


 AN ATTACK

LATEST attack on baseball, and in some ways, one of the most amusing, appears in a North Dakota monthly publication, *Jim Jam Jems*. The Dakota editor turns his batteries loose upon the finish of the National League campaign, and Brooklyn's victory; he throws all kinds of rocks at John Evers, John McGraw and August Herrmann, and he takes a special roast at big league players in general.

Right here is where the Dakota man falls over the hurdles, upsets his own apple-cart, and proves himself a most hilarious animal of a long-eared species which is cousin to the horse. He declares that nearly all big leaguers are rowdies pure and simple; that the only collegians in the big show are fellows who were carried on the college rosters solely because they could play baseball, and—as a climax—that nearly all the major league athletes become either keepers of roadhouses or bartenders when they give up the game.

This stuff is so ridiculous that it becomes enjoyable. If the Dakota scribe has any money, he can get immediate action for it on the following propositions:

A: The big leagues are fairly packed with real collegians, graduated with high honors in scholarship, and playing ball as a decent, honorable way of making a

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living, or as a stepping-stone to other professions.

B: He cannot name five big league players who run roadhouses.

C: He cannot name fifteen big league players who are bartenders.

D: There are, in the membership of the two major leagues thirty times as many prosperous farmers or plantation owners as there are roadhouse keepers, and ten times as many farmers as there are bartenders.

College men in the big leagues? (and the writer does not profess to know nearly all the college graduates in that organization):

Hal Chase is from Santa Clara College, Cal., as is Harry Hooper, of the World's champion Red Sox. Dave Robertson is a Southern college man. Fred Williams, of the Cubs, hails from Notre Dame. Chief Bender is a Carlisle graduate. Buck Herzog attended the University of Maryland. Max Carey is a graduate of a Lutheran university. Steve Yerkes is the once-famous University of Pennsylvania second baseman. Earl Neale, of the Reds, graduated at Wheeling. George Cutshaw, of Brooklyn, like Williams, is a Notre Dame man. Carson Bigbee, Pittsburgh's new marvel, is from Oregon University. Fred Snodgrass is a California collegian. Chief Meyers went to both Dartmouth and Carlisle. A few other collegians on the National League rosters are Bob Bescher, Mike Doolan, Alex McCarthy, Jack Coombs, Lee Meadows, Eppa Rixey, Ed. Reulbach and George Chalmers.

As to the relative numbers of fanners vs. bartenders and roadhouse keepers—can anyone name even five players who own or have any interests in roadhouses? Or fifteen players who are tending bar? It would take a couple of pages to enumerate the farmers, ranchers and plantation managers—and everybody, except the Dakota editor, knows it, too. So what's the use?

