARTED
HIS FIELDING JAUNTS

DOERR

WHERE
MOELLER
JUST LOST
LEWIS HIT
WHICH WON BIG
WOOD-JOHNSON
DUEL, 1-0

MEGAPHONE
LOLLY"
HOPKINS

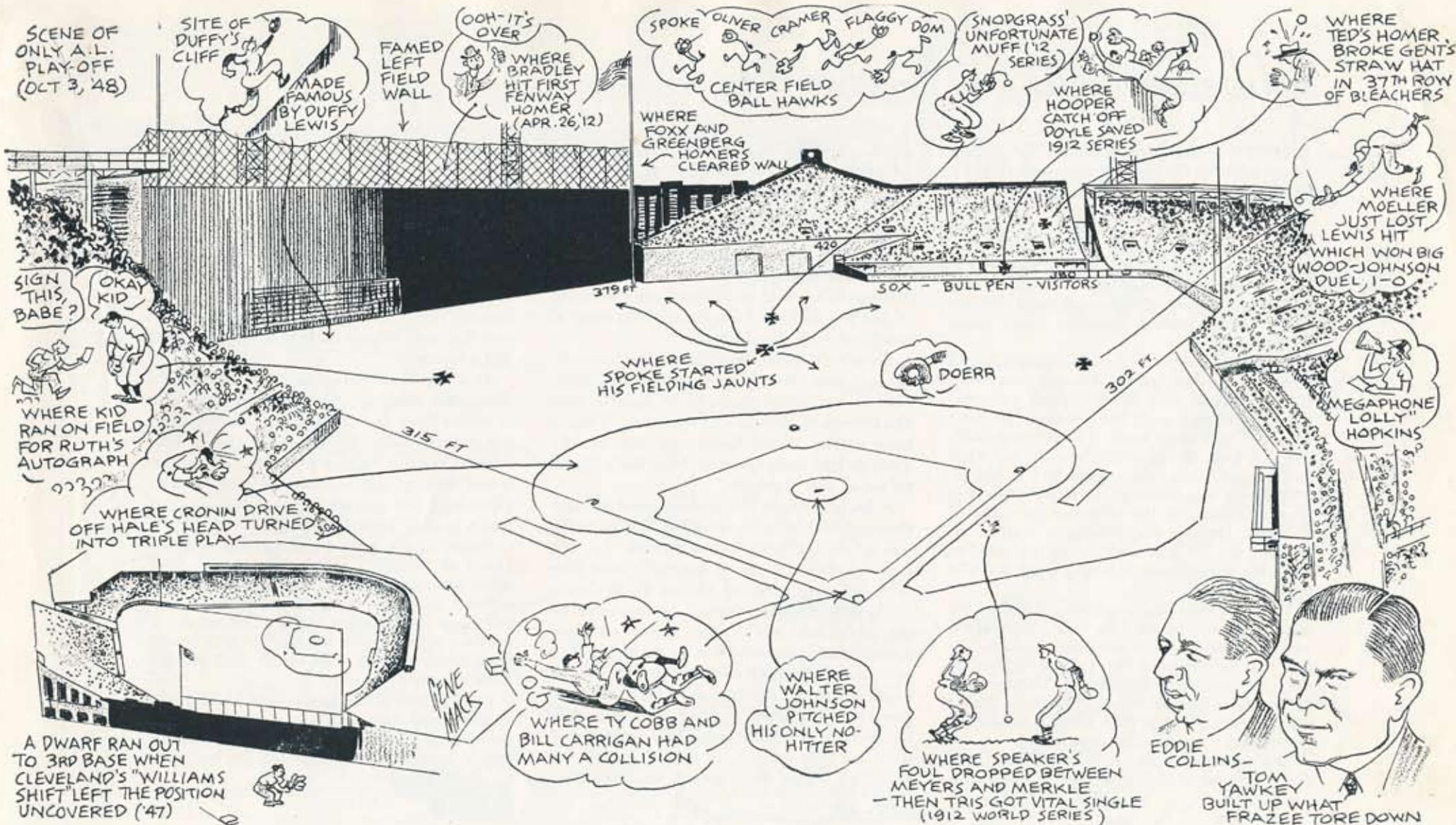
WHERE TY COBB AND
BILL CARRIGAN HAD
MANY A COLLISION

WHERE
WALTER
JOHNSON
PITCHED
HIS ONLY NO-
HITTER

WHERE SPEAKER'S
FOUL DROPPED BETWEEN
MEYERS AND MERKLE
— THEN TRIS GOT VITAL SINGLE
(1912 WORLD SERIES)

EDDIE
COLLINS—

TOM
YAWKEY
BUILT UP WHAT
FRAZEE TORE DOWN



Ebbets Field ♦ Brooklyn Dodgers

EBBETS FIELD, which houses the wildest baseball fans in the world, was opened in 1913. Originally the park had only a shallow wooden bleacher in left field but now all stands from the right field corner around to a point in right center are double-decked. A daffy feature of this set-up is that the so-called bleachers are sections in the upper stands in left center with a roof — no less. A tragic feature is the limited seating capacity — only about 35,000.

The famous right-field wall is something to see — as freakish as the Dodger fans, who start screaming with the first pitch and continue the bedlam until the last man has been retired — and often later. The concrete wall, 297 feet from the plate, is about 20 feet high and is topped by a screen about 20 feet higher. The screen was built not so many years ago to save money on the windows the likes of Fournier, Herman and Bissonette crashed on Bedford Av. It was cheaper on the club to build the screen than to keep paying the bills for broken glass.

The wall looks like something designed for nearby Coney Island. It is a concave-like structure which makes for some freakish caroms that only experts like Tommy Griffith, in the old days, and later Dixie Walker have been able to fathom effectively. Many an innocent looking drive goes kiting around the greensward for a triple or near homer.

The scoreboard juts out from the wall and along its base is a narrow sloping surface on

which a clothing store offers a suit to any player who hits the sign on the fly. They say no one has ever collected so much as a vest. The trick is that a ball falling that close to the ground will be caught.

The 1947 addition of 850 new box seats in the old left and center field stand shortens the distance in left field to 343 feet, while a wallop of 393 feet will reach the center field stand as compared with the old 400.

Brooklyn's rabid fans have seen comedy, drama, riots and parades over the years. They've had clubs managed by colorful guys like Robertson, Stengel and Durocher. They've been in five World Series and lost 'em all. They've had their favorites from Zach Wheat to Reese and Robinson.

A lot of comedy has centered around Babe Herman; and let it be recorded that he never was hit on the head with a fly ball. He did, however, figure in one of baseball's most hilarious situations. Playing against the Braves in 1926, with the bases loaded, he lined one off the right field wall. The runner on third scored but Vance, who was on second, pulled up when halfway home and decided to go back. Fewster, running to third from first, saw Dazzy pull and stopped. Babe ran right by Fewster, and then came the spectacle of Babe and Daz sliding into third from opposite directions. The final putout in that dizzy

situation was made by the smart Doc Gautreau, who trailed Fewster out near the right field bull pen.

Casey Stengel, an old Brooklyn favorite, when he returned one Spring after being traded to Pittsburgh, anticipated the reception he would get on his first appearance at bat in Ebbets Field. When he was greeted with a raucous "bird" he tipped his cap and a sparrow flew out. Where Casey got the sparrow is still a mystery.

At a big Giant series in 1924 fans used a dismantled telegraph pole to batter in a gate in center field, and overflowed onto the playing surface. When Wilson of the Giants went back to catch a fly, the crowd parted and allowed him to get in, but not out. Hack's glove and sun glasses were tossed out and finally Hack — without the ball.

Tragic is the only word for the muff by Owen of Henrich's third strike in the 1941 series against the Yanks, and the knee injury suffered by Fitzsimmons when struck by Russo's liner in the same series. The whole of America suffered with the Dodger fans during these incidents. The "Bums" of 1941 seemed to be everybody's team.

In 1947 they lost a seven-game series to the Yankees and they still talk about the fourth game and Lavagetto's ninth-inning double which broke up Bevens' no-hit bid and won for the Dodgers.

LIGHTS TURNED
ON IN WORLD
SERIES FOR
FIRST TIME
(OCT. 9, '49)

MANHATTAN ROOTER
FELL OUT OF UPPER DECK
WHEN JASPERS TIED HOLY
CROSS IN '35 FOOTBALL GAME

WHERE
HILDA
SITS

THESE ARE THE
FAMOUS BLEACHERS

GATE WHICH
FANS BATTERED
IN WITH POLE
IN 1924

CAMILLI
HAS HIT
EM HERE

FOURNIER,
HERMAN
AND CAMILLI
SOCKED
EM OVER
HERE

LAVAGETTO'S
9TH INNING
HIT WON 4TH
SERIES GAME
(47)

WHERE RAZZING
FORCED IN YOLSON
TO STUFF HIS EARS
WITH COTTON

POUR IT TO
EM, HIG

WHERE
HERMAN AND
VANCE SLID
INTO 3D BASE
- BABE PASSING
FEWSTER ON THE WAY

OH YOU
PETE

YOU TELL
HIM,
LEO

WHERE
BIRD FLEW
OUT OF CASEY
STENGEL'S CAP

"PEE WEE"

WHERE
BARTOLL OF
GIANTS WAS
GREETED WITH
A TOMATO ('35 OPENER)

WHERE
RUSSO'S
SMASH
K.O'D
FITZSIMMONS
(41 SERIES)

VISITOR'S
DUG OUT

WHERE
SMOKE FROM
PAZZY'S FAST
ONE STILL
RISES

WHERE MAGERKURTH
WAS FLOORED BY
IRATE FAN

DODGER
DUG OUT

WHERE OWEN
LOST THE 3RD
STRIKE ON HENRICH
(41 SERIES)

WHERE JACK PIERCE,
LAVAGETTO,
ROOTER,
SENT UP HIS
BALLOONS

COOKIE

DIXIE
WALKER
"THE PEOPLES
CHERCE"

SCORE
BOARD

HOME
BULL PEN

WHERE
STOUT
ROBBIE
COACHED

JUST
LIPPY LEO

BABE
HERMAN,
WHO NEVER
WAS HIT ON
THE HEAD BY A
FLY BALL

ZACH
WHEAT-
ALL-TIME
DODGER FAVORITE

SIT
DOWN
SO I CAN
SEE THE
GAME

PIKE
MACK

Comiskey Park ♦ Chicago White Sox

THOSE fans who believe that major league playing fields should be uniform in size and shape find the answer in Comiskey Park. There the playing field and stands are symmetrical in construction. The distance from the plate to both foul poles is 352 feet.

This park, which was opened July 1, 1910, originally seated 26,000. In 1922 additions were made that increased the capacity to approximately 50,000. Except for a comparatively small bleacher in center field, the field is surrounded by a high double-decked grandstand. From the plate to the bleacher wall in center is 440 feet.

The outposts are deep enough to call for pretty robust stroking although Jimmy Foxx hit two murderous wallops that cleared the towering left field roof and Ted Williams found the range with a drive in the right center direction.

The White Sox are "South-Siders." The Cubs stronghold is in the northern section of the city, and the rivalry between the fans matches that of the traditional intercity grid-iron followers of Thanksgiving football games.

The original White Sox field owned by Charles A. Comiskey was on 39th St., even farther south than the present park. This was the home of the championship teams of 1900 and 1901 in the first years of the league's existence. It also housed the famous "Hitless Wonders," managed by Fielder Jones, and winners of the World Series from the hated Cubs in 1906.

At the present site the White Sox won flags in 1917 and 1919. In '17 they won the world championship from the Giants. What happened two years later isn't talked about on the South Side. That was "Black Sox" year!

The fans do, however, talk about that 1917 team even though several "Black Sox" were in the lineup. This team broke a mild Red Sox monopoly and won the American League flag with 100 games on the winning side.

Clarence Rowland managed the club and took the Giants into camp in the World Series, four games to two. It was in the final game of this series at the Polo Grounds that Zimmerman chased Eddie Collins across the uncovered plate.

Urban "Red" Faber pitched the team to victory in three of the games and bracketed himself with such immortals as Babe Adams, Christy Mathewson, Jack Coombs, and a few others who have won a trio of World Series games.

Ray Schalk, one of baseball's greatest catchers, was in action during this era and Hap Fesch patrolled center field as a worthy successor to Fielder Jones, a great middle-gardener. Later Johnny Mostil carried on this White Sox tradition.

Practically the same team went on to win the 1919 flag.

Since the scandal, however, the White Sox have never won another pennant. All the South Side enthusiasm has been confined to

the surprising way in which they maltreat the Cubs in city series games.

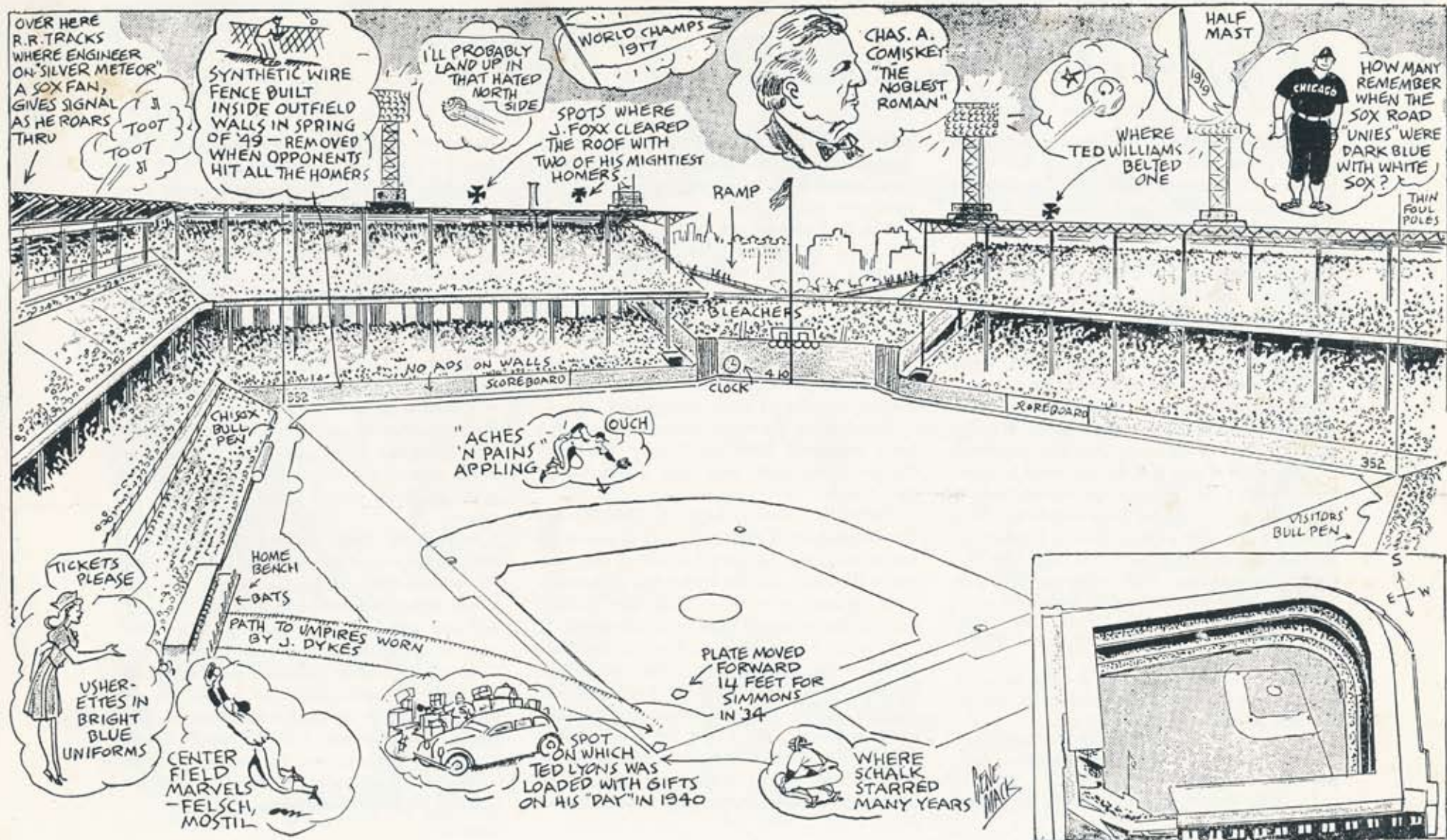
Among the all-time greats who have worn the white hose at Comiskey Park are Eddie Collins, Buck Weaver, Joe Jackson, Luke Appling, Jimmy Callahan and Kid Gleason.

No Chisox fan can forget the hero of both White Sox parks, Ed Walsh, one of the game's greatest work horses. Nothing spread consternation among opponents during a batting rally more than the megaphoned announcement, "Walsh now pitching for Chicago."

Perhaps the most popular figure ever to represent the club was Ted Lyons. At a "day" given him on Sept. 15, 1940, he was loaded down with gifts estimated in value at \$4,500.

Another gift recipient from the White Sox wasn't quite so co-operative. In 1934 the club bought Al Simmons, the slugging outfielder. To help him get the range of the fences they went to considerable expense to move the home plate forward 14 feet. The shorter distance failed as an incentive to Al's home run bat, and when he was sold to Detroit the original and very practical dimensions were restored.

However, the club became "homer" conscious again in 1949 and erected a wire fence inside the regular barriers. The experiment lasted eight days for the usual reason — too many opposition round-trippers.



Wrigley Field ♦ Chicago Cubs

WRIGLEY FIELD, on Chicago's north side, is known as the parlor park of the major leagues, a beautiful field with ivy-covered walls and artistically-built stands.

The grounds originally belonged to the Chicago entry of the Federal League and when Charles Weegham took over the controlling interest in the Cubs he moved the National League team into the park he had built for his outlaws.

In 1918 the Cub end of the World Series with the Red Sox was transferred to the more spacious and better equipped Comiskey Park. This could never happen again as the Wrigley interests, on taking over, steadily improved the layout until now it is the last word in spectator comfort and playing accommodations.

The biggest changes were made in 1937 when a brick wall, swinging in an artistic arc, was constructed in front of the bleachers between the foul poles. This wall is covered with vines, very lovely to look at but sometimes awkward for outfielders. You recall that Pafko lost a ball in the leafy network in the World Series of 1945.

Above the centerfield wall the terraced bleacher rises to a monster scoreboard, one of the best appointed in the business.

Before the war, peat moss was imported from Germany for cushioning under the playing surface.

In 1938 Wrigley made his most important

changes for the comfort of the customers. Although reducing the seating capacity he widened chairs both in boxes and stands. The park now seats 38,396.

The foul pole in left field is 355 feet from the plate. In right it is two feet shorter and in dead center the wall is exactly 400 feet away.

The pyramid-like bleachers house the famous white-shirted fans who have furnished an alibi for slumping hitters for many years. They claim it's impossible to follow a pitch coming out of that white background.

Highlighting the many dramatic events that have happened here are Gabby Hartnett's "homer in the dark" and Babe Ruth's "called shot homer."

Hartnett's homer on Sept. 28, 1938, against the league-leading Pirates just about sewed up the pennant for the Cubs. He hit it with two out in the ninth and the teams tied at five runs each. It was growing so dark that starting another inning would have been impossible.

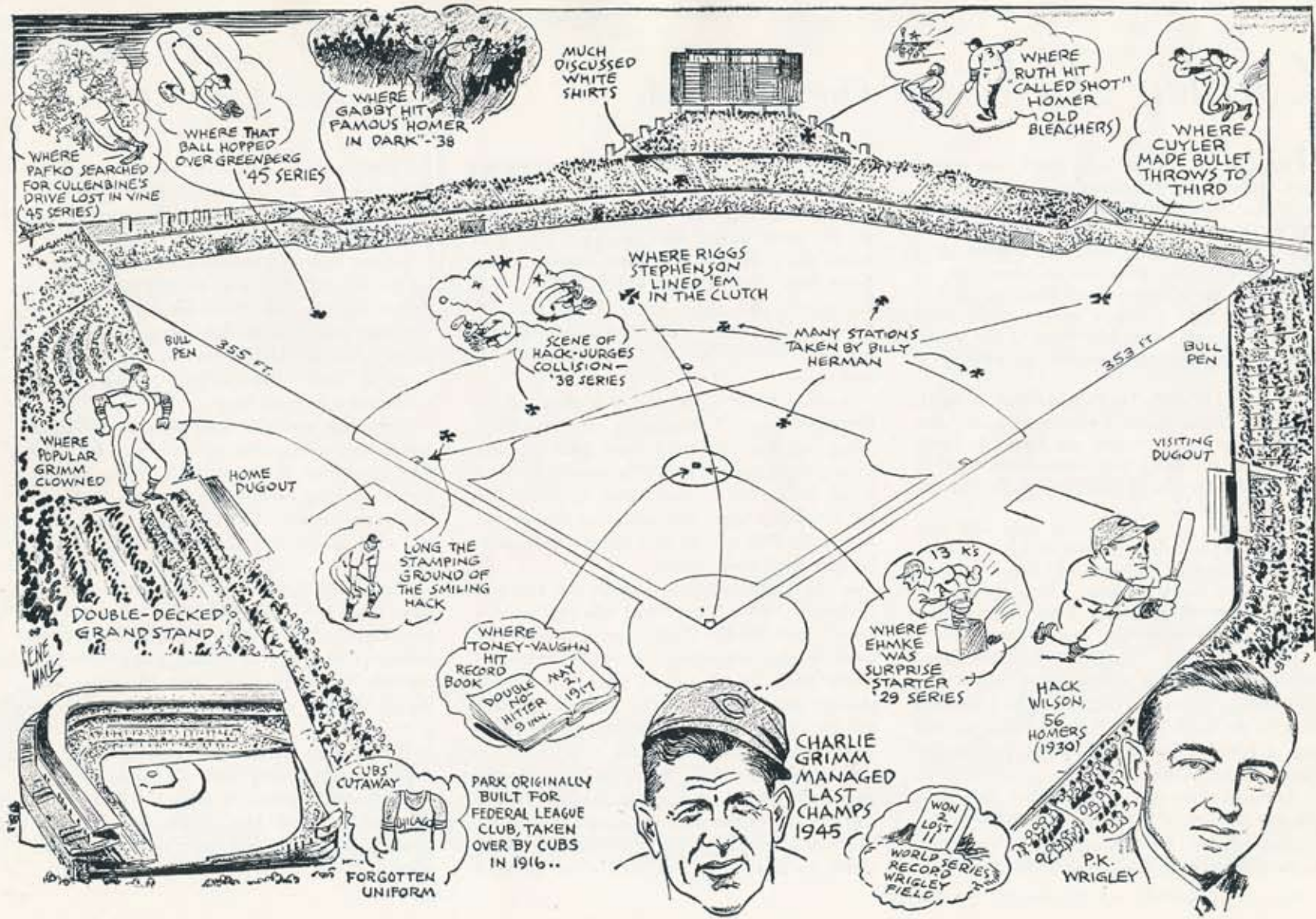
Babe hit his famous home run in the 1932 World Series against Root. This series had furnished plenty of "heckling" from the rival dugouts and in the fifth inning of the third game Babe was the target for much name-calling after he had taken two strikes. Ruth held up one finger after each pitch, then smiled and pointed in the general direction of

the center field stands. The next pitch sailed into that sector for a home run.

It was here that Hack's hit bounced over Greenberg's shoulder in the twelfth inning of the sixth game of the 1945 World Series and gave the Cubs a victory that sent the series into seven games. Here, also, Connie Mack surprised the baseball world by starting Ehmke in the 1929 World Series. He came through with a 3 to 1 victory and fanned 13 men.

On May 2, 1917, this field saw a pitching duel that has no equal in major league annals — a double no-hitter. Fred Toney, strapping Red right-hander and "Hippo" Vaughn, giant Cub southpaw faced each other for nine innings without allowing a hit or a run. In the tenth the Reds scored a run and won a 1-0 victory.

Two of the Cubs' greatest infielders, Hack and Jurgens, were the culprits in the heroic Dizzy Dean effort against the Yanks in the 1938 World Series. Old Diz had only his "nothing" ball and was bothering the Yank hitters, but early in the game with two on and two out, Gordon hit a routine grounder on which Hack and Jurgens collided and then rolled over on their backs while the Yank runners scored. The Yanks eventually won 4 to 3, despite Dean's courageous pitching, and the mishap was just another in a long series that have plagued the Cubs in World Series history.



Crosley Field ♦ Cincinnati Reds

THE first game at Redland Field, now known as Crosley Field, was played on April 11, 1912, with the Redlegs defeating the Cubs 10 to 6. As in all parks the growth of the game has called for many alterations, but the layout is basically the same as it was 35 years ago.

Most of the changes were made in 1939 — a pennant year — when second decks were added in the right and left wings of the grandstand. The seating capacity at present is 30,101.

This field is in the books as the first in which a major league game was played under the lights. The game, staged on May 24, 1935, was one of the many promotional masterpieces put on by Larry MacPhail, then general manager of the Reds.

The left field wall here is only 328 feet from home plate and just behind it is a laundry roof onto which Lombardi and Frank McCormick belted many a homer. Atop the roof is a huge sign which Jimmy Foxx once cleared in a Red Sox exhibition game with Cinci.

The right field foul pole at 342 feet gives left-handed hitters a mild workout, but Keller and Dickey planted homers into the bleachers here in the 1939 World Series. This spot was also a favorite one for the Reds' Ival Goodman. He hit 17 here in 1938.

At the deepest part of the field in right center the distance is 387 feet and again it was a Yankee bomber, Joe DiMaggio, who found the home run range in this sector in 1939.

Many screwy things have happened in this fine park with its billiard-like playing surface. On Sept. 4, 1927, the Waner boys hit liners in the same inning that bounced into field boxes along the left field foul line for cheap home runs. The next day the field boxes were taken out and more room given the left fielder. Since then rule changes have limited hits that bounce out of the playing field to two bases.

Another freak happening took place at the first night game. The overflow crowd swarmed along the first and third base lines. In this setting a girl stepped out of the crowd, grabbed a bat and yelled to Paul Dean to pitch. She hit the ball toward first and was thrown out by Dean. The umpire still doesn't know why he permitted such didoes.

In an important game against the Dodgers on June 7, 1940, Harry Craft was robbed of a homer and Bucky Walters of a victory by another freak happening. Street lights behind center field caused such a glare that canvas shields were placed on the fence to protect the batter's eyes. These shields were taken down after each night game.

Following the night game on June 5 someone neglected to remove the shields. In the ninth inning of the next game, two days later, Craft hit a drive to center that struck the shield above the fence. The ball fell back on the field

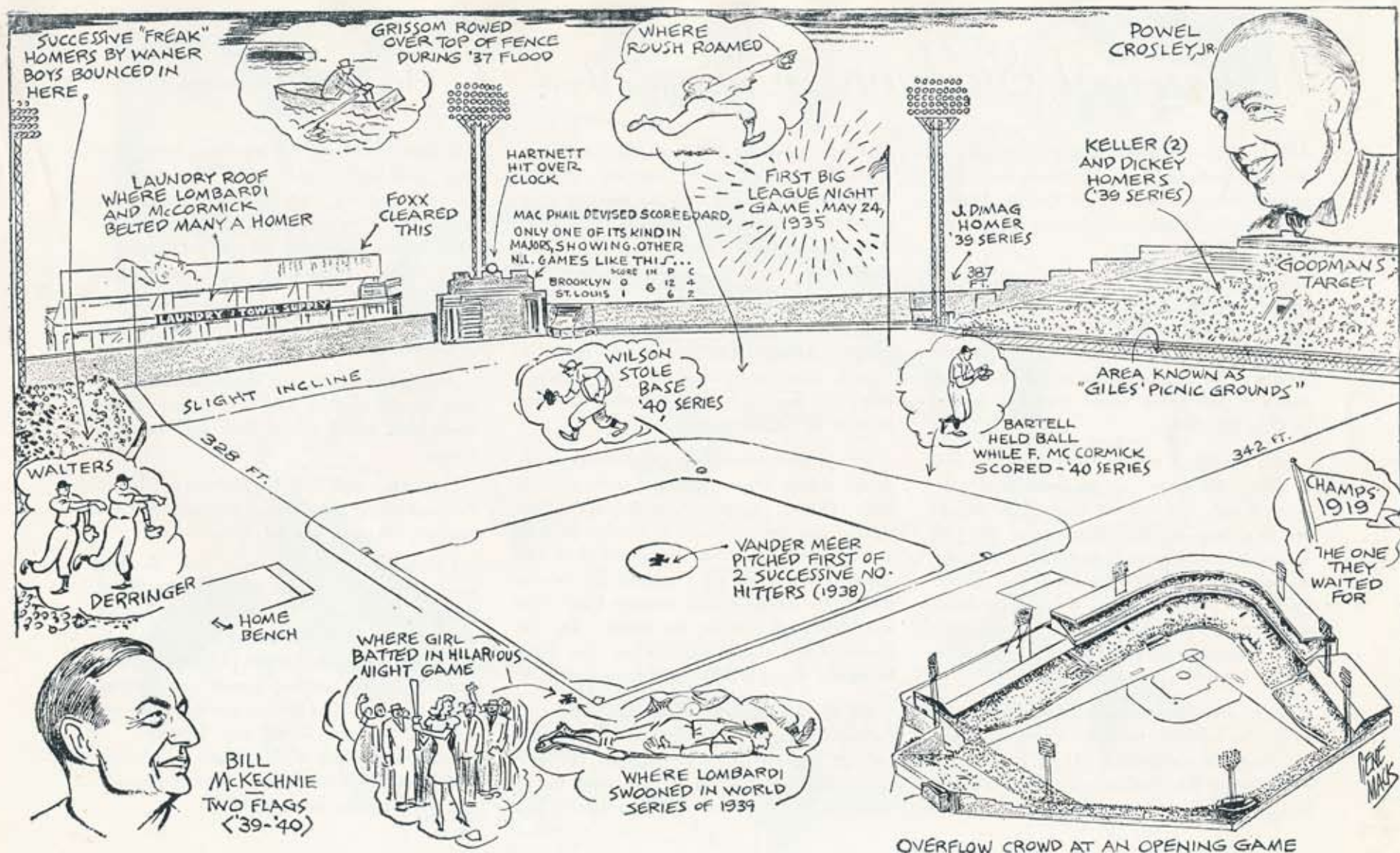
for a triple and Craft never scored. Brooklyn then won in the eleventh. Since then the shields have been attached directly to the street lights outside the park.

Johnny Sain will always remember the field as the one where a pop fly fell among three Braves for the only Cinci hit of the day. It was here also that the Braves were victims of Johnny Vander Meer's first of a double no-hitter in 1938. The Dodgers took the same treatment four days later.

Cinci fans waited a long time for a World Series and then came up with one in 1919 that turned out to be crooked. It was an unfortunate thing because, in winning, the good "Burghers" rightly believed that they had a ball club, under Pat Moran, of championship caliber.

Under Bill McKechnie the Reds won pennants in 1939 and 1940. They lost to the powerful Yankees in their World Series of 1939 but came back to win a great series from Detroit the following year. Paul Derringer and Bucky Walters were then the pitching toasts of Cinci.

World series drama at this park would include the late Jimmy Wilson's heroic work in 1940, Bartell's failure to relay the ball to the plate while Frank McCormick scored in the same series, and Lombardi's collapse at the plate in 1939.



Municipal Stadium ♦ League Park ♦ Cleveland Indians

BILL VEECK'S decision in 1947 to play all the Cleveland home games at the huge Municipal Stadium meant that historic League Park passed forever from the big league picture.

The game moves along and the tradition-steeped old grounds that saw Lajoie, Joss and Speaker make baseball history gave way to the oval on the shores of Lake Erie that housed 80,284 at the opening game on July 31, 1932, and a World Series record crowd of 86,288 on Oct. 10, 1948.

The Stadium's playing area normally took in plenty of territory. At the foul lines the distance is only 320 feet but center field rounds out in a deep arc with distances of 463 feet in left and right center, and 470 feet in the deepest part behind the center fielder. In the Spring of 1947, however, a low wire fence was erected with much ceremony to cut down on the outfield area and make it a little easier for the boys who hit long fly balls.

As so often happens, the visiting batsmen found the synthetic barrier a much softer target than did the Indian hitters, and so the chicken wire has been moved out a bit at the foul lines.

It now measures 362 feet and then curves out to 410 in dead center. This will cut down the home run output close to the foul poles where the distance, 320 feet, and the height of the fence, 5 feet 3 inches, was rather a soft touch.

Until 1947 the Indians had used the Stadium mainly for Sunday and arc-light games and when Veeck moved in permanently he did so with the idea that he could do something about filling the mammoth bowl on other days and in 1948 he hit the jackpot.

This promotion-minded showman did a wonderful selling job on speaking tours all over Ohio. He put on spectacular displays of fireworks, gave away nylons to women patrons, and on one occasion had thousands of orchids flown from Hawaii as a special gift for the ladies. He staged a "Mr. Average Fan" night and showered gifts on the rooster — one Joe Earley. On a night for the ailing Don Black he turned over \$40,000 to the stricken pitcher.

All of this helped attract 2,620,627 customers during the regular season, but Veeck had not neglected the playing end. He built up a scrappy team led by the inspirational manager, Lou Boudreau. Veteran coaches like

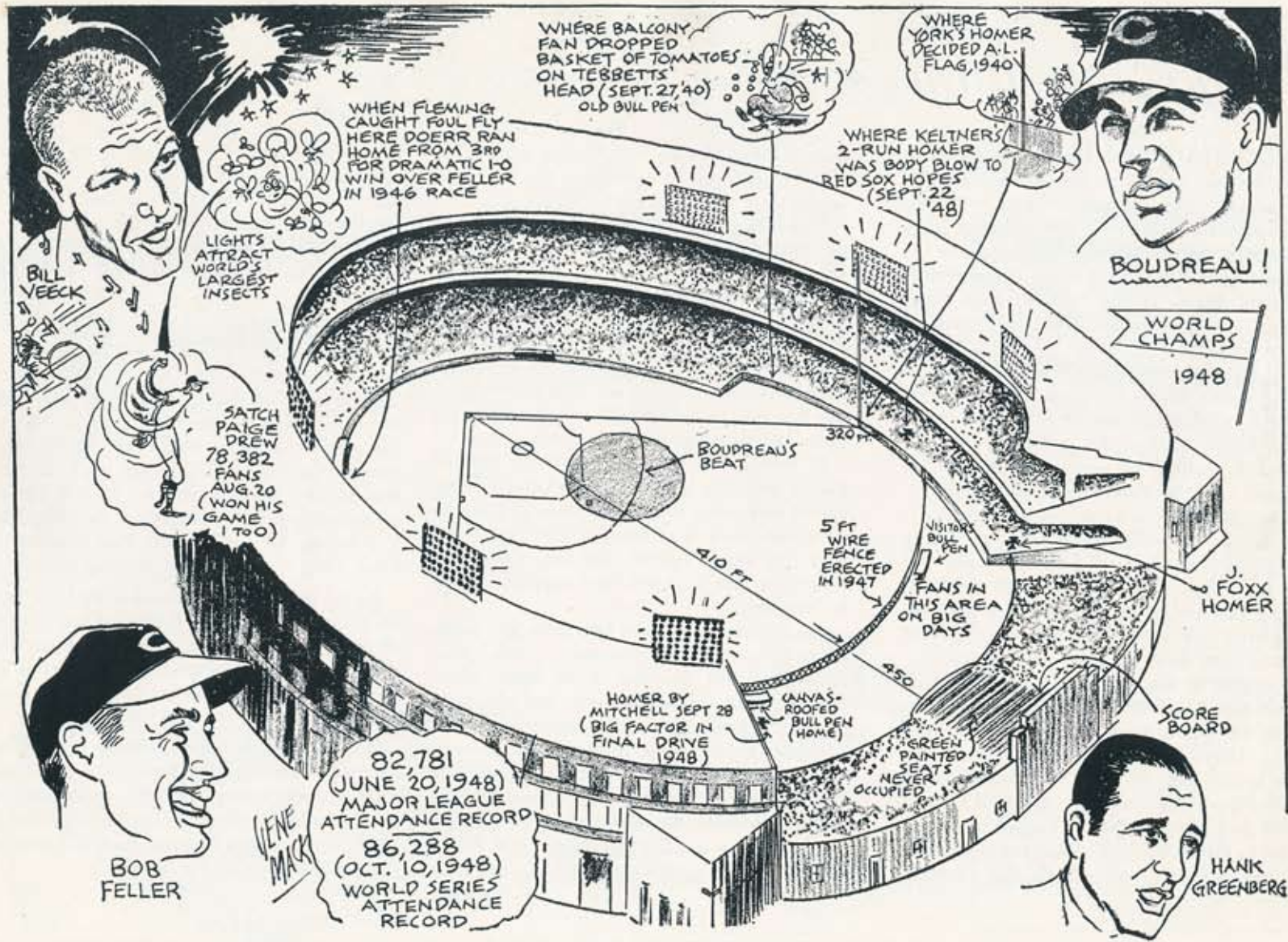
Bill McKechnie and Muddy Ruel were valuable additions to the staff. Rookie Gene Bearden was the play-off and World Series hero and the surprising acquisition of the ancient Satchel Paige paid off with six victories.

The Indians were deadlocked with the Red Sox on the final day and in a play-off at Boston won the title, 8 to 3. They defeated the Braves in the World Series in six games.

Among the landmarks at the Stadium is a spot in the extreme left field corner of the lower deck where Jimmy Foxx once belted a homer.

Dale Alexander once hit the wall in front of the center field bleachers on one hop. No one has ever hit a ball into this distant stand.

Clevelanders cherish some rich baseball memories — like the great Addie Joss-Ed Walsh pitching duel on Oct. 2, 1908, in which Joss set down 27 men in order and beat Chicago 1 to 0 . . . the unassisted triple play by Wambsganss . . . the batting power and fielding grace of Lajoie . . . the hot corner guardians, Bradley, Gardner, Kamm and Keltner . . . and the outfielding of Tris Speaker, who directed Cleveland to its only previous pennant and world championship in 1920.



Briggs Stadium ♦ Detroit Tigers

BRIGGS STADIUM in Detroit has in recent years become known as the "dream" field of the majors. This layout, once paved with cobblestones over which a few inches of loam had been spread and known originally as Bennett Park, has gone through many a face-lifting operation in the past 40 years until today it is one of the finest baseball plants in the country.

The last remodelling job was in 1938 when owner W. O. Briggs completed the extension of the double-decked stands well into left and center fields and gave his patrons a park exceeded in seating capacity only by Yankee Stadium and Cleveland's Municipal Stadium. The Briggs plant can handle 58,000 fans.

It is also a perfect park from a playing standpoint with the left field foul pole 340 feet from the plate and the right field extremity 325 feet. Out around center field the boundaries are something over the 400-foot mark. Plenty deep for good outfielding.

One player who certainly calls this the "dream field" is Ted Williams for it was here he hit the homer that gave him his greatest thrill. That was the never-to-be-forgotten ninth inning clout that won the "dream" game of 1941 from the National League All Stars. It was Ted who also hit the longest homer on record in Briggs Stadium. This was in 1939 on a "three-nothing" pitch. York was catching

that day for Detroit and looking up at Ted asked, "You wouldn't swing at the next one, would you?"

"I would and I will," answered the Kid. He hit the "cripple" over the roof of the right field stands.

Charley Bennett, for whom the field was originally named, was an old Boston and Detroit catcher. Early owners were James O. Burns and Samuel F. Angus, and in 1904 William H. Yawkey, whose adopted son, Tom, is the Red Sox owner. Frank Navin and Briggs came into the picture in later years.

If Detroit has the best ball park, it's true that it probably has the greatest fans. Single games on Sunday still fill the place and though in recent years they have become somewhat fickle, it seems agreed that for unswerving loyalty to their team the Tiger supporters can't be matched.

It's also true that these fans have had something to root for over the years. Didn't they have Ty Cobb, the star of all stars, whose daring exploits on the base paths and phenomenal hitting thrilled the nation day after day?

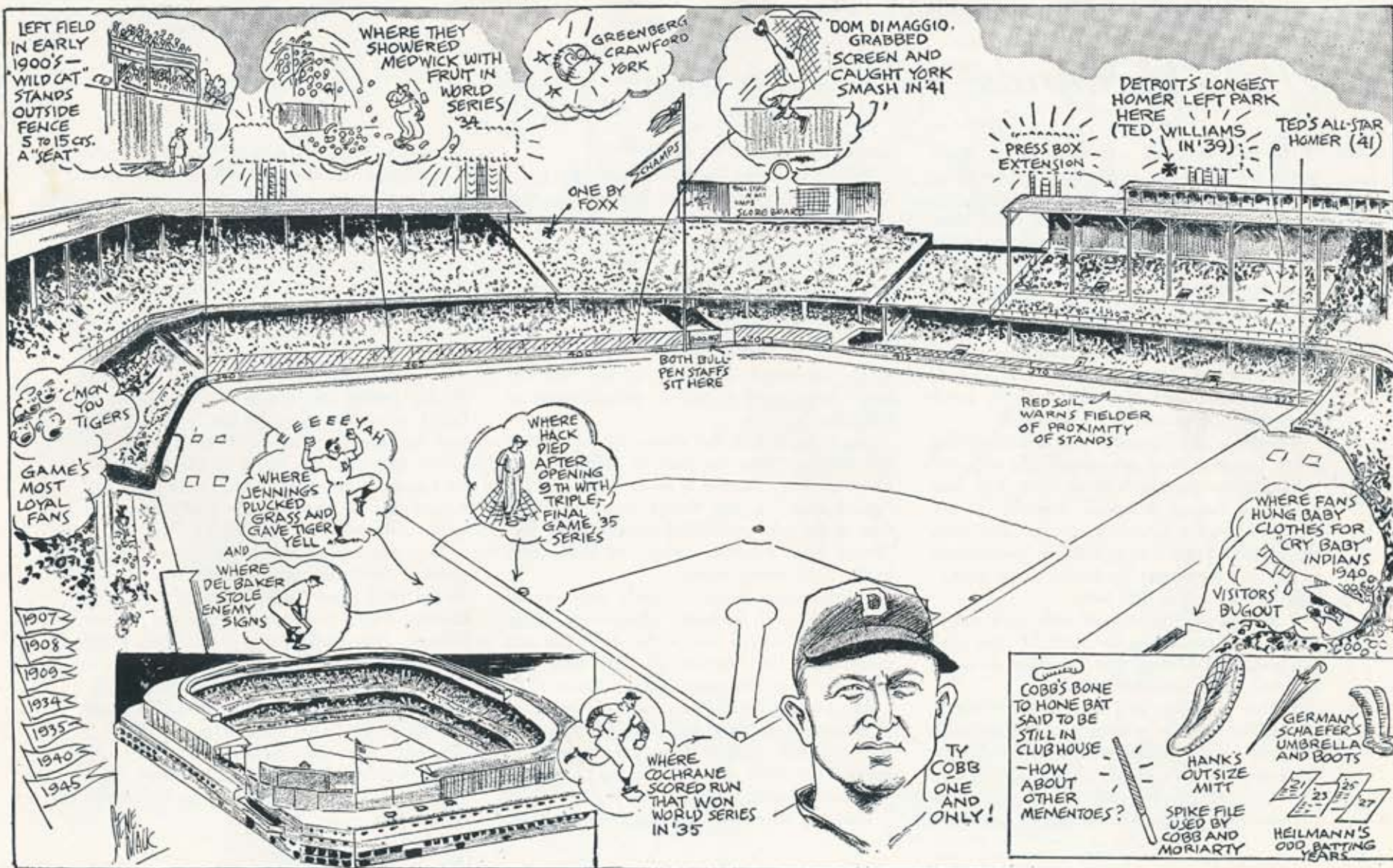
Couldn't they boast of the three pennant winners under the fiery Hughie Jennings? Who can forget the slugging Sam Crawford, the dashing Moriarty, the wily pitching of "Smiling Bill" Donovan and the shortstopping of Donie Bush? Also the game's greatest comedian, Ger-

many Schaefer. He once caused an obdurate umpire to "call" a rainy day game by appearing at second base with an umbrella and rubber boots. Then there was Harry Heilmann, who picked the odd years to do his big hitting. He led the league in 1921, 1923, 1925 and 1927.

In 1934 Mickey Cochrane brought those fighting days back to Tigertown and won flags in 1934 and 1935. On Oct. 7, 1935, Detroit had its greatest day. The Tigers won their first World Series after four failures. In that game with the score tied in the ninth, Hack opened the half with a triple. It was here that Tommy Bridges endeared himself forever to Detroit fans by setting down the next three Cub hitters without allowing Stan to move off third, truly a great Series pitching feat.

In the home half Cochrane scored the winning run on a single by Goslin. That touched off a night of celebrating that the Motor City will never forget. In 1945 Steve O'Neill's Tigers again beat the Cubs for the game's highest honors.

In a park where Sunday double-headers are an exception rather than the rule, it was somewhat of a shock when Detroit announced that lights would be installed for night games in 1948. Thus, Briggs became the last American League park to "fall" for the arcs.



Polo Grounds ♦ New York Giants

THE Polo Grounds, softest home run touch in the majors, is one of the real historic parks of our national game. Strangely enough it was never a polo field and acquired the name from the original Giants' park of the eighties which had been used for the mallet sport. When the team moved to its present home the fans still talked of going to the "Polo Grounds."

A fire in the Spring of 1911 destroyed the old wooden double-decked horseshoe stands and the present concrete structure was erected. The wooden bleachers in the outfield, saved from the conflagration, were retained.

The shape of the piece of real estate nestling below Coogan's Bluff, necessitated the cramped layout of the playing field with its close foul poles and famous "Chinese" homers. At the right field stick it measures only 257 feet from the plate and in left field 279. In deep center at the club house and the Eddie Grant Memorial shaft it's a long 482 feet.

Thus, the outfield defense calls for a center fielder who can roam the sunlight trail, and left and right fielders who can play shots off the wall like billiardists.

Unlike St. Louis and Pittsburgh, where a screen shuts off cheap home runs in right field, the Polo Grounds has never used the chicken wire even in front of the lower deck. There has been agitation for such a move, but John McGraw felt that fans didn't like to sit behind

screens and vetoed the idea.

So the park has been the home run paradise in the lively ball era of sluggers like Mel Ott and Babe Ruth, and more recently Johnny Mize, Willard Marshall and company, who belted 221 homers in 1947, most of them in the home park. The Yankees were Polo Grounds' tenants for ten years starting in 1913 and Ruth, in 1920, introduced the home run era with 54 circuit wallops. The following season he belted 59. Slugging like this had never been heard of and all records went by the board.

Joe Jackson had the distinction of driving the first ball over the present Polo Grounds roof and Tony Lazzeri is in the books with a "grand slam" in the World Series of 1936. One of the most publicized round-trippers was "Home Run" Baker's, — made off Mathewson in the 1911 World Series.

Polo Grounds history is really built around John McGraw and Christy Mathewson. They brought the Giants out of the doldrums and made them the toast of all New York and bitter rivals of the great Chicago Cubs.

In 1902 McGraw was induced by Andy Freedman, the Giants' owner, to jump back to the National League from which he had hopped in 1900 to manage the Baltimore American League Club.

Under a new owner, John T. Brush, Mc-

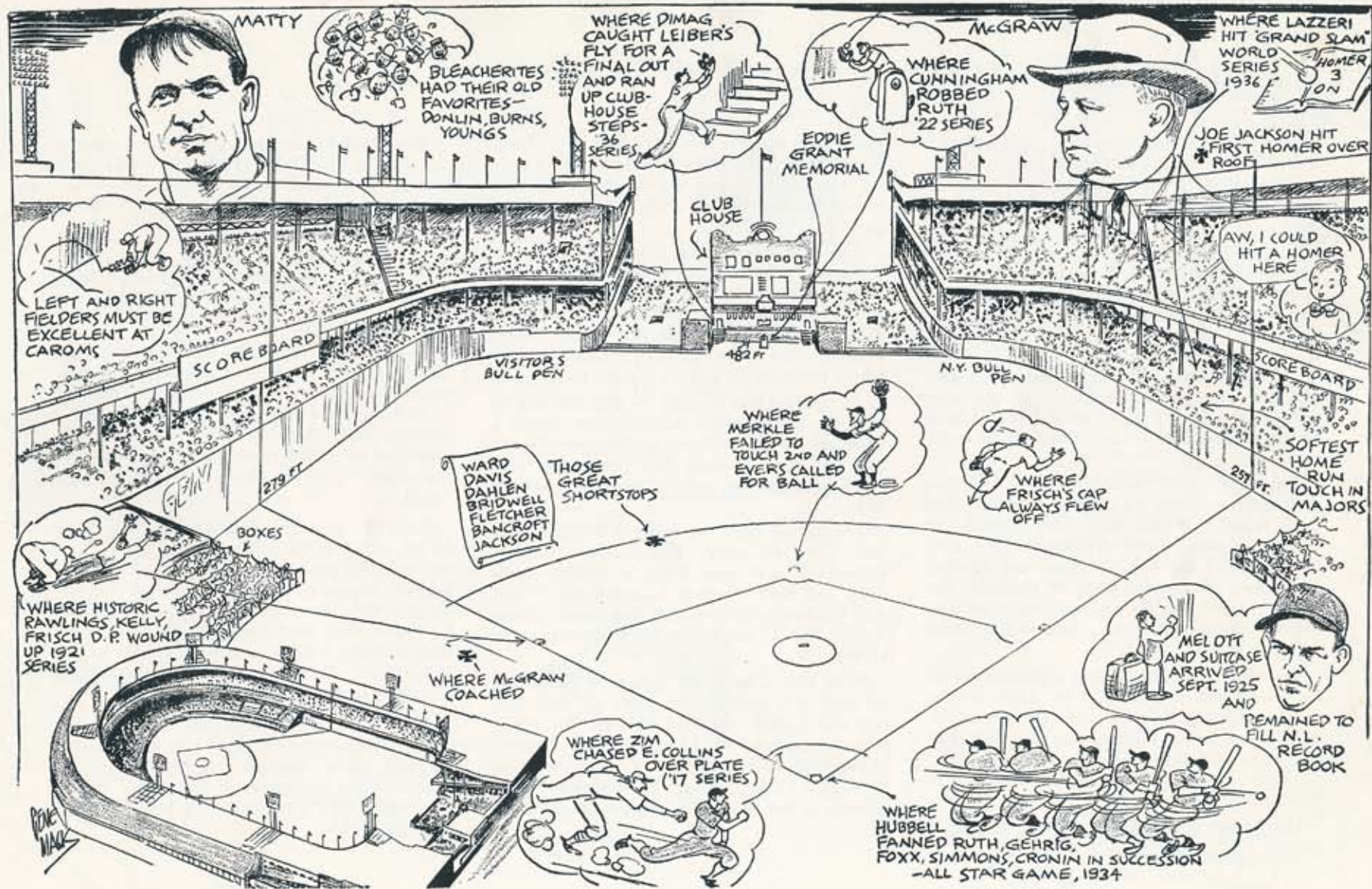
Graw's managerial genius, combined with the pitching wizardry of the great Matty, rocketed the club into pennant contention.

McGraw won the first of his ten flags in 1904 with Matty winning 33 games. Brush refused to play the Red Sox in a World Series that year, but in 1905 the Giants won easily from the Athletics in a five-game series. Matty pitched three shutouts in six days.

The Polo Grounds has been the scene of many noteworthy incidents. It was here that Merkle pulled his historic "boner" when he failed to touch second as the "winning" run was crossing the plate with two out in the ninth. Everyone has heard of the smart play by Johnny Evers, who called for the ball and tagged second while Merkle was on his way to the clubhouse.

The grounds were also the scene of the greatest "strikeout story" of All-Star history. In the 1934 game Carl Hubbell fanned Ruth, Gehrig, Foxx, Simmons and Cronin in succession. Here also Zimmerman chased Eddie Collins across an unguarded home plate in another widely discussed World Series play.

In the Fall of 1925 a 16-year-old Louisiana schoolboy, Mel Ott, showed up at the Polo Grounds. A natural hitter, he caught on as McGraw's "boy." He went on to smash many batting records and to serve a term as manager of the team.



Yankee Stadium

◆ New York Yankees

THIS is the House that Ruth built. This is the park that houses the Bronx Bombers, winners, in that "house," of fourteen American League pennants and twelve World Series flags.

Yankee Stadium was first opened in 1923, and it was fitting that Babe Ruth's three-run homer led the Yanks to a 4-1 victory over the Red Sox in the inaugural. The Yanks that year went on to win the pennant and beat out the Giants in the World Series. The Yanks had failed in two previous series against the Giants but they won the 1923 classic in six games in spite of the heroic efforts of a Giant named Casey Stengel, who beat them twice with home runs.

Until 1923, the Yankees, having outgrown their original home on upper Broadway, had been tenants of the New York Giants. In 1921, however, when negotiations for continued use of the Polo Grounds had reached a stalemate, Col. Jake Ruppert surprised the Giant owners with the announcement that he had an option on a plot of land in the Bronx at 161st Street.

Then it was announced that a stadium would be constructed in time for the 1923 season. Some suggested that the park be named for the Colonel but he rejected this idea and said, "Let it be named for the club and be a monument to all the Yankees." So it became the Yankee Stadium.

Until 1946 the Yankees used the dugout at

third base and the left field bull pen. Larry MacPhail, when he was in the process of making many alterations, shifted the home club to the first base dugout and the right field bull pen.

The Stadium with its short right field was designed in the interests of Babe Ruth and his home run prowess. The Bambino made excellent use of the proximity of the right field stands, but Joe DiMaggio, the latest Yankee slugger, must strive for the left field stands, which are much farther away from home plate.

At the foul line in right it's 296 feet and in left 301. The outfield barrier curves out in a wide arc. At the bull pen in left center it's 415 feet and in right center 367. In deepest center, behind the flag pole, it measures a healthy 461.

The Bronx Bombers under Miller Huggins and Joe McCarthy, figuratively speaking, frightened most rival clubs to death. Hug's 1927 and 1928 sluggers trampled the Pirates and Cardinals without losing a game. Many believe the '27 outfit was the greatest team of all time.

With McCarthy at the helm, the Yanks had an eight-year stretch from 1936 to 1943, during which they pounded through for seven pennants and six World Series titles. Indeed, in the 1939 All-Star game six Yankees, — Rolfe, DiMaggio, Dickey, Selkirk, Gordon and Ruffing — were in the starting American League lineup.

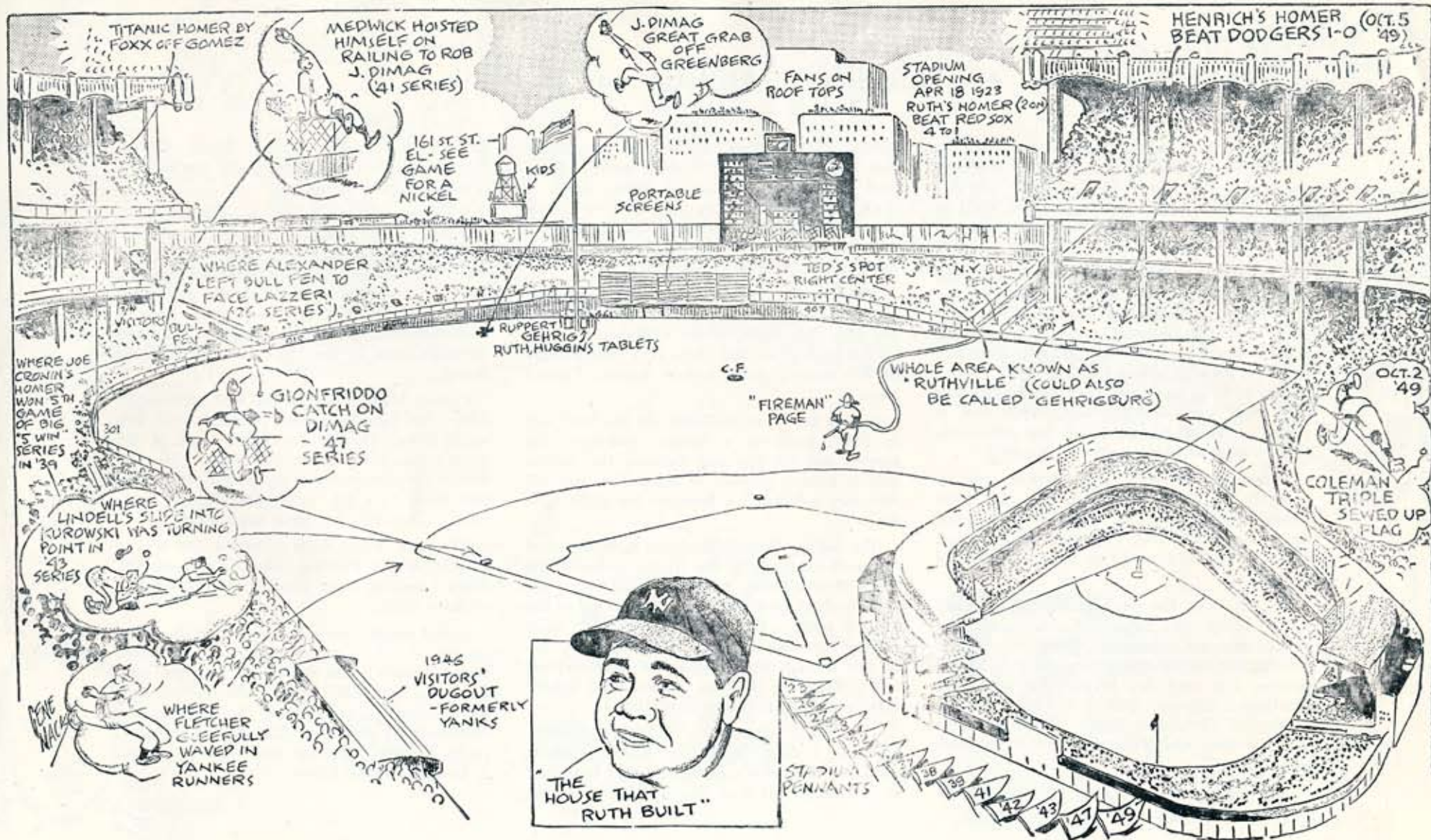
The Stadium has had its pitching moments, too. It was here in a 1927 World Series game that Herb Pennock retired 22 Pirates in succession before Pie Traynor spoiled things with a base hit.

Hoyt, Bush, Shawkey, Jones, Gomez, Ruffing, Hadley, Murphy, Chandler and Page, among others, have been masterly on the mound.

It was here, in 1925, that the late Lou Gehrig started his long streak of 2,130 consecutive games and on the same field on July 4, 1939, the first baseman, seriously ill, had a monster day. While 77,000 looked on with tear-filled eyes, the courageous Lou said over the mike, "I'm the luckiest fellow in the world."

Joe DiMaggio also had a streak. In 1941 he hit safely in 56 consecutive games. From the old bull-pen in the 1926 World Series, Grover Alexander walked in and struck out Lazzeri with the bases full. The swift-moving Cardinals electrified the baseball world with their startling exhibition at the Stadium in the 1942 World Series. Terry Moore and Enos Slaughter made unforgettable catches.

After a war-time slump the Yanks, under Bucky Harris, were world champs in 1947 and in 1949 Casey Stengel and his courageous team brought another world title to the "house that Ruth built," now owned by Dan Topping and Del Webb.



Shibe Park ♦ Philadelphia Athletics and the Phils

SHIBE PARK was dedicated on April 12, 1909, when the Philadelphia Athletics defeated the Boston Red Sox, 8 to 1, in what was described in the newspapers as the last word in baseball plants, — a “magnificent structure of steel and cement.”

It was a magnificent ball park, — it still is, although like so many plants it has been enlarged and remodeled to keep abreast of the growth of the national game. The playing field is spacious with the foul pole 334 feet from the plate in left and 331 in right. There's plenty of room in center with the barrier 468 feet away from the batsman. This spot is uphill, a rather gradual climb but noticeable to an outfielder running down a triple.

Originally the right field barrier was an ordinary concrete wall about 10 feet high behind which “wild cat” bleachers were built on the roofs of houses. Now the wall is topped with corrugated iron which brings the height to 30 feet.

It was over the original wall that Frank Baker belted the homer off Marquard that earned him the sobriquet “Home Run.” This was in the second game of the 1911 World Series. The next day Mathewson, writing a syndicated column, chided the Rube for his method of pitching to Baker. The teams went to New York and Baker duplicated the trick off “Matty.”

The old wall was also in place when

“Mule” Haas hit his historic two-run homer that tied the score in the ninth inning of the final World Series game of 1929. Some of Ruth's drives bounced along the roof tops between 20th and Opal Sts. Gehrig also hit well here. In fact it was in this park that he socked four homers in one game.

The left field is now double-decked and has been a juicy target for Foxx and Simmons. On May 30, 1930, Al hit a four-run homer in the first game and then as a pinch hitter in the second game socked another “grand slam.”

In this field Ted Williams, on the final day in 1941, went on a batting rampage. He rapped out six hits and finished the season with a batting average of .406. His sixth hit that day splintered a horn on the right field wall.

The hitting that Philadelphia fans like most to recall occurred in the fourth game of the 1929 World Series with the Cubs. The A's were trailing, 0—8, when they went to bat in the seventh inning. Before the last man had been retired, ten runs had crossed the plate. It was in this inning that the luckless Hack Wilson lost a drive by Haas in the sun and helped greatly in the run-scoring of the A's.

This park housed the \$100,000 infield—McInnis, Collins, Barry and Baker. Collins, probably the game's greatest second baseman, is in baseball's Hall of Fame. Here also were

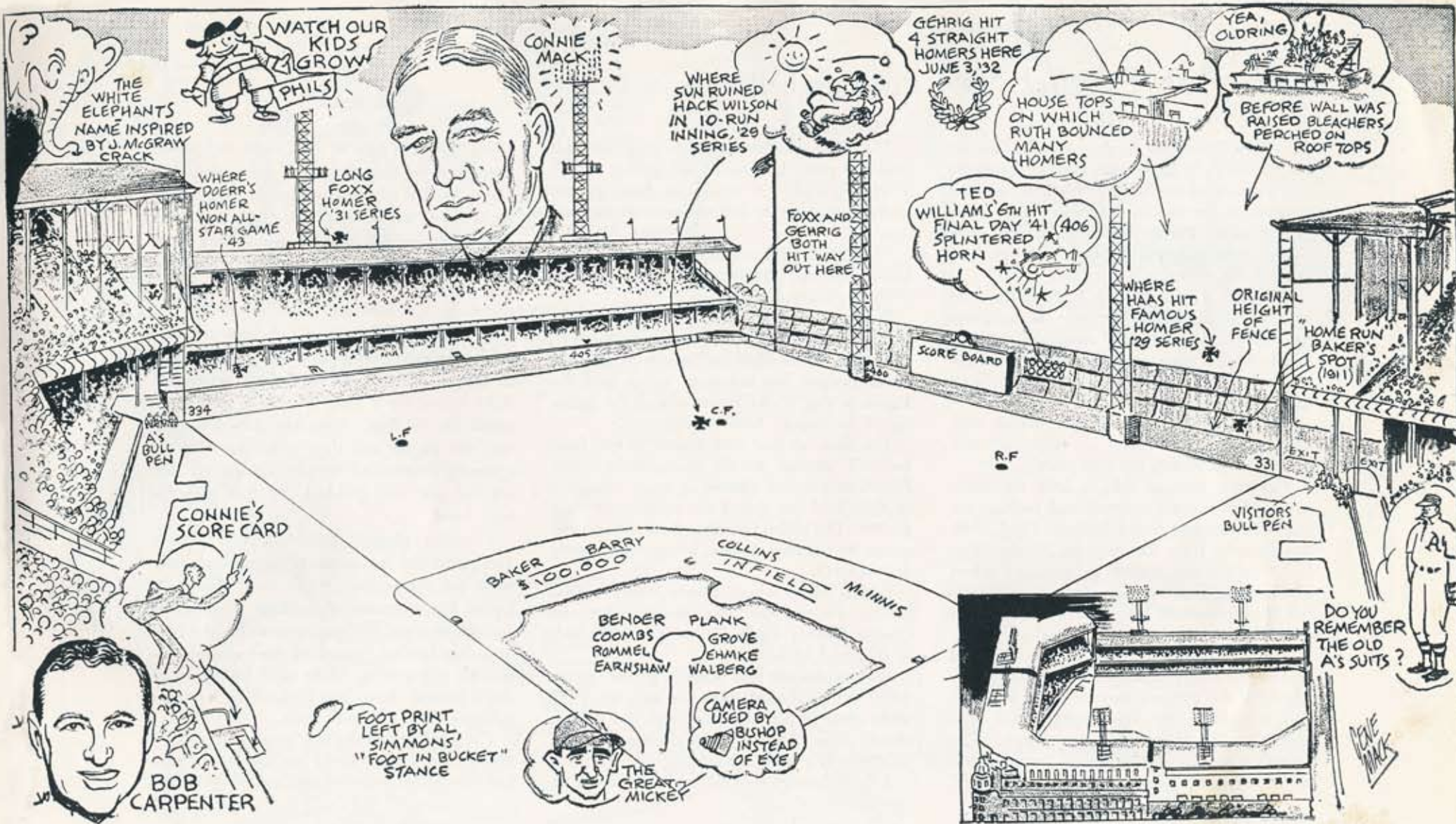
the pitching greats, Bender, Plank, Grove, Earnshaw, Rommel, Walberg, and the brilliant catcher, Mickey Cochrane.

When the American League came into Philadelphia, John McGraw ridiculed the entry and said that Connie Mack had a “white elephant” on his hands. That crack induced Mr. Mack to use that animal as the club's insignia, and Mr. McGraw had reason later to rue his statement when the Athletics trampled on the Giants in the 1911 and 1913 World Series.

Connie Mack managed the first Athletics in 1901. He had won nine pennants and five world titles. He has developed some of the game's greatest players and teams. He has broken up championship teams and developed new ones. He's the “Grand Old Man of Baseball.” Long may his score card wave!

The park, which seats about 33,000, is now shared by the Phillies, who have been Mr. Mack's tenants since leaving their band box at Baker Bowl.

Under progressive management of president Robert R. M. Carpenter, Jr., the National Leagues with Eddie Sawyer in the pilot seat, are bound to write history in Shibe Park that will come close to matching the deeds of the time-honored Athletics. Players like Hamner, Jones, Roberts, Simmons and Waitkus appear to be Phils with a future.



Forbes Field ♦ Pittsburgh Pirates

IN 1909 President Barney Dreyfus moved his Pirates from Exposition Park in a not too select section of Pittsburgh to his newly erected grounds in the beautiful Schenley Park area. It was called Forbes Field, for a Gen. John Forbes, who camped his Revolutionary War army in the district.

President Dreyfus built a park that for beauty could hold its own with the buildings in this educational and residential center, which houses such edifices as the Carnegie Museum and Carnegie Tech. A reporter once called the field the "Hialeah of the majors."

The fences have never been dotted with advertising signs except to publicize War Bonds drives during the war years.

This is a spacious field, a little too much so for slow moving catchers and perhaps for some not too fleet center fielders. Until 1946, the distance from the plate to the backstop had been 110 feet, a wicked chase for a fellow like Lombardi on foul flies. In 1947, box seats cut this down to 80 feet. The wall in deepest center field is 457 feet from the plate.

Another change in 1947 was in left field where the much discussed "Greenberg Gardens" cut the distance from 365 feet to 335 — fine concession for Hammering Hank and now for the slugging Ralph Kiner. The change is in the form of a bull pen enclosed by an eight-foot screen.

The right field foul pole is only 300 feet from the plate, but moves out quickly to 375 in right center. A screen in front of the lower deck prevents soft homers near the foul line.

The 1947 improvements by Pres. Frank McKinney cost \$400,000, with renovations in every department.

President Dreyfus moved into Forbes Field just when the Pirates were in a pennant mood. The 1909 Buccaneers not only won the National League flag but went on to beat the Tigers in the World Series behind the pitching of the rookie, Babe Adams.

The fields at that time seated 25,000 fans. In 1925, another world's championship year, President Dreyfus erected a huge extension in right field and raised the capacity to some 34,000. The added box seats, built into wasted spaces by the new owners, brings the capacity up to 35,545.

Forbes Field, where Honus Wagner, Fred Clarke, Pie Traynor, the Waner boys and George Gibson made Pirate history, is rich in diamond tradition.

Here Klein hit four homers in one game. Babe Ruth walloped three on May 25, 1935 while close to his final days with the Braves. One of these cleared the stands, the only ball that ever has been hit over it.

A triple-header was played here on Oct. 2,

1920. Glenn Wright of the Pirates and Jimmy Cooney of the Cubs pulled off unassisted triple plays. Paul Waner made six successive hits in six times at bat on Aug. 26, 1926, and Babe Adams pitched 21 innings against New York on July 17, 1914, without giving a base on balls. In 1946 the place came close to being the scene of a baseball "sit-down" strike.

It was here that one of the most dramatic fielding plays was pulled off. Red Murray of the Giants took off in the far reaches of right center for a long fly just as a thunder squall hit the field. Fans saw him disappear into the gloom and then a sudden flash of lightning illuminated the playing field as Red reached out and grabbed the ball with his bare hand.

A rather gloomy subject around Forbes Field, and one that is rarely brought up, concerns the closing days of the 1938 season. It looked like a certain pennant for the Corsairs and not only did the management build a new press box but they struck off the souvenir buttons for the scribes. Then came Gabby Hartnett's historic "home run in the dark" and the collapse of Pie Traynor's team.

The gloom under the new ownership is wearing off, and Forbes Field has that bright new look that would welcome another World Series.



THEY GOT OUT THE BUTTONS AND BUILT A NEW PRESS STAND FOR 1938 WORLD SERIES, HA!



HONUS



WHERE CAREY'S DIVING CATCHES UPHELD HIS

NICKNAME, "SCOOPS"

BASEBALL'S GREATEST BROTHER ACT, "BIG AND LITTLE POISON" WANER

"GREENBERG GARDENS" - NEW FENCE ERECTED FOR HANK GREENBERG NOW "KINER KORNER"

DREYFUSS MEMORIAL

45.7 FT.

FRED CLARKE'S TERRITORY CENTERED HERE



WHERE LIGHTNING FLASH MADE FAMOUS MURRAY CATCH POSSIBLE

KLEIN HIT 4 HOMERS IN ONE GAME 2 ON ROOF 2 IN STANDS JULY 10 '36

WHERE BABE RUTH HIT 3 SUCCESSIVE HOMERS JUST BEFORE HE RETIRED FROM BRAVES, MAY 25, 1935



TRIPLE PARADISE - WILSON HIT 36 IN 1912

335 FT.

300 FT.

CUTLER'S DOUBLE IN SEMI-DARKNESS LANDED IN THIS AREA AND WON 1925 SERIES

WHERE TRAYNOR BECAME ONE OF GAME'S GREATEST THIRD SACKERS



PIE

WHERE WALTER JOHNSON MADE "LAST STAND" IN MUD AND RAIN - FINAL GAME 1925 SERIES



WHERE BABE ADAMS WON 2 OF HIS 3 SERIES VICTORIES IN 1909

MARATHON DISTANCE TO BACKSTOP WORE DOWN MANY A CATCHER

WOOF

CUT DOWN NOW TO 80 FT.

GIBSON 150 GAMES 1909
LOPEZ MOST MAJOR LEAGUE GAMES CAUGHT

WHERE CATCHEE'S MADE "THE BOOK"

Sportsman's Park ♦ St. Louis Cardinals and the Browns

SPORTSMAN'S PARK is rich in baseball lore. On its soil the first diamond was laid out in 1866. No field in the major leagues goes back that far in continuity of location.

It was here that the original Browns, owned by the colorful Chris Von der Ahe and captained by Charley Comiskey, won four straight American Association flags, 1885 through 1888. The '88 pennant was the last for the Mound City until Hornsby's Cards won in 1926.

Sportsman's Park — and it was given that name way back in 1874 — housed the first club to represent the city in the American League. That was in 1902, and 18 years later the Cardinals were taken in as tenants. As tenants they made out much better than the landlords. The National Leaguers won pennants in 1926, 1928, 1930, 1931, 1934, 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1946, while the Browns won their only flag in 1944.

The park has been remodeled many times. All baseball fans have heard about the right-field pavilion which at the foul pole measures only 310 feet from home plate. A wire netting now covers the face of this covered stand to a point well down in right center.

This screen has worked against the "soft" homers that made the seats a target in the

old days for left-handed sluggers. It has been pointed out that when Ruth set his mark of 60 round-trippers in 1927, the pavilion front was open, and that in 1932, when Foxx hit 58, the screen was in place.

The records show, however, that Babe hit only four homers in St. Louis in his record year. A Philadelphia scribe is said to have figured that Foxx hit the netting 12 times in 1932.

Jimmy, though, has left other clouting marks in old "St. Loo." His homer that broke up the Grimes-Grove duel in the 1930 World Series landed in the upper left center bleachers. He has also hit them off the huge scoreboard in left. Aside from the short right field wall the park has sporting distances in left and center.

Ruth and Gehrig once raised havoc with the right field sector. Johnny Mize and Ted Williams also have helped themselves here. Sisler, Wallace, Burkett, Hornsby, Southworth, Dizzy Dean, Martin, Alexander, Hafey and Frisch are a few Sportsman's Park immortals. The "Gas House Gang" and the '42 world champs will never be forgotten.

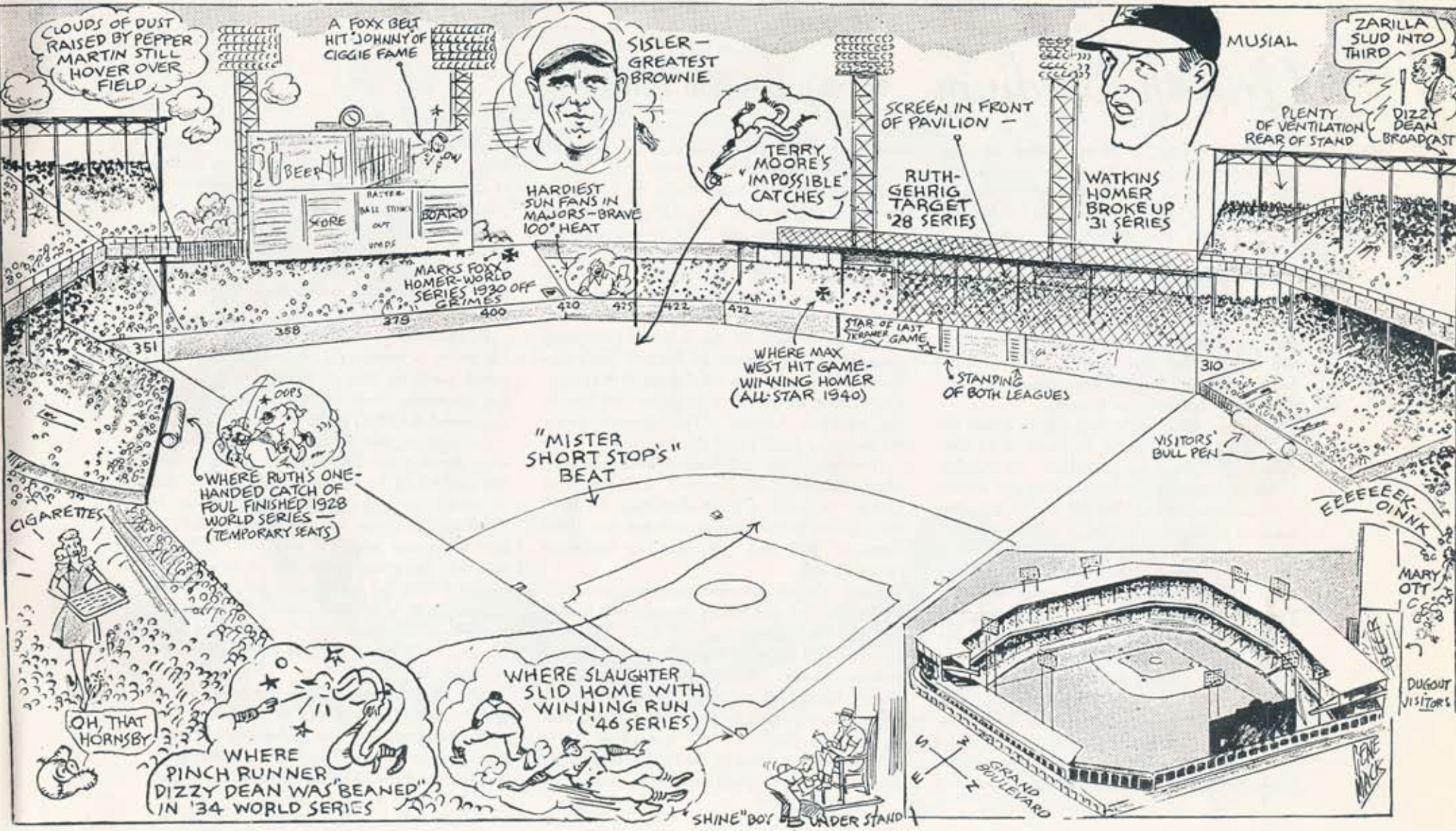
Probably no St. Louis team is closer to the hearts of the Mound City fans than the 1946 outfit which defeated the favored Red Sox in the World Series. They have traced,

many times, the path taken by the flying Slaughter when he scored the winning run all the way from first base. The picture of Brecheen being carried off the field on his team-mates' shoulders will also endure in St. Louis memories. To reach the World Series, the Redbirds had to eliminate the Dodgers in an unprecedented playoff series.

Stan "The Man" Musial is hailed as one of the major's outstanding players and Enos Slaughter as the "runningest" guy in the game. On the Browns' side, they developed the socking Vern Stephens who, with Marty Marion, nationally known as "Mr. Shortstop" gave the town two great shortfielders.

While the crowds are often on the small side they have plenty of enthusiasm. In the first base section of the stand you'll find Mary Ott, famous "pig woman" rooter. In the bleachers fans brave near 100 degree heat. The carnival spirit once headlined by Pepper Martin's "Mud-Cat" band can be found under the grandstand which resembles State Fair and a Ringling Circus Midway rolled into one.

Here you may purchase balloons, pennants, miniature bats, badges, hat bands and all manner of knick-knacks. There is also a shoe shine parlor and food and drink for perhaps the "eatingest" crowd in the majors. The seating capacity is 34,000.



CLOUDS OF DUST
RAISED BY PEPPER
MARTIN STILL
HOVER OVER
FIELD

A FOXX BELT
HIT JOHNNY OF
CIGGIE FAME

SISLER -
GREATEST
BROWNIE

ZARILLA
SLUD INTO
THIRD

DIZZY
DEAN
BROADCAST

PLENTY
OF VENTILATION
REAR OF STAND

WATKINS
HOMER
BROKE UP
'31 SERIES

SCREEN IN FRONT
OF PAVILION -

RUTH-
GEHRIG
TARGET
'28 SERIES

TERRY
MOORE'S
'IMPOSSIBLE'
CATCHES

HARDEST
SUN FANS IN
MAJORS - BRAVE
100° HEAT

MARKS FOXY
HOMER-WORLD
SERIES 1930 OFF
GRIMES

WHERE MAX
WEST HIT GAME-
WINNING HOMER
(ALL-STAR 1940)

STANDING
OF BOTH LEAGUES

VISITORS'
BULL PEN

"MISTER
SHORT STOP'S"
BEAT

WHERE RUTH'S ONE-
HANDED CATCH OF
FOUL FINISHED 1928
WORLD SERIES -
(TEMPORARY SEATS)

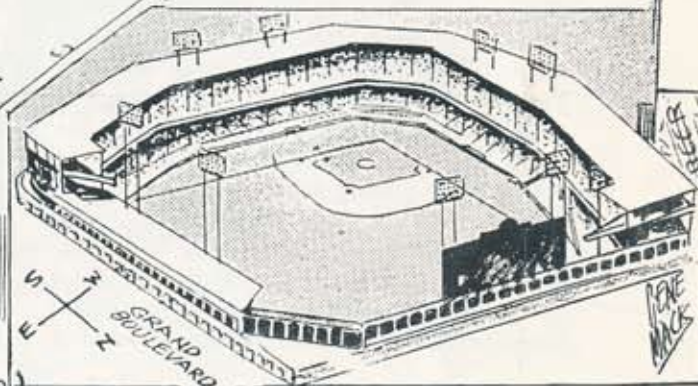
CIGARETTES

OH, THAT
HORNSBY

WHERE
PINCH RUNNER
DIZZY DEAN WAS "BEANED"
IN '34 WORLD SERIES

WHERE SLAUGHTER
SLID HOME WITH
WINNING RUN
('46 SERIES)

SHINE"BOY" UNDER STAND



GRAND
BOULEVARD

MARY
OTT

DUGOUT
VISITORS

Griffith Stadium

◆ Washington Senators

GRIFFITH STADIUM is another of "the short right and long left and center" variety. The right field barrier, while only 328 feet at the foul line, is high enough to give left handed hitters a good workout.

The left field bleacher stretches from the left field foul pole to the strange right angle projection in center field, which is built around the back yards of five duplex dwellings. The distance from the plate down the left field foul line is 402 feet and, as the bleacher front has a high wall, it's a discouraging target for right-handed home run hitters.

From the plate to the flag pole in center it's 426 feet, and a ball can do tricks if hit into the corners behind the projection. It's possible to hit an inside-the-park homer in this sector.

These grounds once housed the Washington team of the old 12-club National League. Home of the American League club which invaded the city in 1901, it was destroyed by fire in 1911. The park was partially rebuilt in time to fill all of the team's home engagements. The work was completed before the 1912 season and the park took its place among the imposing playing fields of that era.

Like Comiskey Park, Briggs Stadium and Shibe Park, the Senators' field has been remodeled on the piece-meal plan to keep abreast of things. It differs from the others, however, in that it's easier to spot where the

new parts have been added. The roofs of the newer double-decker wings that stretch from first and third bases down the foul lines are much higher than the old grandstand to which they are attached. The seating capacity of the stadium is 32,000.

For many years Washington teams had tough sledding in organized ball. They were well down in the old National League and so bad in early days of the junior organization that a sure laugh-getter in the old vaudeville days was the comedian's definition of Washington — "First in war, first in peace and last in the American League." That brought down the house at Keith's and the Palace.

However, they did have Walter Johnson, whom nobody could laugh off, and they had George McBride, a great shortstop. In 1905 the pundits had some fun with the two third basemen, Hill and Nill, and an outfielder named Knoll.

Clark Griffith became manager and part owner in 1912 and things immediately looked up. The team finished second to the Red Sox. It wasn't till 1924, though, that they hit the jack-pot under the first year leadership of Bucky Harris. Then they went the whole way, with victories in the pennant race and the World Series.

Drama was packed in the final World Series game. Johnson pitched four heroic innings of

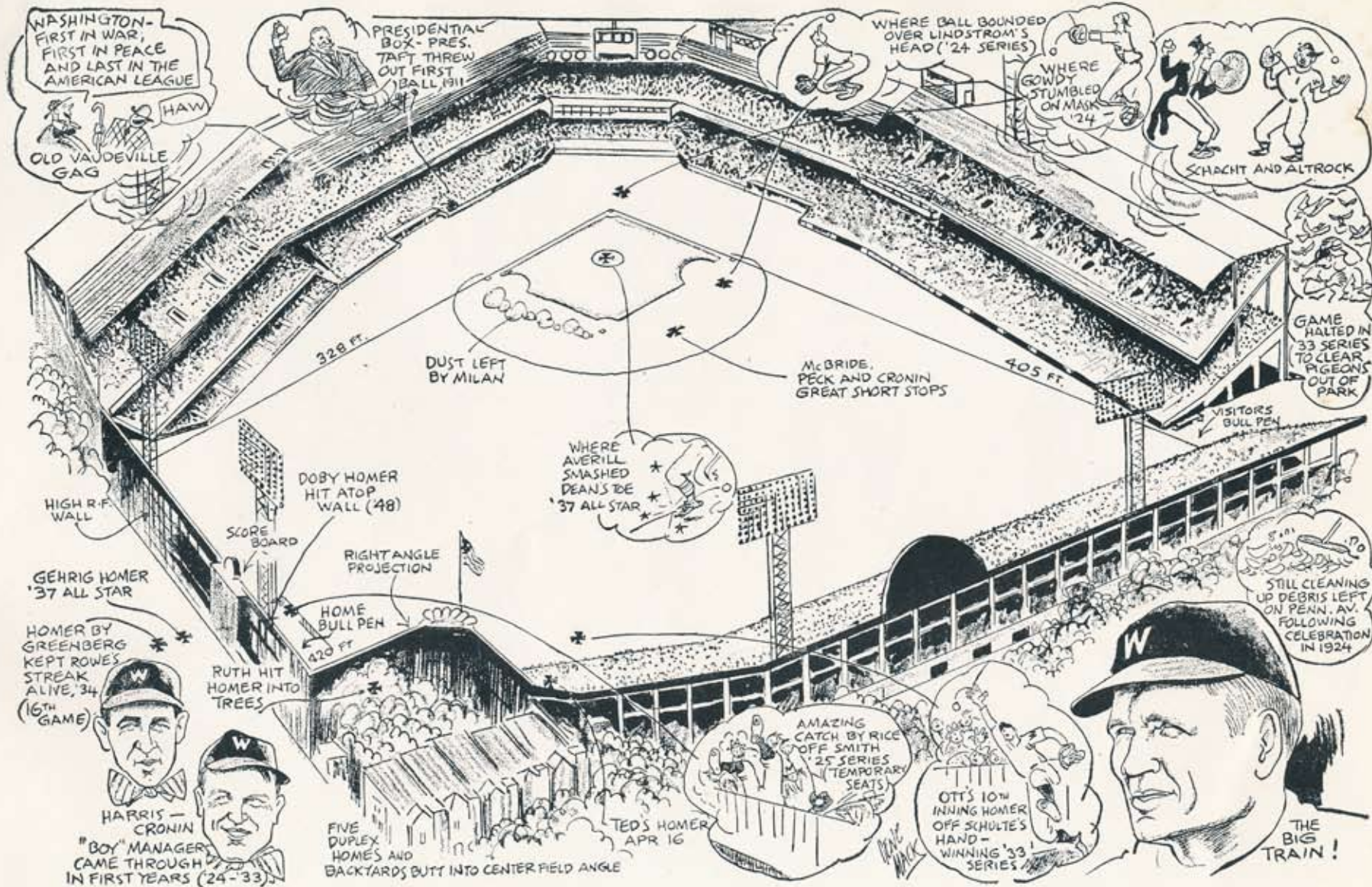
relief. Ruel opened the 12th with a double after Gowdy, stumbling on his mask, muffed Muddy's foul fly. McNeely's grounder hit a pebble and bounded over Lindstrom's head to score Ruel with the winning run. The celebration that night on Pennsylvania Avenue beggared description. It was even greater than the Armistice demonstration six years before.

In 1925 the Senators repeated, but lost the big series to Pittsburgh. A feature was a disputed catch by Rice of Smith's long hit into the temporary seats in right center, a catch that saved the third game for Washington.

Joe Cronin, like Harris, a "boy manager," won the flag his first time out in 1933 and lost the World Series to the Giants. Another disputed play highlighted the final game. In the tenth, a drive by Ott was tipped by Schulte into temporary seats. It was ruled a homer and won the game and series for New York.

Along with the phenomenal Johnson, Washington boasts of Milian, a base stealer with 88 thefts in 1912, clutch hitter Goose Goslin, relief hurler Fred Marberry and catchers like Street, Ainsmith and Ruel.

The All Star game was played there in 1937 and featured Medwick's "four for four," Gehrig's home run and Averill's smash off Dizzy Dean's right toe, causing an injury that practically ruined the Cardinal ace as a top twirler.





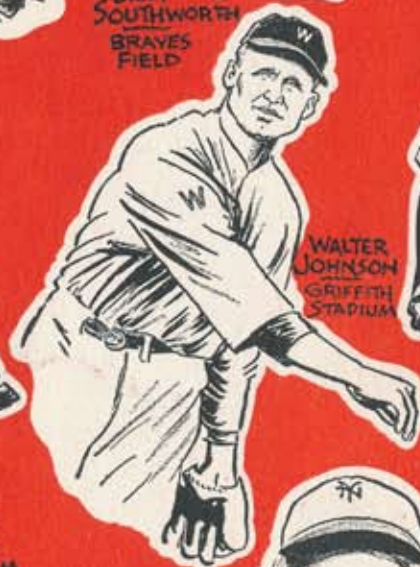
JOE CRONIN
FENWAY PARK



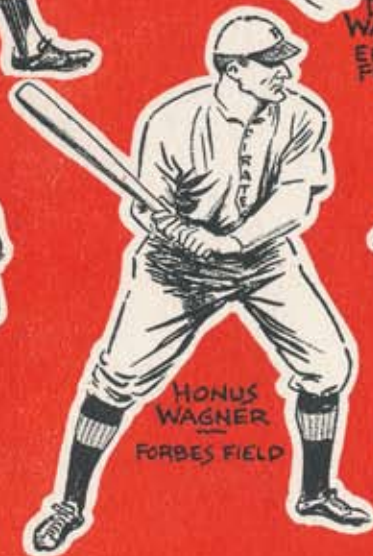
BILLY SOUTHWORTH
BRAVES FIELD



DIXIE WALKER
EBBETS FIELD



CONNIE MACK
SHIBE PARK



JOHN MCGRAW
FOLD GROUNDS



ROGERS HORNSBY
SPORTSMAN'S PARK