

The INSIDE GAME



The Official Newsletter of SABR's Deadball Era Committee

VOL. XIV, No. 1: "LET'S GET THIS LUMPY LICORICE-STAINED BALL ROLLING!" FEBRUARY 2014

THE CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

by **John McMurray**

The proliferation of books focused on the Deadball Era in recent years has, for the most part, had one distinguishing characteristic: an emphasis on individual biography. Of course, the most notable figures of the Deadball Era—from Mathewson to Cobb to Walter Johnson—had at least one biography written about them decades ago, sometimes to considerable acclaim. It is the current emphasis on writing full-length biographies of less-prominent stars of the period which is striking.

Indeed, the breadth of Deadball Era players who have now had their lives examined in great detail has become quite long. In 2013, new biographies of Napoleon Lajoie, Smoky Joe Wood, and Ross Youngs were released, and a biography of Hub Perdue has already been published this year. The year prior, Jimmy Collins and Chief Meyers were the subject of new biographical works. Though it is a non-exhaustive list, other notable Deadball Era figures who have been the subject of individual biographies over the past ten years include Grover Cleveland Alexander, Chief Bender, Fred Clarke, Eddie Collins, Red Faber,

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ACCURATE RBI RECORDS FOR THE PLAYERS OF THE DEADBALL ERA: PART 1 – THE PLAYERS ON THE 1919 BOSTON RED SOX

by **Herm Krabbenhoft**

Without doubt, the run is THE definitive element of baseball. The number of runs a team scores in a game (relative to the number of runs the opposing team scores) determines which team wins the game. The run is, therefore, the most important aspect in baseball. There are two principal metrics that measure the performance of a player with respect to his effectiveness in generating runs for his team – (1) runs scored and (2) runs batted in. These two metrics provide real statistics – i.e., they are not artificial stats; they are not theoretical numbers. Runs Scored and Runs Batted In are concrete measures of actual performance. Therefore, runs scored and runs batted in are important statistics – both on an absolute basis and on a relative basis – for evaluating and comparing offensive performance – both from the present perspective and from a historical perspective. And, to have meaningful evaluations, one needs to have accurate statistics for both runs scored and runs

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batted in. While the runs scored by each player have been recorded since the beginning of the National League in 1876, the runs batted in by each player did not become an officially recorded statistic until 1920. Furthermore, the RBI was not even officially defined until 1931.

INTRODUCTION

As indicated above, there are no official runs batted in records for players prior to 1920 – including the players of the Deadball Era (1901-1919). There were, however, unofficial RBI statistics – generated contemporaneously by baseball writer Ernie Lanigan for each season during the 1907-1919 period – i.e., for most of the Deadball Era. For example, the February 5, 1920, edition of *The Sporting News* presented the leaders in runs batted in for the American League season of 1919 according to Lanigan. See Table 1A.

Similarly, J.G. Taylor Spink of *The Sporting News* utilized Lanigan's RBI numbers in the second (1951) through the eighth (1990) editions of his book *Daguerrotypes of Great Stars of Baseball*. See Table 2A for the 1907-1919 RBI

record of Tris Speaker, who began his MLB career in 1907 with the Boston Red Sox.

Lanigan's RBI numbers were also used by Hy Turkin and S.C Thompson in their classic baseball reference book, *The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball* (first published in 1951). See Tables 3A and 4A for the annual league leaders in runs batted in for the 1907-1919 seasons.

And, beginning in the mid-1950s, *The Sporting News* also used Lanigan's RBI numbers for its lists of league leaders in runs batted in presented in their annual go-to publications: *The Official Baseball Guide* (1954 through 1981), and *One for the Book*, later titled *The Complete Baseball Record Book* (1956-2005). So, for nearly six decades Lanigan's RBI numbers were the only RBI numbers available for players of the Deadball Era. Then, in the spring of 1969, David S. Neft's *The Baseball Encyclopedia* appeared, published by Macmillan (and nicknamed "Big-Mac").¹ Neft and his research team had, beginning in the fall of 1965, assembled a brand new data base of baseball statistics – including

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NEW DEADBALL ERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Inside Game is pleased to welcome the following SABR members who have expressed interest in the Deadball Era to the committee:

Christopher Boyd
Howard Burman
James Keenan
Gary Kenney
Greg Morrill
Bertrand Polus
Eric Robinson
James Robinson
David Southwick

We look forward to their active participation in committee endeavors. These new committee members, as well as our newsletter contributors, can be contacted via the SABR directory.

runs batted in – for the period 1891 through 1919. Tables 1B, 2B, 3B, and 4B present Neft's RBI numbers along side of Lanigan's RBI numbers.

Examination of Table 1B from a mathematics perspective reveals that for only five of the 48 players listed do the RBI numbers of Neft agree with the RBI numbers of Lanigan. For 26 of the players, Neft's RBI numbers are lower than Lanigan's numbers; for 17 of the players, Neft's RBI numbers are higher. The range of the differences is from Neft's RBI numbers being seven less than Lanigan's RBI numbers (e.g., Larry Gardner's 79 RBIs compared to 86 RBIs) to Neft's RBI numbers being seven more than Lanigan's RBI numbers (e.g., Eddie Collins's 80 RBIs versus 73 RBIs). The median absolute-value difference in RBI numbers is two. From the perspective of utilizing runs-batted-in statistics for evaluating player performance, the key question, however, is: "For each of these players, whose RBI number is correct – Lanigan's or Neft's – or are both RBI numbers incorrect?"

Moving on to Table 2B, it is seen that, except for the 1918 season, Neft's RBI numbers for Tris Speaker do not agree with Lanigan's RBI numbers for The Grey Eagle. For eight of the 13 seasons, Neft's RBI numbers for Speaker are lower than Lanigan's RBI numbers. Overall, Neft's RBI number (805) for Spoke is 33 less than Lanigan's RBI number (838). Again, the critical question is: "For each Deadball Era season, whose RBI number is correct for Speaker – Lanigan's or Neft's – or are both RBI numbers incorrect?"

Lastly, looking at Tables 3B and 4B, it is seen that Neft's RBI numbers differ from Lanigan's RBI numbers for each of the 13 seasons during the 1907-1919 period. Most of the differences are negative, i.e., Neft's RBI numbers are lower than Lanigan's RBI numbers. Some of the differences are huge, e.g., a 17-RBI difference for Cobb's 1911 season (144 RBIs compared to 127 RBIs); a 14-RBI delta for Schulte's 1911 season (121 RBIs versus 107 RBIs). Indeed, the corresponding RBI numbers are so different that for some seasons, Neft has different league leaders than does



1919 AL RBI Leader Babe Ruth

Lanigan – three seasons in the Junior Circuit (1915, 1916, and 1918) and five campaigns in the Senior Loop (1907, 1911, 1912, 1916, and 1918).

Once again, the prominent question is: "For each Deadball Era season, whose RBI number is correct for the league leader – Lanigan's or Neft's – or are both RBI numbers incorrect?" To properly answer this and the other salient questions, one needs to know the criteria used by Lanigan and Neft to credit or to not credit a player with a run batted in. From Lanigan's RBI information in Table 1A we know that he classified RBIs according to RBIs from hits and RBIs from outs. It is not known if Lanigan included runs scored via walks or hit-by-pitches with the bases loaded in RBIs from hits or if he included runs scored on safe-on-fielder's-choice plays in RBIs from outs. Likewise, it is not known what criteria were utilized by Neft – or more importantly, the various members of Neft's research team. As it has developed, Neft's RBI numbers for the Deadball Era are now utilized

exclusively in the various baseball encyclopedias, record books, and websites.^{2,3} So, here we are now, 100-or-so years after the Deadball Era, and we still may not know for certain who the actual RBI leaders are for each team or league or how many RBIs each player actually achieved.

This was the state of affairs in early 2012 when I commenced my research effort to ascertain the accurate RBI record of Babe Ruth for his entire major league career, which included six seasons in the Deadball Era (1914-1919). Table 5 shows the actual RBIs Babe Ruth achieved during each of his six seasons with the Boston Red Sox (1914-1919).^{4,5} Also shown for comparison are Lanigan's and Neft's RBI numbers.

As can be readily seen, while Lanigan's RBI numbers are correct for only The Bambino's first three seasons (1914-1916), Neft's RBI numbers are wrong for each of Ruth's six seasons. The research procedure that I employed to ascertain the accurate RBI record of Babe Ruth consisted of obtaining the complete details for each of the runs scored in the games Ruth played for the Red Sox. Complete details means the following three items were determined for each run:

- (1) The identity of the player who scored the run.
- (2) The run-scoring event – e.g., a two-RBI single; a one-RBI grounder (batter safe on a fielding error); a 0-RBI grounder (batter safe on a fielding error); a one-RBI bases-loaded walk; a 0-RBI balk; etc.
- (3) The identity of the batter who completed his plate appearance during the run-scoring event.

The rules that I followed to credit or to not credit a player with a run batted in were those specified in the 1931 official scoring rules:

1931 Official Scoring Rules for Runs Batted In: *“Runs Batted In are runs scored on safe hits (including home runs), sacrifice hits, outfield put-outs, infield put-outs, and when the run is forced over by reason of the batsman becoming a base-runner. With less than two outs, if an error is made on a play*

on which a runner from third would ordinarily score, credit the batsman with a Run Batted In.” [Rule 70, Section 13]

It is pointed out that the 1920-1930 Official Scoring Rules for Runs Batted In provide absolutely no guidance for what constituted a run batted in and what did not constitute a run batted in. The entire 1920-1930 Official Scoring Rules for Runs Batted In consisted of just these 13 words:

1920-1930 Official Scoring Rules for Runs Batted In: *“The summary shall contain: The number of runs batted in by each batsman.”* [Rule 86, Section B]

It is also noteworthy to point out that the 1931 Official Scoring Rules for Runs Batted In are essentially the same rules in use today, the only major difference being the change implemented in 1939: *“The batsman shall not be credited with driving in a run when a runner scores as he hits into a force infield double play or a double play in which the first baseman picks up a fair hit ground ball, touches first base and then throws to second retiring the runner who had been on first, said runner not being forced, has to be tagged out.”*

Since Babe Ruth played in 130 of Boston's 138 games in 1919, in my determination of George Herman's accurate RBI record for 1919, I effectively also determined the accurate RBI records for each of the other 29 men who played for the 1919 Red Sox. Only eight games remained without complete details for each run scored by the BoSox. I have now completed obtaining the complete details for each of the runs scored in those eight games, which allows me to provide the accurate RBI records for each player on the 1919 Boston Red Sox team in this article.

RESULTS

Table 6 presents the actual RBI records for each man who played for the Boston Red Sox in the 1919 season. Also shown for comparison are Neft's RBI numbers and, if available, Lanigan's RBI numbers.

Inspection of Table 6 reveals that, while the differences between Neft's RBI numbers and the actual numbers are generally small (the median absolute-value difference is just two runs), Neft's RBI numbers are not correct for nearly two-thirds of the players (19 out of 30), including each of the six players who would be considered regulars (i.e., those players who participated in at least 100 games): Harry Hooper, Stuffie McInnis, Babe Ruth, Wally Schang, Everett Scott, and Ossie Vitt. When considering only the 24 players who actually had at least one run batted in, Neft's RBI numbers are wrong for 16 of the players – 67 %.

DISCUSSION

The “Actual” RBI information for each of the 1919 Red Sox players presented in Table 6 is totally reliable. I obtained complete details for each of the 565 runs scored by Boston in the 1919 campaign. For each game, I used independent game accounts from several newspapers – three major daily Boston newspapers (the Globe, Herald, and Post) and at least one newspaper from the city of the team that opposed the Red Sox. I also submitted the documentation for the 130 games that Ruth played to Retrosheet's Tom Ruane and Dave Smith for their independent review of the evidence. They concurred with my conclusions, and implemented the actual RBI numbers in the Retrosheet boxscore file and the derived daily files for each of the players on the 1919 Boston Red Sox. The complete R-RBI documentation that I assembled for the 130 games in which Ruth played is available on the Retrosheet website (Reference 4). The complete R-RBI documentation for the runs scored and runs batted in by the Boston players in the other eight Red Sox games is provided in the Appendix of this article. Furthermore, these runs-scored and runs-batted-in numbers are in complete agreement with the box score and player daily files on the Retrosheet website. The bottom line with respect to accuracy of my RBI numbers for the 1919 Boston Red Sox players is that they are entirely reliable, and the supporting documentation is readily available to anyone who wishes to review it.

That is not the case with Neft's RBI numbers for the 1919 Boston Red Sox players. There is absolutely no supporting evidence available. In a telephone conversation with Mr. Neft on June 25, 2013, I asked him about there not being any game-by-game RBI data for the 1905-1919 seasons. Mr. Neft told me that the intention was to donate the original 1905-1919 files to the Hall of Fame, as had been done for the 1891-1904 files. In the meantime, however, the 1905-1919 files were stored in a warehouse, which had a fire and apparently all of the 1905-1919 files were destroyed. I also asked Mr. Neft if there were any back-up files or printouts for the 1905-1919 seasons. He said that he was not aware of any.

In my June 25, 2013, phone conversation with Mr. Neft I also asked him, “So does that mean there are no data available to support your RBI numbers for the 1905-1919 seasons, including the 1906 Detroit Tigers?” Mr. Neft answered, “That appears to be so.” So, there are no data available to support Neft's RBI numbers for the 1905-1919 seasons, including the 1919 Boston Red Sox. In a presentation given at the SABR Baseball Records Committee meeting during the 2013 National Convention of the Society for American Baseball Research, I reported a similar situation for the RBI records of the players on the 1906 Detroit Tigers. Of the 19 players with at least one RBI, Neft's RBI numbers are wrong for 15 of the players – 79%.^{6,7}

CONCLUDING REMARKS

First, this article provides the accurate RBI record for each player on the 1919 Boston Red Sox. Second, this article demonstrates that Neft's RBI numbers for the players on the 1919 Boston Red Sox are mostly wrong. Third, combining the first two conclusions with the analogous conclusions from my research on the RBI records of Babe Ruth's 1914-1919 seasons and on the RBI records of the players on the 1906 Detroit Tigers suggests that Neft's RBI numbers for many (perhaps most) of the players from the 1891-1919 period – including the 1901-1919 Deadball Era – may be wrong. Fourth, there clearly is a need to carry out the requisite research to establish an accurate runs batted in record for each player

from the Deadball Era, and thereby corroborate or refute Neft's RBI numbers. Fifth, I heartily encourage fellow members of SABR's Deadball Era Committee to carry out the requisite research to ascertain the accurate RBI records of the players on their favorite teams. A collaborative team effort within the committee would greatly facilitate this important endeavor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I gratefully thank the following people for their help to me in achieving the correct RBI record for the players on the 1919 Boston Red Sox: Steve Boren, Keith Carlson, Tom Ruane, Dave Smith, Gary Stone, and Dixie Tourangeau.

Longtime SABR member Herm Krabbenhoft is a retired research chemist. Aspects of his groundbreaking analysis and revision of baseball statistical records have been featured in The Baseball Research Journal and presented at SABR conventions. Part 2 of Herm's article on Deadball Era RBIs will appear in the May newsletter.

SPRING 2014 SABR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS: NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

SABR Headquarters has requested the assistance of committee newsletters in publicizing the Spring 2014 elections for the SABR Board of Directors. Elections will be conducted for the following positions: Vice-President (two-year term), Treasurer (three-year term), and Director (three-year term). The deadline for submitting a nomination for any of these positions is February 28, 2014, and self-nominations are welcome. For more information on the Board of Director positions and/or the nomination process, go to the SABR website and click on the Latest News tab.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. For information on the making of "Big-Mac," see: (a) "Preface," *The Baseball Encyclopedia* (New York: Macmillan, 1969), 5-8; (b) Alan Schwartz, *The Numbers Game* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2004): Chapter 5, 92-109.
2. The various baseball encyclopedias and record books utilizing Neft's 1891-1919 RBI numbers include: (a) *The Baseball Encyclopedia* (New York: Macmillan, 1969-1996); (b) *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1974-2007); (c) *Total Baseball* (New York and Kingston, NY: Warner Books, Viking Press, Total Sports Publishing, and Sport Media Publishing, 1989-2004); (d) *The ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia* (New York: Sterling Press, 2004-2008); (e) *STATS ML Baseball Handbook* (STATS Publishing Inc., 1998-2000); (f) *The Complete Baseball Record Book* (St. Louis: The Sporting News, 2005-2008).
3. The various baseball websites utilizing Neft's 1891-1919 RBI numbers include: (a) Baseball-Reference (www.baseball-reference.com); (b) Baseball Almanac (www.baseball-almanac.com); (c) Retrosheet (www.retrosheet.org).
4. Herm Krabbenhoft, "Babe Ruth's RBI Record with the Boston Red Sox (1914-1919)," Retrosheet.org (Features: Research Papers).
5. Herm Krabbenhoft, "The Accurate RBI Record of Babe Ruth," *The Baseball Research Journal* (Spring, 2013), 37-44.
6. Herm Krabbenhoft, "Runs Scored ... Missing ... Found ... Phantom," SABR Baseball Records Committee Meeting, National Convention of the Society for American Baseball Research (Philadelphia: July 31-August 4, 2013).
7. Herm Krabbenhoft, "From Mostly Wrong to Accurate: The Runs-Batted-In Statistics for Players on the 1906 Detroit Tigers," *The Baseball Research Journal* (submitted for publication in 2014).

NEW YORK—Charles H. Ebbets, Sr., president of the Brooklyn National League Club, announced yesterday that \$100,000 of the eight per cent preferred stock in the club would be placed on sale. Ebbets said this action was taken not because the club needs money, but to give the Brooklyn fans a chance to hold a little of the stock.

The Paterson Press, February 19, 1915

**TABLE 1A: THE LEADERS IN RUNS BATTED IN
FOR THE AL IN 1919 ACCORDING TO LANIGAN.**

Player	Team	RBI's on hits	RBI's on outs	RBI's total
Babe Ruth	BOS	104	8	112
Bobby Veach	DET	80	18	98
Joe Jackson	CHI	80	17	97
Harry Heilmann	DET	83	12	95
Happy Felsch	CHI	70	19	89
Duffy Lewis	NY	73	14	87
Larry Gardner	CLE	71	15	86
George Sisler	STL	71	12	83
Frank Baker	NY	68	10	78
Buck Weaver	CHI	66	10	76
Eddie Collins	CHI	57	16	73
Sam Rice	WAS	65	7	72
Ty Cobb	DET	60	9	69
Tris Speaker	CLE	56	13	69
Tilly Walker	PHI	52	12	64
Del Pratt	NY	55	8	63
Stuffy McInnis	BOS	50	10	60
Jack Tobin	STL	52	7	59
Elmer Smith	CLE	51	8	59
Ping Bodie	NY	52	6	58
Bill Wambsganss	CLE	51	7	58
Ray Chapman	CLE	47	10	57
Bob Jones	DET	47	7	54
George Burns	PHI	47	6	53
Baby Doll Jacobson	STL	44	8	52
Braggo Roth	PHI-BOS	44	6	50
Howie Shanks	WAS	35	15	50
Wally Schang	BOS	43	5	48
Ira Flagstead	DET	42	6	48
Harry Hooper	BOS	43	5	48
Wally Pipp	NY	35	13	48
Joe Harris	CLE	39	8	47
Steve O'Neill	CLE	36	10	46
Patsy Gharrity	WAS	38	6	44
Mike Menosky	WAS	36	4	40
Ossie Vitt	BOS	33	7	40
Ray Schalk	CHI	31	10	40
Everett Scott	BOS	36	3	39
Wally Gerber	STL	30	9	39
Doc Johnston	CLE	31	7	38
Clyde Milan	WAS	28	9	37
Joe Dugan	PHI	28	8	36
Swede Risberg	CHI	28	8	36
Eddie Ainsmith	DET	33	2	35
Ken Williams	STL	31	4	35
Roger Peckinpaugh	NY	30	4	34
Hank Severeid	STL	30	3	33
Earl Smith	STL	23	10	33

**TABLE 2A: TRIS SPEAKER'S RBI RECORD
(1907-1919) ACCORDING TO LANIGAN.**

Year	Team	RBI's
1907	BOS	0
1908	BOS	10
1909	BOS	79
1910	BOS	62
1911	BOS	80
1912	BOS	99
1913	BOS	81
1914	BOS	86
1915	BOS	63
1916	CLE	83
1917	CLE	65
1918	CLE	61
1919	CLE	69

**TABLE 3A: ANNUAL AL LEADERS IN RBIS IN
THE OFFICIAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BASEBALL.**

Year	AL Leader	Team	RBI's
1907	Ty Cobb	DET	116
1908	Ty Cobb	DET	101
1909	Ty Cobb	DET	115
1910	Sam Crawford	DET	115
1911	Ty Cobb	DET	144
1912	Frank Baker	PHI	133
1913	Frank Baker	PHI	126
1914	Sam Crawford	DET	112
1915	Sam Crawford	DET	116
1916	Wally Pipp	NY	99
1917	Bobby Veach	DET	115
1918	George Burns	PHI	74
	Bobby Veach	DET	74
1919	Babe Ruth	BOS	112

**TABLE 4A: ANNUAL NL LEADERS IN RBIS IN
THE OFFICIAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BASEBALL.**

Year	NL Leader	Team	RBI's
1907	Honus Wagner	PIT	91
1908	Honus Wagner	PIT	106
1909	Honus Wagner	PIT	102
1910	Sherry Magee	PHI	116
1911	Frank Schulte	CHI	121
1912	Heinie Zimmerman	CHI	106
1913	Gavvy Cravath	PHI	129
1914	Sherry Magee	PHI	101
1915	Gavvy Cravath	PHI	118
1916	Hal Chase	CIN	84
1917	Heinie Zimmerman	NY	100
1918	Fred Merkle	CHI	71
1919	Hy Myers	BRK	72

TABLE 1B: THE LEADERS IN BATTING IN RUNS IN THE AL IN 1919 ACCORDING TO LANIGAN AND NEFT.

#	Player	Team	Lanigan RBIs on hits	Lanigan RBIs on outs	Lanigan RBIs total	Neft RBIs total	$ \Delta $ [§]
1	Babe Ruth	BOS	104	8	112	114	2
2	Bobby Veach	DET	80	18	98	101	3
3	Joe Jackson	CHI	80	17	97	96	(1)
4	Harry Heilmann	DET	83	12	95	93	(2)
5	Happy Felsch	CHI	70	19	89	86	(3)
6	Duffy Lewis	NY	73	14	87	89	2
7	Larry Gardner	CLE	71	15	86	79	(7)
8	George Sisler	STL	71	12	83	83	—
9	Frank Baker	NY	68	10	78	83	5
10	Buck Weaver	CHI	66	10	76	75	(1)
11	Eddie Collins	CHI	57	16	73	80	7
12	Sam Rice	WAS	65	7	72	71	(1)
13	Ty Cobb	DET	60	9	69	70	1
14	Tris Speaker	CLE	56	13	69	63	(6)
15	Tilly Walker	PHI	52	12	64	64	—
16	Del Pratt	NY	55	8	63	56	(7)
17	Stuffy McInnis	BOS	50	10	60	58	(2)
18	Jack Tobin	STL	52	7	59	57	(2)
19	Elmer Smith	CLE	51	8	59	54	(5)
20	Ping Bodie	NY	52	6	58	59	1
21	Bill Wambsganss	CLE	51	7	58	60	2
22	Ray Chapman	CLE	47	10	57	53	(4)
23	Bob Jones	DET	47	7	54	57	3
24	George Burns	PHI	47	6	53	57	4
25	Baby Doll Jacobson	STL	44	8	52	51	(1)
26	Braggo Roth	PHI-BOS	44	6	50	52	2
27	Howie Shanks	WAS	35	15	50	54	4
28	Wally Schang	BOS	43	5	48	55	7
29	Ira Flagstead	DET	42	6	48	41	(7)
30	Harry Hooper	BOS	43	5	48	49	1
31	Wally Pipp	NY	35	13	48	50	2
32	Joe Harris	CLE	39	8	47	46	(1)
33	Steve O'Neill	CLE	36	10	46	47	1
34	Patsy Gharrity	WAS	38	6	44	43	(1)
35	Mike Menosky	WAS	36	4	40	39	(1)
36	Ossie Vitt	BOS	33	7	40	40	—
37	Ray Schalk	CHI	31	10	40	34	(6)
38	Everett Scott	BOS	36	3	39	38	(1)
39	Wally Gerber	STL	30	9	39	37	(2)
40	Doc Johnston	CLE	31	7	38	33	(5)
41	Clyde Milan	WAS	28	9	37	37	—
42	Joe Dugan	PHI	28	8	36	30	(6)
43	Swede Risberg	CHI	28	8	36	38	2
44	Eddie Ainsmith	DET	33	2	35	32	(3)
45	Ken Williams	STL	31	4	35	35	—
46	Roger Peckinpaugh	NY	30	4	34	33	(1)
47	Hank Severeid	STL	30	3	33	36	(3)
48	Earl Smith	STL	23	10	33	36	(3)

§ The $|\Delta|$ column provides the absolute-value difference (delta) between Lanigan's total RBIs number and Neft's RBIs number; values in parentheses indicate that Neft's RBI number is less than Lanigan's RBI number.

**TABLE 2B: TRIS SPEAKER'S RBI RECORD (1907-1919)
ACCORDING TO LANIGAN AND NEFT.**

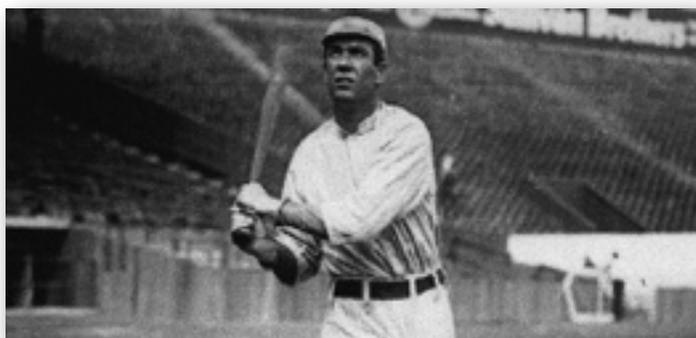
Year	Team	Lanigan RBIs	Neft RBIs	Δ §
1907	BOS	0	1	1
1908	BOS	10	9	(1)
1909	BOS	79	77	(2)
1910	BOS	62	65	3
1911	BOS	80	70	(10)
1912	BOS	99	90	(9)
1913	BOS	81	71	(10)
1914	BOS	86	90	4
1915	BOS	63	69	6
1916	CLE	83	79	(4)
1917	CLE	65	60	(5)
1918	CLE	61	61	—
1919	CLE	69	63	(6)
Total	—	838	805	(33)

§ See Table 1B.

**TABLE 3B: ANNUAL AL LEADERS IN RBIS
ACCORDING TO LANIGAN AND NEFT.**

Year	Lanigan RBI Leader	Team	Lanigan RBIs	Neft RBIs	Δ §	Neft RBI Leader	Team	Neft RBIs
1907	Cobb	DET	116	119	3	Cobb	DET	119
1908	Cobb	DET	101	108	7	Cobb	DET	108
1909	Cobb	DET	115	107	(8)	Cobb	DET	107
1910	Crawford	DET	115	120	5	Crawford	DET	120
1911	Cobb	DET	144	127	(17)	Cobb	DET	127
1912	Baker	PHI	133	130	(3)	Baker	PHI	130
1913	Baker	PHI	126	117	(9)	Baker	PHI	117
1914	Crawford	DET	112	104	(8)	Crawford	DET	104
1915	Crawford	DET	116	112	(4)	Crawford	DET	112
						Veach	DET	112
1916	Pipp	NY	99	93	(6)	*Pratt*	STL	103
1917	Veach	DET	115	103	(12)	Veach	DET	103
1918	Burns	PHI	74	78	4	*Veach*	DET	78
	Veach	DET	74	70	(4)			
1919	Ruth	BOS	112	114	2	Ruth	BOS	114

§ See Table 1B.



Tris Speaker



4 Time RBI Champ Ty Cobb

**TABLE 4B: ANNUAL NL LEADERS IN RBIS
ACCORDING TO LANIGAN AND NEFT.**

Year	Lanigan RBI Leader	Team	Lanigan RBIs	Neft RBIs	Δ §	Neft RBI Leader	Team	Neft RBIs
1907	Wagner	PIT	91	82	(9)	*Magee*	PHI	85
1908	Wagner	PIT	106	109	3	Wagner	PIT	109
1909	Wagner	PIT	102	100	(2)	Wagner	PIT	100
1910	Magee	PHI	116	123	7	Magee	PHI	123
1911	Schulte	CHI	121	107	(14)	Schulte	PIT	107
						Wilson	CHI	107
1912	Zimmerman	CHI	106	99	(7)	*Wagner*	PIT	102
1913	Cravath	PHI	129	128	(1)	Cravath	PHI	128
1914	Magee	PHI	101	104	3	Magee	PHI	104
1915	Cravath	PHI	118	115	(3)	Cravath	PHI	115
1916	Chase	CIN	84	82	(2)	*Zimmerman*	CHI-NY	83
1917	Zimmerman	NY	100	102	2	Zimmerman	NY	102
1918	Merkle	CHI	71	65	(6)	*Magee*	CIN	76
1919	Myers	BRK	72	73	1	Myers	BRK	73

§ See Table 1B.

**TABLE 5: THE ACCURATE RBI RECORD
OF BABE RUTH (1914-1919).**

Year	Actual RBIs	Lanigan RBIs	Neft RBIs
1914	0	0	2
1915	20	20	21
1916	16	16	15
1917	14	10	12
1918	61	64	66
1919	113	112	114
Total	224	222	230

**CHICK WARD TO SHED KHAKI
FOR BROOKLYN UNI**

Brooklyn baseball fans are rooting for Chick Ward. The Dodgers' former shortstop has just got back from France, where he was a member of Batter C, Three Hundred Forty-second Field artillery. As soon as he is discharged he will rejoin the Brooklyn team. While "over there" Ward played on the champion team of the A.E.F. with Grover Cleveland Alexander, back with the Cubs.

The Milwaukee Journal, June 6, 1919

**CONSECUTIVE GAME
RECORD BROKEN**

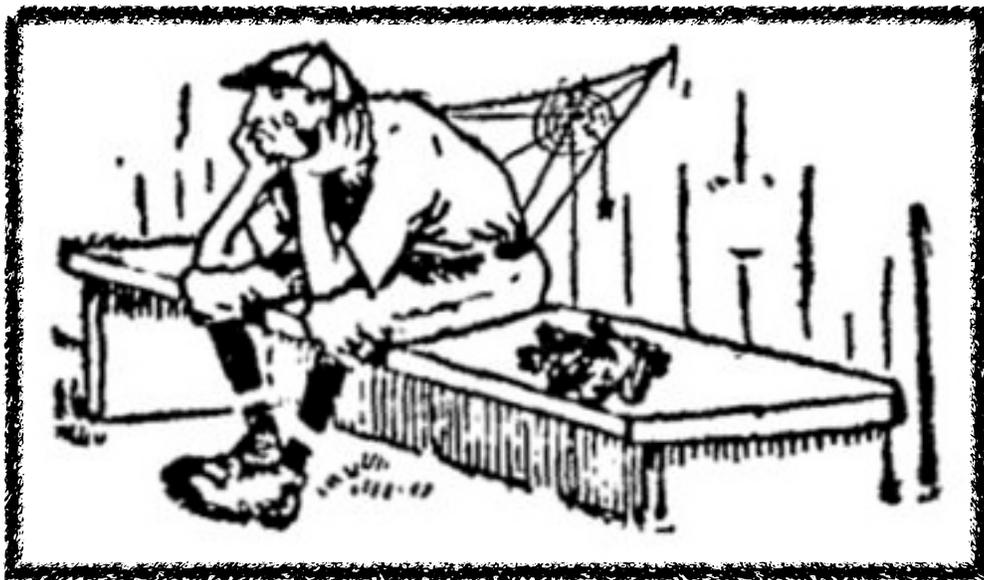
Fred Luderus, first baseman of the Phillies, has broken all consecutive game records. Luderus has played in 479 games. By playing in the first game of the Sunday double header he equaled Eddie Collins' record of 478 straight games and when he got in the second game he broke the record.

The Toledo News-Bee, August 4, 1919

TABLE 6: THE ACCURATE RBI RECORDS FOR THE PLAYERS ON THE 1919 BOSTON RED SOX.

Player	Games	Actual RBIs	Neft RBIs	$ \Delta $ §	Lanigan RBIs
Jack Barry	31	2	2	—	
Joe Bush	4	2	2	—	
Ray Caldwell	33	4	4	—	
George Dumont	13	0	0	—	
Del Gainer	47	18	13	(5)	
Frank Gilhooley	48	2	1	(1)	
Harry Hooper	128	48	49	1	48
Waite Hoyt	13	3	0	(3)	
Bill James	13	1	1	—	
Sam Jones	35	5	5	—	
Bill Lamar	48	13	14	1	
Carl Mays	22	2	2	—	
Bob McGraw	10	0	1	1	
Stuffy McInnis	120	59	58	(1)	60
Mike McNally	33	3	6	3	
Norm McNeil	5	0	1	1	
Paul Musser	5	0	0	—	
Herb Pennock	32	5	7	2	
Braggo Roth	63	23	23	—	
Allen Russell	21	0	2	2	
Babe Ruth	130	113	114	1	112
Wally Schang	113	52	55	3	48
Everett Scott	138	41	38	(3)	38
Red Shannon	80	22	17	(5)	
Dave Shean	29	6	8	2	
Amos Strunk	48	16	17	1	
Ossie Vitt	133	43	40	(3)	40
Roxy Walters	48	10	9	(1)	
Joe Wilhoit	6	2	2	—	
George Winn	3	0	0	—	

§ See Table 1B.



The Duluth Daily Star, July 20, 1907

**APPENDIX – THE COMPLETE DETAILS
FOR THE RUNS SCORED BY THE 1919
BOSTON RED SOX IN THE EIGHT GAMES
IN WHICH BABE RUTH DID NOT PLAY.**

**April 30, 1919
Boston at Washington
Boston scored 6 runs**

First Inning – Boston scored 1 run

Boston Globe: “Hooper opened the game with a two-bagger that bounced off the right-field fence. On Barry’s sacrifice both runners were safe as Hooper beat Thompson’s throw to third. Strunk hit Hooper home but Barry was held at second and forced at third on Gainer’s roller to Judge. McInnis flied out and Shanks retired Vitt.”

Boston Herald: “Hooper opened for Boston with a stinging double off the right field wall. Barry sacrificed, but all were safe on Thompson’s late throw to third. Strunk singled through Janvrin, Hopper scoring. Gainer bunted, but Barry was forced at third. Milan caught McInnis’s hoist and Shanks tossed out Vitt.”

Boston Post: “Hooper set a good example to his men by leading off with a savage double against the right field wall. Barry sacrificed and both runners were safe when Thompson made a fruitless effort to get Hooper at third. Strunk’s safe hit scored Hooper, but Gainer’s attempted sacrifice forced Barry at third.”

Washington Post: Nothing at all.

Second Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “With Scott out of the way in the second, Schang scratched a hit through Janvrin. Caldwell sacrificed and Schang scored when Picinich heaved to centre field in trying to catch him off second and Milan threw past third in an attempt to get him at that base. Hooper followed with a single, but Barry forced him.”

BH: “Schang’s single, Caldwell’s good sacrifice, and two bad throws, one by Catcher Picinich and another by Milan in backing up, put Schang home in the second.”

BP: “Schang hit safely with one down and Caldwell sacrificed. Picinich made one of his too-frequent pegs to get the runner napping, the ball sailed to centre field, Schang sped for third and raced all the way home when Milan’s return rolled into the Red Sox dugout. A second clean hit by Hooper was thrown away.”

WP: Nothing at all.

Third Inning – Boston scored 2 runs

BG: “Strunk and Gainer singled successively in the third. McInnis lifted to Foster, but Vitt hit Strunk home and Gainer to second. Caldwell sacrificed and Gainer scored on Schang’s scratch hit to Janvrin. Vitt was caught off third as Schang essayed to steal second.”

BH: “Singles by Strunk, Gainer, and Vitt off Thompson in the third and a one-shot off Schang’s busy bat which bounded badly for Janvrin, with Shaw pitching, pushed over two more for the Hubmen.”

BP: “Strunk, first man up, walloped one to left and Gainer drove a clean one to short. McInnis popped up, but a line smash to left by Vitt sent Strunk across. Shaw relieved his left-handed predecessor at this juncture. Scott sacrificed and a scratch hit by Schang sent another run home.”

WP: Nothing at all.

Fifth Inning – Boston scored 2 runs

BG: “He [Shaw] passed Strunk at the outset and he moved up on Gainer’s out. McInnis lifted to Milan, but Vitt sent Strunk home and made second on the throw in from where he counted on Scott’s hit to right. Scott was out stealing.”

BH: “... but Strunk walked in the fifth, advanced on Gainer’s infield out, and scored on Vitt’s single to right. The batter reached second on the throw home and scored on Scott’s one shot to right.”

BP: “Here [in the fifth] Shaw staged trouble for himself by walking Strunk, the first man up. Strunk advanced on Gainer’s out at first and, after McInnis had popped up, Vitt cracked out his second timely drive, Strunk racing home. Vitt took second on the throw home and Scott scored

him with a clean swat to right. Scott died stealing.”

WP: Nothing at all.

SUMMARY OF THE 6 RUNS SCORED BY THE RED SOX

1 (First Inning): Hooper scored on a 1-RBI single by Strunk.

2 (Second Inning): Schang scored (from second base) on a fielding error (wild throw) by catcher Picinich on an attempted pickoff followed by another fielding error (wild throw) by center fielder Milan attempting to head off the runner at third base.

3 (Third Inning): Strunk scored on a 1-RBI single by Vitt.

4 (Third Inning): Gainer scored on a 1-RBI single by Schang.

5 (Fifth Inning): Strunk scored on a 1-RBI single by Vitt.

6 (Fifth Inning): Vitt scored on a 1-RBI single by Scott.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Hooper 1, Strunk 2, Gainer 1, Vitt 1, Schang 1.

BH: Hooper 1, Strunk 2, Gainer 1, Vitt 1, Schang 1.

BP: Hooper 1, Strunk 2, Gainer 1, Vitt 1, Schang 1.

WP: Hooper 1, Strunk 2, Gainer 1, Vitt 1, Schang 1.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Strunk 1, Vitt 2, Schang 1, Scott 1.

May 18, 1919
Boston at St. Louis
Boston scored 3 runs

First Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “In the opening round, with two out, Strunk doubled over first. Gainer then smashed a hot grounder to short, which Gerber allowed to get

through him and Strunk scored. Gainer was out stealing.”

BH: “Hooper and Barry had been erased when Strunk doubled to right in the opening frame. Gainer had two strikes to his account when he shot to one side of Gerber, his bare-hand side, on to left, Strunk scoring easily. Gainer died stealing.”

BP: “There were two men out in the first inning before Strunk bounced a neat two-bagger past Sisler. Then Gainer drove one at the rate of a mile a minute through Gerber, the ball never leaving the ground for an instant. A run was the result, although the freakish local scorers robbed Gainer of a well-deserved hit and charged the Browns’ shortstop with an error. Gainer was thrown out stealing.”

St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Nothing at all.

Eighth Inning – Boston scored 2 runs

BG: “In the eighth, with Scott out, Mays singled to center. Hooper popped to Gedeon. Barry then hit down the left field foul line and Tobin, thinking that Austin would take it, started late. At that he managed to get the ball in his hands, only to lose it. Barry took second, Mays stopping at third. It was then that Strunk inserted his titanic drive to the bleacher wall in left that scored both runners.”

BH: “... but Mays started it by singling to centre. Hooper flied to Gedeon. Barry looped a fly back of third. Tobin got his hands on it over fair territory after a hard run and dropped it on foul land. [Umpire] Evans gamely, but properly, called it a fair ball, putting Mays on third and Barry on second, to score when Strunk tripled too wide for Tobin to the left centre field fence. Gainer pulled a hot grounder, which Austin stopped, recovered, and got to first in time, saving a run.”

BP: “In the eighth Mays tried to inspire his light-hitting mates by poking a savage single into centre, after two were gone. Barry scratched a double to left. Strunk then uncorked a ripping three-bagger that scored two runs.”

SLPD: Nothing at all.

SUMMARY OF THE 3 RUNS SCORED BY THE RED SOX

1 (First Inning): Strunk scored (from second base) on a 2-out fielding error (failed pickup of grounder) by shortstop Gerber; the batter, Gainer, was safe on the fielding error.

2 (Eighth Inning): Mays scored on a 2-RBI triple by Strunk.

3 (Eighth Inning): Barry scored on a 2-RBI triple by Strunk.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Barry 1, Strunk 1, Mays 1.

BH: Barry 1, Strunk 1, Mays 1.

BP: Barry 1, Strunk 1, Mays 1.

SLPD: No box score.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Strunk 2.

May 22, 1919
Boston at Detroit
Boston scored 3 runs

Second Inning: Boston scored 2 runs

BG: "An error by Bobby Jones, a sacrifice, a two-base hit by Scott, and a single by Walters scored a brace of markers in the second."

BH: "McInnis's roller went right through Jones's legs at third in the second. Vitt sacrificed. Scott pounced on the first pitch for a double to right centre, McInnis scoring. A wild pitch put Scott on third and then Walters's would-be squeeze bunt got by Love and none could field it, Scott scoring and Walters getting a hit."

BP: "Jones's error put McInnis on base to start the second and Vitt sacrificed. A fine double to right centre by Scott sent the run across. A wild pitch put him on third. Walters's beautiful and safe bunt on the 'squeeze' play let Scott tally. With two gone Walters stole second and made third on Ainsmith's poor throw. Hooper left Walters on the bag."

Detroit Free Press: "An error by Jones, sacrifice, two-base hit off Scott's bat and a single by Walters sired a brace of markers in the second."

Seventh Inning: Boston scored 1 run

BG: "Sam Jones's base hit, a sacrifice by Hooper, on which Love erred, and a base on balls filled the sacks in the seventh, this time before a man was out. Still, Love extricated himself, charged with a single run, the result of Gainer's sacrifice fly."

BH: "Sam Jones took matters into his own hands in the seventh and opened up by singling to left. Hooper bunted and Love made a late bad peg to second, Jones going to third and Hooper scampering to second. Afraid of the squeeze, Love walked Barry. Cobb caught Strunk's short fly [and also Gainer's fly], but Sam Jones made a successful dash for home ahead of Cobb's peg. Bob Jones threw out McInnis."

BP: "Jones's hard single began the seventh for Boston, and trouble for the Jungaleers followed, for Hooper laid down a sacrifice bunt, and although a good throw by Lover would have forced Jones at second, the erratic southpaw hurled the ball to centre field. This bad error put Jones on third and Hooper at the middle station. A pass to Barry filled them up. Strunk's fly to Cobb was too short to allow a score, but Jones came in on Gainer's fly to Cobb. The other runners advanced, but McInnis was third man out."

DFP: "Jones's base hit, sacrifice by Hooper on which Lover erred and a base on balls filled the sacks again in the seventh, this time before a hand was out. Still Love extricated himself charged with a single run, the result of Gainer's sacrifice fly."

SUMMARY OF THE 3 RUNS SCORED BY THE RED SOX

1 (Second Inning): McInnis scored on a 1-RBI double by Scott.

2 (Second Inning): Scott scored on a 1-RBI single by Walters.

3 (Seventh Inning): Jones scored on a 1-RBI sacrifice fly by Gainer.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: McInnis 1, Scott 1, Jones 1.

BH: McInnis 1, Scott 1, Jones 1.

BP: McInnis 1, Scott 1, Jones 1.

DFP: McInnis 1, Scott 1, Jones 1.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Scott 1, Walters 1, Gainer 1.

June 6, 1919
Boston vs. Detroit
Boston scored 3 runs

Sixth Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “The champions scored their first run in the sixth inning on a single by Hooper, a sacrifice by Shean, and a double by Strunk. Strunk made third on the hit, but the good work of Flagstead and Bush would have retired him there had not Jones dropped the ball after touching the runner.”

BH: “Hooper singled to right in the sixth, first man up, with the count three and two. Shean sacrificed, Strunk waited for nothing, swung at the very first pitch, a curve up around his neck, caught it and sent it on a line to the right field line, kicking up the chalk as it landed just on the line. Hooper scored and Strunk trying to get to third would have been out if Jones had held the ball. There was one out, but Ehmke took Gainer’s bouncer and threw Strunk out at the plate. McInnis popped to Young.”

BP: “Hooper began the same [sixth] frame for Boston with a clean single to right, and Strunk tied the game up with a fine double to right. He kept on going to third, and was safe when Jones dropped a fine relayed throw. But Strunk was caught at home when Gainer grounded to the pitcher. [NOTE: There is no mention in the BP description of what Shean, the batter immediately after Hooper, did; according to the BG and BH descriptions, Shean sacrificed Hooper to second base.]

DFP: “Boston’s first run was legitimate, Hooper’s single, Shean’s sacrifice hit, and Strunk’s double winning it over.”

Seventh Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “Schang flied to Veach, Vitt drew a base on balls and went to second on Scott’s out at first. Pennock singled sharply to right and Vitt set sail for home. The ball went quickly to the outfield, where Flagstead gathered it up and made a perfect throw to the plate. It was a close play. The Umpire called Vitt safe.”

BH: “Schang had been retired when Vitt walked. A fast play by Young, coming in, retired Scott. Then Pennock slapped the ball cleanly to right field and Vitt, not quite to third when Flagstead had the ball, kept on going for the plate. It looked as if Vitt was out at the plate, but [umpire] Chill said ‘Safe.’

BP: “After Schang had lined to Veach, Vitt drew a pass. Scott was out at first on a beautiful play by Young, Vitt going to second. Then Pennock cracked a beauty to right field, sending Vitt home on a play that was so close that ... bla-bla-bla [i.e., a long-winded argument resulted].”

DFP: “Two were out, the score was tied at one run each, and Vitt was perched on second, when Pennock singled sharply to right. Flagstead came in fast on the ball and picked it up cleanly, sailed it straight into Ainsmith’s waiting hands. Vitt, with a flying leap, went head-on into the catcher. Ainsmith put the ball on Vitt, who was stopped dead before he could get up to the plate, but [umpire] Chill didn’t have the spine give his voice or action to a fair decision.”

Eighth Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “With one out Strunk got a life on Ellison’s fumble. Gainer singled to short center. McInnis flied to Flagstead and bases on balls to Schang and Vitt forced Strunk over the plate.”

BH: “The last run of the Sox came as the result of a boot by Ellison on Strunk’s grounder with one out in the eighth. Gainer’s single to short centre sent Strunk to third. Gainer stole second. McInnis flied to short right. Schang and Vitt

walked, this last stroll forcing in a run. Scott fanned.”

BP: “In Boston’s half [of the eighth] Strunk was given a life on Ellison’s fumble after Shean had been thrown out, and Gainer’s single put him on third. But McInnis flied to Flagstead. Gainer stole second, and a pass to Schang filled the bases. Another pass to Vitt forced in a run. Scott closed the round with a strikeout.”

DFP: “The third counter got its impetus from an error by Ellison.”

SUMMARY OF THE 3 RUNS SCORED BY THE RED SOX

1 (Sixth Inning): Hooper scored on a 1-RBI double by Strunk.

2 (Seventh Inning): Vitt scored on a 1-RBI single by Pennock.

3 (Eighth Inning): Strunk scored on a 1-RBI walk by Vitt.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Hooper 1, Strunk 1, Vitt 1.

BH: Hooper 1, Strunk 1, Vitt 1.

BP: Hooper 1, Strunk 1, Vitt 1.

DFP: Hooper 1, Strunk 1, Vitt 1.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Strunk 1, Pennock 1, Vitt 1.

June 11, 1919
Boston vs. Chicago
Boston scored 0 runs

June 26, 1919
Boston vs. Washington
Boston scored 1 run

First Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “The Red Sox scored in their half [of the first], Gilhooley drawing a pass, going to second on Vitt’s sacrifice, and coming home on Hooper’s single through Judge.”

BH: “Gilhooley walked as a leadoff man for the Sox in their first. Vitt sacrificed. Strunk’s fly to

Milan was so deep that Gilhooley easily ran to third, and scored when Hooper, batting in the clean-up berth, cut a single off Judge’s glove. McInnis walked and Schang fanned.”

BP: “Gilhooley was walked for Boston, took second on Vitt’s sacrifice, and ran to third when Strunk flied to Milan. Hooper’s timely single evened up the score. Then McInnis was passed only to watch Schang strike out.”

WP: “A pass that he [Harper] gave to Gilhooley, the first batter up, gave Hooper the chance to make his one safe hit and send in the Sox’s only run.”

SUMMARY OF THE 1 run scored by the Red Sox

1 (First Inning) – Gilhooley scored on a 1-RBI single by Hooper.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Gilhooley 1.

BH: Gilhooley 1.

BP: Gilhooley 1.

WP: Gilhooley 1.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Hooper 1.

July 10, 1919 (first game)
Boston at St. Louis
Boston scored 1 run

Second Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “Boston in the meantime had counted once on Gainer’s double and Schang’s single.”

BH: Nothing at all.

BP: “Gainer’s fine double to right centre opened the Boston’s second, and after McInnis had sacrificed a fine hit to centre by Schang brought the run home. But Schang was caught stealing and hits by Scott and Shannon in the same inning were thrown away.”

SLPD: “The Boston second opened with Gainer hitting to the right field fence for a double. He was sacrificed to third and scored on Schang’s single. Then Severeid cut down Schang stealing.

Scott and Shannon followed with hits, but Jones fanned.”

SUMMARY OF THE 1 run scored by the Red Sox

1 (Second Inning) – Gainer scored on a 1-RBI single by Schang.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Gainer 1.

BH: Gainer 1.

BP: Gainer 1.

SLPD: No box score.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Schang 1.

September 28, 1919
Boston at Washington
Boston scored 7 runs

Third Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “A pass to Wilhoit, Vitt’s single, and an out gave the Red Sox their first counter in the third.”

BH: “Wilhoit opened with a walk, scooting to third when Vitt singled to right. Lamar rolled to Judge, but, while Shanks was tossing out Roth, Wilhoit scored.”

BP: “Wilhoit’s walk, Vitt’s single, and Roth’s infield out made for a run in the third.”

WP: “He [Schacht] walked Wilhoit as a starter toward a run in the third. Vitt singled and went to second while Wilhoit was making third on a futile throw to the far corner. The runners were held as Lamar grounded out to Judge, but Wilhoit scored when Shanks threw out Roth.”

Fifth Inning – Boston scored 1 run

BG: “The second [run] came in the fifth on passes to Wilhoit and Vitt, an out, and Roth’s sacrifice fly.”

BH: “Wilhoit and Vitt walked, starting the fifth. Lamar forced Vitt and Roth’s sacrifice fly to Gharrity scored Wilhoit.”

BP: “Walks to Wilhoit and Vitt, Wilhoit’s advance as Lamar forced Vitt, and Roth’s

sacrifice fly were responsible for the counter in the fifth.”

WP: “Walks to Wilhoit and Vitt, Wilhoit’s advance on a force play, and Roth’s sacrifice fly accounted for the run in the fifth.”

Seventh Inning – Boston scored 5 runs

BG: “Wilhoit hit him for a single and Vitt followed suit. Then Altrock dropped Judge’s assist on Lamar’s grounder, filling the sacks. Roth hit Altrock’s first offering for a terrific drive into left field ... for a three-bagger. Gill came to center of the diamond. He hit Schang and then overthrew first trying to catch him off base. These, with a single by Shannon, put Roth and Schang over.”

BH: “Altrock came into the game in the seventh. He faced four men. Wilhoit, Vitt, and Lamar singled. Then came a triple by Roth, clearing the bases. Altrock hiked on a dead run for the showers. Gill replaced Altrock and hit Schang for a starter. Judge was dozing when Gill tossed, the ball getting away and letting Roth score. Schang went to third on McInnis’s death and tallied on Shannon’s single to left.”

BP: “Altrock chased himself to the showers after pitching to four batters. All of them hit him and Roth, the last of the quartet, poked out a triple. That sent three runs over the plate. Gill came in then, hit one batsman and was reached for a single.”

WP: “Wilhoit, Vitt, and Lamar singled in order off pitcher Altrock in the seventh and Roth tripled them home. Gill walked in, as Altrock walked out to become a coach again, and hit Schang. Andrew threw out McInnis, Roth scoring. Shannon knocked Schang home.”

SUMMARY OF THE 7 RUNS SCORED BY THE RED SOX

1 (Third Inning): Wilhoit scored on a 1-RBI groundout by Roth.

2 (Fifth Inning): Wilhoit scored on a 1-RBI sacrifice fly by Roth.

3 (Seventh Inning): Wilhoit scored on a 3-RBI triple by Roth.

4 (Seventh Inning): Vitt scored on a 3-RBI triple by Roth.

5 (seventh Inning): Lamar scored on a 3-RBI triple by Roth.

6 (Seventh Inning): Roth scored (from third base) on a fielding error (muffed catch) by first baseman Judge on the pitcher's attempt to pick the runner off first base.

7 (Seventh Inning): Schang scored on a 1-RBI single by Shannon.

BOX SCORE RUNS SCORED

BG: Wilhoit 3, Vitt 1, Lamar 1, Roth 1, Schang 1.

BH: Wilhoit 3, Vitt 1, Lamar 1, Roth 1, Schang 1.

BP: Wilhoit 3, Vitt 1, Lamar 1, Roth 1, Schang 1.

WP: Wilhoit 3, Vitt 1, Lamar 1, Roth 1, Schang 1.

UNOFFICIAL RUNS-BATTED-IN

Roth 5, Shannon 1.



TIGERS UNCOVER ANOTHER SLUGGER

As a hard hitting team the Detroit Tigers have been famous for most of their history in the American league, and it has been almost a tradition that when circumstance required a change in the outfield the club some way would dig up a new slugger. Now it presents a new companion for Ty Cobb and Bob Veach and a new hero to take his place among famous hitters in Ira Flagstead, who took up the right field job this spring. Flagstead has been one of the most remarkable hitters the game has known since he broke in, which was only two years ago. He lammed the ball for .381 in Tacoma in 1917 and last year led the Southern league with the same figures exactly. He's hitting American league pitching for better than .300 and his drives are hard and true, indicating that he is no accident and no flash. Present opinion of Mr. Flagstead is that he's a true Tiger when it comes to wielding the bat and pitchers are warned to beware of him.

The Milwaukee Journal, June 9, 1919

A.A. PITCHERS IGNORE THE LEAGUE RULINGS

MANY MAKE USE OF THE SHINE BALL, WHICH WAS SUPPOSEDLY BANISHED TWO YEARS AGO

At its winter session of 1917 the American association passed legislation abolishing the saliva (spit) ball and all alleged illegal deliveries. Not all club-owners favored the measure, but a majority did, and consequently it went into effect.

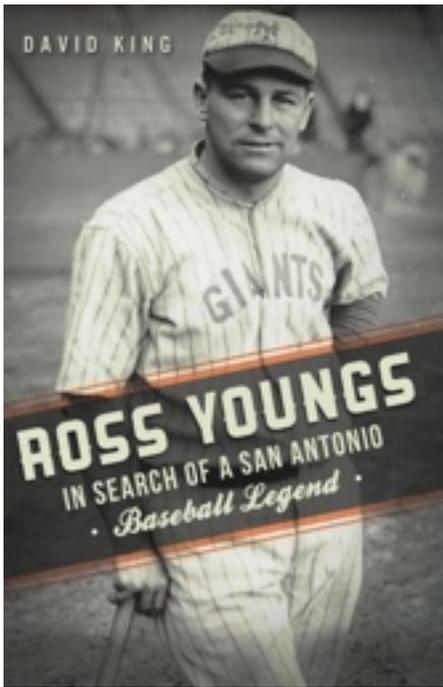
Since the adoption of the rule not one single hurler has ever been punished for its violation, although it is not at all uncommon to see a hurler place the pellet to his mouth, moisten it

with saliva or discolor it in some shape or manner.

In the series between Milwaukee and St. Paul, which ended last Sunday, Dan Griner, long noted as shine ball king, violated the anti-spitball rule on two occasions he occupied the pitchers' box. Throughout Saturday's game Griner kept a handful of cinders back of the knoll, and at intervals applied them to the ball. Not once did the Keystone umpires in change reprimand the Apostle moundsman for his continual violations.

If Teejay Hickey has a rule against illegal deliveries, why not see that it is abided by? If not, let the spitter, the shine ball, emery ball, etc., re-enter into the league, which at times has the appearance of a small town circuit.

The Milwaukee Journal, July 15, 1919



**ROSS YOUNGS:
IN SEARCH OF
A SAN ANTONIO
BASEBALL LEGEND**

BY DAVID KING

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Native Texan and author David King spent twelve years trying to unravel the mystery of Ross Middlebrooks “Pep” Youngs, who grew up in Shiner and San Antonio, Texas. His book, *Ross Youngs, In Search of a San Antonio Baseball Legend* focuses on Ross’s special relationship with John McGraw, clearly demonstrating that Youngs was McGraw’s favorite player on

the New York Giants. Youngs was signed by McGraw in 1916 for \$2,000 and brought up to the Giants in 1917.

King’s book on Youngs is easy reading and thoroughly researched, and he does an admirable job in filling in the gaps in which very little primary source material is available. We learn that Youngs could have been the world’s greatest golfer and a great football player given his speed and a different career path. King revisits key family and baseball milestones and locales both in Texas and New York and supplements the scant information available on this Hall of Famer with personally acquired photographs and other memorabilia. Youngs holds the sad distinction of being the youngest player or manager in the Hall of Fame at time of death at age 30, beating Addie Joss by one year.

McGraw once commented that Youngs was “the only ballplayer I ever had on my team who never disobeyed an order. Youngs is a great ballplayer. More than that, he is amenable to reason and advice—a valuable attribute in this game, as in all others. He has always done everything asked of him without quibble in the three years during which he has been a member of my team” (p. 79).

Another major focus of the book is the dominating relationship of Youngs’ mother, Henrie, the owner of a small

hotel in San Antonio, who raised Ross and his two brothers as a single parent. During the off seasons, Youngs lived with his mother, and his marriage to Brooklyn resident, Dorothy Pienecke, in 1924 did not survive the friction between his mother and wife. The marriage produced one child, Caroline, in 1925, but Youngs never met his daughter. At the time of his death, he was seeking a divorce, and his mother was making sure that all his property and bank accounts were signed over to her, and not to his wife and child. Youngs’ abandonment of his daughter remains a significant cloud over his great career.

The book covers the sad, remaining days of Youngs’ life and return to San Antonio in late 1926 and subsequent death in October, 1927. Among the notes the family received after Youngs’ death was from New York columnist Arthur Mann, who wrote, “the death of Pep Youngs ends a sad story of a young man, cut down in the middle of a brilliant baseball career; who fought the inevitable for three years as only the Giants outfielder could fight” (p. 131).

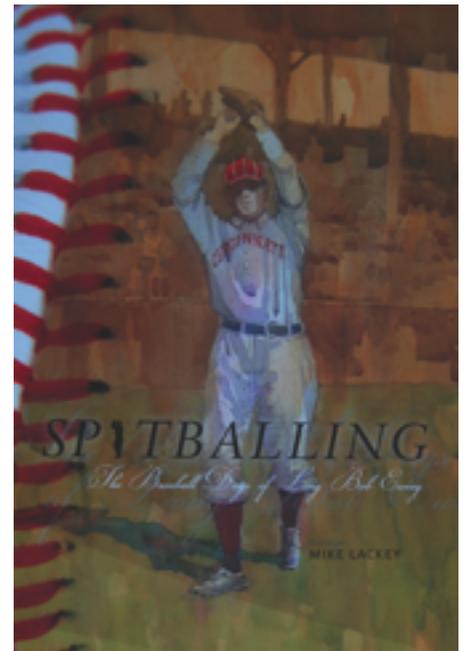
Largely because Youngs’ baseball contributions were accomplished under the shadow of another right fielder who played in New York—Babe Ruth—it meant, among other things, that the majority of press articles and photo clippings cited in the book underplay Youngs’ talents and

even often misspell Youngs' name, leaving off the "s." There was also significant controversy at Youngs' selection to the Hall of Fame by the Veterans' Committee, as former teammates Bill Terry and Frankie Frisch led the drive to secure Youngs' election. Youngs barely qualified for the ten-year service requirement for HOF election by playing seven games in 1917, his first season, and he was out-homered by Ruth 714 to 42 over their respective careers. He is often called Royce Middlebrooks Youngs in reference materials, but his nephew said that was due to a phone interview in which a sportswriter mistakenly thought Ross sounded like Royce. A marker was put up in the Polo Grounds to commemorate Youngs, funded by contributions limited to a dollar apiece, including one such donation from Babe Ruth. When the Giants left for San Francisco in

1958, the marker "disappeared," much like memories of Youngs. Youngs remains the most forgotten of the great right fielders in the Hall of Fame.

David King's book is a rare source of reference material about the New York Giants championship teams of the 1920s, and one of the Hall of Fame's lesser-known members. King succeeds in bringing Youngs to life and left this reader with a surreal image of Youngs driving his car back and forth from San Antonio to New York before and after each baseball season to go back to live with mother Henrie.

Laurence D. Alpert, who lives in Silver Spring, Maryland and is a long-time member of SABR, enjoys vintage sports memorabilia collecting. His collection of autographed baseballs is extensive. For over thirty years he has had a career in the satellite and telecom industries.



**SPITBALLING:
THE BASEBALL DAYS
OF LONG BOB EWING**

BY MIKE LACKEY

2013. Wilmington, Ohio:
ORANGEfrazierPRESS
[ISBN: 978-1939710-055 343
pp. \$19.99 USD, Softcover (7"
X 10")]

Reviewed by
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SCARE FROM ST. LOUIS

**CHIEF OF THE CARDINALS THREATENS
TO JUMP NATIONAL LEAGUE**

ST. LOUIS—To jump the National League and transfer his franchise, park and players to the American association, is said to be the plan of Stanley Robinson. Angered at the other National League club owners because he believes they are in a secret agreement to force him to sell out his holdings by refusing to sell or trade him good players, Robinson is about to retaliate by getting out of the old league and lead in the minor league invasion of St. Louis. The watchword of the movement will be 25-cent ball.

The (Pittsburg) Gazette Times, July 10, 1908

During the early years of the 20th century, the height of baseball's "Deadball Era," three teams dominated the National League. The New York Giants, Pittsburgh Pirates, and Chicago Cubs won every National League pennant from 1901 to 1913, and writers have filled numerous books with the exploits of Christy Mathewson, Honus Wagner, and Tinker to Evers to Chance. The other five teams of the senior circuit, shut out of the pennant celebrations

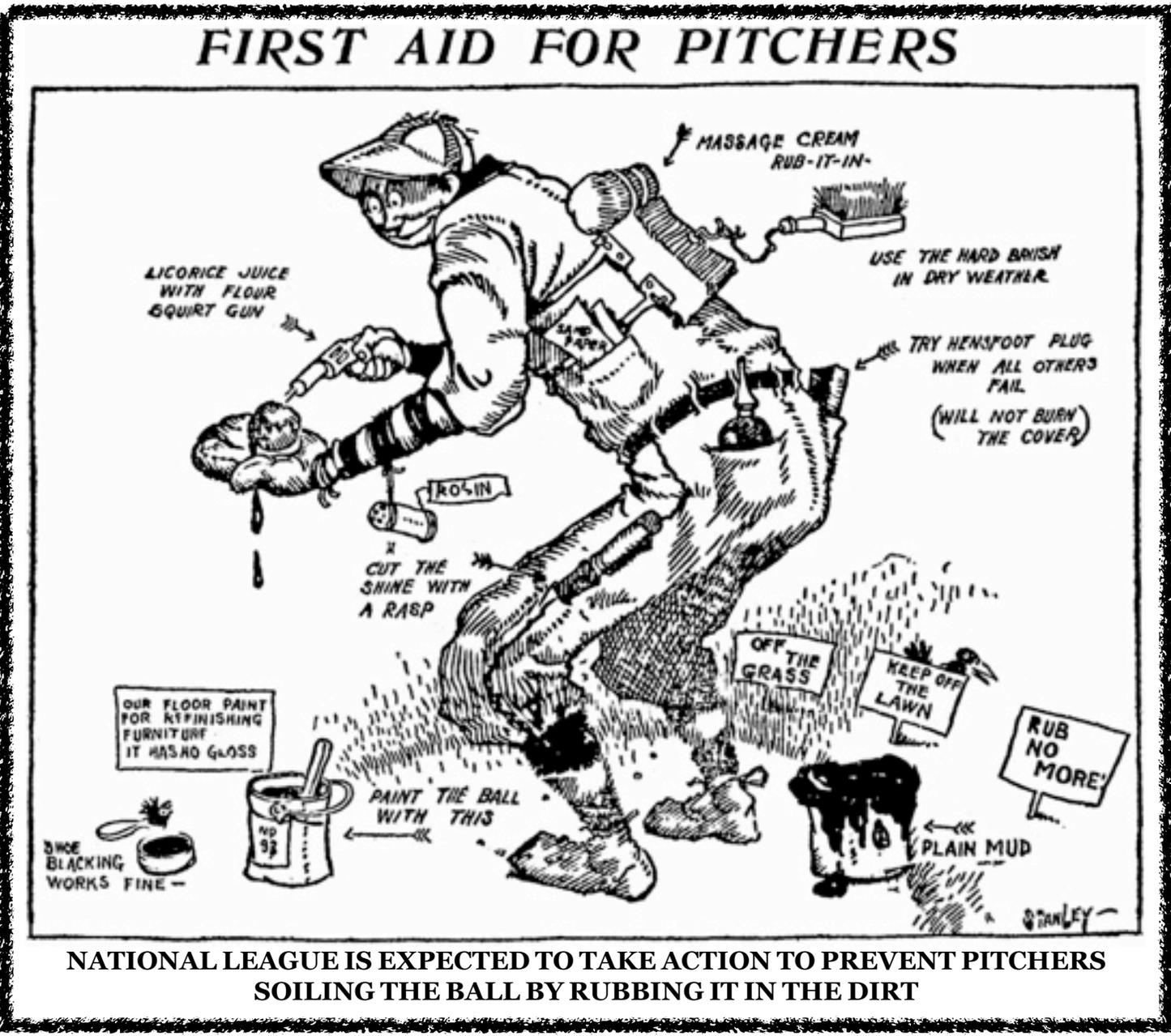
and World Series glory, barely rate a mention in most baseball histories.

Now Mike Lackey, a veteran newspaper reporter from Lima, Ohio, has rectified that oversight, at least in part. He has produced a biography of a little-known ballplayer named George Lemuel (Long Bob) Ewing, a right-hander who pitched for the Cincinnati Reds

from 1902 to 1909. The book is a labor of love for Lackey, as Ewing hailed from New Hampshire, Ohio, a tiny farming community in the western part of the state not far from Lackey's home in Lima.

Ewing, who built a strong throwing arm as a child by chucking potatoes at a target painted on the side of the family barn, joined the Reds

after a successful semipro career in his home state, followed by a five-year apprenticeship in the minor leagues at Toledo and Kansas City. Ewing, who walked ten men in his first major league game – seven of them in one inning – survived his rocky debut and became a workhorse for a middle-of-the-pack ballclub, winning a few more



NATIONAL LEAGUE IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT PITCHERS SOILING THE BALL BY RUBBING IT IN THE DIRT

The Duluth Daily Star, March 2, 1908

games than he lost and extending his career by adopting the spitball in 1904. Traded to the Phillies in 1910, he spent two years in Philadelphia, then made one start for the Cardinals before falling back to the minor leagues. After one season with Buffalo, the 39-year-old pitcher called it quits and went home to his farm in western Ohio.

Long Bob Ewing was, in short, a good pitcher, but hardly a candidate for Cooperstown (though he does have a plaque in the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame, into which he was inducted in 2001). The spitball expert won 20 games for the Reds in 1905 and posted a 124-118 log during his 13-year career, but never led the league in any pitching category. He was also a happily married, clean-living individual who caused no trouble for his bosses, the occasional salary dispute notwithstanding. A local sportswriter called Ewing "the most tractable of ballplayers," and while the pitcher was undoubtedly a fine human being, he was not a particularly memorable one. Long Bob, in fact, comes off as a less interesting man than

many of his teammates, such as pitcher Noodles Hahn, catcher Admiral Schlei, and others whose colorful nicknames matched their personalities.

Fortunately, Ewing embodied the proverb, "May you live in interesting times." The Cincinnati club, which was then controlled by an incredibly corrupt local political machine, never came close to a pennant during Ewing's career, though not for lack of trying. In an attempt to instill a winning attitude, team president Garry Herrmann appointed Joe Kelley, who played on five pennant-winning Baltimore and Brooklyn teams during the previous decade, as manager in 1902. After Kelley was found wanting, Herrmann went one better and hired Ned Hanlon, the man who built the great Oriole champions. Hanlon, too, proved a failure, but the era produced a parade of lively characters and remarkable situations. Cincinnati was a great baseball town, with rabid fans and a lively local press, and though the mild-mannered Ewing was not what one would call a riveting personality, his

biography provides a valuable picture of the times in which he played.

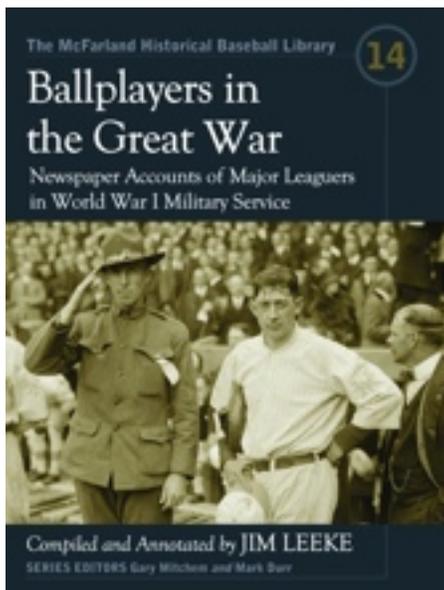
Spitballing: The Baseball Days of Long Bob Ewing reminds us that the Cubs, Giants, and Pirates were not the only teams in the National League during the period, and, as such, is a welcome addition to the literature of the national game. For the serious fan of Deadball Era history, one who perhaps has read enough stories of John McGraw and Christy Mathewson to last a lifetime, Lackey's well-researched work, which features a comprehensive bibliography and ample footnoting, gives a welcome insight into one of the circuit's less successful, but hardly less interesting, teams.

A prolific writer, David Fleitz is the author of eight well received books on baseball, including his recent Napoleon Lajoie: King of Ballplayers (McFarland, 2013).



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**BALLPLAYERS IN
THE GREAT WAR:
NEWSPAPER
ACCOUNTS
OF MAJOR LEAGUERS
IN WORLD WAR I
MILITARY SERVICE**

**COMPILED AND
ANNOTATED
BY JIM LEEKE**

*2013, Jefferson, NC:
McFarland & Company
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(6" X 8")]*

Reviewed by
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Thirteen years ago, less than two months after joining SABR, while conducting research for my first book among the unsorted items in the Ernie Harwell Collection at the Detroit Public Library, I stumbled on an undated, unsourced rectangle of yellowed paper. It was a list of

major leaguers who had served, as the headline said, in "World War No. 1"; it seemed to have been a reminiscence of ballplayer patriotism as the United States was entering World War II. My coauthor appreciated the find, and we managed to use it in the book.

Ballplayers in the Great War — the book is not misnamed, but the war surely was — takes the story of players' involvement in World War I out of the yellowed rectangles of paper in unfiled folders, and out of the squinty typefaces of newspapers of nearly a century ago largely viewable today only on microfilm, and quite simply puts it in book form. "Quite simply" is not meant to be a pejorative. By design Jim Leeke uses very little connective tissue to thread stories and trends in this collection. He informs us, for instance, that World War I's "shell shock" is today's post-traumatic stress disorder. But Leeke butts out, in large part, and lets the clippings tell the tales.

The first story is the saddest in the book: Eddie Grant, the only still-active major leaguer who died in the war. Other players, it is true, died, but their days in the majors had come and gone, were brief, or they were battling to get back to the bigs when they got the call from Uncle Sam. Even Bun Troy, the Detroit pitcher who got charged with the loss in the only game in which he appeared, is given his due here, with an extensive funeral

notice in the *McDonald (Pa.) Outlook*. I had long wondered whether Troy, who was born in Germany, was fighting for his home country or adopted country in the conflict. It turned out that an ex-girlfriend and World War I Historical Association member seemed to know his story even better than I, the lifelong baseball fan, ever could.

Leeke's collection of clippings tells stories one player at a time, from his entry into the military to his discharge with the occasional postscript — plus players' desires to see some bat-and-ball action overseas and to get back stateside and play for the home team. He organized many of the chapters by military branch: Army, Navy, Marines, "aviators," and the Gas and Flame service. In chronicling pitcher Christy Mathewson's ill-starred tenure in Gas and Flame, none of the clippings referred to his near-death experience at being unable to secure his gas mask properly in a demonstration exercise, although there are plenty of stories that euphemize his later "pneumonia."

Ballplayers in the Great War was my first exposure to the fact that Hank Greenberg wasn't the first "Hammerin' Hank" or even "Hankus Pankus." That honor, according to the prose of the day, went to the Boston Braves' Hank Gowdy. Nor was the term "slacker" coined to describe convenience-store clerks in the 1990s, but of ballplayers

thought to be evading wartime service "over there." There was also a tendency, even then, for the newspapers to use the word "hero" rather freely.

Leeke's book, using articles from more than six dozen publications, shows what happens when ballplayers are taken out of their element and thrown into another common, concentrated endeavor — one in which winning and losing have more lasting repercussions. Deadball devotees should consider it a necessary addition to the literature on the subject, even if they think it only as an adjunct.

Mark Pattison is (with David Raglin) co-author of Detroit Tigers Lists and More: Runs, Hits, and Eras and co-editor of Sock It to 'Em Tigers: The Incredible Story of the 1968 Detroit Tigers and Detroit Tigers 1984: What a Start! What a Finish!

For carrying more than 15 men on the payroll, Jimmy Ryan, manager of Montgomery, leader in the Southern league race, may lose 10 games, a decision by President Kavanaugh having sustained protests of the Memphis club on two games won by Montgomery, but ordered given to Memphis on account of violation of the player limit. Appeal has been made to the board of directors.

The (Pittsburg) Gazette Times, May 29, 1908



Great moments in the World's Series are like great moments in life—"nerves" tell. All the physical reserve a man has is strained to the breaking point; and then "nerves" do the rest. There is nothing better to steady those "nerves" than Adams Black Jack Gum. The stars of baseball know. Try Adams Black Jack for your own "nerves."

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The Toledo News-Bee, October 4, 1919

HORACE FOGEL
The Man Who Is Trying To Wreck Baseball. Read of it in the
BASEBALL Magazine
At All News Stands

Youngstown Vindicator, May 14, 1913

**SUICIDE AT
THE IMPERIAL HOTEL:
THE FIRST OF THE MANY
SCANDALS IN THE LIFE OF
GIANTS OWNER
CHARLES A. STONEHAM**

by **Bill Lamb**

In January 1919, control of the New York Giants was assumed by a syndicate headed by a stranger to most baseball fans: Manhattan stock trader Charles A. Stoneham. During the 17-year Stoneham regime, the Giants enjoyed success on the diamond – five National League pennants and three World Series victories – while the club’s principal owner contended with federal indictments, civil fraud suits, hostile fellow magnates, and troubles with gambling, booze, and women. Especially women. A compulsive philanderer, Stoneham had a weakness for Broadway chorus girls, one of whom surfaced shortly after Stoneham’s death in January 1936 claiming to be his wife – much to the chagrin of the long-suffering woman whom Stoneham had been married to since 1900. The tale of the two Mrs. Stonehams is a story for another time. This article recounts the sad events that first put the name Charles A. Stoneham in newsprint: the May 1905 suicide of a Stoneham mistress in a Manhattan hotel.

Born in Jersey City on July 5, 1876, Charles Abraham Stoneham was an improbable Lothario: short, stout, and jowly. But Stoneham was also shrewd, unscrupulous, wealthy, and fun-loving, a cutthroat businessman by day, a

well-heeled bon vivant by night. Of humble Irish-Catholic stock, Stoneham began his working life as a board boy in a mining stock firm, and quickly advanced to star company salesman. He also acquired a wife and family at an early age, but first wife Alice (maiden name unknown) died days after giving birth to daughter Mary Alice Stoneham in January 1898. In 1900, Stoneham married Johanna McGoldrick of New York City, who promptly bore him sons Charles, Jr. (born 1901) and Horace (1903), and thereafter endured decades of her husband’s unfaithfulness.

By 1903, Stoneham’s success as a stock salesman had provided the financial wherewithal needed to form his own mining stock brokerage, a partnership dubbed O.F. Jonasson & Company with headquarters at 44 Broadway, Manhattan. The firm prospered and life was good until tragedy struck in Spring 1905. On April 25, 1905, four-year-old Charles, Jr. drowned while playing near home in an extension of the Morris Canal. An unintended consequence of the tragedy was the effect it had upon Stoneham’s relationship with Olivia “Ollie” Gray, an affluent young widow and Stoneham’s latest paramour. While in mourning for his son, Stoneham stayed in and about the family residence in Jersey City, consoling his wife and neglecting Ollie, then ensconced in uptown Manhattan at the posh Imperial Hotel.

Early on the evening of May 6, Imperial Hotel porters heard a gunshot emanate from an upper floor suite and forced their way inside. A woman, later identified as hotel guest Mrs. J.W. Gray, lay unconscious on the floor, blood oozing from a head wound. A revolver was observed lying

CORRECTION

In the November newsletter, Bill Lamb’s article about the ball playing career of Douglas MacArthur at West Point stated that MacArthur and his father Arthur MacArthur were the only father-and-son to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Committee member Steve King advises that when Rough Rider Theodore Roosevelt was awarded a posthumous 2001 Medal of Honor for derring-do during the Spanish-American War, he joined his World War II D-Day hero son Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. as a holder of that distinction. Thus, there are two father-and-son holders of the Medal of Honor: the MacArthurs and the Roosevelts. Thanks to Steve for bringing the Roosevelt honors to our attention.

nearby. Transported by ambulance to New York Hospital, Mrs. Gray died several hours later without regaining consciousness.¹ A coroner's investigation of the incident quickly uncovered the circumstances that surrounded the deceased's suicide, all of which were then reported in the press. The most salacious of the details was the discovery of a farewell note left to "Dearest Sweetheart," and a sealed letter addressed to "Charles H. Stoneham, 44 Broadway" within the Gray hotel suite. Love letters to the deceased written on the stationery of the Stoneham brokerage firm and jewelry valued at \$20,000 were also recovered by the coroner, while photos of the deceased and Stoneham were reportedly displayed in the room. Ollie Gray herself, described in the parlance of the day as "a handsome brunette with a mass of black hair,"² "a Creole from New Orleans,"³ and/or "an Octoroon,"⁴ also became briefly an object of press interest. According to press reports, she had come into a sizable inheritance from a deceased stock broker husband named Gray.⁵ Mrs. Gray had apparently made Stoneham's acquaintance sometime in 1904, and had cohabited with him in New York City later that year.

Ollie's farewell note, re-printed at length in the press, bared her despair. "Again and again you have disappointed me, Charley. What in God's name have I done? ... Why did you have me come to New York again? Why, indeed? If you had said, 'Ollie, I don't want you to return,' I never would have done so. Here I am as your wife. What can I do but wait here like a fool for you to show up. And still you don't. Well, Charley, this is the last. ... How I am suffering. I can't stand it any longer."⁶ As uncovered by the coroner's inquiry, the couple had checked into the Imperial as "Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Gray of New Orleans" on April 20, and had been overheard quarreling by hotel staff in the days before Ollie's suicide.⁷

Caddishly, Stoneham denied any connection to Ollie Gray. "I cannot understand how my name came to be used by the woman," protested Stoneham. "All I can suppose is that someone used my name. I was not out of the house from April 25 for four days after I lost my boy. I regret



Charles A. Stoneham

that my name has been dragged into this affair but I am not the man who seems to have driven this woman to death. I have nothing to worry about."⁸ Stoneham also emphasized that the sealed letter found in the Gray hotel room was addressed to Charles H. Stoneham, whereas his name was Charles A. Stoneham. Upon hearing the news of the Gray suicide, Johanna Stoneham reportedly fainted. But upon recovery she gamely rallied to her husband's side, "expressing the belief that some clerk or business acquaintance of Mr. Stoneham's had taken his name for the purpose of an intrigue." Johanna retained "the most implicit confidence in the innocence of her husband in the matter," while Mary Stoneham, the family matriarch, vouched for her son's Jersey City alibi during the time period following the death of Charles, Jr.⁹

Few believed the Stoneham denials, particularly in light of press reports wherein Stoneham brokerage partner J. J. Bamberger admitted

observing Mrs. Gray in Stoneham's company "at an uptown hotel,"¹⁰ while Olivia Parker, a sister of the deceased living in New Orleans, stated that "she did not know Charles A. Stoneham, but her sister has spoken of him frequently."¹¹ Meanwhile, Grace Sandford, a Manhattan friend of Ollie Gray, informed the press that the deceased had frequently entertained Stoneham, a married man from Jersey City, at the Sandford apartment. But "a few days ago a little son of [Stoneham's] drowned and after the son's death he determined to stop visiting Mrs. Gray."¹² Distraught, Ollie had telephoned Stoneham threatening to commit suicide if he did not resume their relationship, but Stoneham refused to do so, according to Sandford.¹³

Happily for Stoneham, the Gray affair had no legs. Within days, the press had moved on to other scandals. Little coverage was extended to the Gray interment at Kensico Cemetery in Vahalla, New York, a sad affair attended by but two mourners: the hotel maid to whom Ollie Gray had left her jewelry and a storage company executive who held a bill of Gray's in want of collection.¹⁴ Stoneham spent the day of the funeral back in the office, declining to collect the sealed letter for Charles H. Stoneham held by New York City Coroner Gustav Scholer. The coroner threatened to subpoena Stoneham for the inquest,¹⁵ but with the death an unmistakable suicide no public proceedings were conducted. Nor would Scholer exercise his authority to open the unsealed letter addressed to Stoneham. Unless Stoneham himself decided to reveal the letter's contents, "whatever appeal the unfortunate woman may have made to that man will go to the grave with her," declared the coroner.¹⁶ With that, press interest in the matter waned, and soon the Gray affair was forgotten.

For the next decade, Stoneham stayed out of the news, except when his brokerage firm was being sued by disgruntled customers alleging fraud. No mention of the 14-years past suicide of Ollie Gray accompanied announcement of Stoneham's acquisition of the Giants franchise in early 1919. Nor was the matter mentioned when Mrs. Clare Ellison Page, another Stoneham intimate, shot



Olivia "Ollie" Gray

herself in Manhattan's Vanderbilt Hotel in February 1920. Predictably, Stoneham disclaimed any knowledge of Mrs. Page, allowing that she might have been a client of his firm.¹⁷ Left largely unexplained was the \$10,000 bequest left to Stoneham in the Page will.¹⁸ This affair, too, was soon forgotten, eclipsed by Stoneham's indictment by a federal grand jury on perjury and stock fraud charges, on which he was later acquitted, and by the constant stream of civil law suits instituted against Stoneham throughout the 1920s. After that, Stoneham remained out of court, leaving his attorneys to sort out the mess created by the emergence of former chorus girl Margaret Leonard as another Mrs. Charles A. Stoneham shortly after Charles' death in early 1936 – Margaret being the last on a list of scandal-causing Stoneham consorts that dated back to Ollie Page more than 30 years before.¹⁹

Newsletter editor Bill Lamb was a boyhood New York Giants fan.

1. As reported locally [see e.g., *New York Daily People* and *New York Times*, May 7, 1905] and nationally. See e.g., *Charlotte Observer*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, and *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, May 7, 1905. The coroner estimated that Mrs. Gray was about 27 at the time of her death, per New York City (Manhattan) Death Certificate No. 15433. Based on family info, press reports placed her age between 32 and 36. See e.g., *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 7, 1905, and *Baltimore Sun*, May 8, 1905.
2. *Trenton Evening Times*, May 6, 1905, and *New York Daily People*, May 7, 1905.
3. *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 7, 1905.
4. *Jersey (Jersey City) Journal*, May 8, 1905. Considerable press comment was devoted to the deceased's race, with family and friends alternately describing her as a white woman of French descent [*New Orleans Times-Picayune*, May 9, 1905], a woman of mixed race [see notes 2-3, above], or a light-skinned Negress who had passed for white, according to the *Tucson Daily Citizen*, May 11, 1905.
5. According to press reports, Olivia Gray was the widow of J.W. Gray, a prosperous Chicago stock broker who had died in May 1904. See e.g., *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, May 7, 1905. While relatives were close-mouthed about the deceased's maiden name, one news article asserted that prior to her marriage she was known as Ollie Macheca. See *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, May 7, 1905.
6. As per the *New York Times*, May 7, 1905, which, like many other newspapers, printed the remainder of the poignant farewell note verbatim.
7. *New York Times* and *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, May 7, 1905.
8. As quoted in the *Jersey Journal*, May 8, 1905. See also, *Anaconda (Montana) Standard*, May 7, 1905, and *Baltimore Sun*, May 8, 1905, quoting Stoneham as maintaining: "I never heard of the woman."
9. *Jersey Journal*, May 8, 1905.
10. See *New York Times*, May 7, 1905. Bamberger was determined to squelch rumor that Mrs. Gray's suicide had been precipitated by financial losses attributable to firm mishandling of her account. According to Bamberger, O.F. Jonasson & Company did not accept female clients.
11. *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, May 7, 1905. See also, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, May 7, 1905.
12. *New York Times*, May 7, 1905.
13. As reported in the *Charlotte Observer* and *San Jose Mercury News*, May 7, 1905, and elsewhere.
14. See "Mrs. Ollie Gray Buried," *New York Times*, May 8, 1905.
15. *Ibid.*
16. As per the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, May 8, 1905.
17. As reported in the *New York Times*, February 11, 1920.
18. See the *New York Times*, February 14 and May 20, 1920.
19. See generally, the *New York Times*, April 2 and 16, 1936. A check of the 1930 US Census reveals Charles A. Stoneham living in two separate places: in Jersey City with wife Johanna (Hannah) Stoneham, and in Greenburgh, New York with wife Margaret Stoneham and children Russell and Jane Stoneham.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

continued from page 1

Hughie Jennings, Johnny Kling, Connie Mack, Joe McGinnity, Sam Rice, Edd Roush, and Ray Schalk.

With writers now focusing on the lives of lesser-known Hall of Famers or on borderline Hall of Fame candidates, the new books frequently include evaluation as well as factual history. In his 2004 book, *Bad Bill Dahlen: The Rollicking Times of an Early Baseball Star*, Lyle Spatz makes a compelling case for considering Dahlen for the Hall of Fame. In another sphere, in his biography of Johnny Kling, Gil Bogen devotes his

last chapter to discussing, among other issues, why Kling is wrongly credited with having the costliest holdout in history when Kling missed the entire 1909 season. Commentary and sometimes advocacy are becoming a more established part of the landscape in new biographies of players from the Deadball Era.

At the same time, while modern players may employ the Internet to clear up misconceptions and inaccurate facts, biographies with a research focus remain the preferred way to set the record straight for players from long ago. Faber's biography by Brian E. Cooper examines the extent to which Faber threw the spitball; Doug Skipper's book goes into great detail about

Alexander's personal decline; and Don Doxsie's book on McGinnity considers why McGinnity's notoriety appears to have faded with time. These purposeful questions—and others like them—often require detailed treatment which longer works can provide.

Then there are the stories. Grover Cleveland Alexander and Jim Thorpe (whose life story was also recently chronicled) exist in the mind's eye as characters and therefore are particularly worthy subjects of biography. That Sam Rice somehow kept his focus to become a Hall of Fame player after losing his parents, mother, two children, and two siblings in a tornado (as recounted by Jeff Carroll in *Sam Rice: A Biography of the Washington Senators Hall of Fame*) is beyond belief. Only through such biographical heavy lifting will such stories be recounted as fully as they deserve to be.

It is obvious that some biographies are better than others. Those which recount the play-by-play of games and events in a rote fashion may add to the historical record in a literal sense, but these treatments often lack the literary merit and balance which more holistic efforts provide. That is why a book like *The Old Ball Game: How John McGraw and Christy Mathewson Created Modern Baseball* (2005) by Frank Deford resonates: Deford's book links the Deadball Era to the present; focuses on Mathewson and McGraw's respective roles in the country's appreciation of baseball; and employs a literary style which few books can match. Deford's book succeeds by being much more than an historical listing or a mere recounting of events. Rather, it weaves the events together and puts them in context without getting lost in the details, offering an excellent example of interpretive biography.

Perhaps someone will choose to write about one of several notable Deadball Era players whose individual stories have yet to be written: Max Carey, Frank Chance, Stan Covaleski, Bill Klem, and Joe Tinker come to mind. A book making the case for Sherry Magee's Hall of Fame candidacy, perhaps? Especially with the BioProject's growth, the continued production of biographical work

can only enhance and compliment that effort. Yet as the crop of prominent Deadball Era players whose biographies have yet to be written dwindles, it seems that the literary landscape will one day shift from writing biography to putting events into context. Much in the way that Dan Levitt comprehensively examined the Federal League through a contemporary lens in *The Battle That Forged Modern Baseball: The Federal League Challenge and its Legacy* or in the style which Richard Bak employed while examining the nuances of Ty Cobb's personality in *Peach: Ty Cobb in His Time and Ours*, it seems that the opportunities for analysis, more so than for groundbreaking biography, remain plentiful.

So as our Committee works to build and enhance the historical record of the period, it is worthwhile, I think, to be mindful of where we can go further. Possible areas outside of biography include ranking player performance; critiques of where the media did (and did not) succeed in covering players; and evaluating Deadball Era teams relative to modern ones. Placing the Deadball Era in context would be valuable, both to us and to those outside of SABR—and that is a worthwhile goal in and of itself.

BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

CHICAGO—The baseball hall of fame, to which the names of two players will be admitted each year, was founded here Thursday by Hugh Chalmers, the Detroit auto manufacturer.

Instead of giving autos to the two best batsmen in the two big leagues, Chalmers will give two cars to the two most valuable players in the two leagues. This will give baseball a real hall of fame, assert Chalmers, for before one can win a place in he will have to be a versatile and finished player in most every department.

The selection of the two players is left to a committee of newspaper writers.

The Toledo News-Bee, Feb 3, 1911

TRIBUTE TO FRED SCHULD

by David Anderson

I was saddened to hear of the death of my friend Fred Schuld in December 2013. I know Fred was in ill health, but he always assisted me and other researchers in whatever they had in mind. Yes, Fred did seminal research on Jack Graney, but did not do his biography in the Bioproject. In a statement from SABR it says, "He claimed his only expertise was Jack Graney's Larry, a bull terrier mascot of the team from 1912-1917."

Fred was a modest man. I met him after he had retired from teaching and as I remember, he would offer to do what he could for anyone into baseball history research. When I was working on *More Than Merkle*, he found a cartoon that I wanted to use to show how cartoonists were used during the Deadball Era. It showed John Egan kicking Nap Lajoie off the Pennant Express after games played against the Saint Louis Browns. What was instrumental in Fred's research was the cartoon was in the public sector. I have attached the cartoon to this tribute in honor of Fred Schuld.

My last correspondence with Fred came in July 2008. He commented that he was working on

bios of Frankie Pytlak and George Uhle. The Uhle biography was ultimately written by Joseph Wancho, and at the time of his death the Pytlak bio had not been finished. Fred completed biographies of Pat Seerey and Charles Somers. Seerey was not a good ball player but Ted Williams put his baseball card into his "Swingin' for the Fences," set because Seerey did something Williams didn't do, he hit four home runs in a single game against the Philadelphia Athletics as a member of the Chicago White Sox on June 18, 1948. His other biography was Charles Somers, owner of the Cleveland Indians and bank roller of the American League in its early days.

In the note he sent me Fred discussed reviewing Bob Schroeder's *The Mascots of 1911* and working on research for the Cobb-Lajoie batting race. He also included a note regarding the need for taller umpires and promised to send me anything else regarding Deadball Era umpires. He concluded that his health was not good and that he was being given steroids to treat his ills. Schuld concluded that "at the age of 82 I'll be able to hit a homerun."

Fred was a good friend and I know in heaven he will be doing research and having a great time doing it.

