

\$8.00

THE

National Pastime

A REVIEW OF BASEBALL HISTORY



SPECIAL PICTORIAL ISSUE • THE DEAD BALL ERA

JOHN J. Mc GRAW

Famous Manager of the New York Giants, Champions of the National League, says:

"**Tuxedo** gives to my pipe smoking a keen enjoyment that I have experienced with no other tobacco. Supreme in mildness and fragrance is **Tuxedo**"

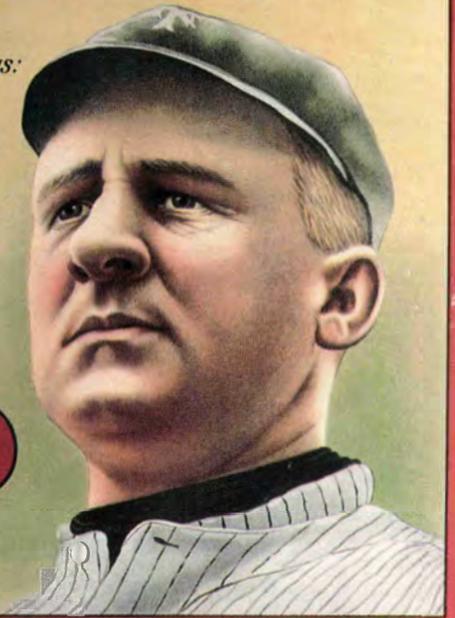
John J. McGraw



CURVED TINS TO FIT THE POCKET 10¢
MOISTURE PROOF POUCH 5¢

Tuxedo

THE PERFECT TOBACCO
FOR PIPE AND CIGARETTE



A special pictorial issue:

Baseball in the Dead Ball Era



GOLDSTEIN

Hit 'em where they ain't. Those were the words that epitomized the first two decades of the century, when the pitchers were quick and the ball was dead. From 1894, when Wee Willie Keeler first played with the famous Baltimore Orioles, to 1904, when he starred for the New York Highlanders, slugging percentages dropped a staggering 25 percent.

TNP

Two years after bringing you the first pictorial issue of *The National Pastime*, that one devoted to the nineteenth century, we turn the century to what is the game's most beautifully photographed and arguably most exciting period. Like conventional TNPs this is, as the logo proclaims, "A Review of Baseball History," but with the key differences that the period under review is narrowly defined and that here text exists to illuminate the pictures, which are the principal means

of telling the story. This is not a "pictorial history" like those abounding in the bookstores but a time travel machine—put yourself in the cordoned crowd at Baker Bowl . . . or at third base, dodging Cobb's flashing spikes . . . or at the bat, steeling your nerve as The Big Train whips his arm plateward. This is the way it was.

The dead ball era of 1901-19 produced new leagues, new stars, new styles of play, and a new level of popularity. There were good guys like Matty and Johnson, and bad, like Gandil and Chase; free spirits

Waddell and Schaefer and troubled souls Cobb and Pulliam; scrappy runts Evers and Maranville and demigods Lajoie and Wagner. There were spitballs and shine balls and shutouts galore; stolen bases and sacrifice bunts and tons of triples; and, in the shadows, black men playing the game and waiting for change.

With a revived national economy and the advent of the American League, professional baseball experienced an unprecedented boom at all levels. From the warring majors emerged a stable structure of sixteen franchises that remained in place for fifty years—despite a challenge from a new rival in 1914-15, a World War, and a scandal that shook the game to its foundation. In the years 1901-19 baseball on the field and off was fiercely competitive, tempestuous, and gloriously gritty. That climate, that intensity, that love for the game leap from these pages.

In *The Glory of Their Times*, that glowing oral history of baseball and America before World War I, Larry Ritter concluded his preface with: "This, then, is the way it was. Listen!" We conclude in tune:

This, then, is the way it was. *Look!*

Over 200 images, most never before published, are on display. The editors have visited many institutions and individual collectors over the past two years and examined thousands of vintage photographs before selecting these. Photographer Mike Saporito has been an invaluable part of this effort. Tom Heitz and Howard Talbot of the National Baseball Hall of Fame contributed their time, expertise, and resources with unfailing good will, as they have in previous projects originating with the Society for American Baseball Research. (Furthermore, the National Baseball Library is making available low-cost, high-quality prints of all images herein credited as "NBL"; see page 86 for details.)

Special thanks go to three SABR members who opened their doors to TNP so that others might share in the pleasure of their vast collections. Barry Halper, a

notable contributor to the 1984 pictorial, this time permitted us first publication of his unique view of a teenaged Babe Ruth in action (page 72). George Brace opened his archives to our scrutiny and showed us every kindness. And Dennis Goldstein graciously made available to us his unrivaled collection of dead ball era rarities, never before on public view.

And a sincere appreciation to the good people at Ag Press who have done such a fine job with all SABR publications, and extended themselves further for this one. To Dean Coughenour, Deb Wilds, and René Whitney—thanks.

COVERS: Front, Christy Mathewson, from a cigarette ad of about 1914 (*credit: Goldstein*). Back, a fabulous poster from 1916 showing Donaldson, who once threw three straight no-hitters, and Mendez, who defeated Mathewson, Plank, and Coombs (*Goldstein*). Inside front, a John McGraw testimonial to Tuxedo tobacco, the same brand favored by Matty (*credit: Powers*), and a piece of Cobbiana (*credit: Halper*). Inside back, six Boston Garter ads from 1914 (*Goldstein*).

John Thorn & Mark Rucker

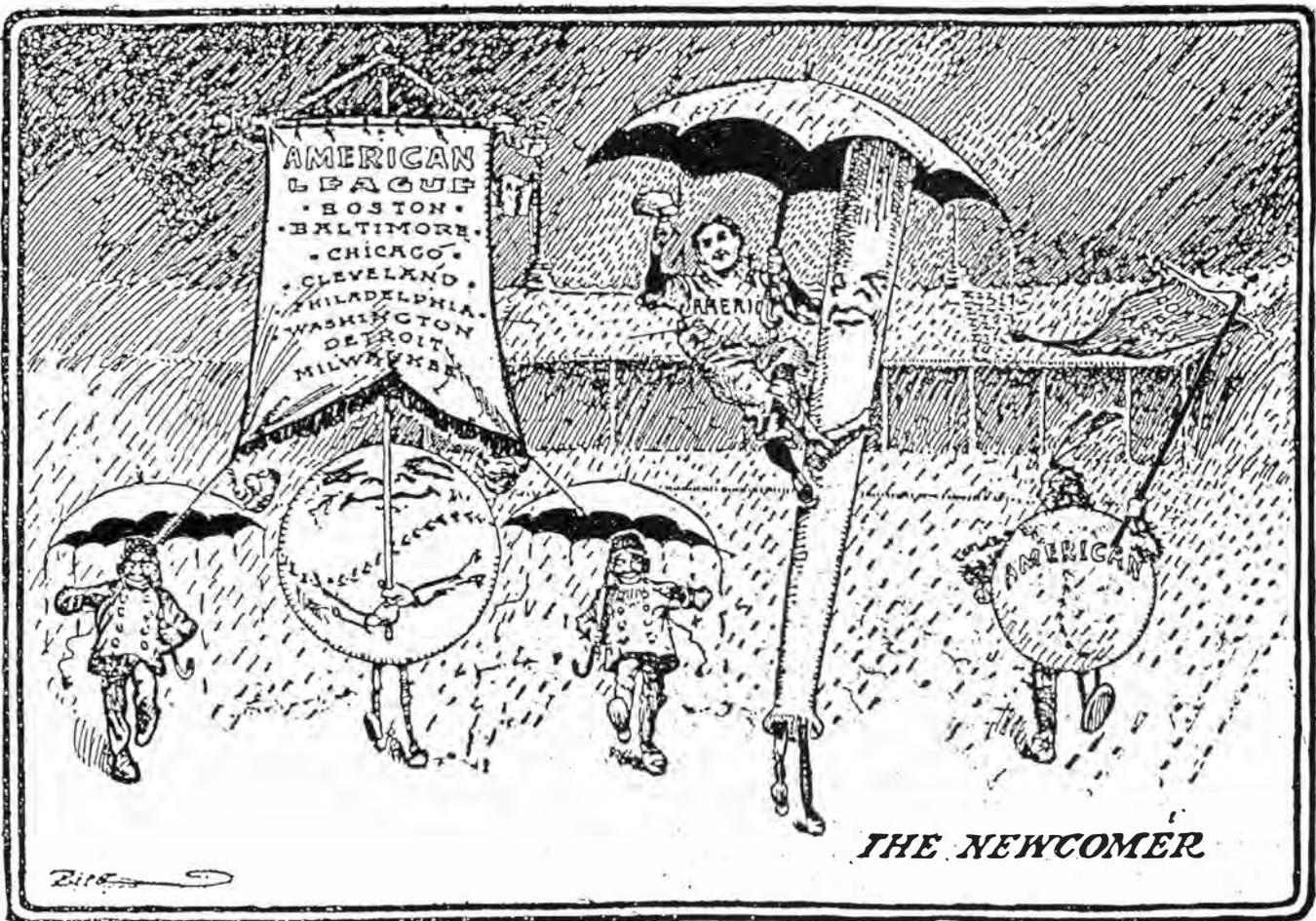
PICTURE SOURCES (credits accompany photos) Tom Carwile; George Brace; CHS: Chicago Historical Society; Bruce Foster; Dennis Goldstein; Barry Halper; LC: Library of Congress; Lew Lipset; Museum of the City of New York; NBL: National Baseball Library, National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Inc.; NYHS: New-York Historical Society; Bob Powers; Pat Quinn, Sports Collectors Store; Mark Rucker; Carl Sickles; John Thorn; WRHS: The Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio.

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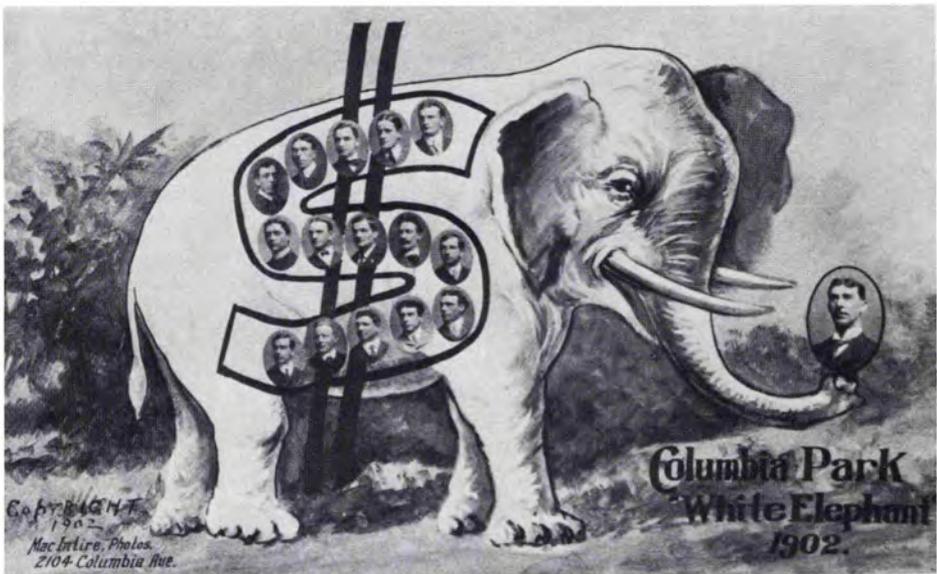
FIRST PRINTING—Ag Press, Manhattan, Kansas.



GOLDSTEIN



Interest in baseball had waned in the late '90s, when the twelve-team National League had been the only game in town. In 1900 the N.L. cut back to eight clubs, prompting the Western League to reorganize as the American League and begin to raid the senior circuit's territory and talent. By 1901 it was ready to compete as a rival major league. The cartoon above appeared in the *Boston Herald* on April 25, after rain had washed out three of the previous day's opening games. At right, Connie Mack's champion "White Elephants," the Athletics of 1902. Their star was Rube Waddell, who joined them in midseason and won 24 games—after having won 12 in the California League!





NBL

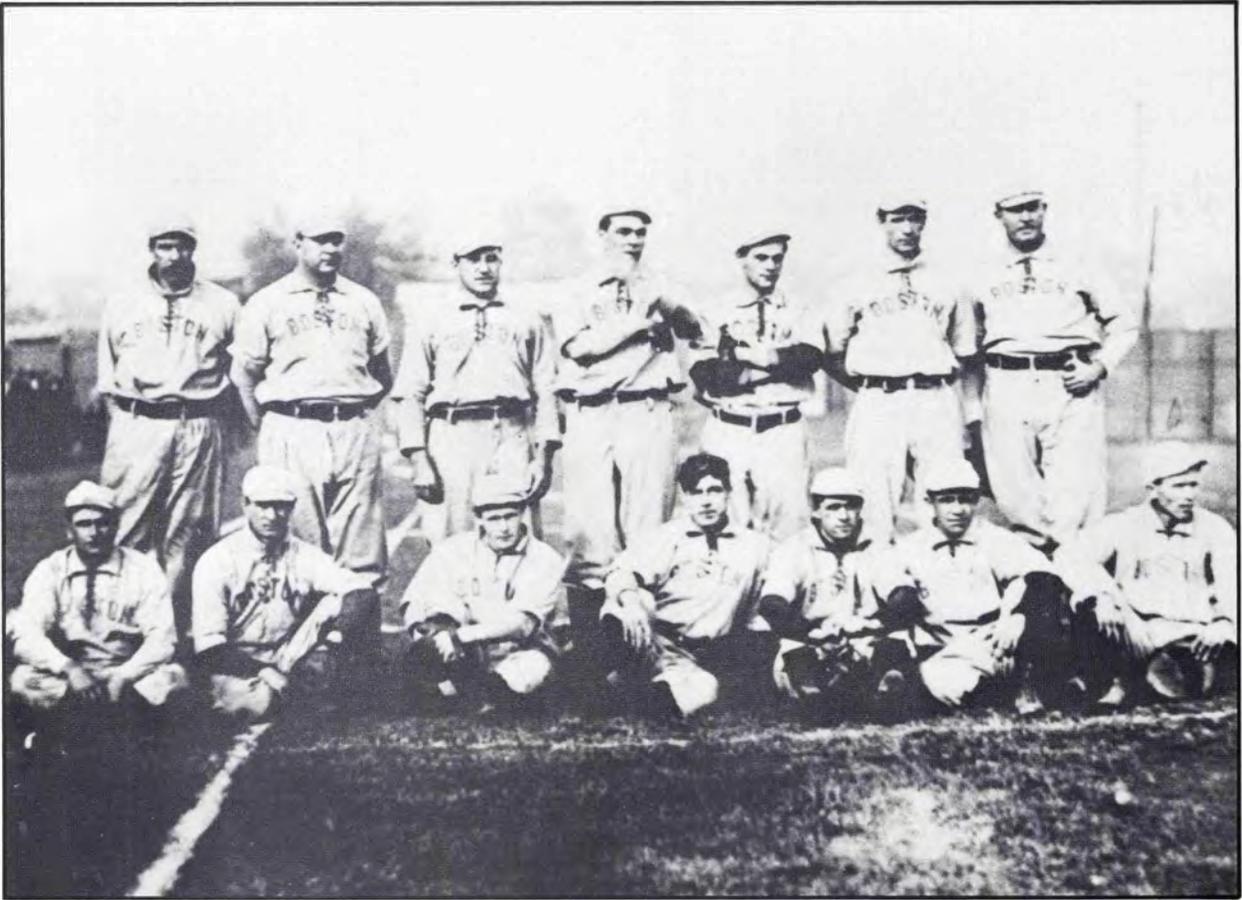


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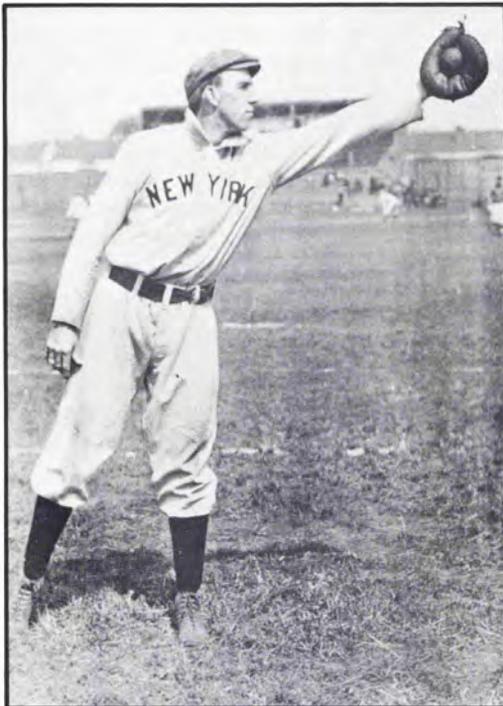


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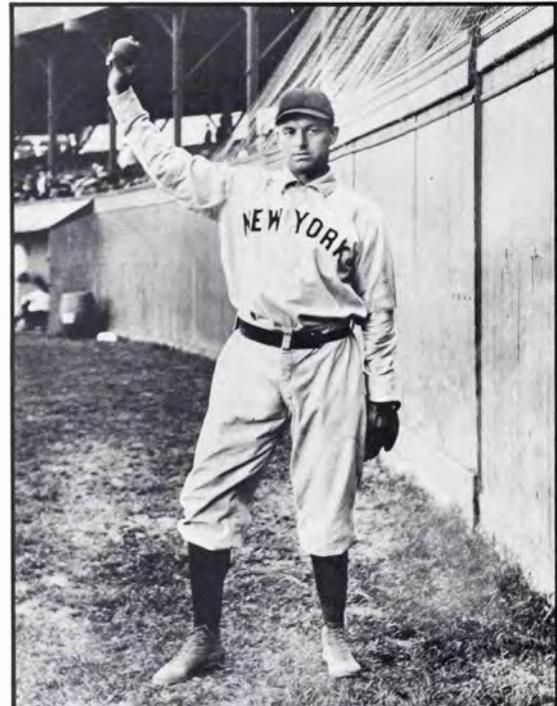
In 1903 the warring leagues agreed to meet in the first "modern" World Series. The Boston Americans, led by pitcher Bill Dinneen (above, left) and shortstop Fred Parent (to his right), upset the great Pittsburgh Pirates to erase any doubts that the upstart league was big time. Above, joyous Boston rooters mill about the Huntington Avenue Grounds after the final out.



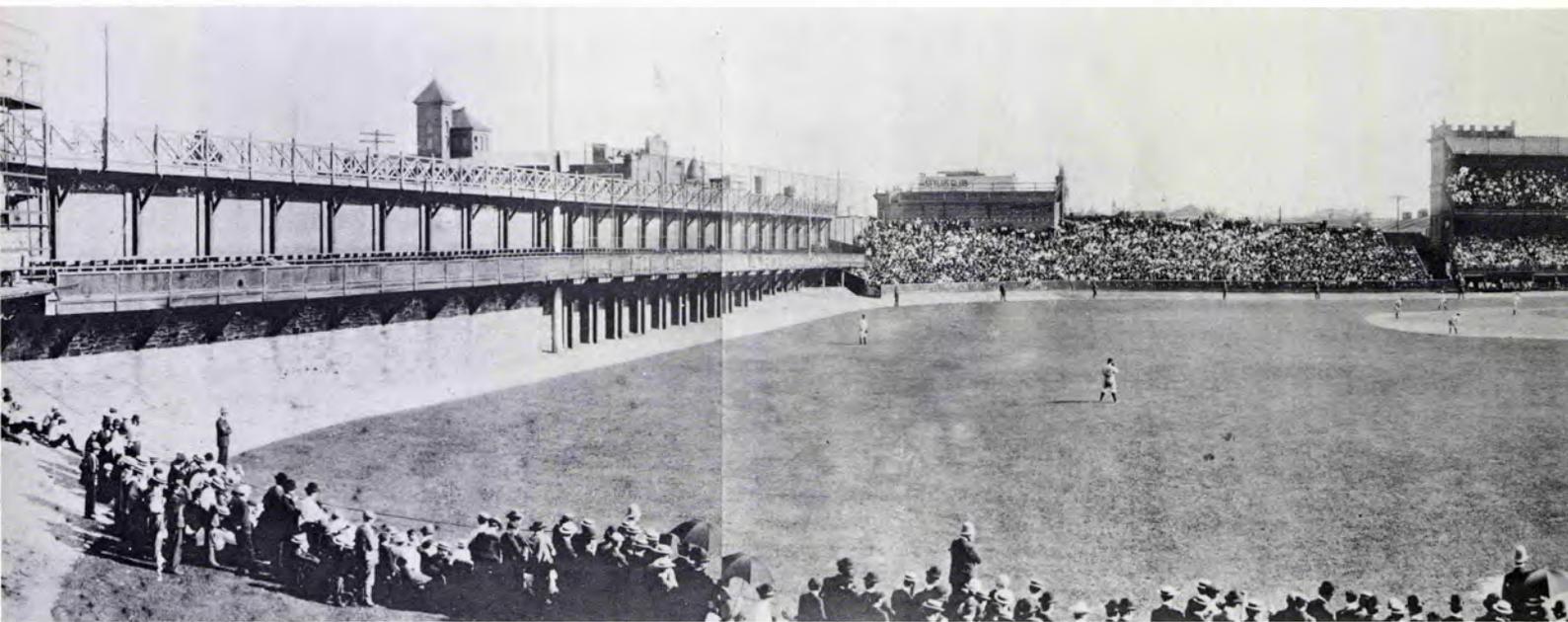
Guided by manager Jimmy Collins (bottom row, center), Boston took another pennant in 1904—barely, nipping the Highlanders on the final day as Jack Chesbro threw a fatal wild pitch. (The photo was taken right after that famous game.) But there was to be no repeat of the World Championship, as the New York Giants of Dan McGann (left) and Joe McGinnity (right) declined to risk defeat.



NBL

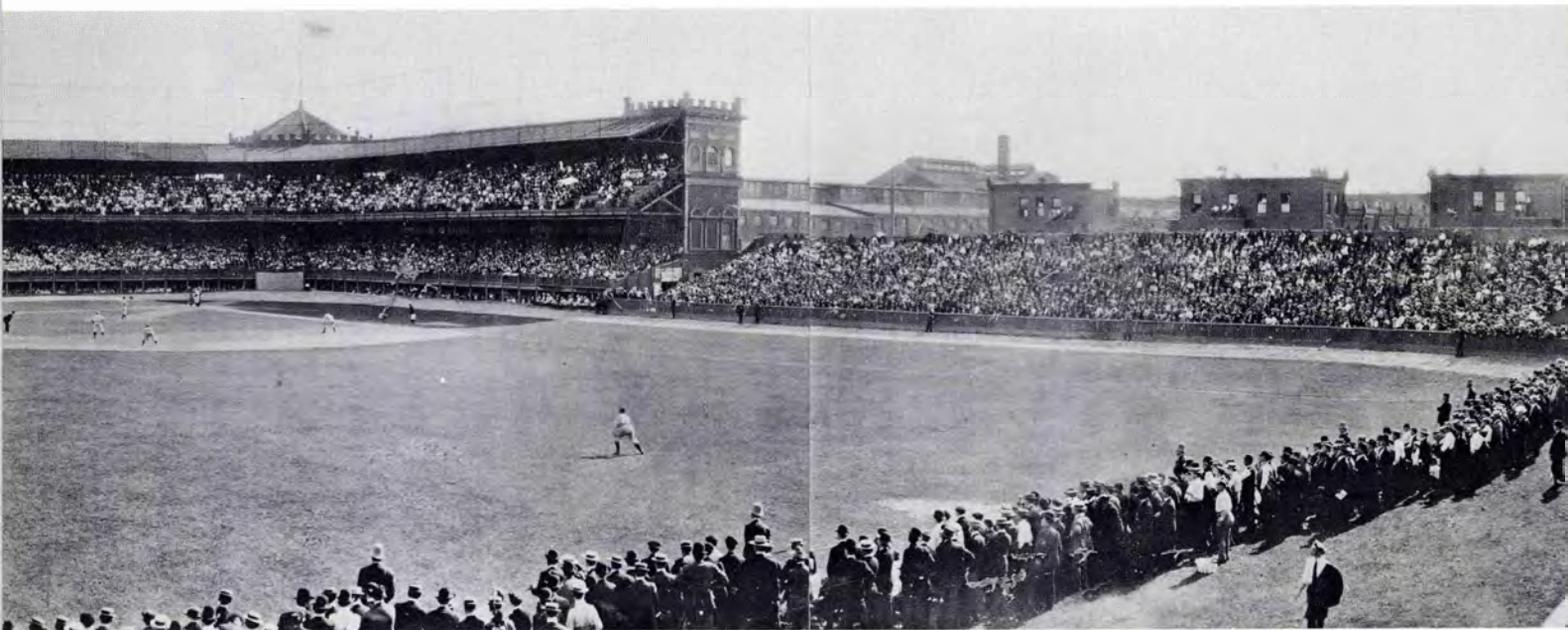


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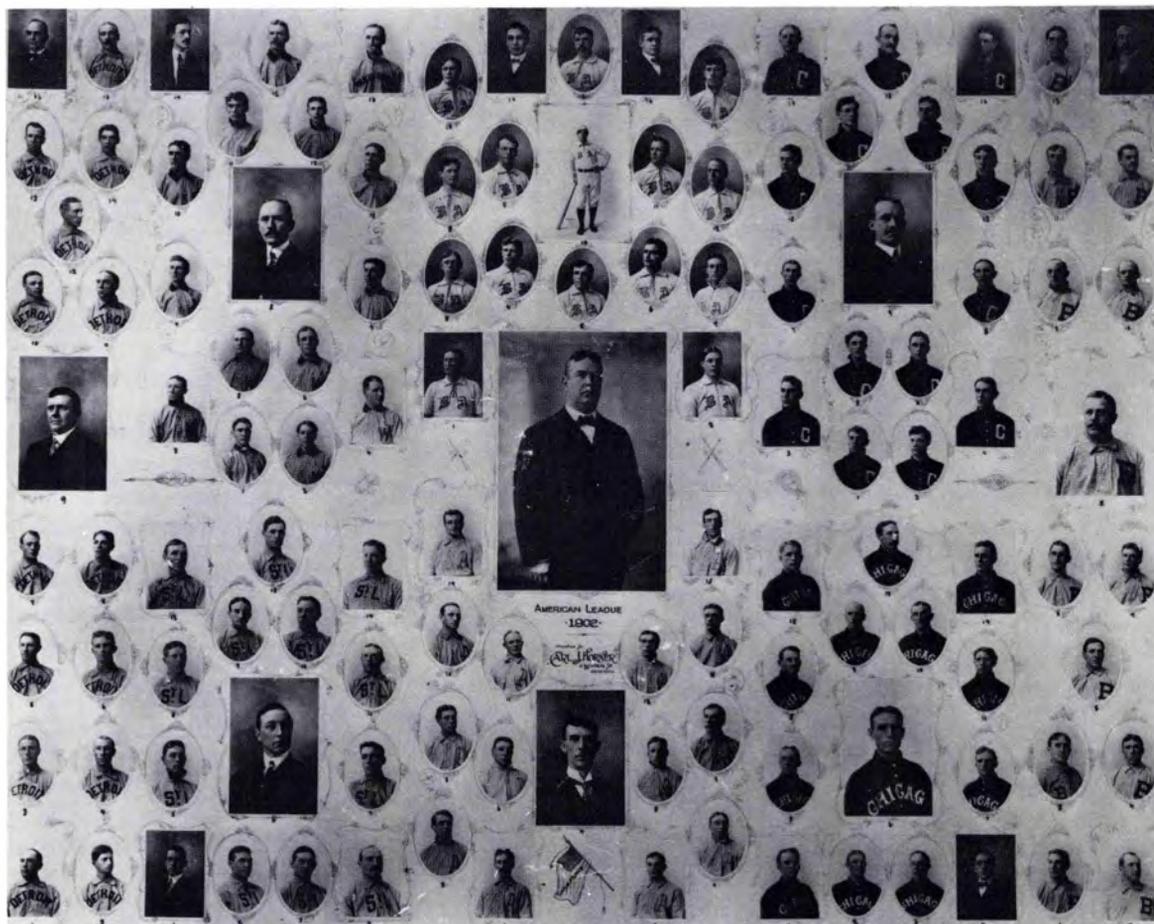


THORN

Perhaps no single player, not even Cy Young or Nap Lajoie, did as much to lend legitimacy to the American League as Clark Griffith. The Old Fox jumped the Cubs for Charlie Comiskey's crosstown White Sox, leading them to the new league's first flag while posting a 24-7 mark on the mound. Soon he took the helm of the Highlanders, with whom he is pictured here in 1906, and kept them in contention despite little evident material. Then, beginning in 1912 and up until his death in 1955, his name was synonymous with baseball in the nation's capital. At the right, nearly every man who played in the American League of 1902, from Anderson to Young—get out that magnifying glass and locate Hall of Famers Ed Delahanty, Jimmy Collins, Connie Mack, Rube Waddell, Eddie Plank, Addie Joss, Elmer Flick, Wilbert Robinson, Ban Johnson, Bobby Wallace, and of course Young, Lajoie, and Griffith. Across the top is a glorious panoramic view of a day at the ballpark—in this case Baker Bowl in 1904, with the Phillies playing host to the Giants. Note the embankment in left and center fields and the bobbies keeping rein on the standing-room-only crowd.



GOLDSTEIN



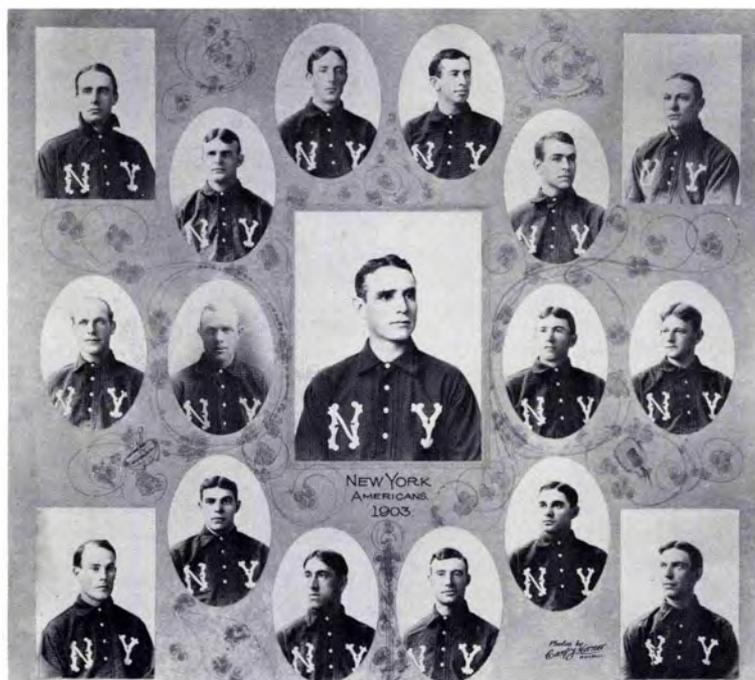
NBL

| DETROIT | | | ST. LOUIS | | | WASHINGTON | | | PHILADELPHIA | | | BOSTON | | | CHICAGO | | | CLEVELAND | | | BALTIMORE | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 1. BAYLON | 14. MOTTEN | 27. MURPHY | 10. POWELL | 23. LUTHER | 36. CLARK | 49. BOSTON | 62. FLANK | 75. JOHNSON | 88. SPENCER | 101. WOOD | 114. BUTLER | 127. O'LEARY | 140. WELLS | 153. MURPHY | 166. WOOD | 179. TERRY | 192. WELLS | 205. WELLS | 218. WELLS | 231. WELLS | 244. WELLS | 257. WELLS | |
| 2. BERRY | 15. MOTTEN | 28. MURPHY | 11. POWELL | 24. LUTHER | 37. CLARK | 50. BOSTON | 63. FLANK | 76. JOHNSON | 89. SPENCER | 102. WOOD | 115. BUTLER | 128. O'LEARY | 141. WELLS | 154. MURPHY | 167. WOOD | 180. TERRY | 193. WELLS | 206. WELLS | 219. WELLS | 232. WELLS | 245. WELLS | 258. WELLS | |
| 3. BERRY | 16. MOTTEN | 29. MURPHY | 12. POWELL | 25. LUTHER | 38. CLARK | 51. BOSTON | 64. FLANK | 77. JOHNSON | 90. SPENCER | 103. WOOD | 116. BUTLER | 129. O'LEARY | 142. WELLS | 155. MURPHY | 168. WOOD | 181. TERRY | 194. WELLS | 207. WELLS | 220. WELLS | 233. WELLS | 246. WELLS | 259. WELLS | |
| 4. BERRY | 17. MOTTEN | 30. MURPHY | 13. POWELL | 26. LUTHER | 39. CLARK | 52. BOSTON | 65. FLANK | 78. JOHNSON | 91. SPENCER | 104. WOOD | 117. BUTLER | 130. O'LEARY | 143. WELLS | 156. MURPHY | 169. WOOD | 182. TERRY | 195. WELLS | 208. WELLS | 221. WELLS | 234. WELLS | 247. WELLS | 260. WELLS | |
| 5. BERRY | 18. MOTTEN | 31. MURPHY | 14. POWELL | 27. LUTHER | 40. CLARK | 53. BOSTON | 66. FLANK | 79. JOHNSON | 92. SPENCER | 105. WOOD | 118. BUTLER | 131. O'LEARY | 144. WELLS | 157. MURPHY | 170. WOOD | 183. TERRY | 196. WELLS | 209. WELLS | 222. WELLS | 235. WELLS | 248. WELLS | 261. WELLS | |
| 6. BERRY | 19. MOTTEN | 32. MURPHY | 15. POWELL | 28. LUTHER | 41. CLARK | 54. BOSTON | 67. FLANK | 80. JOHNSON | 93. SPENCER | 106. WOOD | 119. BUTLER | 132. O'LEARY | 145. WELLS | 158. MURPHY | 171. WOOD | 184. TERRY | 197. WELLS | 210. WELLS | 223. WELLS | 236. WELLS | 249. WELLS | 262. WELLS | |
| 7. BERRY | 20. MOTTEN | 33. MURPHY | 16. POWELL | 29. LUTHER | 42. CLARK | 55. BOSTON | 68. FLANK | 81. JOHNSON | 94. SPENCER | 107. WOOD | 120. BUTLER | 133. O'LEARY | 146. WELLS | 159. MURPHY | 172. WOOD | 185. TERRY | 198. WELLS | 211. WELLS | 224. WELLS | 237. WELLS | 250. WELLS | 263. WELLS | |
| 8. BERRY | 21. MOTTEN | 34. MURPHY | 17. POWELL | 30. LUTHER | 43. CLARK | 56. BOSTON | 69. FLANK | 82. JOHNSON | 95. SPENCER | 108. WOOD | 121. BUTLER | 134. O'LEARY | 147. WELLS | 160. MURPHY | 173. WOOD | 186. TERRY | 199. WELLS | 212. WELLS | 225. WELLS | 238. WELLS | 251. WELLS | 264. WELLS | |
| 9. BERRY | 22. MOTTEN | 35. MURPHY | 18. POWELL | 31. LUTHER | 44. CLARK | 57. BOSTON | 70. FLANK | 83. JOHNSON | 96. SPENCER | 109. WOOD | 122. BUTLER | 135. O'LEARY | 148. WELLS | 161. MURPHY | 174. WOOD | 187. TERRY | 200. WELLS | 213. WELLS | 226. WELLS | 239. WELLS | 252. WELLS | 265. WELLS | |



Here are three stylish team portraits of 1902-3, and a splendid game action shot from Game Three of the 1906 all-Chicago World Series. The cameo composites are by the Boston studio of Carl J. Horner, which was also responsible for the American League portrait on the previous page. The other image is, alas, uncredited. But the real photographic innovations of the dead ball era were the panoramic view (as on the previous page) and the close-up action shot, the latter pioneered by such men as Charles Conlon and Clarence Van Oeyen (note the photographers huddled along the first-base line above).

NBL



The teams: Page 8, bottom—Detroit Tigers, 1902, featuring Win Mercer (top, second from right), Kid Gleason (bottom, same position), and Deacon McGuire (middle, far right), he of the 26-year big league career. Page 9, bottom—New York Highlanders, 1903, with Jack Chesbro (middle, far right), the underrated Jess Tannehill (bottom, second from right), and Kid Elberfeld (middle, second from left); above, the star-studded Pittsburgh Pirates of 1903 with Hans Wagner and Tommy Leach at the top left, Fred Clarke in the middle with Ginger Beaumont and Jimmy Sebring flanking him on the left and right, and Ed Doheny (middle, left) and Deacon Phillippe (bottom, right). In the action shot, the Cubs' Jack Pfiester winds up as three Hitless Wonders take their leads. Tinker, Evers, and Chance play in to cut off the run in the then scoreless Game Three of the 1906 Series.

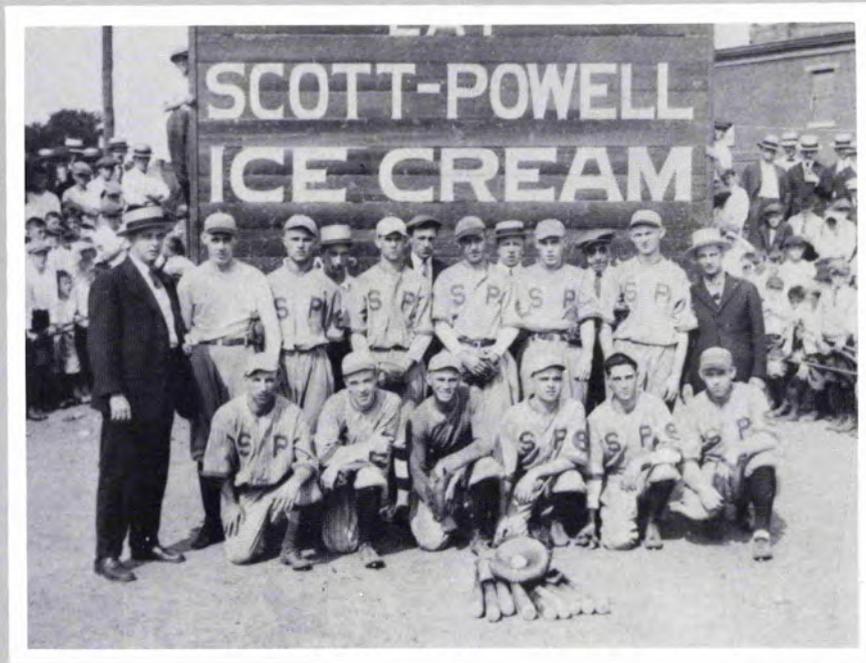


NBL

Two teams of 1905: above, the Augusta club of the Sally League, who somehow managed to finish fourteen games under .500 despite the presence of future major leaguers Eddie Cicotte, Nap Rucker, Clyde Engle, and Ty Cobb (top, third from right). Late in the season, Cobb (middle, third from right) was purchased by Detroit, where he joined Sam Crawford, Bill



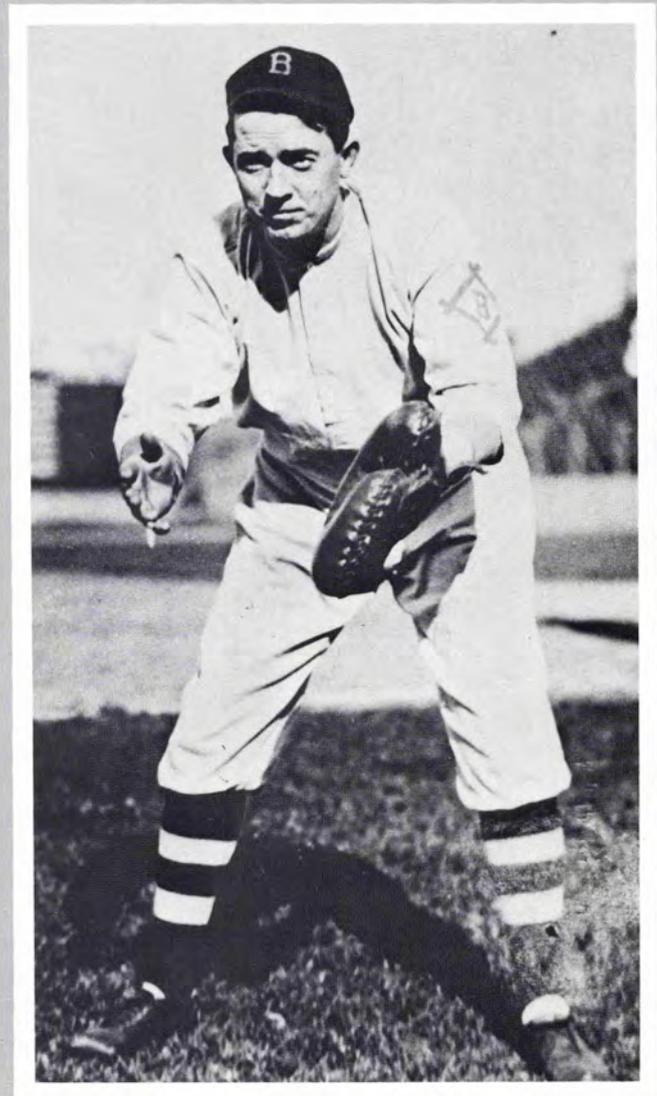
BRACE



NBL



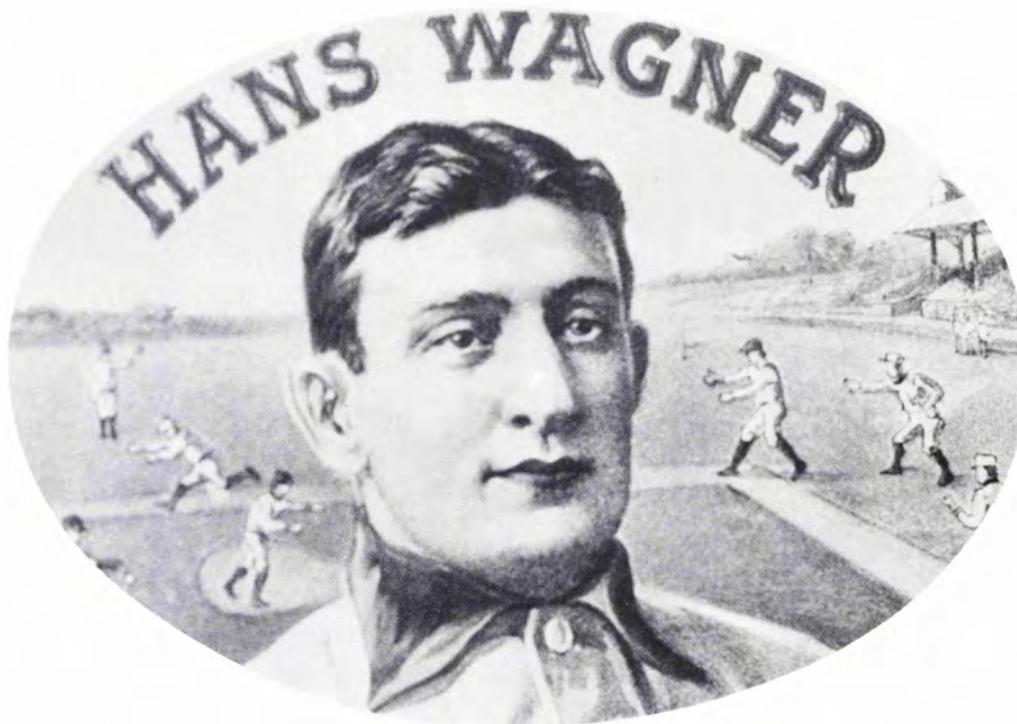
PAT QUINN, SPORTS COLLECTORS STORE



GOLDSTEIN

Donovan, and Germany Schaefer. In 41 games he batted a mere .240, but never again was he to bat less than .320. Catcher Bill Bergen, on the other hand (pictured at the right), broke in with a .179 mark in 1901—which proved to be one of his better seasons: in 346 at bats in 1909, for example, he batted .139 with only *three* extra-base hits! Bergen was a great receiver or he couldn't have lasted eleven seasons in the big show, but it is probably disparaging to Altoona and the Scott-Powell Ice Cream Company to call his batting bush league. Baseball was booming in the first decade of the century, and no town worth the name lacked a first-class club.





Honus Wagner, the complete ballplayer. John McGraw called him the greatest he had ever seen, better even than Cobb or Ruth. With that awesome blacksmith's build, he was the most unlikely looking shortstop the game has ever seen (yes, Oriole fans, more odd than Cal Ripken). In fact, it was not until his seventh season in the majors, after stints at first base, third, and the outfield, that he was deemed agile enough to play the game's most difficult position. In the years that followed, he led the league at one time or another in nearly every offensive and defensive category, from chances per game and stolen bases through batting average and RBIs. A sidelight: Wagner's legendary T206 cigarette card is now valued at \$25,000 because he blocked its distribution, allegedly to take a stand against smoking. How then to explain the cigar label above?

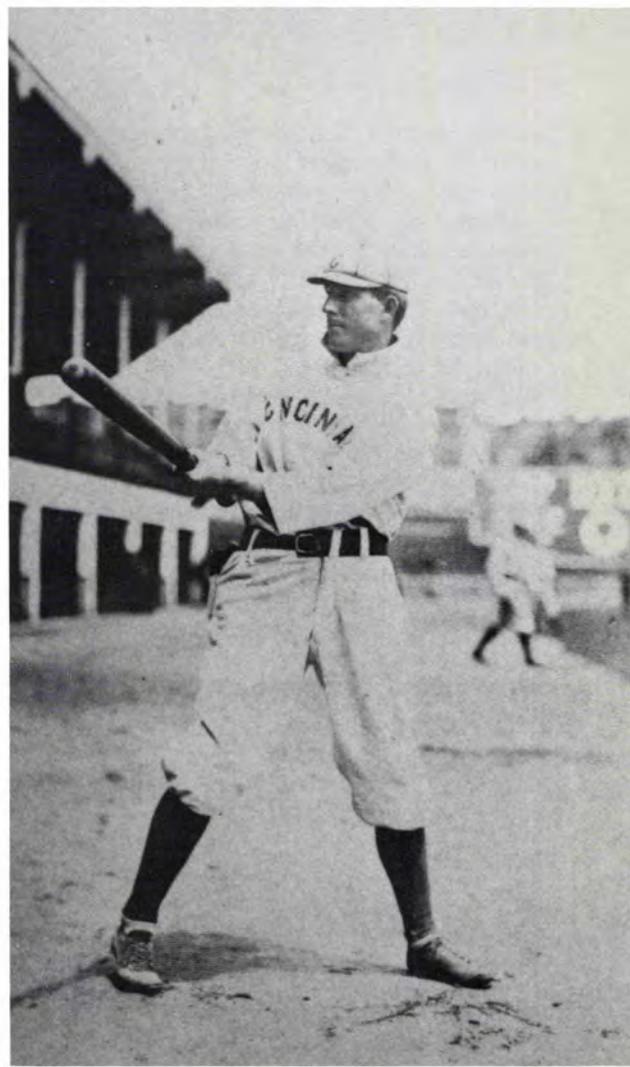




NBL



LC



They had faces then, as Gloria Swanson once said of her silent-film contemporaries. The appeal of baseball in the early years of the century was not only sport but also spectacle, and players were not loath to be theatrical.

Counterclockwise from the left: a bunch of Highlanders (in the frock coats) and Athletics await game time, 1906; a fat, forty, and flamboyant Cy Young, 1907; a 1905 shot of Cy Seymour, a forgotten star who won 25 games as a pitcher in 1898, then led the National League in batting (.377) as an outfielder; Hughie Jennings, the great shortstop of the '90s whose trademark was the piercing cry "Ee-yah," here shown as a Phillie first baseman in 1902; Boston's Jimmy Collins, the nonpareil third baseman, picturesquely posed in 1905; and Sam Crawford, the great slugger of the dead ball era and all-time master of the triple (312).

OVERLEAF: Happy Jack Chesbro, the spitballer whose total of 41 wins for the Highlanders in 1904 has not been equaled since.



THORN



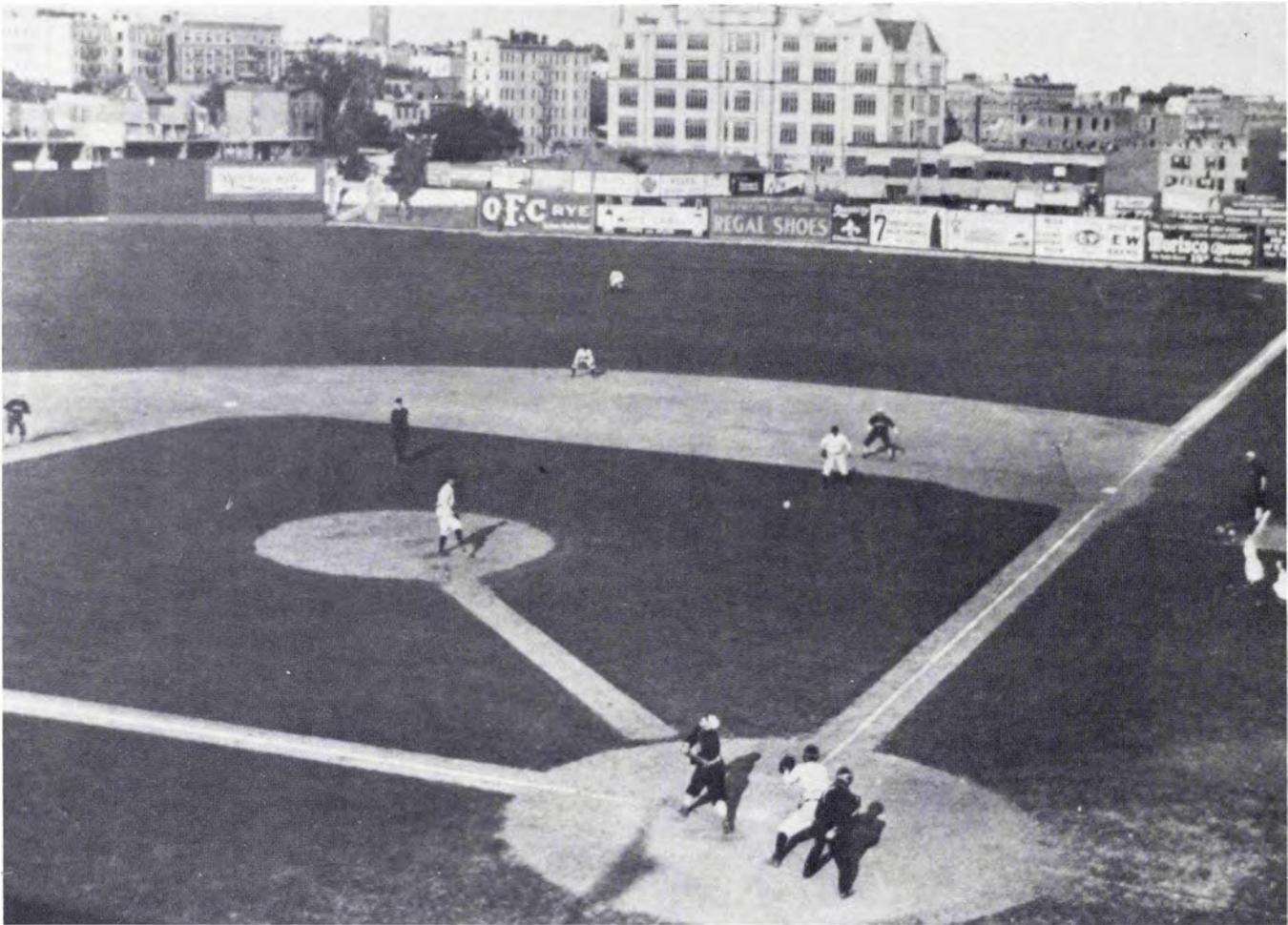
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WRHS



WRHS



NBL

Two views of New York's rickety Hilltop Park, 1906, now the site of Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. Above, a game against the White Sox. Note where first baseman Hal Chase is playing—maybe the stories about him fielding bunts on the third base side are true after all.

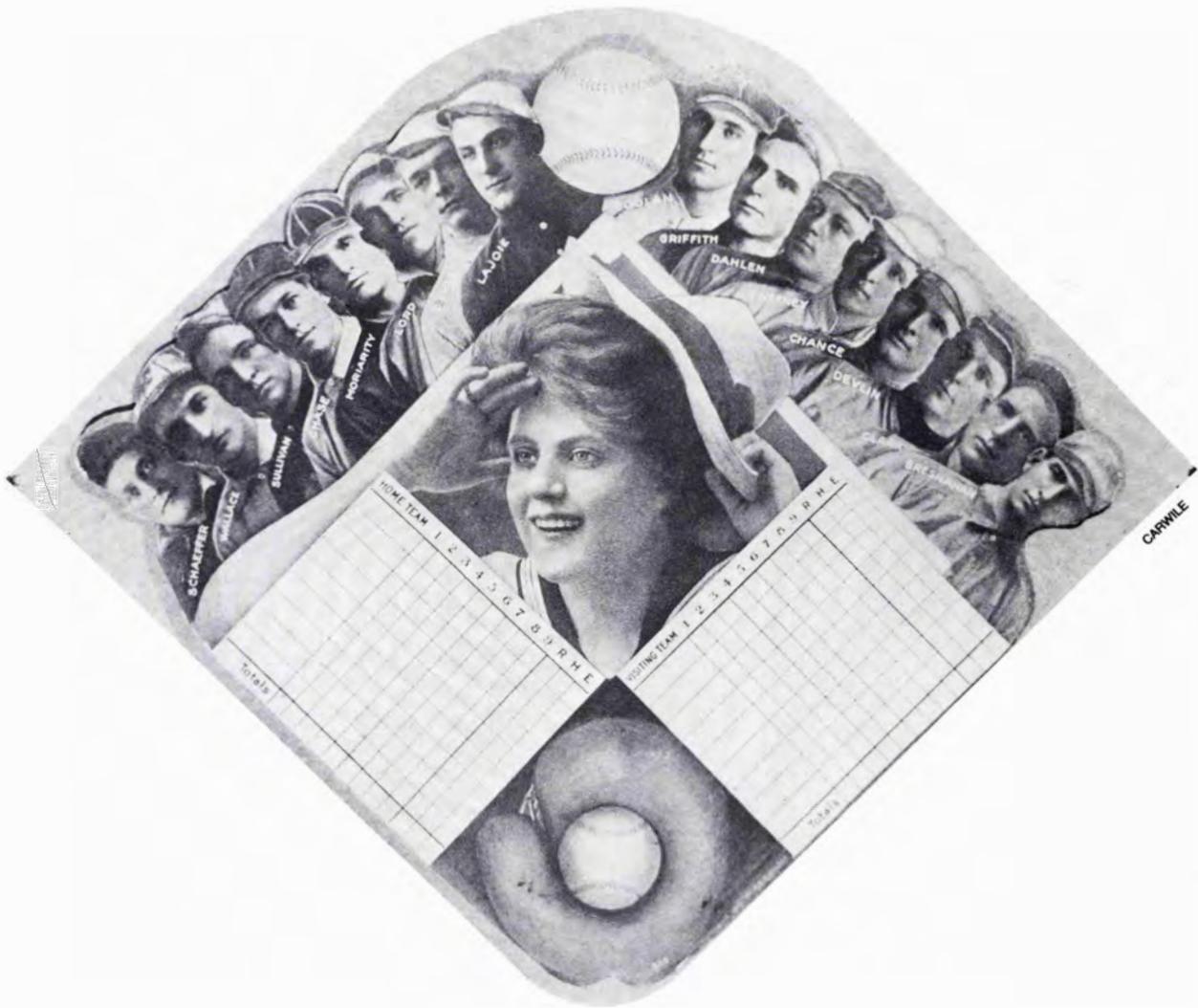


NBL

Even before the National Agreement of 1903, the National and American Leagues were squaring off in postseason all-star games. The aggregate portrayed at the right barnstormed clear across country in 1902, playing against each other and in mixed competition with California League teams. The major leagues may have ventured no farther west than St. Louis until 1958, but the baseball played in the West was high caliber even before the turn of the century. The same could be said of such itinerant professionals as the Nebraska Indians (facing page, bottom), Cuban X-Giants, House of David, Bloomer "Girls," et al. On the facing page at the top is an unusual scorecard featuring some stars of the two leagues, ca. 1909.



NBL-ALL



GOLDSTEIN



Here are six images recalling the great one, Tyrus Raymond Cobb, whose slashing, dashing, demonic style dominated the dead ball era. Twelve batting championships in thirteen years; a stolen base mark that would not be eclipsed for sixty years; a lifetime batting average of .367: all right, so he wasn't a nice guy—nobody's perfect. After joining Detroit on August 28, 1905, he made few base hits and fewer friends; his place on the 1906 team was by no means assured when the picture below was taken in spring training. But using the split-hand grip so popular in the previous century but fast becoming archaic, he batted .320 his first full year, .323 in his last (1928, age 41), and over .400 three times in between. He managed the Tigers in his last six years with them, beginning in 1921, and finished up as one of Connie Mack's Athletics in the same outfield with Tris Speaker and Zack Wheat.

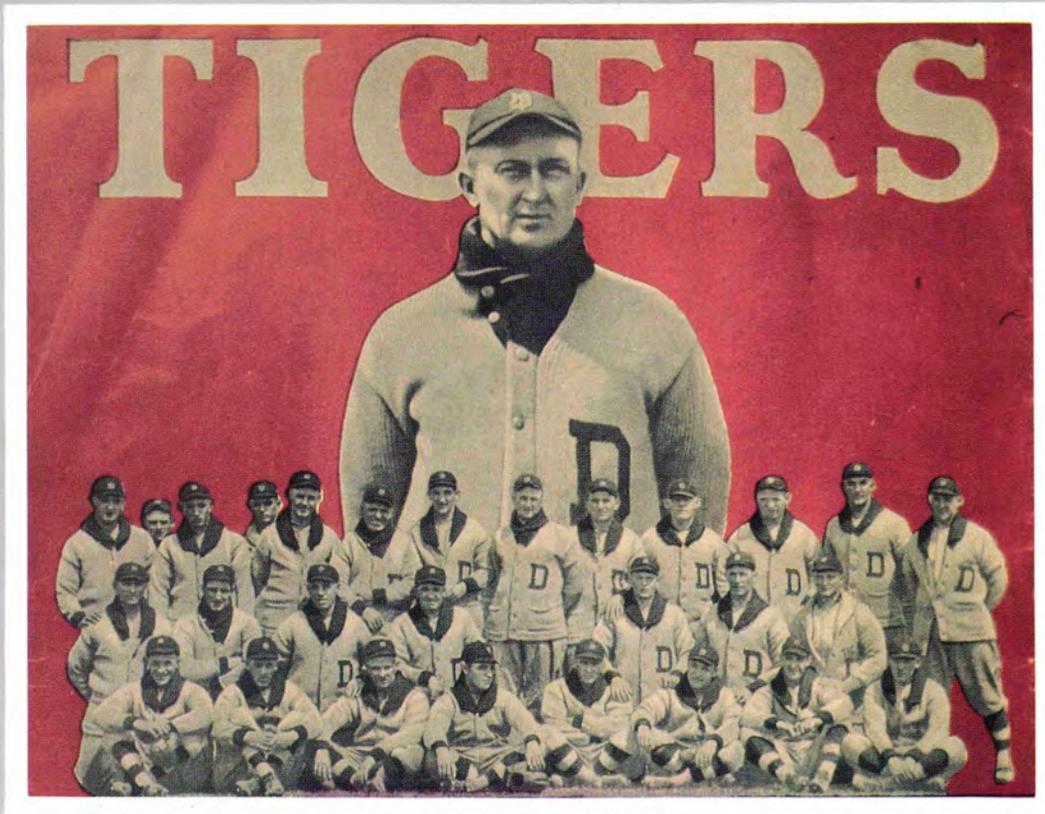
WRHS



GOLDSTEIN



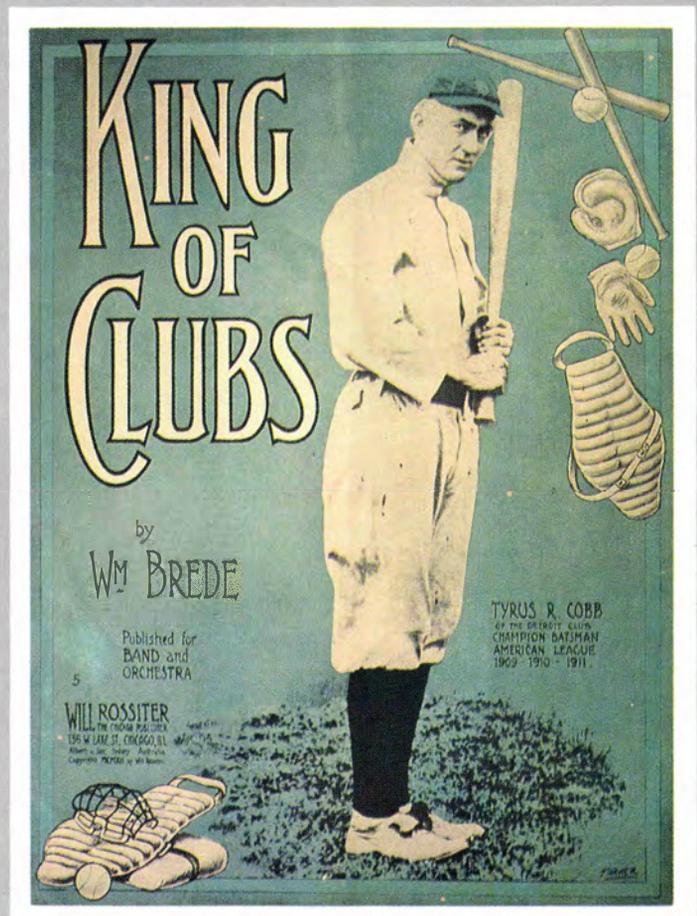
NBL



PAT QUINN, SPORTS COLLECTORS STORE



NBL



PAT QUINN, SPORTS COLLECTORS STORE



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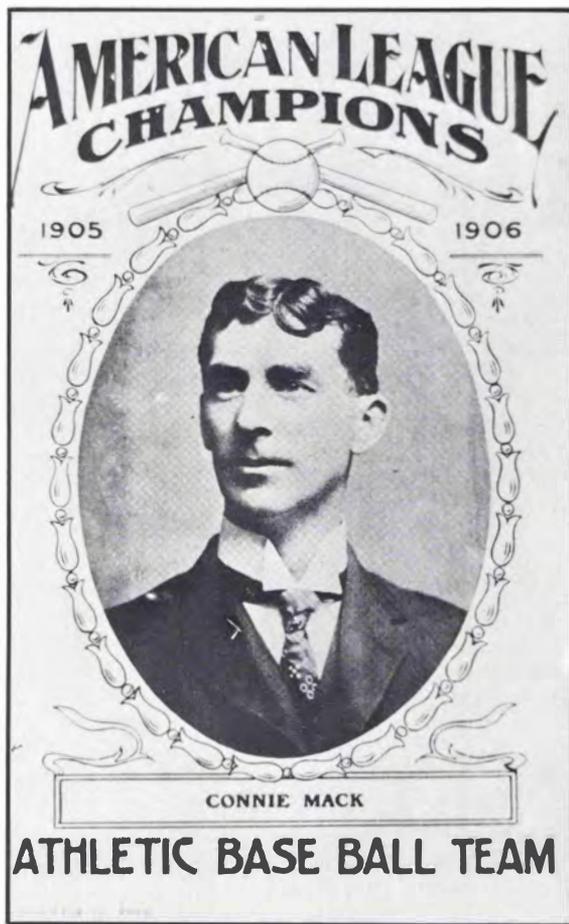
Above, the celebrated photo of Cobb's gashing the arm of the A's Frank Baker on August 24, 1909. Cobb received numerous death threats upon his next appearance in Philadelphia. *The Sporting News* editorial of the week read: "Complaints that Ty Cobb uses his spikes to injure and intimidate are so common . . . the list of his victims is too long to attribute the injury of all to accident or to the awkwardness of the victim." Yet Cobb claimed to his dying day that he was merely trying to evade the tag, and that Baker was blocking the bag unfairly. You be the judge. At the left, Managers Frank Chance of the Cubs and Hughie Jennings of Detroit confer with Cobb during the 1907 World Series. Below, those triumphant Cubbies of '07 and a view of game action at West Side Park.



GOLDSTEIN

A YARD OF THE NATIONAL GAME

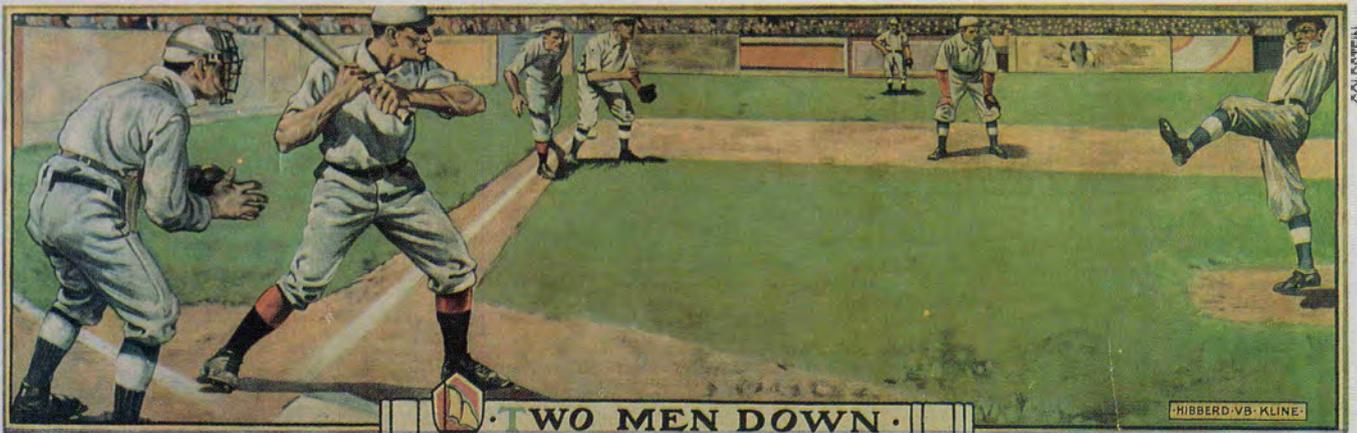
Chicago Baseball Club. World's Champions and Record Breakers
Winners National League Pennant 1906 and 1907, World's Pennant 1907



FOSTER (all)



Here, eight rare scorecards depicting the champion A's of 1904-5 (practice then was for the flag winner one year to be called champions the next).



GOLDSTEIN

DEDICATED TO CHARLES A. GOMISKEY.

THE WHITE SOX MARCH

1907

WORLD'S CHAMPIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

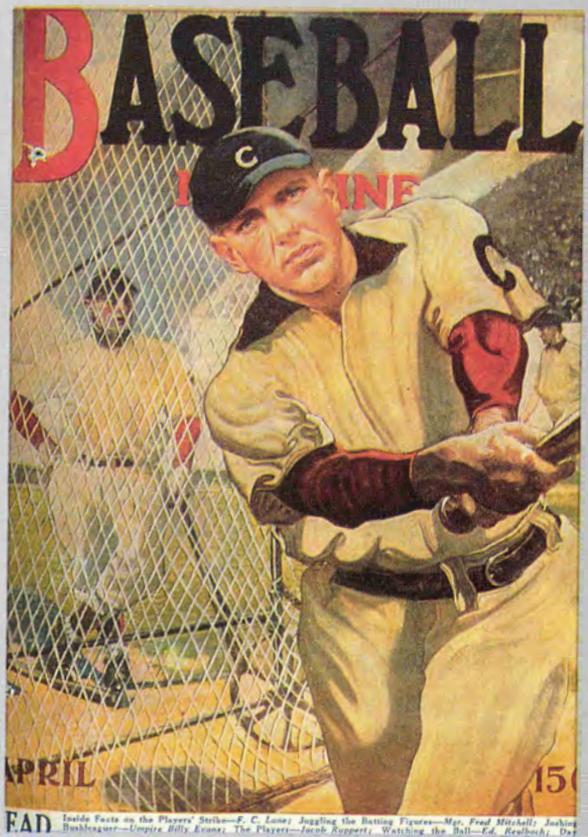
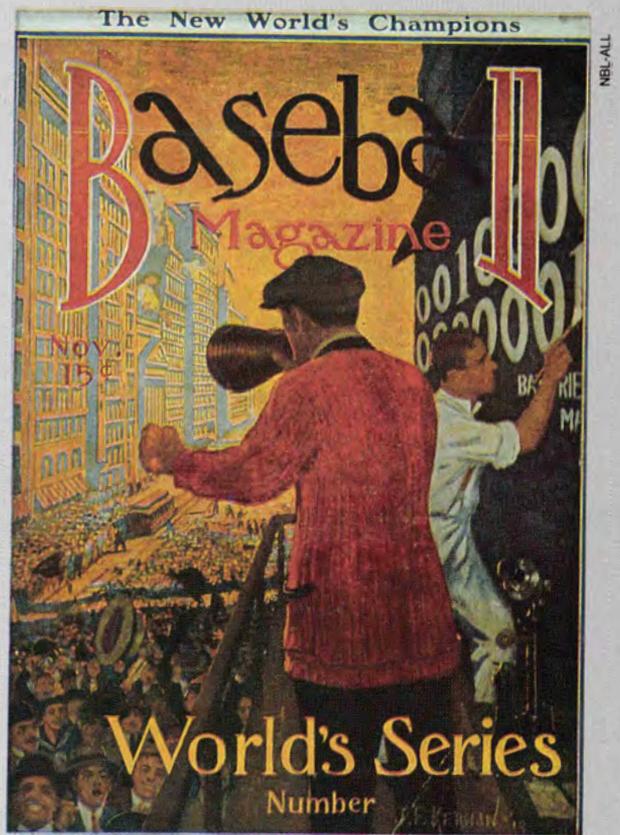
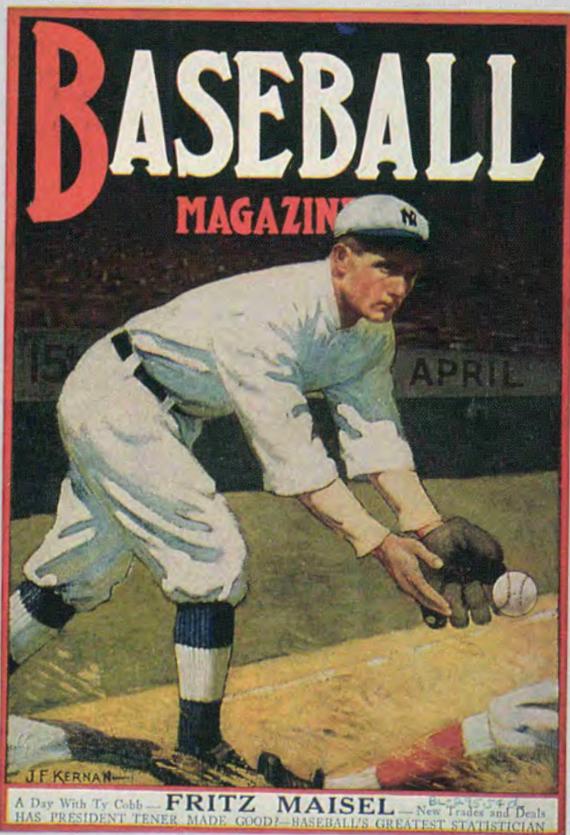
RAY-RAY

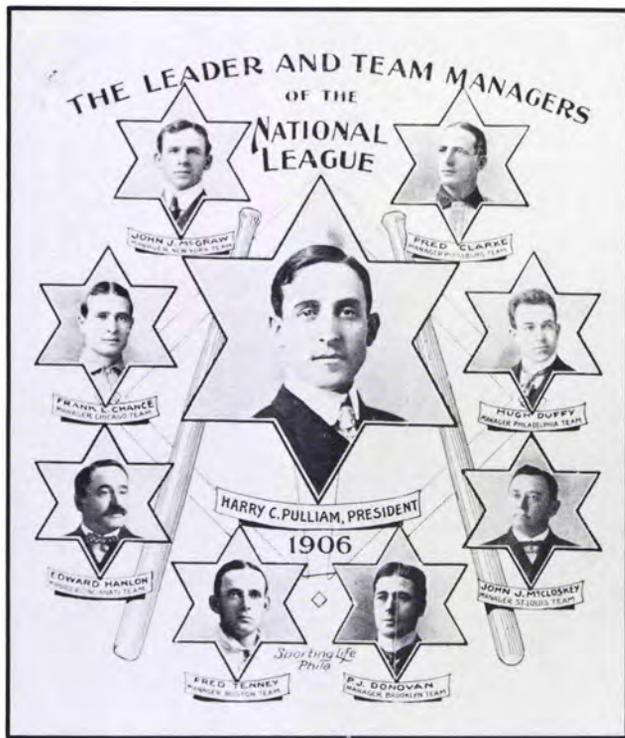
By T.F. Durand,
COMPOSER OF
"TWINKLING STARS."

Tomaz F. Deuther,
MUSIC PUBLISHER.
516 W. CHICAGO AV. CHICAGO, ILL.

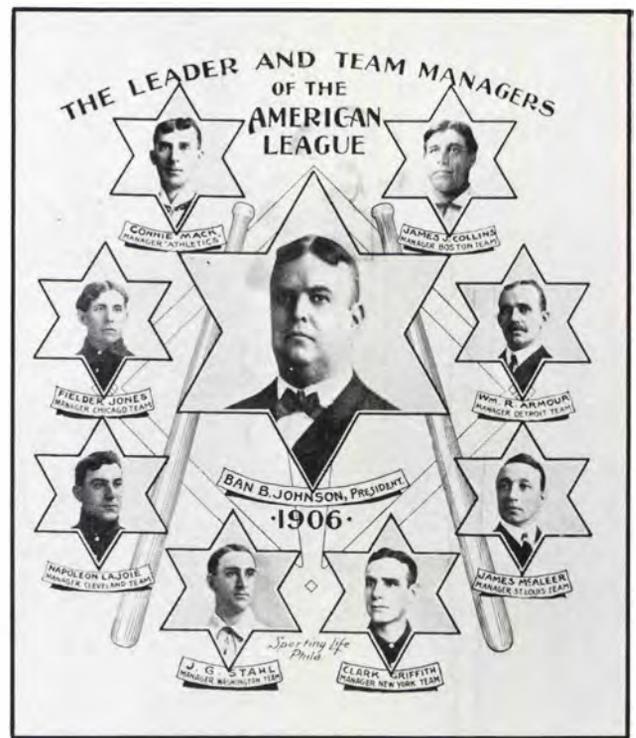
NBL

Has any period of baseball produced such depth of color and strength of design? From advertising art and sheet music fancy through the glorious paintings that adorned the covers of *Baseball Magazine*, the dead ball era set a lofty standard.





CARWILE



CARWILE

Ban Johnson broke the grip of the National League, but the National League broke Harry Pulliam's grip on life. Having ascended to the NL presidency at the age of 32, the high-strung, punctilious Pulliam rubbed many the wrong way. His particular *bete noire* was John McGraw, who in 1905 hauled Pulliam into court and three years later, after the Merkle incident, vilified him no end. The latter surely played a part in his nervous breakdown of February 1909—look at the tension in his face (far left) in the National Commission portrait below, taken in January—and his suicide in July. To the right of Pulliam are Garry Herrmann, Ban Johnson, and J. E. Bruce. On the opposite page, a Highland fling, a first-base king, and the antics of spring (Clark Griffith, Hal Chase, and sundry New Yorkers). In the silly picture, Griffith is seated next to oldtime player and sportswriter Sam Crane, and Buffalo Bill Hogg, who nearly was traded for Ty Cobb in 1907 (!) is marked with an "X."



LC



NBL



CARWILE



NBL



Baseball Magazine

APRIL

15 Cents

*Why I signed
with the
Federals*

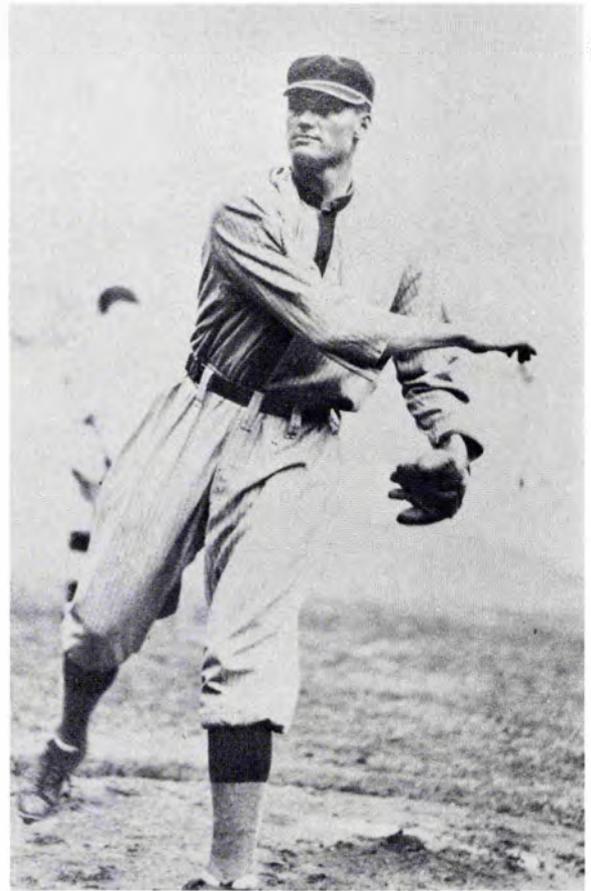
J.F. KERNAN

WALTER JOHNSON NUMBER

GOLDSTEIN



NBL



NBL

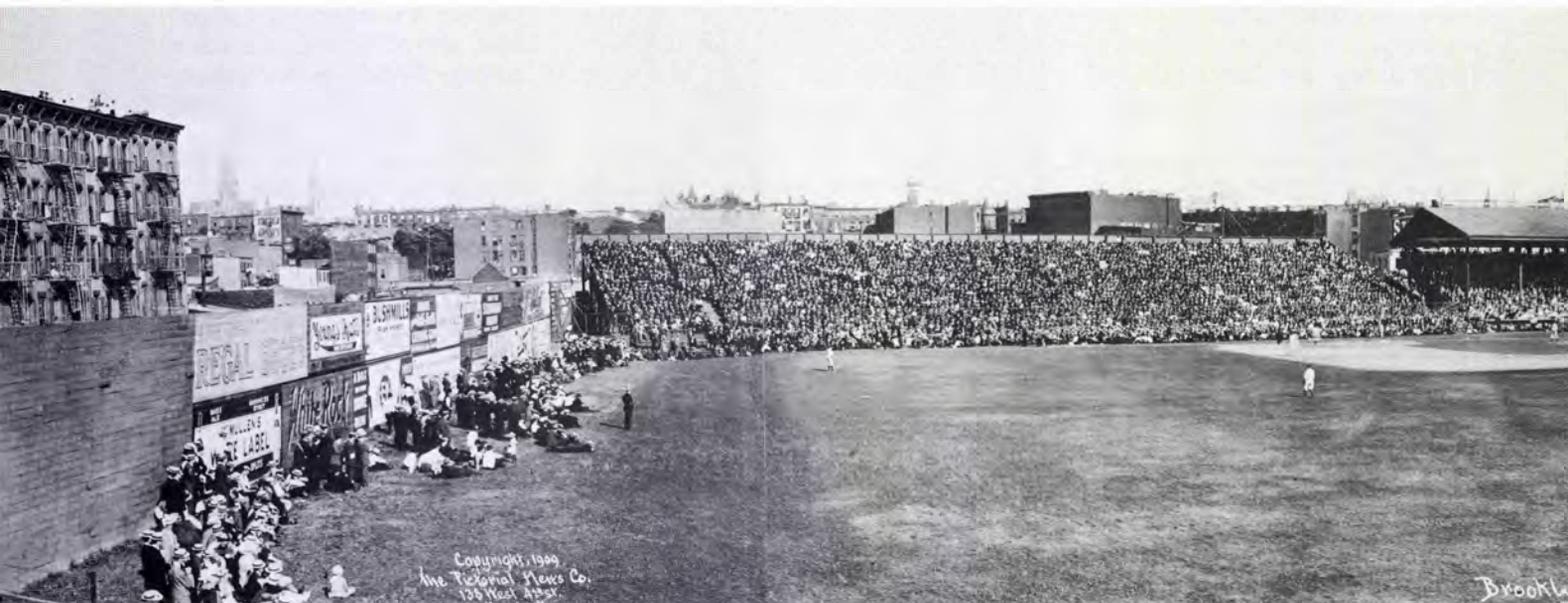
As Cobb stood above all batters of the dead ball era, Walter Johnson was the prince of pitchers. Christy Mathewson, Grover Alexander, and Cy Young were no slouches, to be sure, but The Big Train played with a chronically dreadful Washington team ("first in war, first in peace, and last in the American League") and posted numbers that are almost beyond belief. Over his 21-year career, he had a winning percentage of .599 while his team played at a .460 clip; led the league in strikeouts twelve times, eight of those in succession; threw a staggering 110 shutouts; and won 417 games, second only to Young. In 1913 he had the single greatest season of any hurler in this century: 36-7, with an ERA



of 1.09 that included 11 shutouts, 56 straight scoreless innings and, in 346 innings, 243 strikeouts against only 38 walks. This mild-mannered model for Clark Kent even batted .261 with a pair of homers. He was a full-fledged star, and commanded a star's salary—\$7000 for that golden year of 1913, and \$10,000 for the year following. When owner-manager Clark Griffith offered the same terms for 1915, however, Johnson signed with the Chicago Whales of the Federal League for a whopping increase and signing bonus. Only a visit from Griffith to Johnson's Kansas home (and more money, of course) persuaded him at last to renege on his Fed contract and return to the Senator fold.

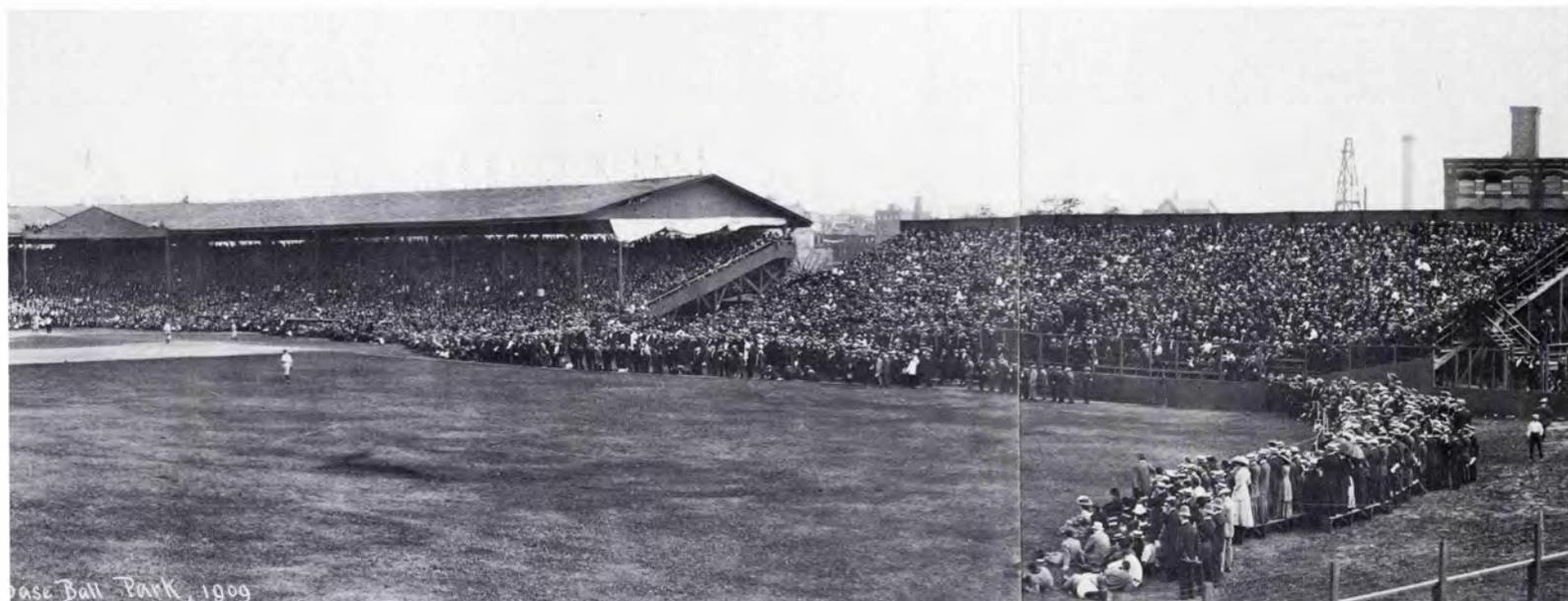


Here are two panoramic views from 1909, the year that marked the dawn of the modern era of stadium design. With the opening of Shibe Park in Philadelphia on April 12, the wooden stadium was on the way out. Forbes Field in Pittsburgh (pictured above) was the next concrete and steel baseball structure, and by 1923 thirteen more concrete and steel palaces would go up, replacing all the wooden parks in the majors (including Brooklyn's Washington Park, pictured below). At the top, the first game ever played at Pittsburgh's Forbes Field, June 30, 1909. The Pirates' opponent was the Cubs, and the attendance was a whopping 30,338. As Philip H. Bess writes in his introduction to *Green Cathedrals*, Phil Lowry's massive study of America's ballparks: "Forbes Field is a textbook illustration of the influence of the urban street on the form of the baseball stadium and playing field. If one looks at Forbes Field from right center field to the left field foul line, he is looking at the layout bequeathed to baseball

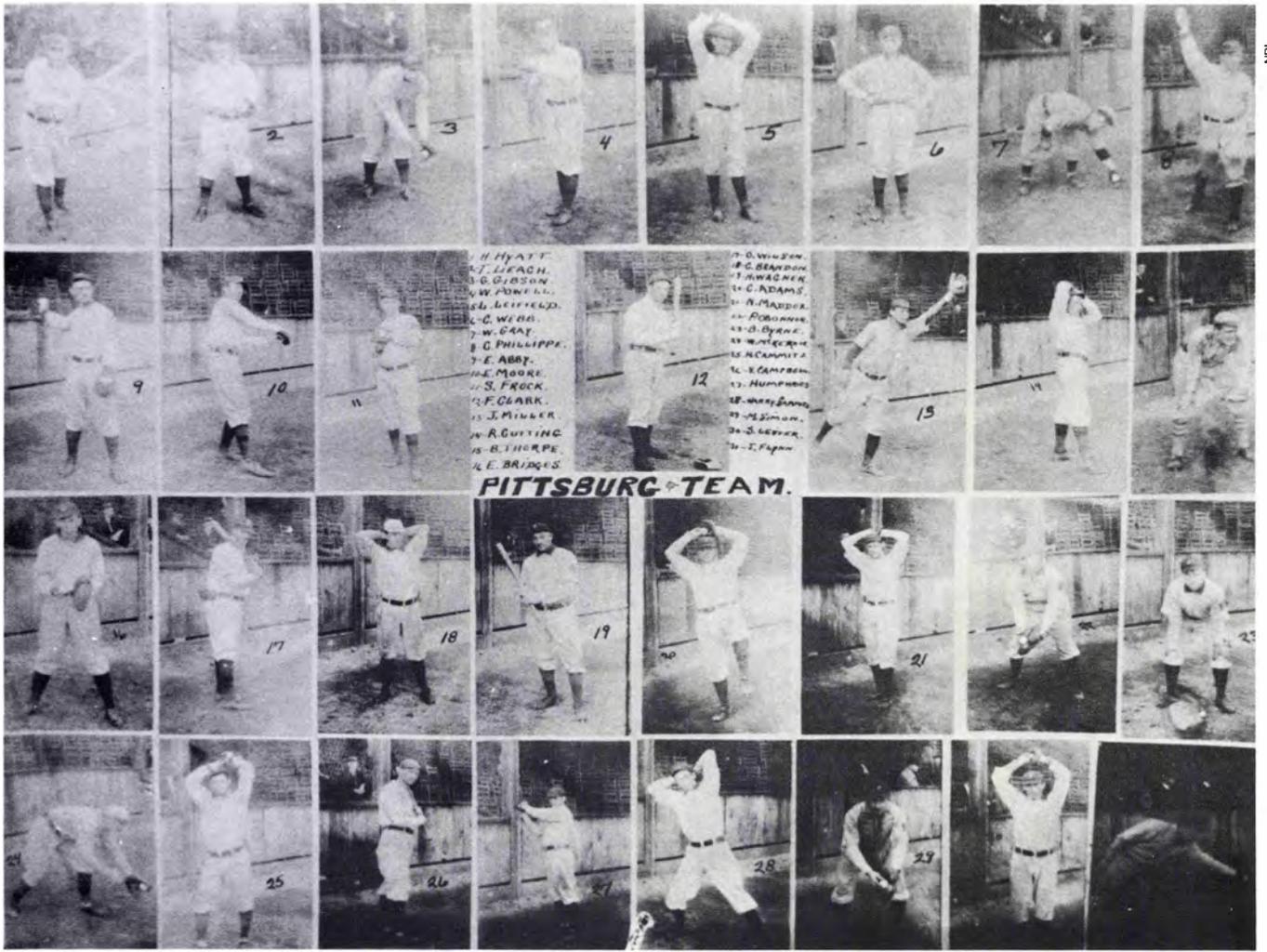




from the wooden stadium era: no permanent seating, distant fences that discourage the home run and gladden the hearts of pitchers. In right field, however, the grandstand that ran from the third base side behind home plate to the first base side simply continued to follow the street into right field, where it made another slightly angled turn, then stopped—in deference to Schenley Park, which extended out beyond center and left fields. The resultant asymmetrical form of the outfield was remarkable, but hardly unique among the stadiums that were to follow.” Nor of the ones that preceded, such as Brooklyn’s Washington Park, which was a cozy 335 feet down the left field line and 295 down the right, but a whopping 500 feet to center! Ebbets Field became the new home of the Dodgers in 1913, but Washington Park, after a fallow season, gave two more years service to the Brooklyn entry in the Federal League, whose owners rebuilt the stands with wood on a concrete base.



Base Ball Park, 1909



NBL

H. HYATT.
 T. LEACH.
 B. GIBSON.
 W. FORD.
 E. LEFIELD.
 C. WEBB.
 W. GRAY.
 S. PHILLIPS.
 E. ABBY.
 H. MOORE.
 S. FRACK.
 F. CLARK.
 J. MILLER.
 R. GUTTING.
 B. THORPE.
 E. BRIDGES.
 D. WILSON.
 C. BRANDON.
 T. WARDEN.
 C. ADAMS.
 A. MADDER.
 F. BOBBER.
 B. DYANE.
 W. WELCHER.
 K. CAMPBELL.
 H. HUMPHREY.
 W. WOODWARD.
 W. SIMON.
 J. S. LEEVER.
 J. P. PAPER.

PITTSBURG TEAM.

NBL

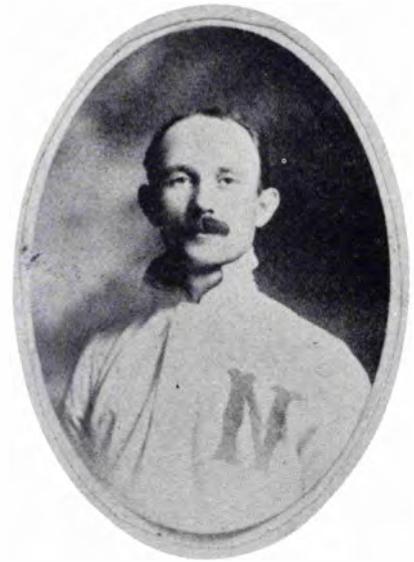


BRACE



On the opposite page is a composite of the Pirates of 1909, who in that year closed out a fabulous decade in which they won the pennant four times and never finished out of the first division. Led throughout that period by player-manager Fred Clarke and the incomparable Wagner, the Bucs were a powerful hitting crew with a penchant for triples. Their pitching was none too shabby, either, with veterans Vic Willis, Red Camnitz, and Lefty Leifeld joined by rookie Babe Adams (bottom), who won all three games he started in the '09 World Series. Also pictured on the opposite page is one of the last games the Pirates played in Exposition Park in 1909, before their June 30 opening of Forbes Field. This page celebrates the practitioners of that rarity of rarities, the unassisted triple play: at the right, Harry (Hal) O'Hagan of Newark, who pulled off the first in a professional league game while playing first base for the Rochester Bronchos of the International League against Jersey City on August 18, 1902; below, second from the left, is Neal Ball of Cleveland, who on July 19, 1909 registered the first such play in major league history, retiring the three Boston players pictured with him (from the left, Amby McConnell, Heinie Wagner, and Jake Stahl).

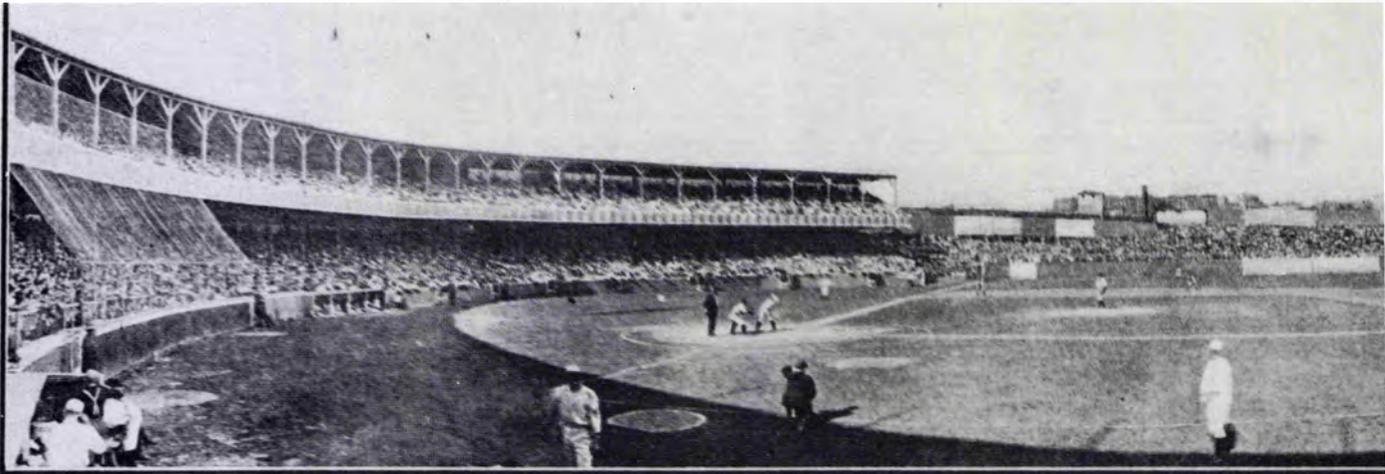
OVERLEAF: New York's three ballparks, from the *Saturday Evening Mail*, July 2, 1910.



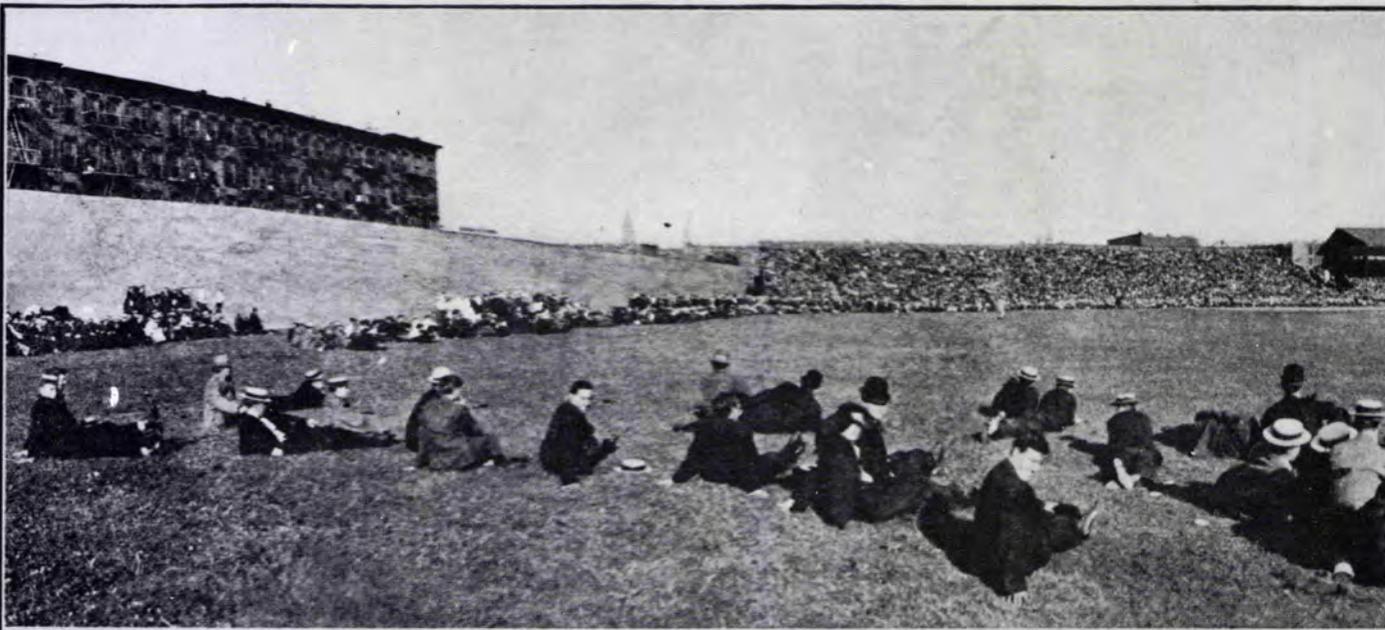
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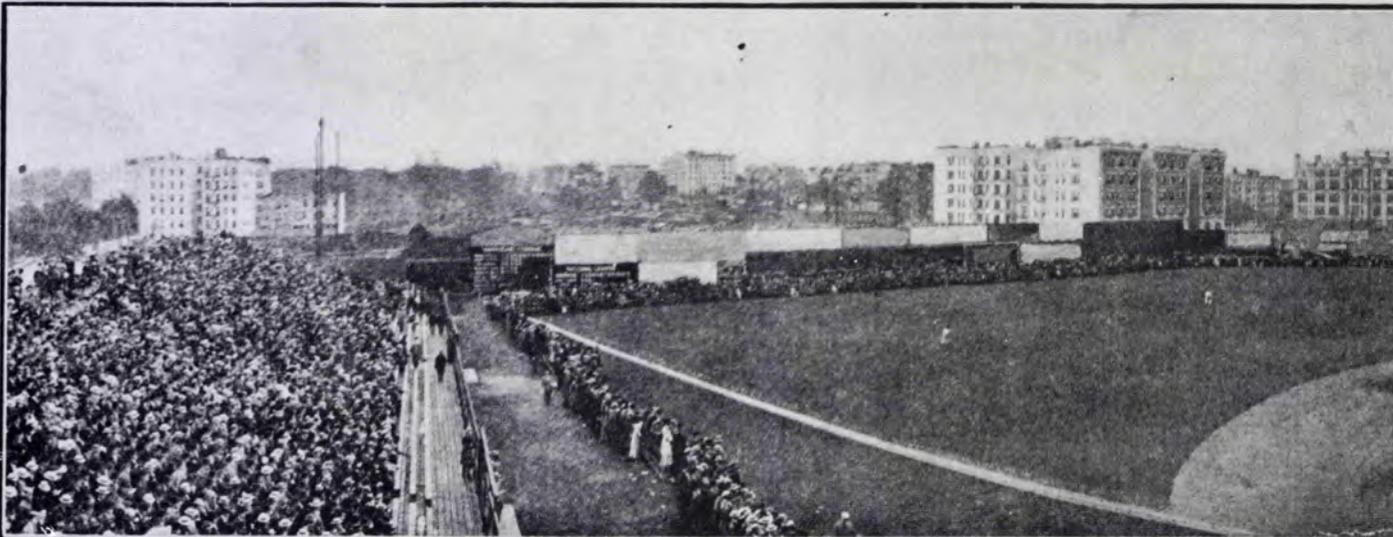
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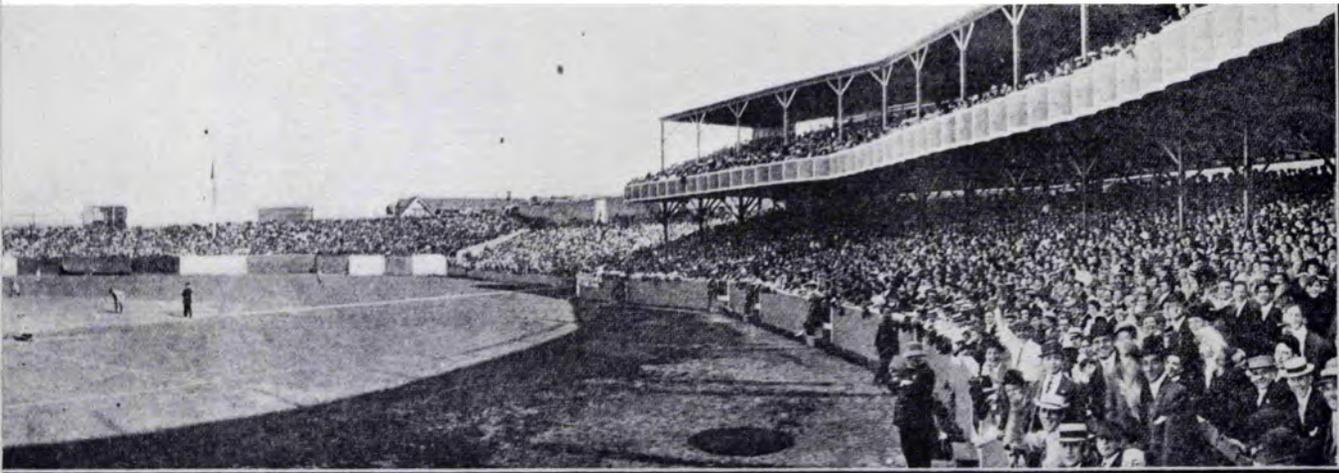
THE POLO GROUNDS—HOME OF THE GIANTS



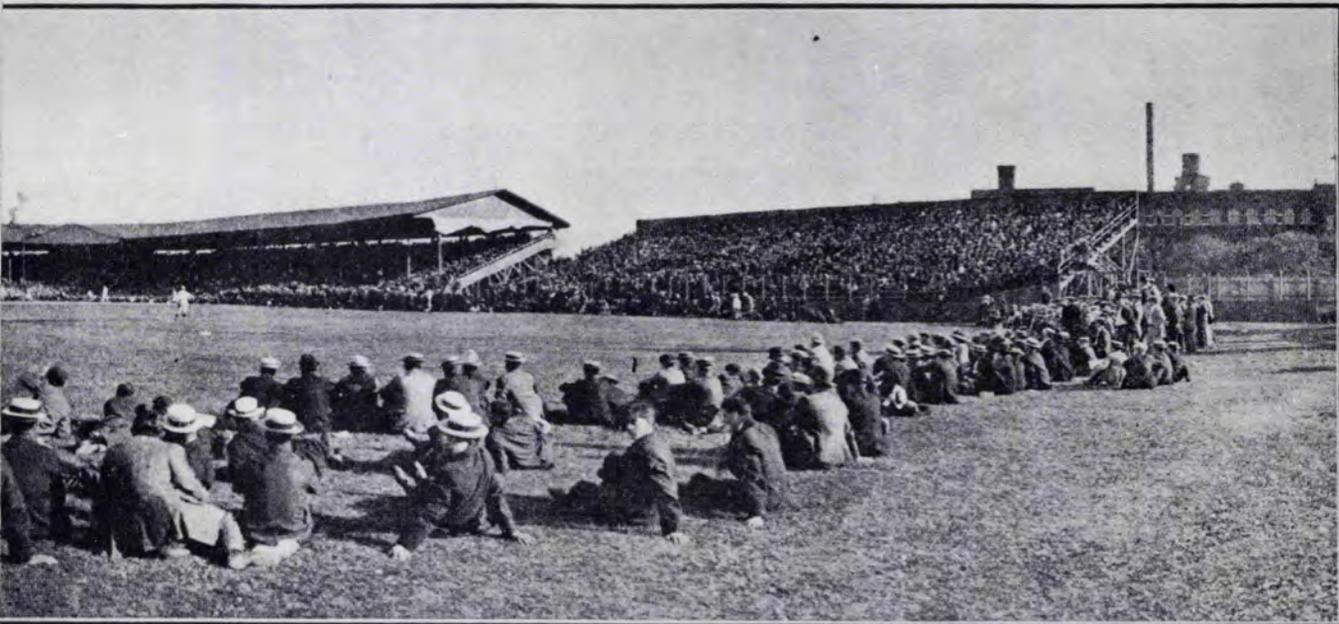
WASHINGTON PARK, BROOKLYN—ON THE OUTFIELD



AMERICAN LEAGUE PARK—THE YANKEES' EXCELLENT WORK



WHICH OFTEN ENTERTAINS 25,000 PEOPLE.



THE LARGEST BALL PARKS IN THE COUNTRY.



THIS SEASON DREW THIS GREAT CROWD ON MEMORIAL DAY.



FRANK PETERS FILLING HIS
FATHER'S SHOES ON THE DIAMOND

L. E. PETERS, ASSISTANT MANAGER

W. S. PETERS, JR., TREASURER

TELEPHONE HAYMARKET 2336

THE CHICAGO UNION GIANTS

BASE BALL CLUB

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1411 GRAND AVENUE

OLDEST COLORED TEAM
ON THE ROAD
OUR 36TH SEASON

PAT QUINN, SPORTS COLLECTORS STORE

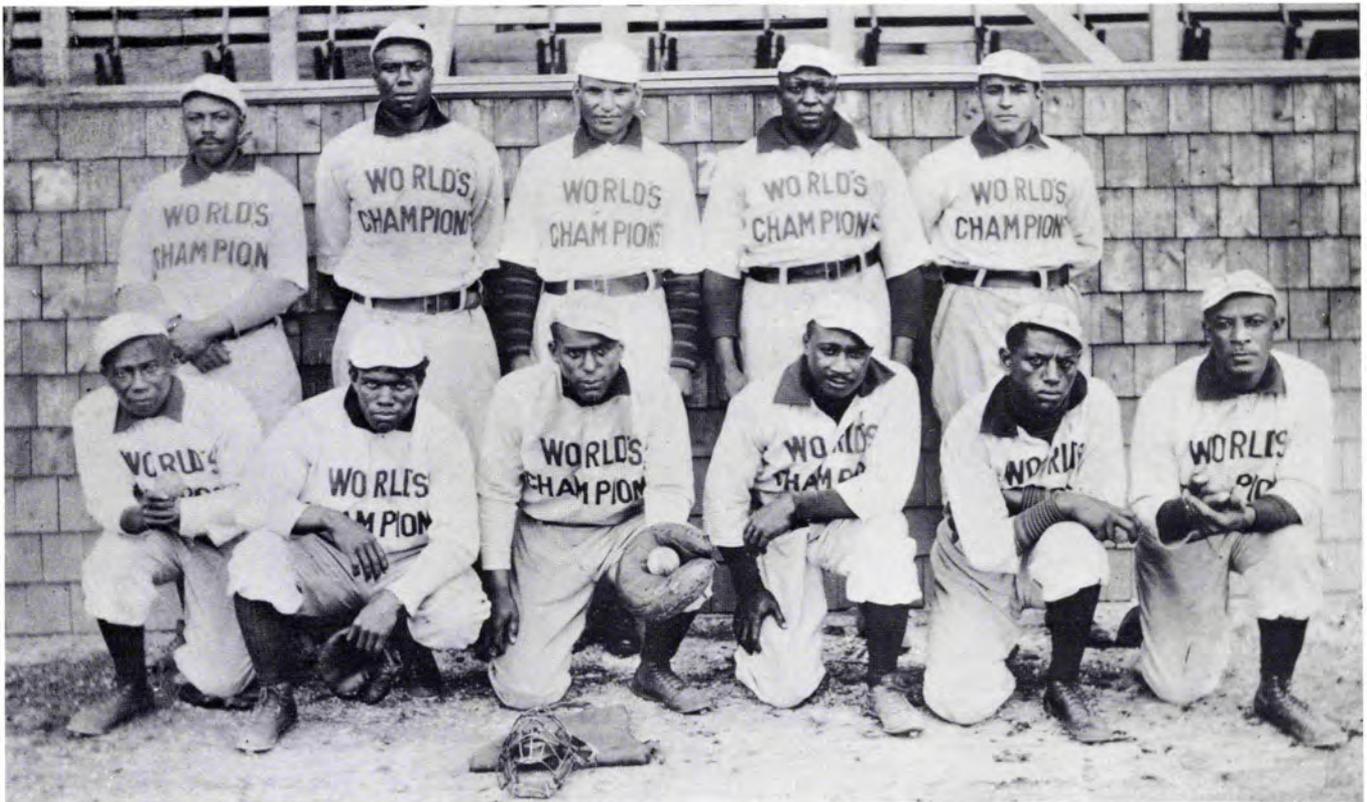


Giants walked the earth in those days—in the world of white baseball, John McGraw's, and where only the ball was white, a plethora of Giants: Cuban, Cuban X, Leland, Mohawk, Quaker, Philadelphia, Chicago American, St. Louis, Bacharach, et al. Below, the Cuban X-Giants ca. 1905, featuring Dan McClellan (bottom, right), and the Mohawk Giants of Schenectady ca. 1915, with Chappie Johnson (front, 2nd from right) and Frank Wickware (top, second from left).

NBL



NBL



GOLDSTEIN

Two images of the 1906 Philadelphia Giants featuring Sol White, Rube Foster, Charlie Grant (top photo, top row, three at right) and Pete Hill (bottom, 2nd from right).



THORN

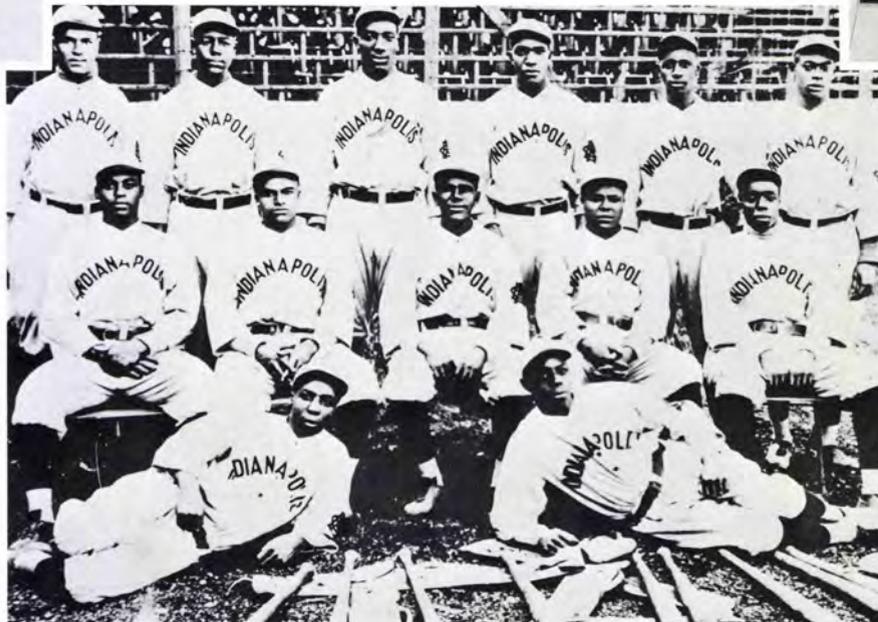


"CHAPPIE" JOHNSON, C.

Portrayed here are two clubs that would later join in the Negro National League, organized by Rube Foster for the 1920 season. Top, the 1915 Kansas City, Kansas, Giants; bottom, the 1917 Indianapolis ABC's (named for the American Brewing Company, which owned them), featuring Oscar Charleston (middle, left), Cannonball Dick Redding and Bingo DeMoss (third and fourth from left, top row). At the right is Cyclone (later Smoky) Joe Williams, pictured in 1910 when he joined Frank Leland's Chicago Giants and at the left is Chappie Johnson.



JOSEPH WILLIAMS, P.

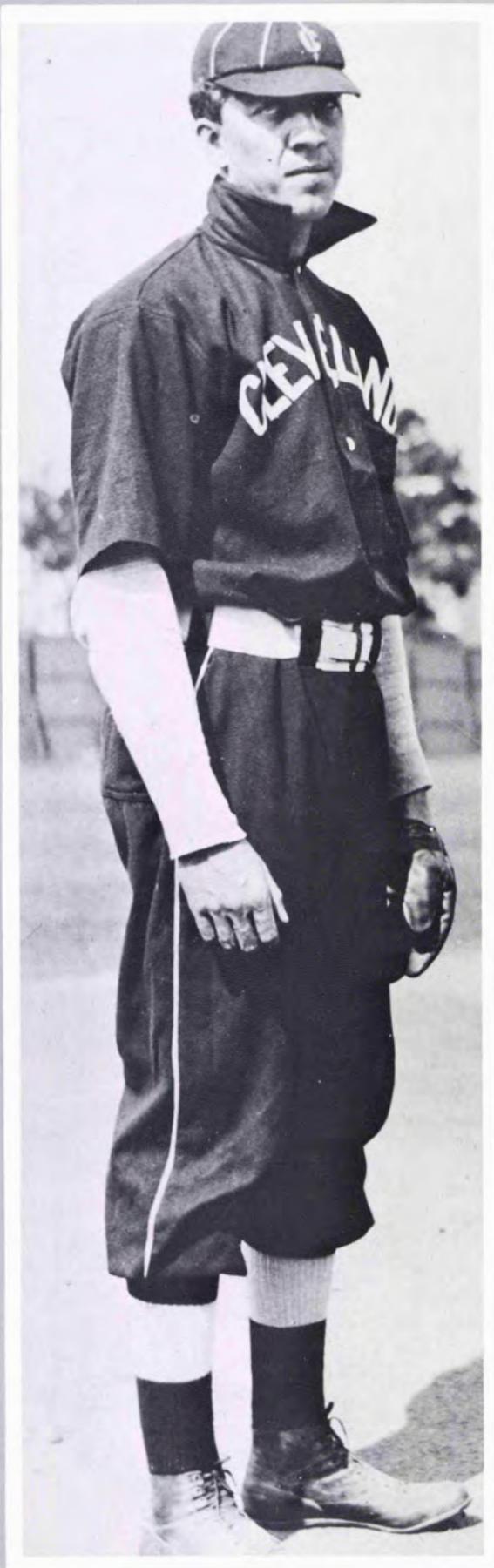


Top: The Lincoln Giants of New York, 1914. Joe Williams had just left this powerhouse team for Rube Foster's American Giants in Chicago. Still, the Lincolns were loaded, with: Dick Redding (middle, left), who threw a perfect game against the Jersey City Skeeters of the International League while striking out 17; Spotswood Poles (top, right), "the black Ty Cobb" who in ten games against white big leaguers batted .610; John Henry "Pop" Lloyd (center), the Hall of Famer of whom Honus Wagner once said, "I am honored to have John Lloyd called the black Wagner. It is a privilege to have been compared with him"; and Louis Santop, the Ruthian slugger whose tape-measure shots earned him the nickname "Big Bertha." Middle: the Hilldales of Philadelphia, ca. 1919, a powerhouse that owner Ed Bolden (top, middle) developed and made lucrative by constructing his own park just outside Darby; their star was Dick Lundy, who was to become the top black shortstop of the 1920s. Bottom: the Detroit Stars of 1920, a team Rube Foster had stocked with some veteran castoffs from his Chicago American Giants. Among these were Pete Hill (middle, second from left), who had started his career with Foster on the Philadelphia Giants back in 1904, and catcher Bruce Petway (top row, third from left), who started with the Leland Giants in 1906 and joined Foster in Chicago in 1910.

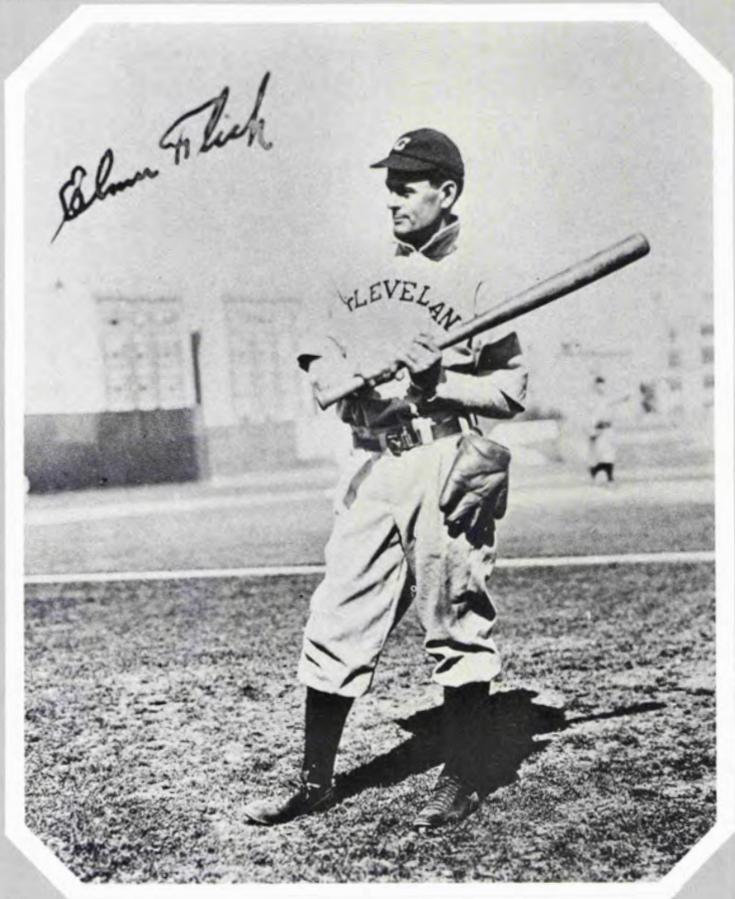


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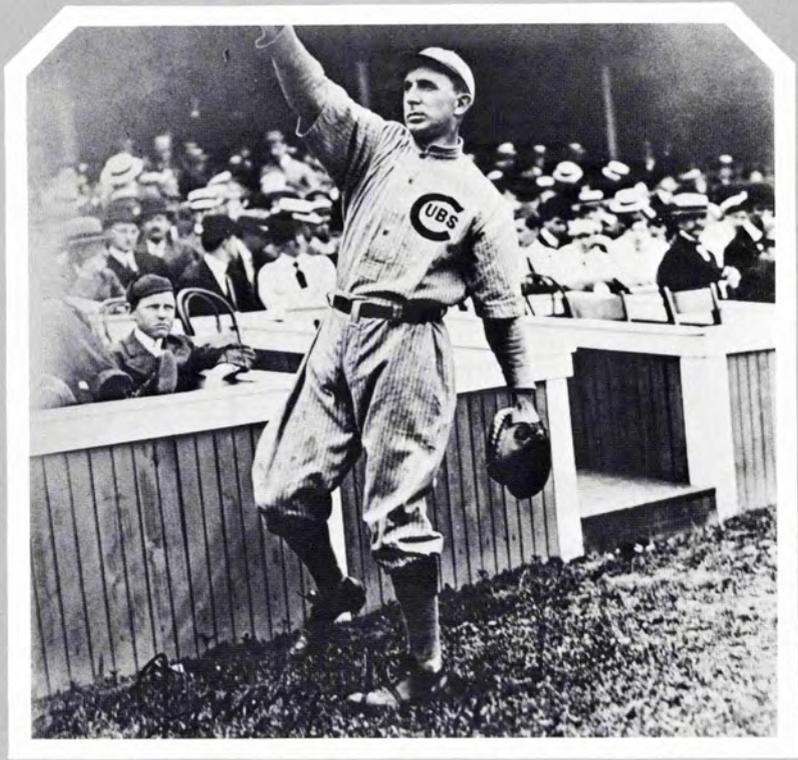


BRACE



NEL

On this spread we see five stars of the period, four of whom are enshrined in Cooperstown and one for whom a good case can be made. Left: Addie Joss, whose accomplishments over a brief career were so great that the Hall of Fame Veterans Committee waived the longevity requirement to admit him. He threw two no-hitters (one a perfect game), 46 shutouts in only eight full seasons, and in 1908 posted an ERA of 1.16. He died at the age of 31, just before the start of the 1911 season. Elmer Flick (above) was another Cleveland star who entered the Hall despite a short career. Opposite, one of the Hall's three "bearcubs fleetier than birds," a deer, and another Cub who in his day was deemed the best catcher in baseball. The Cubs are "Noisy" Johnny Kling at the right and "Crabby" Johnny Evers at the bottom, crashing into the Phils' Red Dooin with considerable elan; the deer is Washington's speedy outfielder Clyde "Deerfoot" Milan, who in 1912-13 stole 163 bases.

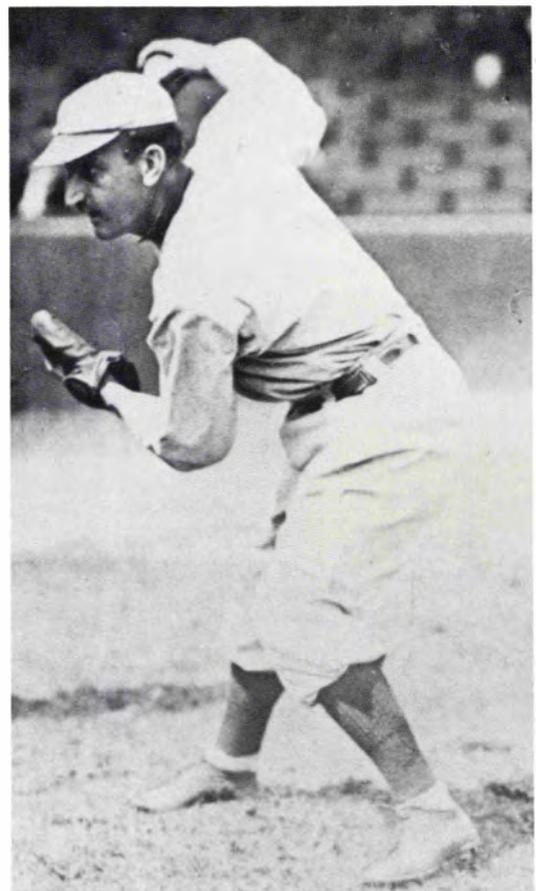


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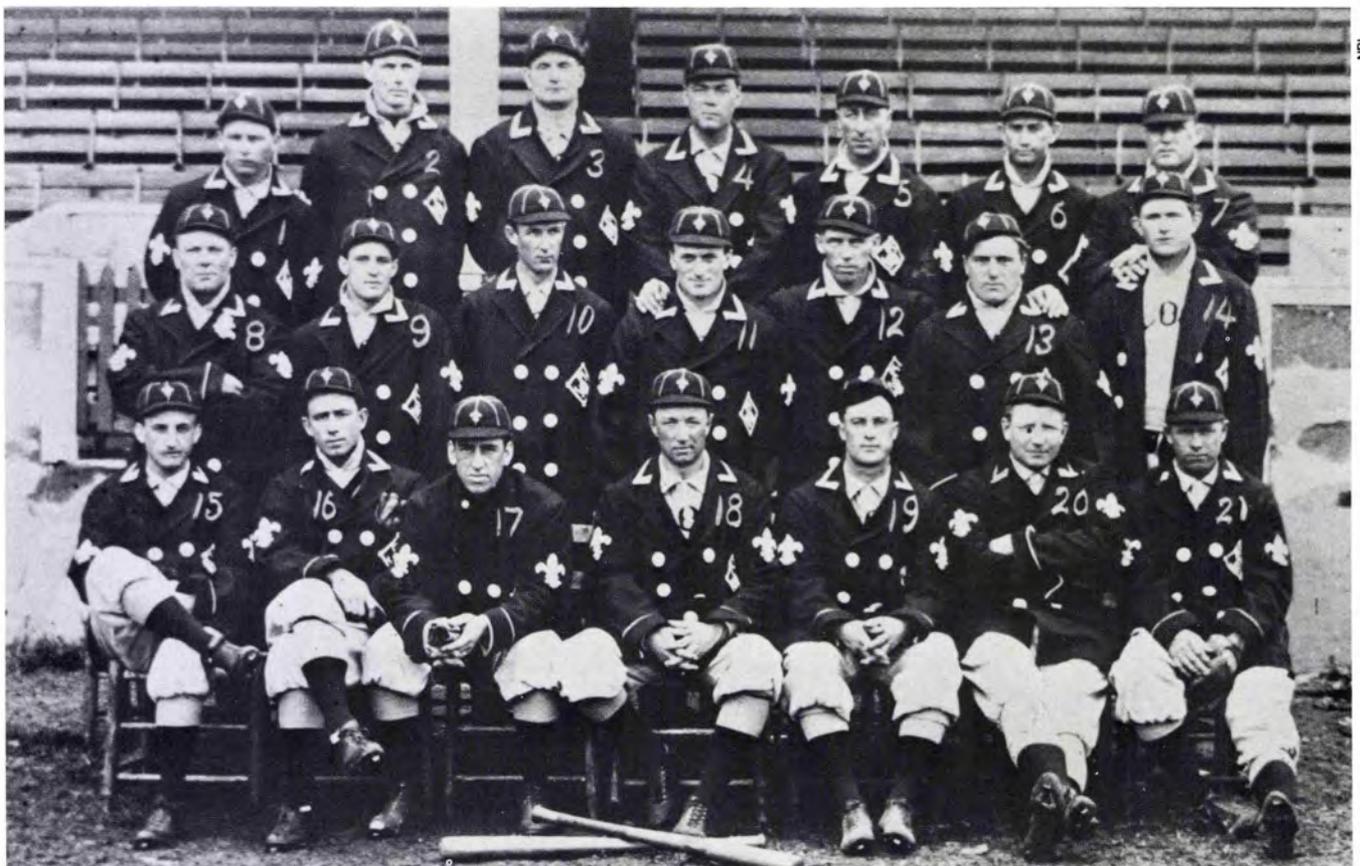




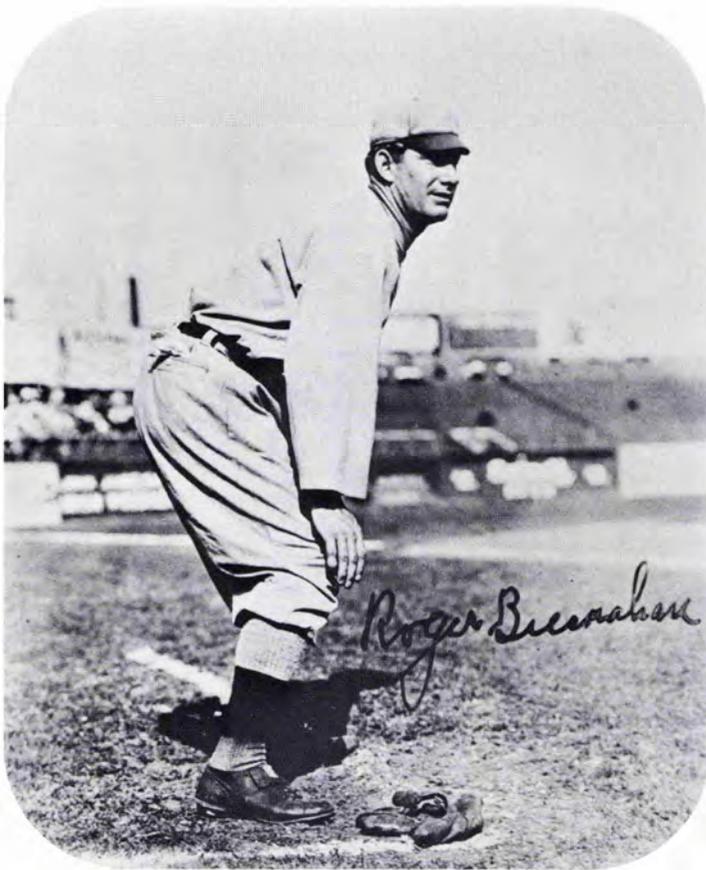
GOLDSTEIN



NBL



NBL

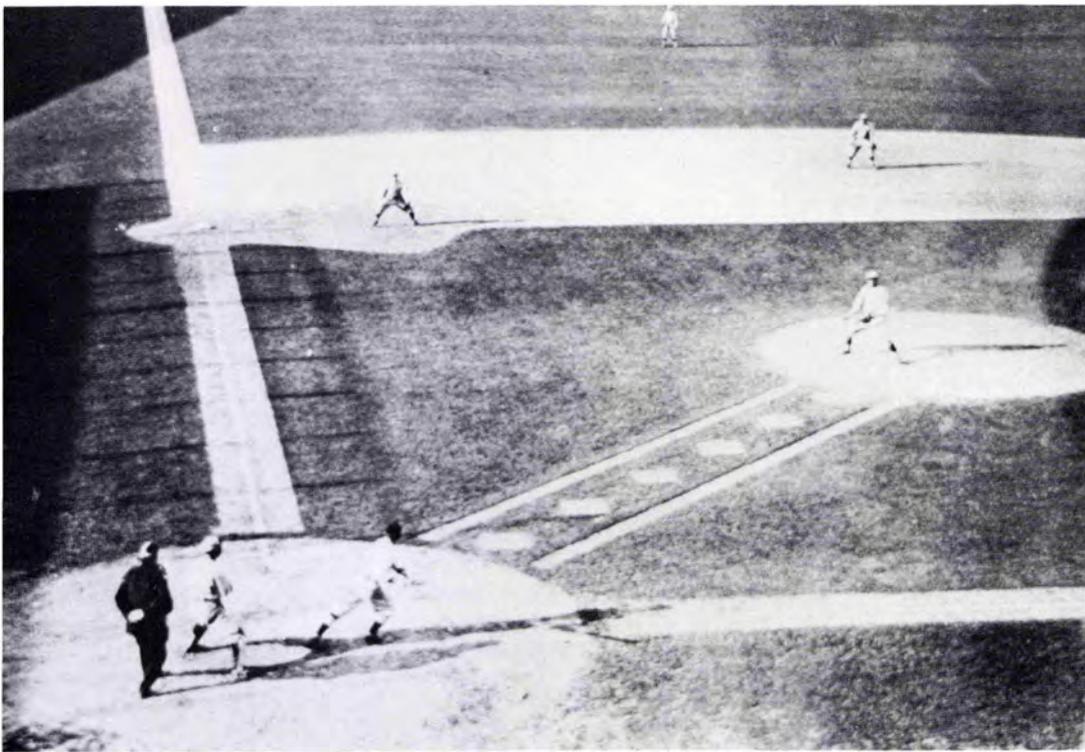


NBL

The dead ball era was not a happy time for St. Louis fans as neither the Cardinals nor the Browns produced a winner. In fact, the Cards were the last of the NL clubs to take a flag (1926), as the Browns were in the AL (1944). Still, St. Louis was home to its share of stars, such as (left to right) Rube Waddell, Bobby Wallace, and Roger Bresnahan. The 1908 teams portrayed below (Browns on the left, Cards on the right) each boasted a screwball pitcher of legendary proportion: Waddell of the Browns (No. 3) and Bugs Raymond of the Cardinals (No. 5); both mixed their baseball with John Barleycorn, lost their abilities prematurely, and died in their thirties.



NBL

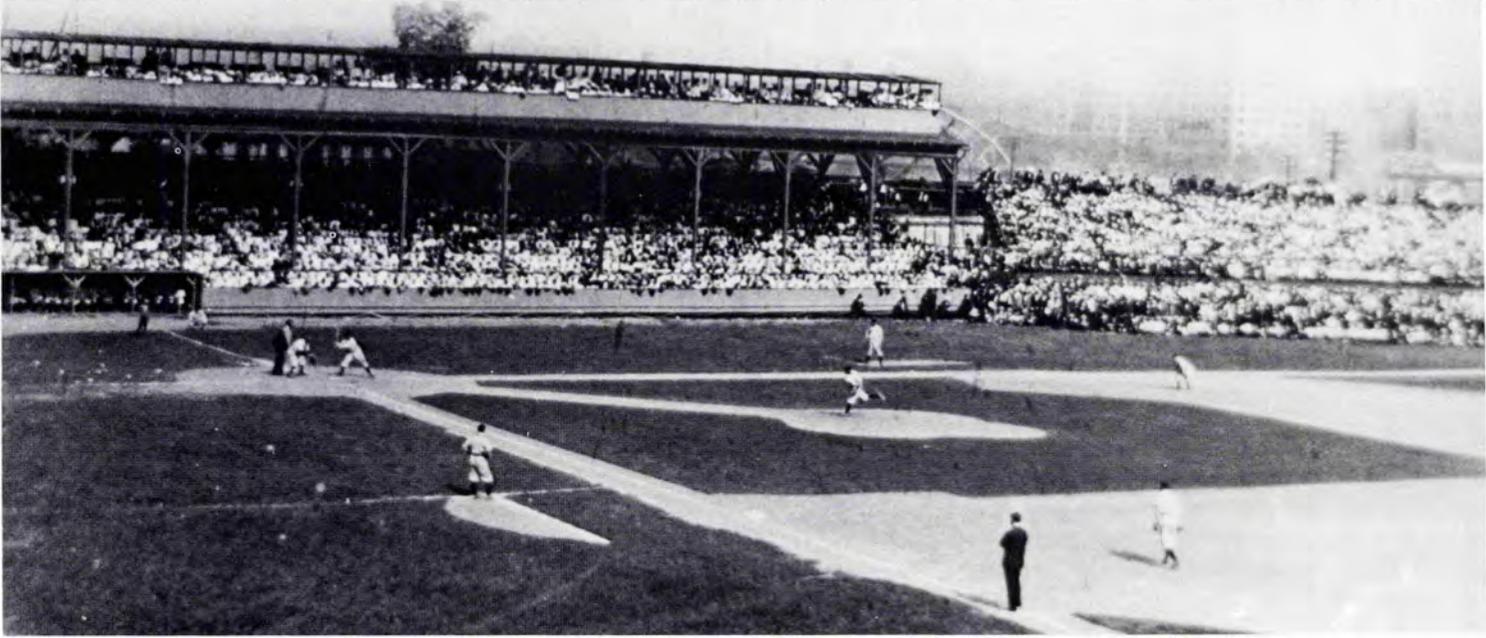


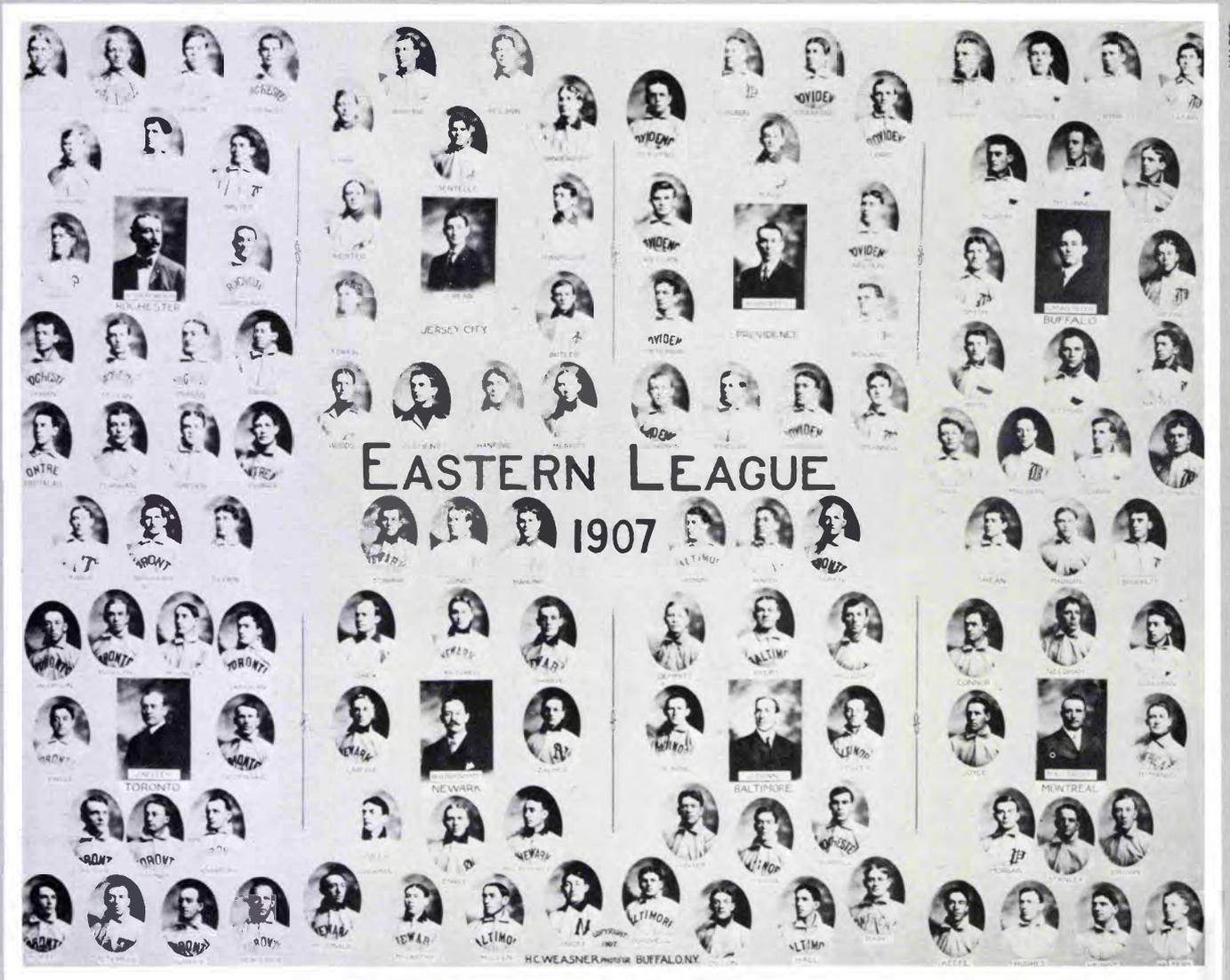
NBL

Take me out to the ballgame. On this page, game action from Robison Field in St. Louis (top) ca. 1907 and West Side Ball Park in Chicago (bottom), 1908. In the Chicago picture, note the gerrybuilt bleachers atop the apartment houses behind the right field wall. Opposite, Hilltop Park (above) and the Polo Grounds below, ca. 1908. In the latter photo, a Cincinnati Red has just crossed first base, probably a tad too late. Does anyone know why the first base coach's box is emblazoned with the word "STOP"?



CHS





Baseball in the hinterlands, from Canada to Costa Rica. The Eastern League of 1907, later renamed the International League, was a hotbed of young talent for the big show and an honorable deathbed for graying major-league discards. Even Hall of Fame caliber players of the period—Mordecai Brown, Joe McGinnity, Chief Bender, to name but a few—typically closed out their careers with a few bush-league paychecks. Others, such as Grover Alexander, took to the barnstorming circuit with outfits like the House of David, pictured below.





GOLDSTEIN

**WHITINSVILLE BASE BALL TEAM.
CHAMPIONS OF THE MILL LEAGUE, 1910.**



Fenna, Fitzmaurice, Bryant, Cameron, Chesbro, Barnes, Peloquin, Young, Montgomery,
M. Kelly, Norris, J. M. Ginnis, Anderson, W. E. Schuster, Umac, O'Brien

Photo by E. A. ADAMS, White

The downhill slide for Hall of Famer Jack Chesbro was even steeper, as he went from the Highlanders to the Red Sox in 1909 to a semipro Mill League team in 1910 (opposite, in center of back row). Above, a gritty team from Dyersburg, Tennessee. Below, two Costa Rican nines (baseball had been played in Latin America since the 1870s): at the left, the San Jose club of Costa Rican nationals, 1906; at the right, the American Consulate team representing Limon, 1915.

OVERLEAF: The Gray Eagle, Tris Speaker, who with Cobb and Joe Jackson forms the all-star outfield of the era.

NBL



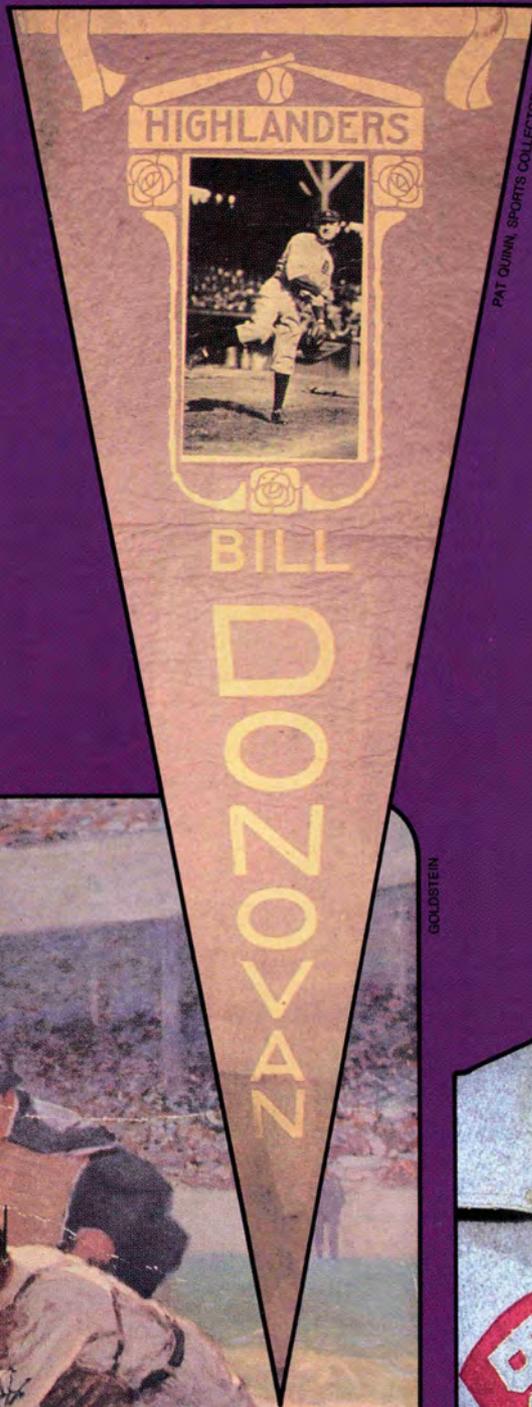
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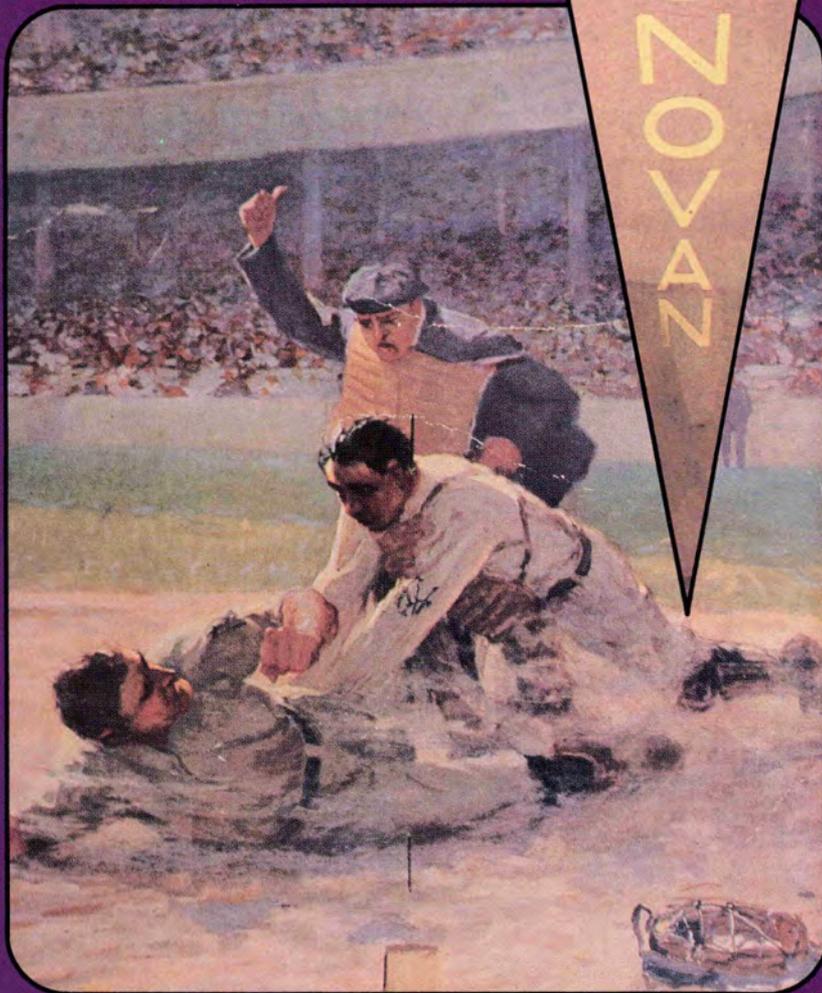


Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack—and while you're at it, how about a souvenir or two? The trinketeering of baseball in the dead ball days may have been smalltime by today's standards (no Major League Baseball Promotions Corp., no Phillie Phanatic dolls, no team-logo trashcans), but collectors will attest that the turn of the century brought a golden (brass?) age of future memorabilia. The litho below, untitled and unattributed, was affixed to a balsa-wood stick for use as a fan at the park. The scene is the Polo Grounds, and the catcher looks a lot like Chief Meyers, ca. 1911. The

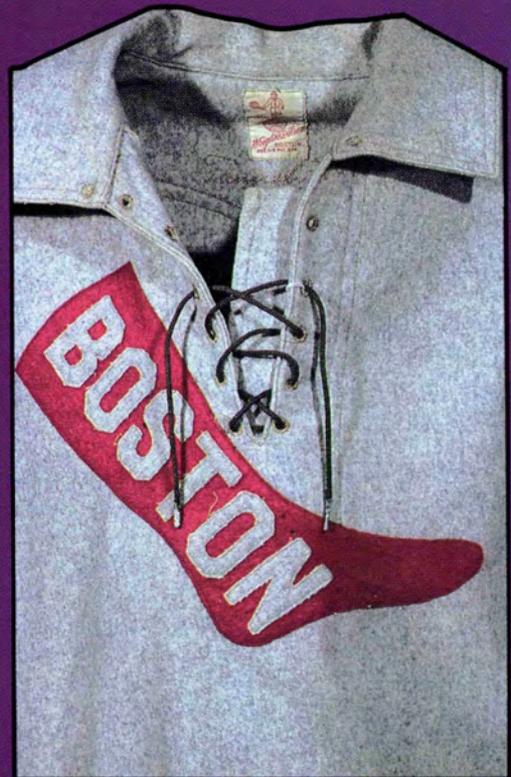


PAT QUINN, SPORTS COLLECTORS STORE

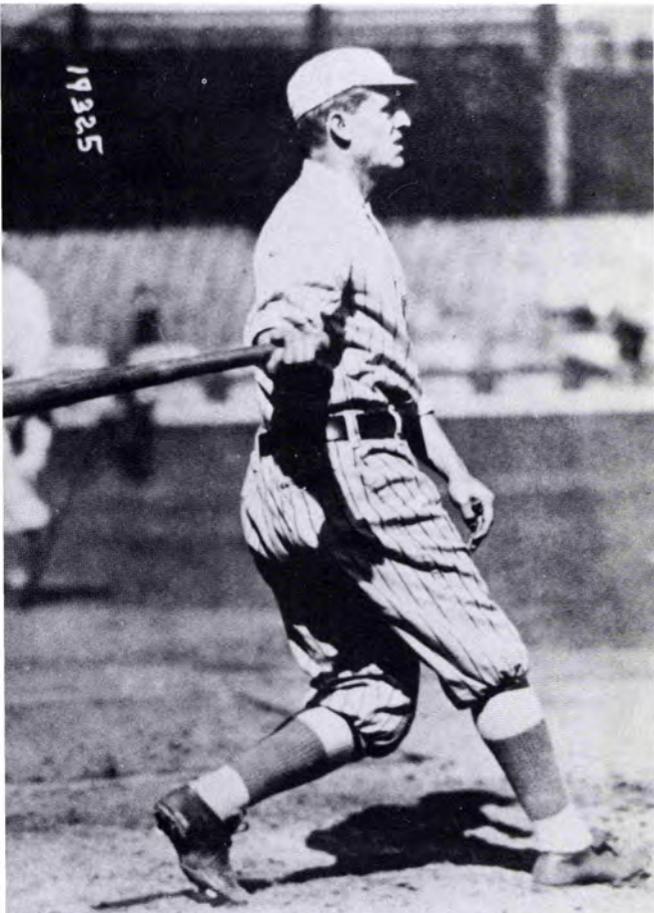
felt pennant from about 1915 is an oddity in that Wild Bill Donovan was washed up as a pitcher before he came to manage New York in 1915, and the team was already known as the Yankees rather than the Highlanders, for they had left Hilltop Park for the Polo Grounds back in 1913. One of the most prized of all collectibles today is the vintage uniform—surprisingly few have survived from before 1920, surprising because the heavy flannel from which they were cut is virtually indestructible. The Red Sox jersey below was worn ca. 1908.



GOLDSTEIN



NBL



NBL

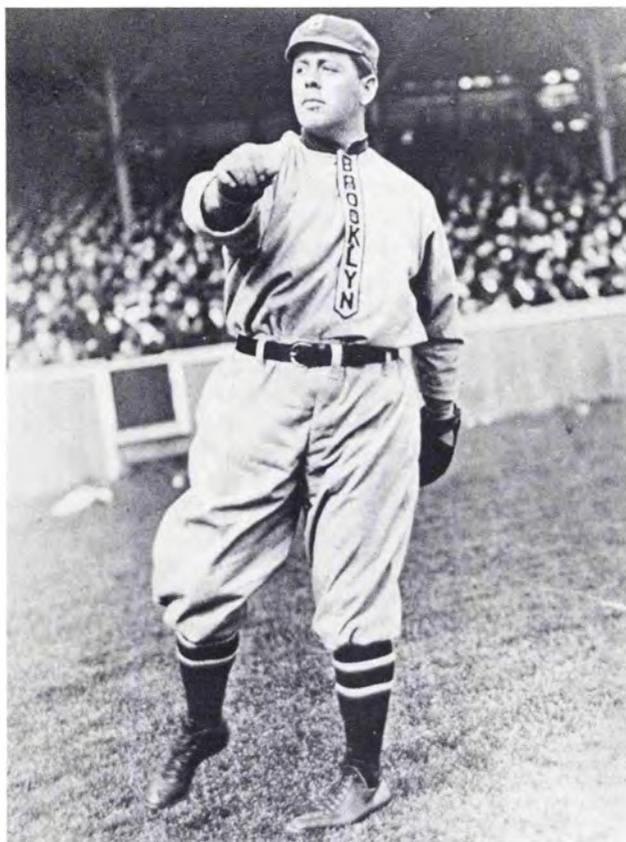


GOLDSTEIN

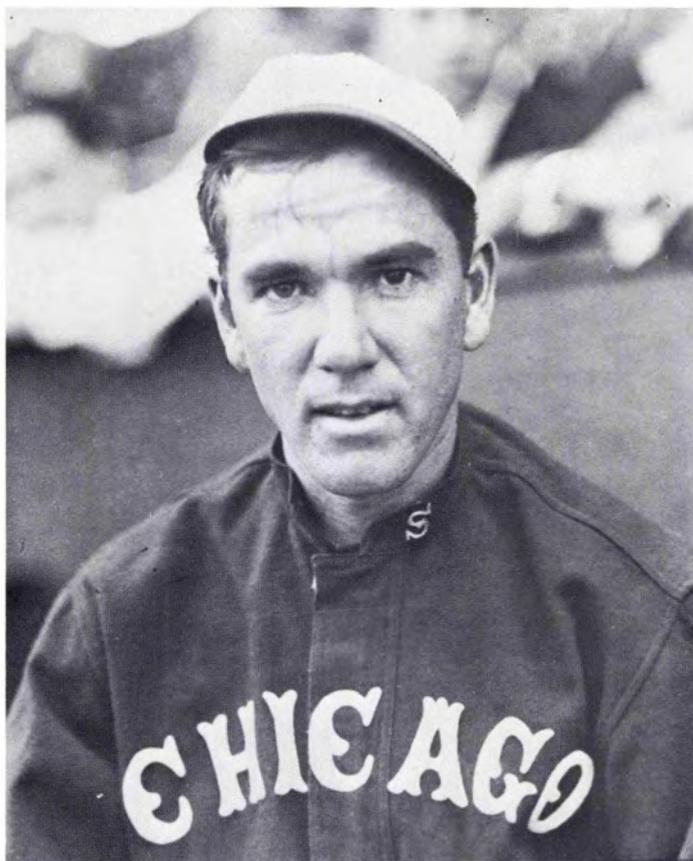
Four hitters, three pitchers, all but one headliners in their day. That one, the Dodger shown at the right, was Harry Lumley, a freeswinging slugger whose talents were perhaps better suited to an earlier era, or a later one; his overall performance in 1906 was unmatched in the National League—look it up. Alongside the forgotten Lumley is a Hall of Fame hurler whose puzzling spins were the product of not saliva or mud or emery but a boyhood accident—Mordecai Peter Centennial (yes, he was born in 1876) “Three Finger” Brown. A late bloomer, Brown hit his stride in his thirtieth year and his performance from 1906 through 1911 was rivaled only by that of Mathewson. At the top of this page are: (left) Turkey Mike Donlin, the flamboyant star (.333 lifetime BA) who left the game in his prime for the vaudeville circuit and Hollywood; and (right) Bob Bescher, whose 81 steals in 1911 remained the NL record until Maury Wills surpassed it 51 years later. At the right, another speed merchant, the Phils’ Hans Lobert, who once circled the bases in 13.8 seconds and on another occasion raced a horse around the sacks. Opposite page, bottom: (left), Guy Harris (Doc) White, the songwriting dentist and star lefthander of the Hitless Wonder White Sox who wrote the music for “Little Puff of Smoke, Good Night,” lyrics by his buddy Ring Lardner; (right) Eddie Cicotte, here shown with the Red Sox, was a knuckleball pitcher of middling success until he moved over to the White Sox and picked up the “shine ball,” a dipsy-doodle boosted by paraffin that acted much like a spitter.



NBL



NEL-ALL



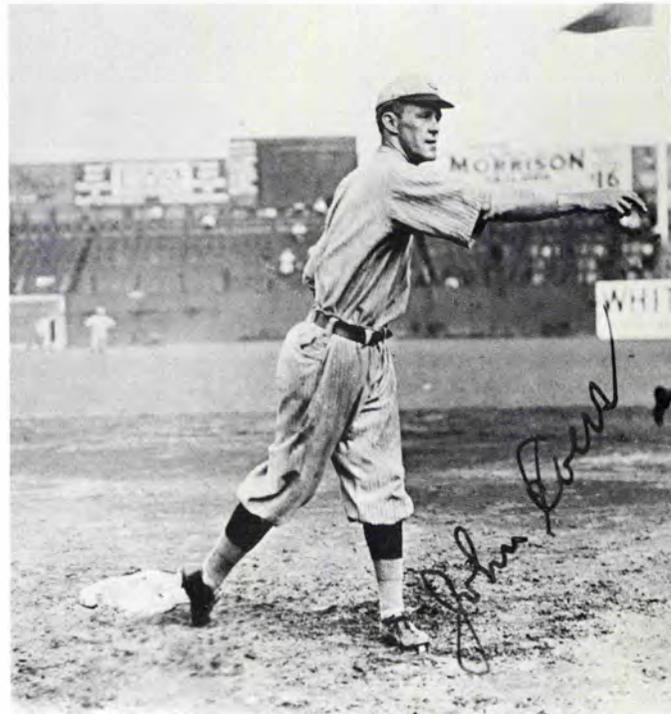


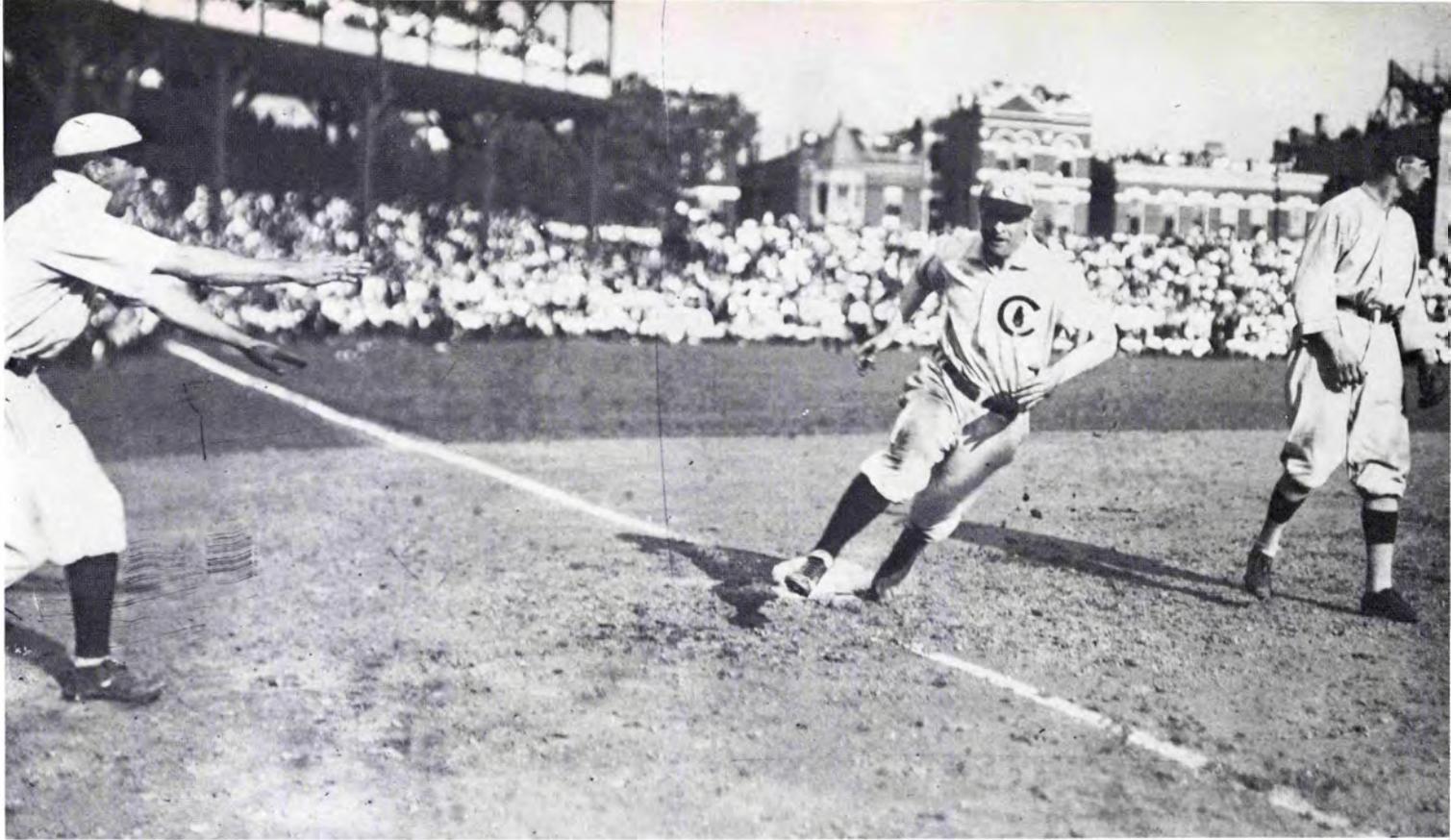
GOLDSTEIN

"These are the saddest of possible words—Tinker to Evers to Chance." The immortal infield of the Chicago Cubs from late 1902 through 1910 may once have been lauded principally because of Franklin P. Adams' poem, but informed sentiment has by now shifted to the view that while there may be many players outside the Hall of Fame superior to these three, who were inducted together in 1946, Tinker/Evers/Chance were pretty darn good. Tinker was a better than average hitter and great fielder; Evers was an adequate second baseman and outstanding hitter (.300 in 1908, when the league batted .239!) whose MVP performance in 1914 led the Miracle Braves; and Chance, perhaps the least of the three, hit for average, stole bases, and managed four pennant winners. Tinker is shown at the top of this page, Evers in two views at the bottom. Chance is portrayed at the bottom of page 53; at the right The Peerless Leader accepts an award from the Tammany Hall boys' team in 1913, one of his two unhappy years at the helm of the New York Highlanders. At the top of the page is a dramatic action shot from 1908, with Chance rounding third base, Tinker imploring him to hold, and Art Devlin of the Giants watching the relay come in.



GOLDSTEIN





CHS



NBL

Frank Chance



GOLDSTEIN



NBL

Two of the great junior circuit clubs of the teens were the Philadelphia A's, pennant winners in 1910, '11, '13, and '14, and the Chicago White Sox, champs in 1917 and 1919. Connie Mack's men had it all—great pitching from the likes of Chief Bender, Eddie Plank, and Jack Coombs, the \$100,000 infield of Stuffy McInnis, Eddie Collins, Jack Barry, and Frank Baker, and a manager who knew how to get the maximum from his second-line players. The 1911 team pictured on the opposite page is, like the 1906 Cubs, a prime candidate for the best of all time. (By the way, the hunchbacked mascot at the right of that photo is the famed Louis Van Zelst, Mack's "good luck charm" who combated the occult forces of the Giants' Charlie Faust and the hoodoo of the Braves' George Stallings.) The Chicago White Sox of 1912, pictured above, were a transitional team bridging the Hitless Wonder crew of 1906-08 and the end-of-decade powerhouse that featured Joe Jackson, Buck Weaver, Eddie Collins, and Eddie Cicotte. Cicotte arrived in Chicago in midseason of 1912, joining stalwarts Jim Scott and Ed Walsh (flanking him left and right in the picture below). The latter had carried the weak Sox batters for years, once winning 40 games, another time counting 10 shutouts among his 17 wins for the season, and once *losing* 20 games with an ERA of 1.27! Big Ed was the model for Lardner's strutting Jack Keefe.



GOLDSTEIN



NBL

**BOSTON PUSHED INTO SECOND PLACE
IN THE FIRST INNING BY THE CHAMPS**

CARWILE



Copyright, 1912, by The Philadelphia Inquirer Company.
Frank Baker's Smash Against the Rightfield Fence With Two on in the First Won for the Athletics



NBL

PHILADELPHIA "ATHLETICS" CHAMPIONS 1911



PHILADELPHIA Americans. 1904.

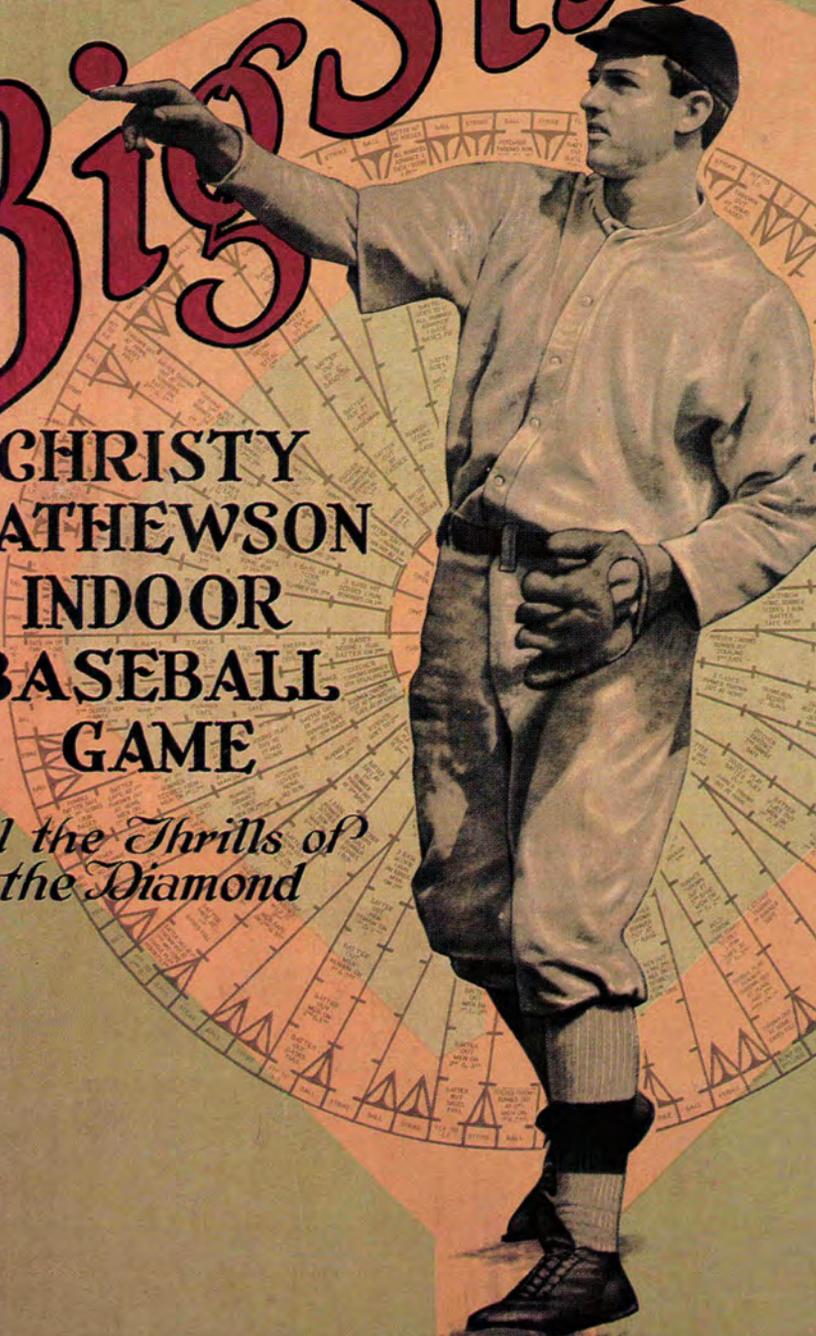
Photos by Carl J. Horner Boston.

Here's a mixed bag of color. Above, another of the Carl Horner Studio composites, glowingly tinted. On each side, sheet music involving noted Giant players and their theatrical-star wives. Left, one performed by Mike Donlin and wife Mabel Hite, with whom he performed on stage. Right, "The Marquard Glide," commemorating the Rube's 19 straight wins in 1912; he and his wife Blossom Seeley sang the number on stage. Right, one of the most popular table games of the period—still a lot of fun to play.

Big Six

CHRISTY
MATHEWSON
INDOOR
BASEBALL
GAME

*All the Thrills of
the Diamond*

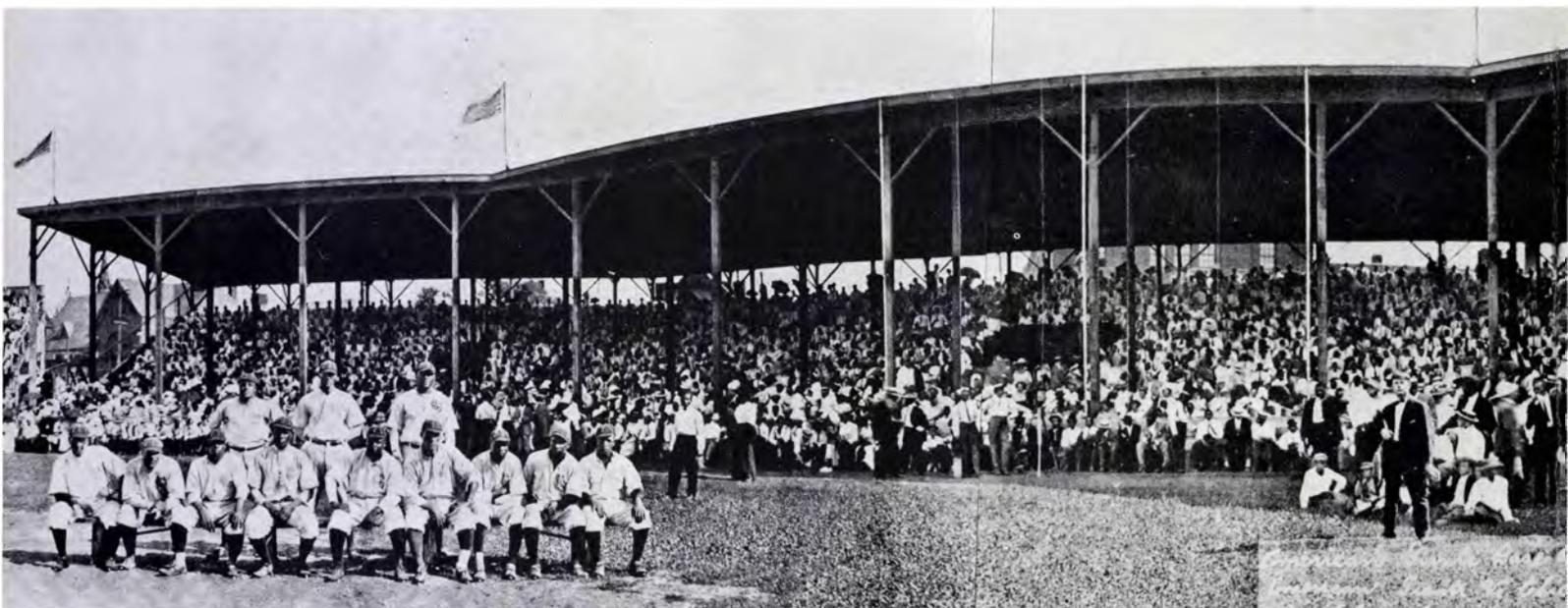


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Above, a fabulous panoramic shot taken before the ballgame of July 3, 1911 between Rube Foster's Chicago American Giants (right) and the Chicago Giants of Frank Leland, from whom Foster's Giants had split off the previous year. Does the park look familiar? It is the old home of the Chicago White Sox, South Side Park, abandoned by them for their new digs at Comiskey Park on July 1, 1910. Foster and his business partner, white tavern owner John M. Schorling, leased the grounds from Charlie Comiskey, built a new grandstand, and made black baseball pay. Foster is the massive presence seated at the far right. The other pictures on the spread depict baseball's traveling road show. Below, Washington Senators await transport to the ballfield at Nashville, ca. 1909. Across, John McGraw confers with the captain of the Keyo University team before a 1914 exhibition in the Tokyo mud—note the Japanese player's





GOLDSTEIN

sandals. And below, the National League barnstormers of 1914, led by Cincinnati Red business manager Frank Bancroft. Top row: Max Carey, Tom Clarke, Hippo Vaughn, Bancroft, George Burns, Jeff Tesreau, Bill James, Fred Snodgrass. Bottom: Art Fletcher, Dots Miller, Cozy Dolan, Bill Killefer, Grover Alexander, Bobby Byrne.



NBL

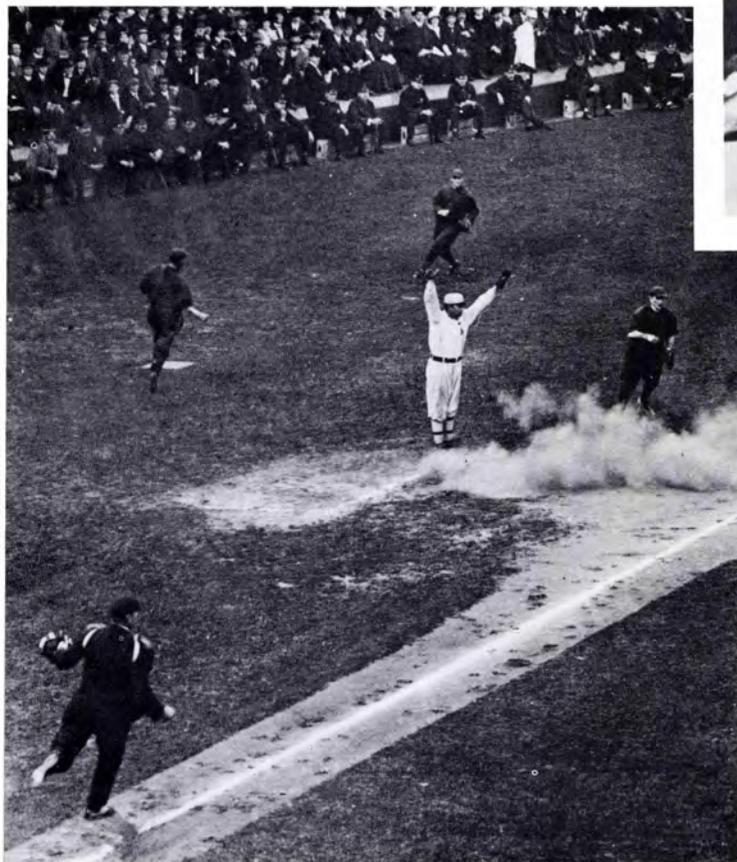


NBL

The Miracle Man of the Boston Braves, George Stallings, and his right hand man, Johnny Evers. The Braves, a league doormat since their glory days in the 1890s, moved from last place on July 18 to win the 1914 flag by 10½ games and, incredibly, sweep the overconfident A's in the Series. When Chicago wanted to fire Evers as manager after the 1913 season, the league arranged for his shift to Boston rather than lose him to the Chicago



GOLDSTEIN



NBL



NBL

Whales of the Federal League. Combining with shortstop Rabbit Maranville and a fine pitching staff, Evers was the inspirational leader of this ragtag bunch. The action shot on this page is from the first inning of Game 1 of the Series. Third baseman Charlie Deal has just slapped a tag on the sliding Eddie Murphy to kill a rally. To the right, the A's \$100,000 infield, photographed in 1911: Collins, Barry, Danny Murphy, Baker, and McInnis.



LC

Above, Christy Mathewson fires in a warmup pitch in Game 2 of the 1913 World Series at Philadelphia's Shibe Park. It was two years earlier, in a World Series between these two teams, that Frank Baker won the sobriquet "Home Run": his two-run blast in Game 2 made a loser of Rube Marquard, who otherwise pitched a fine game. Matty, reviewing the game in his newspaper column the following day, criticized Marquard for losing his concentration and grooving one to the A's slugger. When Matty pitched Game 3 that afternoon, he took a 1-0 lead into the ninth, then allowed Baker to blast a homer that sent the game into extra innings, when the A's won. Right, the two starters for Game 1 of the 1915 World Series pose for the photogs: Ernie Shore of the Red Sox, who in 1917 pitched a perfect game *in relief*, and Grover Alexander of the Phils, the latter coming off the first of three straight 30-win seasons.



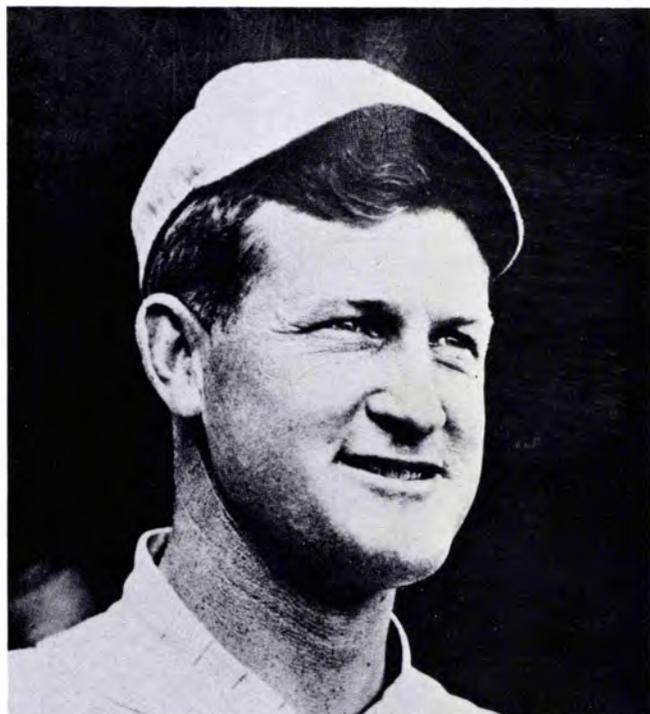
GOLDSTEIN

The Giants of John McGraw, who won the pennant in 1911-13. The Little Napoleon is shown in the black uniform he superstitiously chose for his men in the 1911 World Series (they had worn black against the A's in 1905 and won). Below him are (left) Red Murray, whom he once fined for hitting a home run rather than bunting as ordered, and (right) Fred Merkle, who played 16 years in the big leagues but never lived down the "bonehead" play that cost the Giants the pennant in 1908, when



GOLDSTEIN

he was nineteen. Bottom of page 62: the potent New York bats (and legs—five of these men stole 48 or more bases) of 1911: (from left) Josh Devore, Larry Doyle, Fred Snodgrass, Red Murray, Fred Merkle, Buck Herzog, Chief Meyers, and Art Fletcher. Across from them, the potent arms on the Giant team of the following year: (from left) Rube Marquard, Jeff Tesreau, Christy Mathewson, Red Ames, Hooks Wiltse, and Doc Crandall. All these men had pitched for the Giants in 1911 as



GOLDSTEIN



NBL



NBL

well except Tesreau, who replaced Al "Bugs" Raymond (pictured at middle right of page 63). Raymond came by his nickname legitimately, acting screwy whether stoned or sober. He was equaled only by Rube Waddell, with whom he once took to the stage in a melodrama called *Stain of Guilt*. Waddell's nickname was bestowed upon Richard Marquard, who went from "The \$11,000 Lemon" to stardom with his 19 straight wins in 1912. And pitcher Luther "Dummy" Taylor (with Art Devlin) came by his nickname not for lack of mental acuity but, in the blunt manner of the day, because he was mute.



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1915

Baseball became so profitable in the early 1910s that a new group of magnates decided to emulate the path Ban Johnson had taken in 1900: raid the established leagues for talent and set up franchises in several of their cities (Brooklyn, Chicago, Pittsburgh, St. Louis). The Federal League,

FOOD FOR FANS
GEO. L. MORELAND STATISTICIAN
BUFFALO FEDS 1915
Season 1914—Won 80, Lost 71, Pct. .530

SPORTING RECORDS
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General Business Office, 216 Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.
Vol. 1. MONDAY, AUG. 9, 1915 No. 112

SPORTING RECORDS **FOOD FOR FANS**
Published Daily Except Sunday
Vol. 1. MONDAY, AUG. 23, 1915 No. 124

NEWARK FEDS
Champions Federal League
Season 1914 (The Indianapolis)
Won 88
Lost 65
Per Cent. .575

1. Miles, first base; 2. F. Wickham, pitcher; 3. M. Keane, third base and manager; 4. Munn, pitcher; 5. Kinnel, pitcher; 6. Pratt, catcher; 7. Falkenberg, pitcher; 8. Whelan, second base; 9. Campbell, right field; 10. Munn, pitcher; 11. Leonard, shortstop; 12. Hall, first base; 13. Laporte, second base; 14. Schanz, left field; 15. Becken, catcher; 16. Branch, right field; 17. Strand, utility.

established as an outlaw minor league in 1913, lasted two more seasons as a marginal major league, but it enriched many underpaid stars and developed some new ones, like Edd Roush and Benny Kauff. Portrayed on this page are three Fed teams of 1915, Buffalo, Newark, and St. Louis.

Louis. Notable players are: (Buffalo) 1. Hal Chase, 3. Hugh Bedient, 10. Howard Ehmke, 18. Russ Ford; (Newark) 3. Bill McKechnie, 7. Cy Falkenberg, 8. Germany Schaefer, 16. Edd Roush; (St. Louis) 7. Dave Davenport, 9. Doc Crandall, 14. Fielder Jones, 15. Al Bridwell.

FOOD FOR FANS **SPORTING RECORDS**
GEO. L. MORELAND STATISTICIAN
ST. LOUIS FEDS, 1915
Season 1914—Won 61, Lost 89, Pct. .407, Position 8

Published Daily Except Sunday
By The Sporting Record Publishing Company, 212 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.
General Business Office, 216 Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.
Vol. 1. MONDAY, JULY 19, 1915 No. 94

SICKLES-ALL



LC

More Federal League pix. Above, the flag raising ceremony on Opening Day at Brooklyn's Washington Park, April 10, 1915. The opponents of the Brookfeds (also known as the Tip-Tops for the owners' firm, the Tip-Top Bakery) are the Buff-Feds (also known as the Electrics—the Federal League seemed to specialize in dreadful nicknames). To the right, manager Otto Knabe of the 1914 Balt-Feds (oof), also known as the Baltimore Terrapins, shakes hands with Buffalo's manager Larry Schlafly. Opposite, top, the Chi-Feds or Whales of 1914, who were the first occupant of Wrigley Field, then known as Weeghman Park after the Whales' owner. Middle, the Tip-Tops of 1915, led by batting champion Benny Kauff (No. 1) and second baseman Lee Magee (No. 12). And at the bottom, the Buffalo team of 1914 in spring training, before they were joined by Hal Chase. OVERLEAF: Rabbit Maranville, all 5'5" of him, shown in 1914. The Most Valuable Player Award that year went to his keystone partner, Johnny Evers, but the Rabbit—inventor of the basket catch—was the top player in the game, leading shortstops in all fielding categories by stupendous margins. Indeed, as measured by Pete Palmer's Linear Weights, Maranville in 1914 recorded the best single-season fielding record of the century, surpassing that of Nap Lajoie in 1908. The large but graceful second baseman—better remembered for such exploits as hitting .422 in 1901—is surrounded by silver dollars given by his fans to commemorate his tenth anniversary in a Cleveland uniform, June 4, 1912.



NBL



CHS

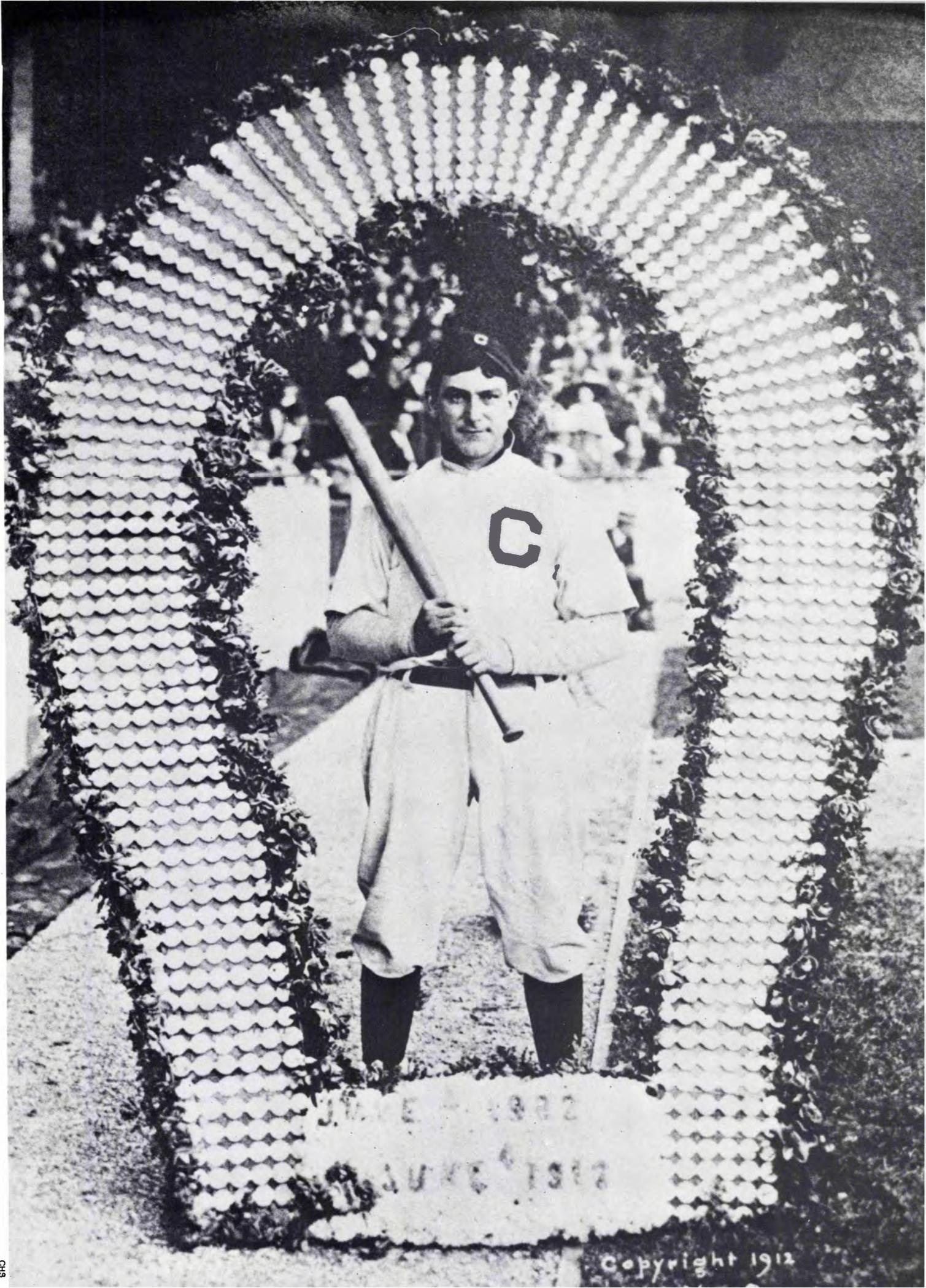


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JUNE 1912

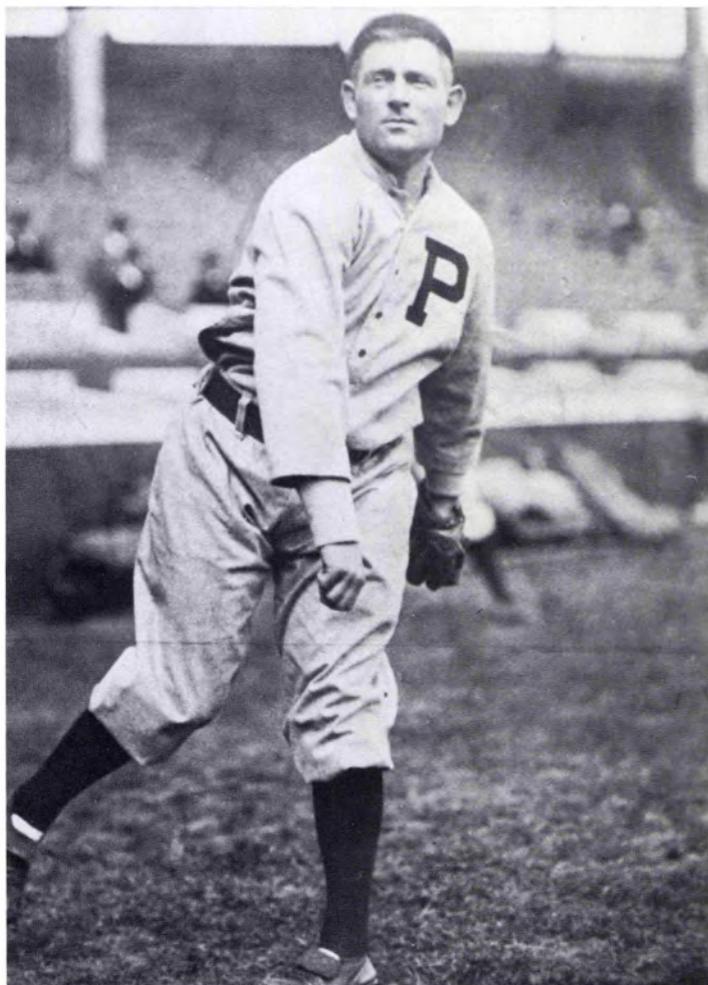
JUNE 1912

Copyright 1912

Tommy Leach (right) played third base and the outfield for four pennant-winning Pirate clubs. Gavvy "Cactus" Cravath (left) was 31 years old and had not made his mark in the majors; then he came to Philadelphia and fell in love with Baker Bowl. Six times he led the NL in homers. Nick Altrock (right) was a star for the White Sox in 1904-06, registering 61 of his lifetime total 82 wins—yet his career line in the encyclopedias shows nineteen seasons! How? By appearing in one solitary game in eight of the forty-six seasons he served as a coach with the Senators: he pitched two innings at the age of 48 and pinch hit at 57.



NBL



NBL



BRACE



RUCKER



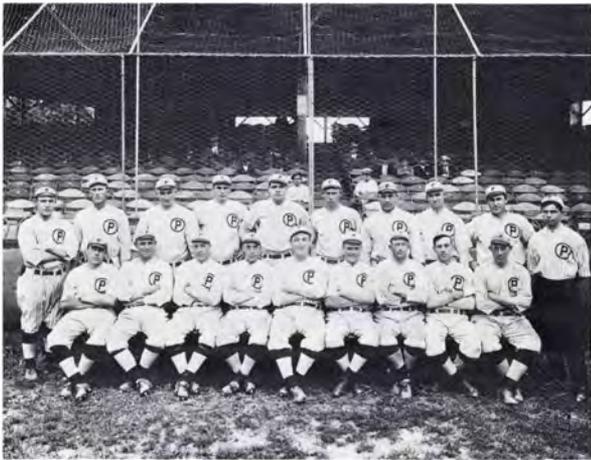
NBL

Above, a serene and splendid view of a Cubs' game of 1914. But the state of baseball at that time was anything but serene, with the Federal League War under way, with the World War in the wings, and corruption undermining the game from within. Leonard Leslie "King" Cole (left) was one of the more unlikely looking major leaguers. A gangly 6'1" Cornhusker with a windmill motion, he came up to the Cubs from Bay City in late 1909 and made an impressive debut, throwing a shutout and going 3-for-4 at the plate. The next year he joined the formidable Chicago rotation and went 20-4 with an ERA of 1.80. He won 18 the following year, but illness hampered his career and led to his death at age thirty. Henry "Heinie" Zimmerman was a power-hitting third baseman who in 1912 won the Triple Crown. His performance thereafter drifted downward, ending with his banishment from Organized Baseball for fixing games in 1919 with Giant teammate Hal Chase. The worm of gambling had been in baseball from the very beginnings of professionalism in the 1860s; soon it was to emerge with shocking impact.



If 1914 presented problems for baseball, it also held out promise. In that year a Baltimore youngster named George Herman Ruth emerged from the St. Mary's Industrial Home for Boys, where he had been sent as an incorrigible tough at age seven, to become a star pitcher—rocketing in that year from St. Mary's to Baltimore and then Providence of the International League, at last to the Boston Red Sox. The remarkable views on this page show Ruth in action





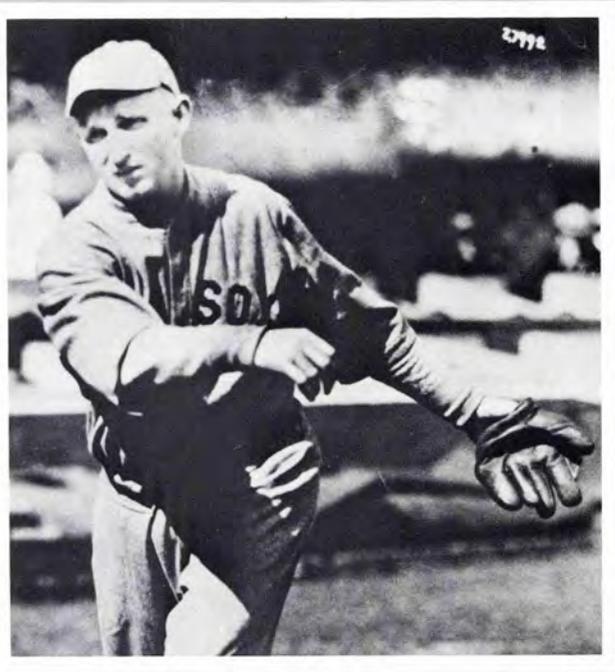
at the Home; in the image at the upper left, published for the first time courtesy of Barry Halper, Ruth is wearing a catcher's mitt on his throwing hand. On page 73 we see (top) Ruth with Providence and Baltimore and (middle) the champion Red Sox of 1915—you can pick out that distinctive mug easily enough. Below, Babe the pitcher and Babe the batter: in 1916 he won 23 games; in 1919 he would blast a record 29 homers. Which way to go? The next decade would hold the answer.





George Hildebrand (above, left) was a long-time American League umpire but that is not his claim to fame. Rather, this minor-league outfielder invented the spitball (or reinvented it, if oldtimers' claims that Bobby Mathews threw it in the 1870s are to be believed). He discovered it while playing catch with a grass-dampened ball prior to a California League game in 1902; subsequently, he taught the pitch to Elmer Stricklett, who taught it to Ed Walsh, and the dead ball era dawned. Tommy Connolly, however (above right), did earn his place in the Hall of Fame as an arbiter. Beginning as a man in blue in 1894, he went on to work the first American League game (see page 3) and stayed in the employ of the League, as umpire and then supervisor of umpires, until 1954. Alongside, some of the writers who celebrated the game in the teens, including Jimmy Isaminger, who on September 27, 1920, broke the story behind the previous year's World Series: it was headlined "Gamblers Promised White Sox \$100,000 to Lose." On page 75 (top right) is another player involved in controversy, Carl Mays of the Boston Red Sox. He jumped his team in mid-July of 1919, despondent over personal problems. Ban Johnson insisted that he be disciplined as a contract jumper, but Boston instead traded this outstanding pitcher to the Yankees. Johnson, in attempting to invalidate the trade, lost personal credibility, destroyed the National Commission, and paved the way for Judge Landis.





CARWILE



GOLDSTEIN

Boston's Harry Hooper (top left) formed, with Tris Speaker and Duffy Lewis, perhaps the greatest defensive outfield in baseball (nominations will be entertained for that of Oakland in the early 1980s). To the left, a neat action shot from the 1916 World Series between the Red Sox of Boston and the Robins of Brooklyn. And below, the Dodgers of 1913 (not to get their wings until the arrival of Wilbert Robinson as manager the following year). Notable here are two Hall of Fame outfielders from Kansas City, Zack Wheat (middle row, third from right) and Casey Stengel (top, next to mascot at left).



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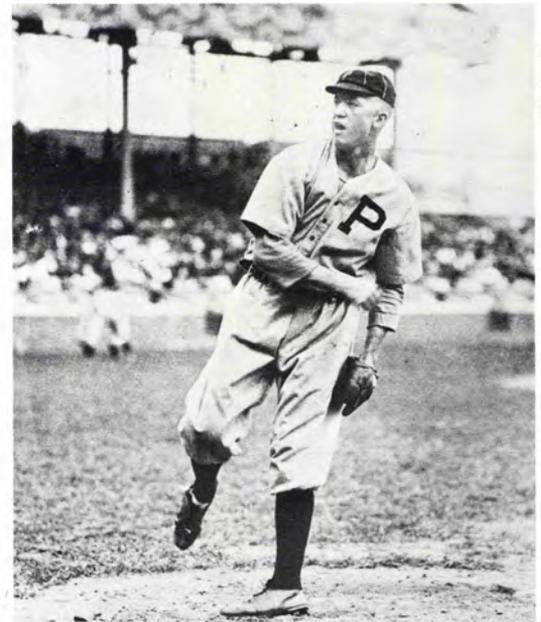


51

Page 78, top: Alexander the Great, warming up at the Polo Grounds in 1911 (Rube Marquard is in the background); in this, his rookie year, he would garner the first 28 of his 373 wins. At the far right, he is shown in 1915, when he won 31 and teamed with Eppa Rixey (another Hall of Famer, near right) to lead the Phils to the World Series. Below, five picturesquely posed Phils at spring training, 1916: (from left) Bill Killefer, Ed Burns, Joe Oeschger, Possum Whitted, Rixey. Page 79, top: Casey Stengel out attempting to steal third, ca. 1913. The Phils' Hans Lobert



NBL



GOLDSTEIN

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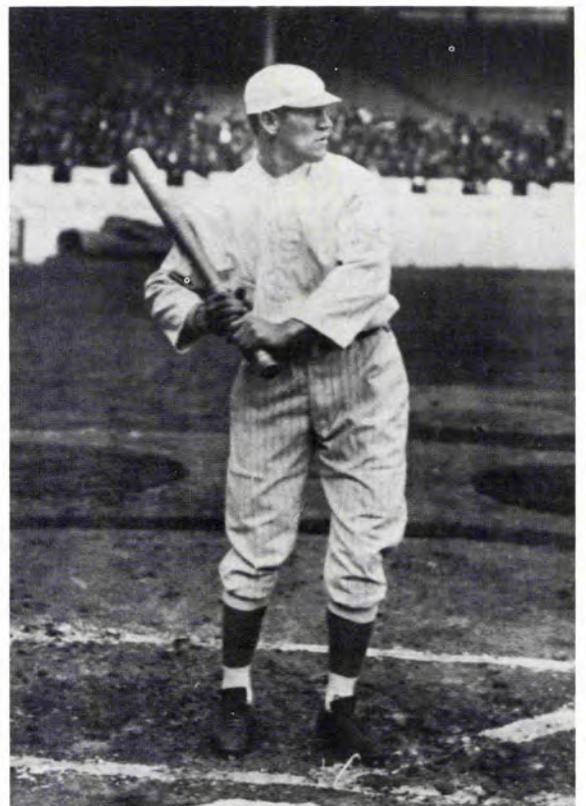


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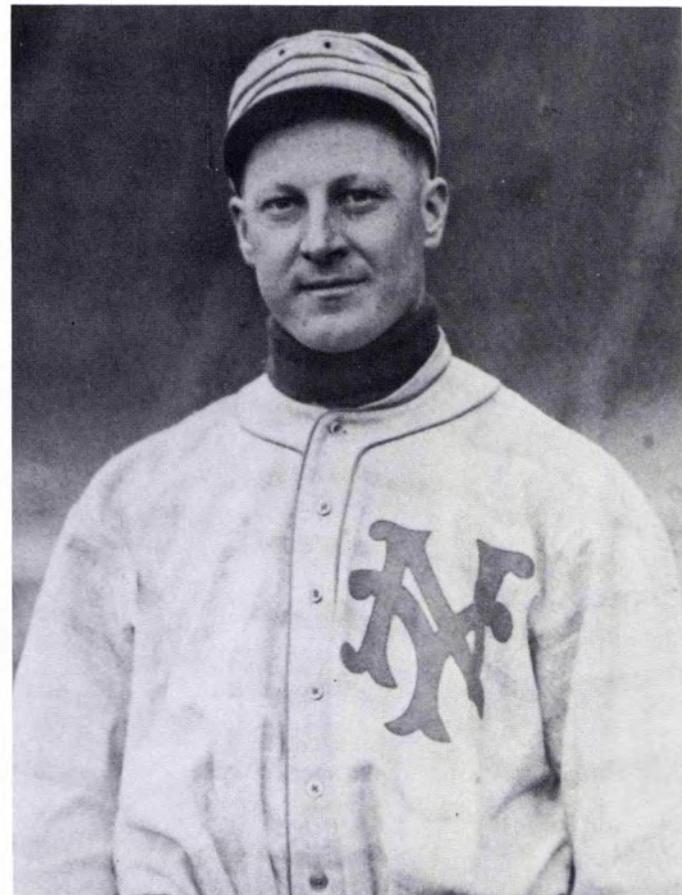
applies the tag. Bottom: The Ol' Perfesser in training, 1916, posed at the base of the right-field wall in Ebbets Field that would make Carl Furillo famous. The Robins went to the World Series that year for the first time and lost—as they would do seven more times until they finally won in 1955, defeating Stengel's Yankees.



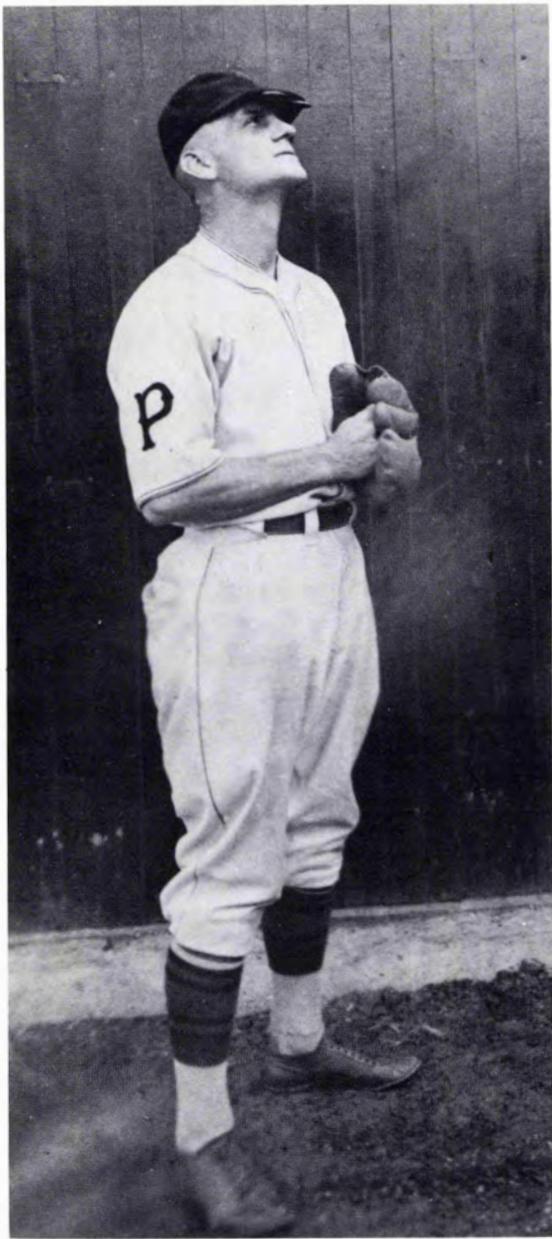
AP/WIDE



NBL:ALL



Max Carey and Red Faber (facing page, top, left and right respectively) are Hall of Famers: the former was a great base stealer (once stealing 51 in 53 attempts) and outfielder, the latter a spitball pitcher who kept loading up—legally—for thirteen years after the pitch was banned in 1920. The others portrayed here are distinctly lesser lights. Nig Clarke was only a journeyman backstop in the big leagues, but on June 15, 1902, playing for Corsicana in the Texas League, he hit an incredible 8 home runs while driving in 16. Alongside Clarke is Jim Thorpe, the world's greatest athlete, whom the Giants signed in 1913 more or less as a promotional stunt. They said he couldn't hit the curve ball, but he must have seen at least a few in 1919, when he hit .327. At the left is Benny Kauff, the Federal League whiz—batting and stolen base champ in both League seasons—who never amounted to much afterwards and finally was banned from the game. And at the bottom of page 81 are two of the great minor-league hitters (and faces!) of the period—Jay Kirke (left) and Ping Bodie (born Francesco Stephano Pezzolo).



NBL



NBL



LC



NBL



CHS

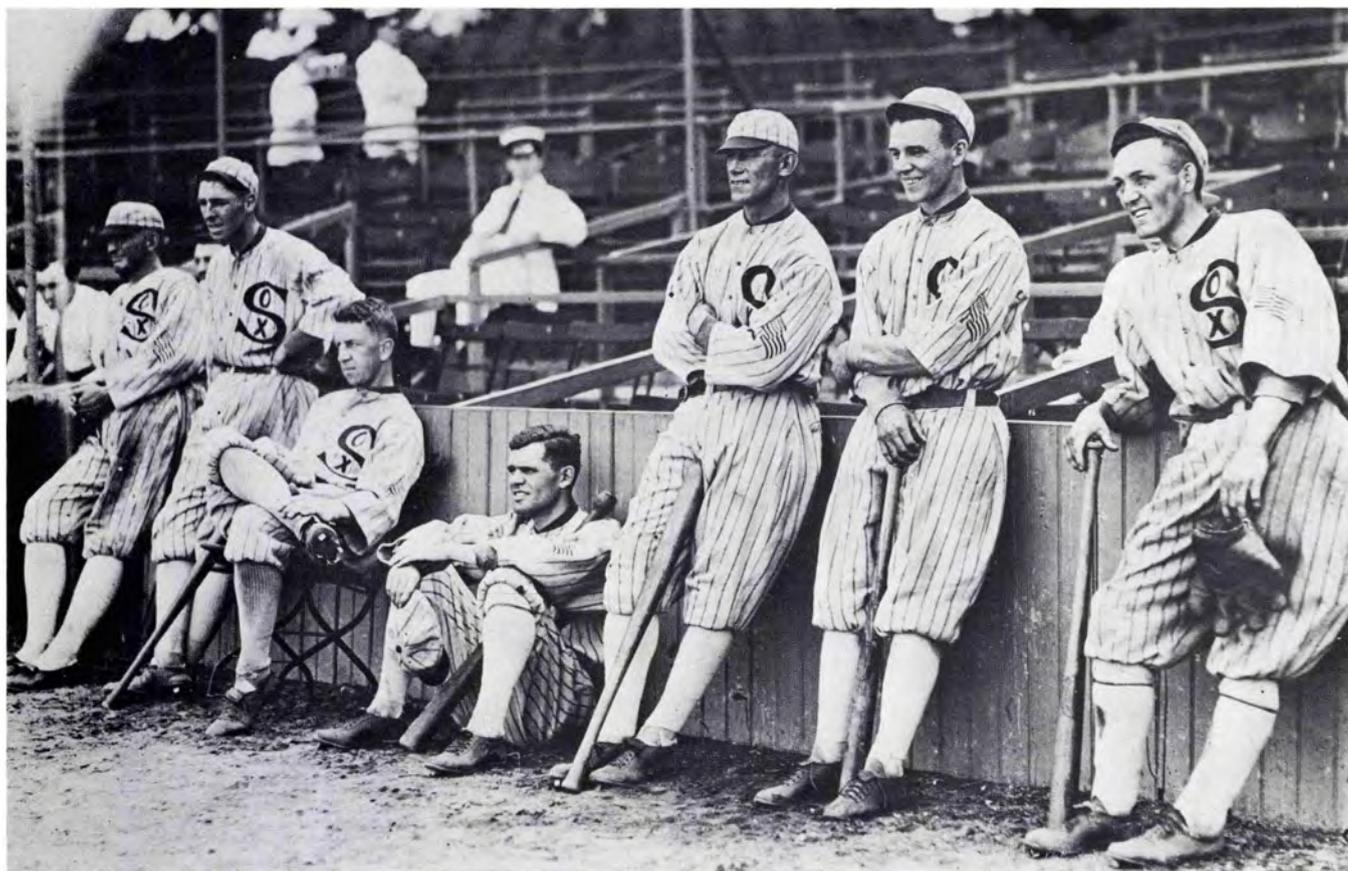
The Chicago White Sox always had pitching, even in the lean years that followed 1906. But starting in 1915 they began to mold a team that hit, adding Eddie Collins (bottom, third from left) and Shoeless Joe Jackson (bottom, left, and opposite) and, in 1917, Chick Gandil and Swede Risberg, the latter important because he permitted Buck Weaver (bottom, right) to move to third, his natural position. Eddie Cicotte (immediately below, with Weaver alongside) went from journeyman to 28-game winner, and the Sox won everything. In 1919 they repeated as AL champs under new manager Kid Gleason (right), but the race was, oddly, tighter than it figured to be—and then came the fateful World Series that ended baseball's age of innocence.



NBL



NBL



CHS



NBL



NBL

The Reds, to whom the White Sox lost in the 1919 Series, were a good club, led by Edd Roush, Heinie Groh, and a formidable pitching staff. But it is doubtful they could have beaten the Sox if not for the efforts of: Charlie Comiskey (right), the penurious owner whose devious practices helped make crooks of such as Cicotte and Jackson; Chick Gandil (p. 85, right), who needed no incentive to be crooked and was the ringleader of the eight Black Sox; Swede Risberg (bottom, center), Gandil's second in command and "a hard guy"; and Abe Attell, former featherweight boxing champ, henchman of gambler Arnold Rothstein, and architect of The Fix. Lee Magee (bottom, right)

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and Rube Benton (bottom, left) both had guilty knowledge of The Fix beforehand, and profited by betting on the Reds. At the top of page 85 are the Black Sox in court (Play Bail!). From left, seated: attorney William Fallon, Joe Jackson, Buck Weaver, Eddie Cicotte, Swede Risberg, Lefty Williams, Chick Gandil (the case against utility infielder Fred McMullin had been dropped for insufficient evidence and Hap Felsch must have stepped out for a moment). The trial ended on August 2, 1921, with all seven players acquitted. But they, and McMullin, still had to answer to baseball justice in the person of Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis, and he



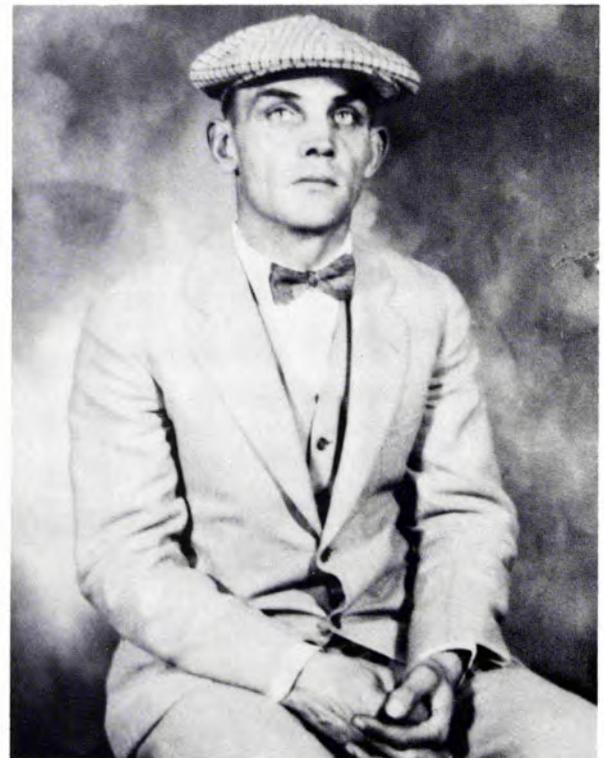
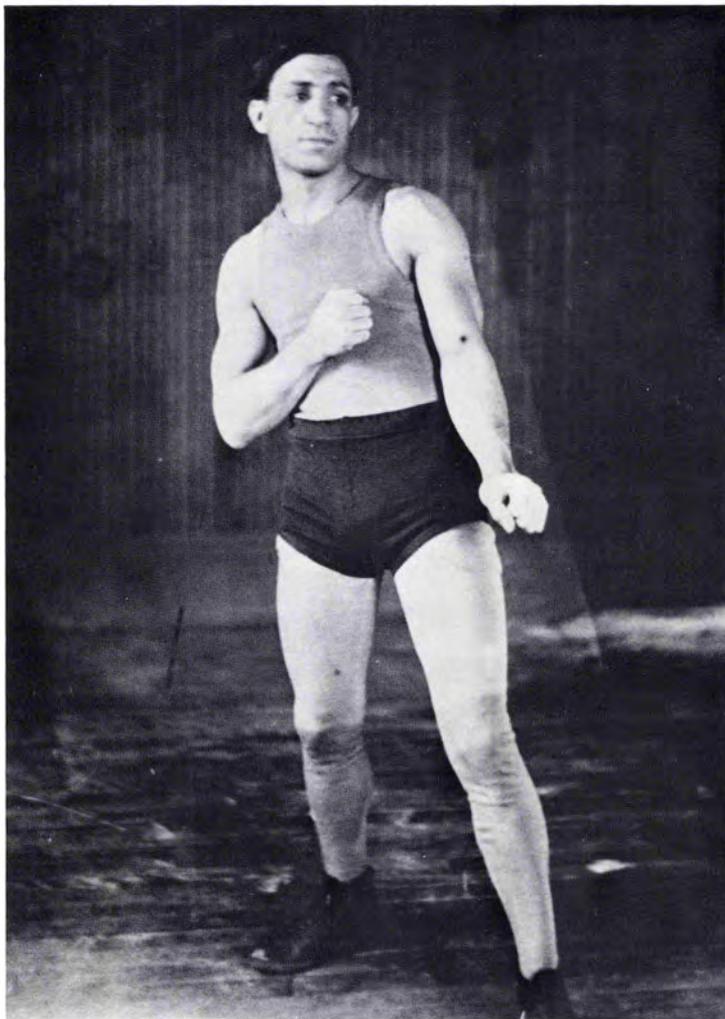
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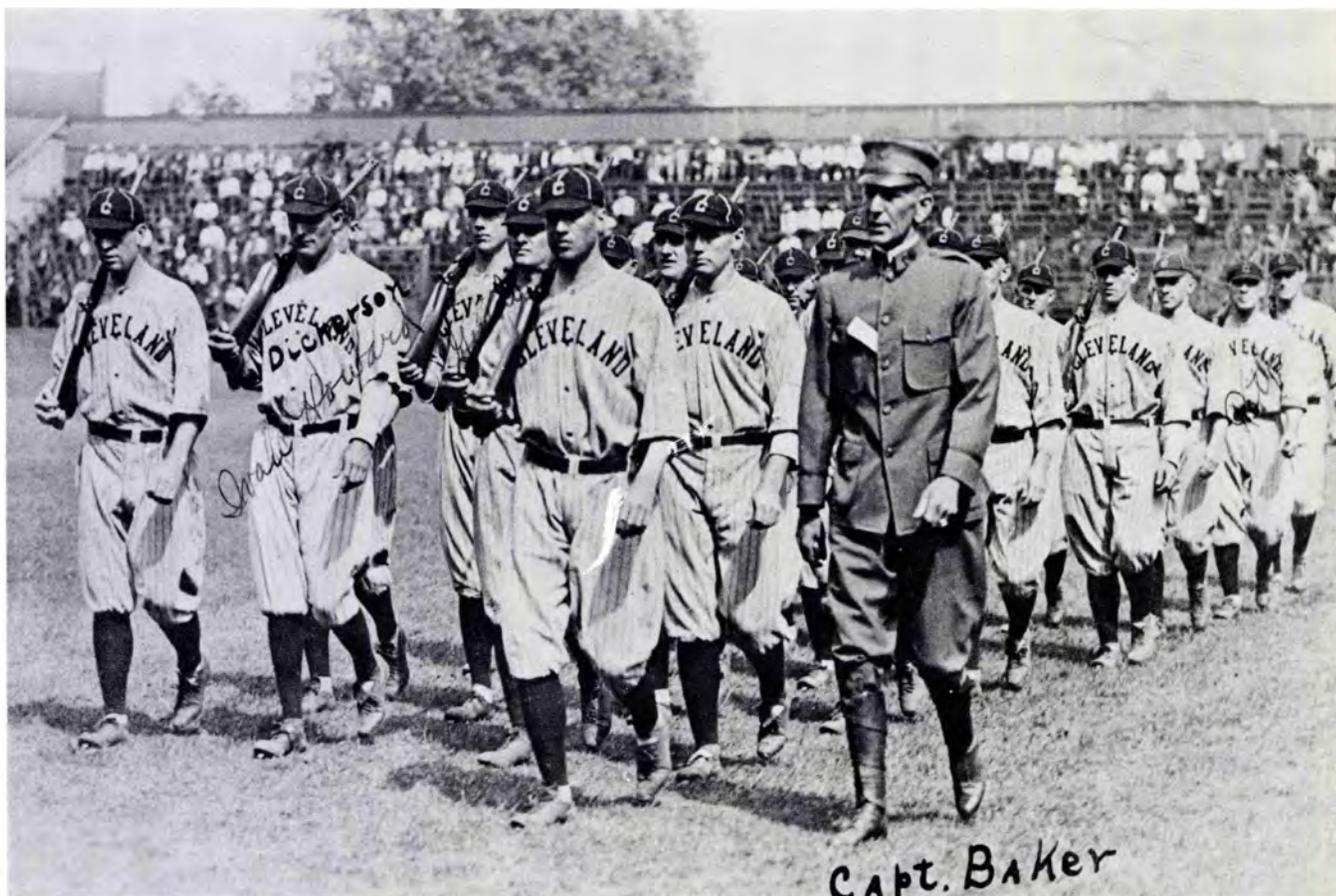
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banned them from Organized Baseball for life. The game had its first publicly confirmed instance of crookedness since 1877 (although there were many others hidden from the fans, including an attempt to fix the first modern World Series in 1903), and somehow confidence in baseball—and in America—had to be restored.



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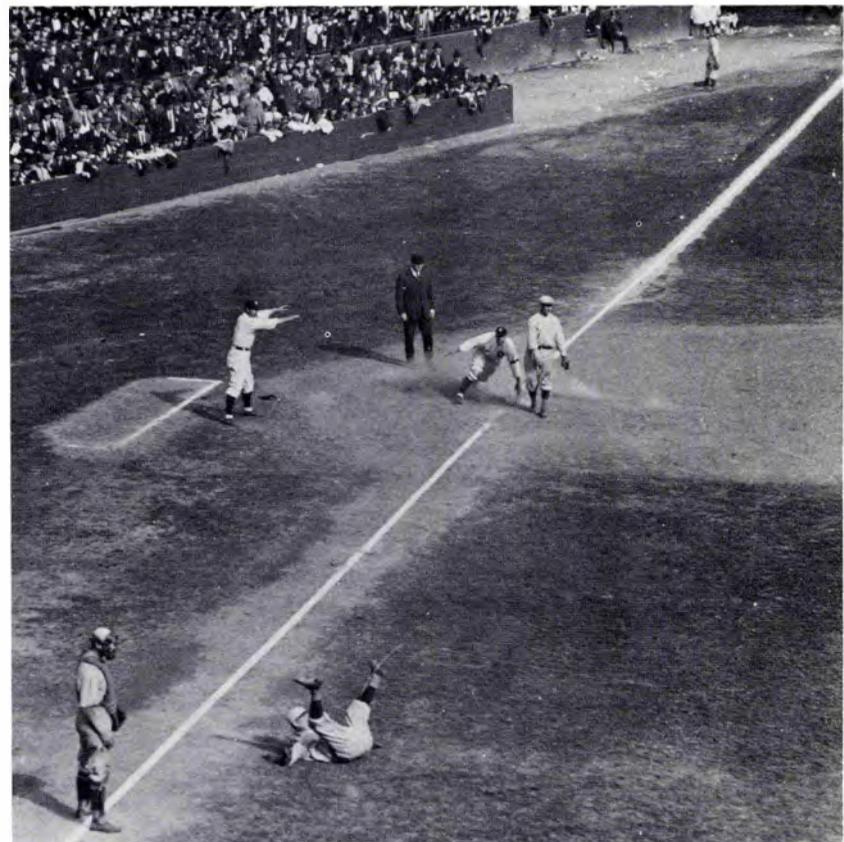


NBL

The world was at war from 1914 on; the United States entered late, in 1917, but pulled its weight and more. So did Organized Baseball, contributing 547 men to the Armed Services (including 253 major leaguers). Hank Gowdy of the Braves was the first major leaguer to enlist and Harvard Eddie Grant (middle), formerly of the Giants, was the only one to die in action. (Christy Mathewson, however, died several years after the war from the lung damage inflicted by mustard gas in a botched training exercise.) The major leagues reduced their schedules to 140 games for the years 1918-19, "exhumed" (in Fred Lieb's phrase) superannuated players to fill the rosters depleted by the draft, and played the public relations game. Above, the 1918 Giants march in from the centerfield clubhouse and urge their patrons to "Fight On—Buy Bonds." Opposite, the Indians of 1917 conduct their daily one-hour drill under the command of Captain Baker (Joe Wood is the player to the left), assigned to them by the Army. All major-league teams were ordered to partake in such nonsense (sometimes substituting baseball bats for rifles), and only Brooklyn refused—if the Dodgers were going to be daffy, they didn't need help. To wit, the picture at the bottom, in which Brooklyn's Burleigh Grimes takes a pratfall. The scene is Cleveland's League Park, in the memorable fifth game of the first World Series of the Ruthian era, amid swirling reports of the widening Black Sox Scandal. It is the opening frame, Tris Speaker has just reached base on the scratch hit, and in moments Elmer Smith will belt the first grand slam in Series history. Four innings later Bill Wambsganss will execute an unassisted triple play.



GOLDSTEIN



WRHS

The dead ball era was dead, swept away in 1920 by the Black Sox, the Babe, the bunny ball, and a newly proclaimed baseball czar. Ruth, now of the Yankees, belted out 54 homers and, incredibly, slugged at an .847 clip. The game was to be played differently from now on. Cobb and Speaker and Collins continued as stars, but the future belonged to Hornsby and Simmons and Gehrig. Shoeless Joe? Judge Landis could ban him from O.B. but he couldn't stop him from playing ball. Active with mill teams and outlaw barnstormers into the 1940s, he still had that swing.



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