# SPEEDWAYS SLATE DOUBLEHEADERS

#### The **Fearless** Spectator By



Charles McCabe, Esquire

Soon or late each of us inteprid commentators on important matters falls athwart that great American institution, the pressure group.

I have come to feel, right on my return from a road trip, the fierce wrath of an organized minority.
The Southpaw Lobby is after me.

The psychiatrists assure me that in these extremities the human animal reacts in two ways: he either fights or flees. I am not certain which course

to take. Or to seek a middle course, if there is one.

If I were a politician I could appoint an interim ad hoc committee to study the facts. This is fancy for sweeping the problem under the rug.

Since I am but an author and dues paying malcontent, I have not this cozy recourse. I just have to face up to the charge that I am prejudiced against lefties.

I have in the past made some observations about leftie pitchers, like the late Rube Waddell and Bo Belinsky. That they were non-conformists. Or, if you wish, a bit dotty. And I have remarked that there seem to be

singularly few left handed drinkers in the world. Which would come under the heading of idle observa-

But no. I have incurred the wrath of The League for Abolition of Discrimination Against Southpaws. LADAS, for short.

"When you indicated in print recently that our late conferere and honorary member emeritus, Brother Waddell, might have been unusual in his habits, it devolved upon me to communicate with you that the stories of his eccentricities are merely fabrications, composed by jealous right handers, to dim the memory of his great pitching performances."

Thus a LADAS spokesman, Mr. Abner W. Fritz, who says he represents "those who operate from the port side of the human frame."

Mr. Fritz may have something there, as there have been reports that much Waddelliana came from the hot pen of a right-handed Philly baseball writer named Charlie Dryden.

But his shameless power block thinks I dislike lefties. Just as other people think I'm anti-Negro, anti-Giants, anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, and ever anti-anti-anti.

They are all right, of course. Unlike the late Will Rogers, I can say I've never met a man I could not dislike. If I put my mind to it. As, on occasion, I have. Yet I thought I liked lefties. A left-handed man

throwing a baseball is one of the most improbable sights in the world, if you come to think of it. Like a two-year-old playing croquet. And that's why I like 'em. Both.

My affection does not come through, somehow. In an extraordinary move, LADAS recently held a special indignation meeting at Whittier, Calif., where they condemned me at great length, according to Mr. Fritz. "I feel you should be apprised of the meeting's results," he says.

"During our existance," he points out, "we have struck blows for the rights of such illustrous digni-taries as pitcher Vernon Gomez and tennis star Art Larsen. For decades we have endured, silently, the outrages and outpourings of right handers.

As left handers, we knew we were better. As a racially and religiously integrated group, we welcomed the presence of all who were bestowed with the bounty of portsidedness. Yet we knew we must be tolerant of the less fortunate.

So tonight in my little brown notebook I shall write 150 times, "I love lefties." But I insist the pressure of LADAS has nothing to do with this. Just Platonic justice. Okay?

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