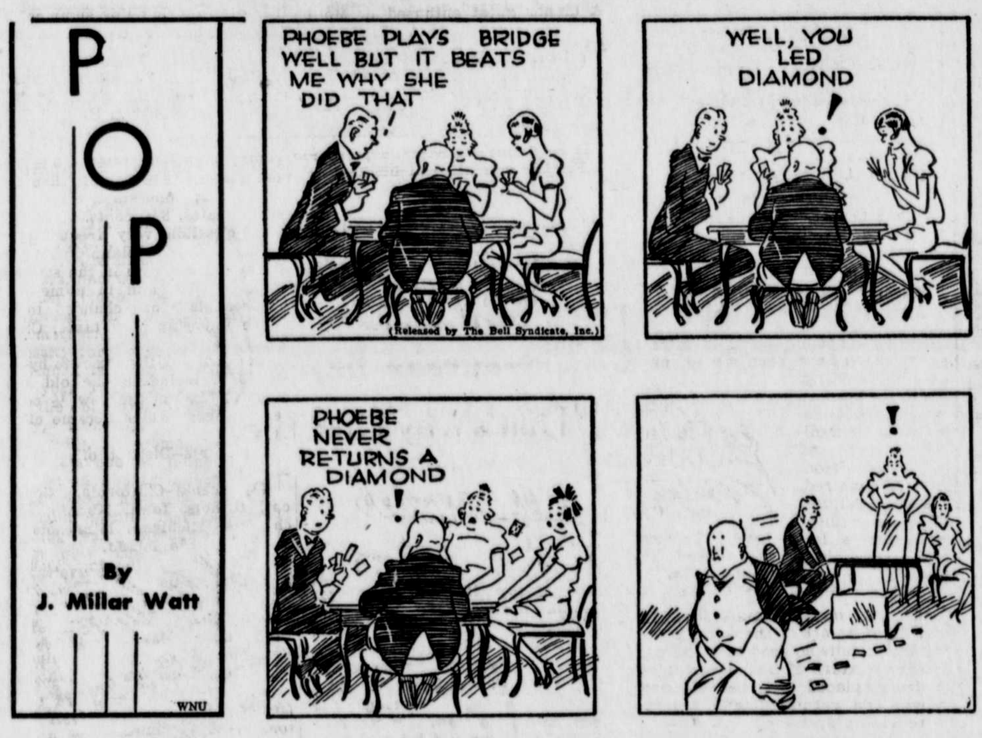
OUR COMIC SECTION



OR GETTING IT

"Can anything make a man feel worse than to have his wife continually begging for money?"

"Sure! To have her demanding it."

Problem Child

A young wife, wishing to send an announcement of the birth of her first child to a close friend in a distant city, telegraphed: "Isaiah IX, 6" which passage begins, "for unto us a son is given."

Her friend, unfamiliar with the Scriptures, said to her husband, "Margaret evidently has a boy who weighs nine pounds and six ounces, but why on earth did they name him Isaiah?"

LAZY BIRD

"What luck, ma, here's our old nest and most as good as new."

Sportlight by Grantland Rice

WHETHER it's $3,000,000 or $4,000,000, Tom Yawkey of the Boston Red Sox has put out more money in his pennant pursuit than any man in baseball history.

In these days, what's a million, one way or another? Or even a billion? The point is that Owner Yawkey is at least getting a run for his money with the best club in baseball, outside of the pitching.

Grantland Rice

At least no one will argue that he hasn't the strongest club on all-around offense. Few pitchers care about stepping out against Ted Williams, Joe Cronin, Dom DiMaggio, Jimmy Foxx, Bobby Doerr, Jim Tabor, Lou Finney and others.

Few remember the fact that Tom Yawkey's Red Sox led the American league over a longer stretch last season than any other club, only to crumble in the stretch. Being an incurable optimist, Owner Yawkey is pretty sure this time they won't crumble.

About Tom Yawkey

In the first place, the Red Sox owner is one of the keenest baseball followers anyone ever saw.

In the second place, he is the type that wants to win far beyond the average human being.

Tom Yawkey may not show it, but on the inside he is a tough loser, no matter what the competition. If he hadn't been, Tom would have called it a day or a season some time ago. He is an extremely genial, liberal citizen, but baseball to him is no idle plaything. Winning an American league pennant is now an obsession, a matter of personal pride that goes beyond any concern with money.

He has put his full faith in Joe Cronin and he has backed Cronin up from start to finish.

In the last two years Yawkey has followed his ball club all over the map. He starts with his men in their spring training around Sarasota, and rarely ever gets out of reach.

They like him—and he likes them. Try to suggest that some other ball club has a better player in some position and you jump into the middle of a hot debate.

He realizes that his pitching has never been what it should be. He'd give $200,000 tomorrow for a pitcher good enough to win 20 games or more. He has already shoveled in too much gold to start balking at a mere $200,000.

But the trouble is you can't find them, no matter how much cash you have. Outside of Bob Feller, how many pitchers in the American league could be guaranteed for a 20-game season? And good clubs are not selling their best pitchers at any price.

A Hot Favorite

One of Tom Yawkey's top favorites is Lefty Grove. Yawkey paid out a small fortune for this famous left arm, only to have it go deader than a dodo the first year out.

Lefty Grove

There was a general outburst of kidding for what many called baseball's biggest sucker act. Tom Yawkey doesn't like to be on any sucker list. He isn't that type. So when Grove came rolling back and began to win again, the old-timer stopped all the outside kidding.

In the last few years, crowding the sunset border line, Grove has more than made the investment look first class.

Lefty had been smoking since he was 12 years old. At the age of 38 he gave up tobacco for two years to help out his condition, before resuming at a milder pace. At the age of 41, close to his 300th major league victory, Grove is still a factor in this pennant race.

Tom Yawkey never bought the Red Sox as a paying investment. He could have spent far less some time ago and bought Brooklyn. But he has always been an American leaguer at heart and he wanted to win an American league pennant.

He crashed in during the tough years—when the Yankees were mopping up, leading the league from season to season by 12 or 15 games. He was up against a ball club the mint couldn't beat, not even with the pick of both leagues.

I happen to know that in the spring of 1940 he thought the Yankees were due for the soapy chute. He had high hopes of a dream finally coming true. The Yankees did their skidding. But it was Detroit that dived through the opening, with Cleveland close. After leading the league most of the route Yawkey saw his Red Sox tied up around fourth place.

This spring in Florida he still refused to accept defeat, even with rickety pitching and a rickety defensive infield. He still banked on power—on the punch.

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Signal Code

The International Code of Signals, adopted by all nations for marine communication in 1934, uses 40 flags, 26 alphabetical, 10 numeral, 3 substitute flags and an answering pennant, says Colliers.

Although no more than four or five flags are usually hoisted at a time, at least 375,000 messages may be transmitted with them, all being visible through glasses, in clear weather, for a distance of five miles.

ASK ME ANOTHER ?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

The Questions

1. What is a chuck-will's-widow?
2. When it's 11 a. m. in Omaha, what time is it in Galveston, Texas?
3. Where are the Plains of Abraham?
4. What does a mace symbolize in legislative houses?
5. How does the world's record for running and ice skating 100 yards compare?
6. Who did Sir Walter Raleigh plot to place on the British throne in place of James I?
7. In what state is Harper's Ferry, the scene of John Brown's raid in 1859?
8. How many Presidents of the United States died on July 4?
9. Does rarefied or dense air affect the aim of bombers?
10. When an officer of the United States army is found guilty of cowardice or fraud, how is he punished?

The Answers

1. A bird. (So called from its note.)
2. 11 a. m.
3. Canada (Quebec).
4. Authority. A mace is a staff or mallet.
5. The record in both cases is 9.4—Identical to the split second.
6. Arabella Stuart.
7. New York.
8. Three—John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe.
9. Rarefied air, with its decreased resistance, causes bombers to overshoot their targets, while dense air, with its increased resistance, tends to make them undershoot their targets.
10. An officer found guilty is punished in three ways: He is dismissed from the service, his fellow officers no longer associate with him, and his crime and dismissal are published in the newspapers in and about his camp and in his home state.

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Unknown Future

A wise God shrouds the future in obscure darkness.—Horace.

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