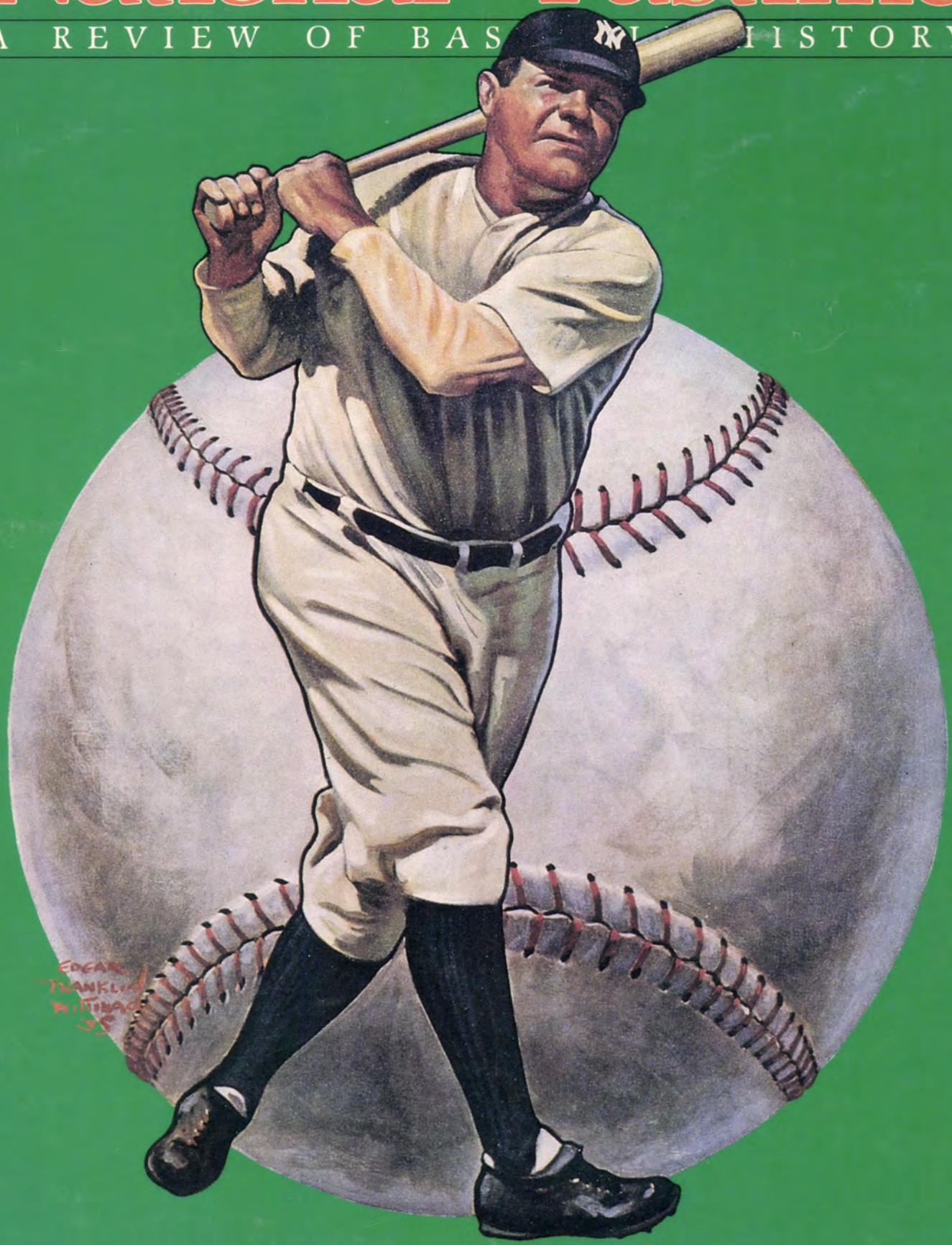


\$8.00

THE
National Pastime
A REVIEW OF BASEBALL HISTORY



SPECIAL PICTORIAL ISSUE • THE BIG-BANG ERA

THE GALLOPING A's

THEY'VE MADE PHILLY'S BASEBALL
DREAMS COME TRUE



WORDS BY
WALLACE LEGRANDE HENDERSON

MUSIC BY
BILLY JAMES



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A special pictorial issue:

Baseball in the Big-Bang Era



NBL

Like no one before or since, the Babe placed his personal stamp on the game and changed it forever more. His fabulous exploits have often been sung, but remain implausibly epic; our children already think he never truly existed, no more than Paul Bunyan or Superman. And in the early 1920s he pulled baseball back from the precipice.

This is the third special pictorial issue of *The National Pastime*, following those devoted to "The Nineteenth Century" (1984) and "The Dead Ball Era" (1986). With this offering we bring SABR's pictorial history of baseball from 1920, where we left off, to 1946. "The Big-Bang Era" on display in these pages was a remarkable period, spanning the roaring twenties, in which America pursued riches and pleasure while Europe lay in the ruins of The War to End All Wars; the economic ravages of the Great Depression; and the Second World War. Amidst all the swirl of change, baseball retained its sixteen franchises, in the sixteen sites that were in force in 1903; admitted no fundamental change in its rules; and held fast to the color bar that spawned parallel, if not rival, major leagues with legendary figures all their own.

But for all of baseball's resistance to innovation, it did change in the years after 1920. The slash-and-run style of the teens was replaced by pursuit of the home run and the big inning. Trick pitches that resulted from doctoring of the ball were (officially) banned, and discolored, battered baseballs were removed from play. The ball was made more lively in certain years of the period and deadened in others, with dramatic effects on run scoring (and thus player statistics — it was no accident that the majority of the game's great pitching records date from 1901-19 and its great batting marks from 1920-45). And the influence of gamblers, pervasive in baseball since the very beginnings of professional play, virtually ceased in the aftermath of the Black Sox Scandal of 1919. Revealed in September 1920, the World Series fix brought the commissioner system to baseball in the person of Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

Don't think it was easy to get this far into the Introduction to baseball's big-bang era without mentioning the man who made it happen: Babe Ruth. In this Golden Age of Sport, with such heroes as Jack Dempsey, Bill Tilden, Bobby Jones, and Red Grange, none achieved the stature of the Babe, a man whose fame is sung to succeeding generations almost from the cradle, in the way that tradition preserved the memory of Helen and Paris.

Ruth was unique but he was not alone among the gods. This glorious era gave us Lou Gehrig and Jimmie Foxx, Rogers Hornsby and Hank Greenberg, Lefty Grove and Carl Hubbell, Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson, Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams. And it gave us the Gashouse Gang and Murderers' Row, the Subway Series and the Mound City Series, the All Star Game, radio and night baseball.

But enough words; you're here for the pictures, so let's get on with them, after some acknowledgment of those who helped make this issue of *The National Pastime* possible. As with the first two pictorials, the editors visited many institutions and individual collectors,

poring over thousands of images before selecting these. At our side throughout the two-year period of research and preparation was photographer and friend Mike Saporito. Tom Heitz and Pat Kelly of the National Baseball Library were monumentally helpful, as always, and are making available low-cost, high-quality prints of all images herein credited as "NBL"; write to Ms. Kelly for prices and ordering details, specifying *The National Pastime* Collection.

Special thanks go to Mike Aronstein of Photo File, Dennis Brearley, and John Spalding, whose photographic contributions are displayed copiously. To old friends and colleagues from previous issues who helped out this time as well — people like Barry Halper, Dennis Goldstein, Ken Felden, and Pat Quinn — we extend our gratitude. To Richard Puff, who pitched in during the final weeks and brought the book home, applause for a job well done. And to the skilled hands at Ag Press who have produced *The National Pastime* from its inception in 1982 — Dean Coughenour, Deb Wilds, Tom Carlin, Renee Whitney, and, earlier, Jim Sours — we say in all sincerity, these publications could not have been done without you.

And to our readers, who have patiently awaited delivery of this issue scheduled for last winter, we hope the results will prove the wait worthwhile.

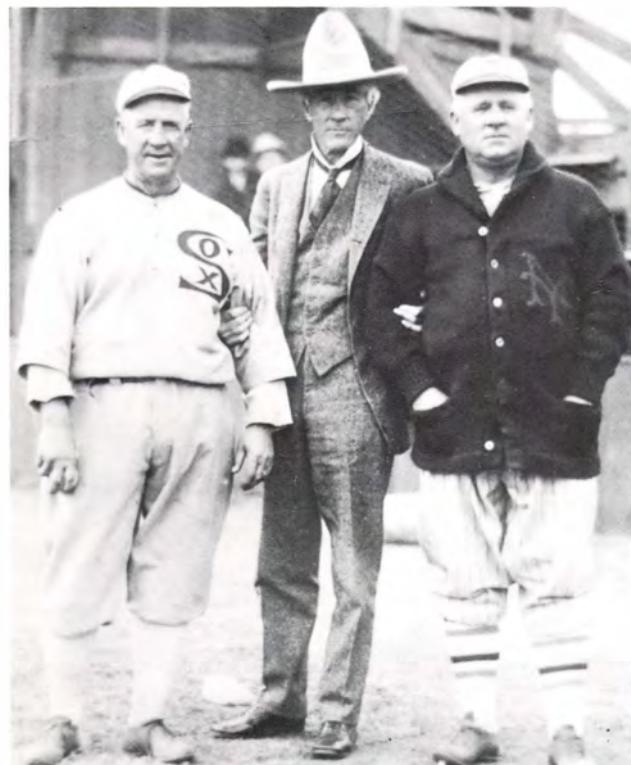
John Thorn & Mark Rucker



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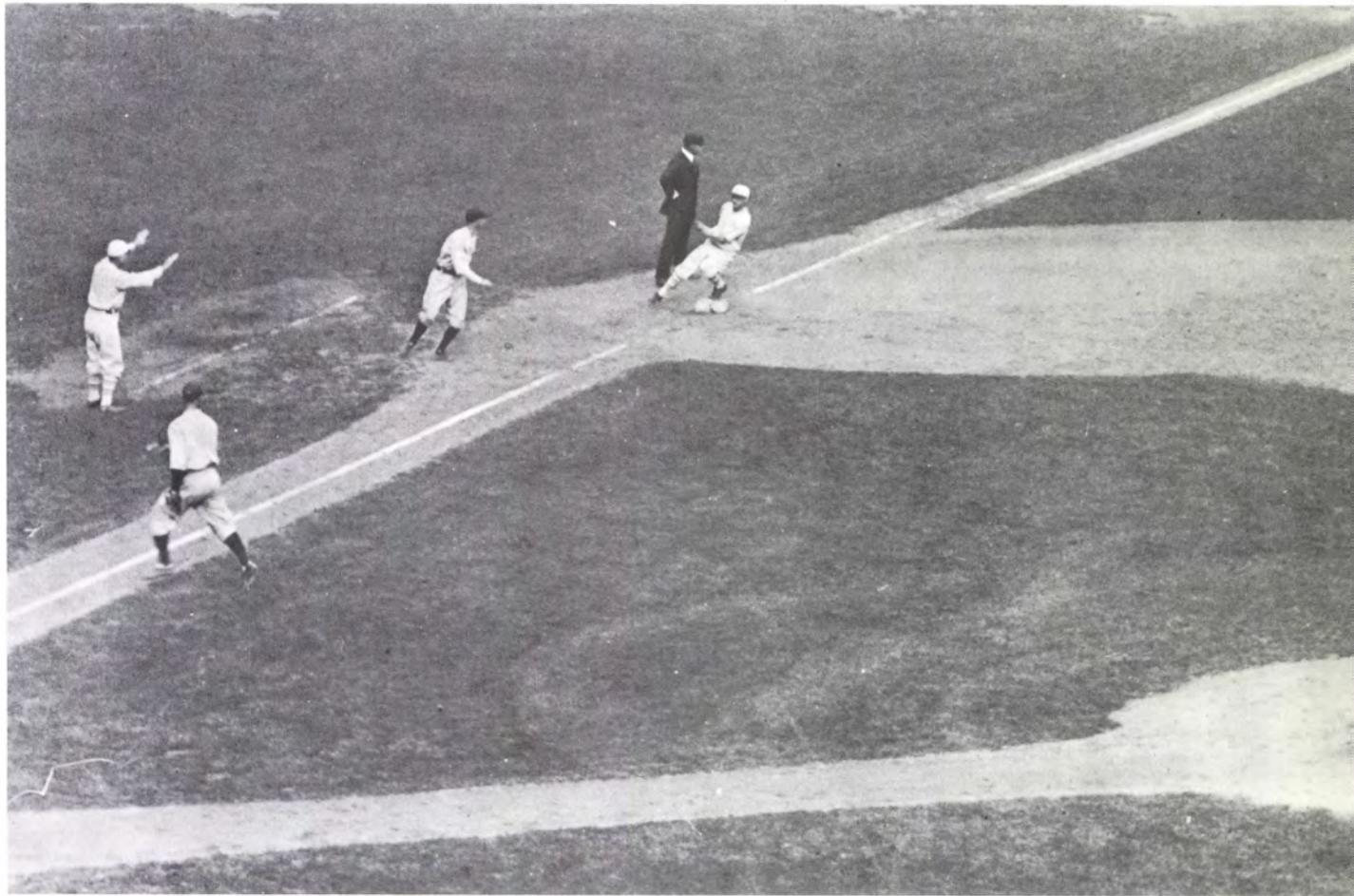
THE NATIONAL PASTIME (ISSN 0734-6905, ISBN 0-910137-36-6), Number 9; Vol. 7, No. 1. Published by the Society for American Baseball Research, Inc., PO Box 470, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 649 Sherwood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15204. Postage paid at Manhattan, KS. Copyright © 1989 Society for American Baseball Research, Inc. Text copyright © 1989 John Thorn. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

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Gambling and rowdyism were rampant at the outset of the era. Even the mild-mannered Casey Stengel (top, right) found himself carried away. AL president Ban Johnson (top, left) backed up his umpires against the bullying tactics patented in the senior circuit by the Giants' John McGraw; he also pressed vigorously the charges that Kid Gleason had been betrayed by Chicago's "Black Sox." The two managers flank Kenesaw Mountain Landis, who cleaned up baseball while Warren Harding (below, center) was sullying the White House.



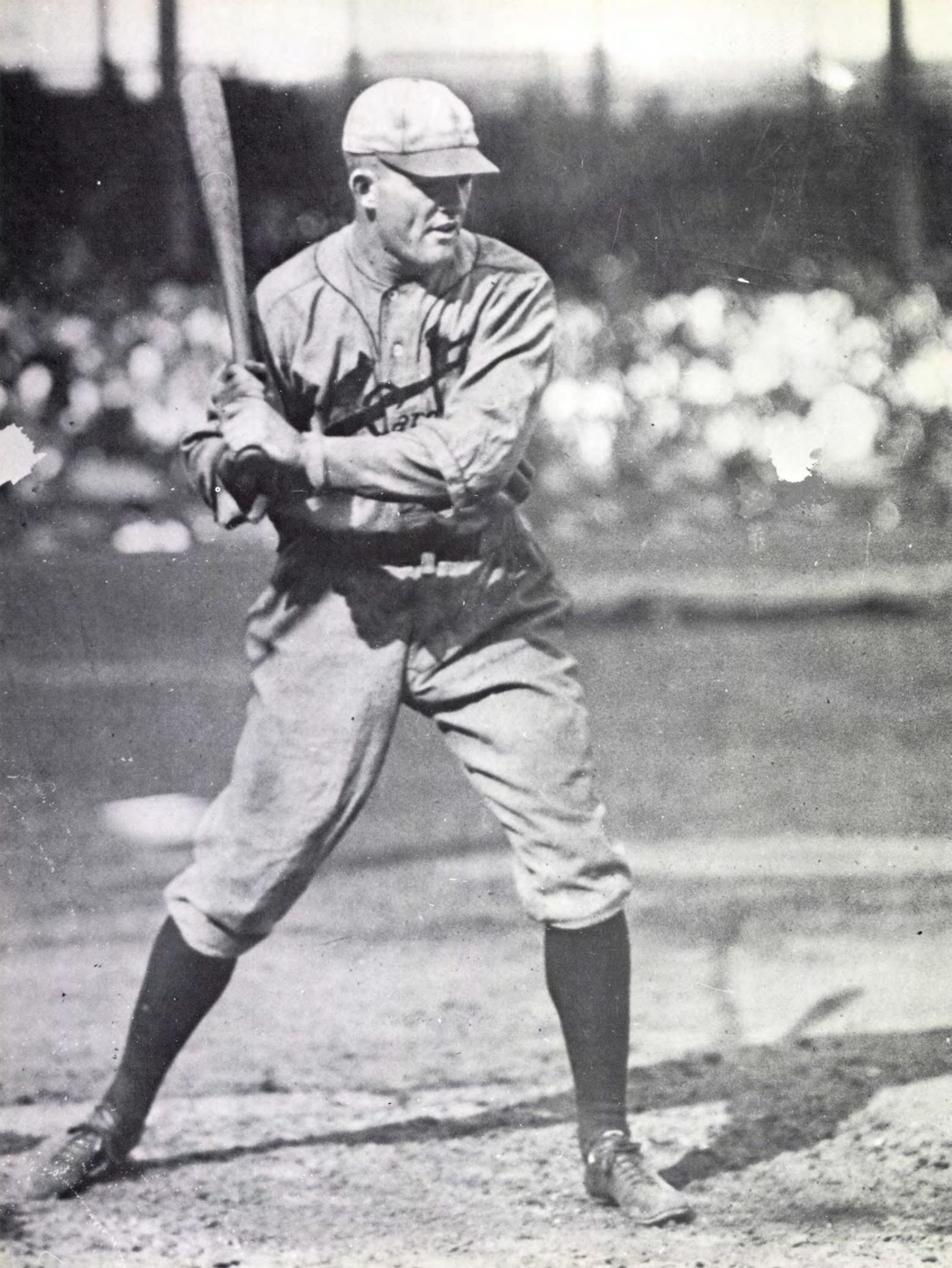


McGraw's Giants won four consecutive flags in 1921-24, picking up talented players from other clubs such as Cincinnati Reds' third baseman Heinie Groh (near left). He is also shown below having reached third base on a triple in Game One of the 1922 World Series. The Giants swept the Yankees, who had been poor-relation tenants at the Polo Grounds since 1913. But things were soon to change. The Yanks had been gathering stars besides Ruth — Waite Hoyt (right) from the Red Sox, Bob Meusel (far left) from the Pacific Coast League. Next year they would have a spanking new stadium of their own, along with a World Series win over McGraw, who would never gain another world championship.

NBL

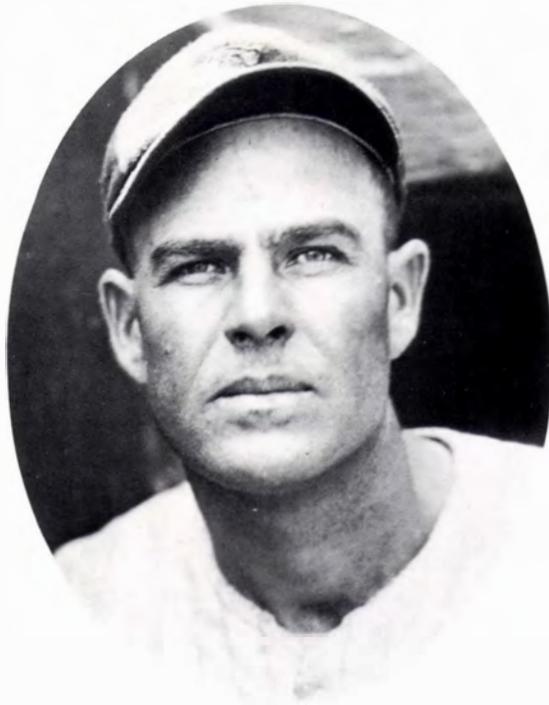


THORN





THORN

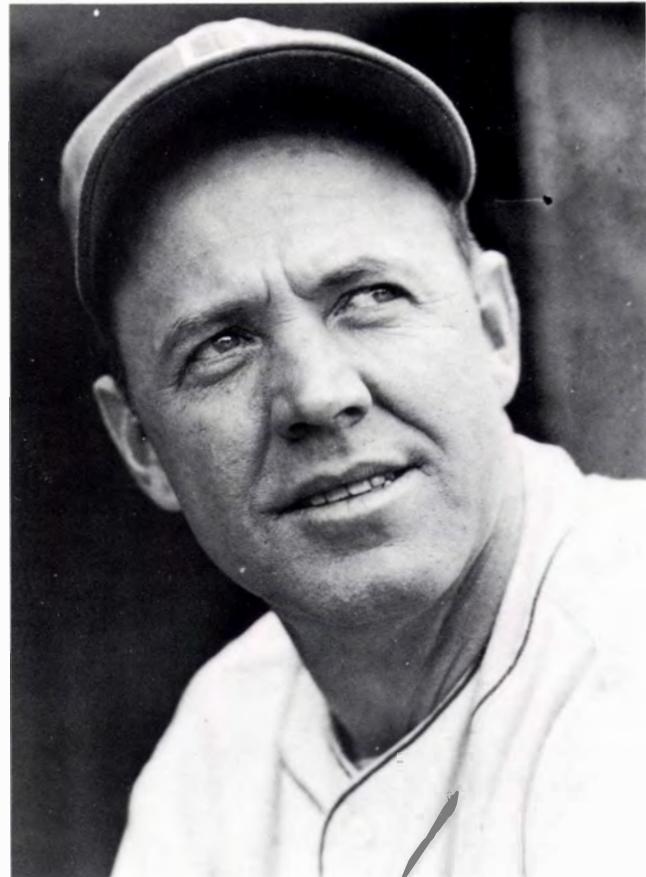


THORN

NBL (opp.)



SPALDING



PHOTOFILM

In 1921-25 Rogers Hornsby (opposite) averaged .402. Mike Gonzalez (lower right) did not have the Rajah in mind when he coined the phrase "good field, no hit." The others portrayed are spitballer Burleigh Grimes (lower left) and journeyman outfielders Curt Walker

(right) and Max Flack (left). Between games of a doubleheader pitting the Cubs and the Cards, Flack was traded from the former, for whom he had played the opener, to the latter, for whom he played the nightcap.

SPALDING



THORN



Here are four Hall of Famers plus, at the lower right, Bucky Harris, "boy wonder" manager and second sacker of the 1924 world champion Senators. Harris brought Washington back into the championship fray in 1925, but failed to repeat as Pirate Kiki Cuyler (above) hit a bases-loaded double in the eighth inning of Game Seven. The hallmark of Joe Sewell (top right) was his incredible bat control that yielded only 114 strikeouts in a 14-year career that began in August 1920 when he was called up to Cleveland to replace the fatally beaned Ray Chapman. In that same year George Sisler (near right) set a record with 257 base hits; two years later he was even better, batting .420 and nearly bringing the St. Louis Browns a pennant. As Burleigh Grimes was the last to throw the spitball legally in the NL, old Red Faber (left) was the last to do so in the AL.



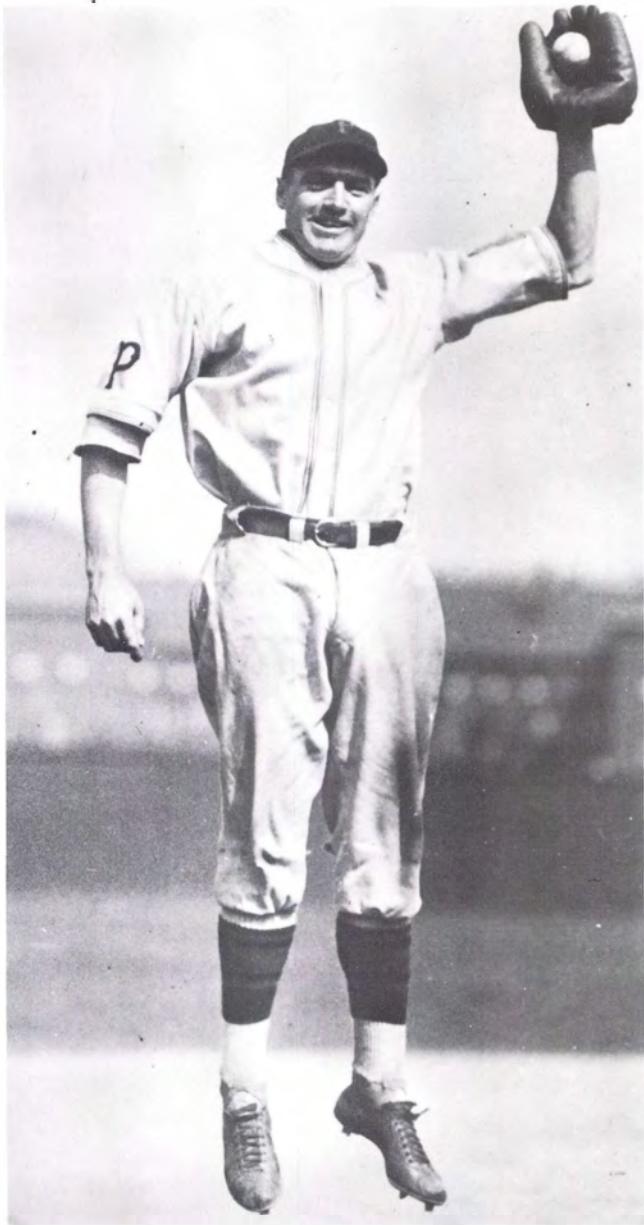
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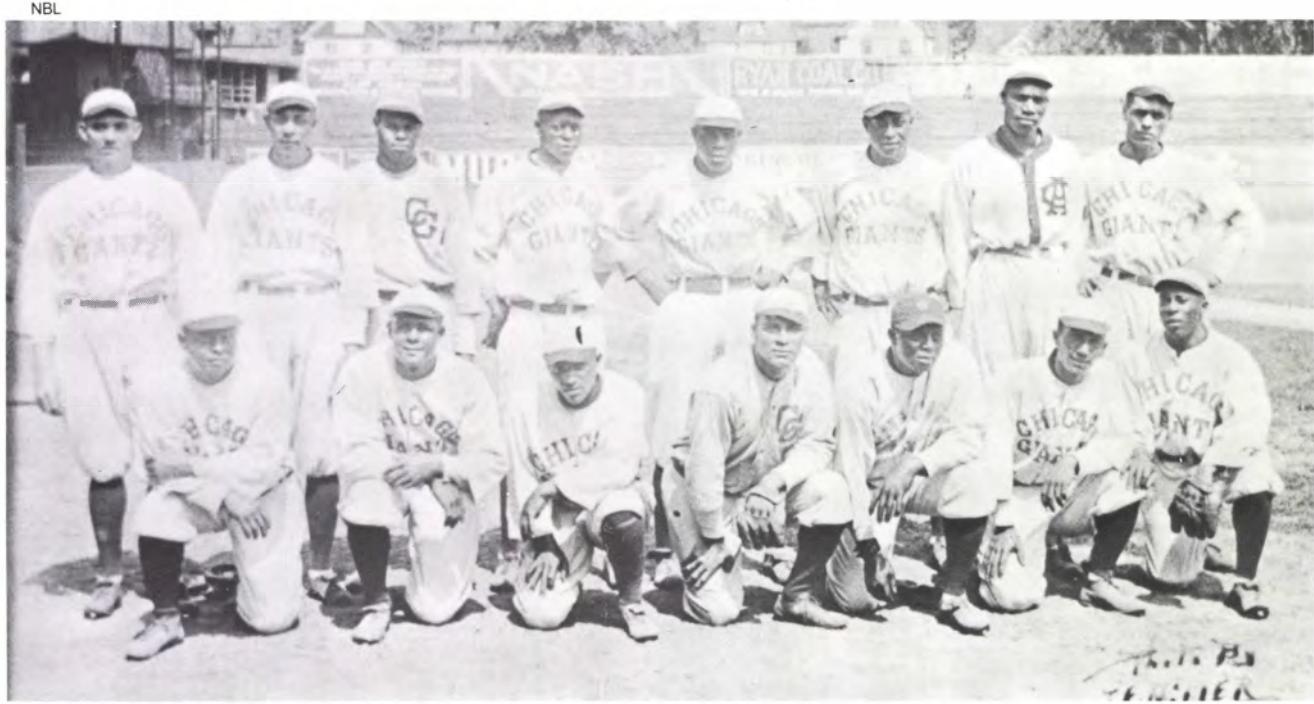
Like oldtimer Cy Young, Tris Speaker enjoyed his glory years with Boston and Cleveland. In 1920 he managed the Indians to a World Series win while hitting .388. And has there ever been a better outfielder? Below, two views of Pie Traynor, voted the best ever to play third base in a 1969 poll of sportswriters. And opposite, the man whom Yankee fans recently (and incredibly) voted the second-best ever to play first base in the Bronx. Not to belabor all of Lou Gehrig's imposing records — the 2,130 consecutive games, the 493 homers, the lifetime batting average of .340 — simply ponder this: in 1930 he drove in 117 runs . . . in just his road games.

PHOTOFILER (opp.)





NBL



The 1920s also marked a vibrant period in black baseball, as Rube Foster organized the Negro National League in 1920 (the Eastern Colored League arose in 1923). Foster is shown below, in street clothes amidst the team he owned, the Chicago American Giants. A great strategist, Foster learned his craft from Sol White and in turn trained a legion of black managers, including Biz Mackey and Oscar Charleston. Mackey, the catcher whose later protégé was Roy Campanella, stands second from the left in the photo of the Hilldale Giants (in the center is slugger John Beckwith). Charleston, perhaps the greatest player of the Negro Leagues, is portrayed at the top left of the facing page, standing in the middle. Joining him and Foster in the Hall of Fame was shortstop John "Pop" Lloyd (here shown in a Havana uniform); his playing days stretched from 1905 to 1931, including a stint with Foster's club. And at the left is a remarkable photo of old Sol White, whose 1906 *History of Colored Baseball* is indispensable for students of the game, flanked by pitchers Smokey Joe Williams (left) and Dick "Cannonball" Redding.

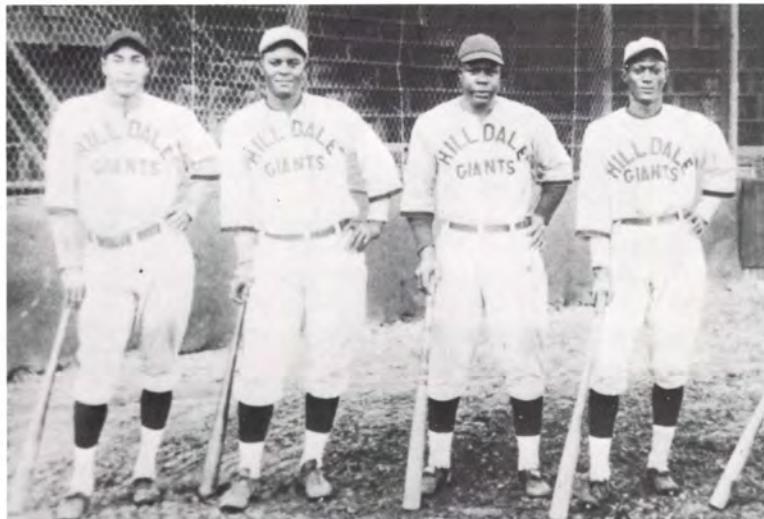
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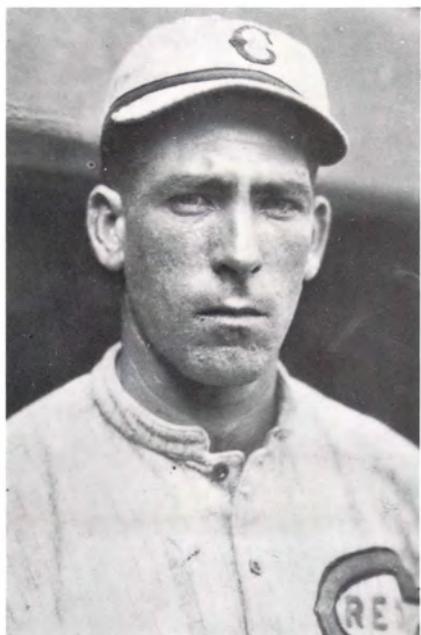


Above are the Black Sox of Baltimore, second-place finishers in the Eastern Colored League of 1924. Their stars included Pete Hill (top, center), Crush Holloway (top, third from left), and Jud Wilson (top, second from right). Below, Arizona's Southern Pacific Motive Power Team of 1922, typical of the era's boom in company-sponsored baseball competition.





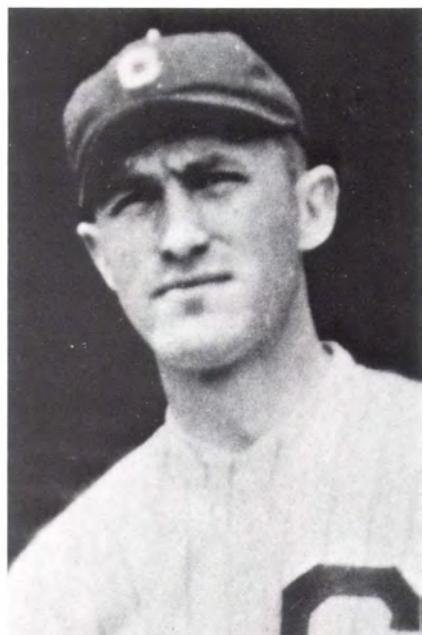
As shell-shocked pitchers saw their ERAs skyrocket and their complete games plummet, rookie Washington manager Bucky Harris began to pull his superannuated starting pitchers early. The man he chose to become the game's first true stopper was (left) Fred "Firpo" Marberry — so called because of his resemblance to the Argentine boxer. Two other great faces of the day were hot-tempered hurler Adolfo Luque (left) and umpire Cy Rigler (middle). Rigler, a mountain of a man, once short-circuited a beanball dispute between Luque and the Dodgers' Jacques Fournier, who was charging toward the mound, by hippling Fournier to the ground and tackling Luque; then, ejecting neither, he signaled the resumption of play. Oh, that such giants walked the land today! And at the right is the improbably spelled Bill Wambsganss. When Wamby came up to Cleveland in 1914 this limerick appeared in a local newspaper: *"The Naps bought a shortstop named Wambsganss,/Who is slated to fill Ray Chapman's pants./But when he saw Ray,/And the way he could play,/He muttered, 'I haven't a clam's chance!'* "And so he switched to second base, where he achieved unassisted-triple-play fame in the 1920 World Series.



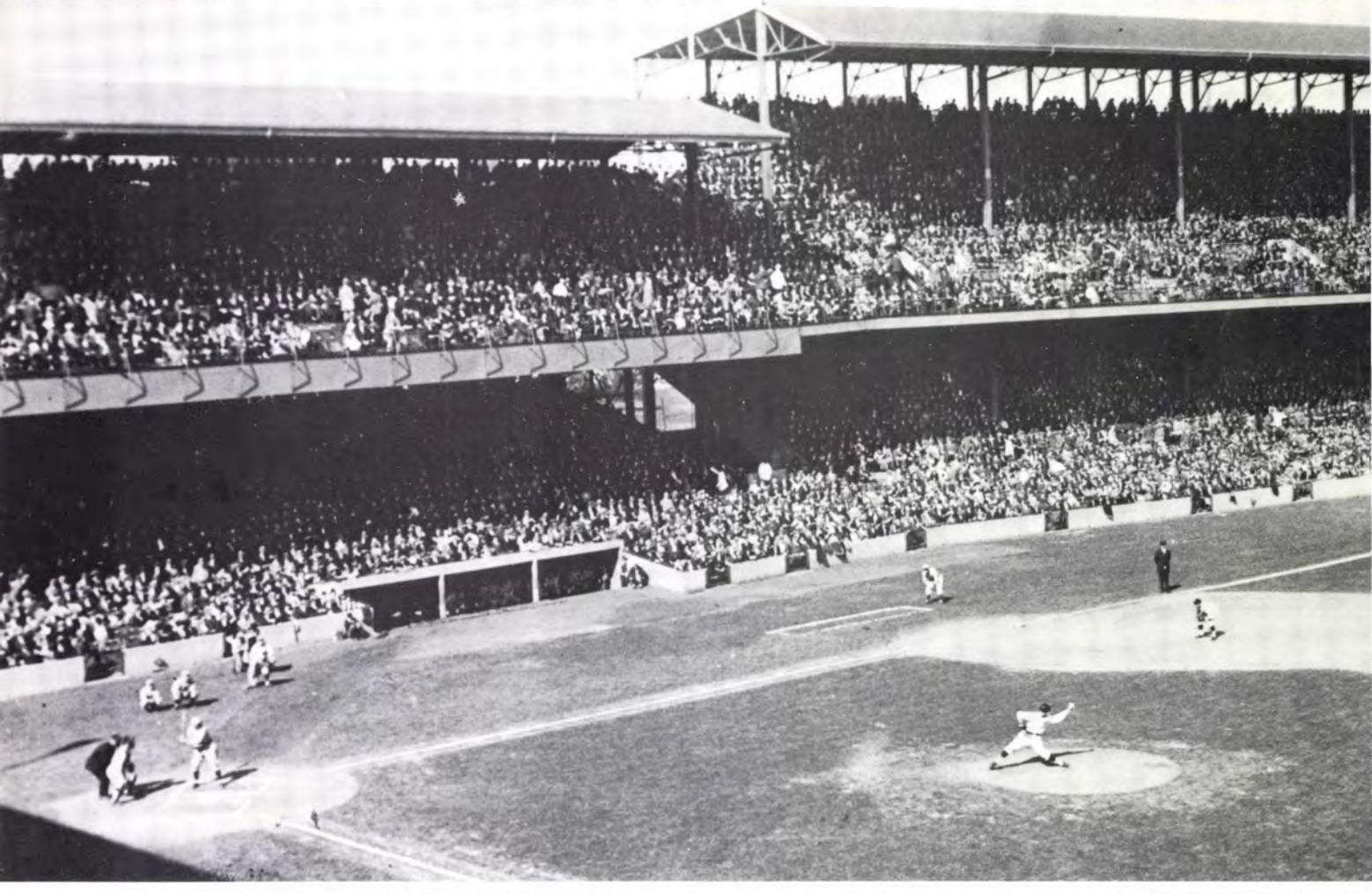
NBL



THORN



NBL



SPALDING

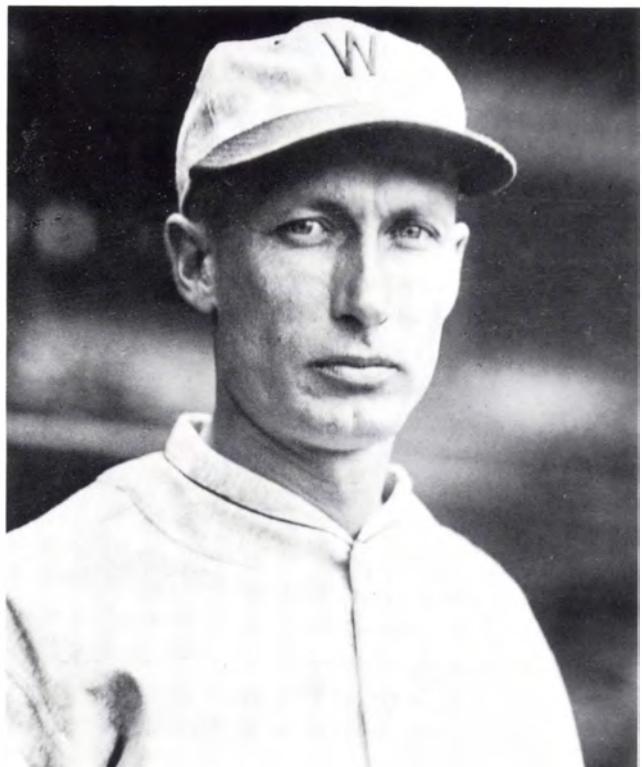


SPALDING



PHOTOFILER

In 1924 the Giants and Senators played one of the greatest fall classics of all time, concluding in a memorable twelve-inning finale in which old Walter Johnson finally won a World Series game and 18-year-old Freddy Lindstrom's fate (and the Giants') was determined by a pebble. Above is a scene from Game Six at Washington's Griffith Park. To the left are New York southpaw Art Nehf, who won that game 2-1 to keep the Giants alive, and outfielder Ross Youngs, whose undistinguished performance in the Series hinted at the decline and premature death to come. The two distinguished Solons are Goose Goslin (above), who led Washington to three pennants in the period (1924, '25, '33) and Detroit to two more (1934, '35). Sam Rice (right) was quiet in the 1924 Series, but collected twelve hits in the 1925 affair and made a sensational, still controversial grab to end Game Three. Did he catch it? Or should Earl Smith's drive have been a homer, turning the Series around? Rice wouldn't say . . . but in a note he left to be opened after his death in 1974, he swore that although his tumble into the bleachers in right field knocked him out for a few seconds, "At no time did I lose possession of the ball."



NBL



Transitions: Washington's playing manager Bucky Harris (below) took AL flags in 1924-25, then yielded 1926-28 to Yankee helmsman Miller Huggins, a one-time second baseman like him. Above is Nick Cullop, who was transformed from a pitcher into a great slugger but, unlike his prototype Babe Ruth, confined his top exploits to the minors.

SPALDING



PHOTOFILER



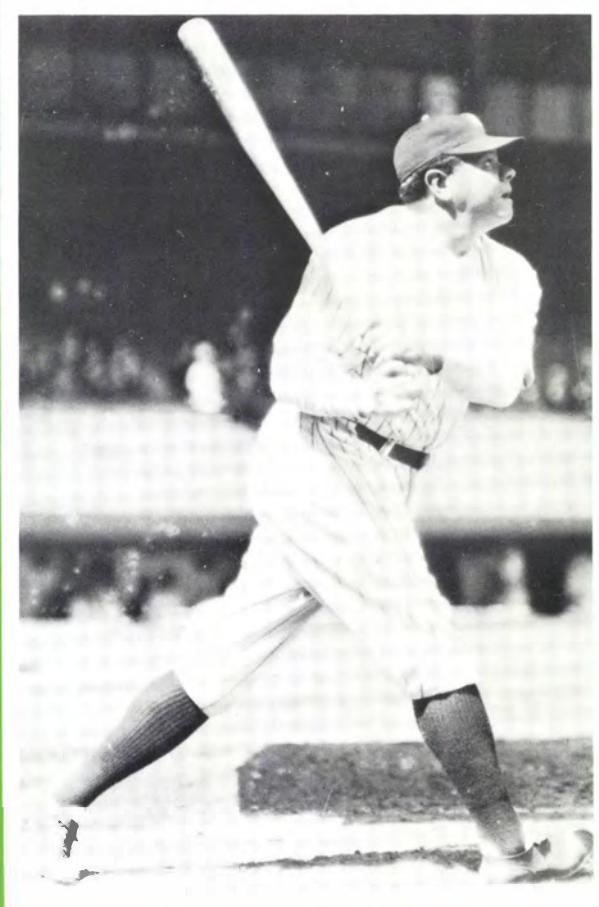




NBL



THORN



John Kieran wrote in 1927, the day after Ruth hit his sixtieth homer: "*With vim and verve he has walloped the curve from Texas to Duluth, Which is no small task, and I beg to ask: Was there ever a guy like Ruth? . . . / My voice may be loud above the crowd and my words just a bit uncouth, / But I'll stand and shout till the last man's out: There was never a guy like Ruth!*"

FIRST
NATIONAL
PICTURES, INC.
Presents

BABE RUTH

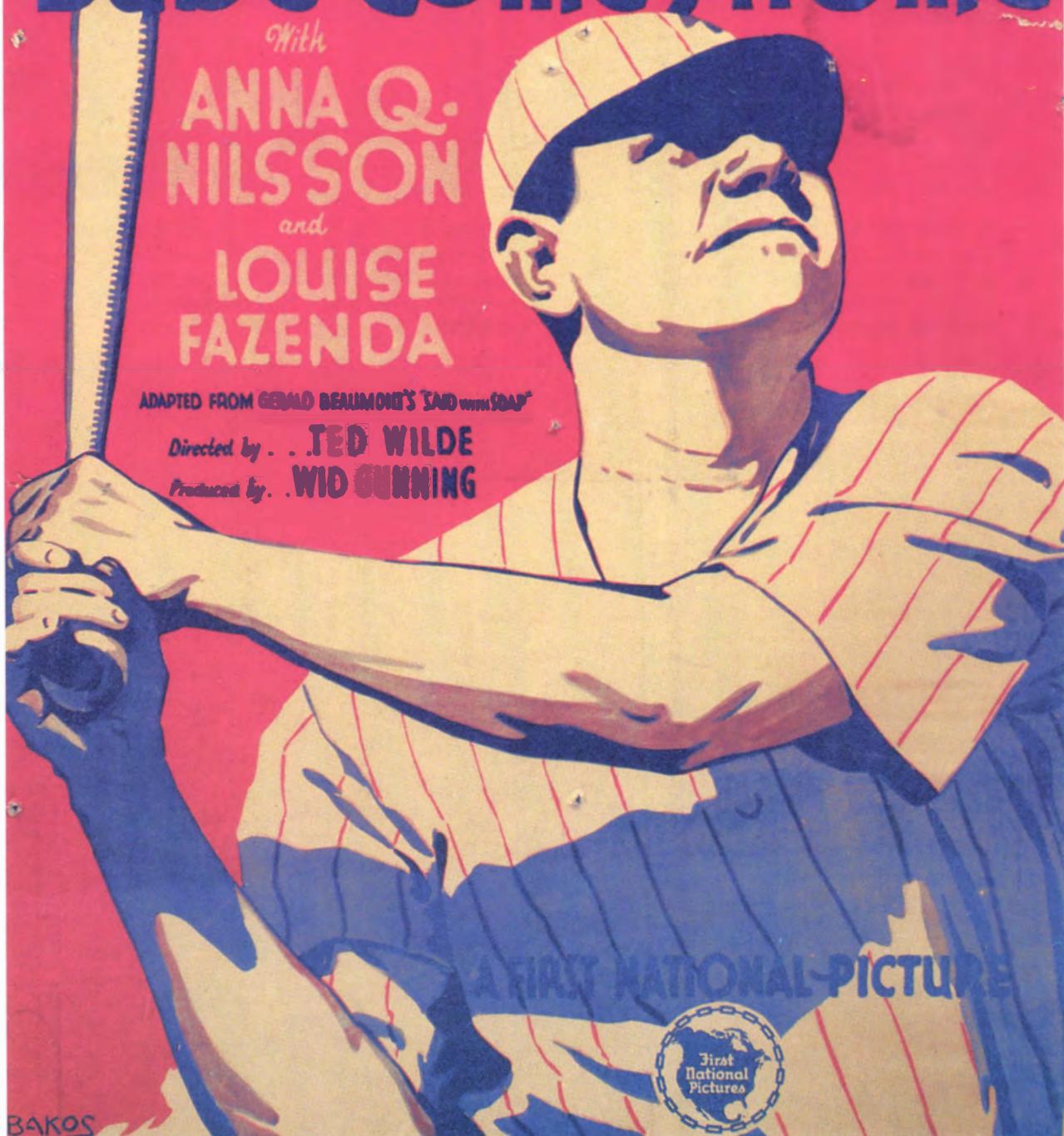
Babe Comes Home

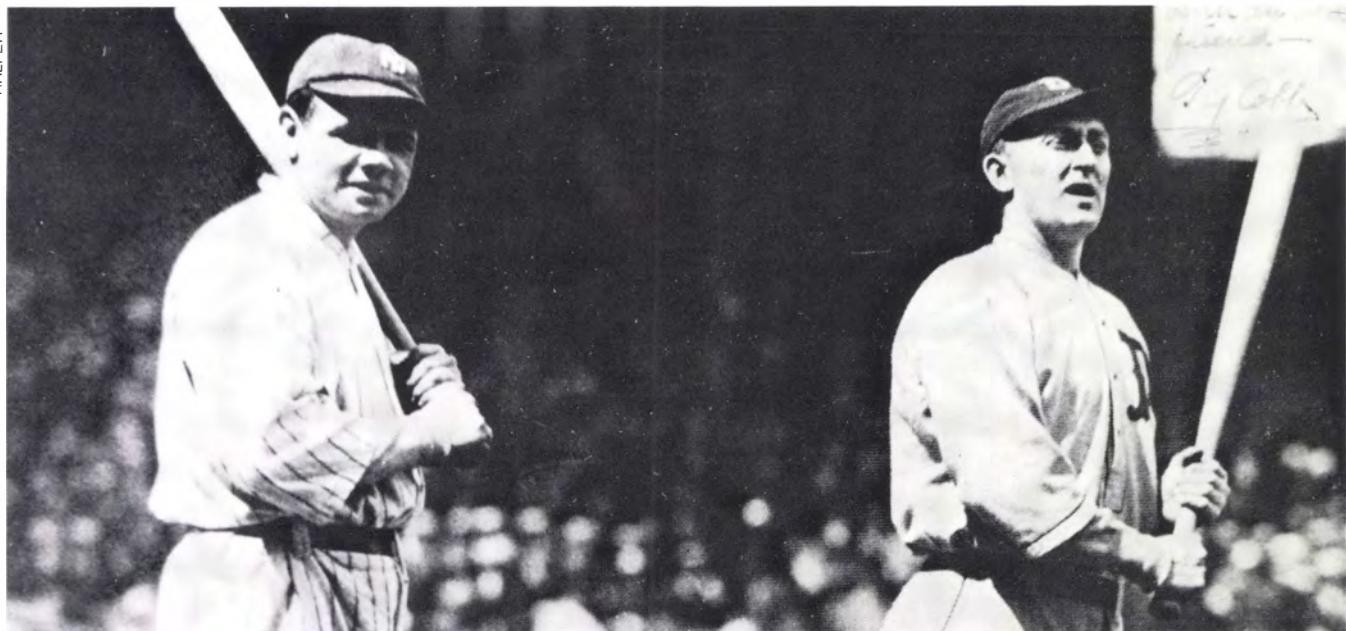
With

ANNA Q.
NILSSON
and
LOUISE
FAZENDA

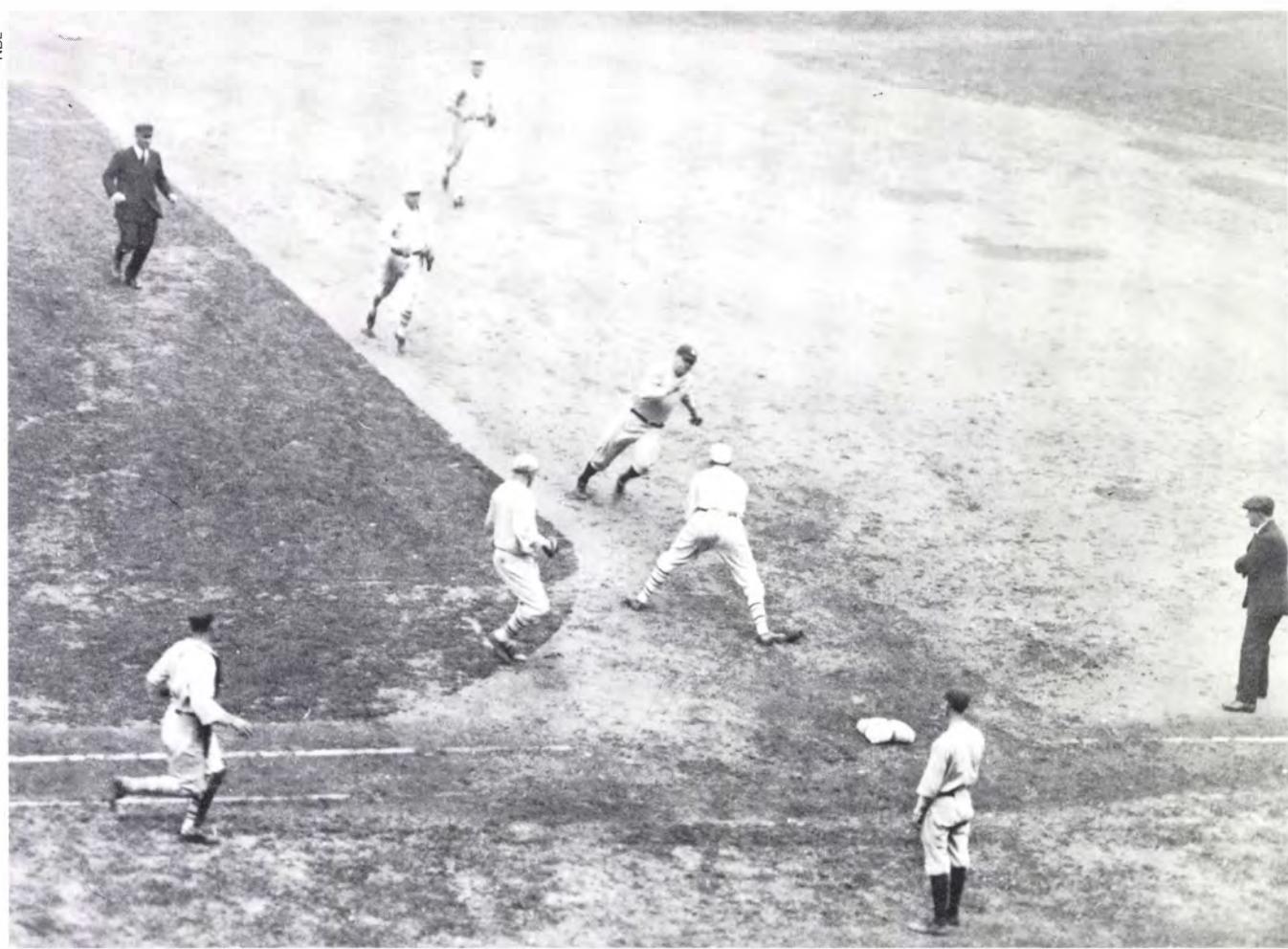
ADAPTED FROM GERALD BENIMORE'S "SOAD WITH SOAP"

Directed by . . . TED WILDE
Produced by . . . WID GUNNING





Ty Cobb was king of the dead-ball days, Babe Ruth ruled the lively-ball era. The Georgia Peach outpolled Ruth in the initial ballot for the Hall of Fame, but today there are few who would argue that Cobb was the greater. Below, a rare Ruth blunder: caught off first base in Game Two of the 1923 World Series, he is about to be retired on a toss from Dave Bancroft to George Kelly (a mitigating factor: he also hit two home runs to win the game).





Below, the 1926 Yankees, for whom promising young first baseman Lou Gehrig (back row, center) collected 16 homers and 107 RBIs; next season those numbers would jump to 47 and 175. Ruth hit four homers in the Series, a record three coming in one game. By 1930 and '31 he was earning \$80 grand — more than President Hoover, one reporter complained. Ruth's classic reply: "Why not? I had a better year than he did." Above, a 1932 cartoon alluding to the Bambino's imminent pay cut, the first of his career.



RUCKER



RUCKER



PHOTOFILER



THORN



The Cardinals and Browns had been the weak sisters of the dead-ball era, neither earning a flag until the Cards topped the NL in 1926. But they had their share of fine players, including George Sisler, shown at the top sliding into the Cards' Frankie Frisch in a City Series contest of 1927 and below with Lou Gehrig. Other Mound City stalwarts included Brownie George Blaeholder (far left), inventor of the slider, and Les Mann (near left), veteran outfielder and father of the Olympic baseball movement.

From his "Wheaties All Stars" of 1935 developed the U.S. Olympic team that played baseball as a demonstration sport in the 1936 Games at Berlin. Grover Alexander was a star long before he came to St. Louis in mid-1926, supposedly washed up at age 39 from years of boozing. But instead he drank from the fountain of youth, starring in the World Series as he won both games he started and saved another by coming in to fan Tony Lazzeri with the bases loaded in the seventh inning of the concluding game. Over the next two years, he won 37 games for the Cards and pitched more than 500 innings.



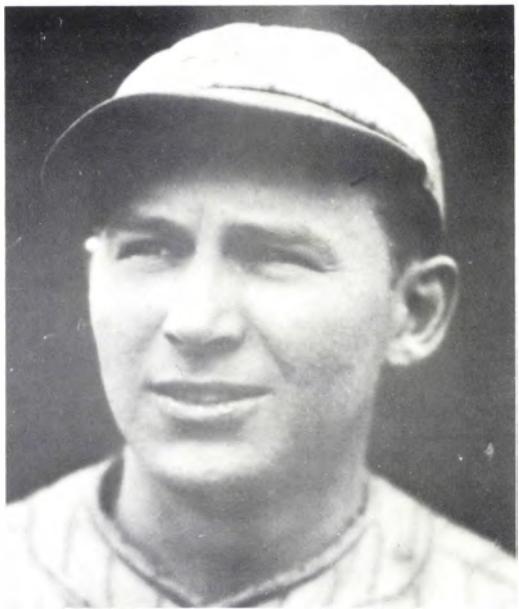
SPALDING



RUCKER



On this spread are six Hall of Famers, including four who played for the otherwise unsuccessful Giants of 1925-27. Hack Wilson (shown above, at the left, with hard-hitting pitcher Jack Bentley) was obtained by Chicago after the 1925 season. There he would reach NL pinnacles of 56 homers and 190 RBIs in 1930. Third baseman Freddy Lindstrom (below) recorded 231 hits for the Giants in that year, just as he had in 1928. George Kelly (p. 27, top right) played first base for them in 1924-26 when they featured a Hall of Fame infield — joining him and

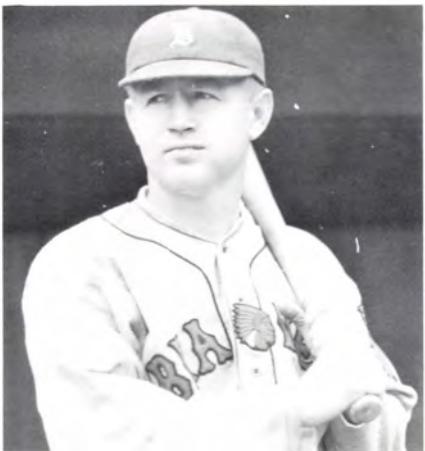




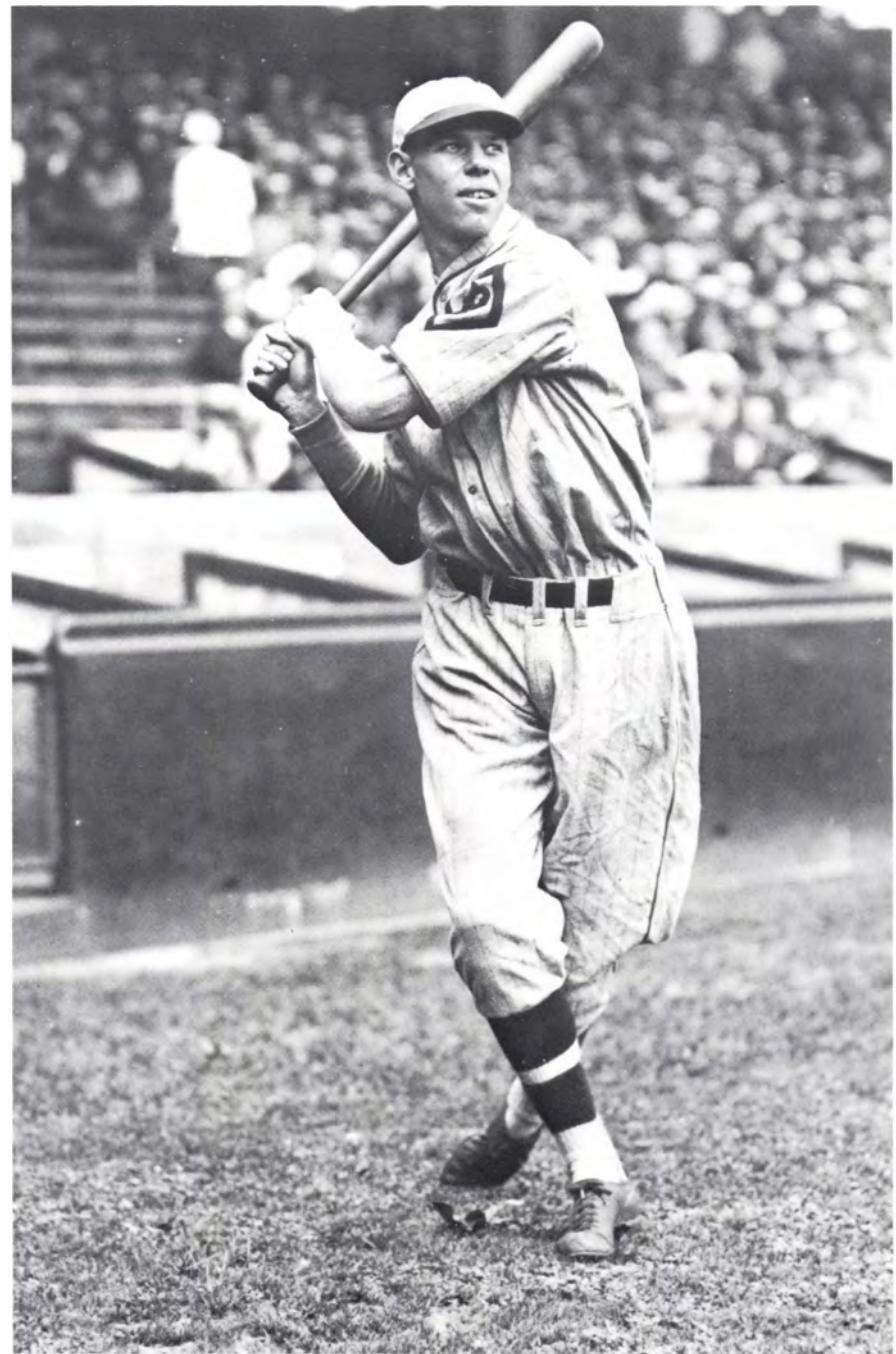
Lindstrom were 2B Frankie Frisch (p. 26, left) and SS Travis Jackson, with Bill Terry as a sub. Emil "Irish" Meusel (above, left) played left field for the 1926 Giants, as his brother Bob did for the crosstown Yankees. The next year, as the Yanks swept the Pirates in the Series, pitcher Herb Pennock defeated Lee Meadows (lower right) in Game Three. And just coming into his own over at Detroit at this time was Charlie Gehring (below, left), "the mechanical man" who was becoming the AL's greatest second baseman since Nap Lajoie.





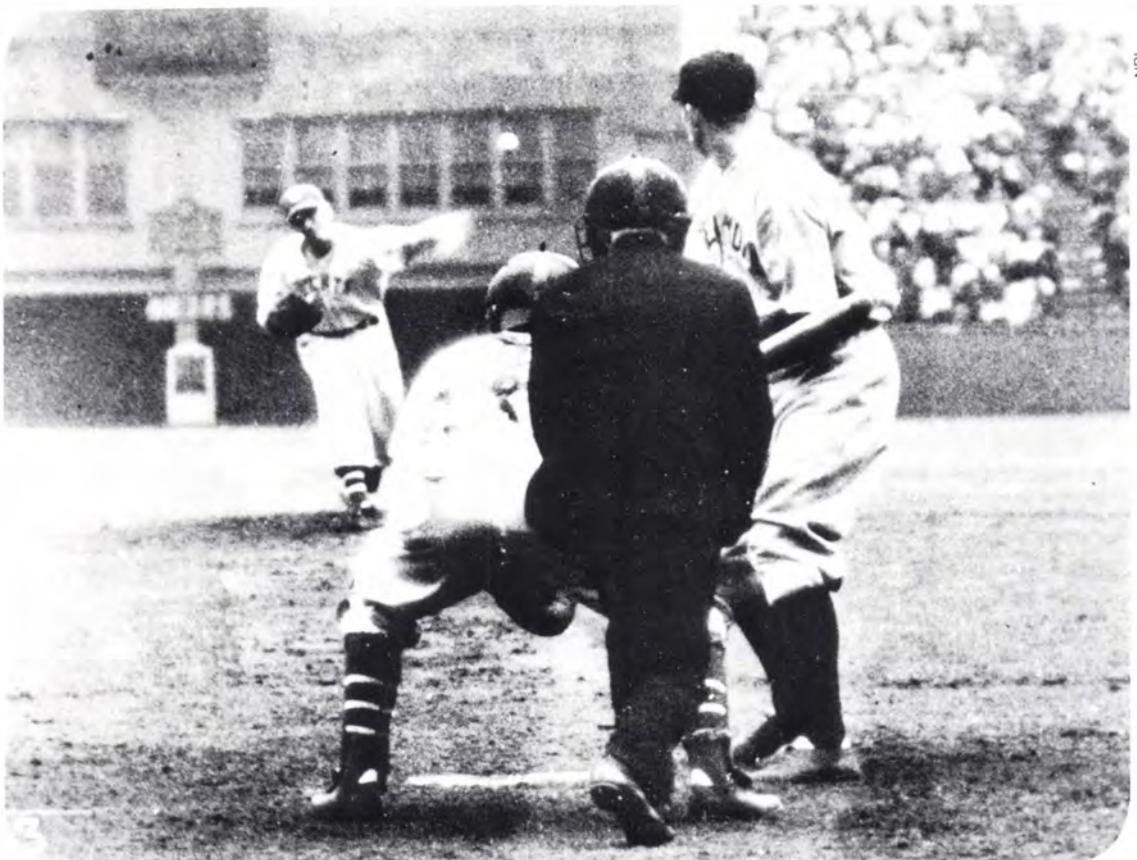


Opposite, forty-eight players of the mid-1930s, as depicted in cards from the Goudey Gum Company's "puzzle set" of 1935. The block of 24 players at the top formed a picture of Chuck Klein on the reverse while the six "four-in-one" cards at the bottom combined to portray Jimmie Foxx. On this page at the top is Boston Braves' slugger Art "The Great" Shires, whose punch, alas, was more evident in the boxing ring than at the bat. Below, left, is Dave "Beauty" Bancroft, past his peak years with the Giants and Phils. Also shown below is Floyd Caves "Babe" Herman, about whom swirl nearly as many apocryphal tales as there are about Yogi Berra. (By the way, Herman did *not* triple into a triple play on that famous occasion when three men were tagged out at third ... but only because there was already one out when Herman came to the plate.)





Carl Hubbell is remembered for his signature screwball (shown in action on the facing page, during Game One of the 1936 World Series); for his 24 consecutive victories over two seasons; for his fabulous 1.66 ERA in 1933, when the league average was more than twice that; but most of all, for his fanning, in the 1934 All Star Game and in succession, five of the greatest sluggers ever assembled on any team: Ruth, Gehrig, Foxx, Simmons, and Cronin. But strikeout ability was not the key to King Carl's success — control was; in 1934 he walked a mere 37 batters in 313 innings. The same was true for Ted Lyons of the White Sox (left), who like Hubbell continued to pitch past his 40th birthday. Incredibly, at the age of 41, he pitched in only 20 games, and those only on Sundays; he completed all 20, won 14 of them, and led the league in ERA with a mark of 2.10.



NBL



NBL

In the same way that Fred Marberry earned his nickname from the boxer Firpo, Lewis Robert Wilson was nicknamed Hack for his resemblance to the great wrestler Hackenschmidt.

His remarkable physique — 5'6", 190 pounds, 18" neck, size 5 feet — earned him the additional sobriquet of The Sultan of Suet.



NBL





PHOTOFILE



SPALDING

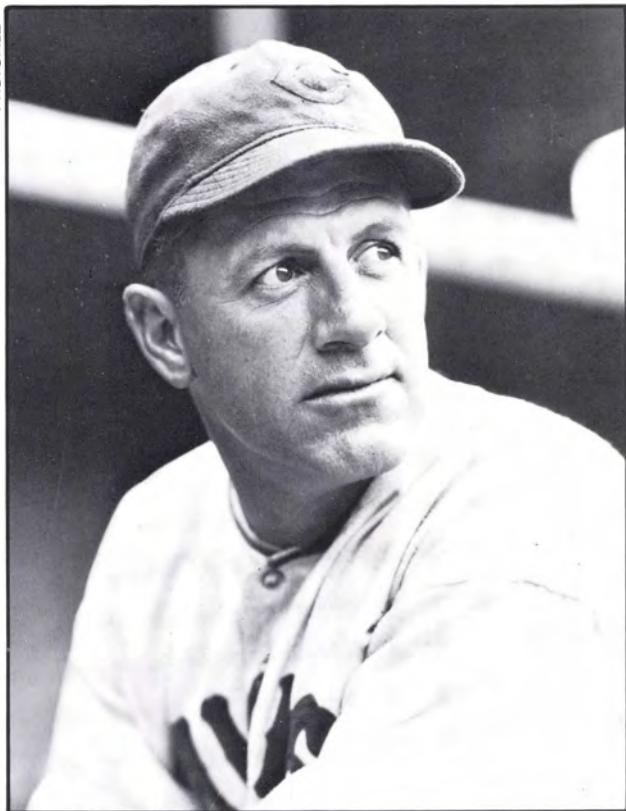


The 1929 World Series saw a rematch of two old foes, the Philadelphia A's and the Chicago Cubs, who had previously squared off in 1910. The Cubs had to make do without Hall of Fame catcher Gabby Hartnett (top right), out nearly the whole season with a sore arm but who would bounce back for another decade as the Cubs' regular backstop. The A's, depicted in panoramic style below, were led by the eternal

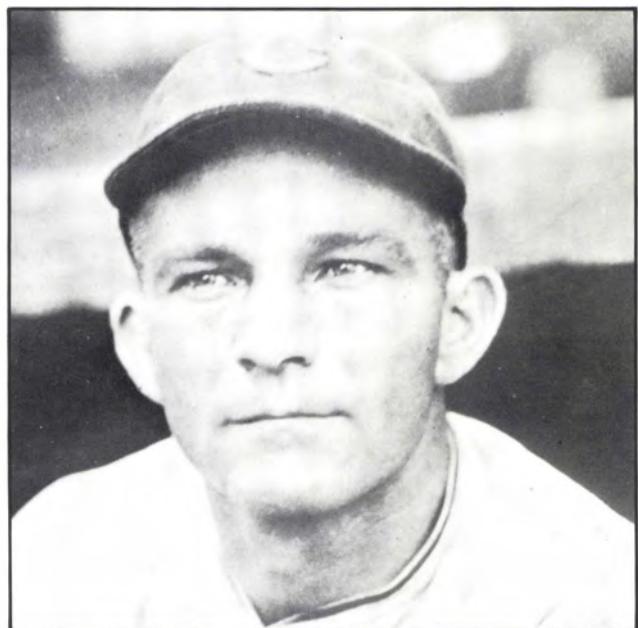
helmsman Connie Mack and their traditional "good-luck" mascot, standing before him. They also had some fine players, of course, such as Al Simmons,

Mickey Cochrane, Lefty Grove (portrayed on the following pages), Jimmie Foxx (center), and Max Bishop (above, left). "Double X" came to the majors as a 17-year-old catcher, was shifted to third base, and then in 1929 found his home at first. "Camera Eye," as the diminutive second baseman Bishop was called, averaged well over 100 walks in his nine years as a regular, often collecting more bases on balls than he did base hits.





Jolly Cholly Grimm (above) was the light-hitting but fine-fielding first sacker of the '29 Cubs who in 1932 would become their playing manager. Riggs Stephenson was Chicago's heavy-hitting but horrendous-fielding left fielder. His .336 batting average made him part of the fearsome foursome excessively described above as — with debt to the Yankees, Notre Dame, and the Bible — Murderers Row and the Four Horseman.



Chicago "Cubs"

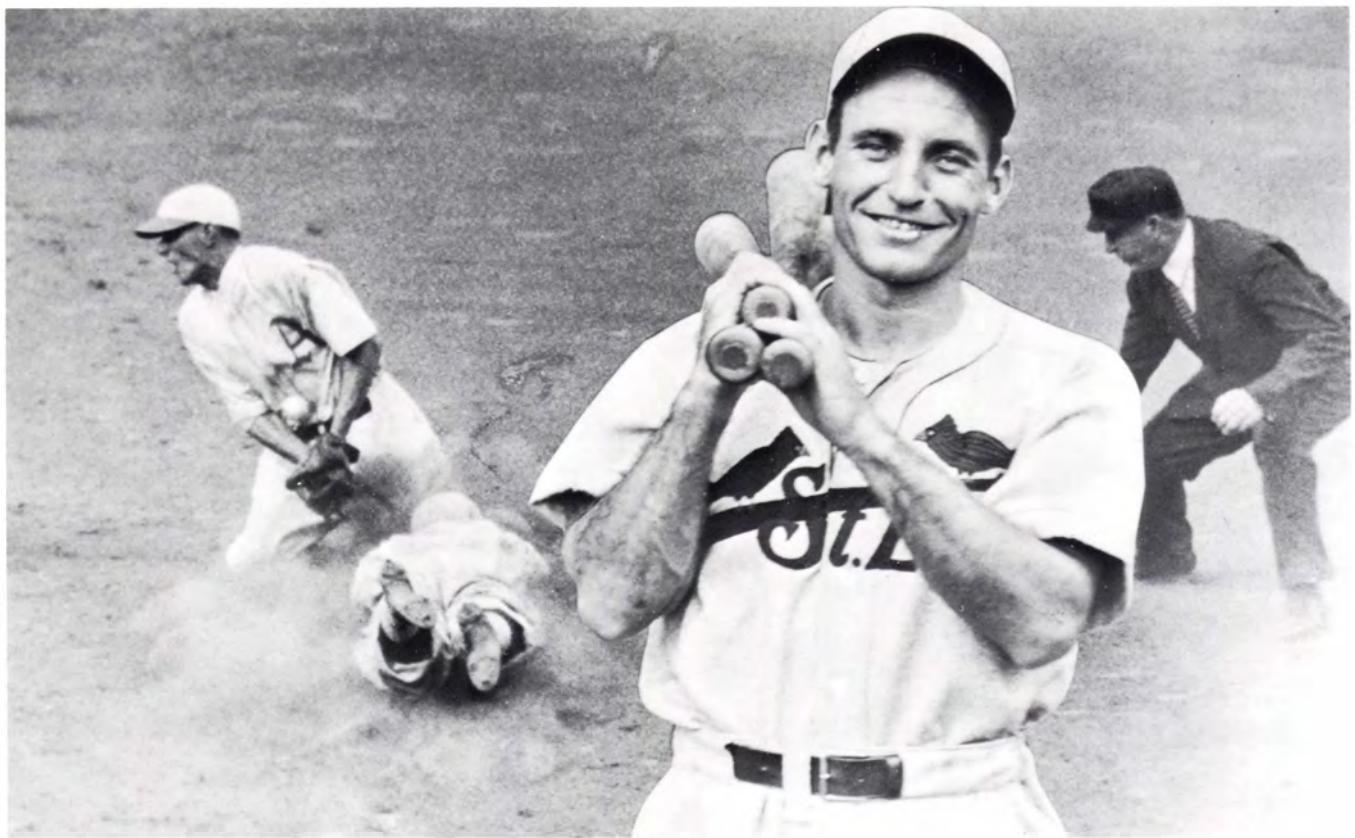


The Cubs were known for their hitting, but their pitchers were pretty tough, too — particularly Charlie Root, Pat Malone, and Guy Bush. The Mississippi Mudcat, as Bush was tagged, won ten or more games every year from 1926 through 1935, the season he traded his Chicago uniform for that of Pittsburgh. In the hitters' year of 1930, when the National League as a whole batted .303, Bush somehow managed to go 15-10 despite an ERA of 6.20! In the picture below he is joined in Pirates' garb by infielder Cookie Lavagetto, later to win fame in Brooklyn.





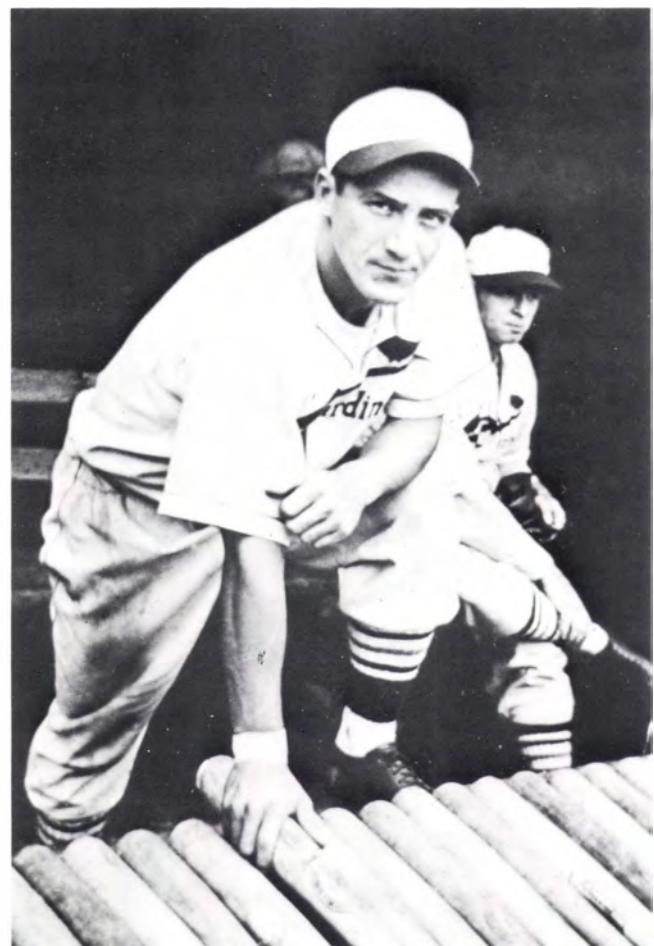
Sunny Jim Bottomley (above, left, with Gabby Street) was part of the Gashouse Gang that brought the St. Louis Cardinals a pennant in 1930, and a world's championship in '31. He previously set the record for most RBIs in one game — a dozen, which he collected on September 16, 1924. Jim's cheery disposition was sorely tried by a crosstown stint with the Browns, who failed to win half their games in any season from 1930 to 1942. He had been sent to Cincinnati before the Cards' 1934 championship season, keyed by shortstop Leo Durocher (left); third baseman Pepper Martin (p. 37, top), who had "run wild" in the 1931 classic; switch-hitting first sacker Ripper Collins, whose 35 homers led the NL in 1934; and outfielder Joe "Ducky" Medwick, whom Commissioner Landis had to pull out of the final-game blowout to prevent a riot by Detroit fans. Peeved about Ducky's hard slide into third baseman Marv Owen, they showered him with debris as he stood in left field. With the score headed toward its eventual 11-0 conclusion, Landis ruled that discretion was the better part of valor and removed Medwick rather than call a forfeit.



SPALDING



SPALDING



NBL



BABE RUTH MUSEUM



KEYSTONE-MAST



POTTER



SPALDING

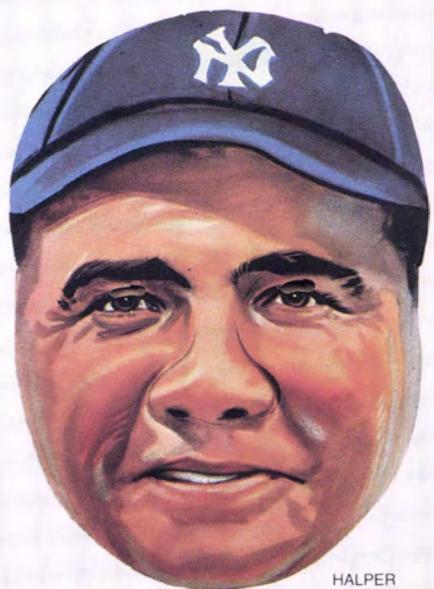
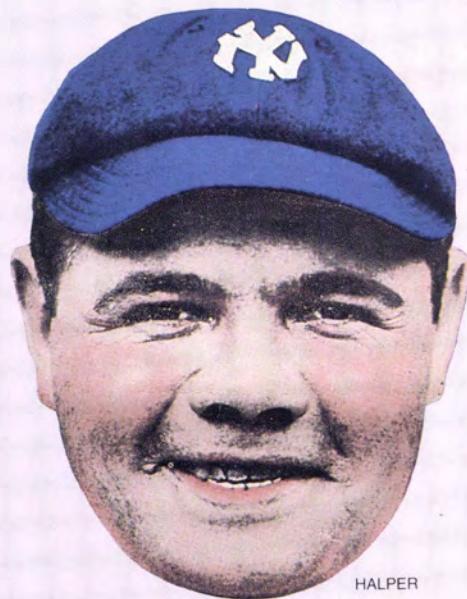
Larrupin' Lou and Bustin' Babe — we will never see such a tandem again. They captured the headlines because of their unprecedented slugging feats. But they charmed the cameramen because they conveyed a sense that they were having just as much fun playing baseball for a living as any fan would, if he could only trade places with one of them. When barnstorming, the Babe would usually play first base to save his

legs, but occasionally he would take a turn on the mound, as he had in the old days. Whichever position he played, the throng came out to see that inimitable swing. Gehrig was hardly an extrovert, and he never trusted his gifts the way that Ruth did. Still, the playfulness that endeared him to teammates as well as fans is wonderfully preserved in the image of him testing a yo-yo by the bat rack.



WEST RES HIS SOC







HALPER

From bats and books to films and flags to wristwatches and caps and underwear, the name and image of Ruth were money in the bank. Or pocket change, if the Babe had had sole control of his finances. For all the millions he made, he might well have gone to his grave broke if not for the skilled management of agent Christy Walsh and the enforced economies of wife Claire.



HALPER



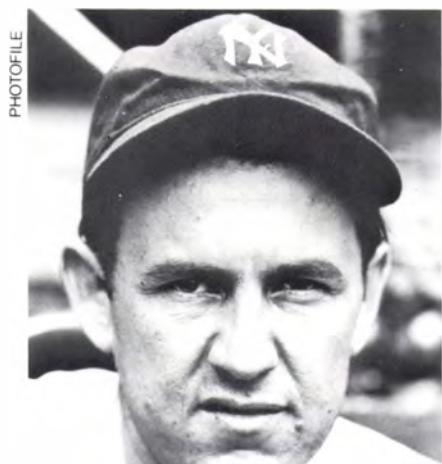
"1,000 VETS RIOT" — and, atypically, take top billing from Babe Ruth, whose return to Boston was big news indeed. The Yankees had let him go after the 1934 season because at age 39 he could no longer cover ground in the outfield and his batting had slipped. Ruth hated to leave, for he had hoped to manage the Bombers, and his posed handshake with former boss Jacob Ruppert the following spring must have been painful indeed. The fact of the matter was, Ruth's fielding had been a liability for years, one that Yankee managers had acknowledged by placing Ruth in the less capacious field in each park, be it left or right. But even though the Bambino was "washed up," his bat retained sufficient potency to record a slugging average of .537 and on base percentage of .447 — the fourth-best combined figure in the American League and one that would mark a career high for many of today's top players. When Connie Mack led a team of major-league all-stars — including Yankee teammates Lou Gehrig and Lefty Gomez (lower right) — on a tour of Japan, the Babe's likeness was advertisement enough. (Some of the other stars who wore an interwined U and S on their caps were Lefty O'Doul, Al Simmons, Charlie Gehringer, and Jimmie Foxx.)



BABE RUTH MUSEUM



SPALDING



N.Y. YORK.

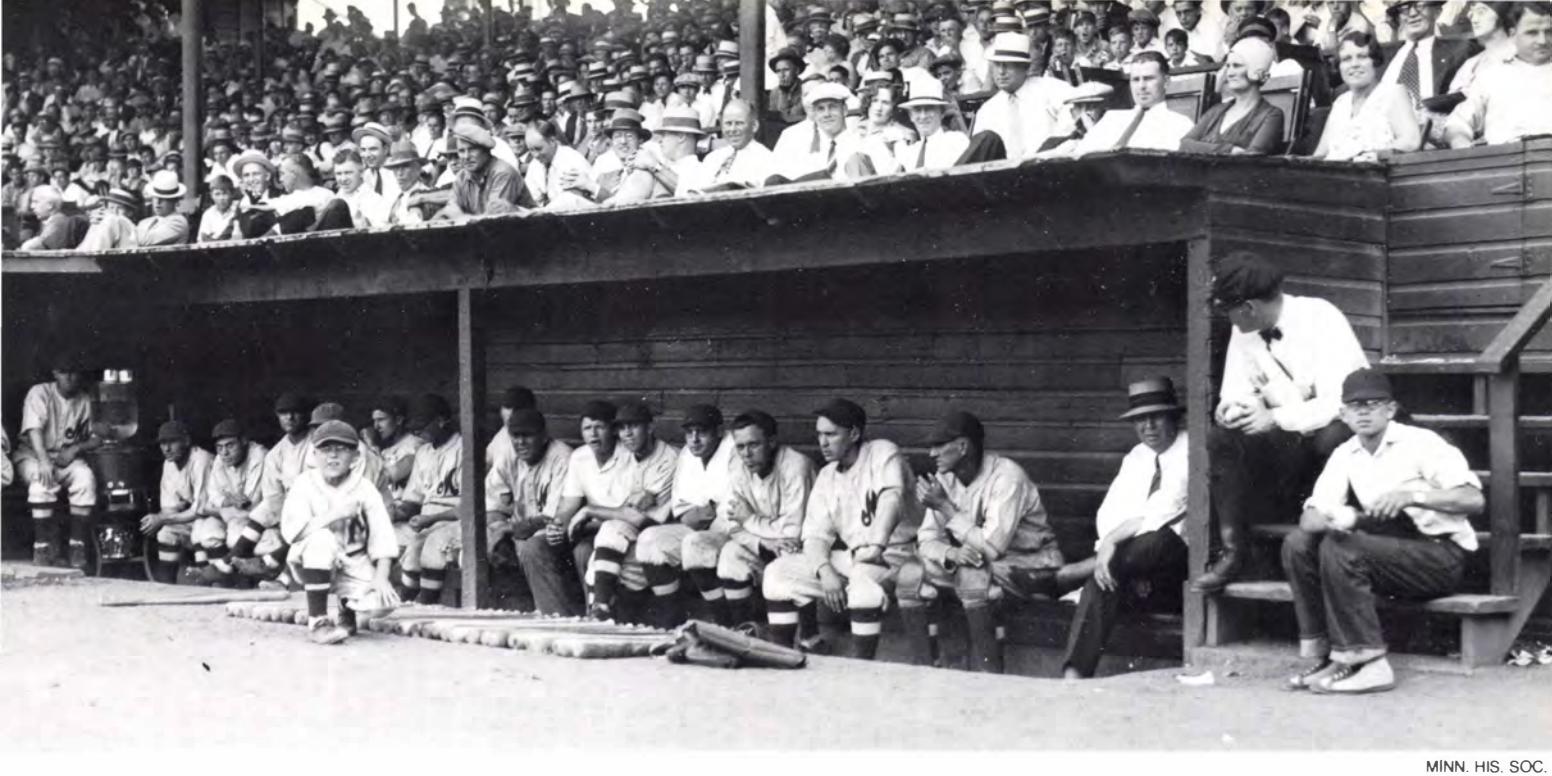


BREARLEY

The name Firpo Marberry (top right) sounded as if it belonged on the silver screen alongside Groucho, Harpo, and Chico. Marberry, however, could be found on the hill in Washington where his pitches were better than any politician could ever deliver. Jack Russell (top left) also served time on the hill for the Senators, saving games during the mid-'30s. In 1934, after the Depression tore through the country, Fenway Park received a steel and concrete facelift. The new architecture brought the Sox luck — the team climbed out of the second division for the first time since 1918.

BOST. SOC.





MINN. HIS. SOC.



KEYSTONE-MAST



NBL



NBL

Until the age of television, ballparks were the only places to witness the national pastime. Niccolet Park in Minneapolis (top) was home to many big crowds. Fans have always flocked to see the Cubs, which pleased owner William K. Wrigley (middle left). The brainstorm of creating a farm system helped Branch Rickey (above) line up pennants in St. Louis, Brooklyn, and Pittsburgh. The bush league teams — where Rickey alone had 800 players under contract at one time — still had plenty of room for aging veterans who wanted to hang on for another paycheck. Tris Speaker (bottom left) was one such player. The Gray Eagle was player-manager of the Newark Bears in 1929 and 1930.

SPALDING



SPALDING



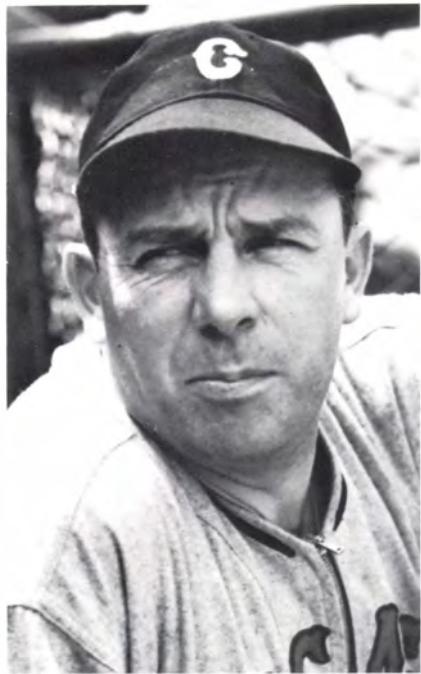
SPALDING



SPALDING



The Giants of the 1930s featured many exceptional players. Among them were Travis Jackson (top left), the team's shortstop for 15 years; have-bat-will-travel Lefty O'Doul (top right), who pinch-hit a triple for Vancouver in the Pacific Coast League in 1956 — at age 59; Bill Terry (bottom left), the last National League .400-hitter and, like O'Doul, a man who began his career as a pitcher; and catcher Harry "The Horse" Danning, a five-time .300-hitter.



BREARLEY

Third baseman Jimmy Dykes (left) played 22 seasons with the Athletics and White Sox. Yet today he is remembered mostly as the manager who was traded for another manager — from Cleveland to Detroit for Joe Gordon in 1960. For three-quarters of the 20 years Red Faber (right) pitched for the White Sox, the team had a losing record. Still he won 254 games and four times had 20-victory seasons. Even such superb hitters as Al Simmons (below, left) and Luke Appling (below, right) couldn't bring a pennant to Comiskey Park.



THORN



BREARLEY



Colorful characters and colorful souvenirs — the '20s and '30s had plenty of them. The treasures brought home from the ballpark often were as vibrant as the memories. Many a fan, however, left Cubs' Park in 1921 with a losing scorecard, →



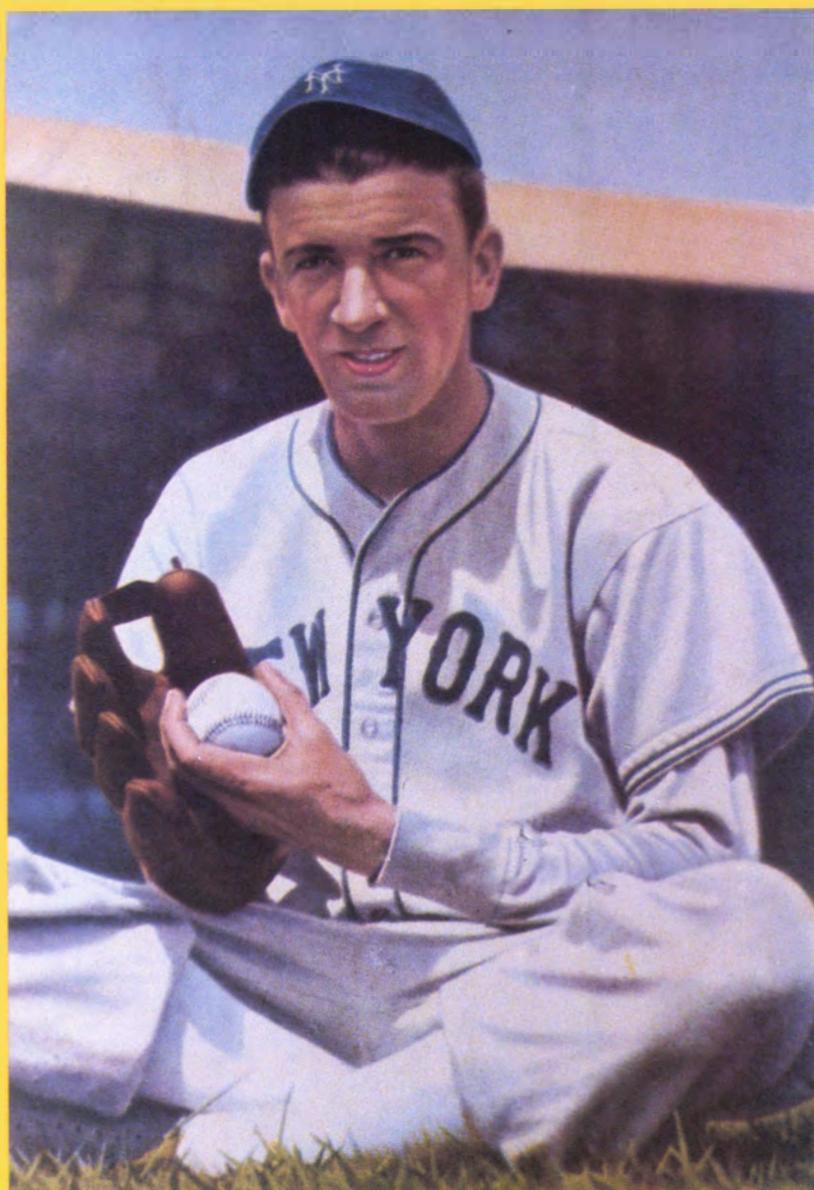
except on the days when Pete Alexander pitched. Cleveland and Boston also had few banner years during the era. Some premiums of the time included a deck of playing cards and a rotogravure of King Carl Hubbell.



RUCKER

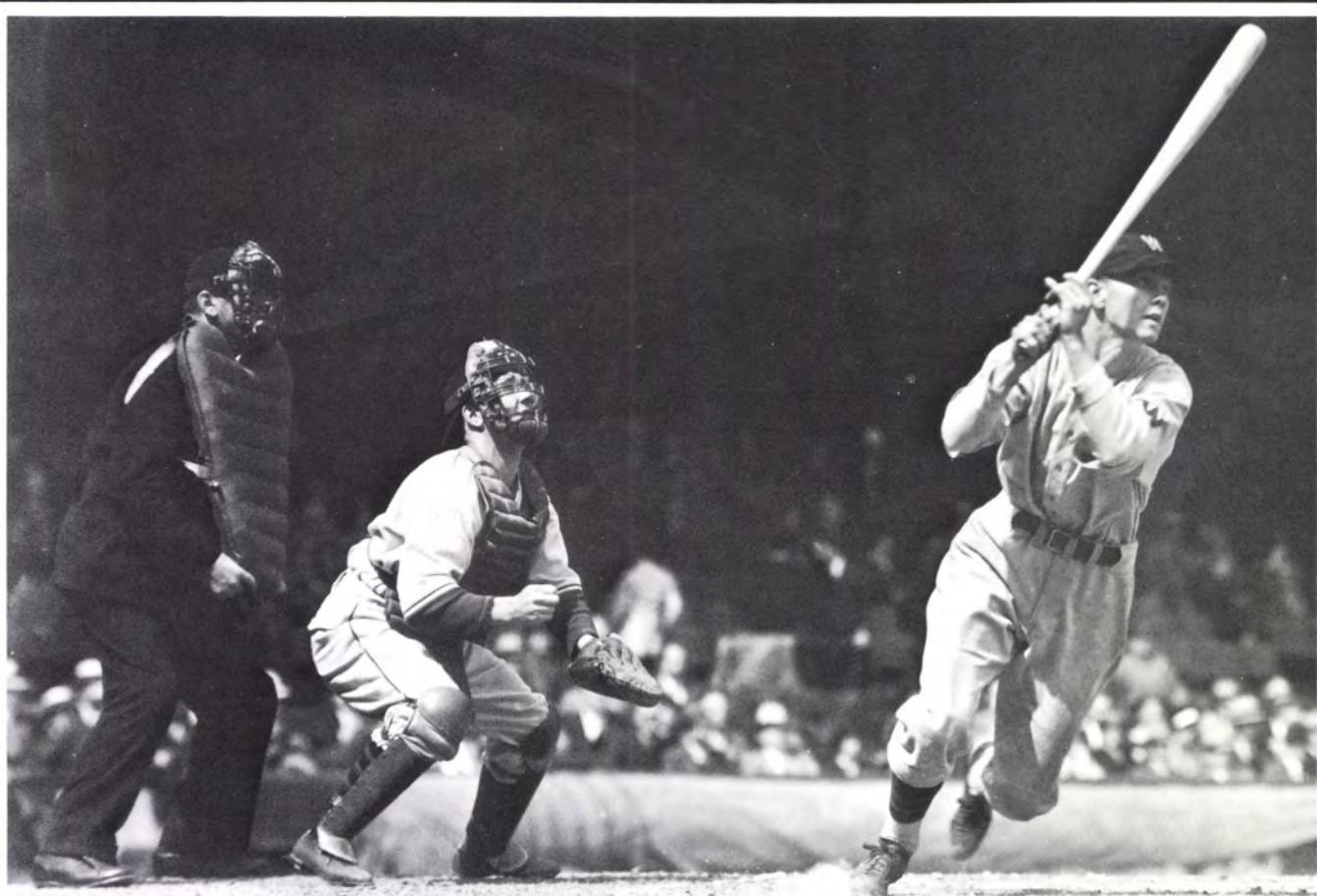


BRODERICK



WEST RES. HIS. SOC.

PHOTOFILE



NBL



With all the incredible stars of the 1930s, it's easy to understand how first-rate but less flashy players went unnoticed. Two such performers were Buddy Lewis (top left) and Rowdy Richard Bartell (below left). Lewis, an underrated third-sacker with the Senators, posted a lifetime .297 batting average. Bartell's 2,165 hits and .284 career average, combined with an outstanding fielding record, make him one of the highest rated players not in the Hall of Fame. Philadelphia's Baker Bowl was a perfect match for Chuck Klein (below right). In five seasons there he used the 280-foot right field foul line to his advantage, hitting 131 home runs at home and only 60 on the road. Goose Goslin (right) with his hand on Fred Schulte's shoulder, was the era's version of Don Baylor. He helped bring pennants to Washington in 1933 and Detroit in 1934 after being traded to those clubs. Below, the 1933 pennant winning Senators, the capital city's last champion until 1954 when Douglass Wallop's creation, Joe Hardy, led the Senators to the fantasy flag.



BREARLEY



NBL

Even pitchers were knocking the cover off the ball in the '20s and '30s. Red Lucas (below left) was asked to pinch-hit more than 400 times in his career — and why not? His .281 lifetime average is better than that of many of today's million dollar players. Max Carey (below right) held the NL lead in career stolen bases until Lou Brock came along. The Pittsburgh Pirates packed a potent infield in the mid-1930s with Gus Suhr, Arky Vaughan, and Cookie Lavagetto (bottom, left to right). Facing page: Harry Heilmann was the odd man in. He led the league in batting in 1921, '23, '25 & '27. Johnny Mize is the only man to bash 50 home runs and strike out fewer than 50 times.



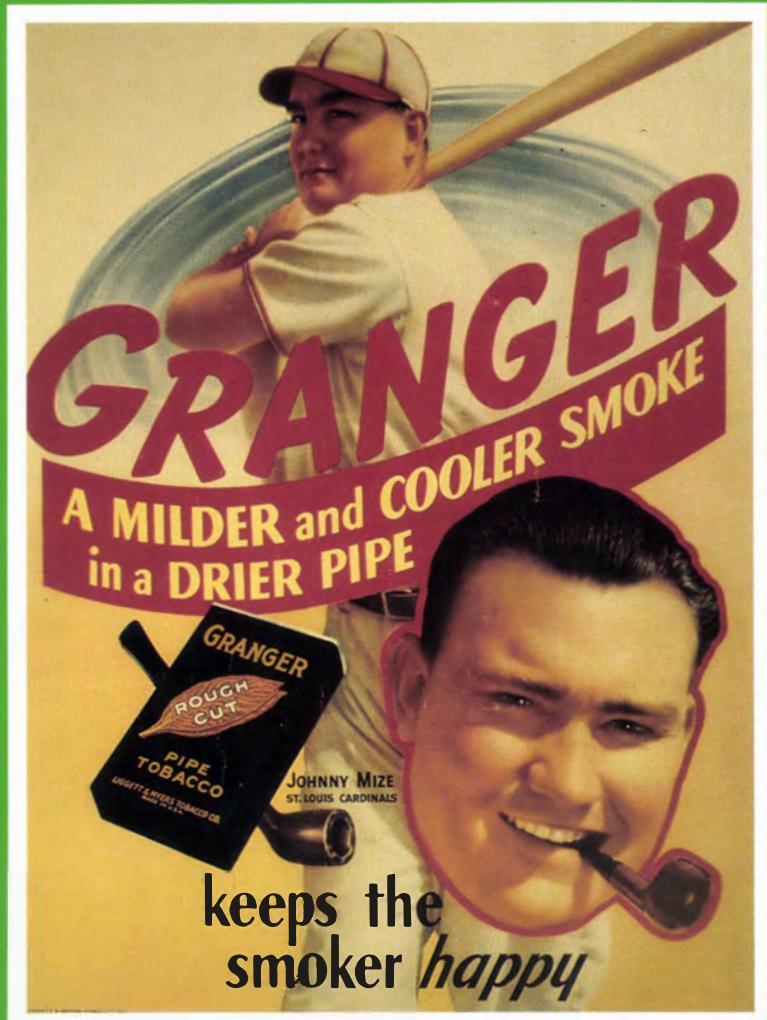
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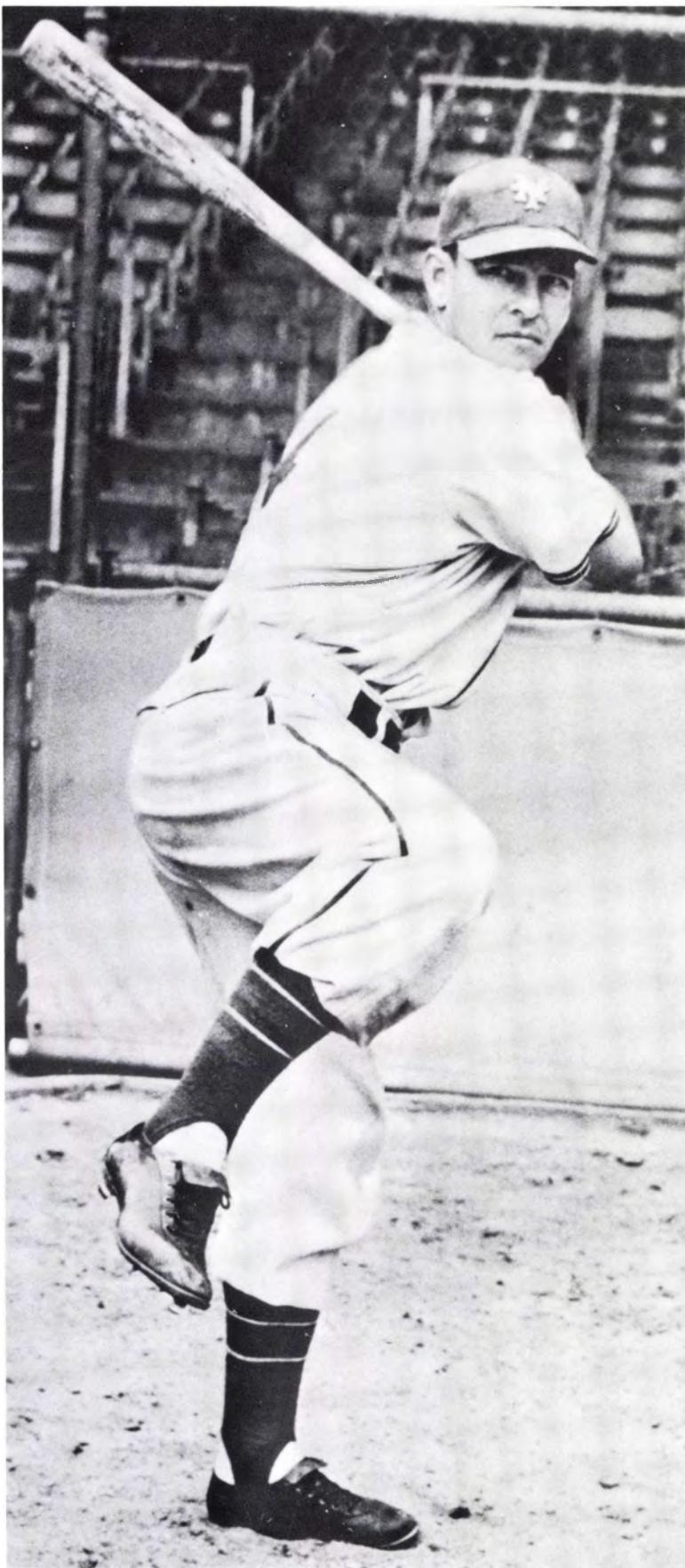


SPALDING



BREARLEY

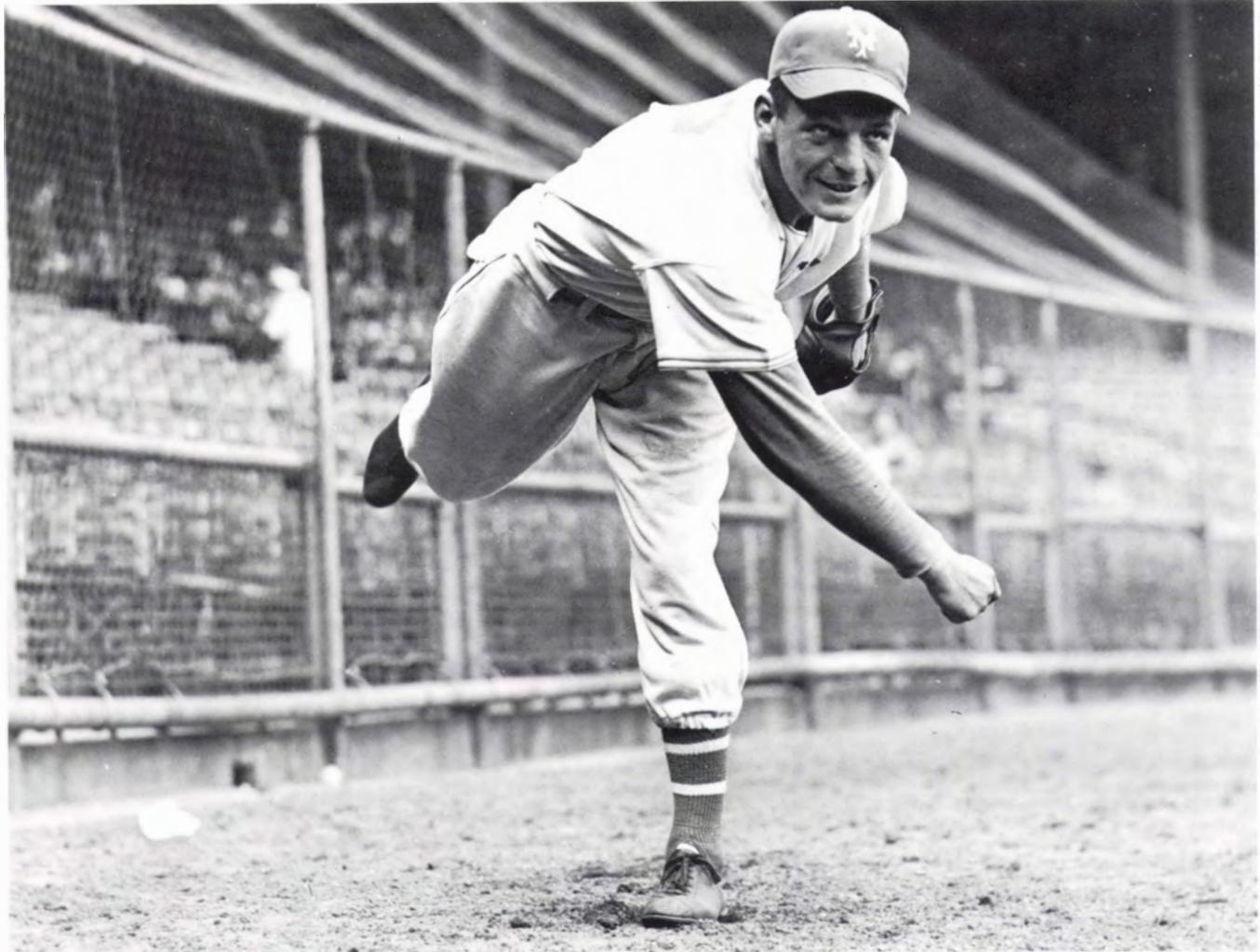




Mel Ott had much to remember when looking back on his career. For instance, on the next to the last day of the 1929 season, Master Melvin received five intentional passes from the Phillies in one contest. The evasive hurlers were trying to ensure the home run crown for their own Chuck Klein, who was one-up on Ott. The last free pass to Ott came with the bases full! That paired him with the Babe as the only batters intentionally walked in this manner. Like Klein, Ott took advantage of his home park. The short porch at the Polo Grounds helped the bucket-stepper hit 323 dingers there compared to 188 on the road. One time in 1935, Prince Hal Schumacher (right) fainted on the mound from the blistering St. Louis heat. Packed in ice, he was sent to a local hospital. Four giants among Giants (below right): Ott, Bill Terry, Jo-Jo Moore, and Travis Jackson. Moore, a five-time .300 hitter, is the lone one pictured not to gain a plaque in Cooperstown.

PHOTOFILM



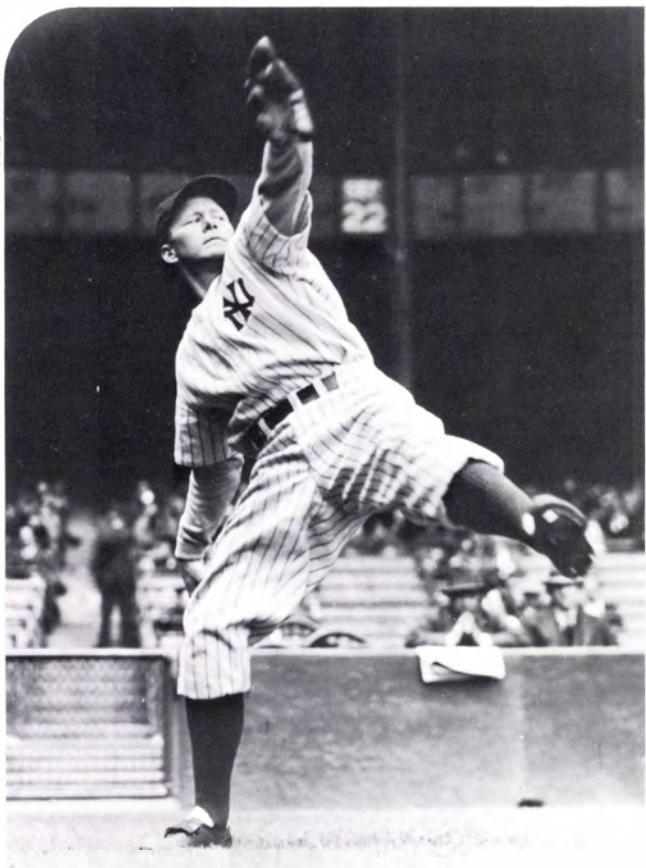


PHOTOFILE



BREARLEY

PHOTOFILM



SPALDING



DOYLE



RUCKER



After reaching the Yankees at the age of 29, Spud Chandler (top left) pitched for eleven seasons. In that short span, he tallied a record of 109-43 for an incredible .717 winning percentage. Of course, the Yankees .619 team winning percentage helped him along the way. Chandler's first of two 20-victory seasons won him the 1943 MVP Award. Ex-Yankee Mark Koenig's (top left) .353 average in 1932 warranted more than the half-share of World Series money the Cubs voted him. Bill Dickey (bottom left) and Ernie Lombardi (bottom right) were two of the preeminent catchers of the era. Lombardi is the only catcher ever to win a batting crown. Dickey was a fine contact hitter who struck out only once every 21 at bats. Another outstanding product of the Bay Area was Tony Lazzeri (below). Like Koenig, his former keystone partner with the Yankees, Lazzeri helped bring the Cubs a pennant in his first year there (1938). This series of photos (far right) showing Ethan Allen sliding into home would have been perfect for his 1938 instructional book *Major League Baseball*.

PHOTOFILER



THORN



THORN



I HUHN



THORN

THE INTERNATIONAL FAVORITES



HOUSE OF DAVID ISRAELITE

AS RE-ORGANIZED BY MARY TURNER, BASEBALL TEAM OF BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN

THE WORLD'S CHAMPION TRAVELING BASEBALL TEAM!

Won over 100 Games each year for the past six years. 1932, Won 112, Lost 37 Games. 1934, Won 142, Lost 41 Games. 1935, Won 146, Lost 50, Tied 1. Average 30,000 Miles by Auto each year.

See the Long Haired Boys in Their World Famous
PEPPER GAME
IS WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION ALONE

GATES OPEN EARLY
COME EARLY AND AVOID THE RUSH!

**GIANT PINEY WOODS, MISS.
COLORED TEAM
COLLEGIANS**

AT
SAUK CITY

Adults 40c; Children 15c

JOHN TUCKER, Giggled Entertainer
BENSONIAN FREDERIC & CO. COMEDY ARTIST

STURGEON TUNNEL UALLY

PEPPER GAME TRIO

Monday Night
AUG. 24
8:15 O'CLOCK P. M.

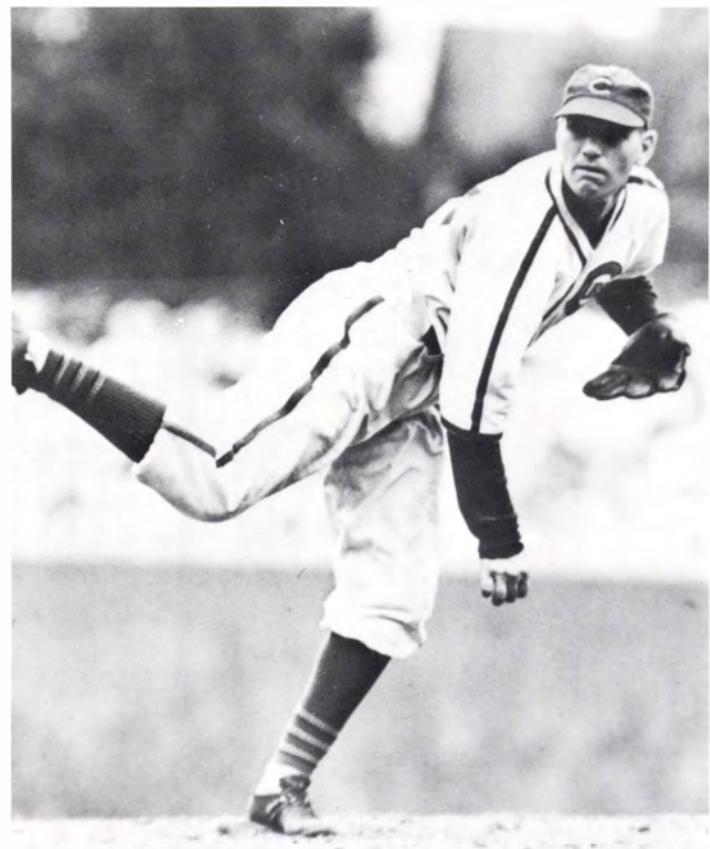
GEORGE ANDERSON
THIRD BASEMAN, 1935 CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM WAS





THORN

The House of David barnstorming team (top left and right) was filled not with converts, but mostly with ringers. Included among them was Grover Cleveland Alexander (middle left), who joined the squad for a brief time after his illustrious major league career ended in 1930. Below left, a quintet of Gashouse Gangsters take aim at a rival team with their wooden weapons. When most people think of Johnny Vander Meer (above) they remember his two consecutive no-hitters in June 1938. Often forgotten are his three consecutive strikeout crowns in the 1940s. Dizzy Dean (below) only had six full major league seasons until a broken toe in the 1937 All Star game led to an arm injury that shortened his career. But what seasons they were!



SPALDING

Plenty of talent flowed through Detroit in the 1930s. Bobo Newsom (below) won two games for the Tigers in the 1940 Series. Schoolboy Rowe and Mickey Cochrane (right) led the Tigers into the '34 and '35 classics. Bottom left, a player shoots his teammates. Hank Greenberg with Rowe (bottom right), who was out most of 1937 and '38 with a sore arm.

NBL



NBL



BREARLEY

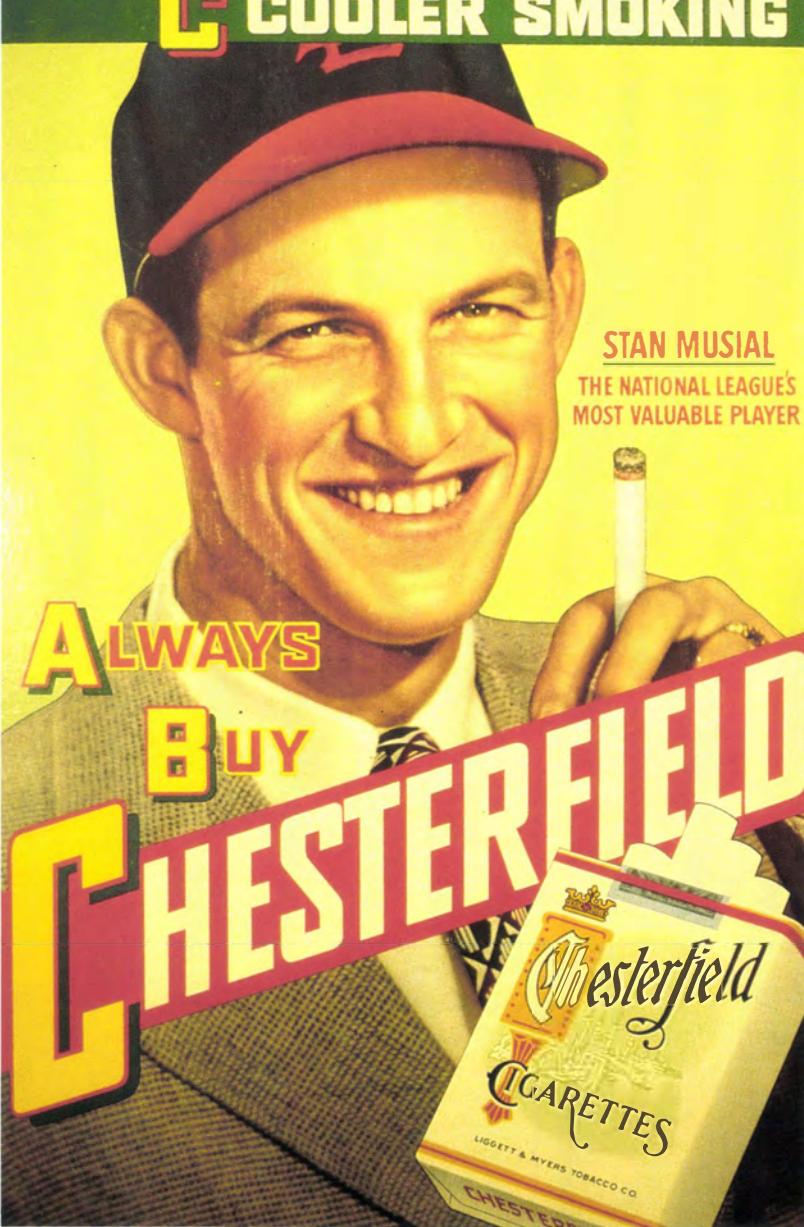


TRIPLE SMOKING PLEASURE

A ALWAYS MILD

B BETTER TASTING

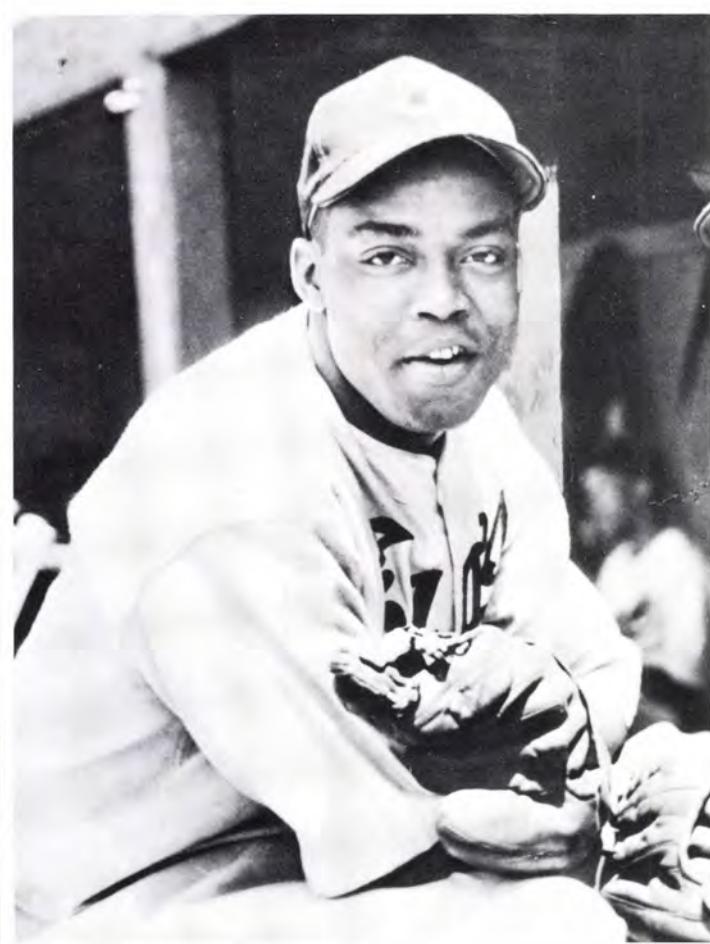
C COOLER SMOKING



STAN MUSIAL

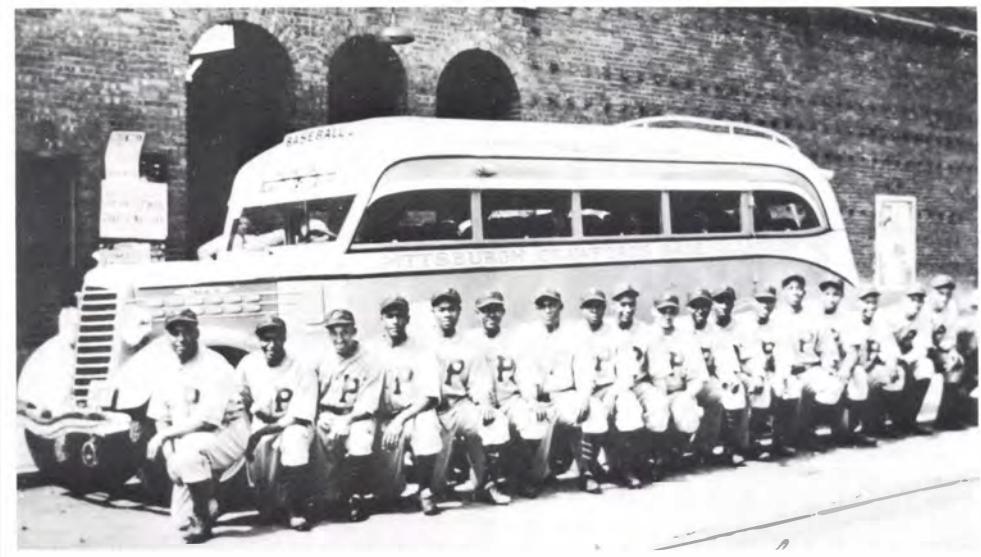
THE NATIONAL LEAGUE'S
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

ALWAYS
BUY
CHESTERFIELD



Ray Dandridge (top left) finally was permitted into white baseball at the end of his career. Despite his age he won the American Association's 1950 MVP Award with the Minneapolis Millers. While in Minneapolis the following year, Dandridge roomed with a young Willie Mays and helped prepare him for future stardom. Biz Mackey (above) of Hilldale was considered a better catcher than Josh Gibson. Monte Irvin (below left) was a 30-year-old rookie, his best years behind him, when he was given a New York Giants uniform in 1949. Below, this "Zulu" team included as many Zulus as the Cuban Giants had Cubans.

Three of the best Negro league teams were the Pittsburgh Crawfords, Kansas City Monarchs, and St. Louis Stars. The Crawfords dominated the black game in the early '30s. The team that took the 1935 Negro National League pennant featured such stars as Josh Gibson, Oscar Charleston, and Judy Johnson. Satchel Paige was a member of the team for much of this time, though in 1935 he played with a white semipro team in Bismarck, North Dakota, after a contract dispute. Team owner Gus Greenlee was one of the few black Negro league owners. It was no coincidence that the Monarchs won Negro American League pennants from 1939 to 1942 after Paige joined the club. At the time, Paige and Hilton Smith made a great one-two pitching pair. The Stars were the top team from 1928 through 1931. Their potent lineup included Cool Papa Bell and Willie Wells.



BELL





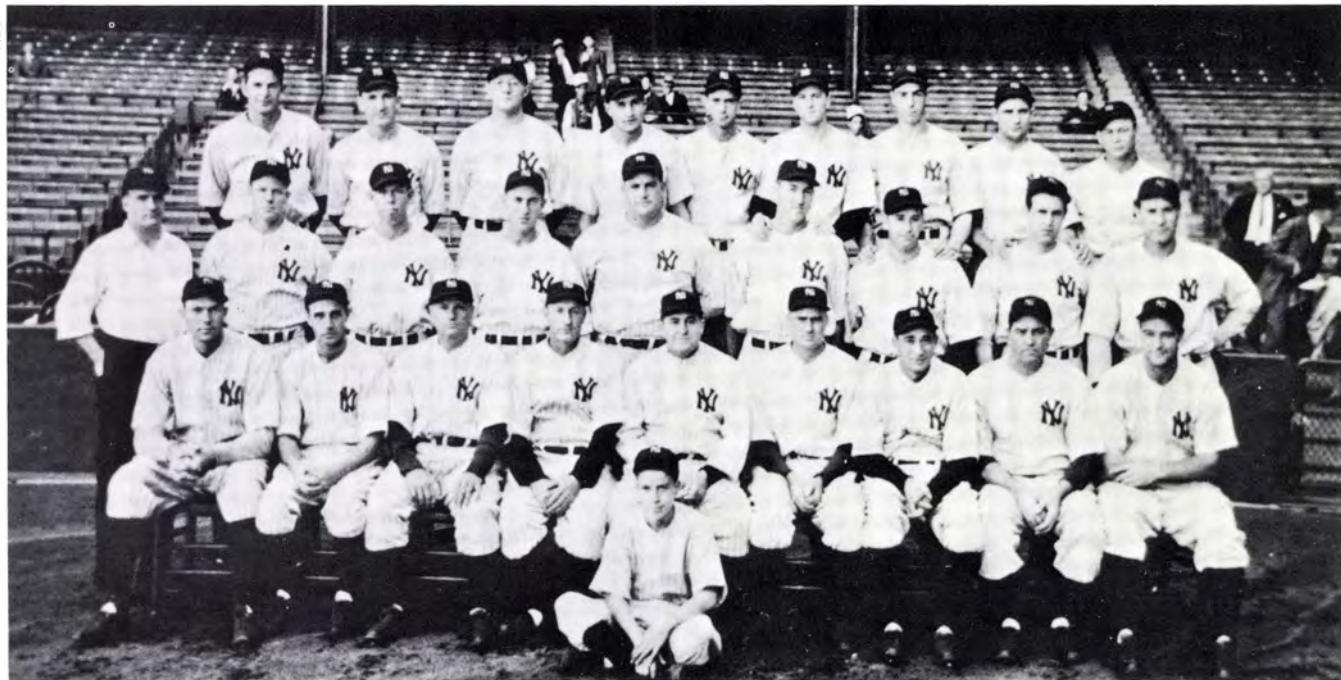
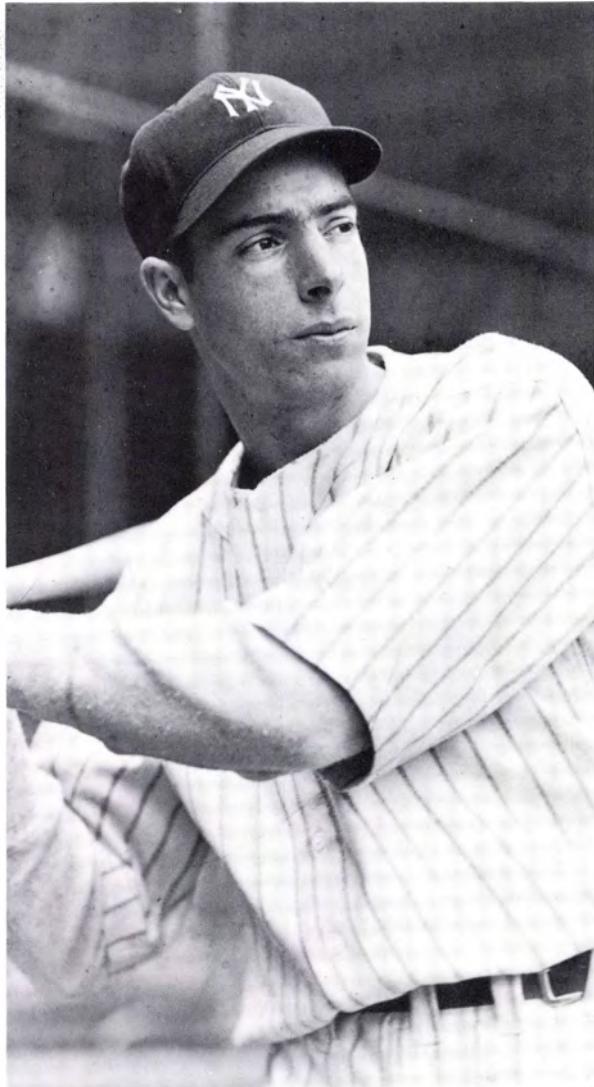
Josh Gibson was often called the black Babe Ruth, but Ruth might as easily have been termed the white Gibson. Josh, pictured here in the uniforms of the two Negro League teams he starred on, generated tremendous power with what appeared to be very little effort. He is credited with 89 home runs in one season and 75 in another. Some insist he is the only man ever to hit a ball out of Yankee Stadium. Gibson was the second highest paid Negro performer behind only Satchel Paige. He died from a brain tumor at the age of 35 just months before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier. Had he lived longer, perhaps he too would have been given the opportunity he deserved.



NBL



NBL



The 1927 and 1939 New York Yankees are often considered the greatest teams ever. But statistically, the 1936 squad (below) could mount quite a challenge to that claim: a .300 team batting average, 1,065 runs, and 182 home runs. After three explosive years with the San Francisco Seals, Joe DiMaggio donned Yankee pinstripes in 1936. For the next sixteen years, his prowess led the Yankees to ten world championships and him to the Hall of Fame.



PHOTOFILER



PHOTOFILER

Myril Hoag (top left) was a part-time performer in the Yankees' outfield during their glory years of the '30s. His claim to fame, however, came with his feet — not from their fleetness but from their diminutive size, a 4. Size also brought notoriety to Jumbo Brown (top right). Weighing as much as 295 pounds, he was one of the game's largest participants. Lou Gehrig simply seemed larger than life. Less than two years after the July 4, 1939 Lou Gehrig Appreciation Day, the Iron Horse would be dead. The memory of his monumental accomplishments lives on.

THORN





RUCKER



SPALDING



Jimmie Foxx (above) is the only player ever to hit 50 home runs in a season for two different teams. In 1938 he drove in 104 runs — *in just the games he played in Fenway Park.* Al Simmons (far left), who was born Aloys Szymanski, stroked 253 hits in 1925, a mark which still stands as the single season record for righthanded batters. Cliff Melton (left), 20-9 for the Giants in his rookie season, seemed slated for stardom until he was tripped up by his ears. Born with extremely large head-handles, Melton was taunted unmercifully by opposing players, who called him Mickey Mouse. By 1944 the ridicule (plus a fading fastball) drove him from the game. Luke Appling (top right) had an uncanny ability to foul off balls at will. "Old Aches and Pains" also walloped a homer in an oldtimers game at age 73! Ted Lyons (below left, with Bill Dietrich) is the only 200-game winner never to have fanned 100 batters in any season.



THORN



BREARLEY

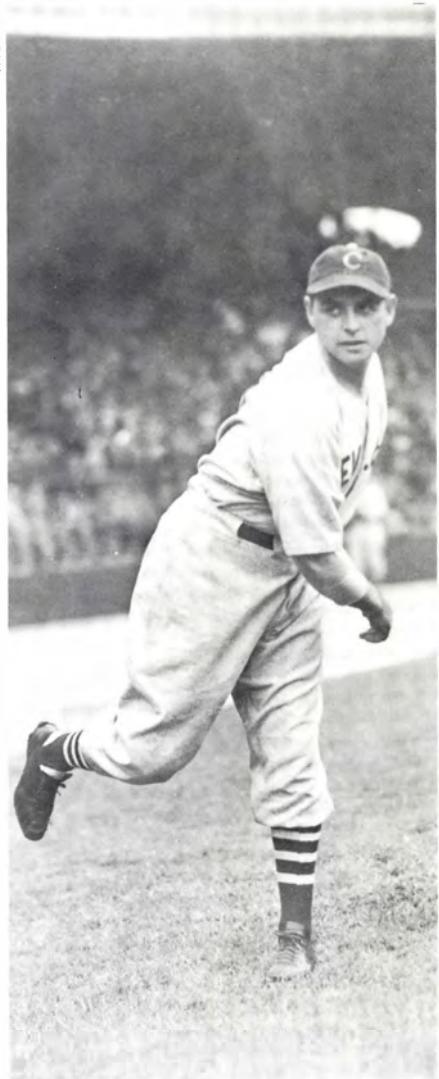




SPALDING



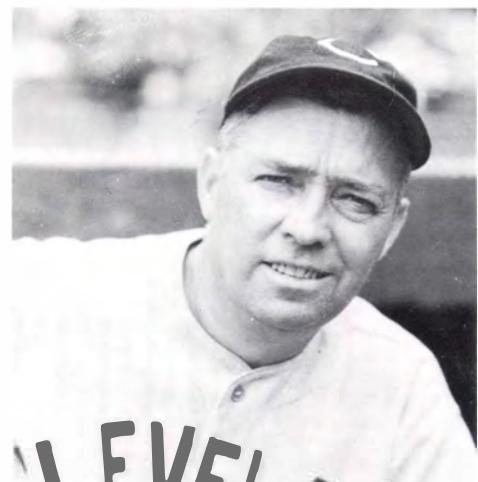
THORN



BREARLEY



Wes Ferrell (top left) is the only pitcher to win 20 or more games in each of his first four seasons. Clint Brown (left) was a standout reliever for the White Sox. Lyn Lary (below left) was a high-priced Yankee acquisition in 1929 who never fulfilled his promise of stardom. Oscar Vitt (right) was the Captain Bligh of the 1940 Cleveland Indians. With the team in a tight pennant race, pitcher Mel Harder led a dozen players to team owner Alva Bradley. The mutineers demanded that Vitt be relieved of duty because of his relentless second-guessing of his players. Vitt stayed and the Tribe lost the pennant by one game. Ken Keltner, Earl Averill, and Hal Trosky (below) delivered a powerful punch in Cleveland's lineup in the late '30s. Trosky (bottom) amassed some great numbers, but was left in the shadows by several other phenomenal first basemen of the era.



THORN



BREARLEY



BREARLEY

Overleaf: The year 1936 saw the debut of both Joe DiMaggio and Bob Feller. More than fifty years later, they remain active participants at oldtimers' games and card collectors' shows. The image of the 18-year-old Feller, top right on page 71, was taken by the renowned baseball photographer Charles Conlon. Steve O'Neill, Mel Harder, and Feller get together in 1937, O'Neill's last year of managing Cleveland.

NBL



PHOTOFILER



SPALDING



BREARLEY



BREARLEY



Augie Galan (top left) and Billy Herman (top middle) hammered pitching during the 1930s and '40s. But like many of the time, they were lost in the pack of great hitters. Herman, one of the league's outstanding second basemen, compiled a lifetime .304 average. Rogers Hornsby (top right) was as hated a manager as Oscar Vitt. Only four of his thirteen clubs finished in the first division. Johnny Moore and Dolph Camilli (left) played together for the Phillies in the mid-'30s. Moore was given the opportunity to play regularly in only five seasons. He responded, however, with several .300 years. In 1942 at the age of 40 he led the Pacific Coast League in



NBL

Major League Old Timers'

1938 BALL GAME

GOLDSTEIN



LARRY LAJOIE'S 1908 NAPS VERSUS TRIS SPEAKER'S 1920 INDIANS

Proceeds to the
Major League
Old Timers' Fund

-0-44-

OFFICIAL SCORE CARD 10c Tax Paid

HONORARY COMMITTEE

Ben F. Hopkins, Chairman
E. V. Bradley Oscar G. Crawford
A. C. Errett W. A. Conroy
Doc A. Fox T. F. Thompson
Gen. A. Miller Fred J. McElroy

In making these public games, the Major League Old Timers Association hopes to raise the money necessary to help the following:

CLEVELAND BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

John T. Johnson, Pres.

FENWAY FIELD BASEBALL TEAM

B. C. Johnson, Pres., Ball Team

ALVAN THAYER COACHES TEAM

W. W. Thompson, Pres.

THE HUNTINGTON AVENUE GROUNDS TEAM

The Huntington News

The Sunday Evening News

Telegraph and Journal

RADIO STATION

WTAM WGBR WEE WJW

KATHEDRAL BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRESSIVE AUTOMOBILE CLUB

Brookline Hospital

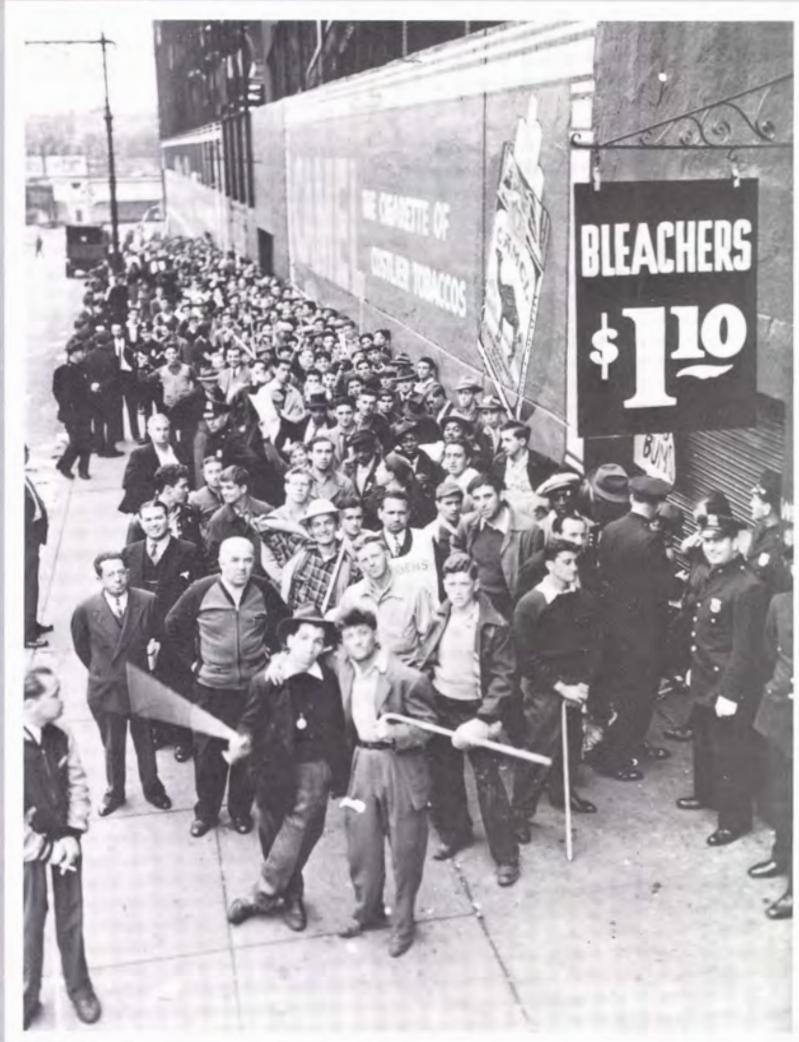
St. Alphonsus Ass't. Hospital



batting. Camilli drove in 100 or more runs five times in his career. Wally Berger and Hank Leiber (below) were Giant teammates in 1937 and 1938. Berger's best days were spent in spacious Braves Field in Boston, where three times he hit more than 30 homers; Leiber was beaned by a Bob Feller fastball in a 1937 spring exhibition game and was never again a potent batter. Carson Thompson (above) wears a 1936 United States Olympic uniform. Oldtimers' games are nothing new: they were played in Cleveland in 1938 and Boston in 1939. (The first such game among big leaguers was held in Boston at the Huntington Avenue Grounds in 1908.)



GOLDSTEIN



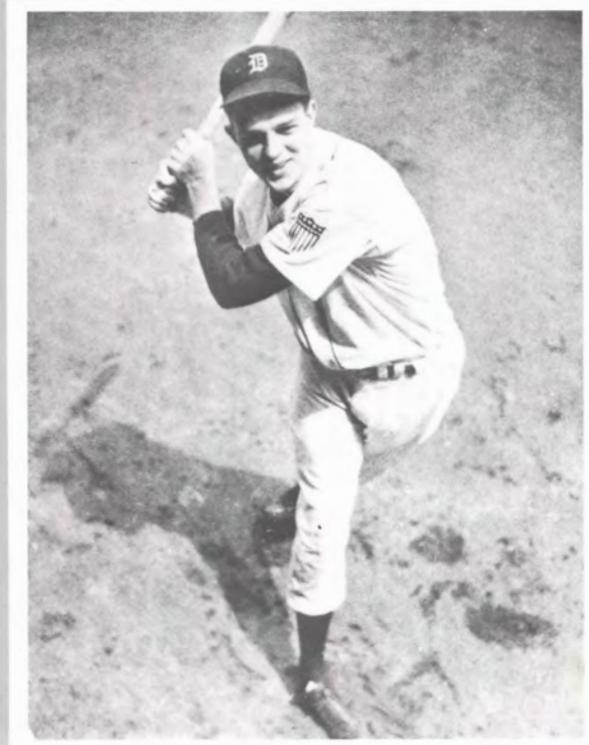
Fans always flocked to Ebbets Field. There were even times during the few World Series in Flatbush when fans stormed past police to get into an already packed park. Great moments were to come for PeeWee Reese (below). In 1939 he played with the Louisville Colonels during baseball's centennial season. Later he would be Jackie Robinson's double-play partner and ally. Reese is also shown in 1940 with Wes Ferrell, Joe Vosmik, and Melo Almada (right). Reese was in his rookie year, when he broke an ankle late in the season; the others were nearing the ends of their careers. Dick Wakefield (below right) was one of baseball's first bonus babies.

PHOTOFILER

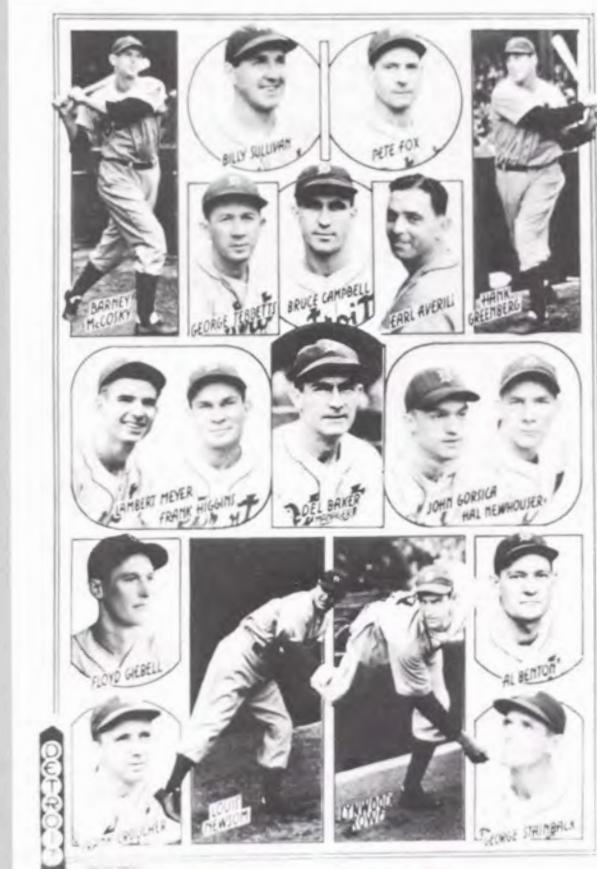




BREARLEY



RUCKER



NBL



PHOTOFILER



NBL

While the armed forces were waging war in Europe, the St. Louis Cardinals were staging their own armed conflict with baseball. The Cardinals became the only National League team to have three consecutive 100-victory seasons when they accomplished the feat in 1942-44. Led by two future Hall of Famers — Enos Slaughter (left, top and bottom) and Stan Musial (right, top and bottom) — the Cards averaged 96 victories annually during the decade and won



three world championships. Sportsman's Park (below left) in St. Louis was the scene of the first World Series played entirely west of the Mississippi when in 1944 the Browns and Cards shared the park and both took their league's flags. The mere mention of Slaughter triggers an image of his daring bolt home from first on Harry Walker's double to win the 1946 series. Musial, a mediocre pitcher for his first three professional seasons, moved to the outfield in 1941. By that September, he was a permanent fixture in a Redbird uniform.

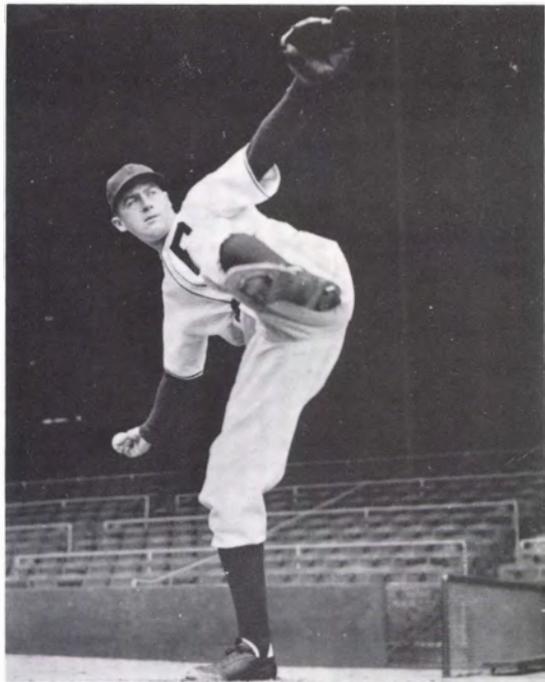


PHOTOFILER



NBL

For every winner there's a loser, and one of baseball's sorriest records was that of Hugh "Losing Pitcher" Mulcahy (left). Rip Sewell (below left) gained fame for his lobbed "eephus" pitch; he also was a pretty fair pitcher for some run-of-the-mill Pirate teams of the 1940s. Others who were cursed to be on poor teams were Sid Gordon (below), Tony Cuccinello (right), and Paul Waner (below right). The 1941 Braves (right) finished 62-92; it took the addition of Warren Spahn (below far right) and Johnny Sain to brighten the team's prospects.



SPALDING



NBL





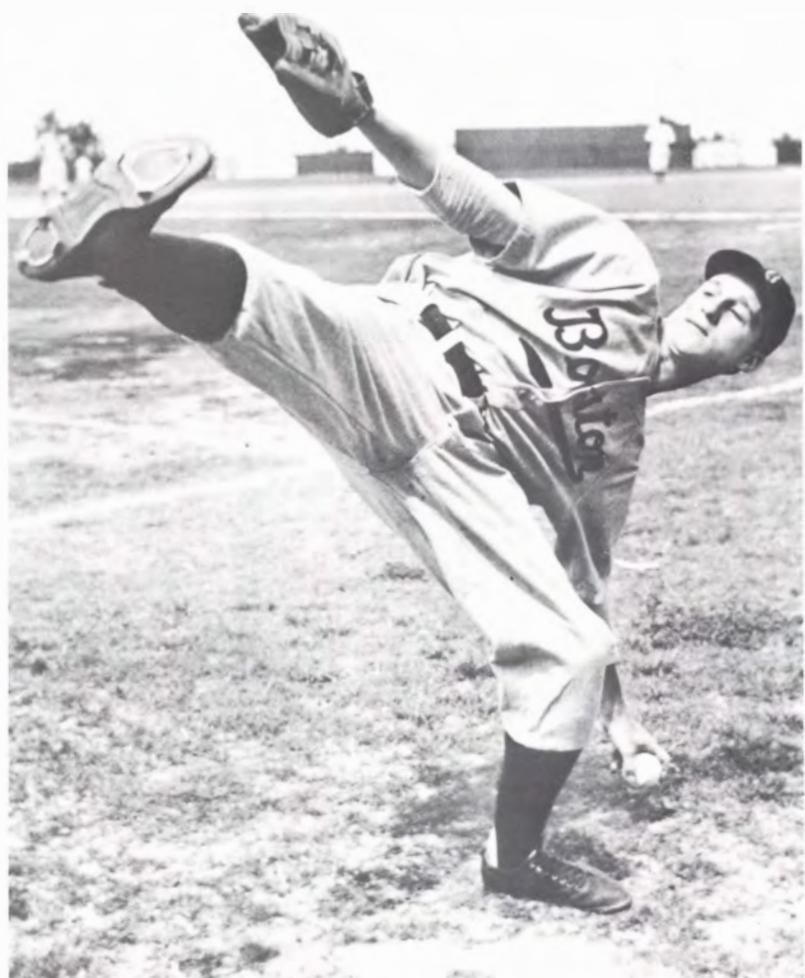
NBL



BREARLEY



SPALDING



NBL

THORN



NBL



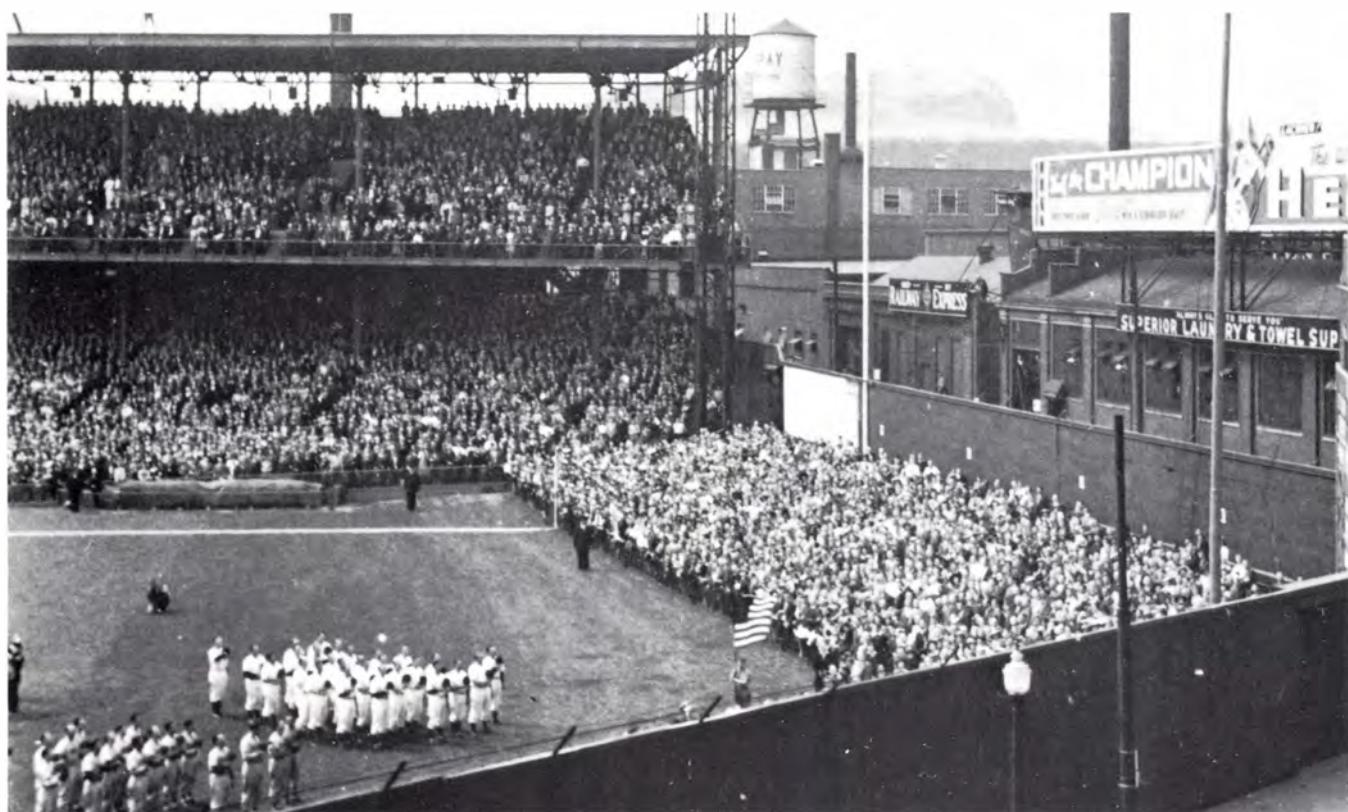
NBL



Three teams which paid visits to the wartime World Series: the Reds (1940) and Cardinals (1944) each emerged a champion, while the Browns lost their lone postseason appearance (1944) in six games.



OHIO HIS. SOC



OHIO HIS. SOC



SPALDING

For 58 years the Cincinnati Reds occupied Crosley Field (top). With the stands made of steel, fans would create a deafening racket by stamping their feet. The Reds raise their 1940 World Championship banner (middle). Bucky Walters congratulates Jimmy Wilson (left), who was called out of the coaching box to catch in the 1940 series. And Bill McKechnie imparts wisdom to 15-year-old pitcher, Joe Nuxhall (right) in 1944. Its effect? One outing, a 67.50 ERA, and an eight-year sojourn in the minors.



RUCKER

**CONNIE MACK
DAY**
SHIBE PARK
21st and Lehigh Ave., Phila., Pa.
AMERICAN BASE BALL CLUB
OF PHILADELPHIA

MAY 17, 1941
RAIN DATE, MAY 24, 1941

Total Price \$1.00
Federal Tax 10
City Amuse. Tax 14
\$1.14

Sec. 23
Row 1
Seat 1

AMERICAN BASE BALL CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA

MAY 17, 1941



**LOWER
GRANDSTAND**

See conditions of sale on
reverse side of this ticket.

23 Sec.
1 Row
1 Seat

Total Price \$1.14
RAIN DATE, MAY 24, 1941

Connie Mack built two of the game's greatest dynasties. But just as quickly as he built them, he sold and traded them away. There were few fire sales for Philadelphia's other team, and even less often did the team burn up the National League. Old Honus Wagner clowns with Frankie Frisch (with bat) at the Peru Naval Base in 1943. Marty Marion (top right) anchored many fine Cardinal infields during the 1940s. At the top, far



right, he backs up Whitey Kurowski, who grabs a foul popup in the 1942 World Series. Stan Hack (bottom far right) bridged the period of pitchers Lon Warneke and Paul Derringer (right). Hack was another highly underrated player of the '30s and '40s. Warneke had three 20-win seasons for Chicago before being traded to the Cardinals, while Derringer, a star with the Reds, had just a brief stint with the Cubs at the end of his career.



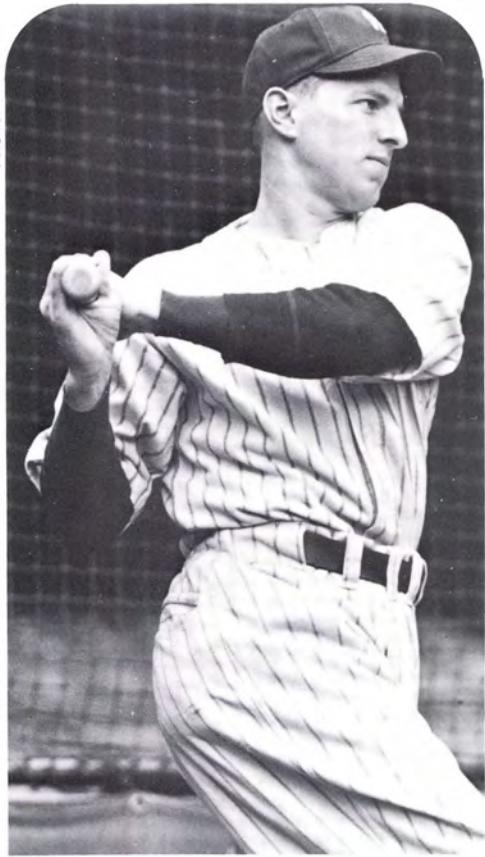
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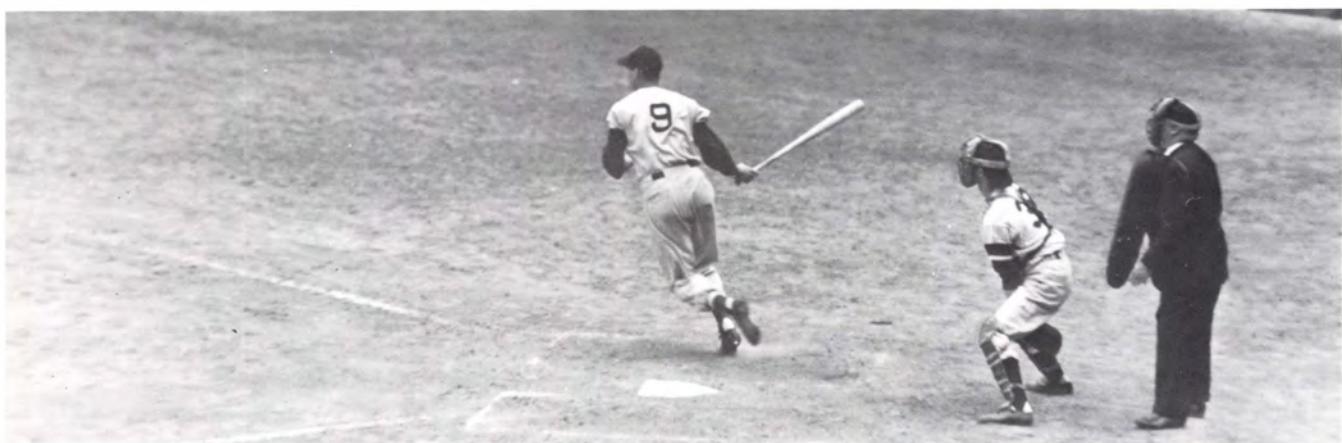


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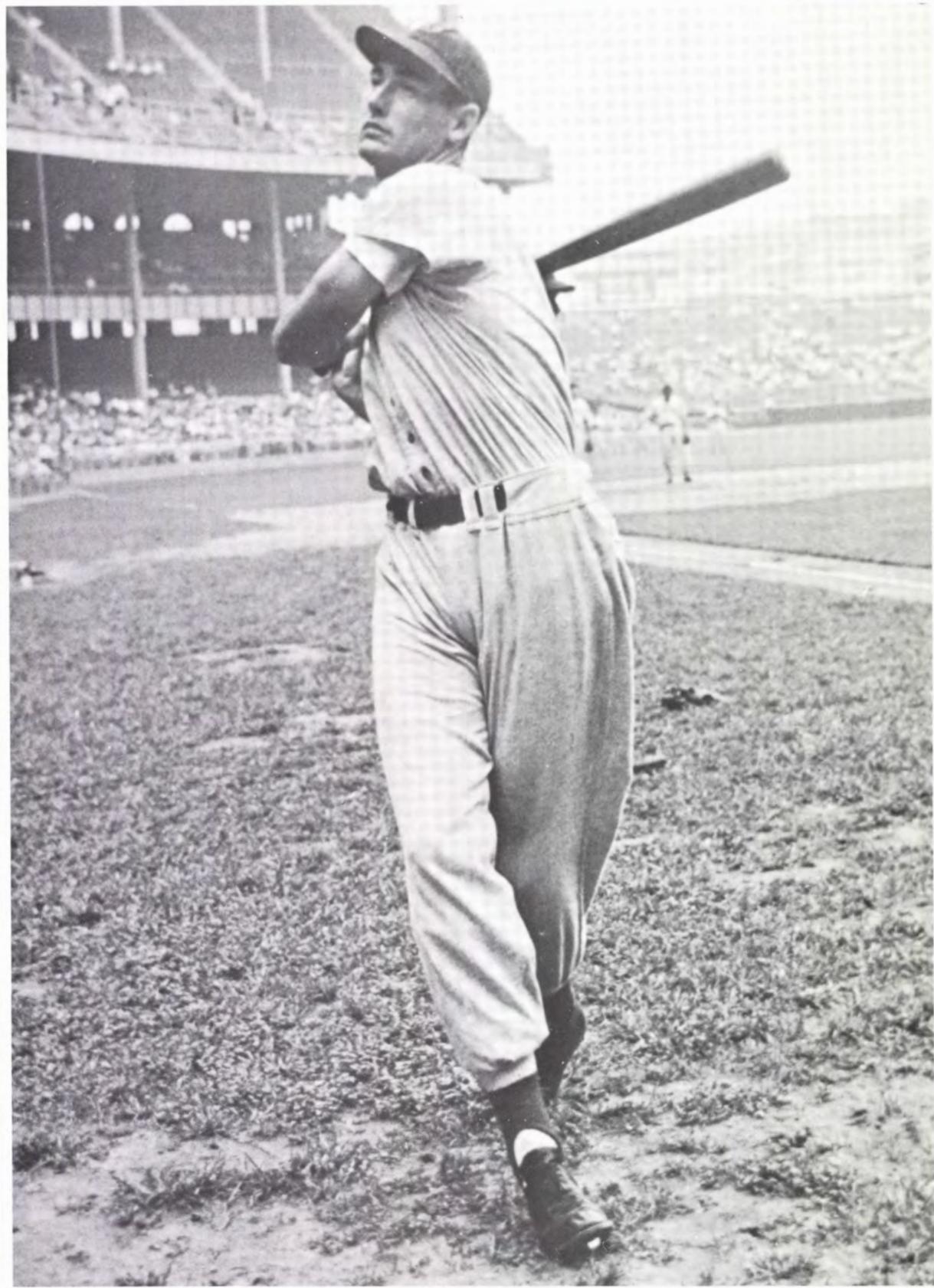


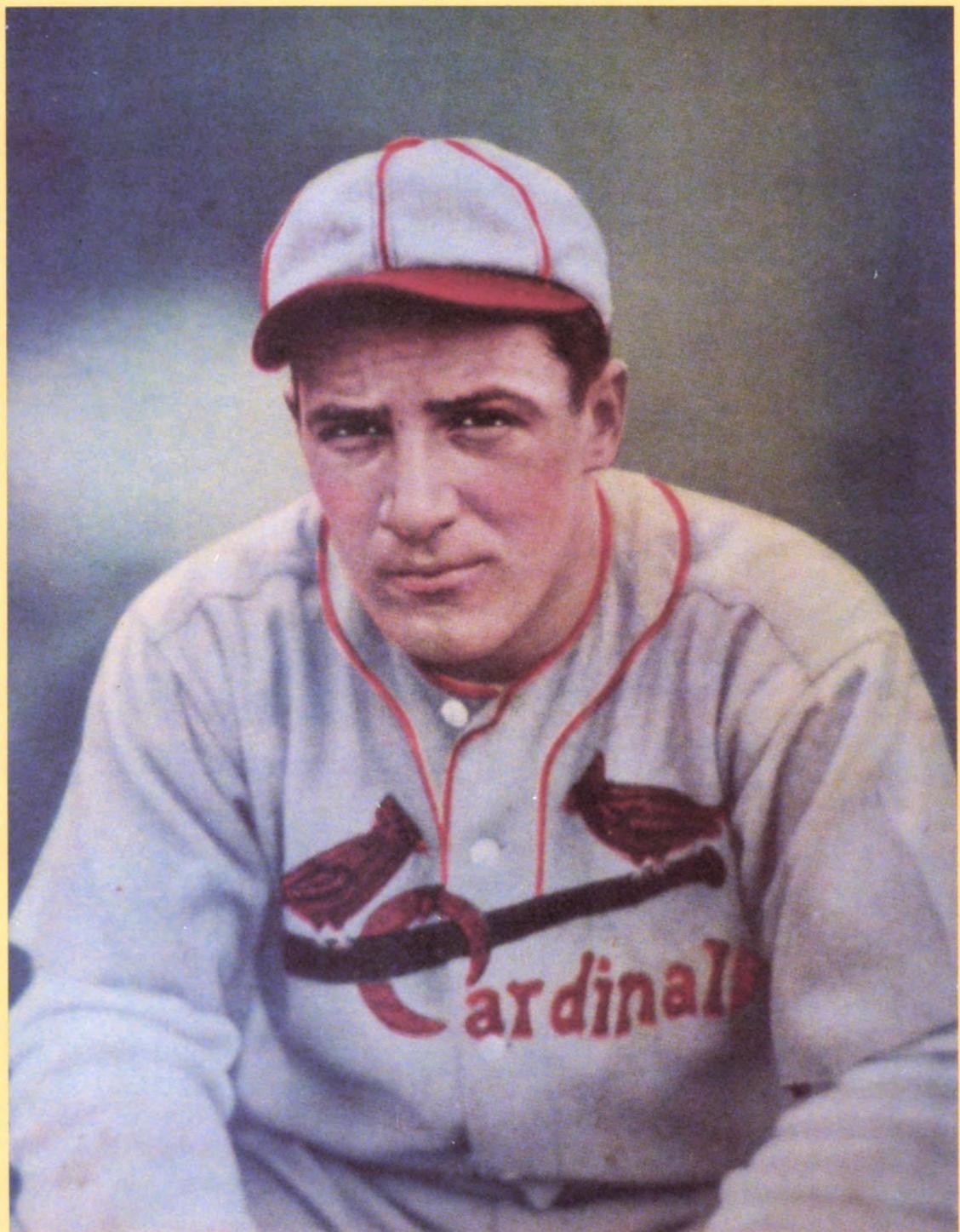
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Babe Ruth opened the Big-Bang Era with a resounding smash and Ted Williams closed it with just as much noise. In nearly 10,000 plate appearances, Williams (above left, top and next page) made it to the bases an incredible 48 percent of the time. He led in nearly every offensive category during his career. And "What if?" can still be asked about the five seasons he lost to military service. Tommy Henrich (far left) was "Old Reliable" on the 1940s Yankees. Charlie "King Kong" Keller (middle left), like Ruth, used Yankee Stadium's short right field wall to his advantage, three times stroking 30 or more home runs. Boston had its own DiMaggio in center field. Although Dom (left) would always be overshadowed by his big brother in New York, he had at least one thing on him — he was a better fielder.





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