

# On This Date **September 17, 1930**

## *Flint Rehm Falls Off Wagon Again! Cards Star Pitcher Gone 24 Hours, Says Armed Men Made Him Drink*

So, the above headline screamed on the morning of the St. Louis Cardinals' big game that afternoon with the Brooklyn Robins.

Ten games out of first place on August 19, the streaking Cardinals had pulled into a tie with Brooklyn the day before on Bill Hallahan's 1-0 five-hit shutout of the Robins in 10 innings.

With only 11 days left in the regular season, St. Louis manager Gabby Street turns to veteran right-hander Flint Rehm, winner of six in a row, for Wednesday's afternoon matinee in Ebbets Field.



Only one problem. Rehm is nowhere to be found. The Clemson College graduate eventually shows up and tells his dubious manager that two "thugs" had kidnapped him and taken him to a remote roadhouse, where they forced him to drink a large quantity of hard liquor.

"Yes," Rehm said. "Bandits. Guns. Kidnapping. They made me drink the awful stuff. And I am sorry to say that I got drunk. Imagine that happening to me! Of all people, me! ... I was helpless, always in fear of my life."

An exasperated Street turns to Syl Johnson, who turns in seven strong innings in a 5-3 win that vaults St. Louis to the National League pennant and a berth in the World Series where they lose to the Philadelphia Athletics, four games to two.