115th Anniversary Edition

Queen Annes Record-Observer

FIFTH SECTION

CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1939

Jimmy Foxx: Baseball Siege Gun

Sudlersville Boy Started Diamond Career Early. Was Baseball, Track, Soccer Star In High School. Slugger Extraordinary With A's, Red Sox

On October 23rd, in the year of 1907, there was born on a farm near Sudlersville, a bouncing baby boy who would rather have a ball to bounce around than the usual baby rattle. This boy was christened James Emory Foxx and was destined to become one of the greatest baseball players of the world.

This year, 1939, will see the completion of Jimmy Foxx's fourteenth season in professional baseball. During these years, he spent eleven of them with Connie Mack of the Philadelphia Athletics while the remaining three years have been spent with the Boston Red Sox.

Son of a baseball player, Jimmy honestly gets his ability for playing baseball. His father, Dell Foxx, being a baseball catcher himself, was often employed by his small son to catch for him. At the age of six, little Jimmy enrolled at the elementary school at Dudley. When he was nine, he transferred to Sudlersville Elementary School where he was outstanding, both in studies and in athletics. It was at elementary school that he began making records in Centreville at the annual field meets. Some of his records are still intact. His mother proudly displays about fifteen medals for various things that he won while in high school and elementary school and confidentially, she tells us that girls have perhaps as many more.

At an early age, young Jimmy entered Sudlersville High School where he was again outstanding in athletics. He made the varsity baseball teams the four years he attended high school. He very efficiently held down the catching position in that famous Jimmy Foxx manner. Even in high school he became known for his good clean playing and his slugging ability. Foxx home runs won many games for the Sudlersville High Nine. In his Senior year at the high school, he led his nine to the county championship in baseball. That same year, 1923, he was also captain of the high school soccer team and was the outstanding Sudlersville in track and field. He graduated from Sudlersville High School with honors and that summer played baseball with Easton of the Eastern Shore League which was then coached by Frank Baker, once one of the greatest professional baseball players.

While playing with Easton, Coach Baker recognized great talent in Jimmy and immediately wrote to the great Connie Mack who came to see the young lad perform at the plate and behind it. He was greatly satisfied with the youngster's work and decided to sign him up.

Then, Mrs. Foxx stepped in. With visions of her son attending college, she flatly refused to let him sign a contract.

"Mother," questioned the young lad, "would you knock me out of the chance of a lifetime?"

No mother could hold out against such an earnest plea and young Jimmy signed a contract with Connie Mack, the grand old man of baseball. That summer, Jimmy was farmed out at Providence, Rhode Island.

As a matter of fact, we think the name of James Emory Foxx should wedge its ways among the greatest baseball names of all time, because no ball playing man was ever more versatile. (In 1930, Jimmy Foxx was picked by Connie Mack as one of the nine best baseball players of all time.) Since crashing the league—and we mean crashing—Foxx has played every position and mastered them all—except pitching, and they say he has an incorrigible hankering to try his hand at that. He broke in with the Athletics in 1926 as a catcher, but with Mickey Cochrane exerting his priority rights and proficiencies, Jimmy could procure little more than part time employment. So Connie Mack shifted him all around and James demonstrated his infinite talents at every position until he finally dropped anchor at first base.

In thirteen years, Jimmy has skidded below .320 but three time, and despite his lesser hitting years of .285 and .291, his lifetime batting average hovers snugly around .350! Along with his twin excellance of hitting and fielding Jimmy ranks among the first five fastest men in the league. And more, one of the things dearest our heart is the sight of James rooting his spikes into the batter's box, flexing his sculptured bronze biceps and letting go with his high-powered swing at a baseball. We love to cup our ear and listen to the solid twang as his bat rings against the league's pitching and sends whizzing white streaks high and deep into the outer limits.

Jimmy is happily married and the proud father of two boys, one nine and the other three. His wife was the Miss Helen Heite, of Dover, Delaware. Neither of his sons is interested in baseball. They live with their mother at the Foxx home in Jenkinstown, Pennsylvania, and are always anxiously awaiting the time when daddy can come home to see them. Jimmy's favorite hobby is hunting around his favorite haunts in Sudlersville and playing with his two children.

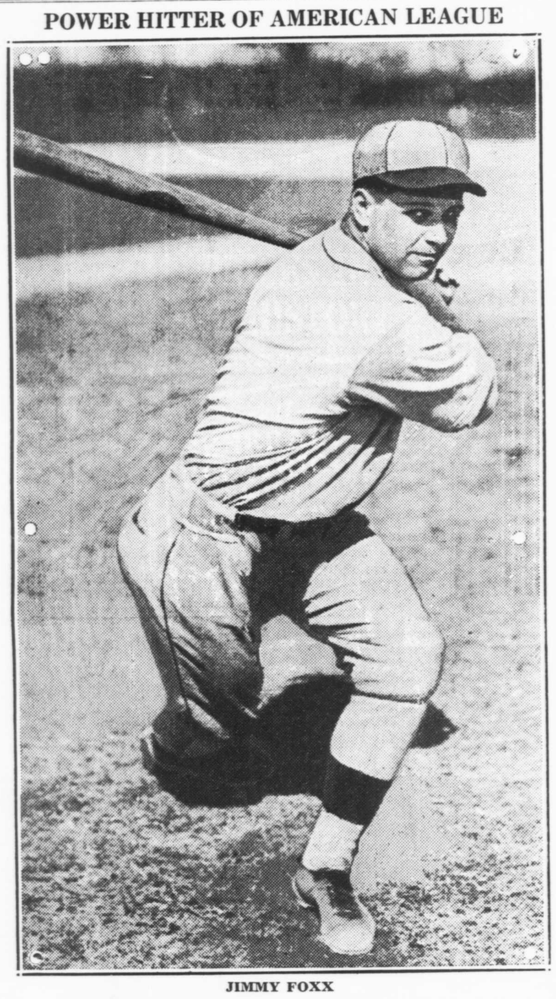
Several weeks ago, city newspapers reported that Jimmy was seriously ill. For instance, we cite an article which appeared in the Washington Herald several weeks ago: "For a semi-invalid, subject to constant medical care, fierce headaches and multi-miseries which attend a sinus condition, James Emory Foxx, of the Red Sox, is setting a pretty terrific pace. Sometimes, they say, water spills into his eyes until he can scarcely see; angry throbbings make dull and taunting kettle drum sounds between his temples, and sudden anusea often comes to seize him in its unbalancing grip.

"But despite his tremendous physical handicap, Foxx still manages to pock-mark the distant outfield soddings with the hemispherical imprints of his pokes. He still manages to whack patches of paint from the fences and drop long howitzer shots upon the shingled roof-tops and skylights of neighboring dwellings. And, though just a few days removed from the stiff linens and medicinal smells of a Boston hospital, Foxx today owns a dozen homers and a fat .350 for a batting average."

But Mrs. Foxx, his mother, says all this is just a lot of newspaper "stuff." True, Jimmy was sick a couple of days but it was nothing so bad as that. He suffered a slight attack of appendicitis but there is no danger and no operation will have to be performed. He is now back in the lineup and a well man.

Brother, when you feast your eyes upon a Foxx home run you're sitting in upon the birth of a masterpiece, for James throws his soul into his art. And when it comes to condensing the whole of his 190-pound muscle structure into the quart -milk bottle position of his bat—stay your sniffs and stifle your yawns—because, boys, a Rembrandt is daubing in his final lick!

POWER HITTER OF AMERICAN LEAGUE



JIMMY FOXX

GUERNSEY SALES

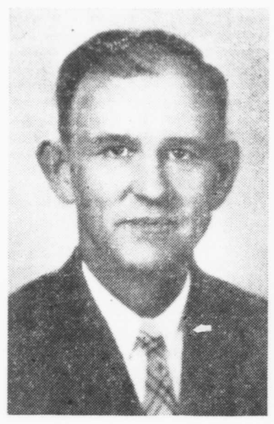
Sales of registered purebred Guernseys involving owners in Queen Anne's county recently incude the purchase of Merrygill by S. Reese Hatchitt of Great Hopes Farm from Henry W. Leeds of Westville, N. J., and sale of Emperor's Ida Rose and Emeperor's Betty Rose by Thomas F. Mitchell of Centreville to Paul Robinson of Church Hill.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY OFFICIALS

Commissioner

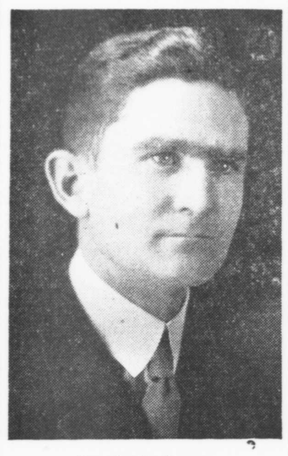
Dr. J. W Crowl

Commissioner



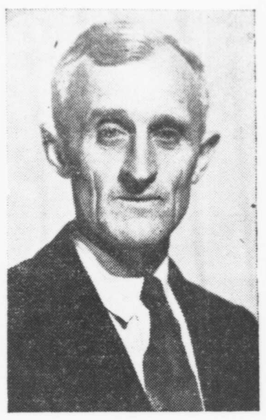
J. Clay Stevens

Commissioner



Joseph M. George

Treasurer



J. Edgar Bryan

RECEIVES TWO-STAR EMBLEM

A. E. Dadds, an employee in the Centreville office of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City, received, during July, a two-star emblem in rceognition of ten years of service with the company, according to an announcement made by H. B. Towers, manager.

During July, 79 employees of the C. and P. Telephone Company in Maryland were awarded emblems. They had an aggregate of 910 years of service.

A new grass found in Africa grows forty-eight feet long.

115 YEARS FROM NOW...

. . . perhaps we shall be taking week-end trips to Mars in a shining rocket . . . perhaps we shall be doing our business in a few hours a day and spending well-earned leisure in all other pursuits that eternally pull at the mind and spirit of men . . . perhaps we shall have healed the world of hunger and disease and a hundred kinds of suffering . . . perhaps . . . the mind goes on and on . . . to things that certainly will come true . . . and to things that certainly will never come true.

One hundred and fifteen years from now . . . many things will be the same. The natures of men . . . their dispositions and feelings . . . will not change. Institutions likewise that have the character of permanence will be here—keyed to a new time and new ideas—but fundamentally the same.

W. D. Roe & Son would like to predict, for example, just because it is a pleasing thought—that the Queen Anne's Record-Observer will be here in the year 2054 . . . and the outstanding companies throughout the county today.

W. D. Roe & Son has always built on permanence in the time-honored business of grain-dealing. W. D. Roe & Son has bought and sold grain to the satisfaction of their customers . . . in the belief that Queen Anne's County farmers expect and demand satisfactory grain service. It was so in 1880 . . . It is so in 1939 . . . It will be so in 2054.

W. D. ROE *and* SON

DEALERS IN GRAIN

Sudlersville - Phone Millington 32-F-4 35-F-21