

Society for American Baseball Research

BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

Newsletter

February 1991

(90-4)

From the Committee Co-Chairman

Frank V. Phelps

253 Bernard Drive, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1756
215/265-1622

As follow up to last quarter's mention, our taking over the staging of literature panels at SABR National Conventions as a Bibliography Committee function was discussed with the Executive Director and subsequently confirmed by letter. We expect to hear soon if our offer has been accepted, at least for the 1991 convention. If so, Jim O'Donnell will manage this activity. Bobby Plapinger and Terry Smith probably will be involved. Again, if others would like to participate under Jim's direction, please inform either Jim (5026 8th Ave., Seattle, WA 98105) or me.

The Jan. 1991 issue of the *SABR Bulletin* announced the availability of *SABR Research Guide #13: "The Dope Book 1942, 1948-1985; A Subject Index"* by Bob McConnell. (Not 1948-1960 as announced in the *SABR Bulletin*.) Available from me for a SASE.

Bobby Plapinger's "Bibliography of Adult Baseball Mystery Fiction" was a worthy addition to our last newsletter. I certainly agree with his good words for *Season of the Owl*. We need contributions for the newsletter from our members and we hope others will follow Bobby's lead and send material, be it trivial or profound, to Skip McAfee. Now that SABR will send our newsletters to members at large on request for \$2 each, it behooves us to improve the bibliography research content.

There is still room for another Bibliography Committee member to join the joint committee team working on the Black Baseball Bibliography project, which at present consists of Dick Clark, Leslie Heaphy, and Larry Lester of the Negro Leagues Committee and Patricia Palmer and myself from our Committee. If interested, please contact me.

Baseball Errata Project

As noted in prior newsletters, Jack Kavanagh suggested the Baseball Errata Project. Its purpose is to identify myths and mistakes of fact committed in baseball literature (other than infrequent typos or inadvertent minor slips or pure statistical errors) because of carelessness, indifferent or zero research, fabrication, or unwarranted assumption. Rick Johnson (3852 Howard Ave., #1, Los Alamitos, CA 90720) is our official collector and compiler. We URGE you to write up and submit to Rick the errata you find in baseball books or articles, old or new. Later, we expect to invite all SABR members to participate.

In making submissions, do the following: 1) head them "Baseball Errata"; 2) cite the authors, titles of books or articles, dates, and page numbers; 3) quote the erroneous material; and 4) state the correction, the evidence for the correct version, and its source.

Not all errata are as far out as that attributed to Bill Stern by *Contemporary Authors*, Volumes 89-92 (1980, p.496): the boy Thomas A. Edison, while batting, went deaf when hit by a ball pitched by Jesse James; and "Abraham Lincoln's dying words inspired Colonel Abner Doubleday to invent the game of baseball". Stern's numerous flights into fancy are legitimate targets, of course, but so are the errata of all baseball authors, regardless of reputation. Note the following example of a particular type of inaccuracy:

Robert Smith, *Babe Ruth's America* (1974, p.140): "Babe Ruth never did knock a fair ball out of the [Yankee] Stadium. ... The incomparable Josh Gibson ... did so just once." William Brashler, in *Josh Gibson: A Life in the Negro Leagues* (1978, p.49-50), indicated he researched this claim extensively and concluded no proof exists it ever happened.

(continued on reverse)

Bibliography Committee Roster Changes and Additions

Peter Bjarkman	Delete
Richard Doxtator	New zip code: 54481
B.J. Fischer	New address: 619 S. Summit, Bowling Green, OH 43402
John Matthew, IV	New member: 555 Sherbourne St., Apt. 2409, Toronto, Ont. M4X 1W6; 416/960-6241
Tom Miller	New address: Georgetown Road, #8, Dalton, GA 30720
Patricia Palmer	New address: 135 West 142nd St., New York, NY 10030-1644
Edie Williams	Delete

Smith would not have been in error had he qualified his statement, say by inserting "some claim" before "The incomparable". Should conclusive proof that Josh did accomplish this remarkable feat surface some day, Smith was still wrong, in his time, and Brashler still correct in indicating his *own* research results. As a separate illustration within the example, if I misspelled Brashler's name as "Brasher" once, I would expect that to be excusable, but if I did so repeatedly, then I should be dunned for it.

There are various kinds of errata and Jack Kavanagh identified some prominent ones as if prizes are being awarded in each category, as follows:

The Abner Doubleday Award for Mythology to the publisher or editor (not the author) whose carelessness and indifference permits a patent mistruth to be recycled.

The Bill Stern Award for Creative Historical Facts—this could be given to the author.

The Face is Familiar Award to those who update old anecdotes by attributing them to new characters.

The Spiked Shoe in the Mouth Award for gratuitous, erroneous comment.

What doesn't qualify here? Differences of opinion, for one. We may all agree Honus Wagner was a better team player than Rube Waddell but we don't hit the dissident who states the reverse, unless his supporting evidence is factually wrong or is unsupportable. Also, we avoid tagging tongue-in-cheek remarks lifted out of context, literally incorrect but skewed for humorous or sarcastic effect. And, minor accidental slips do not interest us unless repetitive; nor are we concerned with grammatical lapses.

For those who enjoy head-hunting, check out book reviews. Many reviewers strive to prove they know more about the authors' subjects than the authors by highlighting the latter's errors, both of omission and commission. Our serious purpose as baseball researchers, however, should be to lighten the darkness wherever we find it, be it in long-respected classics like the Putnam Series or among the prolific publishing of today or tomorrow. As you read the new books, note and mark the clinkers and pass on your findings to Rick Johnson. The use of the word "errata" in the project title implies a printed compilation will result. Whether or not that happens depends on our spotting abilities and our follow-up industry. Go to it!

SABR BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Richard W. Arpi, 3620 W. 32nd St., #105, St. Louis Park, MN 55416
 Robert Bluthardt, 244 N. Oxford, San Angelo, TX 76901
 William E. Brown, Jr., 30 Oakview Terrace #1, Boston, MA 02130-1837
 Jack Carlson, 2904 Green Vista Drive, Fairborn, OH 45324
 Ethan Casey, 2533 Grant Street, Berkeley, CA 94703
 Jon Daniels, 1340 N. Dearborn Parkway, #3E/F, Chicago, IL 60610
 Harold Dellinger, 3225 E. 10th St, Kansas City, MO 64127
 Jay Demarest, 18813 Luray Court, Olney, MD 20832
 Richard Duxtator, 1909 Plover Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481
 William H. Dunstone, Diamond Sport, 4211 MacEachen Blvd, Sarasota, FL 34233
 Thomas G. Eckel, 725 Isaac Taylor Dr, West Chester, PA 19382
 Morris A. Eckhouse, 1835 S. Green Road, South Euclid, OH 44121
 Bruce Erricson, 116 Colbert Dr, Spring Valley, CA 92077-6406
 Bernie Esser, 1320 Encina Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030
 B.J. Fischer, 619 South Summit, Bowling Green, OH 43402
 Gary D. Geer, 501 South Maple Street, Columbia, SC 29205
 Larry R. Gerlach, 950 No. Bonneville Dr, Salt Lake City, UT 84103
 Jerry Gregory, 3409 Reedy Drive, Annandale, VA 22003
 Stanley Gribetz, 7 West 96th St., #11-E, New York, NY 10025
 Lawrence A. Guren, P.O. Box 58011, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8011
 Ted Hathaway, 5645 Fremont Ave., South, Minneapolis, MN 55419
 Thomas R. Heitz, P.O. Box 726, Cooperstown, NY 13326
 Eric Hillemann, 107 Nevada St., Northfield, MN 55057
 David Scott Hornish, 2230 Seamans Neck Road, Seaford, NY 11783
 William E. Hugo, 5908 Winnetka Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45236
 Fred Ivor-Campbell, 21 Martin St., Warren, RI 02885
 Rick Johnson, 3852 Howard Ave, #1, Los Alamitos, CA 90720
 Jack Kavanagh, 21 Kingswood Road, North Kingston, RI 02852
 Dave Kelly, 1619 E Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20003
 David Kemp, Box 85224, Sioux Falls, SD 57118
 Don Luce, P.O. Box 17029, Euclid, OH 44117
 Jerry Malloy, 844 French Drive, Mundelein, IL 60060
 John Matthew, IV, 555 Sherbourne St., Apt. 2409, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4X 1W6
 Skip McAfee, 5533 Colts Foot Court, Columbia, MD 21045
 Robert McConnell, 210 West Crest Road, Wilmington, DE 19803
 Andy McCue, 4025 Beechwood Place, Riverside, CA 92506
 Tom Miller, Georgetown Road, #8, Dalton, GA 30720
 Stephen E. Millman, 18 Roxbury Lane, Wilton, CT 06897
 Joseph Murphy, 2441 Delevan Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
 James O'Donnell, 5026 8th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98105
 Patricia Palmer, 135 West 142nd St, New York, NY 10030-1644
 Frank V. Phelps, 253 Bernard Drive, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1756
 Thomas J. Phillips, 280 Commonwealth Ave, Apt. 202, Boston, MA 02116
 R. Bobby Plapinger, P.O. Box 1062, Ashland, OR 97520
 Jimmie Purvis, Route 7, Box 287, Russellville, AL 35653
 Stephanie Row, 700 29th Ave, #3, San Francisco, CA 94121
 Leverett T. (Terry) Smith, Jr., 735 Sycamore Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27801
 Joseph E. Stanton, 110 St. Paul's Road, Ardmore, PA 19003
 James Sumner, 3215 Warwick Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606
 Gene Sunnen, 15 Santa Maria, #5, Pacifica, CA 94044
 John Thorn, 18 Virginia Avenue, Saugerties, NY 12477
 Linda Vessa, 515 Margaret Ave, Aptos, CA 95003
 Gerald Wachs, 350 Springfield Ave, Summit, NJ 07901
 Mike Wickham, 8901 Mira Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92126
 John Willoughby, 166 Lytton Blvd, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4R 1L4
 Peter Winske, 4418 Woodfield Blvd, Boca Raton, FL 33434

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Send contributions for the Bibliography Committee newsletter to Skip McAfee, 5533 Colts Foot Court, Columbia, MD 21045.

CURRENT BASEBALL PUBLICATIONS: VOLUME 5, NUMBER 4

September - December 1990

Compiled by Richard W. Arpi, SABR Bibliography Committee

For other 1990 published books, see CBP: Volume 5, Numbers 1-3

In the past, I have struggled with the question of listing titles which I have information about, but haven't actually seen or have doubts concerning their release. Starting with this issue, I will circle the entry number of the item, (5) etc., if I haven't actually seen the book, have incomplete bibliographic information, or have doubts about its availability. Books which are advertised in sports journals, newspapers, and the like will be assumed to be available and not circled, even if I haven't seen a particular copy. Books listed in library trade publications, but not seen, will receive this circle. This procedure will alert readers to those particular titles which I need further information and hopefully in the course of the year this information will be obtained so that my year-end compilation will be accurate. Of course, I appreciate information from any one of you about any title at any time.

Section I: Anthologies, Book Reviews, Literary Analysis

1. Schulman, L.M., selector. The Random House Book of Sports Stories. Illustrated by Thomas B. Allen. New York: Random House (246 p. \$ 15.95 h) 0-394-82874- contains Thurber's "You Could Look it Up", Ring Lardner's "Harry Kane", & Jay Neugeboren's "Ebbets Field".

Section II: Biographies and Personal Accounts

1. Garvey, Cynthia and Andy Meisler. The Secret Life of Cyndy Garvey. New York: St. Martin's Press. (362 p., photos, \$ 4.95 p) 0-312-92203-5 reprint, Doubleday, 1989
2. Gorman, Bob. Double X. (Jimmie Foxx). from author 2430 Guenther Court, Baldwin New York 11510 (213 p., photos, stats, bibliogrphay, -\$10.00 Sabr members, \$12.00 to others
3. Holmes, Tot. Brooklyn's Babe: The Life and Legend of Babe Herman. Holmes Pub. P.O. Box 11 Gothenburg, Nebraska 69138 (242 p., \$ 19.95 h) 0-943716-12-
4. Jackson, Bo and Dick Schaap. Bo Knows Bo. New York: Doubleday. (218 p., phot. career stats, \$ 18.95 h) 0-385-41620-2
5. Sokolove, Michael Y. Hustle: The Myth, Life and Lies of Pete Rose. New York: Simon & Schuster. (304 p., photos, index, \$ 19.95 h) 0-671-69503-7
- (6) Strawberry, Darryl with Don Gold. Hard Learnin'. New York: Pocket Books. (275 p., \$ 4.50 p) 0-425-12651-X

7. Zimmerman, Tom. A Day in the Season of the Los Angeles Dodgers. New York: Shapolsky Publishers. (175 p., photos, bibliography, \$ 16.95 h)
O-944007-89-9

Section III: Fiction and Poetry

- (1.) Barrett, Kirk. The Flight of Fancy. :Roanoke Park Press. (28 p., \$ 12.95)
O-9622496-0-2 juvenile
- (2.) Cronin, Justin. A Short History of the Long Ball. Council Oak Books, 1428 S. St. Louis, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120 (90 p., \$ 12.95 h) O-933031-23-8 -juvenile
- (3.) Joyce, Gare. The Only Ticket off the Island. : Lester and Orpen Dennys.
(229 p., \$ 24.95) O-88619-324-9 ?
- (4.) Kessler, Leonard. Old Turtle's Baseball Stories. New York: Dell. (56 p., illustrated by author, \$ 2.95 p) O-440-40277-8 juvenile

Section IV: History and General Works

1. Adomites, Paul. October's Game. World of Baseball Series. Alexandria, Va.: Redefinition Inc. (185 p., photos, \$ 17.75) O-924588-06-3
2. Alvarez, Mark. The Old Ball Game. World of Baseball Series. Alexandria, Va.: Redefinition Inc. (187 p., photos, \$ 17.75) O-924588-09-8
- (3.) Anderson, Bill. The Detroit Tigers: A Pictorial Celebration of the Greatest Players and Moments in Tigers' History. South Bend: Diamond Communications.
\$ 34.95
4. Bowman, John and Joel Zoss. The Pictorial History of Baseball. Revised Fourth Edition. New York: Gallery Books. (247 p., \$ 22.98) O-8317-6914-9
5. Fiffer, Steve. Speed. World of Baseball Series. Alexandria, Va.: Redefinition, Inc. (185 p., \$ 17.75) O-924588-08-X
- (6.) Fimrite, Ron, Bill Mandel, and Bruce Jenkins. Three Weeks in October. San Francisco: Woodford Publishing. (142 p., \$ 45.00) O-9426-2710-5
7. Garber, Angus G. III. The Baseball Companion. New York: Mallard Press.
(187 p., photos, \$ 29.98) O-792-45291-7
8. Johnson, Lloyd. Dream Teams: Baseball's Greatest Players Decade by Decade. New York: Gallery Books. (192 p., photos, stats, \$ 14.98 H) O-8317-2499-4
9. Mead, William. Low and Outside. World of Baseball Series. Alexandria, Va.: Redefinition Inc. (186 p., \$ 17.75) O-924588-07-1
10. Phillips, John. The 1895 Cleveland Spiders. Capitol Pub. Co. 8105 MacArthur Blvd Cabin John, Maryland 20818 (90 p., \$ 17.80 p)
11. Phillips, John. Odd Ball Games. See address above. \$4.00 Sabr members, \$4.95 for others.

12. Rogers, Phil. Impossible Takes a Little Longer: The Texas Rangers from Pretenders to Contenders. Dallas: Taylor Publishing Co. (187 P., \$ 16.95 H) 0-87833-630-3
13. Whiting, Robert. You Gotta Have Wa. New York: Vintage Departures (Random House) (339 p., photos, bibliography, visits 1908-1988, \$ 10.95 p) 0-679-72947-X reprint, MacMillan, 1989

Section V: Hobby

1. Kurowski, Jeff, editor. The Standard Catalog of Baseball Cards, second edition. Iola, Wisconsin: Krause Publishers (752 p., index, terms, rookie cards 1948-1990, \$ 29.95 p) 0-87341-138-2
2. Slocum, Frank and Red Foley, text. The Complete Picture Collection: A 40 year History of Topps Baseball Cards, 1951-1990. Introduction by Johnny Bench. Card history by sy Berger. New York: Warner Books. (ca. 1,000 p., index, \$ 99.95 h) 0-446-51579-5

Section VII: Instructionals, Fitness & Rules

1. McFarland, Joe S. Coaching Pitchers, second edition. Champaign, Illinois: Leisure Press. (131 p., \$ 18.00 p) 0-88011-368-5

Section VIII: Juvenile works

first nine books listed published by Chelsea House, \$14.95 each,
Baseball Legends Series

1. Appel, Marty. Joe DiMaggio. 61 p., 0-7910-1183-6
2. Eckhouse, Morris. Bob Feller. 57 p., 0-7910-1174-7
3. Grabowski, John. Jackie Robinson. 57 p., 0-7910-1188-7
4. Grabowski, John. Willie Mays. 57 p., 0-7910-1183-6
5. Kavanagh, Jack. Grover Cleveland Alexander. 57 p., 0-7910-1166-6
6. Macht, Norm. Jimmie Foxx. 57 p., 0-7910-1175-5
7. Shannon, Mike. Johnny Bench. 57 p., 0-7910-1168-2
8. Takasch, Jim. Roy Campanella.
9. Wolff, Rick. Brooks Robinson. 57 p., 0-7910-1186-0
-
10. Alexson, Bill. Batting a Thousand. :Thomas Nelson. (108 p., \$ 5.95 P) 0-8407-3152-3

11. Calhoun, B.B. The Pink Parrots: All that Jazz. Sports Illustrated Books for Kids distributed by Little Brown & Warner. (120 p., \$ 3.50 p) 0-316-12445-1

12. Denenberg, Barry. Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson. New York: Scholastic Books. (117 p., photos, \$ 2.95 p) 0-590-42560-9
13. Greene, Carol. Jackie Robinson: Baseball's First Black Major Leaguer. Chicago: Childrens Press. (47 p., photos, index, important dates, \$ 4.95 p 0-516-44211-2
14. Teitelbaum, Michael. Play Book! Baseball: You are the Manager, You call the Shots. Sports Illustrated Books for Kids, dis. by Little Brown/Warner. illustrated by Donna Nettis. (89 p., \$ 4.95 p) 0-316-83624-9

Section IX: Reference, Statistics, Annual Works

1. Garrity, John. The Traveler's Guide to Baseball Spring Training, 1991 edition. Kansas City/New York: Andrews & McMill. (177 p., photos, \$ 9.95 p) 0-8362-7982-4 arranged by team
2. James, Bill. The Stats 1991 Major League Handbook. Lincolnwood, Illinois 60646 Stats, Inc. 7250 N. Cicero (311 p., \$ 17.95) 0-9625581-1-7
3. Shandler, Ron. The Baseball Forecaster, 1990 Annual Review. Shandler Enterprises P.O. Box 1001-A Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054 (116 p. \$ 19.95 p)
4. Tiemann, Robert L., editor. The National Pastime, # 10. SABR: P.O. Box 93183 Cleveland, Ohio 44101 (88 p., photos, \$8.00 p) 0-910137-40-4
5. Wayman, Joseph. Grandstand Baseball Annual: 1990 (volume 6). P.O. Box 4203 Downey, Calif 90241 \$ 7.95 p 127 p., 0-895-5501 volumes 1-5 also available \$ 7.95 each