

John Berly, whose tricky curves hoisted him from sandlot baseball to the major leagues, informs Milwaukee Brewers' owner Bill Veech that he is retiring. Berly opts to keep his job as a clothes buyer for a clothing store in Houston. Berly asks to be placed on the voluntary retired list or be given his outright release.

He pitched for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1924 and 1928, the New York Giants in 1931, and the Philadelphia Phillies in 1932 and 1933. In his four major league seasons, Berly is 10-13 with a 5.02 ERA.

In an 18-year minor league career, Berly saw action with 14 clubs in eight leagues, won 164 games and had two 20-win seasons with the South Atlantic League Spartanburg Spartans in 1925 and 1927. In 1941, he set an International League record by pitching 63 games for Toronto and Rochester.

Meanwhile in New York, when the Ellis Island Coast Guard baseball team met the New York Giants in an exhibition game at the Lakewood Grounds, the Ocean County park department took precautions against fire hazards. State, county and local fire-fighting equipment was on hand because with the spring forest fire season at hand and it was feared a careless smoker might toss a cigarette aside and ignite the park's wooded area.

An American Legion Post in New York, starts a move to have Eddie Grant admitted to baseball's Hall of Fame. Captain Grant was the only professional ball player killed in World War I. He commanded a company of the 307th Infantry and was killed during the Argonne offensive. The Post says, "We do not base our claim on his ability as a ball player, but at the age of 37, he was one of the first to volunteer for service in the first World War, in which he served with distinction."

