

## *Jack Fenton Traded for a Few Prunes*

On March 23, 1933, the Pacific Coast League's San Francisco Seals trade a case of mammoth Santa Clara prunes to Memphis of the Southern Association for first baseman Jack "Ears" Fenton.

In an exchange of telegrams, President Tom Watkins of the Memphis club says he is satisfied with his end of the deal and Vice President Charles Graham of the Seals replies he is too.

After this trade is announced, the question arises, "who got the better of the deal?"

Here's hoping that Watkins enjoys the prunes as 27-year-old Fenton marks his return to the Pacific Coast League hitting .315 with 195 hits with 32 doubles, five triples, four home runs and 75 RBIs.

After hitting .293 for the Seals in 1934, Fenton, a well-known temperamental player, leaves organized baseball, electing to play for the semipro Lodi Wine Men, sponsored by the Roma Winery.

Two years later, Fenton, now 40 pounds heavier than his playing weight, is running a high-end tavern in Oakland. Later, Fenton serves for 10 years as a seasonal property appraiser for the city and as an inspector for the State Agriculture Department in Hayward. He passes away on March 21, 1963, in Oakland. He is 57 years old.

