



Baseball Visions of the Roaring Twenties

*A Fan's Photographs of More Than
400 Players and Ballparks of the Era*

GEORGE E. OUTLAND

Text by John W. Outland

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On the cover: Sam Crawford (left) and George Outland;
The Polo Grounds, New York, 1930

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To my father, George E. Outland,
whose love of the game left me this legacy.—J.W.O.

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Acknowledgments

To the extent that this book makes a contribution to the vast literature of baseball, it is obviously a result of its photographs, many of which have never been publicly displayed. The photographs are the work of one young man—my father, George E. Outland. I became the fortunate inheritor of those photographs upon my father's death in 1981, and, ever since, I have been the recipient of the occasional admonishment that "you really ought to do something with them." Well, I finally have, and I wish to thank those persons who have gently prodded me along, whether consciously or not.

The list of these persons is extensive and begins as far back as 1983 with a one-time meeting with a gentleman named Samuel Finz. Besides educating me to the differences between "dealers" and "collectors," Finz offered me a simple piece of invaluable advice: "Do not break up this collection." Later in the 1980s, I engaged in some off and on correspondence with John Thorn, noted baseball historian and then the picture archivist for the Society for American Baseball Research. While nothing tangible came from this exchange, Thorn's interest in the pictures and the receptivity shown in his letters validated for me the fact that I was in possession of something special. That impression was reaffirmed throughout the 1990s by authors to whom I loaned pictures for their own publications, as well as by the late Mike Schacht, editor of *FAN* magazine, who enthusiastically welcomed, and later published in segmented form, a short essay regarding my father's home run log. My thanks to Mike's wife, Linda Peek Schacht, for giving permission to use portions of that essay in this publication.

I suppose the ultimate expression of interest in the photographs came, also during the 1990s, from one of my University of Richmond students, Sean Casey, recently retired 12-year major leaguer. Sean shared with me his own baseball memories of experiences with his dad and animatedly reacted to the home run log and some of my father's pictures. As Sean indicated in a note at the time: "It ... inspires me to play hard because there really are people like yourself and your dad who love to see good baseball. I feel the same way with my dad. Baseball brings a unique happiness."

Let me credit also my young friends in the University of Richmond library's new

“digital imaging” office. Under the watchful direction of Crista LaPrade, UR students Matthew Haase and Melissa Mendez did all the scanning of the photographs and thereby provided invaluable technical assistance. Also Bobby Hayes and Alfra Moody in UR’s Office of Information Technology helped this technically challenged author make the transfer of text to disk. Thanks go as well to my distant cousin, John H. “Doc” Outland, for allowing me to use the photograph, in uniform, of his grandfather, the man after whom we are both named. Finally, of course, there is my wife, Barbara, who has tolerated with patience and occasional bemusement my enthusiasm for obscure 1920s baseball players and who, even more importantly, has brought love and stability to my life for over 40 years.

Table of Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	1
<i>Prologue: The Early Years, 1906–1920</i>	5
1. Getting Started, 1921–1923	8
2. Experiencing the Majors, 1924	124
3. Everything Los Angeles, 1925–1926	178
4. The Peak Year, 1927	274
5. “Bawdy Boston,” 1928–1930	365
6. Other Photographs of Interest	409
<i>Epilogue: The Later Years, 1931–1981</i>	452
<i>Appendix 1: A Home Run Biography, 1922–1974</i>	465
<i>Appendix 2: Home Runs by Ballpark</i>	467
<i>Chapter Notes</i>	469
<i>Bibliography</i>	473
<i>Index</i>	475

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Preface

George E. Outland lived a full and interesting life as rancher, social worker, New Deal politician, and college professor. Limited aspects of that life will be touched upon as part of this narrative, but the focus will be on the pictures of baseball players that he took during the 1920s while he was between the ages of 14 and 23. These photographs help to chronicle what many consider baseball's "golden age," and they certainly reflect the love affair that one young man was developing with the national game.

Unfortunately, the story of the photographs is an incomplete one. While aware of their existence, I did not begin to take a serious interest in them until after my father's death in March of 1981. Then, while looking through his things, I made two discoveries. The first was a home run log that he had maintained over a 53-year period between the years 1922 and 1974, and that tells the story of the 1,503 home runs he witnessed in 66 different ballparks. The second discovery was a treasure trove of about 85 pictures of ballplayers that he had stuck in the pages of baseball books, most notably Lawrence S. Ritter's *The Glory of Their Times* (1966) and Frederick G. Lieb's *The Story of the World Series* (1949). The pictures were inserted in the pages where the players were mentioned, thus helping to identify those individuals who had not supplied autographs. As would be any baseball fan, I was delighted to find these pictures and managed to persuade my stepmother, Martha Avery, that they would be more secure, and perhaps more productive, in my possession than in hers.

Over the next two to three years, I took great pleasure in organizing and cataloging these photographs. And then came the mother lode. Unannounced in the mail one day, there arrived a large manila envelope containing approximately 240 additional pictures (no negatives, just prints). Martha had discovered them in another unmarked envelope while cleaning out her storage area in preparation for her move from Anacortes, Washington, my father's retirement home, to Seattle. These pictures were of somewhat more obscure players, but that very fact made them even more intriguing to me. Many were autographed and thus, with the aid of *The Baseball Encyclopedia*, the players were readily identifiable. The identity of the others I have had to deduce, successfully I believe, through a variety of means (discussed in chapter 6)

although I am still uncertain regarding a few “mystery players.”¹ Perhaps viewers of this collection can be of assistance in this regard.

What I know of my father’s picture-taking technique is limited, and I dearly wish that I could have one more hour with him to ask questions. It is clear that he was strictly an amateur, working with primitive equipment, and had no particular interest in photography per se. What he did have was considerable chutzpah and, arriving at ballparks early, would often manage to gain field access prior to and during batting practice. As will be seen in two of his 1923 pictures of Salt Lake City Bees, he apparently would carry with him an album of previously taken photographs and would offer to show it to the players, probably with the request that he be allowed to take and add their pictures to his collection. In what was a simpler and more innocent age than our own, many of the players would readily agree and, indeed, seem to have enjoyed having their picture taken by this young man. It appears that some of the players even recognized George as a kindred soul of sorts since they posed for him during several separate seasons, Sam Agnew five times, for example.

The pictures were put on public display only once prior to my father’s death. In 1951 he had an idea, and he took me with him one morning when he went to visit Paul Fagan, then owner of the San Francisco Seals. He showed samples of the photographs to Fagan, particularly those of old Seals, and asked if Fagan would be interested in exhibiting them. Fagan was willing to do so, and my mother, an artist by background, then designed three large poster boards, one showing Hall of Famers, another great Pacific Coast League players, and the third former San Francisco Seals. The three posters were hung throughout the 1951 season in a glass-enclosed display case in the Seals Stadium “lobby” at the foot of the ramp leading up to the grandstand. I later discovered, in a note from Dick Dobbins, the well known collector of Pacific Coast League memorabilia, that he had acquired “a few” of my father’s “PCL snapshots.”² It is my hypothesis that Dobbins perhaps first learned of the photographs as a result of this 1951 exhibition at Seals Stadium. I am left to speculate about how many of my father’s pictures Dobbins, who died in January of 1999, actually did possess and what the total number may have been, therefore, of the full and original Outland collection.

As it is, I have in my possession photographs of 349 *different* ballplayers taken during the ten-year period from 1921 to 1930. Three hundred thirty-two of these players have been identified. Most of the photographs are of individuals, but occasionally they contain two or more players. Thirty-nine of the 349 players have been photographed more than once, usually (in 33 cases) during different seasons. As noted earlier, Sam Agnew appears in five photographs: two in 1922, one in 1923, and two in 1927. For accounting purposes, it would seem appropriate to count Agnew three times, once for each season and distinct team. Doing so for all of the players who appear in multiple pictures results in a total of 383 players, the great majority of whom can be organized by team (six major league and nine Pacific Coast League) and year (1921–30). There are a few (24), consisting of old timers, Negro Leaguers, and ad hoc individuals who, while identifiable, cannot be categorized by team or, in three cases, by year. Table I presents as accurate a count as I have been able to establish.

Table I: Players By Year and Team

PCL	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	Total
Los Angeles	5	13	8	6	13			4			49
Portland		13	7	9			10				39
Vernon		17			11						28
Sacramento		19			4		5				28
San Francisco		15	10								25
Seattle				5	12			5			22
Oakland				12			10				22
Hollywood							13				13
Salt Lake City			11								11
											(237)
Major League											
Pittsburgh					15	9	20		9		53
Chicago Cubs				4	13	11					28
Cincinnati							15				15
Boston Braves									14		14
St. Louis Cards										7	7
Washington							5				5
Individual*		4		6		6	5				24
											(146)
Total	5	81	36	42	68	26	83	9	23	7	383

*Including three of unknown date.

Since my father's death, I have made several of his photographs available for publication in the works of other authors. In the 1990s, this occurred most prominently in the two *Pacific Coast League Stars* (1994, 1997) books by John Spalding and in R. Scott Mackey's *Barbary Baseball* (1995), a history of the Pacific Coast League during the 1920s. More recently, a few of Outland's photographs have found a home in works by William McNeil, namely his account of *The California Winter League* (2002) and his biography of *Gabby Hartnett* (2004). My own published use of the photographs has been minimal, occurring only once, in a series of three short segmented articles in *FAN*, a now defunct little magazine edited as a labor of love by the wonderful artist and baseball fan Mike Schacht. The articles ran in three consecutive issues of *FAN* in 1996 and concentrated on my father's home run log. They were accompanied by five pictures, four of which included my father. Brief excerpts from those articles are included in portions of this manuscript.

What has not been done previously, but that would seem appropriate, is to present the Outland pictures in a reasonably systematic way and in sufficient number so that one can gain a good sense of what this young man accomplished, particularly by the age of 21 (October 8, 1927), by which time the great majority of his pictures had been taken. This book represents an effort to achieve that objective and to tell the story of the photographs as best it can be determined.

What never ceases to amaze me is that I am simply one generation removed from being able to see many of these old-time ballplayers in person. My father, as it turns out, saw them for me, including some of the old "deadballers," even though the latter

may have been beyond their prime playing days. His pictures, while admittedly imperfect, help link us to an earlier era in baseball history when the technology of access was both more limited and less intrusive. Without attempting to overstate too dramatically, I would suggest that the observation made by Neal and Constance McCabe in their introduction to the baseball photographs of Charles Conlon, might also apply to the pictures of George Outland:

Ballplayers from another era are standing in the sunshine of the twentieth century. Some of these men are plainly amused by the photographer's attentions, and some are posing grudgingly, but in all of these portraits we can glimpse an evanescent moment in history, the dawning of baseball's golden age.³

Prologue: The Early Years, 1906–1920

George Elmer Outland was born October 8, 1906, in the small Southern California town of Santa Paula, Ventura County. He was the first of four children, three boys and a girl, born to Elmer Garfield Outland and Stella Martha Faulkner Outland. Elmer was a rancher/farmer who had been born in Indiana and moved to California in 1902 after spending much of his youth in Kansas. Stella was a native Californian, having been born in Santa Paula in May of 1881. Her father, George Washington Faulkner, was a Civil War veteran who had migrated to California from Shelby, Ohio, in 1875.

In 1879, Faulkner purchased 150 acres of land in the beautiful and fertile Santa Clara River Valley, one of the few valleys in California running east and west. The land—which sold for \$40 an acre, total price \$6,000, paid in gold—was located approximately two miles west of Santa Paula. Here the family was to take root and prosper over the next hundred years.

In 1894, Faulkner oversaw the construction of a beautiful 15-room Queen Anne Victorian “mansion,” complete with indoor plumbing in its upstairs and downstairs bathrooms, two enclosed porches, a large kitchen and pantry, a tower room, and a full attic and basement. Anticipating the future, Faulkner had the house piped for gas and wired for electricity. Elaborately adorned inside, the house was and is a magnificent structure, built for the princely sum of \$13,000. Since 1989, it has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It was in this house that George Outland was born, followed soon after by his brothers Lawrence (1908) and Charles (1910). A sister, Esther, was a late arrival in 1920. Close cousins Loren, Raymond, and Rhoda Ayers, the children of Stella’s sister Alpha and her husband Farel, were a nearby extended family.

By 1910, George Faulkner, adhering to the tradition of his Ohio father, had divided his land between his three children: Alpha (born 1877), Stella (1881), and Seymour (1886). A fourth child, Roda, had died at the age of two. The son received the house and surrounding acreage while Alpha and Farel Ayers and Stella and Elmer

Outland were given the roughly equivalent adjoining property. In 1912, Stella and Elmer proceeded to construct a fine new home, approximately three-quarters of a mile from the Faulkner house, which became the Outland family ranch up until the death of Lawrence Outland in 1989. To supplement the 45-plus acres inherited from his father-in-law, Elmer was later able to purchase an additional 70 acres on the western edge of the original property.

The three Outland boys, along with their neighbors and cousins Loren and Raymond Ayers, lived a full and rambunctious childhood and gradually grew to become strapping and rugged six-foot-tall young men. As youngsters, their days were filled with ranch/farm chores, with schooling on weekdays, and baseball and the Methodist Church on weekends. Also, there was music, as especially Stella and Grandpa Faulkner were gifted musicians. Faulkner had a rich tenor voice and was able to accompany himself on the reed organ. He was also a self-taught flutist and violinist. Of the five young men, George Elmer seemed to have inherited the most musical ability, loving to sing and play the piano, violin, saxophone, and harmonica.

As for baseball, all the boys loved to play and did so, in both organized and unorganized forms, up through their high school years. Lawrence, the most robust and strongest of the five, was probably also the most talented although George, as we shall see abundant evidence of, was clearly the most passionate about the game. He had, in the words of his cousin Loren, "the uncanny ability to get a group together and play ball during the long summer evenings, and what's more, would compile batting averages and other pertinent facts that make baseball the wonderful game that it is."¹

By 1920, George had entered Santa Paula High School where he played on the baseball team and also served as student body president during his senior year. The latter role provided some early political experience, including the opportunity to introduce William Jennings Bryan, three times defeated presidential candidate, who spoke at the school while on a Chautauqua tour of Southern California. Bryan reassured George that his nervousness was only natural and that it was, in fact, the sign of a good speaker. In later years, George would express admiration for Bryan for the way he dealt with an anxious 17-year-old.²

George's real preoccupation during the early 1920s was not politics, however, but baseball. His fascination with America's game, and particularly with the home run, was to become a lifelong obsession although it had its most dramatic manifestations, as reflected in part through his picture-taking, during the 1920s. George was not alone, of course, as much of the American public had become enthralled with the new power game introduced by Babe Ruth's 54 home runs in 1920 and 59 in 1921. The deadball era was over, and there was clearly a sense that the dynamics of the game were changing. Armed with his small camera and his home run log, George set out to portray his heroes and to document what he was seeing.



1. George E. Outland: This photograph was probably taken in the spring of 1921, as 14-year-old George Outland proudly shows off his first baseball uniform — Santa Paula High School.

1. *Getting Started, 1921–1923*

1921

Although he was an ardent fan, there is no record of my father's having attended a professional baseball game until 1921 at the age of 14. By then he had developed a loyalty to the Los Angeles Angels, and his early and most revered heroes were Angels stars James Otis "Doc" Crandall and Sam Crawford, former major leaguers winding down their careers in the Pacific Coast League. Both men appear to have been quite gracious to George as would be indicated by their kindnesses to him over the next few years.

While seeing no home runs to record in his log book for 1921, my father did begin taking his camera to ballgames and among his first pictures were two of Crandall, one with George in it. These two photographs, along with ones of catcher Earl "Red" Baldwin, second baseman Howard Lindimore, and Angels owner John Powers, appear to have been taken during a spring exhibition game at an unidentified local ballpark. The lettering on the uniform jerseys is indistinct and difficult to decipher. The only other Angel photographed during 1921 was pitcher Frank "Lefty" Soria who was not a significant contributor to the Angels' pennant-winning season. The Soria picture, however, does seem to be the first of George's many photographs taken at Washington Park, then the shared home field of the Angels and the Vernon Tigers.



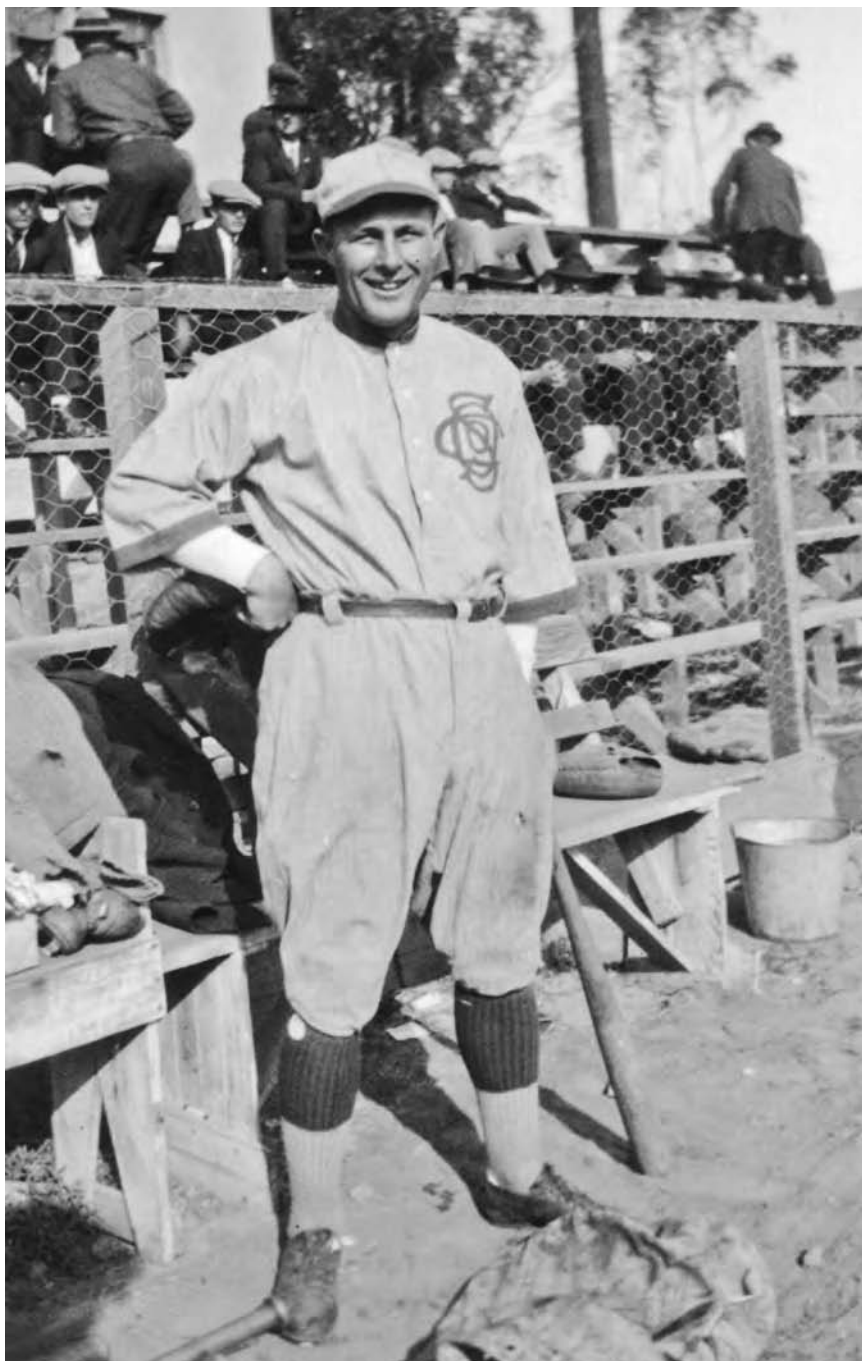
2. **John Powers:** Scrappy owner of the Los Angeles Angels, Powers sold the team for \$150,000 to William Wrigley Jr. in August of 1921.



3. **James Otis “Doc” Crandall:** Crandall had a highly successful baseball career spanning 24 years in the major and minor leagues. He compiled a record of 67–36 for the New York Giants between 1908 and 1913, primarily as a relief specialist, and won an additional 34 games in the Federal League during 1914 and 1915. Doc began a 13-year Pacific Coast League career in 1916, spent primarily with the Los Angeles Angels, and won twenty or more games during five seasons. He had the same birthday as George, October 8, and was Outland’s favorite player. George took at least six pictures of Crandall over a four-year period.



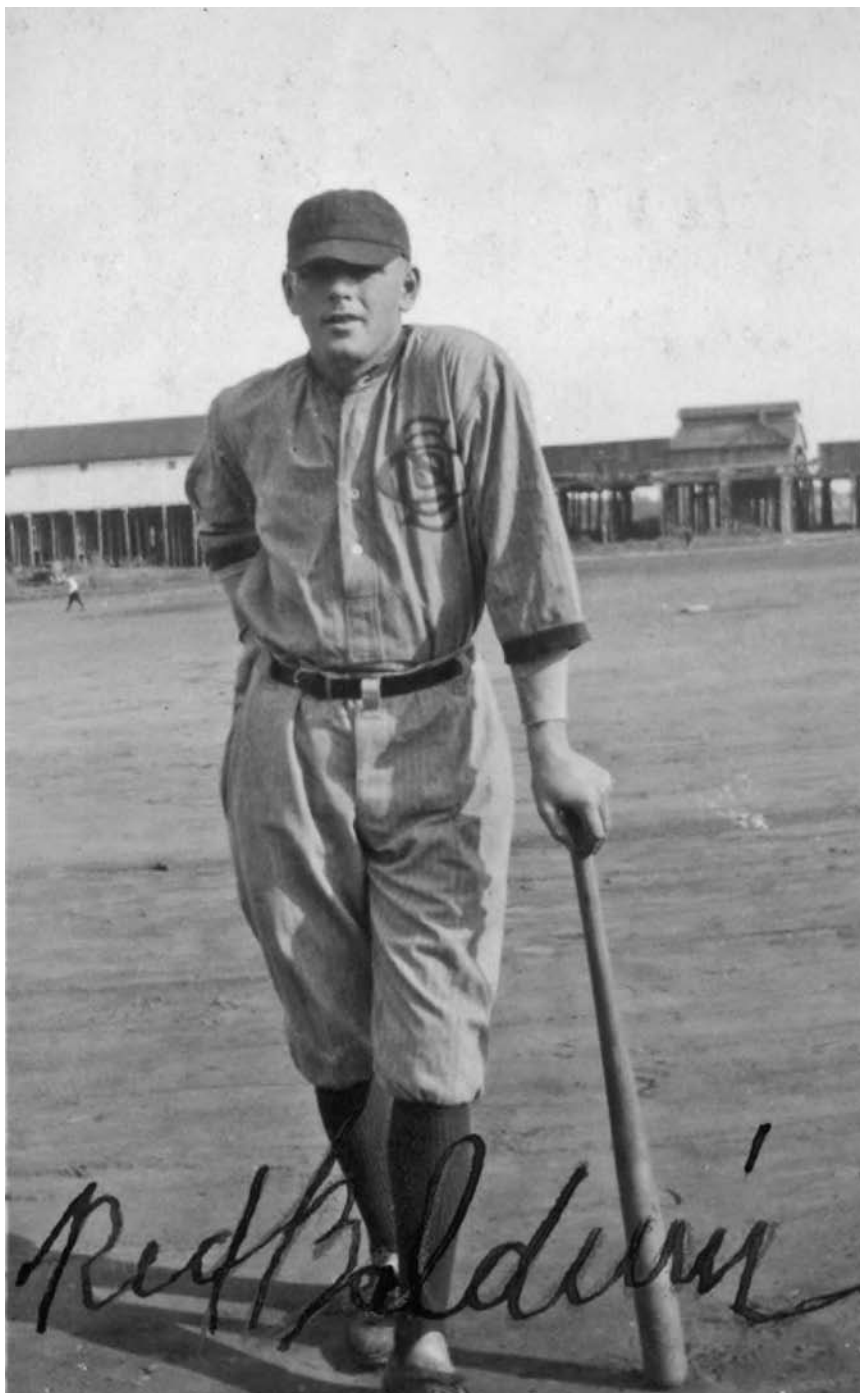
4. George Outland and “Doc” Crandall: A young George Outland poses with one of his early heroes.



5. **Howard Lindimore:** A career minor leaguer with a .306 lifetime average, Lindimore played in the Coast League between 1921 and early 1926. He hit the first of George's recorded 1,503 home runs. Unfortunately, Lindimore died in 1933, one month shy of his 40th birthday and shortly after the completion of his final season in the Western League.



6. **Frank Soria:** Little is known of Soria, a pitcher who spent only one full year with the Angels and split a second season between Los Angeles and the Salt Lake City Bees. Outland has supplied us with the nickname of “Bugs” on the back of Soria’s picture.



7. Earl "Red" Baldwin: Baldwin was a reliable catcher who played in the Coast League from 1917 through 1931 in Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, and Los Angeles. His batting average fluctuated between .217 and .293.

1922

During 1922, George's picture taking increased dramatically. He photographed 80 players although seeing only approximately a half-dozen games. Needless to say, he had some very productive days, primarily at Washington Park, but also one afternoon at the new Moreing Field in Sacramento, where he was able to photograph eighteen Sacramento Senators. The year started, however, at a place called the "Bathhouse Grounds" in Ventura where, despite what appear to be dismal weather conditions, George was able to take pictures of Bob and Irish Meusel, as well as old timers "Sea Lion" Charley Hall and Chet "Pinch" Thomas. The occasion was an exhibition game in the early spring although poor weather may have prevented the contest from actually being played. The Meusel brothers played together on the "Meusel's All-Stars" during the 1921-22 California Winter League season.



8. “Sea Lion” Charley Hall: A Ventura County native, Charley Hall won 54 games in the majors with his best year being 15–8 with the Boston Red Sox in 1912. Along with Doc Crandall, he was one of baseball’s first relief specialists. Hall also won 284 games in the minors, including seven twenty-game seasons. Ninety five of his victories were in the Pacific Coast League. Supposedly, his distinctive nickname came from his deep voice.



9. Bob “Dutch” and Emil “Irish” Meusel: Brothers and parallel players in the major leagues for eight years, Dutch and Irish Meusel were powerful hitters, though only average fielders, but both had rifle arms. They ended their careers with virtually identical batting averages, Bob at .309 and Irish at .310. They played against each other in three consecutive World Series, Bob with the Yankees and Irish with the Giants. Both had limited tenures in the Pacific Coast League and spent portions of their off-season playing in the California Winter League.



10. Charley Hall introducing Bob Meusel: So reads George's caption on the back of this photograph. What is most interesting/curious about it is the background, presumably the Ventura County "Bathhouse Grounds."

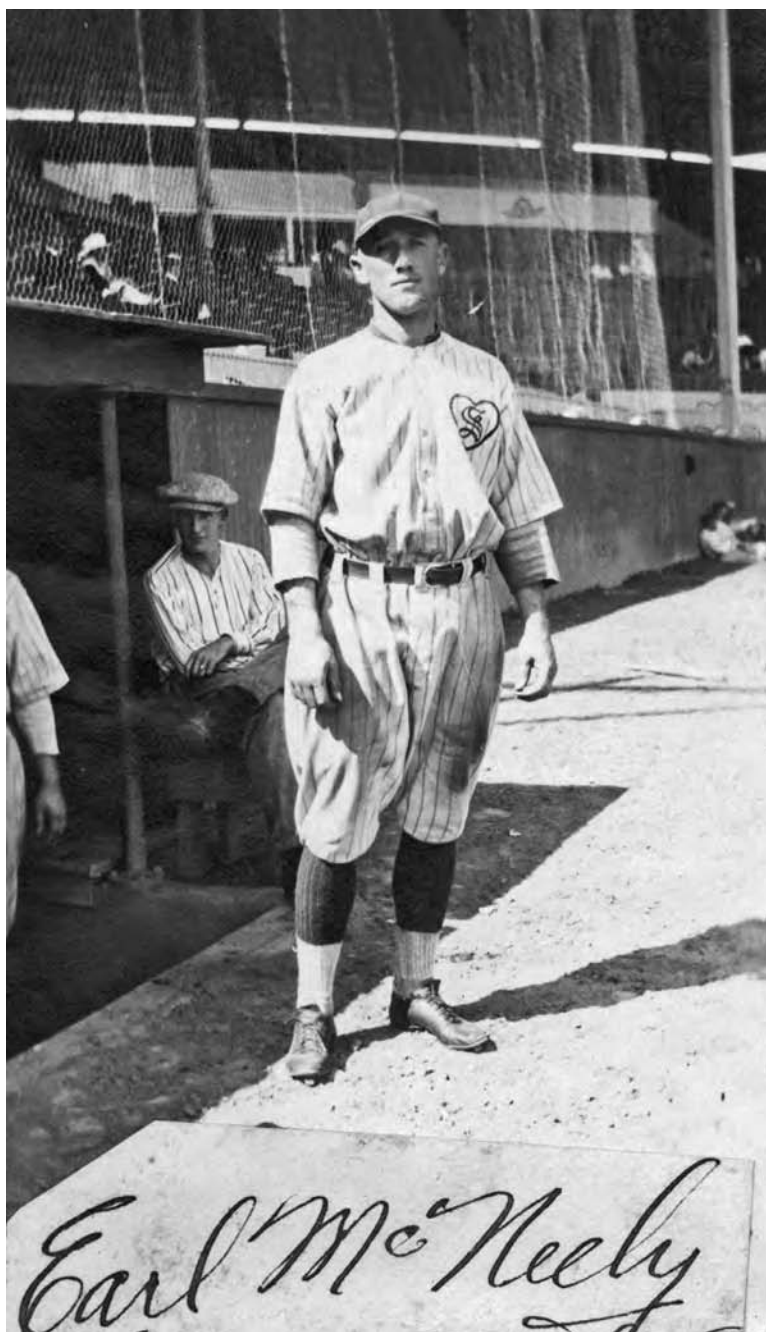


II. Chet "Pinch" Thomas: Thomas was a catcher who played on pennant-winning teams in Boston (1915, 1916) and Cleveland (1920) during the deadball era. Although generally a weak hitter (.237), he did have a pinch-hit average of .416 between 1913 and 1918, thus the nickname.

The Sacramento team was one of five PCL outfits that George photographed extensively in 1922. The Senators finished a dismal eighth in the league that year, winning only 76 of 200 games. This was particularly noteworthy since Sacramento had finished second in 1921 and would do so again in 1923. The 1922 team was wracked with injuries, however, and quickly fell out of contention. Many of the individuals George photographed played with Sacramento all three years, so their sub-par performance in 1922 should be viewed in a more extended context. Some, such as Fritz Mollwitz, Charlie Pick, and Pete Compton, had earlier seen limited major league duty, while Earl McNeely's big league service lay ahead of him. In the case of catcher Les Cook, he went on to a lengthy and distinguished career as a PCL trainer, reportedly becoming one of the most popular and respected men in the league.



12. Fred "Fritz" Mollwitz: A slick-fielding first baseman, the German-born Mollwitz was one of the Senators' more consistent players during the early 1920s. He had arrived in Sacramento in 1920 with seven years of journeyman major league experience. Mollwitz is one of the few players who actually struck a pose for GEO.¹



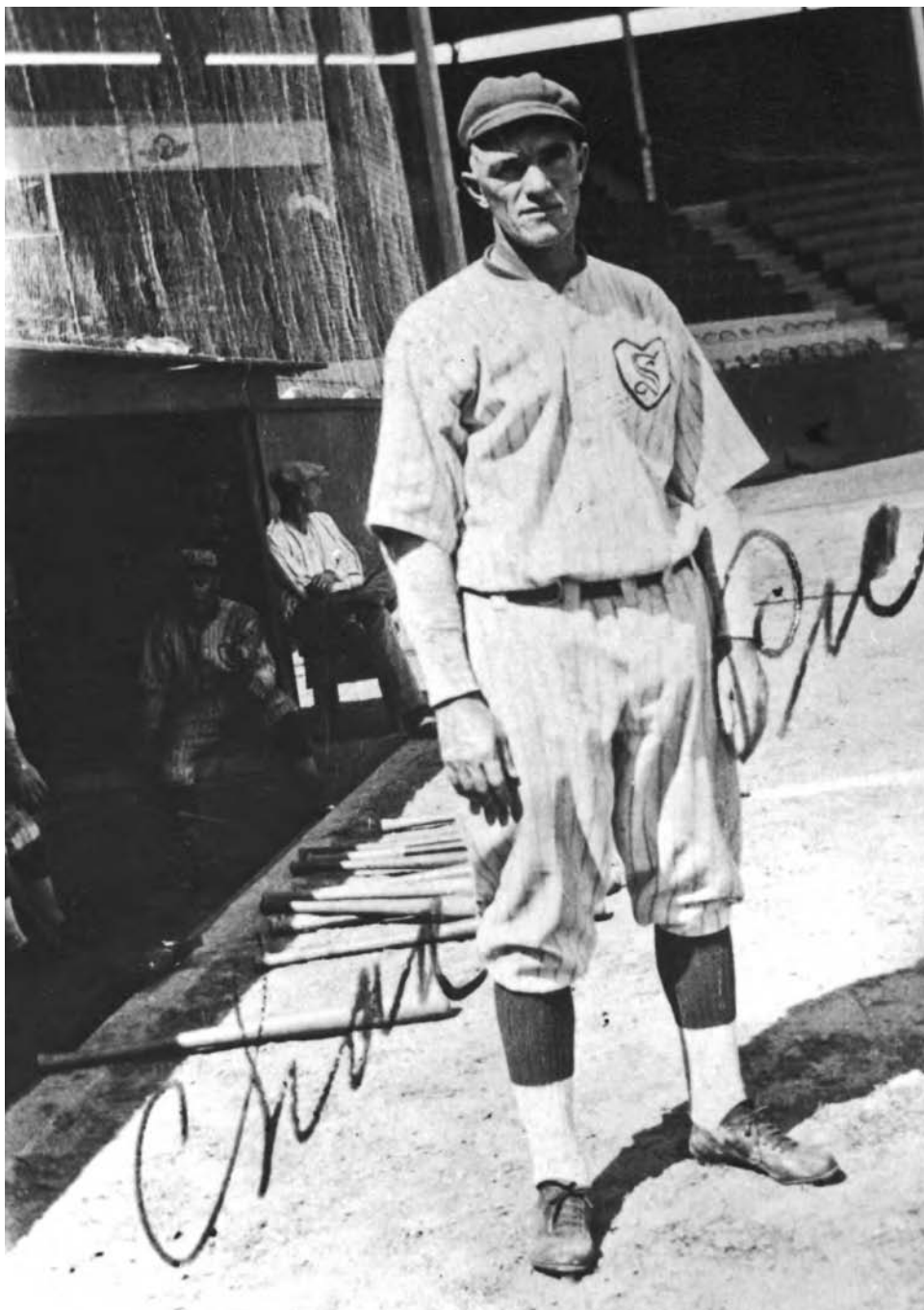
13. **Earl McNeely:** Posing in nearly the identical spot as Mollwitz, outfielder Earl McNeely was just beginning his promising career in 1922. He moved up to the major leagues in 1924 and averaged .272 over eight years in basically a backup role. McNeely is remembered for hitting the 12th inning, seventh-game, bad-hop ground ball that won the 1924 World Series for the Washington Senators.



14. Merlin Kopp and Bobby Schang: Speedy Merlin Kopp (left) was a regular in the Sacramento outfield from 1920 through 1928. A consistent .280s hitter, he hit .337 in 1923 while leading the league with 80 stolen bases. Primarily a catcher, Bobby Schang was forced to fill in at third base for the injury-riddled Senators during 1922. He was a very reliable utility man up through the 1924 season.



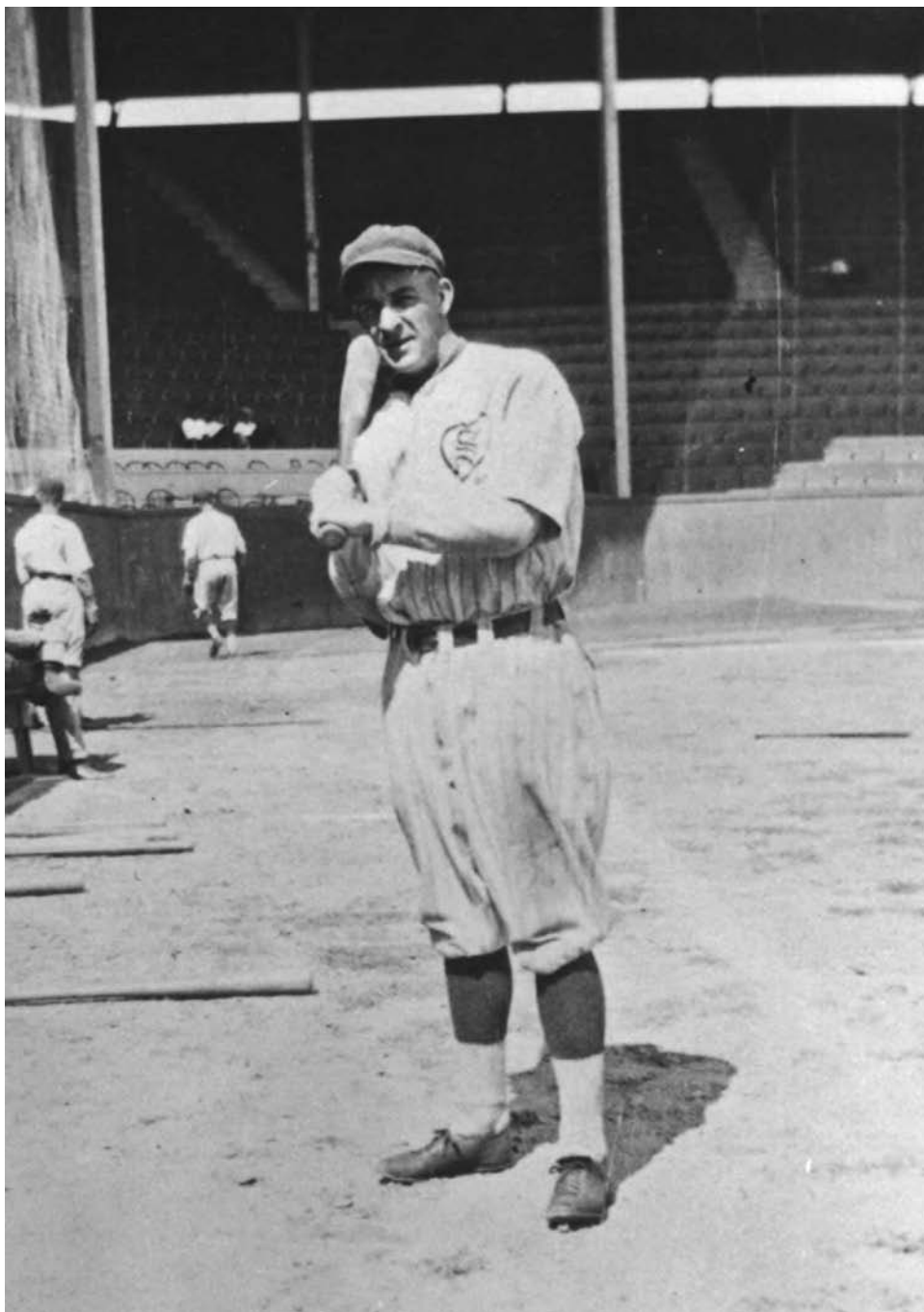
15. Walter "Pard" Pearce: Acquired at the beginning of 1922, shortstop Pard Pearce played only one unremarkable year (.238 average) with Sacramento. At the end of the season, he was traded to Salt Lake City for whom he played in 1923 and 1924.



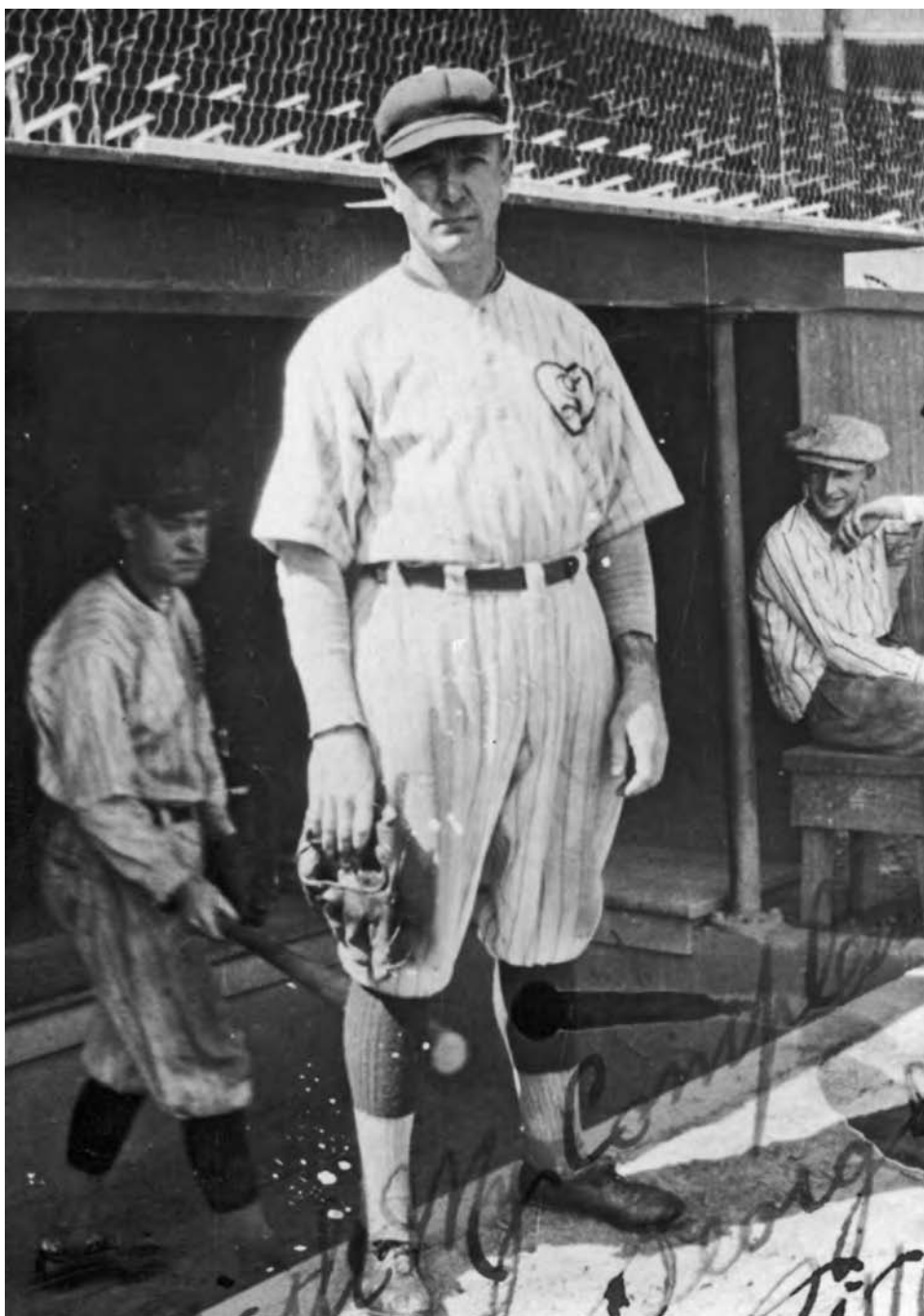
16. Charlie Pick: A veteran third baseman who hit .328 in 1921, he then transitioned into the manager's role for the Senators from 1922 through 1924. Pick had knocked around the major leagues between 1914 and 1920 and hit .389 for the Chicago Cubs during the 1918 World Series.



17. Robert O.D. "Rod" Murphy: Murphy was an infielder who hit .277 for Sacramento and Seattle in 1922, sandwiched in between four .300-plus seasons, two with Seattle (1920-21) and two with Vernon (1923-24).



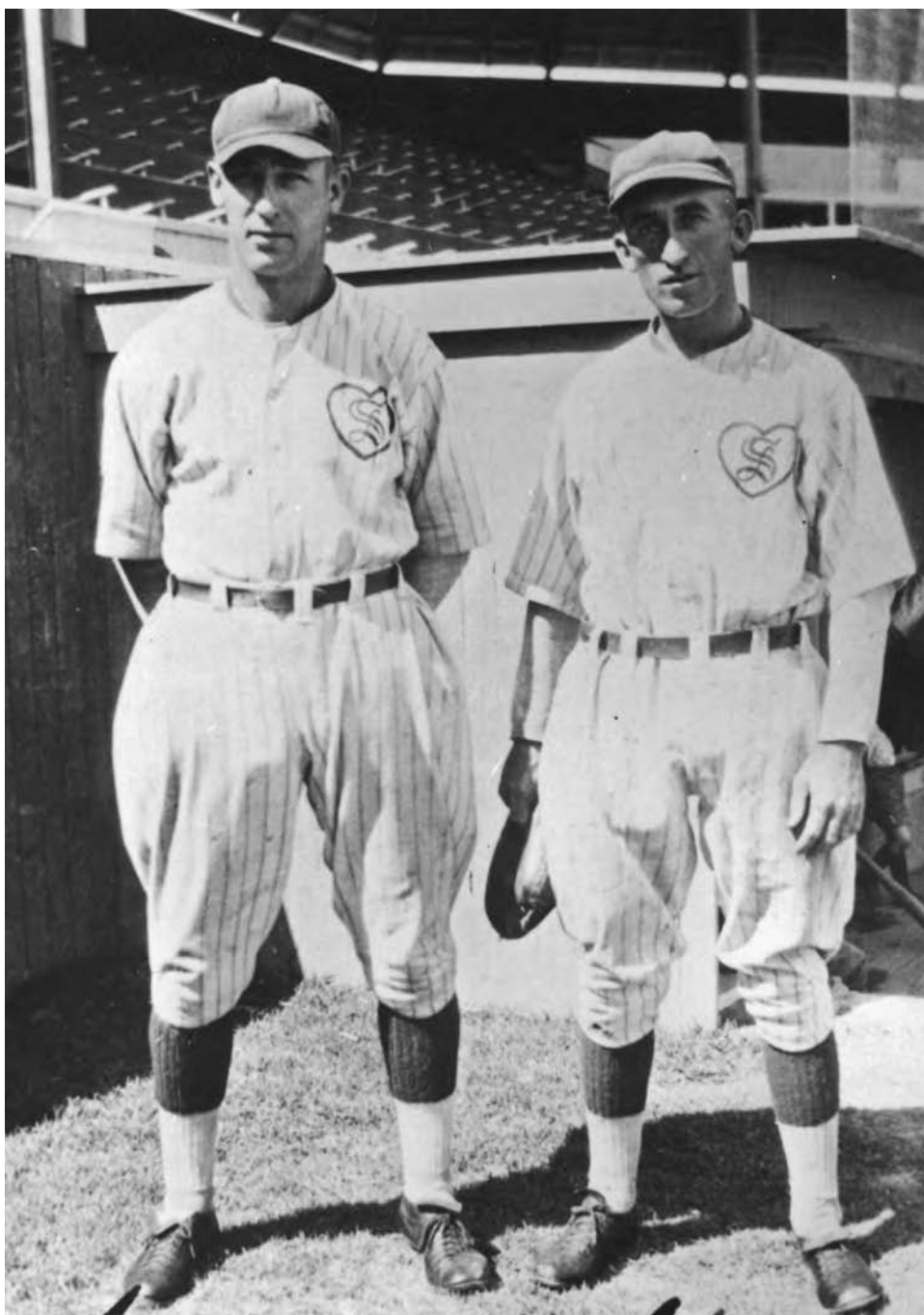
18. Marty ("Patsy") McGaffigan: A leading base stealer and Sacramento's regular second baseman from 1919 through 1922, McGaffigan had come down from the Philadelphia Phillies where he had limited playing time during 1917 and 1918. The Senators traded him to Oakland at the end of the 1922 season.



19. Paul Fittery: Fittery was a workhorse pitcher in the Coast League for eight years, the last four of which (1920–23) were spent with Sacramento where he went 75–75. Fittery won only one game in the major leagues—with the 1917 Phillies—but had 293 victories in the minors.



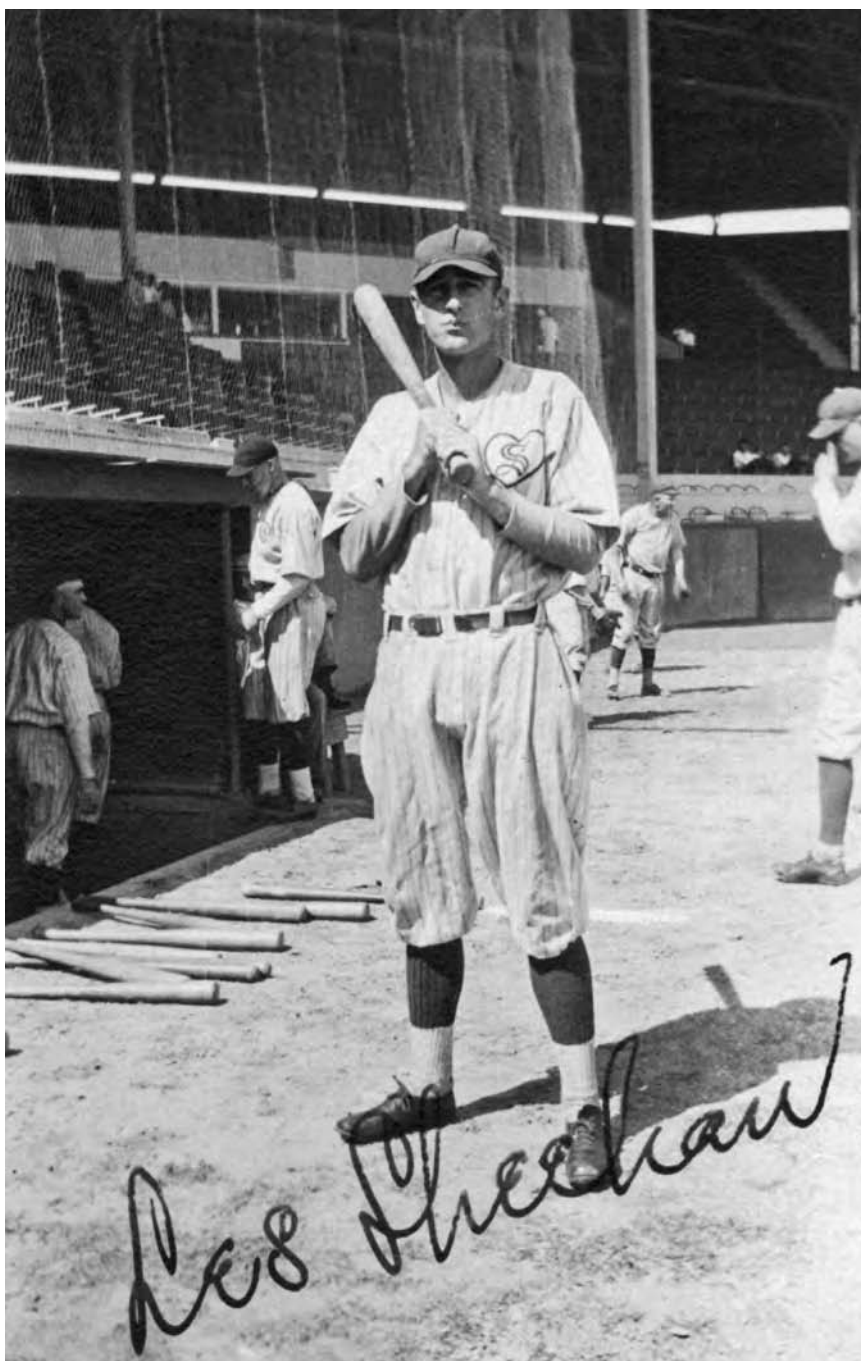
20. Carroll Canfield: Canfield pitched for the Senators between 1921 and 1927. He had a dismal 4–13 record during 1922, the year this picture was taken. His son, Carroll Canfield Jr., later caught in the Pacific Coast League.



21. Ken Penner and Les Cook: Battery mates for the 1922 Senators, Penner (left) and Cook had long careers in baseball. Penner's spanned 27 years as a pitcher, and he won 330 games in the minors. Les "Doc" Cook was a journeyman catcher who later made his reputation as the popular and long-time trainer for the San Diego Padres.



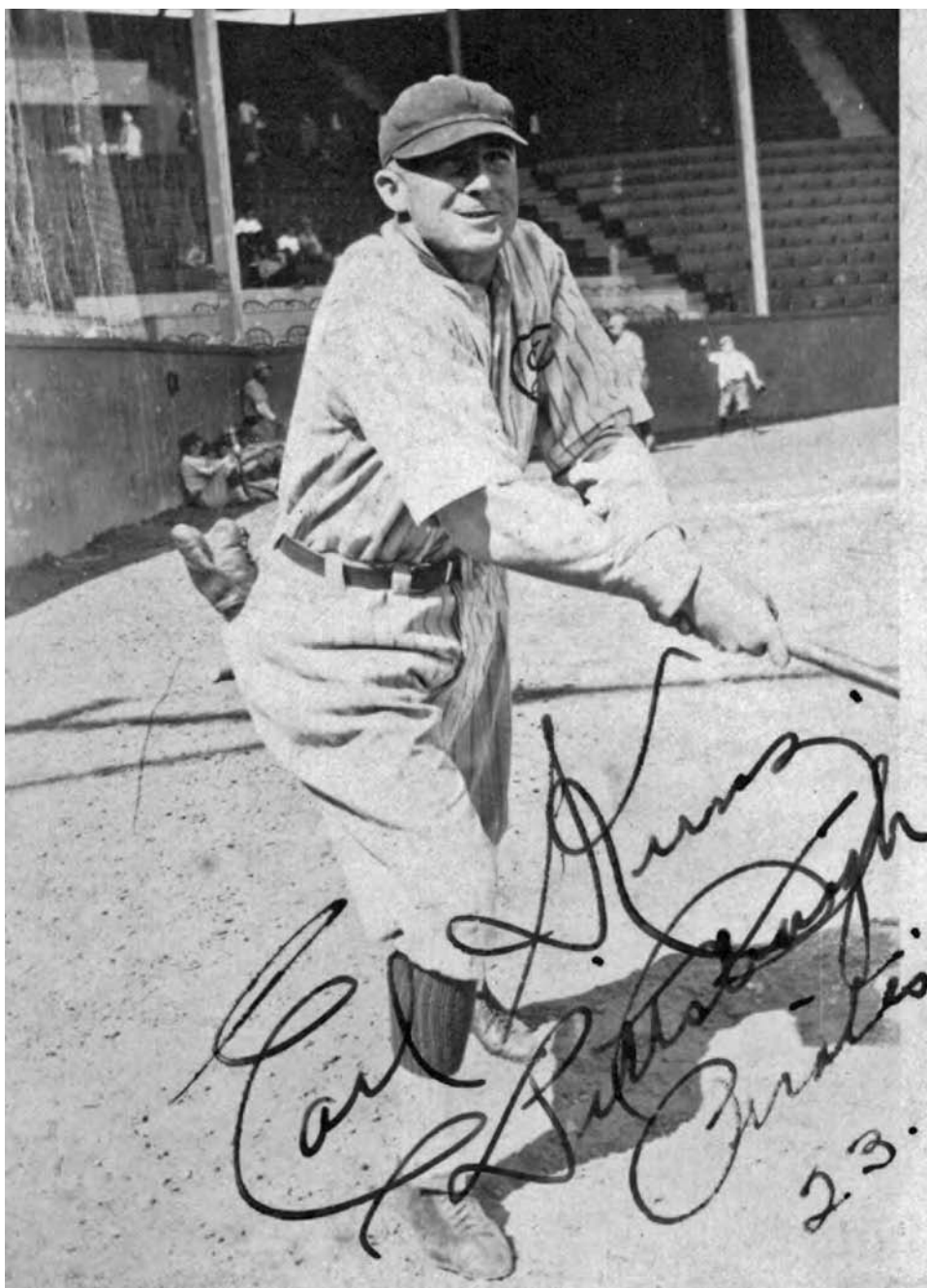
22. **Buddy Ryan:** A stocky, good-hitting outfielder, Ryan averaged .295 over the course of his 14 years in the Coast League and also hit .282 for Cleveland during 1912 and 1913. He closed out his playing career in Sacramento from 1920 to 1923 and returned to manage the Senators from late 1924 to mid-1932.



23. **Les Sheehan:** A versatile player who was able to fill in at many positions, Sheehan was particularly valuable during the Senators' injury-plagued 1922 season. He was sent to Salt Lake City in 1923 where his batting average thrived in the thin mountain air. He returned to Sacramento for a final year in 1928.



24. Bill Prough: Prough was a workhorse pitcher in the Pacific Coast League from 1914 through 1924 with Oakland and Sacramento. The last six years were with the Senators, and he won an even 20 games in 1920, 1921 and 1923. His only major league appearance was in 1912 when he pitched three innings in one game for Cincinnati.



25. Earl "Pinch" Kunz: Kunz pitched in the Coast League from 1920 through 1930 with the exception of 1923 when he had a brief stint with the Pittsburgh Pirates. The autograph on this picture is from that one year, 1923, even though the picture was taken in 1922. Kunz won 23 games for Oakland in 1924, his best single season. Overall his Coast League record was 109–128.



26. Anna Sebastian “Pete” Compton: A career .300 hitter in the minor leagues, outfielder Pete Compton had five productive years in the Coast League between 1919 and 1923. He split the 1922 season between Sacramento and San Francisco. Earlier in his career he had seen limited major league duty with St. Louis in the American League and Boston, Pittsburgh, and New York in the National League.

The Portland Beavers finished in seventh place in 1922, but they were 11½ games ahead of Sacramento and only ½ game behind sixth-place Oakland. Their 87 wins marked a 36-game improvement over their dismal 1921 record when they ended the season with a winning percentage of .276. In 1923, they moved up to third place with a 107–89 record. The progress was largely a result of new ownership and improved playing talent although in 1922 the field management of the team was in flux. Duke Kenworthy was initially in charge until he was suspended by Judge Landis for jumping his contract with Seattle. Kenworthy was succeeded for a while by Tom Turner, who eventually became co-owner of the team in 1924, and finally by pitcher Jim Middleton, who finished the 1922 season and continued for all of 1923. Of the players Outland photographed, first baseman Jim Poole (.299, 22 home runs), outfielder Dick Cox (.295, 6 home runs) and pitcher/manager Middleton (15–16, 4.03 ERA) were among the team leaders. Former Olympian Jim Thorpe also contributed a .308 average but had only 120 at-bats.



27. William Jennings "Duke" Kenworthy: Between 1913 and 1921, Kenworthy was a solid .300 hitter, spread about equally between the major leagues (989 at-bats) and the Coast League (1017 at-bats). He was suspended as Portland manager in early 1922 for having jumped his contract with Seattle following a solid .343 season. Kenworthy was reinstated in 1924.



28. Jim Poole: He was a long-time minor leaguer who collected more than 3000 hits, 977 of which came during his four years with Portland between 1921 and 1924. Elevated to the Philadelphia Athletics in 1925, Poole hit .298 in 133 games followed by .294 in 112 games in 1926. After 38 games in 1927, however, it was back to the minors for the rest of his career.



29. Dick Cox: A good-hitting outfielder for the Beavers from 1920 to 1924, Cox's .356 average with 25 home runs in 1924 earned him a two-year major league shot with Brooklyn where he hit .314 in 832 at-bats. As with Jim Poole, however, he was back in the Coast League by 1927, this time with the Los Angeles Angels.



30. Jim Thorpe: In this photograph, Thorpe is undoubtedly contemplating the mysteries of the curve ball. In six partial seasons in the majors, the man considered the country's greatest all-around athlete during the first half of the 20th century hit only .252. He appeared in 35 games during his short stay with Portland in 1922.



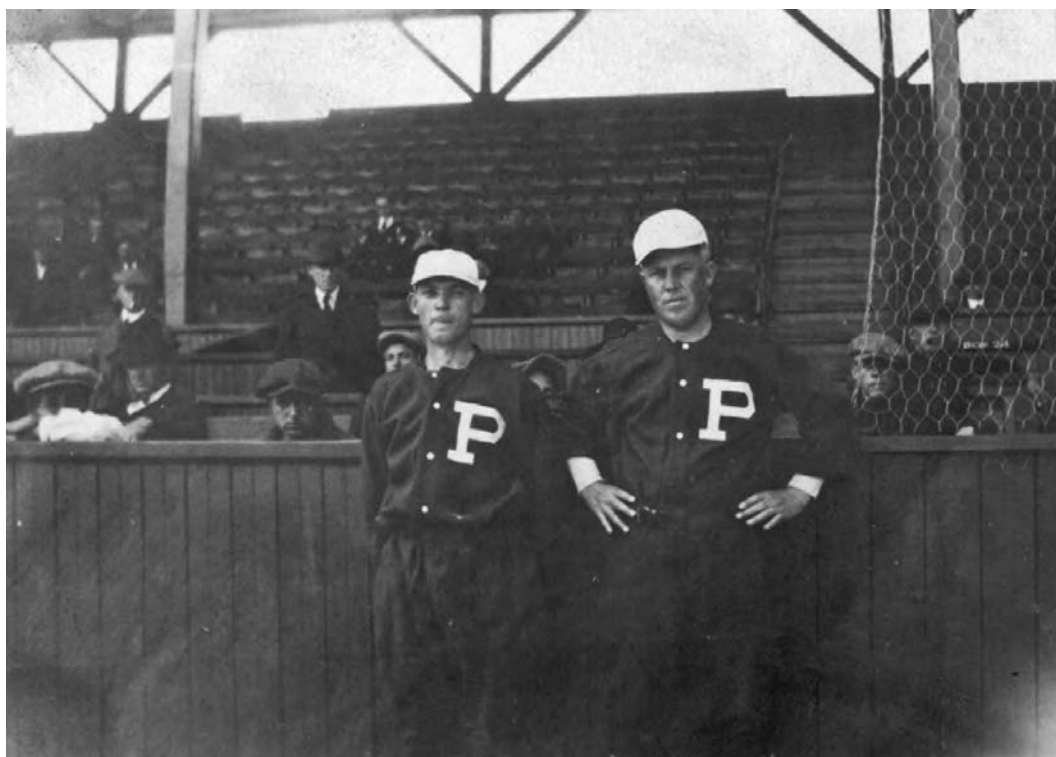
31. Jim Thorpe and Rowdy Elliot: Thorpe's companion in the second photograph, Harold "Rowdy" Elliot (left), was a catcher who was sold to Portland by Sacramento at the beginning of 1922. He, too, had had a short major league career (402 at-bats spread over five seasons) and lasted only one year with Portland.



32. Andrew V. "Rip" King; King shared catching duties with Rowdy Elliot during 1922.



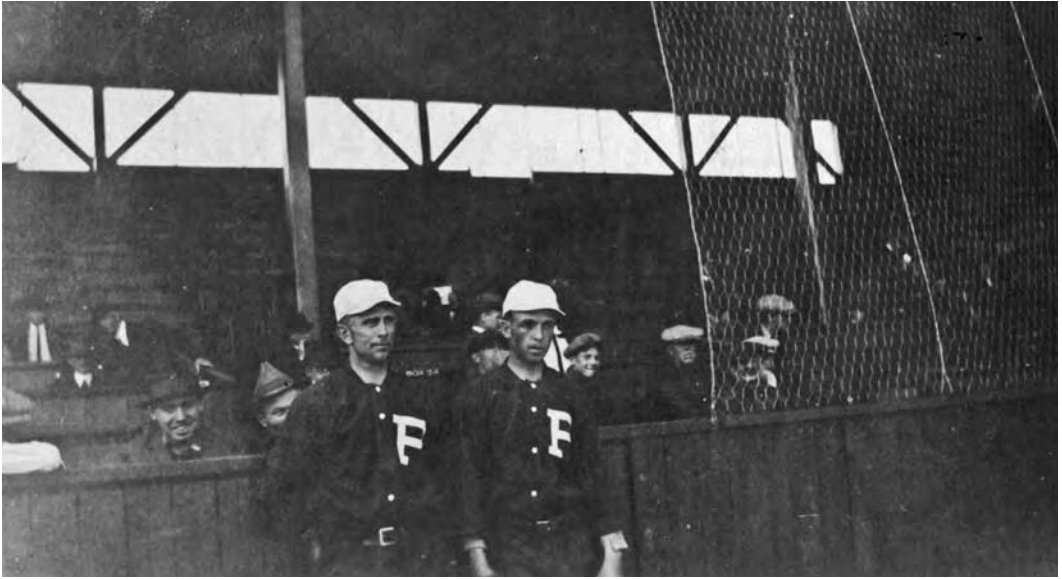
33. **Harry Biemiller:** Another one-year (1922) player for the Beavers, pitcher Harry Biemiller went 6–10 in 138 innings. His coat suggests a relatively chilly day at Washington Park.



34. Harry Biemiller and Tom Turner: In this photograph Biemiller (left) poses with Tom Turner, who managed the Beavers during the middle part of the 1922 season and then became club owner in late 1924.



35. **Roy Crumpler:** There is a reason for Roy Crumpler to look dejected in this picture since he was part of a generally ineffective Portland pitching staff. In 1922 he was 13–17 and, like most of the Portland pitchers, was responsible for more bases on balls than strikeouts. He split time between Portland and Salt Lake in 1923 and went 12–14 with a ERA of 5.67. Crumpler was out of the league by 1924.



36. Sam Ross and Jim Middleton: Only the white hats and letter P show up very well in this photograph of pitchers Sam Ross (left) and Jim Middleton. Ross had been a mainstay on the Beavers' pitching staff during 1920 and 1921 despite losing 20 or more games both seasons. Middleton was 15–16 in 1922 and finished the year as manager of the team. Overall in his career he won 259 games in the minors and seven in the majors.



37. Emmett McCann and Joe Sargent: 1922 was the only year that Sargent (right) played for Portland and thus the only year that he and McCann were together. McCann was the starting shortstop in 1922 but moved to second base for the 1923–25 seasons. He hit over .300 during each of these three seasons. Sargent was a reserve infielder on the 1922 team and hit .256 in 425 at-bats.

The Los Angeles Angels finished in third place in 1922, 16 games off the pace but with a respectable 111-88 record. This .558 winning percentage was nevertheless a drop from their pennant-winning .574 of the preceding year. Some of their stars, particularly Doc Crandall, had disappointing seasons, and pitcher Elmer Ponder, whose record at the time stood at 10-2, was lost for the season in June due to a shoulder injury. George's pictures of the Angels were taken early in the year, however, when prospects of a repeat pennant seemed good.



38. **Wade “Red” Killefer:** Tough and widely respected, Killefer was in his fifth year as manager of the Angels in 1922. He had winning seasons each year. As a player, he had served as a utilityman for four major league teams between 1907 and 1916. Red was the older brother of “Raindeer Bill” Killefer with whom he shared a managerial rivalry during their later careers.



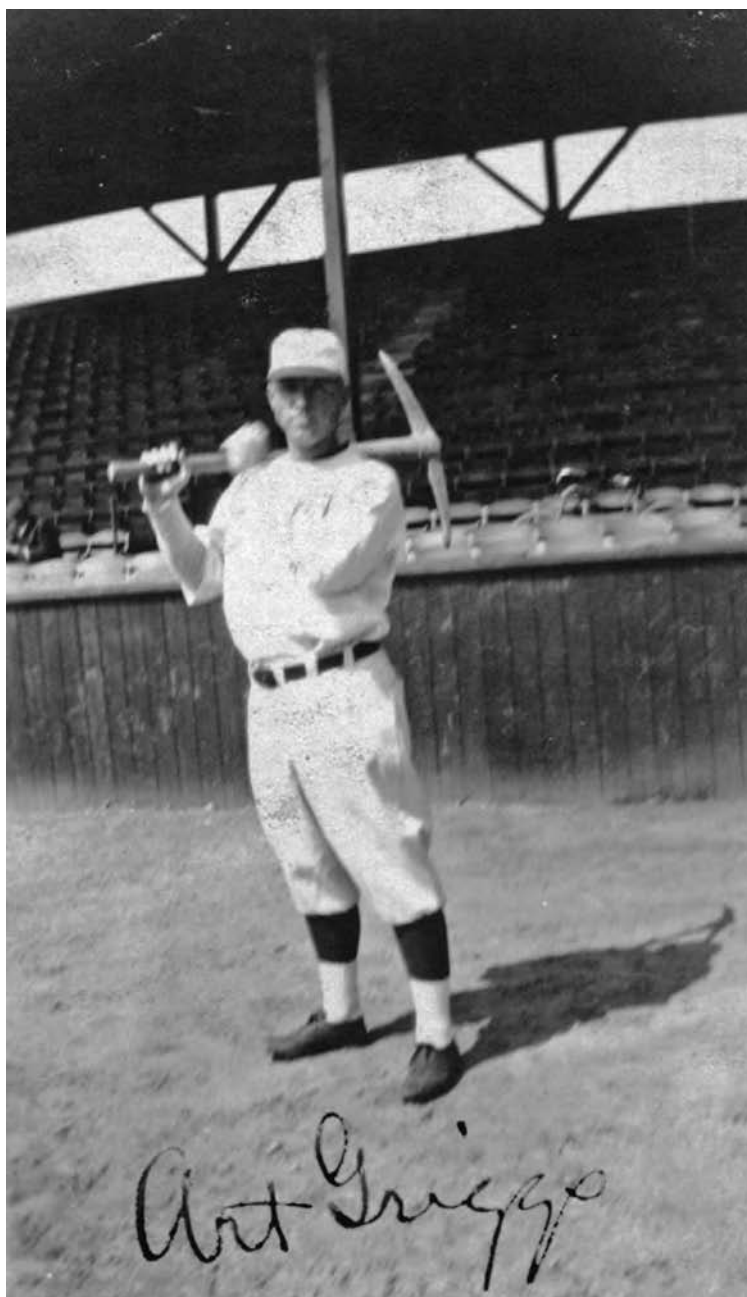
39. **Elmer Ponder:** Hopes were high for Ponder, a World War I aviator, who came to the Angels after four years, 1917-21, in the National League. His best season had been 11-15 with a 2.62 ERA for Pittsburgh in 1920. An injured shoulder cut short his 1922 season, however, and he pitched only one more year for Los Angeles. He later had two-year stints with Salt Lake City (1924-25) and Portland (1927-28) with his best record, 17-9, being posted for the Bees in 1925.



40/41. "Doc" Crandall (two pictures): Every posed picture of Crandall that I have seen, including all of the ones that George took, shows him in almost the identical hands-on-hips position. Crandall's patience with George undoubtedly added to my father's respect for him.



42. Bob Wallace: Bob Wallace pitched for the Angels during 1922 and 1923 and went a cumulative 16–28. His general ineffectiveness is reflected by his 1923 ERA of 5.71 and his horrendous bases on balls (89) to strikeouts (22) ratio.



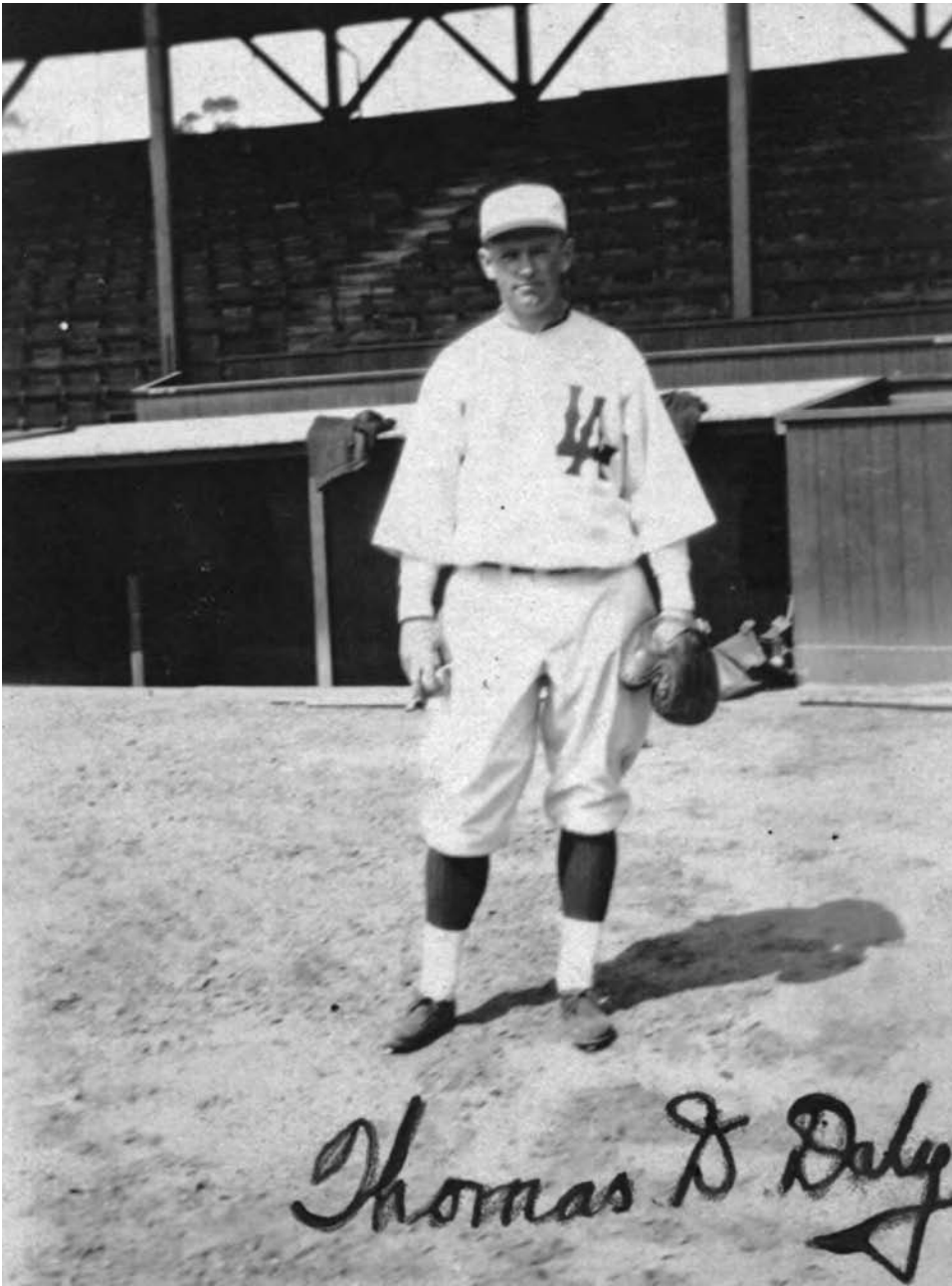
43. **Art Griggs:** A former college football player, Griggs had a twenty-one-year playing career that spanned both the major and minor leagues. One of his best years came in 1922 with the Angels when he hit .338 with 20 homers and 129 RBI in 175 games. His minor league career average over 1,690 games was .313. Griggs later managed teams in Omaha, Wichita, and Tulsa for nine years. It's not clear what the significance of the pick ax is in this picture.



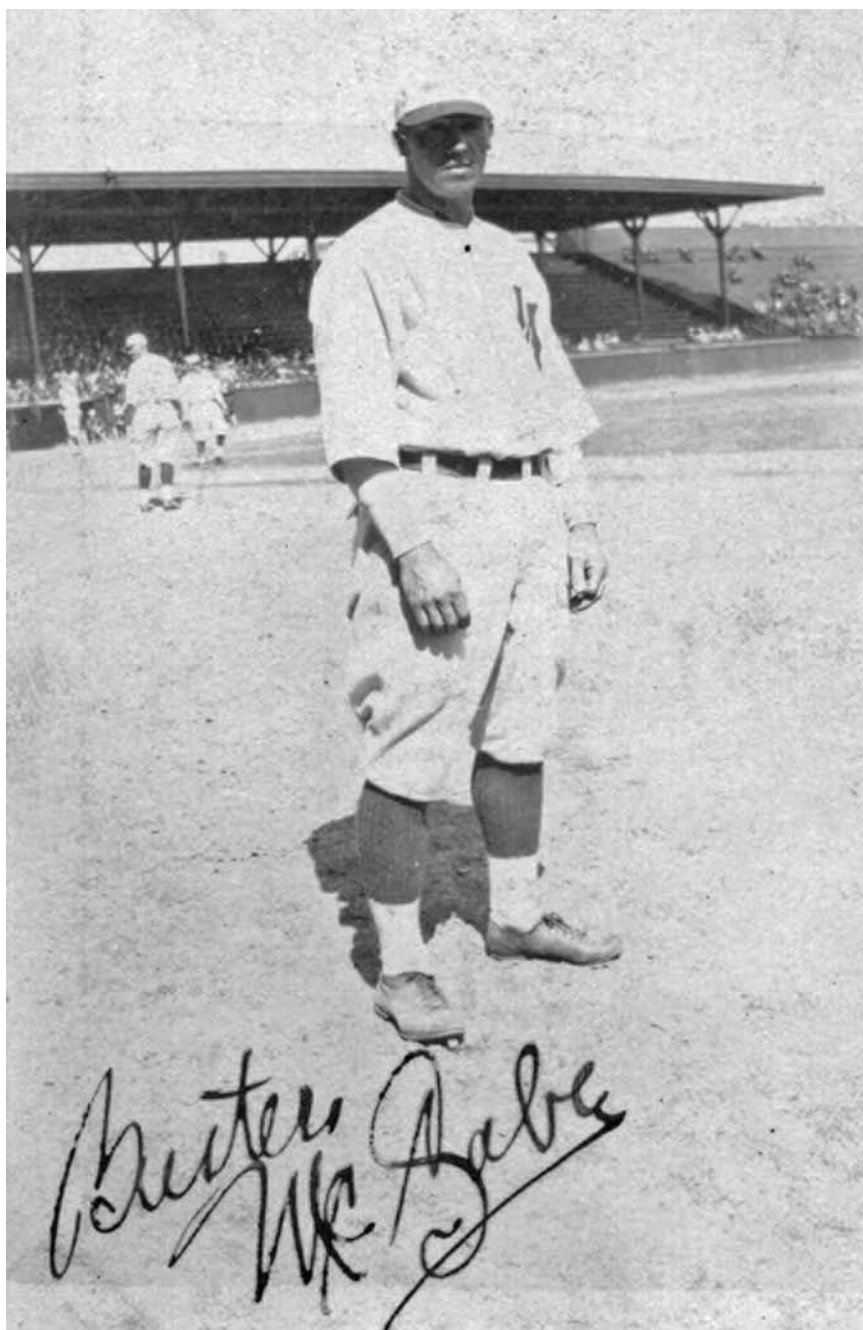
44. Antone “Tony” Rego: A back-up catcher throughout his Coast League career with Los Angeles, San Francisco and Portland, Rego played well enough to earn a similar role with the St. Louis Browns in 1924-25. Here he poses in the appropriate catcher’s position.



45. Dorsey “Dixie” Carroll: A speedy outfielder with a 20-year, minor league batting average of .303, Carroll played only three years in the Coast League (1921–23), all with Los Angeles. During those years he averaged .297 and totaled 37 triples and 84 stolen bases. His only major league experience was in 1919 with the Boston Braves when he played in 15 games. Carroll died in 1984 at the age of 93.

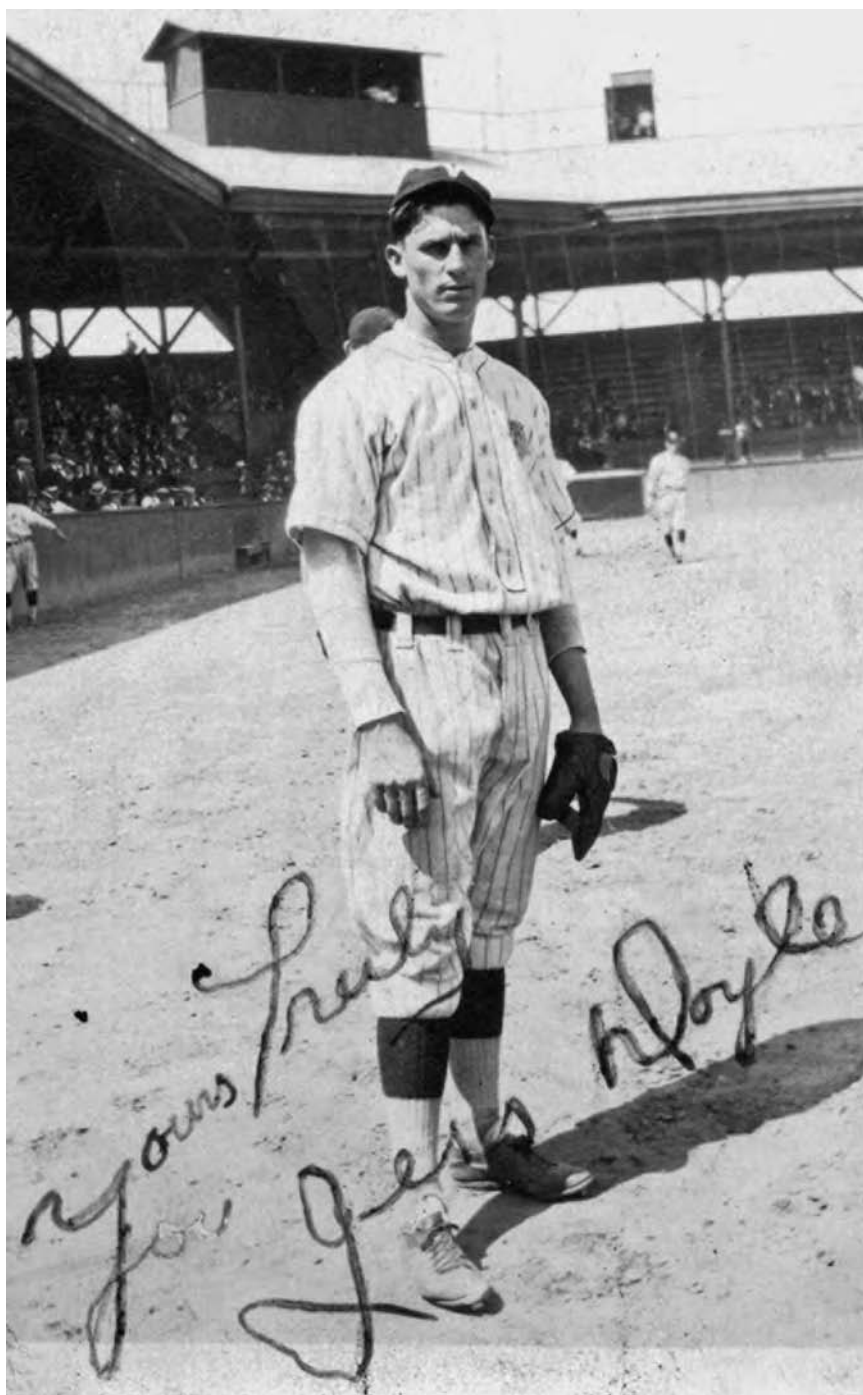


46. Tom Daly: A catcher with a sporadic 244-game major league career between 1913 and 1921, Daly split the catching duties for Los Angeles with Red Baldwin and Tony Rego in 1922 and 1923. Toward the end of the 1923 season, he was traded to Portland where, in 1924, he shared catching responsibility with future Hall of Famer Mickey Cochrane. In 1925, Daly was reunited in Seattle with Red Baldwin as well as with manager Red Killefer.

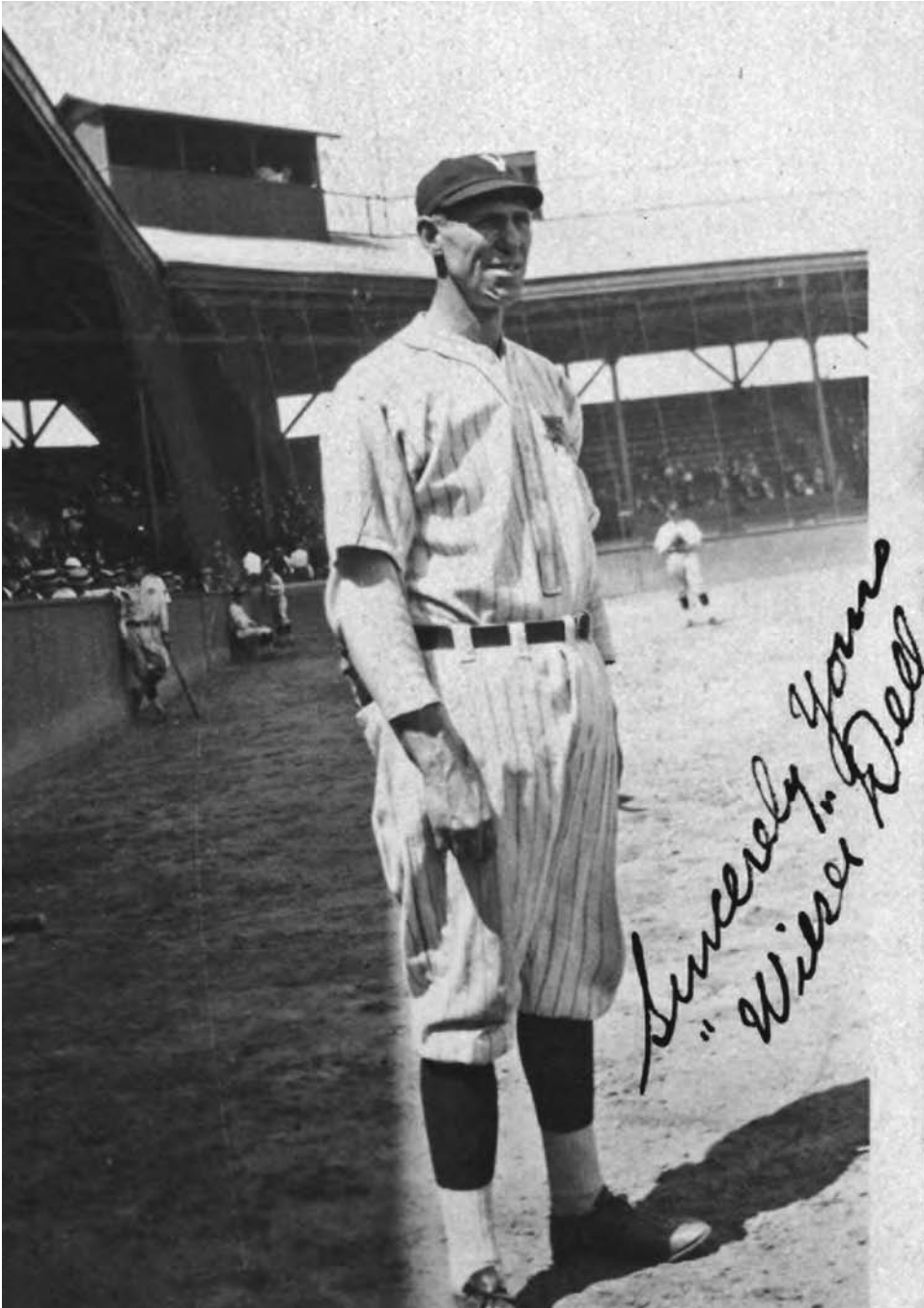


47. William “Buster” McCabe: Another Angel who had a cup of coffee in the major leagues, primarily with the Cubs between 1918 and 1920, McCabe was a regular in the outfield for Los Angeles in 1922 and 1923, hitting .291 and .286, respectively. As with Tom Daly and Red Baldwin, he was reunited with manager Red Killefer in Seattle in 1925 where he hit .280 with 105 RBI.

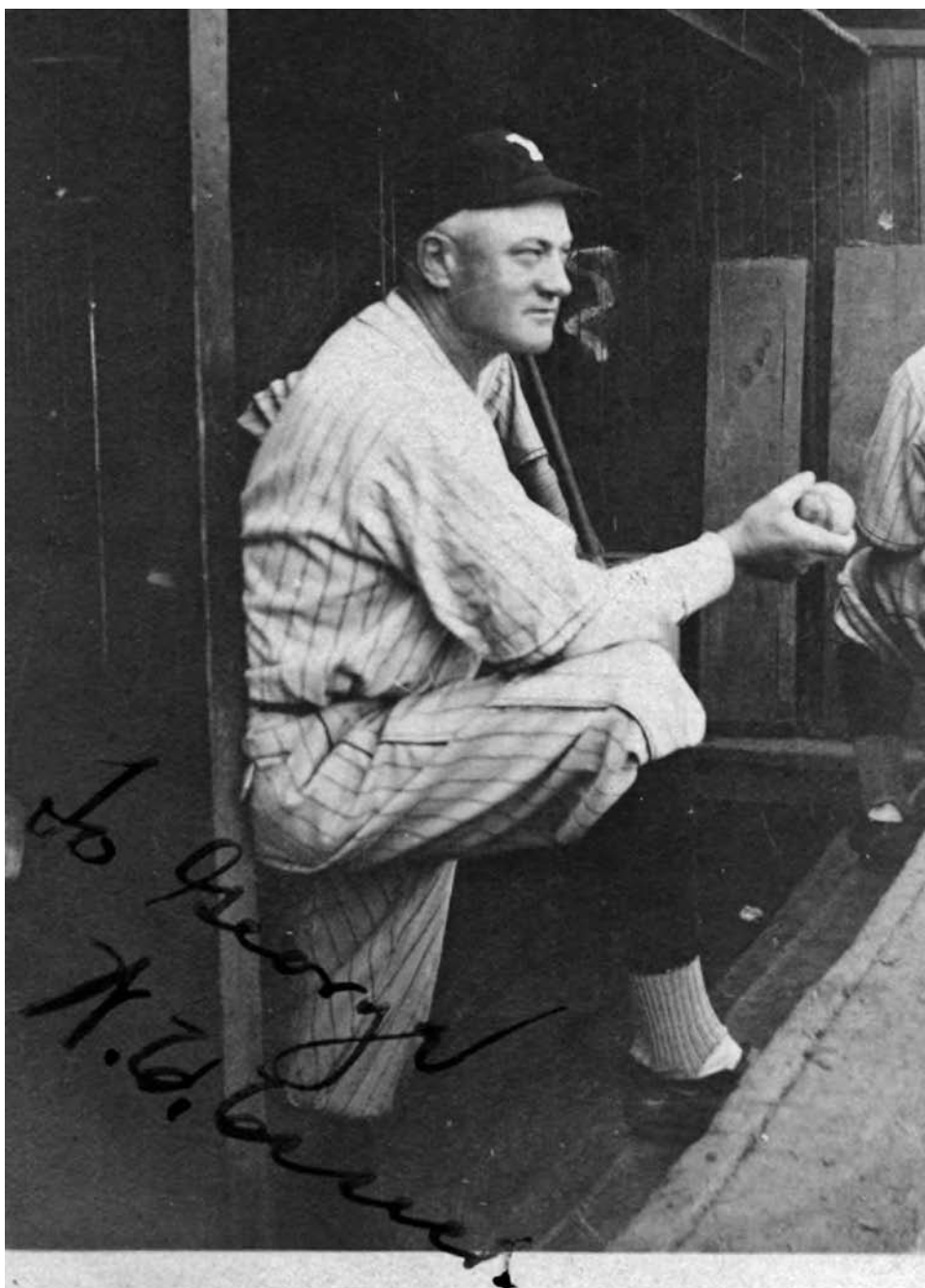
The two teams left fighting for the pennant as the 1922 season wound down were the Vernon Tigers and the San Francisco Seals. They were tied for the lead as late as September 24 with 22 games remaining. With one week left, however, San Francisco had forged a two game lead and was able to extend the final margin to four games by the time the week ended. Vernon had put up a spirited fight against an extraordinarily well-rounded San Francisco team, however, and both clubs were populated with players whose names are familiar to serious baseball fans. Vernon's strength lay with their veteran personnel and particularly their pitching staff, led by three 20-game winners, Jesse Doyle, Wheezer Dell, and Bill James, and one 35 game winner, Jackie May. Young George was able to get pictures of them all.



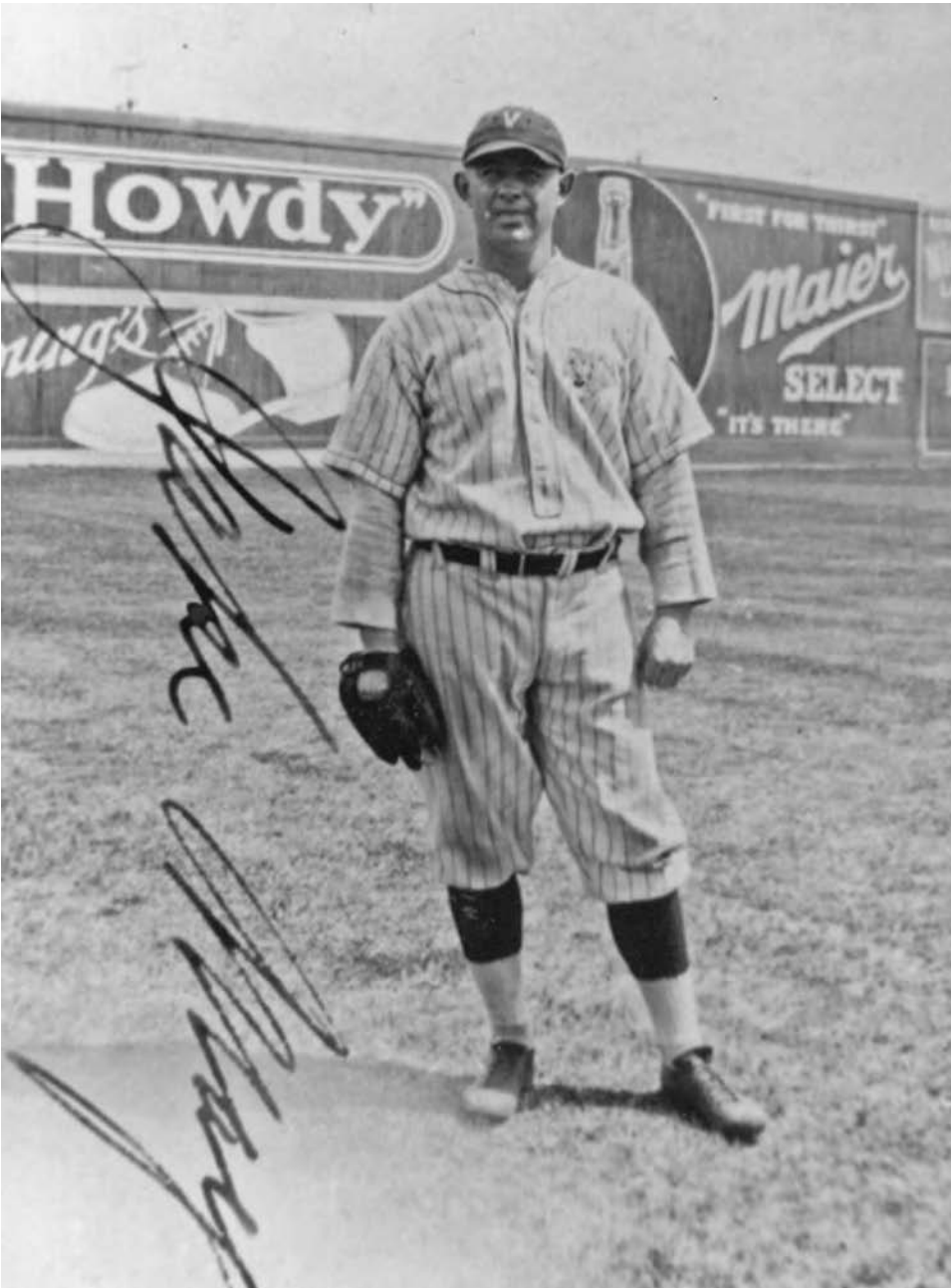
48. **Jesse Doyle:** Doyle pitched for Vernon for one year and went 20–15. He got into 45 games with the Detroit Tigers in 1925 and went 4–7 but pitched only 17.2 innings for the rest of his major league career.



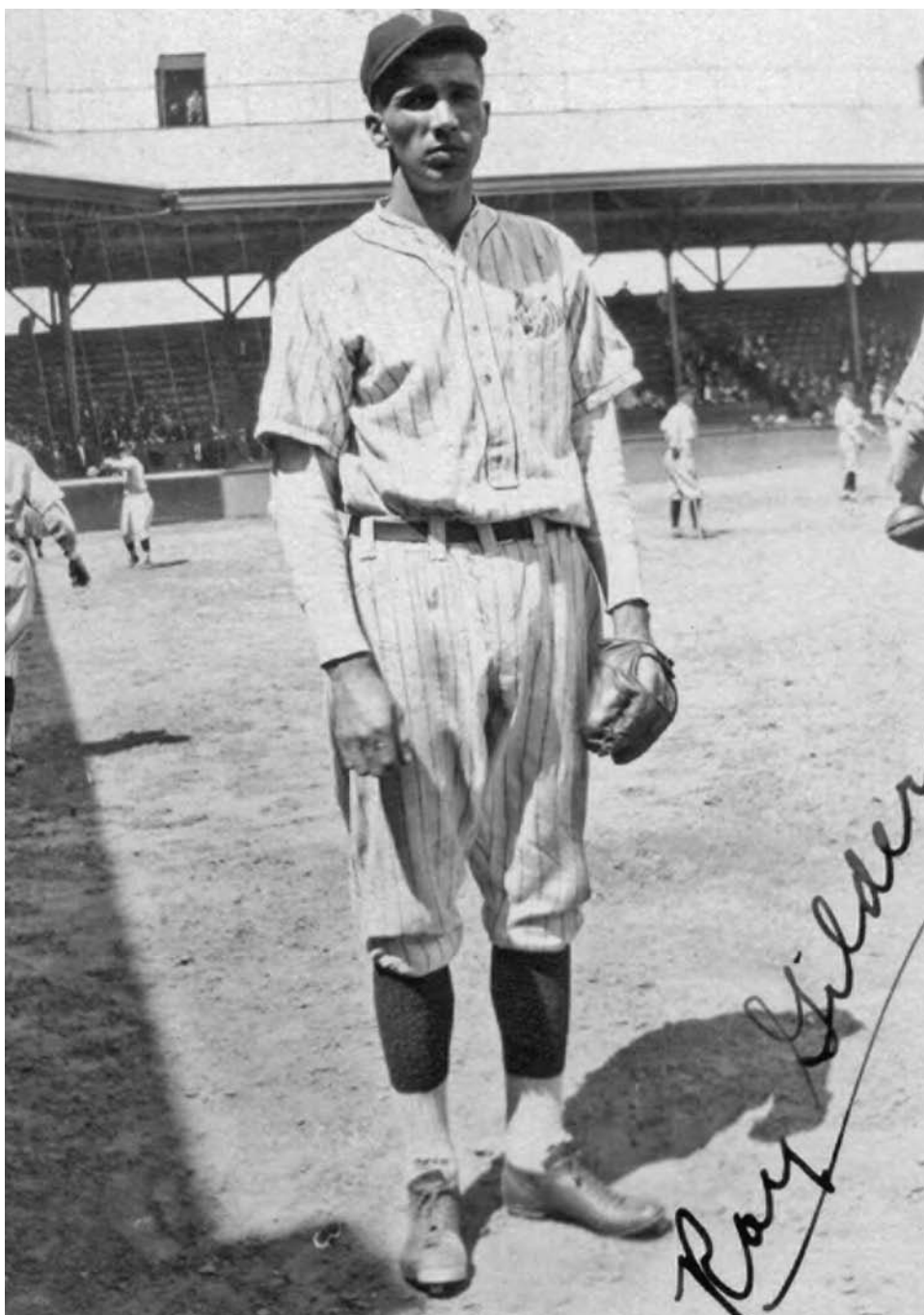
49. William "Wheezer" Dell: A tall righthander, Dell had four 20-win seasons for Vernon between 1919 and 1922. His major league experience consisted of three years with Brooklyn from 1915 to 1917 where he went 19-23 with a commendable ERA of 2.55. Notice in his autograph for GEO that he spells his nickname "Wieser."



50. William "Big Bill" James: Like Wieser Dell, Big Bill stood 6' 4". He pitched eight years in the American League for five different teams between 1911 and 1919, winning 64 and losing 71. He pitched 4.2 innings for the Chicago Black Sox during the tainted 1919 World Series. Landing in Vernon in 1922, he went 21–12 with a 3.27 ERA and helped keep the Tigers competitive with San Francisco.



51. **Frank “Jakie” May:** A stocky lefthander, May pitched for the Cardinals in the National League from 1917 to 1921 and was back in the majors with Cincinnati and the Chicago Cubs from 1924 to 1932. In between, he spent two seasons with Vernon in 1922 and 1923. His 1922 season was a pitcher’s dream, as he went 35–9 with a 1.84 ERA. Similar to Bill James, his last major league appearance was a 4.2-inning stint in the 1932 World Series, in May’s case with the Chicago Cubs.



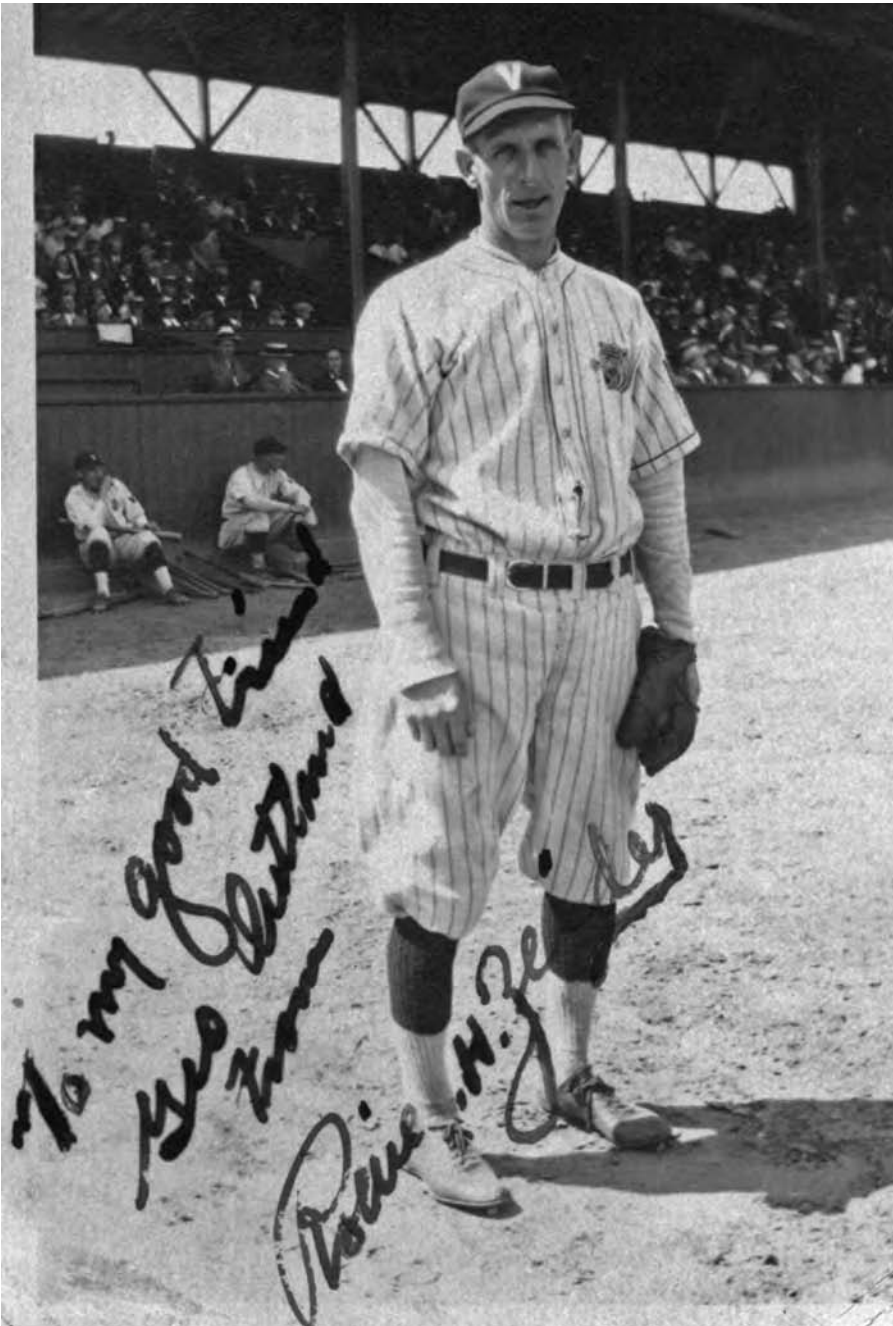
52. **Ray Gilder:** Gilder was the fifth man on the Tigers' 1922 pitching staff, going 9–11 with an ERA of 2.87, second only to May's. In 1923, his numbers slipped to 7–12 and 4.63. Unlike the big four ahead of him Gilder's career did not include major league experience.



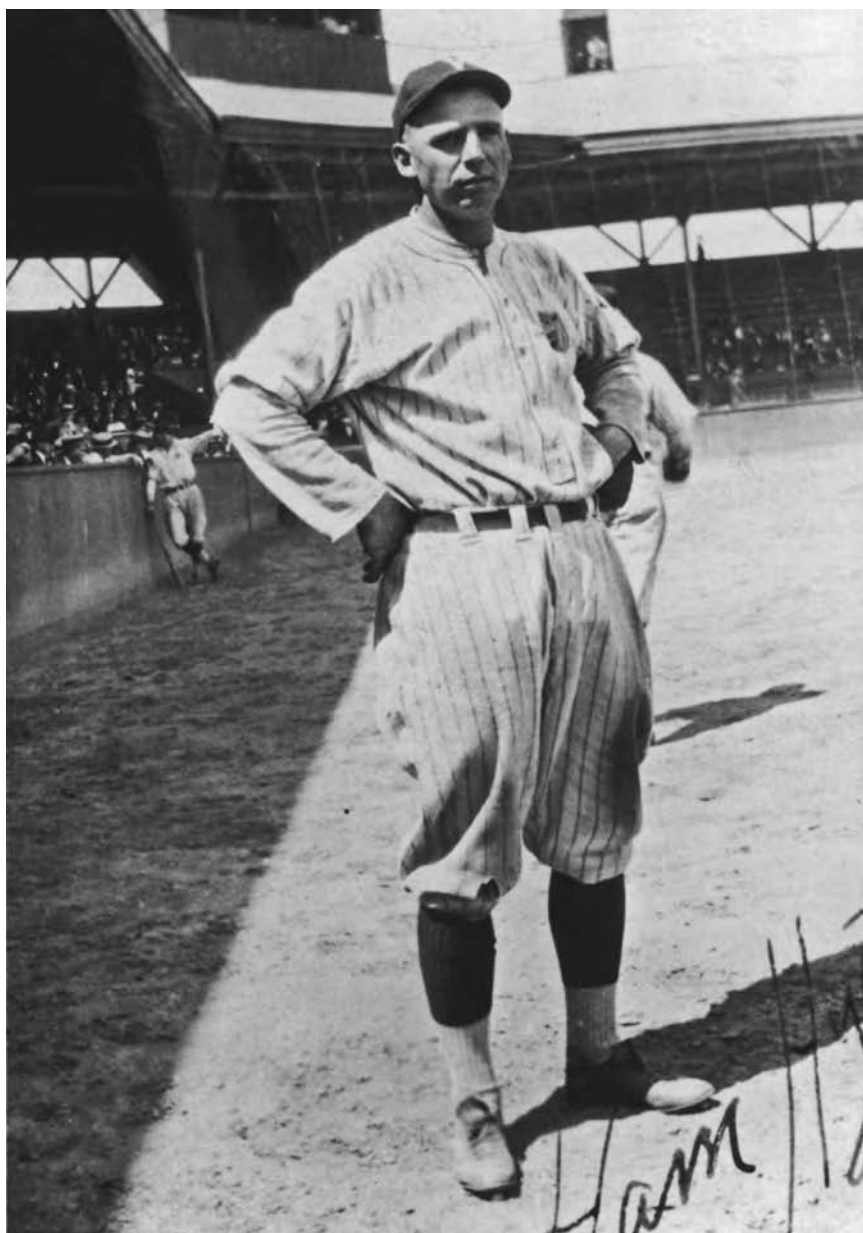
53. Chet Chadbourne: A fleet footed lefthanded hitting outfielder, Chadbourne had a twenty-two-year playing career, half of which was spent in the Coast League with Portland (1911-13) and Vernon (1917-24) plus a brief stint with Oakland in 1917. Between 1919 and 1923, Chadbourne was a model of consistency, averaging between .286 and .317 with over 200 hits and 100 runs a year. His overall minor league career totals place him among the leaders in several categories.



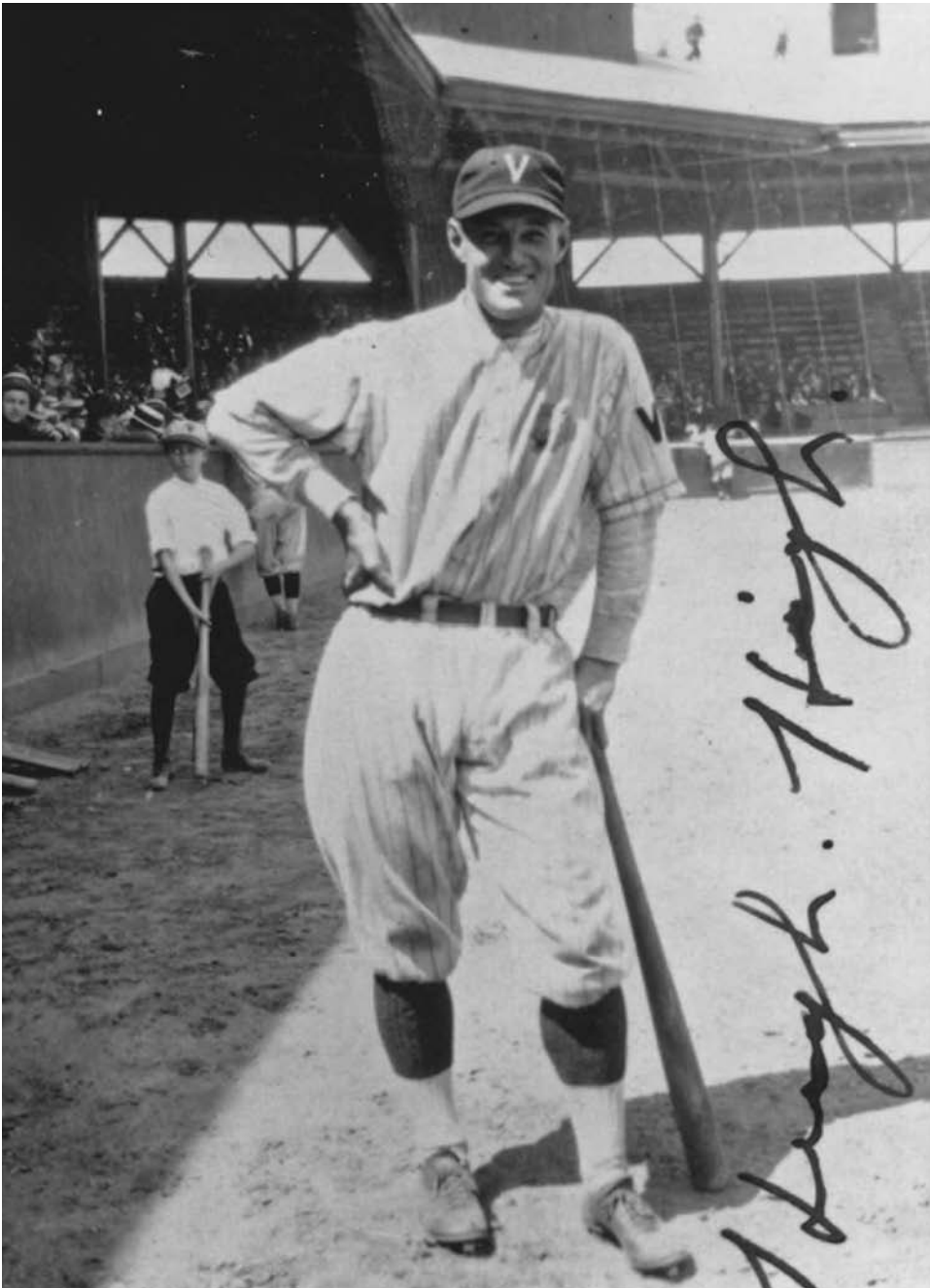
54. **James Carlisle "Red" Smith:** A good-hitting and good-fielding third baseman, Smith was a nine-year veteran of the National League's Brooklyn Dodgers and Boston Braves. He was traded to the "Miracle" Braves in August of 1914 and helped them secure the pennant. Unfortunately, he broke his leg in the last regular-season game and was unable to participate in the World Series. Smith had three-and-a-half outstanding years for Vernon between 1920 and 1923, highlighted by his 1922 season when he hit .349 with 101 RBI in 719 at-bats. He was traded to the Angels midway through the 1923 season. Smith's overall minor league average in 5833 at-bats was .327.



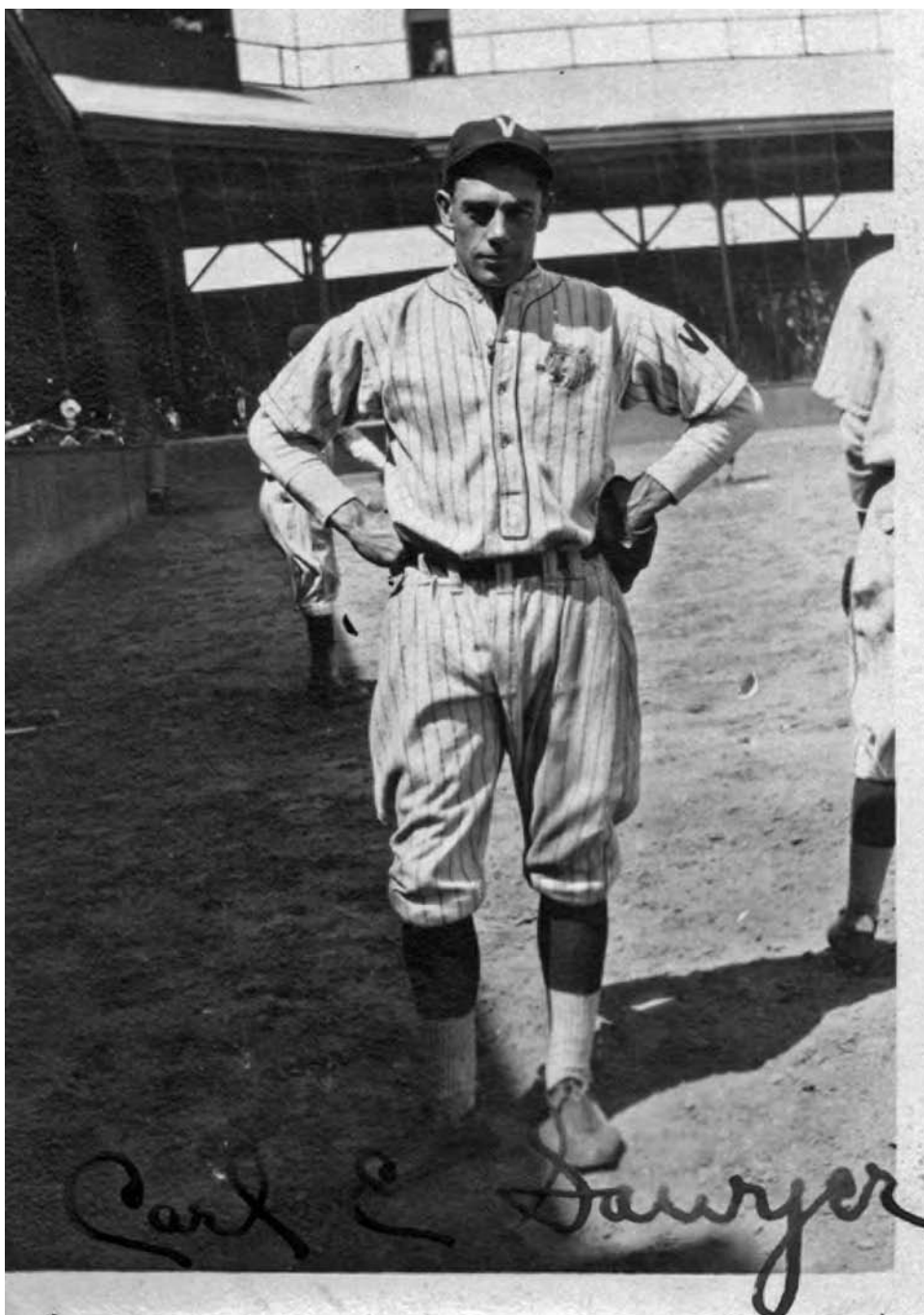
55. Rollie “Bunions” Zeider: This speedy but weak-hitting utility man began his Coast League career in 1907 with San Francisco and ended it in 1923 with Portland. In between, Zeider played for nine years in the majors (1910–1918) with all three Chicago major league teams and the Yankees. He acquired his unusual nickname as a result of a Ty Cobb spiking incident. 1922 was his only full year with Vernon, and he hit .233 in 96 games.



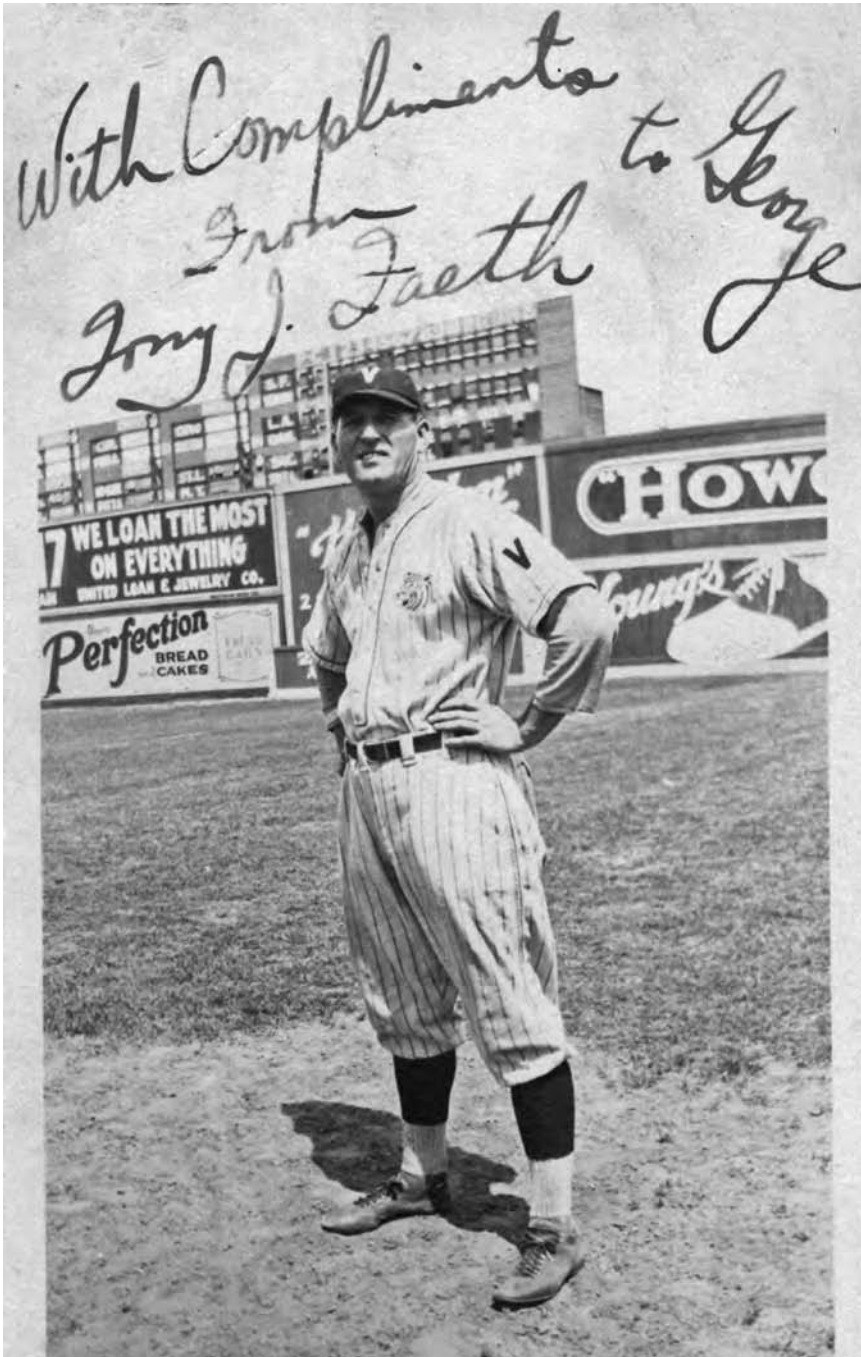
56. **Robert Hamilton “Ham” Hyatt:** Hyatt was an outfielder/first baseman who played in the majors for seven seasons during the 1909–1918 period. His most complete season was with the Cardinals in 1915 when he hit .268 in 106 games, but his most satisfying years were probably spent with Pittsburgh between 1909 and 1914. Frederick G. Lieb, in his 1948 history of the Pirates, described Hyatt as “one of the game’s greatest pinch hitters” although he was “distinctly good hit, no field.”² Lieb was referring specifically to Hyatt’s contributions to the Pirates’ drive for the 1909 pennant. Hyatt’s contributions to Vernon in 1922 were a .318 batting average with 15 home runs and 84 RBI.



57. **Hugh High:** Oldest of the three High brothers, all of whom had major league experience, Hugh was the backup outfielder for two years with Detroit during the days of Cobb, Crawford, and Veach (1913-14). He did play regularly for the Yankees from 1915 through 1917. In 1922 and 1923, Hugh played for Vernon and hit .296 and .340 while brother Charlie was playing for Portland and hitting .316 and .339.



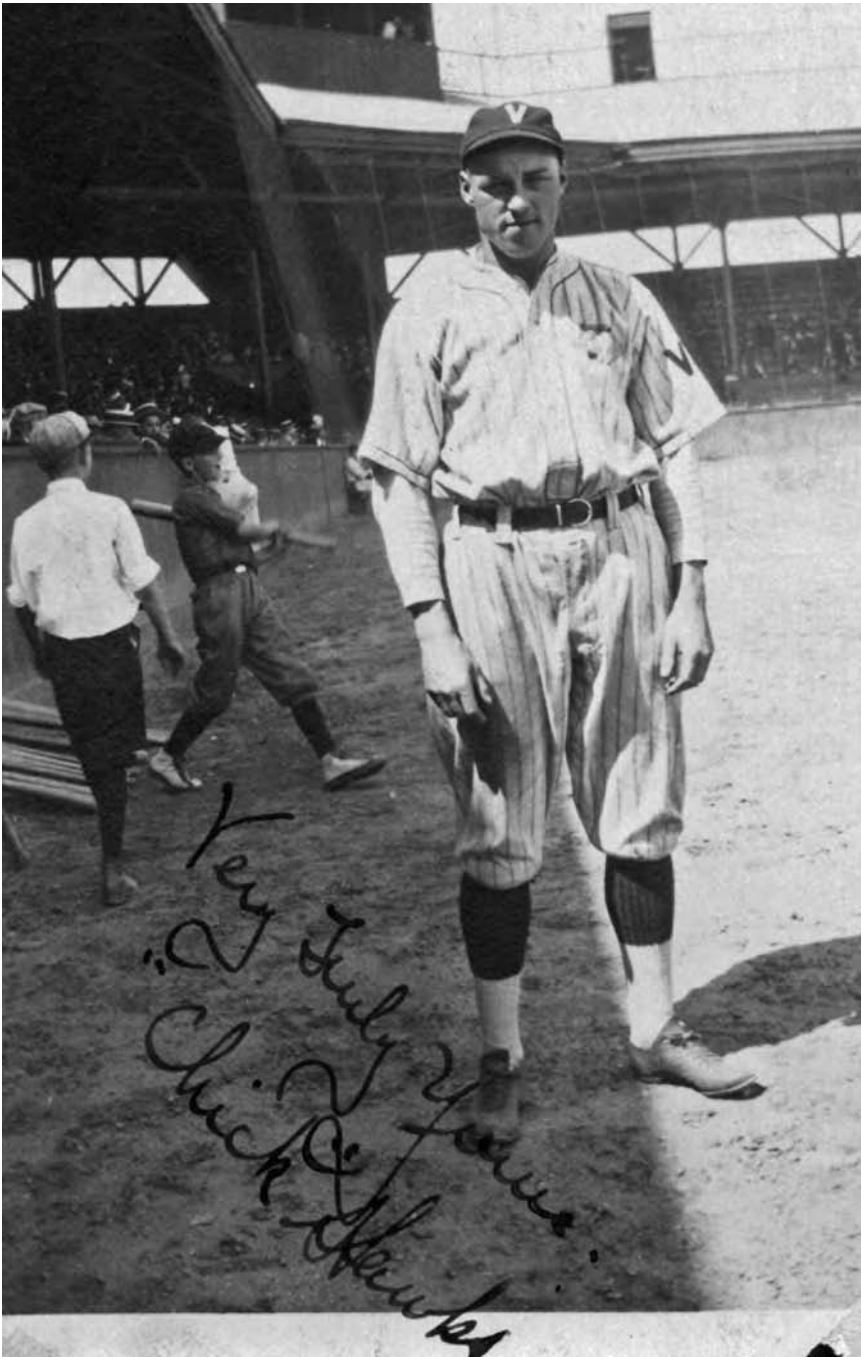
58. Carl Sawyer: A crowd favorite because of his clownish antics on and off the field, Sawyer played portions of three seasons with Vernon. 1922 was his most complete year, as he hit .293 in 467 at-bats. Another more typical picture of Sawyer will appear in George's 1924 Brea exhibition game collection (see Chapter 2).



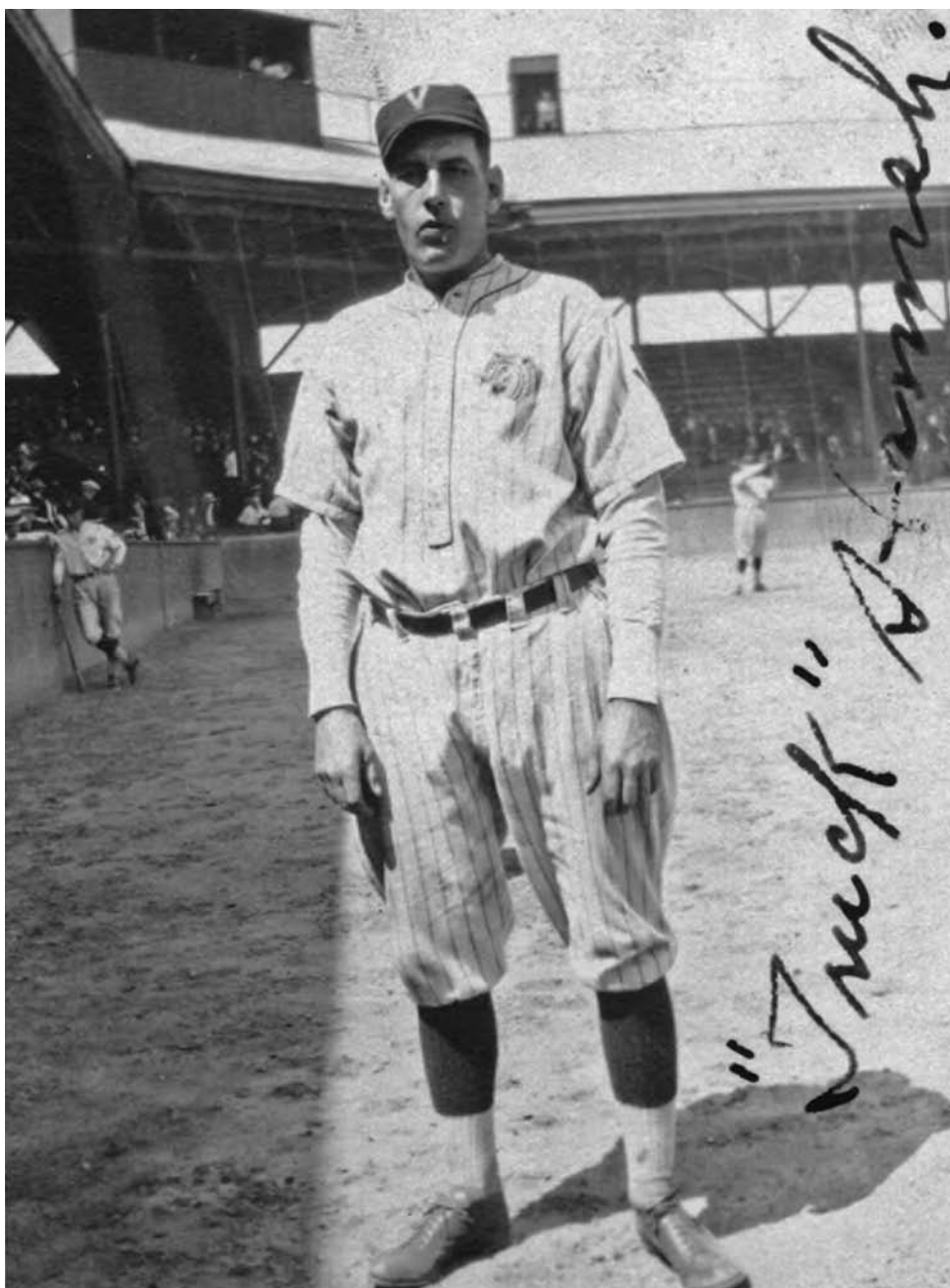
59. Tony Faeth: Faeth was a righthanded pitcher who had a “cup of coffee” with Cleveland in 1919 and 1920 (19 games, no record). Cleveland sent Faeth to Sacramento as part of its purchase of Walter Mails in 1920, and the Senators then traded him to Vernon in 1921. Faeth was 18–17 for the Tigers in 1921 but then faded during the 1922 season.



60. **D.J. Murphy:** Denny Murphy was a reasonably good-hitting catcher for the Vernon/Mission franchise from 1920 to 1926. He was acquired by Hollywood in 1927 where he hit .293 in 351 at-bats during his final year in the league.



61. Nelson "Chicken" Hawks: The 1922 season was Hawks's only year playing for Vernon, but he managed to lead the league in triples with 15 in only 319 at-bats. Hawks played two years in the majors, 1921 briefly with the Yankees and 1925, more substantially, with the Phillies. He was able to hit .316 in 146 games over the two years.



62. **James Harrison "Truck" Hannah:** Hannah played for twenty-one years in the Coast League, interrupted by a three-year stint (1918–1920) as backup catcher for the New York Yankees. While his major league career was behind him at the time of this picture (1922), he was still only in the second of a very productive four-and-a-half-year tenure with Vernon. From 1926 through 1938, he was affiliated with the Los Angeles Angels, the last two years as manager. George photographed him again in 1928.



63. Pete Schneider: An interesting player who began his career as a pitcher and went 59–85 for Cincinnati between 1914 and 1918, Schneider was 20–19 in 1917 with a 2.10 ERA. He commenced a seven-year stretch with Vernon in 1919 and, because he was a good hitter, gradually converted to playing the outfield. His most memorable year was 1923 when he hit .360 with 19 home runs and 110 RBI. Five of his homers and 14 of his RBI came in one game against Salt Lake City when he went 6-for-8 with 22 total bases.



64. **Frank “Ping” Bodie:** One of my father’s favorite players, Bodie had a rather remarkable 21-year career. He spent nine years in the major leagues with the White Sox, A’s, and Yankees where he averaged .275 in 1,050 games. He also spent nine years in the Coast League, seven of which were with San Francisco, Bodie’s home town. Ping did have two productive seasons for Vernon in 1922 and 1923, hitting .293 and .295, respectively. Interestingly, Bodie was born on the same day as “Doc” Crandall, October 8, 1887. Whether my father’s birthday — also October 8 — influenced his choice of “heroes” is an intriguing question.

The San Francisco Seals won the PCL pennant in 1922 and repeated that accomplishment in 1923 and 1925. They were an extraordinary team and, in the words of R. Scott Mackey, author of *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920s*, quite possibly, with the exception of the New York Yankees, “the most successful professional sports franchise of the 1920s.”³ Between 1922 and 1925, the Seals averaged 122 wins, and their lineup featured a nice mixture of players who already had or would soon have major league experience. Over the course of the 1922 and 1923 seasons, my father, still only a middle teenager, was able to photograph 25 members of this remarkable dynasty.



65. **Jimmy O'Connell:** Two members of the 1922 Seals team who were not with them in 1923 were outfielder Jimmy O'Connell and third baseman Willie Kamm. O'Connell was sold to the New York Giants at the end of 1921 with the provision that he stay on in San Francisco for the 1922 season. In 1921 he hit .337 with 101 RBI, and his numbers for 1922 (.335 and 92) were almost identical. His future looked bright. Unfortunately, what the good natured O'Connell is remembered for is his naive 1924 attempted bribe of Phillies shortstop Cozy Dolan for which O'Connell, at the age of 23, was banned from Organized Baseball for life. That unfortunate incident was still two years away when this picture was taken.



66. Willie Kamm: Kamm made history in 1922 when his contract was purchased in June by the Chicago White Sox for \$100,000 and three players. He completed the year in San Francisco, however, where he hit .342 with 20 homers and 234 runs batted in. Kamm proved his worth to the White Sox over the next several years as he averaged .281 and, in twelve full seasons, led the league eight times in fielding average for third basemen. After his playing days were over, Kamm returned to the West Coast to manage the San Francisco Missions team in 1936 and 1937. Note: In this early photograph of Kamm, he has signed his first name "Bill" rather than Willie.

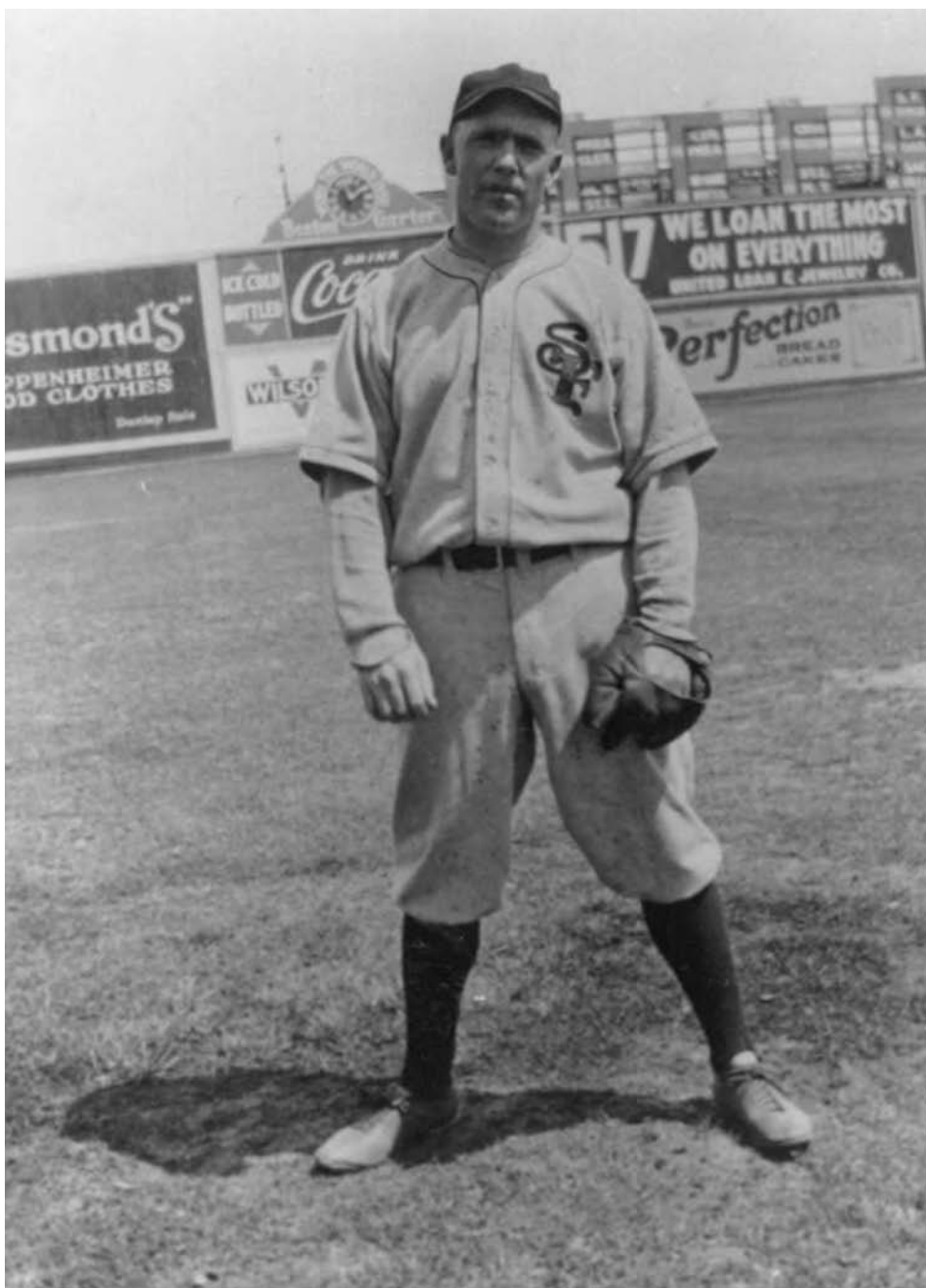


67. Jack “Dots” Miller and Sam Agnew: “Dots” Miller (left) was the popular first year manager for the Seals in 1922 and is here posing with catcher Sam Agnew. Miller had just completed a twelve-year playing career in the National League with Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Philadelphia. He had been the ultimate utility man, being comfortable playing any infield position. Tragically, he died of tuberculosis during the 1923 season, four days shy of his 37th birthday.

Sam Agnew was another great favorite of my father’s and was to pose for—and in one case, with—him on five occasions. Agnew began his career with Vernon in 1912 and then spent the next seven years with three teams in the American League. Agnew returned to the Coast League at age 33 and played for another ten years. His Coast League batting average was a dramatic improvement over his major league average, including .337 in 1922 when this picture was taken.



68. “Death Valley” Jim Scott: This big righthander won 111 games with a 2.30 ERA for the Chicago White Sox between 1909 and 1917. His best season was 1915 when he went 24–11. Following a year of war time service in 1918, Scott declined to rejoin the White Sox and signed instead with San Francisco for whom he pitched through 1924. His best season was 1922, the year of this picture, when he went 25–9 with a 2.22 ERA. Needless to say, Scott was a critical component of the Seals’ pennant-winning staff.



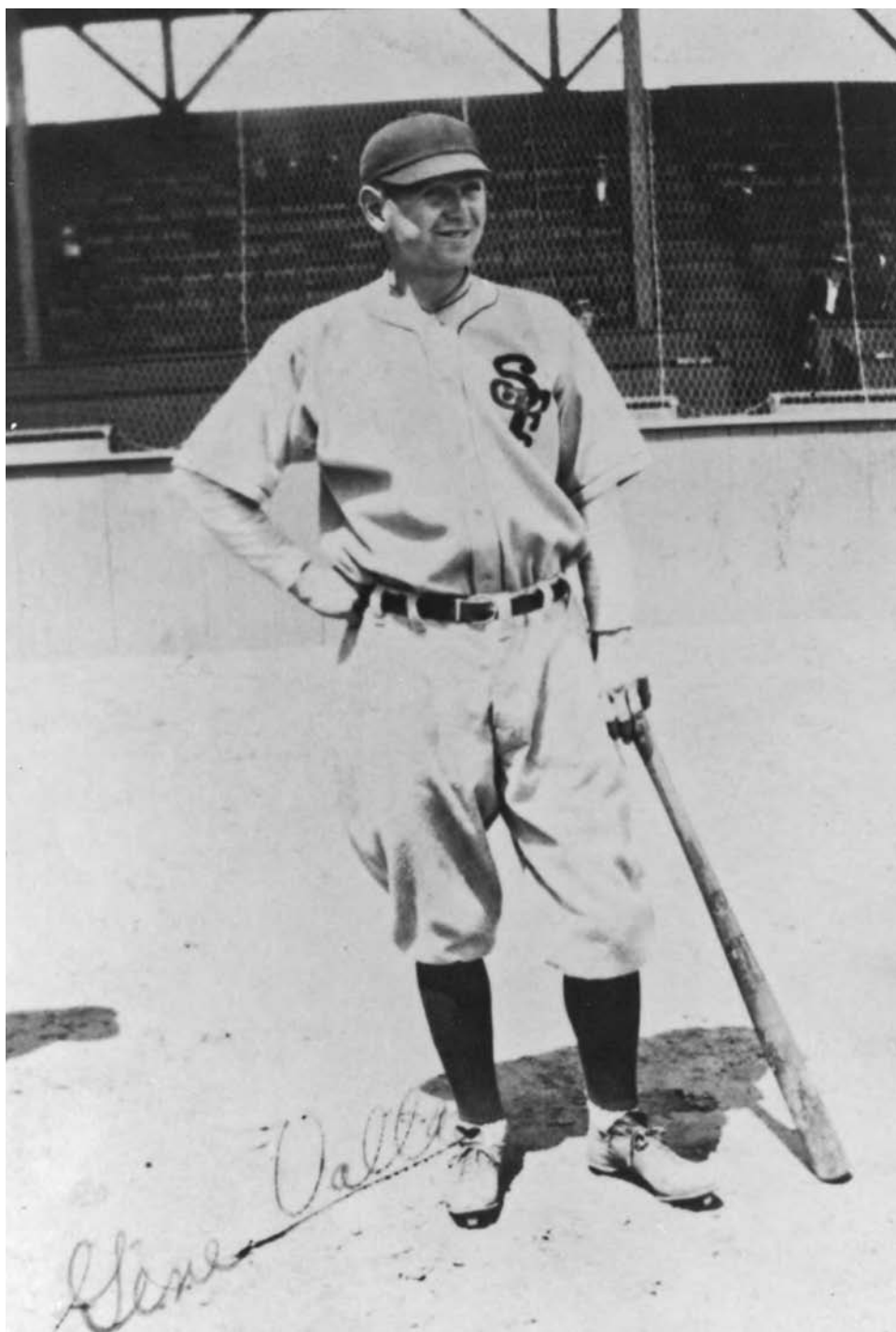
69. Bob "Speed" Geary: Another 20-game winner for the 1922 Seals, Speed Geary was a mainstay of the San Francisco pitching staff from 1922 to 1927. His record for those six years was 101–69. Geary had pitched briefly with the Philadelphia A's in 1918 and 1919 and with Cincinnati in 1921, but it was in the Coast League that he achieved the most success.



70. Oliver Mitchell: Do not be deceived by this grinning expression. Oliver Mitchell was a tough competitor and was the third and last of San Francisco's 20-game winners in 1922, going 24–7. Mitchell had two more 20-win seasons in the seven years he was with the Seals between 1922 and 1928, including a 28–15 campaign in 1924. Overall he won 130 games during that period, enough to qualify him as one of the PCL's outstanding pitchers of the 1920s.



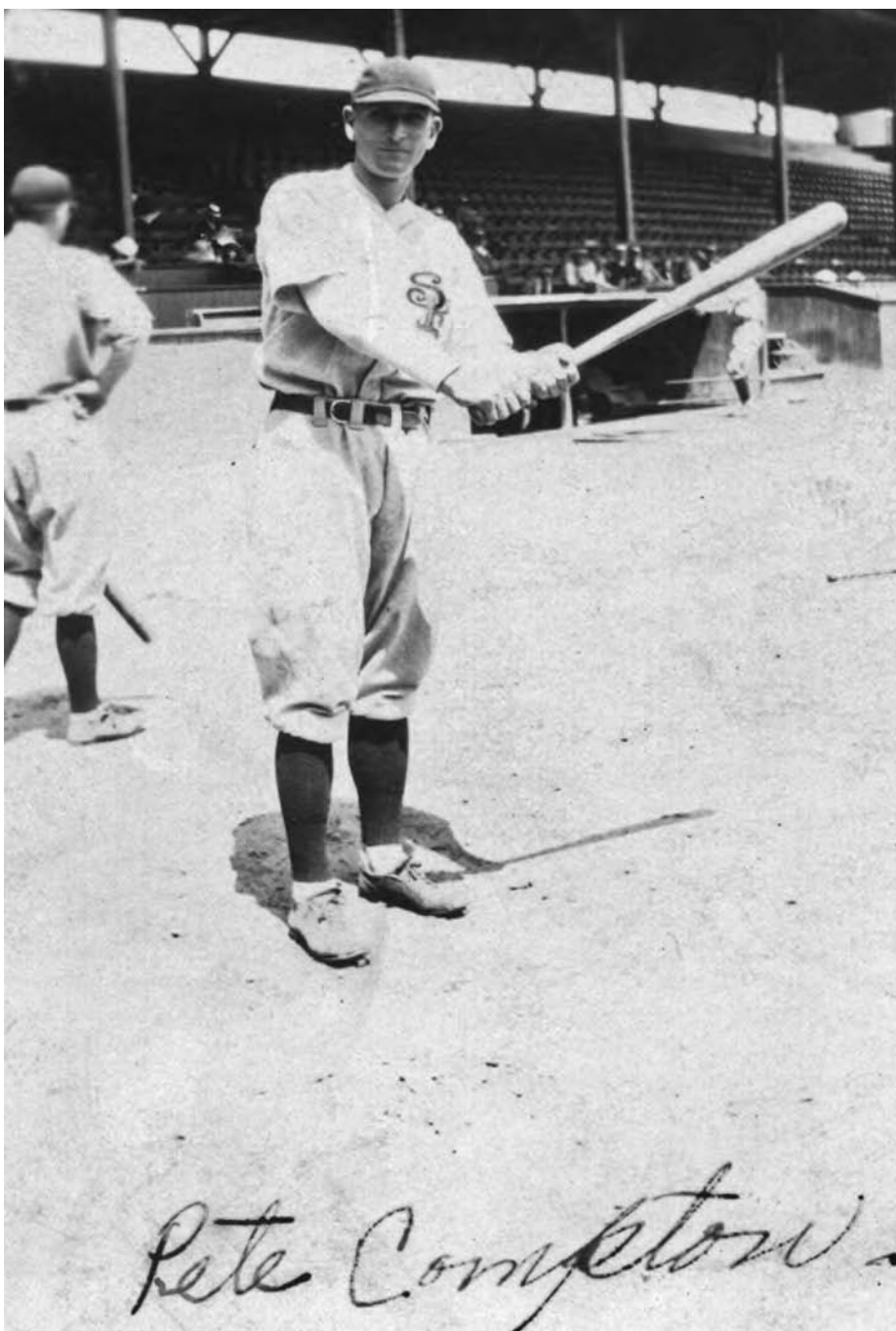
71. Archie Yelle: Yelle served as a backup catcher for the Detroit Tigers between 1917 and 1919 with an unimpressive batting average of .161. He came to San Francisco in 1920 and shared catching duties with Sam Agnew until being traded to Portland for the 1927 season. His Coast League batting average improved by 100 points to .262.



72. **Gene Valla:** Valla was the centerfielder and often lead-off batter for the dominant San Francisco teams of 1922–1926. Between 1922 and 1925, he never hit below .333.



73. Joseph Kelly: Outfielder Joe Kelly had a playing career that lasted from 1908 to 1930, all but 376 games spent in the minors. His most complete major league campaign was 1914 when he appeared in 141 games for the Pirates and hit .222. By 1921, he was in San Francisco and played with the Seals up through the early part of the 1925 season. In 1922, when this picture was taken, he hit .333 in 156 games.



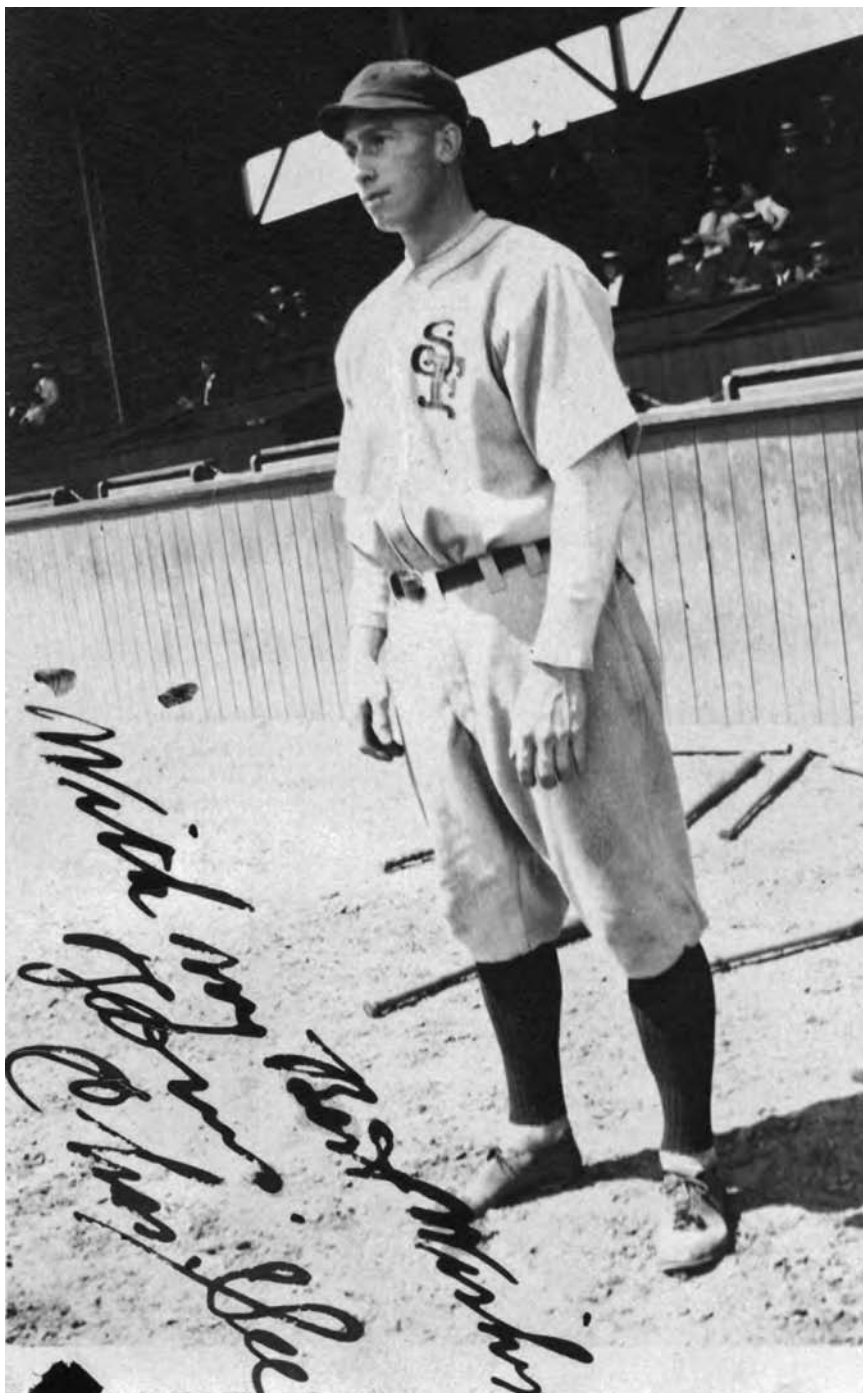
74. **Pete Compton:** Shown earlier in the year with Sacramento, Compton had the good fortune of moving from a last-place team, the Senators, to a pennant winner, the Seals. He hit a combined .306 with eight home runs for the 1922 season. Playing a full season for the Seals in 1923, Compton's average climbed to .324.



75. Hal Rhyne: Rhyne was a slick-fielding shortstop who hit well enough in the Coast League (.288 over nine seasons) but never well enough (.250 in seven seasons) to fully establish himself in the majors. His best major league season was 1931 when he hit .273 in 147 games for the Red Sox. In 1922, Rhyne was only in his second year of professional baseball, but he nailed down a starting role with the Seals by hitting .285 in 189 games.



76. **Pete Kilduff:** Hal Rhyne's double-play partner at second base for the Seals between 1922–1926, Kilduff averaged a very respectable .301 over those years. Before arriving in San Francisco, he played five years in the National League with New York, Chicago, and Brooklyn. After a brief minor league managerial career in the late 1920s, Kilduff died at age 36 from complications following an appendicitis operation.⁴



77. Charlie See: See played one year for Seattle in 1921 and one year for San Francisco in 1922. For the Seals he filled in admirably as a reserve outfielder, batting .307 in 352 plate appearances.

1923

Having tasted success in 1922, San Francisco repeated as pennant winners in 1923, this time by an even more dominant margin of eleven games over second-place Sacramento. Vernon, which had been so competitive in 1922, dropped to eighth place, 46 games off the pace. Although Jimmy O'Connell and Willie Kamm had moved on to the majors, the Seals were able to compensate with strong pitching, beginning with Bob Geary and Doug McWeeny and supplemented by three relative newcomers, Henry Courtney, Shovel Hodge, and Pat Shea. Oliver Mitchell and Jim Scott, while dropping off in their number of wins and innings pitched, nevertheless came through with winning records. The death of manager "Dots" Miller in September was a shocking tragedy, but popular first baseman Bert Ellison assumed command and prevented any serious drop-off in the team's performance.



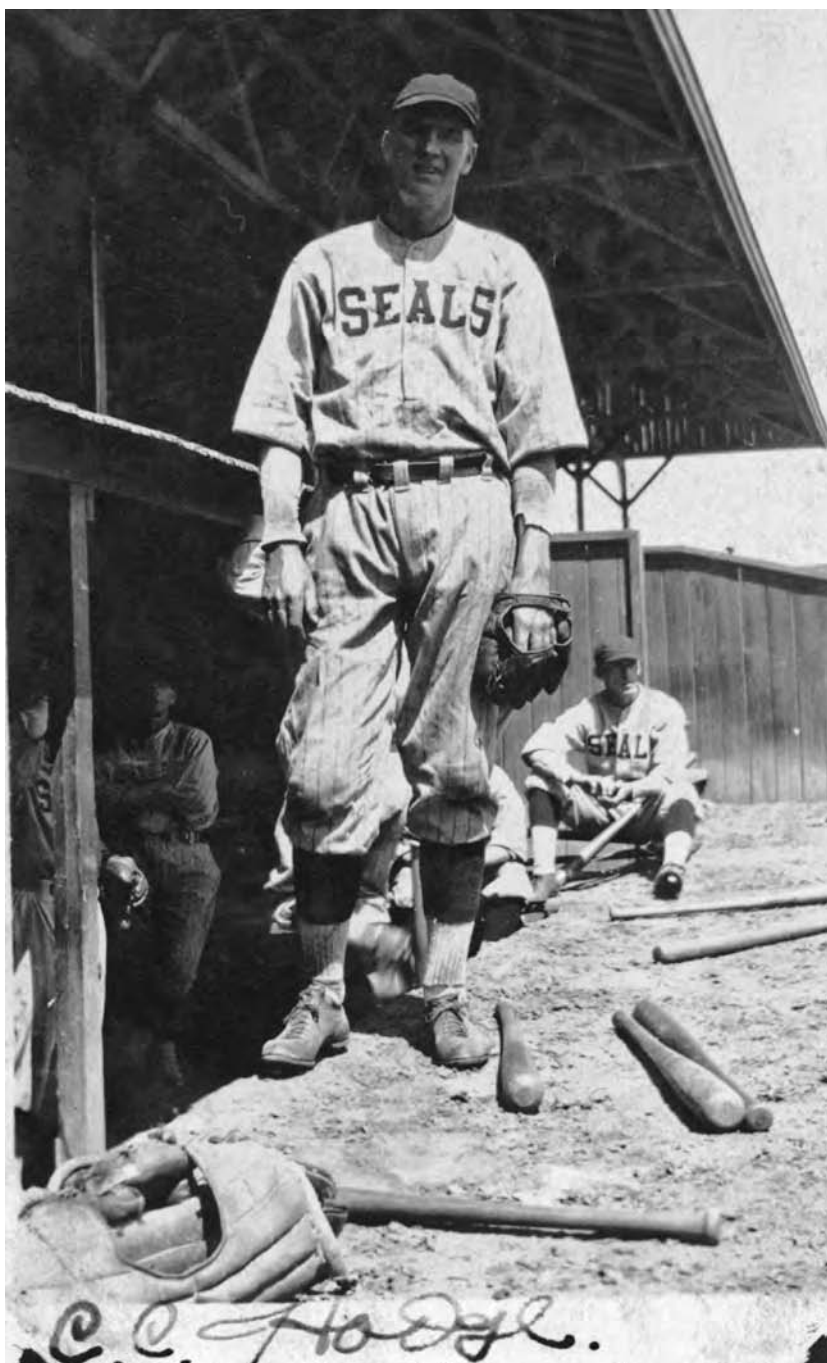
78. Bert "Babe" Ellison: Bert Ellison had seen limited action with the Detroit Tigers during the 1916–1920 period, but it was not until he arrived in San Francisco in 1921 that he hit full stride. As the regular first baseman for the Seals from 1921 through 1926, he hit over .300 with good power. In 1923, when he took over as player-manager in September, he batted .358 with 23 home runs. The following year he raised his average to .381 with 33 homers and 188 RBI. It was hard for his team to slack off when its manager was putting up such numbers!



79. Doug “Buzz” McWeeny: McWeeny, along with Henry Courtney and Shovel Hodge, had come to the Seals from the White Sox as part of the Willie Kamm deal. McWeeny was the most productive of the three, winning 55 and losing 24 during his three-year stay of 1922–23 and 1925. In 1926 he went back to the majors with Brooklyn and pitched for them through 1929.



80. **Henry Courtney:** Courtney went 19–6 during his one full year with San Francisco. GEO has noted on the back of this picture that the dour Courtney “refused to autograph.”



81. Clarence Clement "Shovel" Hodge: Hodge went 2-2 in late 1922 when he arrived in San Francisco and was a significant contributor (18-15) in 1923. He had pitched 75 games for the White Sox from 1920 to 1922, going 14-15. In his autograph, he uses his initials "C.C."



82. Pat "Red" Shea: "Red" Shea was another PCL pitcher who had a brief flirtation with the major leagues, primarily with the New York Giants where he went 5–5 in 1921 and 1922. In 1923, he had a strong year for the pennant-winning Seals, posting a 21–10 record with a 3.62 ERA. He faded to 14–14 in 1924 and was not heard from much thereafter except for a brief appearance in 1927 when he split time with Hollywood and Portland.



83. **Jim Scott and Sam Agnew:** Battery mates Jim Scott (left) and Sam Agnew were pictured individually in 1922, but here they are together in a photograph where my father has noted on the back “two famous old big leaguers.” Scott pitched a relatively few 173 innings in 1923, down from 276 in 1922. His win total dropped from 25 to 11.



84. Eddie Mulligan: The well-known and widely-respected Eddie Mulligan had a lengthy-career in baseball, including 25 years as a player and 20 years as president of the California League. He was the regular replacement in 1921-22 for the banned Buck Weaver of the Chicago White Sox and hit .251 in 151 games for them in 1921. When Willie Kamm was purchased from San Francisco, Mulligan became the third baseman for the Seals. He played five years for San Francisco and a total of 17 in the Coast League. In 1923, when this picture was taken, he hit .329, his highest single-season average.



85. **Dee Walsh:** Dee Walsh was a utility player with three years of limited major league experience for the St. Louis Browns between 1913 and 1915. He was with San Francisco for four years, 1921-1924, and proved to be a useful contributor off the bench. As with Eddie Mulligan, his best season was the year this picture was taken, 1923, when he hit .343 in 268 at-bats. This was about 70 points higher than his typical yearly average.



86. **Tim Hendryx:** Hendryx played parts of eight years in the majors between 1911 and 1921, including replacing Babe Ruth for the Red Sox in 1920 after Ruth had been sold to the Yankees. He joined the Seals in 1923 and contributed a .339 average while sharing left field with Joe Kelly. Hendryx stayed with San Francisco until 1926, his average dropping each year but nevertheless staying above .300.

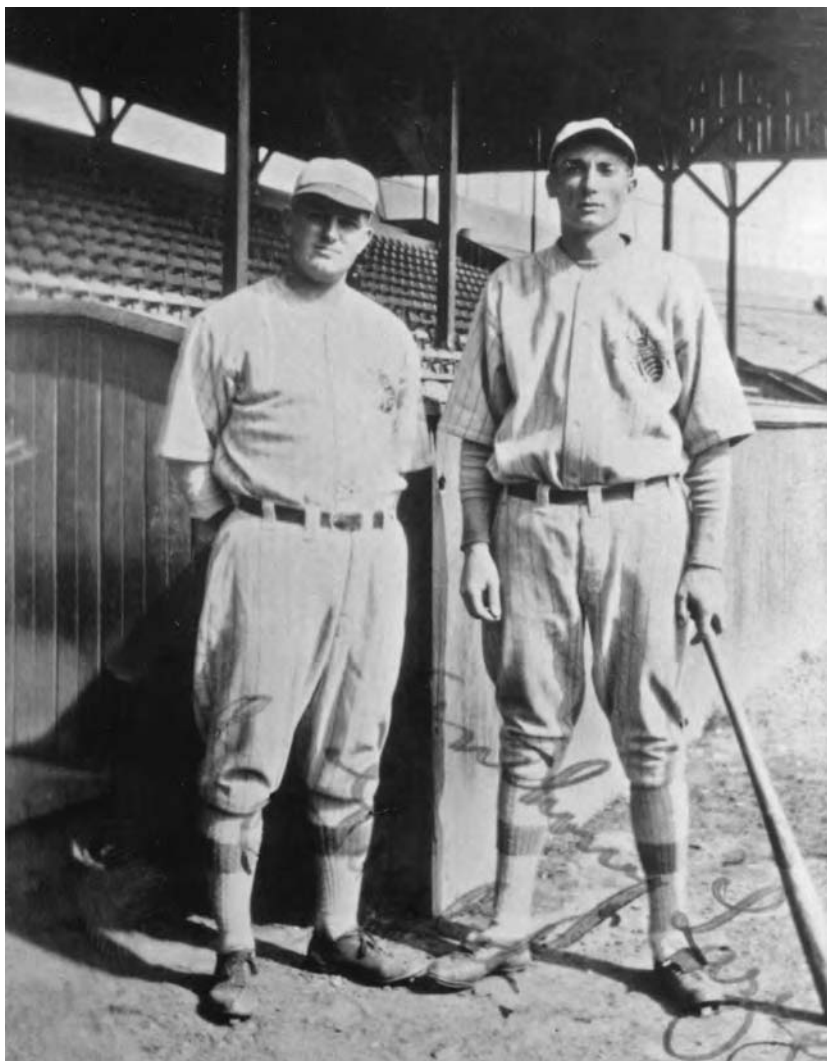
The Salt Lake City Bees finished a disappointing fifth in 1923 despite playing in hitter-friendly Booneville Park where the short fences and 4,000-foot altitude contributed greatly to inflated batting averages. The Bees were stocked with good hitters but had only mediocre pitching, so opposing teams were also able to take advantage of Booneville's statistically tempting dimensions. Because of its heavy hitters, Salt Lake was an attractive team for my father, and, with the exception of Paul Strand and Les Sheehan, whom he was to photograph with other teams, Outland was able in one afternoon to take pictures of the entire starting line-up for the Bees. A couple of the pictures are especially revealing since they give some hint as to what young Outland's picture-taking approach to the ballplayers must have been.



87. **George "Duffy" Lewis:** A member from 1910 through 1916 of the famed Boston Red Sox outfield that included Harry Hooper and Tris Speaker, Duffy Lewis had a lifetime (11-year) major league average of .284. He also hit .284 in 18 World Series games. Lewis began his Coast League career with Oakland in 1908-09 and returned with Salt Lake City in 1921. He was named player-manager in 1922 and guided the all-hit, no-pitch Bees to one fourth- and two fifth-place finishes. Lewis himself hit .358 or better in his four years with the Bees. Following his playing career, Lewis was affiliated for many years with the Boston Braves, first as a coach and later as their traveling secretary.



88. Fred "Fritz" Coumbe: Another former American Leaguer (34–31 for Cleveland between 1914 and 1919), Coumbe was a junk-balling lefthander who came to the Bees from San Francisco after the 1922 season. He lent experience if not great effectiveness to the Bees' pitching staff from 1923 to 1925. He added the date 1923 to his autograph in this picture, a year when he went 13–12 with an ERA of 5.99.



89. Al “Pudgy” Gould and Tony Lazzeri: Gould (left) had been a pitching teammate of Fritz Coumbe’s with Cleveland in 1916 and 1917 where he went 10–11 with a 3.05 ERA. He was a member of the Bees’ staff from 1919–23 and played in the Coast League as late as 1936. His 16–21 record for the Bees in 1923 was a team high in both wins and losses. Overall, his Coast League record was 127–134 with his best year being 17–5 with Oakland in 1927.

In this picture, Gould is posing with 19-year-old Anthony (note signature) Lazzeri. Lazzeri hit .354 in 39 games for the Bees in 1923 and had his sensational breakout season two years later when he batted .355 with 222 RBI and became the first man in Organized Baseball to hit 60 home runs in a season. He, of course, went on to a 12-year Hall of Fame career as a second baseman with the New York Yankees beginning in 1926.



90. **Oscar Vitt** (with Joe Wilhoit walking into the picture): Vitt was the light-hitting but regular shortstop for Detroit from 1915 to 1917 and for the Red Sox in 1919. He came to Salt Lake as a player in 1922 and took over from Duffy Lewis as player-manager in 1925. He benefited greatly from the advantages that hitters experienced at Booneville Park and averaged well over .300 in the four years he played there. Vitt moved with the franchise to Hollywood in 1926, and his batting average dropped over 90 points. Prudently, "Old Os" moved to becoming a bench manager in 1927 and continued in that capacity for Hollywood through 1934. He managed in the big leagues for Cleveland during the 1938 and 1939 seasons but was removed in 1940 as a result of a perhaps ill-advised player petition.



91. Joe Wilhoit: This is the most revealing of Outland's pictures with respect to his photo-taking technique. On the back of the picture he has written "Several S.L. players looking at my album in the background." Apparently what he did was to take his photograph album to the ballpark as an inducement to get other players to pose for him. It clearly worked — at least sometimes.

Joe Wilhoit, who hailed from Santa Paula, is remembered for one remarkable accomplishment, his 69-game hitting streak for Wichita of the Western League in 1919. Unfortunately, he hit only .257 in a 283-game major league career. 1923 was his last year in Organized Baseball, and he made it a good one by hitting .360 for the Bees. Unfortunately, Joe died prematurely seven years later.



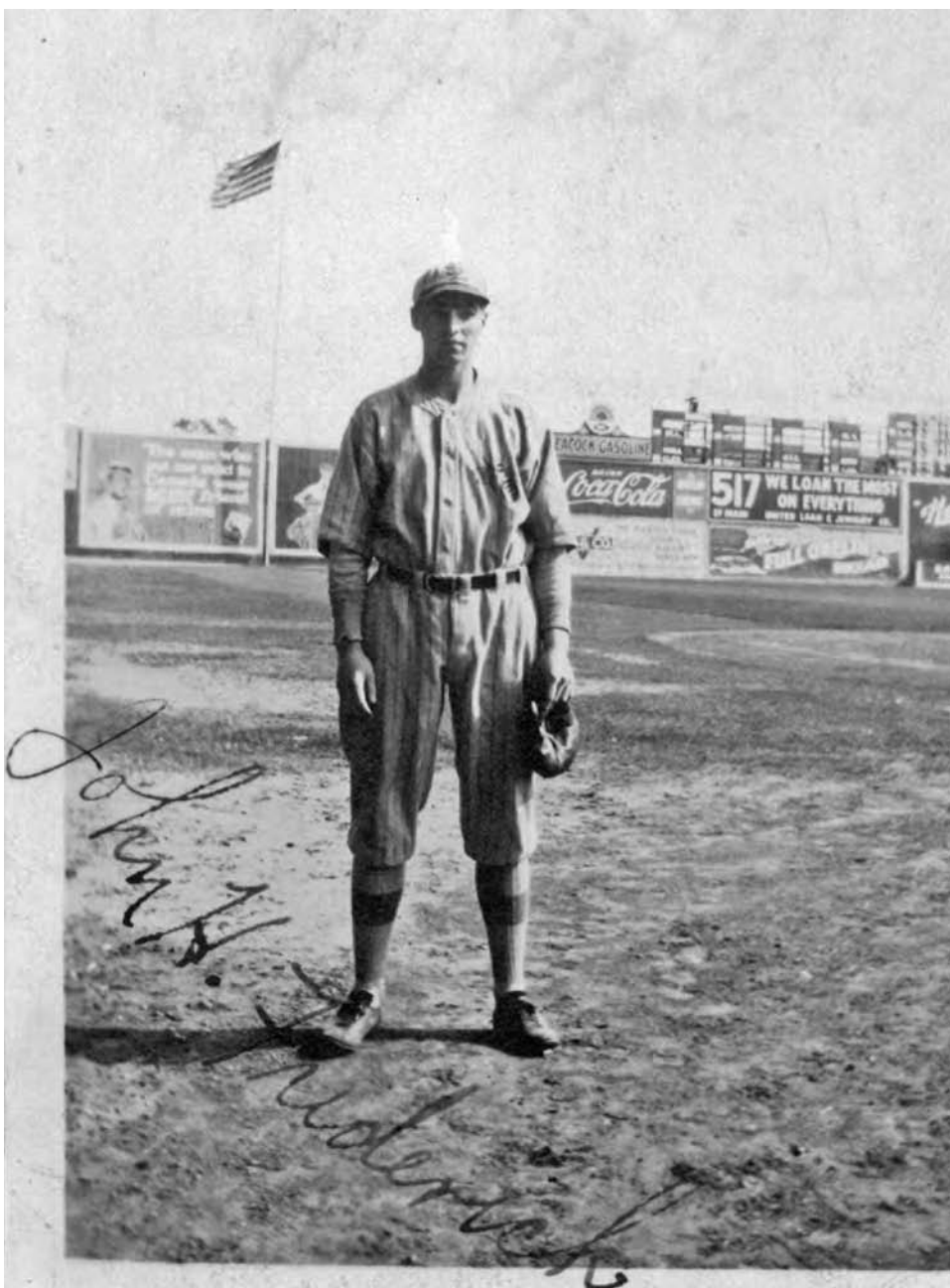
92. John "Sheriff" Singleton and Joe Jenkins: This picture of battery mates Singleton (left) and Jenkins also shows Outland's photograph album sitting on Singleton's lap. Singleton was with Salt Lake from 1923 to 1926 and with Sacramento in 1927 and 1928. In 1923, he went 15-15 with the Bees but with a 6.28 ERA. He improved his numbers in 1924, his best year, to 21-15 and 4.61. Catcher Joe Jenkins had only a "cup of coffee" in the major leagues (40 games with St. Louis and Chicago of the American League) but played well in the minors (.298 average over 1,483 games). His 1923 season with Salt Lake was a good one as he hit .350 while sharing catching duties with John Peters.



93. **John “Shotgun” Peters:** John Peters was a backup catcher for the Philadelphia Phillies in 1921-22 and was the regular catcher for the Bees from 1923 to 1925. He continued with the team during their first year in Hollywood in 1926. While with the Bees, he consistently hit over .300 with some power — but then who didn’t at Booneville?



94. Roy Leslie: Leslie was also with the Phillies in 1922 when he was their starting first baseman and hit .271 in 141 games. By 1923, he was back in the Coast League, however, and hit a robust .340 with 15 home runs and 140 RBI for Salt Lake City. His power numbers actually went up slightly the following year when he led the league in doubles with 73. Like Peters, Leslie stayed with the team through their transition year to Hollywood in 1926.



95. **Johnny Frederick:** Aside from a half year's experience in Canada in 1921, 1923 was essentially Johnny Frederick's rookie year in baseball. He did well, hitting .328 for the Bees in 160 games. He stayed with the franchise, including their move to Hollywood, through 1927. From 1929 to 1934, he was a regular with the Brooklyn Dodgers where he also did well, averaging .308 for six seasons and setting a pinch-hit home run record of six in 1932.

The Los Angeles Angels finished in sixth place in 1923, $2\frac{1}{2}$ games behind Salt Lake City and 16 games below .500. Marty Krug had taken over for Red Killefer as player-manager but could not prevent the Angels from experiencing their first losing season since 1913. They bounced back in 1924, however.



96. **Marty Krug:** Manager of the Angels from 1923 through the first half of the 1929 season. Krug also played on a regular basis up through the 1925 season, but only occasionally thereafter. The Angels finished all over the map during Krug's tenure, winning the pennant in 1926, for instance, but then dropping to eighth place the following year.



97. **Howard Lindimore:** This is probably a better picture of Lindimore than the one GEO took in 1921. Lindimore was the Angels' regular second baseman and hit .290 during 1923 although Marty Krug also often played the position.



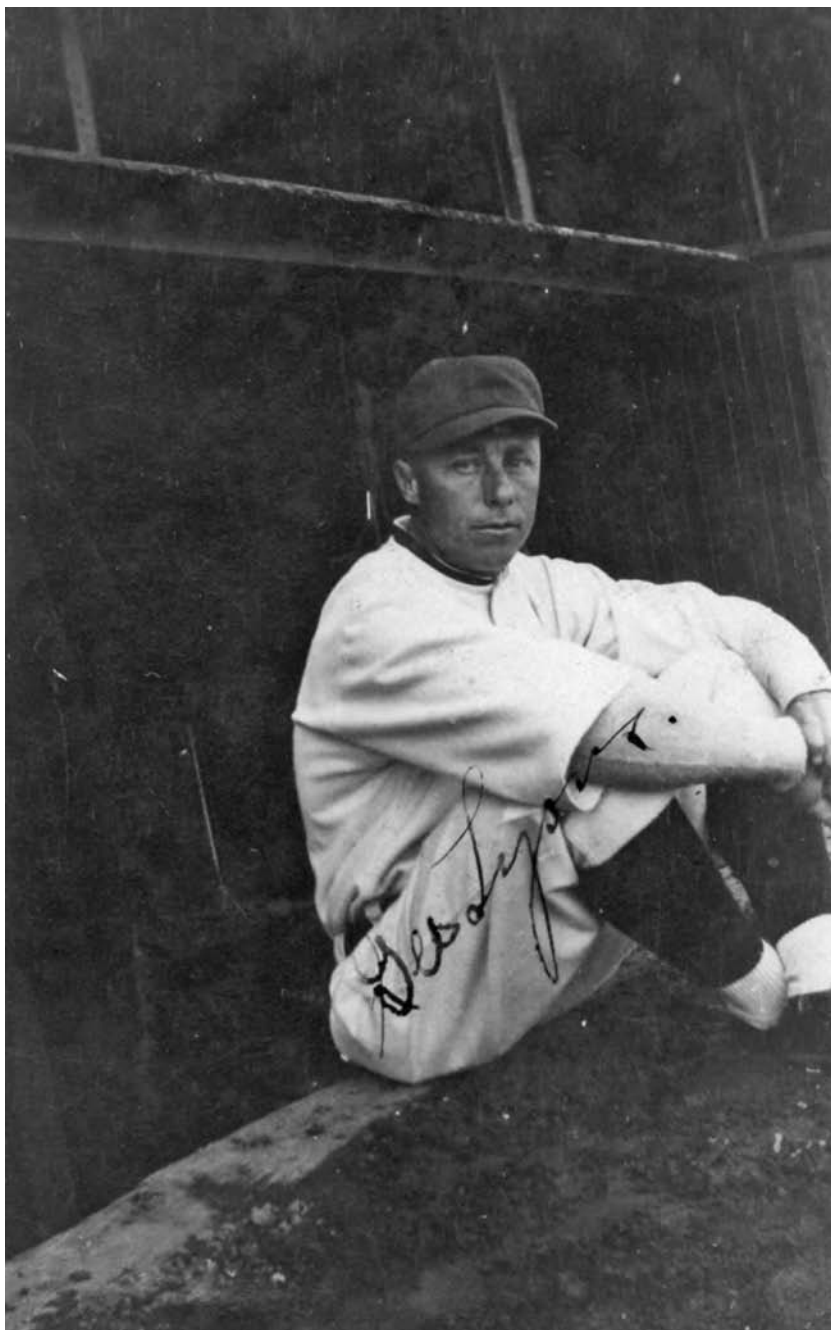
98. Jim "Ike" McAuley: McAuley was the Angels' regular shortstop for the first half of the 1920s. A good fielder but not a particularly potent hitter, his .238 average during 1923 represented a typical year.



99. Clarence "Babe" Twombly: Despite hitting .377 in 175 at-bats, including 15-for-38 as a pinch-hitter for the Chicago Cubs in 1921, Twombly found himself with Los Angeles in 1922 and stayed in L.A. for three more seasons. Although lacking power, Babe hit consistently in the .300s. After a short stop in Seattle in 1926, he was back in Southern California for two more .300 plus seasons with Hollywood in 1927 and 1928. Twombly's older brother George also played briefly in the major leagues.



100. Charlie "Chuck" Deal: Chuck Deal was the player who filled in for Red Smith (previously pictured) at third base for the Boston Braves in the 1914 World Series. After playing in the Federal League in 1915, Deal became a regular for the Cubs from 1917 through 1921. His major league batting average in 2,930 at-bats was .257. Like Twombly, Deal found himself with L.A. in 1922 as part of the exchange that sent Jigger Statz to the Cubs. In 1923, when this picture was taken, Deal split time with the Angels and Vernon Tigers. His last year in the league was with Portland in 1925. Overall he averaged .315 in four seasons on the coast.



101. George Lyons: Lyons pitched for the Angels from 1921 to 1923, winning 39 and losing 37. He was the team leader in victories (18) and innings pitched (269) in 1923, a fact that helped earn him a shot with the St. Louis Browns in 1924 where he went 3-2 in 76.2 innings. Lyons had control problems, and his ratio of walks to strikeouts was never very good.

Finishing third in 1923 were the Portland Beavers, who had improved dramatically from their seventh-place finish in 1922. The Beavers' pitching was stronger, and there was stability in their field management as Jim Middleton provided leadership for the entire year. The pictures of the Portland players that GEO took are being included last in this chapter because it is difficult to determine in several cases whether the photographs were taken in 1923 or 1924. Over the course of the two years, George took snapshots of sixteen Beavers, but all were photographed at Washington Park in Los Angeles, and the Portland road uniforms for the two years were identical. Only in those few cases where an individual was not with the team during one of the two years is it possible to have confidence regarding the year the player's photograph was taken. As best as can be determined, the six pictures that follow were taken during 1923, and the ones that are included in Chapter 2 are from 1924.



102. Charlie High and Lee King: Youngest of the three High brothers, all of whom George photographed, Charlie's major league career consisted of 28 games with the Philadelphia A's in 1919 and 1920. His minor league record, however, stretched from 1919 to 1932 and ended with a career batting average of .321. He enjoyed four strong seasons with Portland from 1922 through 1925 where he hit .320 or better and averaged 21 home runs. World War I veteran and fellow outfielder Lee King (right) played intermittently in the National League from 1916 to 1922 and hit .247 in 1189 at-bats. His tenure with Portland was a brief one, playing only in 1923.



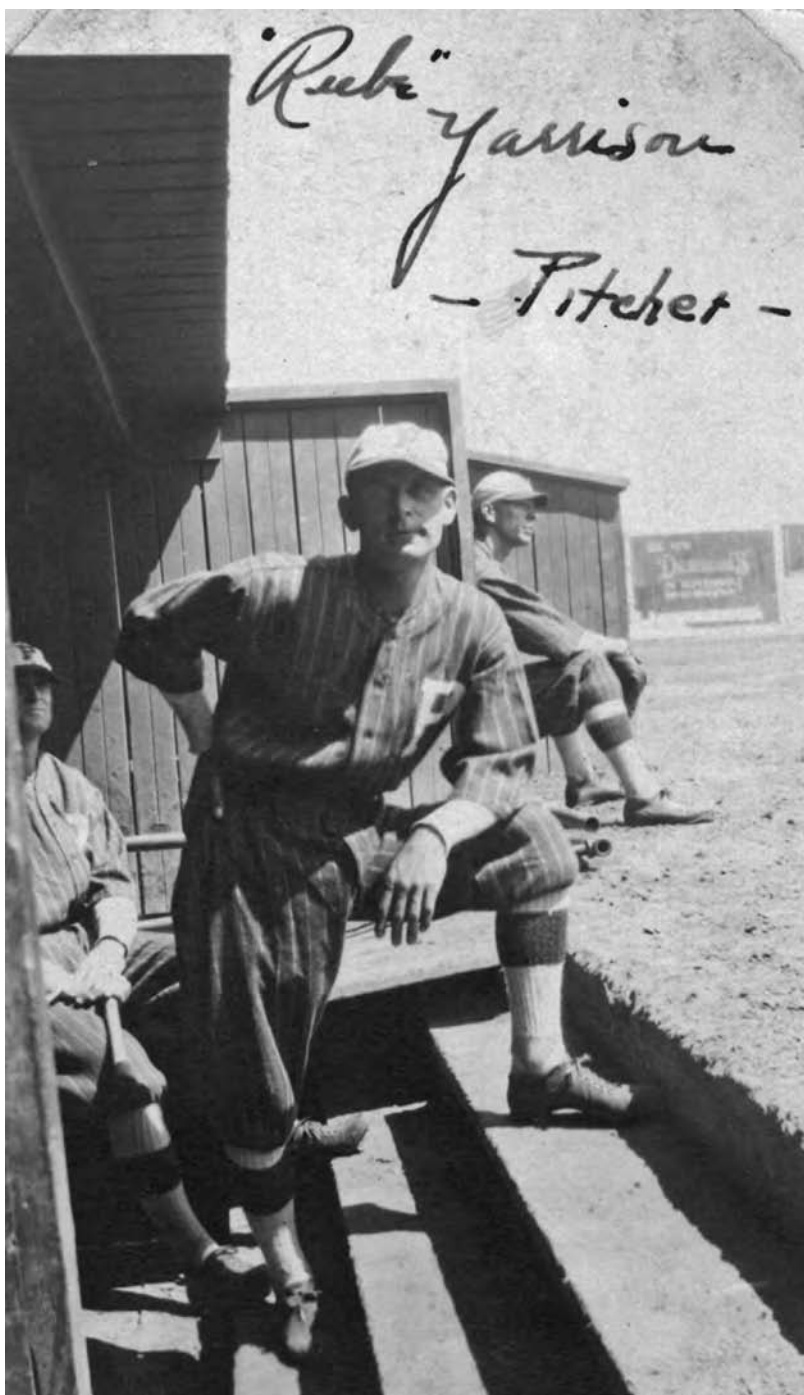
103. Merle "M.J." Wolfer: A third outfielder on the 1923 Beavers was M.J. "Ike" Wolfer, who had been with the team since 1921. He averaged .298 in 1923 and .327 in 1924 at which point he was traded to Vernon. His final year in the Coast League was with Seattle in 1928.



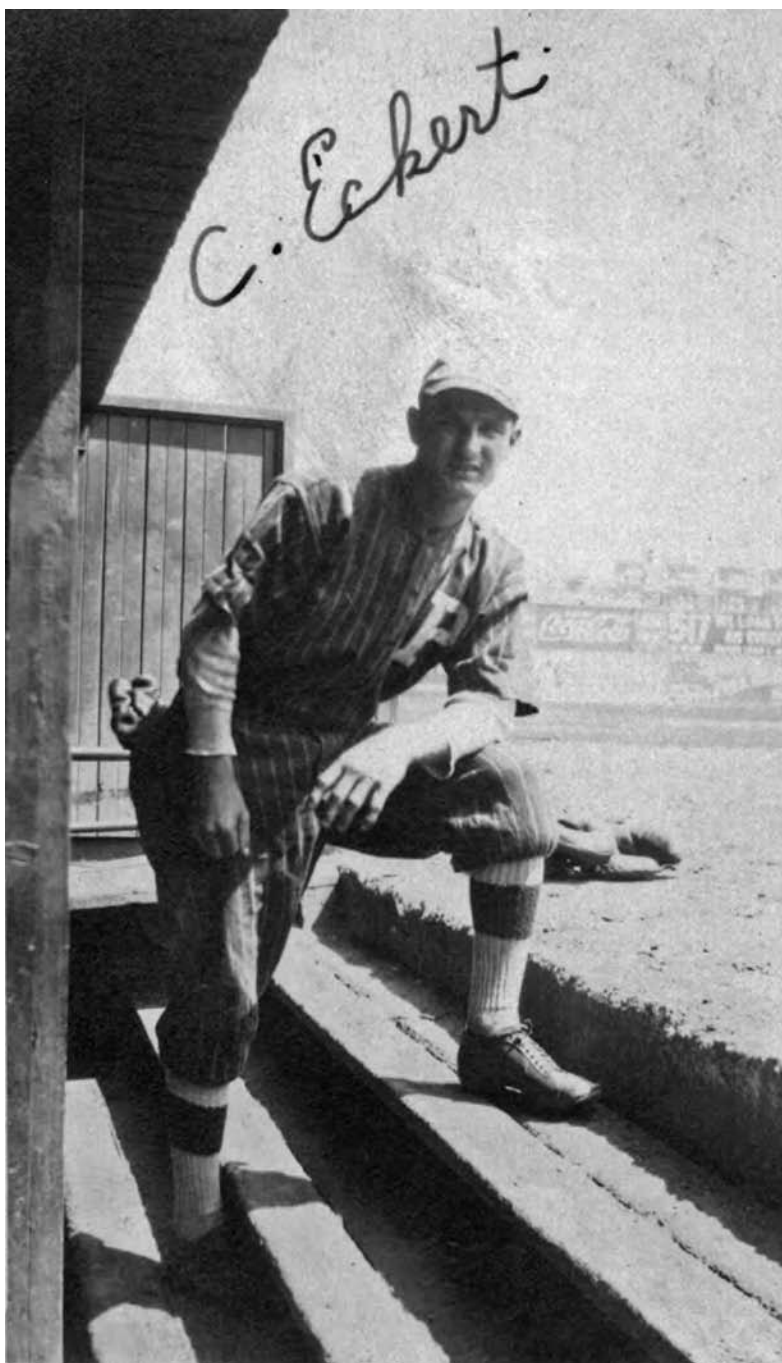
104. Bill Stumpf: An infielder who played in 52 games for the Yankees in 1912 and 1913, Stumpf hit .271 in a backup role for the 1923 Beavers. It was his only year with the team after coming over from Seattle where he had played first base and shortstop the previous three seasons.



105. Jack Onslow: Another player making a one-year appearance for Portland, Jack Onslow was a catcher who played briefly with Detroit in 1912 and the Giants in 1917. He split catching duties for the Beavers in 1923 with Butch Byler. Onslow's brother Eddie also played briefly in the major leagues as well as 17 years in the International League.



106. Byron "Rube" Yarrison: Yarrison pitched for Portland from 1922 to 1925 and for Los Angeles in 1926. His best year was 1923, the year this picture was taken, when he went 16-8 and led the Portland staff with a 3.00 ERA.



107. Charlie Eckert: Charlie Eckert went 19–11 in 1923 and had the most wins recorded by a Beaver pitcher. It was the high point of his PCL career, as the next two years he had losing records for the Beavers and was then traded to the Missions where he went 15–17 over his final two seasons.

By the end of the 1923 baseball season, my father had reached his 17th birthday. He had also begun his senior year at Santa Paula High School. At the conclusion of his junior year, the preceding June, he had published in the 1923 SPS yearbook a revealing acknowledgement and defense of his developing love for the “national pastime.” Entitled simply “Baseball vs. Football,” it condemned the gratuitous violence of football, a game “for the big, the strong, and the brawny.”

But there is one game where all drawbacks are eliminated; a democratic game of American origin, which can be played by anyone. That game is baseball. Baseball is first of all a democratic game. Go anywhere in this country and you will see baseball being played, sometimes by no more than half a dozen kids. In the cities the vacant lots are confiscated by a “gang” for this purpose; in the country any old place will do. Whereas football demands the complicated apparatus and expensive uniforms, all baseball needs to flourish is a ball and bat. A few boys can play baseball; it takes 22 well trained fellows to play football.

The average schoolboy, altho [*sic*] he may not be able to name the President of the United States, will be sure to know all about Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb. Even if New York schoolboys could tell who their mayor was, McGraw’s name would be far more familiar because Hylan doesn’t play in the same league!

Yes, the real American Game is the game of the home run and the stolen base, not of the forward pass and the end run; the game of skill and science, not of brawn and strength; the good old game of which “Kill the Umpire” is the watchword, of which “Casey at the Bat” is the hymn, of which “Slide, Kelly Slide” is the anthem.

The surest sign of spring is the sight of baseball teams in action. Ask most genuine Americans what famous speech they would rather hear: the chances are they will say the Umpire’s cry of “Play Ball.”⁵

2. *Experiencing the Majors, 1924*

The year 1924 was an especially significant one for my father for several reasons. During the spring he was into his second semester of his senior year in high school, was serving as student body president, and was contemplating his options for college in the fall. To influence the latter process, his father Elmer had proposed that he and George take a trip east to visit some friends and relatives and to witness some big league baseball games. This trip, lasting from June 16 through July 19, was a major educational and recreational experience for George. Among other things, it allowed him to expand his home run index, as he witnessed 26 in 1924, eight of which were in major league stadiums. His previous totals, four in 1922 and five in 1923, had all been seen at Washington Park.

George's picture taking for the year, while numerically not among his most extensive, nevertheless included photographs from five teams, one of which was the Chicago Cubs, as well as a sampling of future Hall of Famers who participated in an October exhibition game in Brea, California. All in all, it was a year of significant maturation for George, and his photographs and record keeping tend to reflect that.

In later years, George updated his home run log by way of the scorecards he kept from each game he attended. Home runs were especially noted by way of information regarding the location of the field to which they were hit, along with the inning, the pitcher, and the number of men on base. In the early years, however, he maintained a series of small diaries detailing the games that he saw, including his own brief write-up along with the printed box scores and often headlines from the next day's newspaper. I once received one of these small diaries in the mail from a memorabilia dealer in Atlanta who did not know quite what to make of it and who sent it to me unsolicited after seeing my name on the acknowledgment page of one of the PCL books referred to in the Preface.

An example of George's small diary use can be seen by way of a spring exhibition game of March 15, 1924 between the Chicago Cubs and the Seattle Indians. The game was played at the Santa Fe Grounds in San Bernardino, and George attended with several of his Santa Paula High School classmates. Seattle won a slugfest, 11-5, which featured five home runs, the best of which for George was by Brick Eldred of

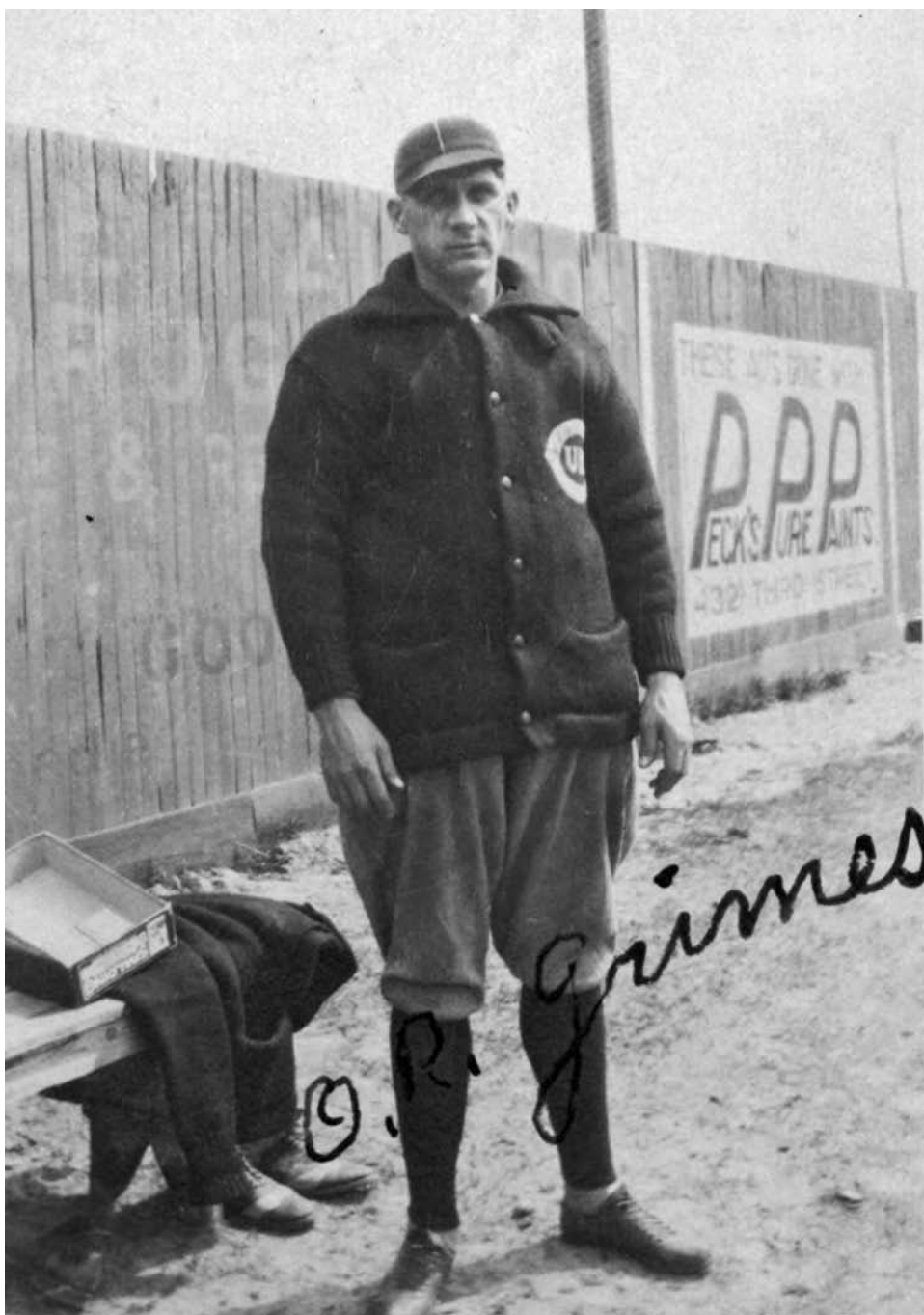
the Indians who “really pisted that ball over the centerfield fence.” Dad was sitting close enough to photograph Eldred crossing the plate following his homer. More significantly, he was able to snap pictures before the game of four Cubs and four Indians.



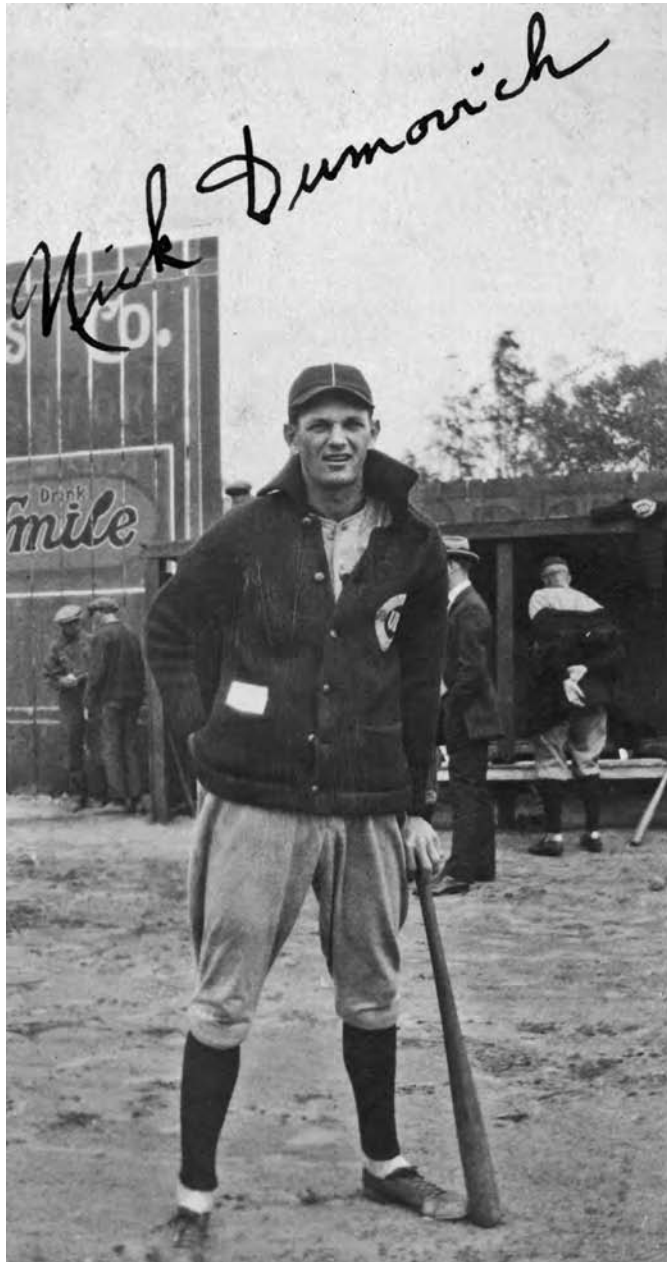
108. Earl “Sparky” Adams: A short (5’ 5”) but versatile infielder and lead-off man, Adams enjoyed a 14-year major league career, the first six of which were spent with the Cubs. He hit for a .286 career average in over 5,500 plate appearances. In this picture, he signs his autograph “Earl J. Adams.”



109. Bob O'Farrell: Bob O'Farrell had a National League catching career that stretched over 21 years. He was just coming into his prime when this picture was taken in 1924, having had two outstanding years for the Cubs in 1922 and 1923 when he batted .324 and .319, respectively. Unfortunately, 1924 was the year he suffered a fractured skull as a result of a foul ball off a broken face mask. He was traded to the Cardinals the following year and helped them win the pennant and the World Series in 1926, when he was chosen the National League's Most Valuable Player. When the Cardinals traded Rogers Hornsby during the winter of 1926, they named O'Farrell as player-manager, an experiment that lasted only one year, as he, too, was traded to the Giants in 1928. O'Farrell's career batting average for 1,492 games was .273.



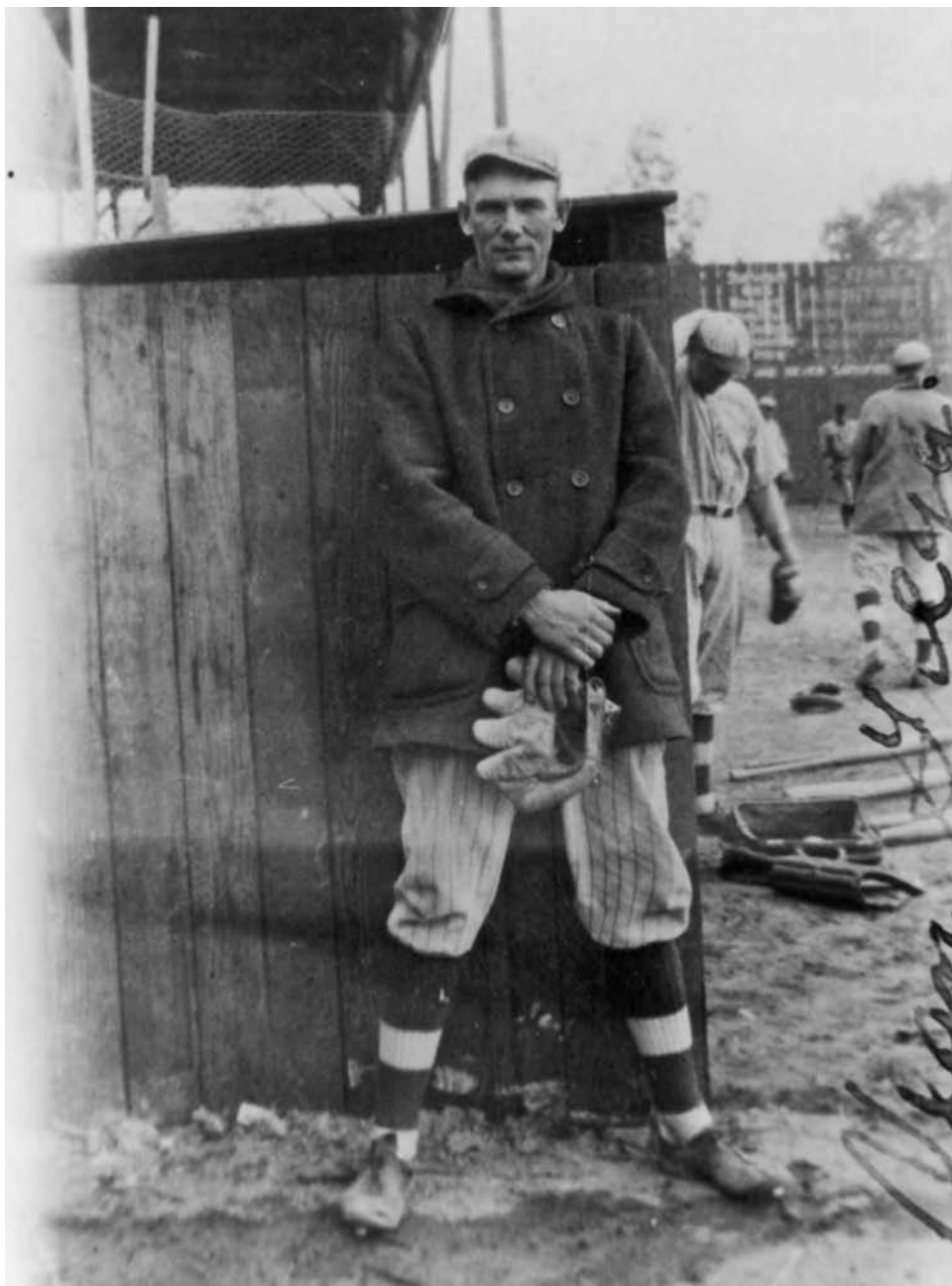
110. Oscar Ray Grimes, Sr.: Known generally as “Ray” and whose son of the same name, also a major leaguer, went by “Oscar,” O.R. Grimes, Sr. played first base for five-plus years in the majors, four of them with the Cubs. His career batting average was an outstanding .329, but he suffered from back problems and was past his prime by 1924.



III. Nick Dumovich: For reasons that are not entirely clear, Nick Dumovich was a favorite of my father's, stemming perhaps from his 20–11 record with the Angels in 1922. That year earned Dumovich a one-year stint with the Cubs in 1923 when he went 3–5 over 94 innings pitched. He was trying to hang on with the Cubs during the spring of 1924 but ended up back with the Angels where he went 9–12. The March 15 game that George saw was probably indicative of Dumovich's spring ineffectiveness as he surrendered two of Seattle's three home runs that day, including Eldred's.



112. **Brick Eldred** (Seattle) crosses the plate after homering against the Cubs, March 15, 1924, with Bob O'Farrell catching and Nick Dumovich pitching. Standing behind Dumovich and umpiring is Seattle pitcher Vean Gregg.



113. Sylveanus Augustus "Vean" Gregg: Gregg was a lefthanded deadball era pitcher who won 20 or more games three years in a row for Cleveland between 1911 and 1913 before suffering arm troubles. As a result of the latter, his major league career virtually ended, but he was nevertheless able to win 61 games for Seattle between 1922 and 1924. His 1924 season was a stellar one, as he went 25–11 with a 2.90 ERA. As a result, he earned one final shot in the majors with Washington in 1925 where he went 2–2.



114. Harvey "Suds" Sutherland: Sutherland pitched in the Coast League for seven seasons between 1919 and 1927. After a 21–17 year with Portland in 1920, he was elevated to the Detroit Tigers, where he went 6–2 in 1921 with a 4.97 ERA. He was back with Portland in 1922, however. His last three years in the league, 1924, 1925, and 1927, were spent with Seattle, where he won 17 and lost 26.



115. Jim "Sarge" Bagby: Bagby was an outstanding righthanded pitcher for the Cleveland Indians between 1916 and 1922. He won 23 games in 1917 and 31 in leading the Indians to the American League pennant in 1920. He was traded to the Pirates in 1923 and went 3–2 in his last year in the majors. His one full year in the Coast League was 1924, where he helped Seattle win the pennant with a 16–10 record. George was indeed fortunate to be able to get this picture.

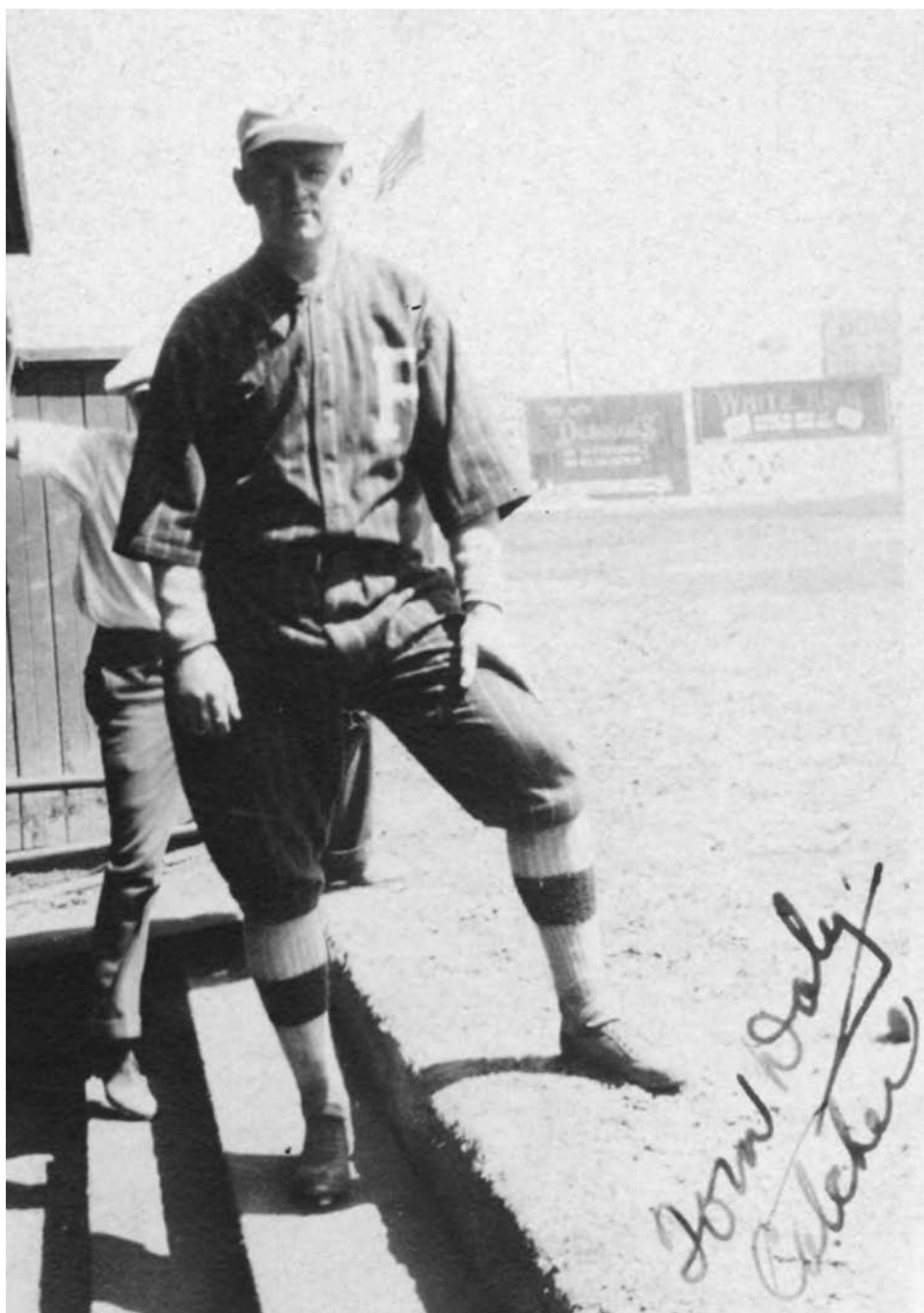


116. Wade “Red” Killefer: After five years of managing Los Angeles, Killefer was in his first full year (of four) running the Seattle club. He was able to lead them to the 1924 pennant, their only first-place finish prior to 1939. In this photograph he appears to be giving an interview.

Once the regular season started, my father attended several Pacific Coast League games in 1924, both before and after his summer trip east. On May 16, he saw Los Angeles shut down Portland, 5–1, and it appears that many of his photographs of Portland players were taken on that day. The Beavers (or “Ducks” as they were frequently referred to in the papers) were now being managed by the reinstated Duke Kenworthy, but Kenworthy’s tenure was a short one as he would be replaced in mid-season by third baseman Frank Brazill. As it turned out, Brazill’s home run accounted for the lone Portland run of that May 16 game.



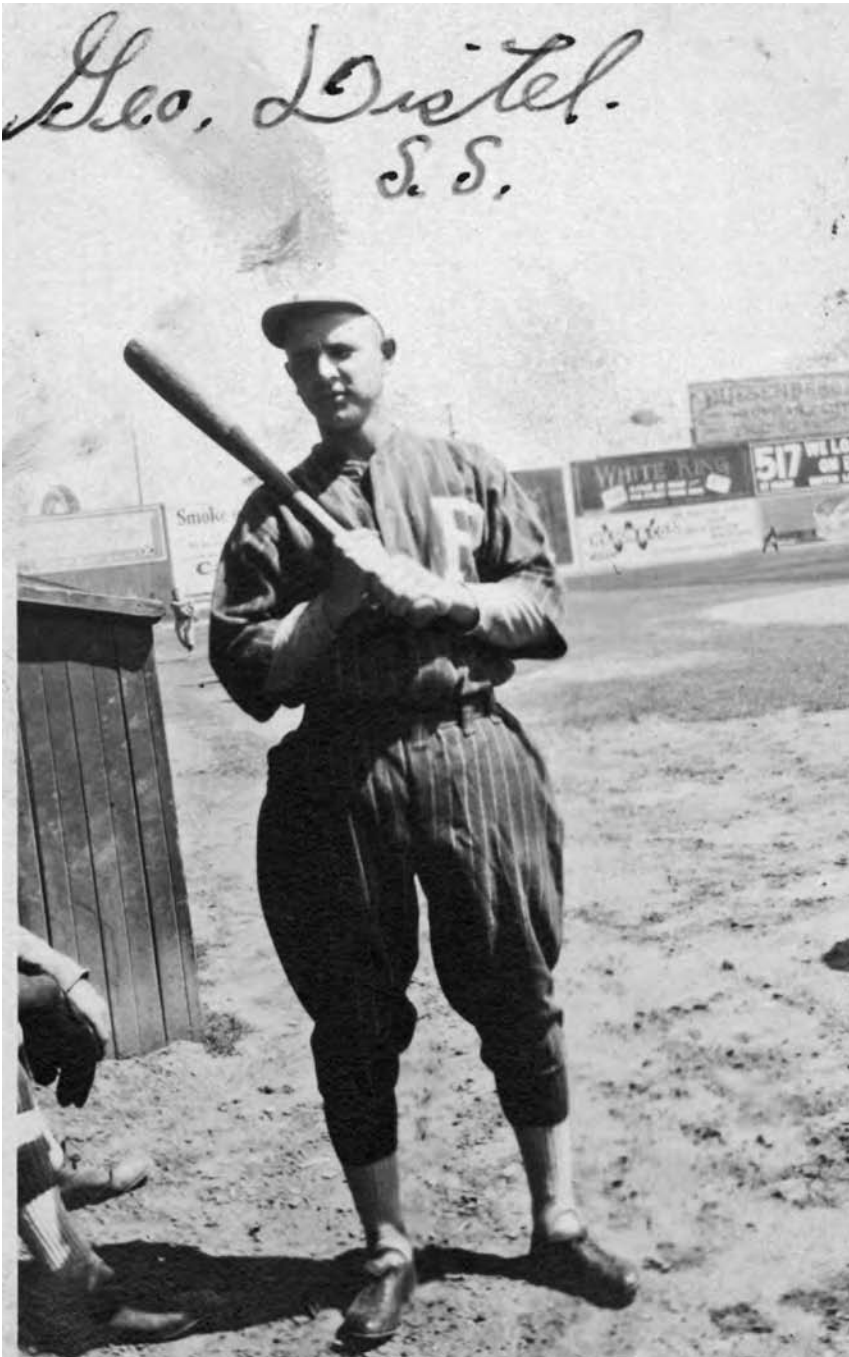
117. Frank Brazill: Frank Brazill was a slugging third baseman who played seven years in the Pacific Coast League and hit well over .300 each year. He was with Portland from 1922 to 1924 and, during 1924, hit .351 with 36 home runs and 148 RBI. He followed that up the next year with Seattle by hitting .395 with 29 homers and 155 RBI and finished second in batting average to Paul Waner's .401. Brazill was at best an average fielder, a fact that no doubt limited his major league opportunities to a mere 72 games with the Philadelphia Athletics in 1921-22.



118. Tom Daly: Shown earlier in 1922 with Los Angeles, Daly was now with Portland where he was splitting catching duties with Mickey Cochrane. Daly actually had more at-bats with Portland during 1924 than did Cochrane. By 1925, however, Daly was with Seattle while Cochrane was with Connie Mack's Philadelphia As.



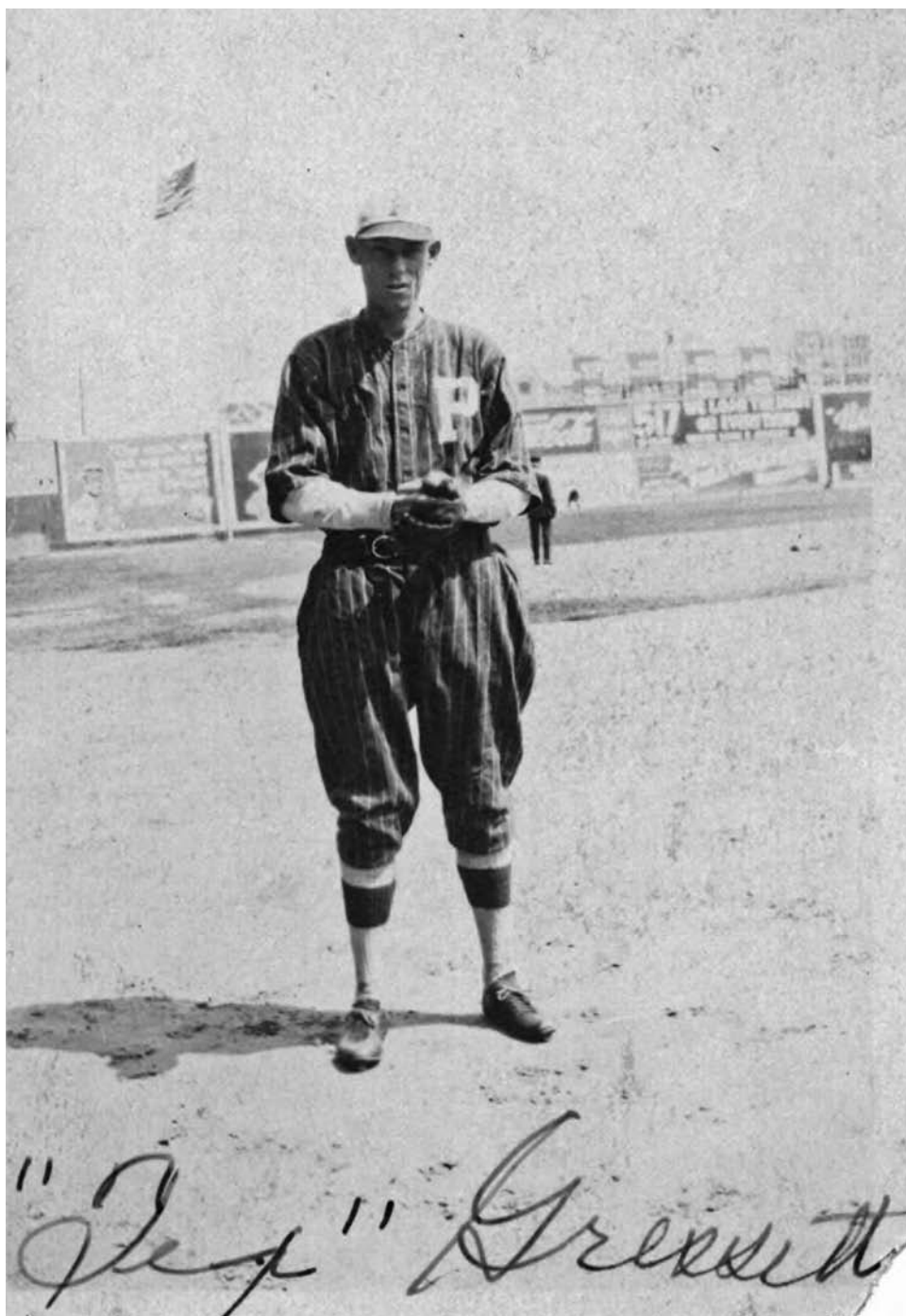
119. Stan "Rabbit" Benton: Playing alongside Brazill at shortstop was Stan Benton. He hit a relatively weak .265 and had lost his regular position by 1925.



120. George "Dutch" Distel: Distel filled in for Stan Benton at shortstop occasionally as well as playing other infield positions for the Beavers in 1924, his one year with the team. Distel's major league experience consisted of 21 plate appearances for the Cardinals in 1918.



121. Jake Miller: Like Dutch Distel, Miller was with Portland and in the Pacific Coast League for one year only, 1924, when he hit .291 in a backup role as the team's fourth outfielder. As with Benton and Distel, Miller made a very brief major league appearance, playing in three games for the Pirates in 1922.



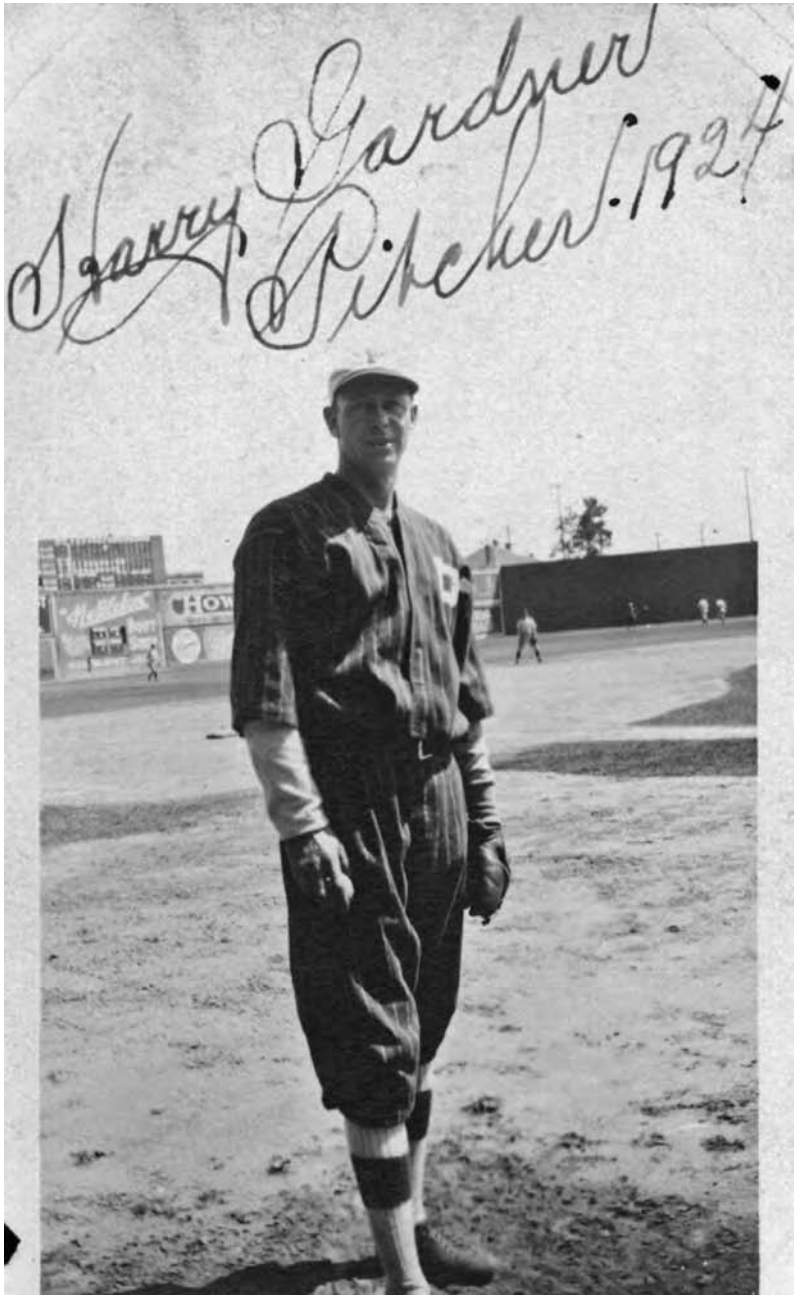
122. Leo "Tex" Gressett: Tex Gressett was in his third and final year as a Portland outfielder in 1924. He had hit .308 as a regular in 1922 and .300 as a backup in 1923, but he appeared only infrequently in 1924.



123. Walt “Lefty” Leverenz: Leverenz was the only pitcher on Portland’s 1924 staff to finish with a .500 or better record, and he was 14–14. Leverenz pitched twelve years in the Coast League beginning with Los Angeles in 1911. His 23–13 record in 1912 earned him a two-year-plus shot in the majors with the St. Louis Browns where he went a disappointing 8–31, although with a decent 3.15 ERA. Leverenz spent the years 1917–25 with Salt Lake City and Portland in the Coast League and then moved to the International League for his final five seasons. Overall, he won 269 games in the minors, 170 of which were in the PCL.



124. **Hugh Bedient:** Hugh Bedient had a winning record of 59–53 over four seasons in the majors between 1912 and 1915. He went 20–9 during a spectacular rookie year with the Red Sox in 1912 and defeated Christy Mathewson 2–1 in the fifth game of the World Series. After a year in the Federal League in 1915, Bedient was back in the minors, and during his one year with Portland in 1924, he was an ineffective 6–12 with a 5.66 ERA.



125. **Harry Gardner:** Another old-timer who was winding down his career with Portland in 1924, Gardner had pitched in the Coast League since 1917, almost every year with a winning record. In 1923, his best year, he had gone 22–12 for Seattle with a 3.10 ERA. His numbers with Portland in 1924, however, dipped to 5–6 with an ERA of 5.36, and Gardner retired at the end of the season. Note his signature, which is perhaps the most elaborate of those George collected.

Several of the Los Angeles players participating in the May 16 game were relatively new to the team, and George had not had the opportunity previously to photograph them. How many of the six pictures that follow he took that day is unclear, but they were all taken in 1924. The picture of Elmer Myers is particularly interesting because it has the date 7-1-25 as part of the autograph, but that appears to be the day Myers signed it one year later. Written on the back of the picture in Myers's handwriting is the following: "I would be glad to have some pictures. I hope this autograph suits you. I am now with the Wichita Western League club. You can reach me here. Elmer Myers." This may suggest that George typically offered to provide extra copies of his pictures at the time he made the request for an autograph. Myers, either because he was an especially decent fellow or simply wasn't in the habit of having his picture taken, was genuinely receptive to George's offer.



126. Elmer Myers: Myers was a righthanded pitcher who won 54 games in the big leagues between 1915 and 1922. Three full seasons of that period were spent with the woeful Philadelphia A's, including 1916 when Myers went 14–23 in 315 innings pitched for a team which won only 36 games. Myers spent the bulk of the 1922–24 seasons in the Pacific Coast League, the first two years with Salt Lake and 1924 with Los Angeles. He experienced a losing record each year, but at least with the Angels he managed to land with a team that came in a close second. As he indicates on his picture, by 1925 he was with Wichita.



127. Edward “Tubby” Spencer: Undoubtedly, Spencer was one of the more interesting characters that George photographed. He supported himself—and his alleged alcohol habit — as a backup catcher with the St. Louis Browns and Boston Red Sox from 1905 to 1909. Tubby was then essentially out of baseball, and reportedly riding the rails between 1911 and 1916 when he reemerged with Detroit. He hung on with the Tigers through the 1918 season, and his major league career totals over nine seasons show a .225 batting average in 1,326 at-bats. In 1919 Spencer surfaced in the Coast League with Salt Lake City and hit .322. In 1921 and 1922 he was with Seattle and in 1924-1925 with the Angels. In 1924, the year of this picture, he hit a respectable .281 in 217 at-bats.



128. C.A. "Butch" Byler: Between 1919 and 1925, Butch Byler caught for four Coast League teams, Salt Lake, Portland, Los Angeles, and Oakland. Probably his best year was 1923 when he was the more-or-less regular catcher for Portland. In 1924, the year of this picture, he was the third-string catcher for the Angels behind Joe Jenkins and Tubby Spencer.



129. Walt Golvin: Walt Golvin was with the Angels for two years, 1923–24, as a sometimes first baseman. His numbers were not impressive as he hit only .216 with two homers and 29 RBI in 328 at-bats in 1924.



130. Wally Hood: With the exception of 1921, when he was with Brooklyn, Wally Hood played every year from 1920 to 1930 in the Pacific Coast League. He was a consistently good slugging outfielder who had his most productive years with the Angels between 1923 and 1928. His career Coast League average in 4,996 at bats was .314 with 132 home runs. Interestingly, I have in my possession a baseball from April 13, 1928, which my father retrieved after it was thrown into the stands by Hood. We later had it autographed by Wally Hood Jr. who pitched for Hollywood in 1951.



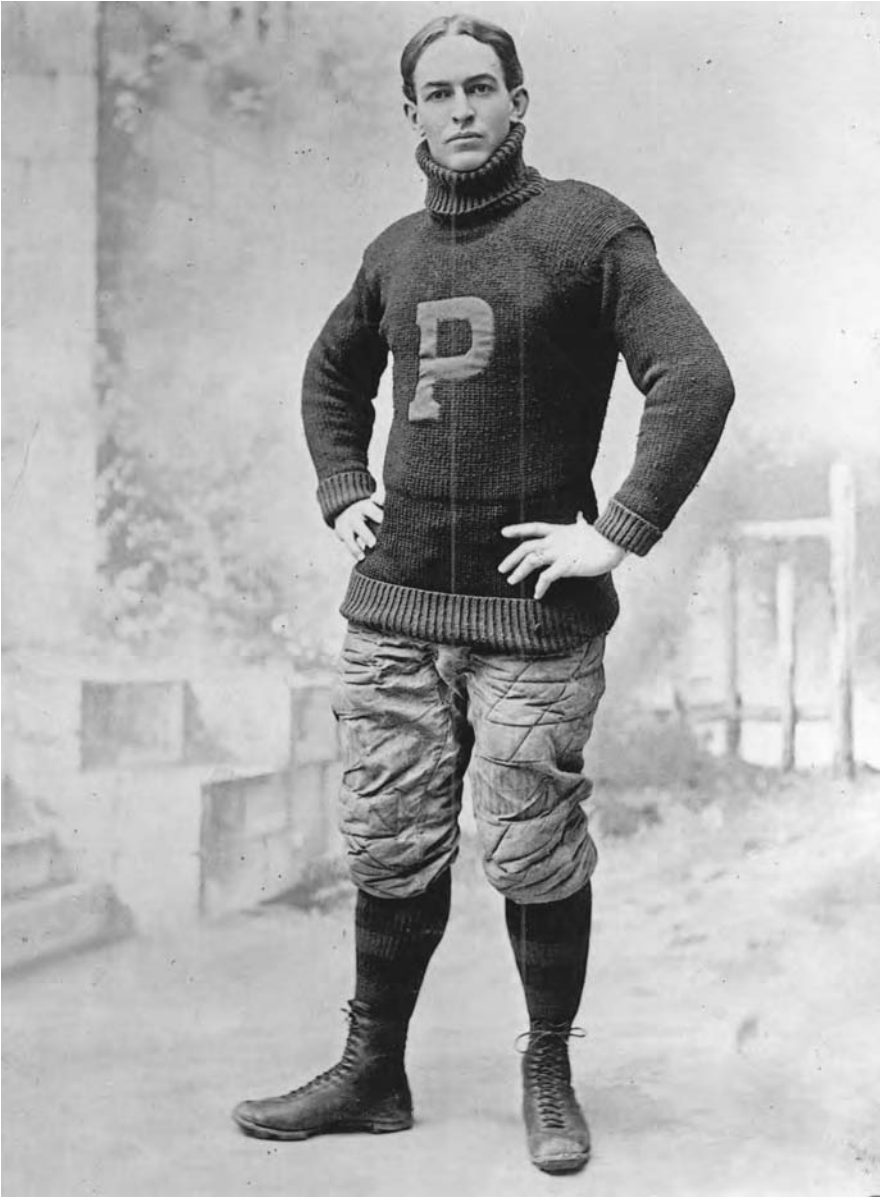
131. Cedric Durst: Playing alongside Hood in the Angel outfield of 1924, his only year with the team, was Cedric Durst who had been picked up from the St. Louis Browns. Durst hit for a .342 average that year and was back in the majors as a reserve outfielder from 1926 to 1930. Three of those years, 1927–29, were spent with the powerful Yankees. Durst returned to the Coast League for the years 1933–43 with Hollywood and San Diego, the last five of which he was the Padres' player-manager.

By June of 1924, George had graduated from high school, and his decision on where to attend college had narrowed to two choices: the University of Southern California, for whom he was developing a football allegiance, and Whittier College, the preference of his father Elmer. Why Elmer preferred Whittier, a Quaker school, over the Methodist-oriented USC, is not entirely clear, especially since his father-in-law, George Faulkner, had a friendship of sorts with George Bovard, one of USC's early presidents. Undoubtedly, Whittier's smaller, less urban (i.e., less "worldly") setting appealed to Elmer, and he probably suspected that Whittier would offer a more compatible environment for George, at least from a parent's perspective. Charles Cooper, in his history of Whittier College, described the school's student body during the mid 1920s as follows: "The students of these years were rural and small town boys and girls from public high schools. Most of them came from middle class homes of mid-western culture and average means, and belonged to Protestant churches, with Methodists about 25% of the total."¹ Obviously, George fit the profile nicely!

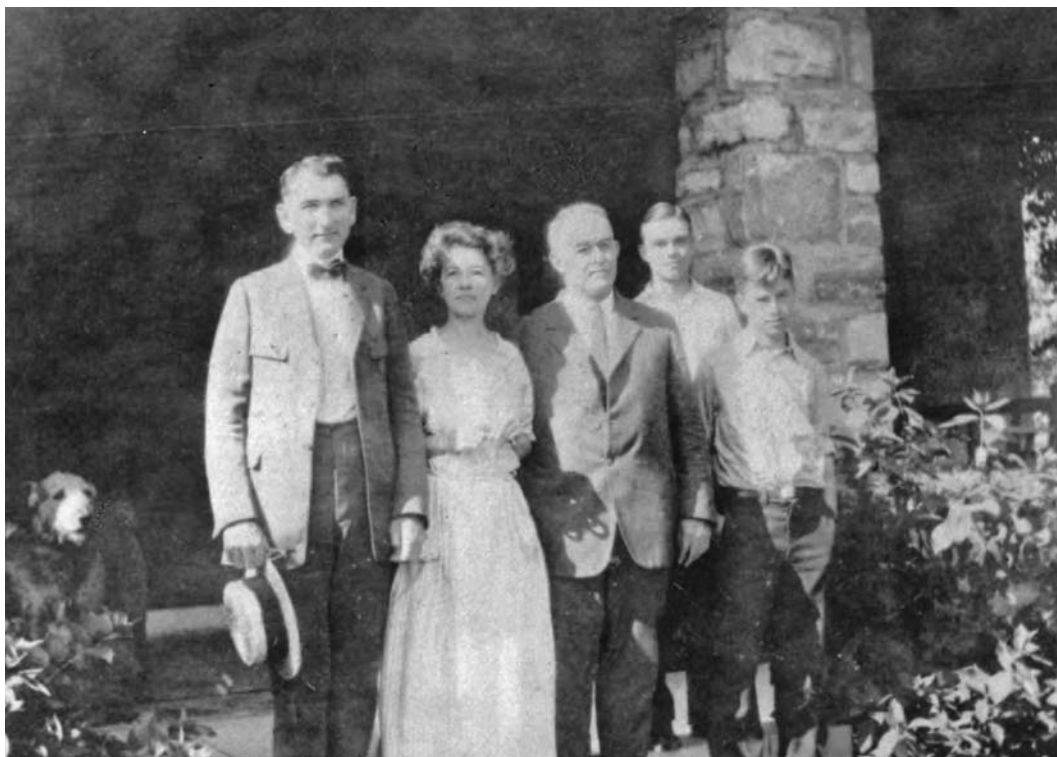
To persuade his somewhat reluctant son, Elmer resorted to an incentive of sorts. He offered to take George on a trip east to see the country and all the big league baseball games they could squeeze in. In return, George agreed to attend Whittier for at least two years. A deal was struck and, on June 16, 1924, Elmer and George departed Los Angeles by train on a five-week tour of the country. It took eleven days for them to reach Chicago because of stop-and-start sightseeing along the way, and what is apparent from reviewing the first two weeks of the trip, by way of George's diary, is that Elmer had his own ulterior motives for this expedition. What he wanted was to visit old friends and relatives and to introduce his oldest son to the people and places that had been such a large part of his own upbringing.

On the day before they reached Chicago, George and Elmer spent a day and evening in Kansas City with Dr. John H. Outland and family. "Uncle John," as he was known to everyone in the Outland clan, was Elmer's close cousin and one of the men whom Elmer most admired. As knowledgeable football fans will know, "Dr. John," as he was known to those in the Kansas City area, had achieved fame at the University of Pennsylvania as an All-America football player in 1897 and 1898, one year as a tackle and the next as a running back, a most unusual accomplishment. It was as a result of this experience that Outland took it upon himself in 1946 to become the motivator and benefactor of the "Outland Trophy" which has subsequently been awarded each year to the nation's outstanding interior college lineman.

Dr. John had also achieved recognition throughout the mid-west as "the flying surgeon," a doctor who traveled via his own airplane to perform operations in the neighboring states of Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Iowa. Throughout his life he remained a sportsman of some renown, being a former football coach and official as well as bearing the title "father of the Kansas Relays" for having introduced to the University of Kansas the track and field proceedings that he experienced at Pennsylvania. All in all, Dr. John H. Outland was a most respected individual and truly "a man's man." While my father had undoubtedly heard much about John previously, it appears that this June 26, 1924, visit was his first opportunity to meet him in person. George grew to admire John greatly over the ensuing years, even to the extent of naming me after him.



132. John H. Outland: John Outland achieved athletic fame at the University of Pennsylvania while pursuing a medical education in the late 1890s. He was named to Walter Camp's All-America team in 1897 as a tackle and in 1898 as a halfback. After receiving his medical degree in 1900, he returned to his home state of Kansas both to coach football and to begin his medical practice. Over the next 47 years, he gained recognition both as a surgeon and for his continuing interest in organized athletics. One year prior to his death in 1947, he proposed and funded the creation of what has become known as "the Outland Trophy" to honor the nation's most outstanding collegiate interior lineman. The trophy has been awarded annually since 1946.



133. Elmer Outland (on left) poses with the John H. Outland family in June of 1924. George and his father stayed over one night with the Outlands on their way to Chicago and George's first big league game.

Having reached Chicago by June 28, my father saw his first big league game, matching the Chicago White Sox and the St. Louis Browns at Comiskey Park. The game went extra innings and featured home runs by Marty McManus and Eddie Collins. Collins's was a dramatic three-run blast in the bottom of the eighth and merited the first of my father's seventeen full-page, single-spaced narratives describing his most thrilling or hoped-for home runs. His final two paragraphs read as follows:

Eddie hit the first pitch, a low line drive to right field, over near the foul line. It looked like a double, but it was more. I had not appreciated the force with which Collins had hit that ball. Not a home run hitter, he had put a little more lift on this ball than on most of his swats. The ball kept traveling, and did not drop as I had been expecting it to, but shot clear on over the fence that occupies a few feet of space between the bleachers and the foul line. A home run, and a terrifically long one.

The crowd was on its feet with a tremendous roar, and Eddie Collins never received a greater cheer than that crowd gave him as his spikes hit home plate. And one of the biggest of the yells came from my father, not exactly a rabid baseball fan, at least up to that moment. "Wasn't that some wallop," he demanded as, with straw hat in hand, he resumed his seat. I agreed that it was some wallop and a most dramatic one. The Sox lost the game in the 14th inning, but that homer of Collins's was the big thrill of the contest. It was the big punch, especially for me.

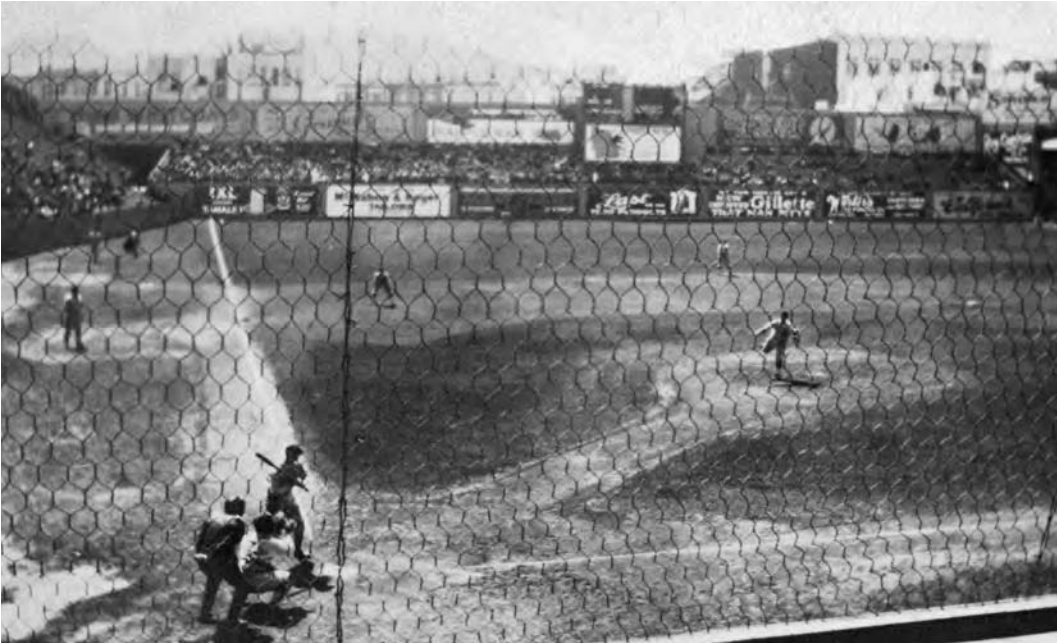


134. First Major League Home Run: Marty McManus of the St. Louis Browns crosses the plate after hitting the first major league home run that GEO witnessed, Comiskey Park, Chicago, June 28, 1924. The other players include Mike Cvangros pitching and Buck Crouse catching for the White Sox, and Baby Doll Jacobson on deck for the Browns. Note the still single decking of the right field bleachers.

George and Elmer arrived in Washington on the morning of July 3 and spent the day seeing the sights. Included were visits to the Capitol and White House, a foretaste of things to come for George twenty years later. On the 4th of July, the two men saw the Yankees beat the Senators, 2–0, “a great game” but with no homers. It was then on to Philadelphia and a doubleheader on July 7 between the A’s and the Red Sox. Home runs were hit by Frank Welch and Bobby Veach. Veach’s was described as “a prime favorite among my first big league homers even though it was not terribly long, terribly dramatic, or terribly anything else.”

July 8–9 saw the two travelers in New York City for extensive sightseeing. A weary Elmer did not accompany George on the 9th to see the White Sox beat the Yankees, 8–6, at Yankee Stadium. It was a four-homer day, two by Johnny Mostil and one each for Willie Kamm and Wally Pipp. George’s comments on Pipp’s home run: “I still think the right fielder tipped the ball just before it entered the right field bleachers.... As the years have gone by, I have appreciated more and more that particular hit of Pipp’s....” Pipp played approximately 100 more games for the Yankees before being replaced by Lou Gehrig and shunted off to Cincinnati. George was able to take a picture of Pipp while he was with the Reds in 1927.

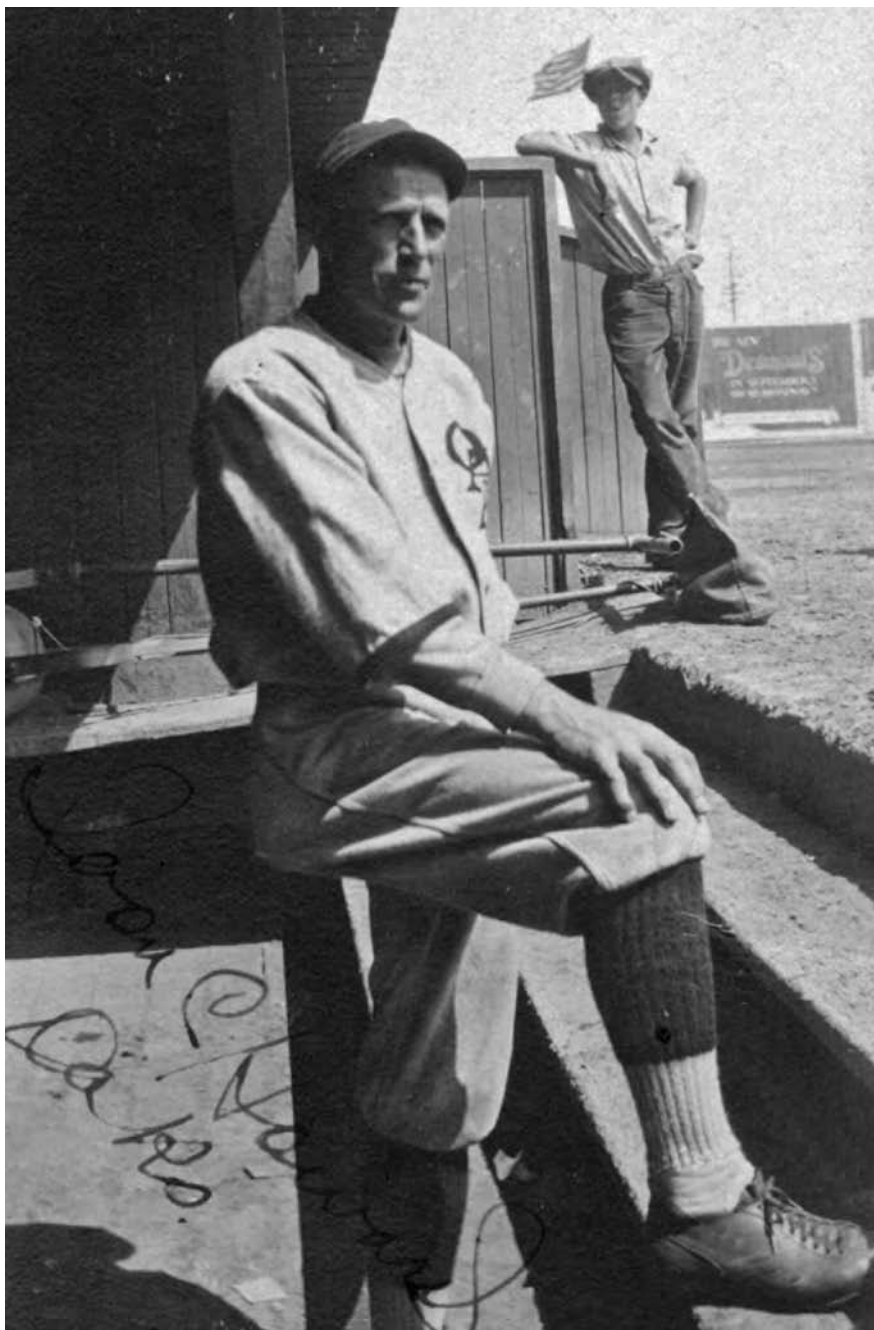
As it turned out, this White Sox-Yankees game was the last big league contest of the trip, as the men headed for Boston on July 10 for two more days of sightseeing. Included was GEO’s first exposure to Harvard, another future stomping ground. July 12 found George and Elmer in Buffalo and Niagara Falls and then on to Toronto where they boarded the Trans-Canada Limited for the long trip west. Arriving in Vancouver on the 16th, they headed south to Seattle, Portland, and Oakland. July 18 was spent touring San Francisco and taking in a ballgame at Recreation Park. San Francisco beat Vernon that day “in a thrilling ten-inning game.” Home runs were hit by Jimmy McDowell, Wes Griffin, and rookie Andy Vargus with the latter’s winning the game in the bottom of the 10th. This was certainly an appropriate climax to an eventful but exhausting trip!



135. Recreation Park, San Francisco: Game between the Vernon Tigers and San Francisco Seals, July 18, 1924. Speed Geary pitching, Archie Yelle catching for the Seals, Oskie Slade batting for Vernon.

One final day of traveling on July 19 took the men down the coast to Ventura where they “were met by the folks and some of the fellows.” While the trip had incorporated only six ballgames and eleven home runs, it had clearly been a significant growth experience for George, a nice prelude to his college years which were about to begin that fall.

Prior to the beginning of the school year, however, George was able to take in three more Pacific Coast League games in August and early September. The August 9 game between Vernon and Oakland was the one occasion during the year when George was able to see the Oaks play, and he made the most of it by taking several player photographs.



136. **Ivan Howard:** Between 1916 and 1929, the Oakland Oaks were managed by either Del Howard (1916–1922) or his brother Ivan (1923–1929). Both men had seen limited service as players in the big leagues, Del between 1905 and 1909 and Ivan, a utility man, between 1914 and 1917. Ivan had somewhat better luck as a manager of the Oaks, leading the team to one pennant in 1927. In 1924 they finished fourth with a record of 103–99.



137. Russell “Buzz” Arlett: Sometimes considered the greatest of all minor league players, Buzz Arlett had a career that in many ways paralleled that of Babe Ruth. Primarily a pitcher with Oakland from 1918 to 1922, Arlett won 99 games during that five-year period with three 20-win seasons. Because of his hitting prowess (and perhaps also his shaky control), he began the transition to full-time outfielder in 1923. Arlett’s batting average that year was .330 with 19 home runs, and for the rest of the decade he never hit below .328 with fewer than 25 home runs. Arlett finally made his major league debut in 1931 at the age of 32 and hit .313 with 18 home runs for the Phillies in 418 at-bats. His fielding was below average, however, and it was back to the minors with Baltimore of the International League in 1932. Just to show he hadn’t lost his stroke, he hit a career-high 54 homers that year — including four in one game twice — with 144 RBI and a .339 average. His career minor league average was .341 in just over 8,000 at bats.



138. Ted "Scotch" Cather: Alongside Arlett in the Oakland outfield of 1924 was Ted Cather, a former member of the "Miracle Braves" of 1914. Cather played occasionally for four years in the National League, hitting .252 in 201 games. By 1921 he was with Oakland of the PCL, and he stayed with them up through the first part of the 1925 season when he was traded to Sacramento. Cather's best year was in 1923 when he led the team at .344 and 109 RBI. Cather's daughter lived in the Richmond area for several years, and I was able to share a copy of this picture with her.



139. Spencer Adams: Adams played second base for Oakland in 1924, his one year with the team, and hit .273 with 90 RBI in 806 at bats. His only other year in the league had been with Seattle in 1922.



140. Ed Goebel and Lou Guisto: Ed Goebel (left) was a reserve outfielder for the Oaks in his one year with them and hit only .236. He had played in 37 games for the Washington Senators in 1922. Lou Guisto, a first baseman, had made brief appearances with Cleveland in 1916-17 and again in 1921-23. His major league average in 449 at-bats had been a paltry .196. Guisto was pretty much a fixture in Oakland, however, between 1919 and 1921 and again from 1923 through early 1927. His best years were in 1921 and 1925 when he hit .320 and .327, respectively. Guisto's power output was limited, with his most productive year being 1924, when this picture was taken, when he hit 11 home runs with 81 RBI.



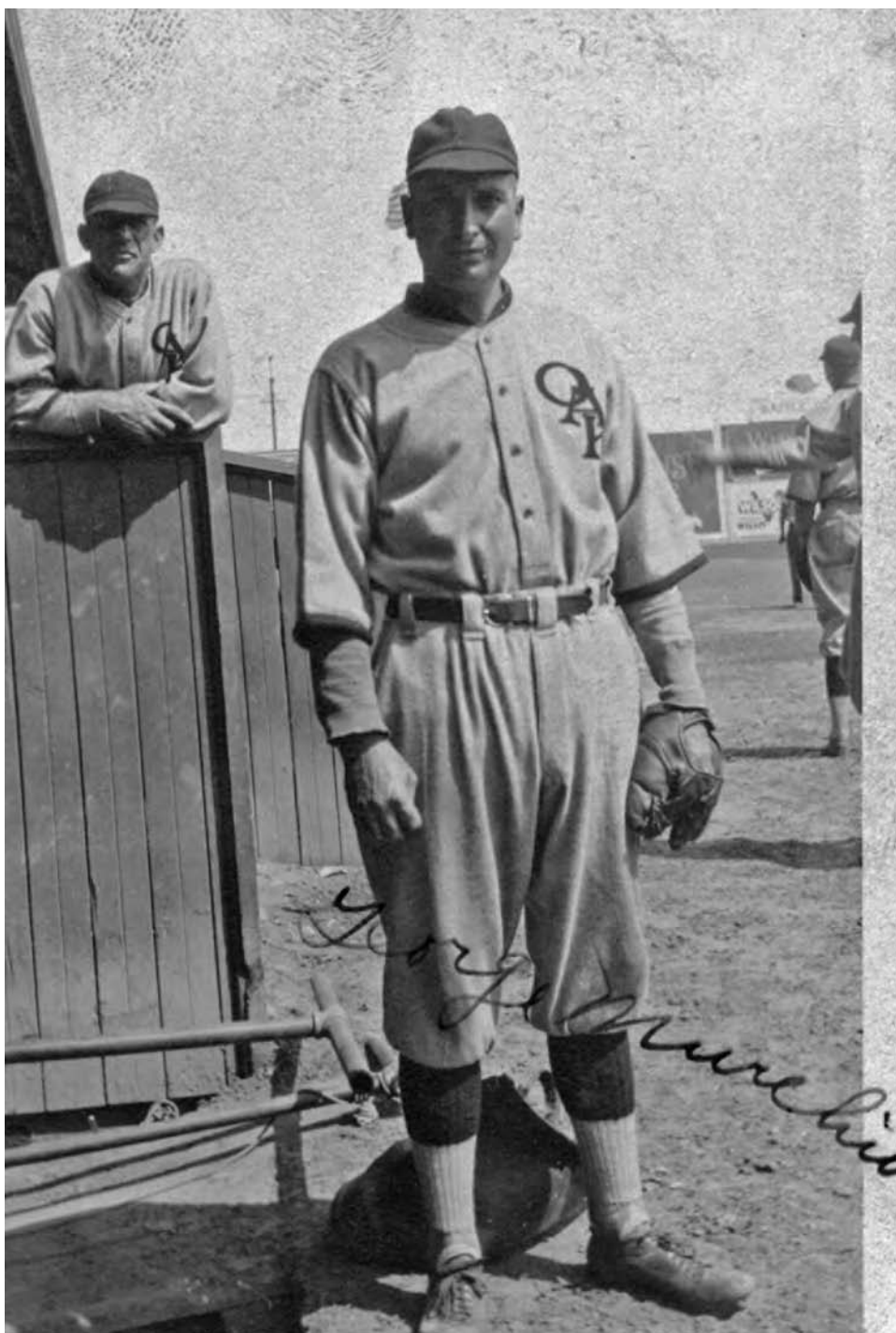
141. Addison "Pete" Read and Ray Brubaker: Pete Read (left) and Ray Brubaker seem to be enjoying each other's company here. Read had a long tenure as a catcher with the Oaks from 1921 to 1929. The year of this picture he hit .267. Brubaker was with the team even longer, from 1920 to 1934, first as the regular shortstop, including in 1924 when he hit .313, and then as a utility infielder, and finally as manager in 1933 and 1934, when the Oaks finished in fifth place twice.



142. George Boehler and Al Maderas: Maderas (on the right) was the third baseman in an infield made up of him, Guisto, Adams, and Brubaker. He was with the team from 1922 to 1924. George Boehler had a rather remarkable career stretching from 1911 to 1930. His major league totals were minimal—only 7 wins and 12 defeats—but he won 248 games in the minors, including 90 with Oakland in 1924-1925 and 1927 through early 1929. His most remarkable year was with Tulsa in 1922 when he went 38–13 in 441 innings pitched. The previous year with them he had been 4–20! In 1924, the durable Boehler tied with Ken Penner of Vernon for the most complete games with 30 while leading the Coast League with 396 innings pitched. He repeated the feat in 1925. (Note the young man with the baseball glove in the background of this picture.)



143. Harry Krause: Another exceedingly durable pitcher was the lefthander Harry Krause, whose career stretched from 1907 to 1929. After making his major league debut in 1908 with the Philadelphia A's, he went 18–8 in 1909 with a league leading 1.39 ERA. By 1913, Krause was in the Coast League with Portland and, in 1917, began an eleven-and-a-half-year stay with Oakland. His minor league career totals saw him win an even 300 games 249 of them in the PCL.



144. **George Murchio:** Murchio was a second-line, righthanded pitcher for the Oaks in 1923 and 1924.

The culminating event of the 1924 season was a Friday afternoon exhibition game on October 31, played at Brea, California, involving a group of touring major league stars as well as local players, including some recently retired major leaguers. My father traveled down from Whittier, where he was now a freshman, to join a crowd of 15,000 “rabid” fans. Mustering his courage before the game, he went onto the field to take pictures of Babe Ruth, Sam Crawford, Walter Johnson, Jimmy Austin and several others, including Rube Ellis, the former Cardinal and Angel outfielder who had recently become coach of the Whittier team. GEO also took some action shots of the game, including Ruth’s masterful pitching performance.

The game itself was an 11–1 “laugher” in favor of the Ruth All-Stars. Johnson, who was pitching for the Anaheim Elks team, gave up four home runs, including two to Ruth, but he did not appear to be pitching hard. My father, however, was one of the disappointed Johnson rooters. In his notes he says “in later years I was to more fully appreciate what I had seen; this day all I could think of was the humiliation that had befallen my hero, Walter Johnson.”



145. **Walter Johnson:** Among major leaguers, my father's greatest pitching hero was Walter Johnson. He was saddened by how hard Johnson was hit during this exhibition game before later realizing that Johnson was probably "grooving" the ball to selected hitters. Henry Thomas's account of the game supports this latter interpretation.² The occasion for the game was billed as a triumphal homecoming for Johnson, who had just won the seventh game of the 1924 World Series.



146. Johnson pitching: After giving up home runs to Babe Ruth on his first two appearances, Johnson struck him out on three pitches the third time.



147. George Herman "Babe" Ruth: Perhaps the greatest baseball player of them all, Ruth finished his 22-year career with 714 home runs and a .342 batting average. He also went 94–46 as a pitcher, including two 20-win seasons for the Red Sox in 1916 and 1917. In this Brea exhibition game, he both pitched and hit two home runs.



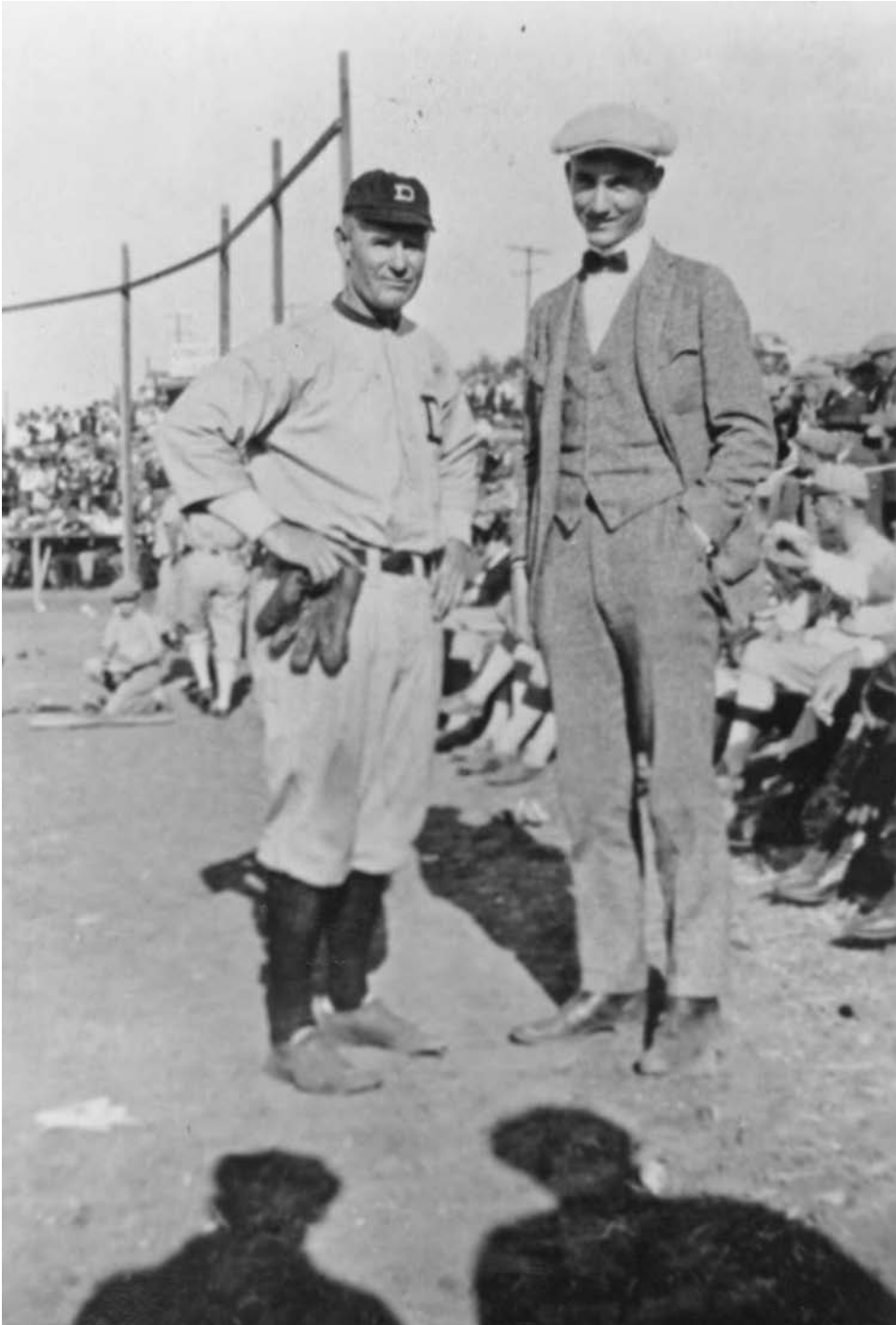
148. Babe Ruth pitching: Ruth pitched all nine innings this day, shutting down the Anaheim Elks, 11-1. The Elks team included Bob Meusel, Ken Williams, Jimmy Austin, Donie Bush, and Walter Johnson.



149. Babe Ruth crossing the plate after homering: Ruth gave the fans what they came for by hitting two home runs in his first two at-bats, the second of which was estimated to have traveled 550 feet.³ Rube Ellis waits on deck in this picture, with “Beans” Rear-don the umpire behind the plate.



150. Sam Crawford. As noted in Chapter 1, Sam Crawford was one of my father's two biggest heroes, along with "Doc" Crandall. "Wahoo Sam" had a major league career that stretched from 1899 to 1917 and ended with 2,961 hits, including the major league record of 309 triples. Crawford played four additional years, 1918–1921, with Los Angeles in the Coast League and posted a .330 average, including .360 in 1919 when, at the age of 39, he led the PCL in hits. Following his active playing days, Crawford stayed involved with baseball by doing some scouting, by coaching USC from 1924 to 1929, and by umpiring in the PCL for four years in the 1930s. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1957 and will be remembered as perhaps the most lethal power hitter of baseball's so-called "dead-ball era."



151. Sam Crawford and George Outland: Crawford was most generous to my father and even invited him, in a note of February 9, 1928, “to stop in some time at my home....”

Pico Calif
Feb 9-1928

Mr G.E. Outland
Whittier College.

Dear Sir -

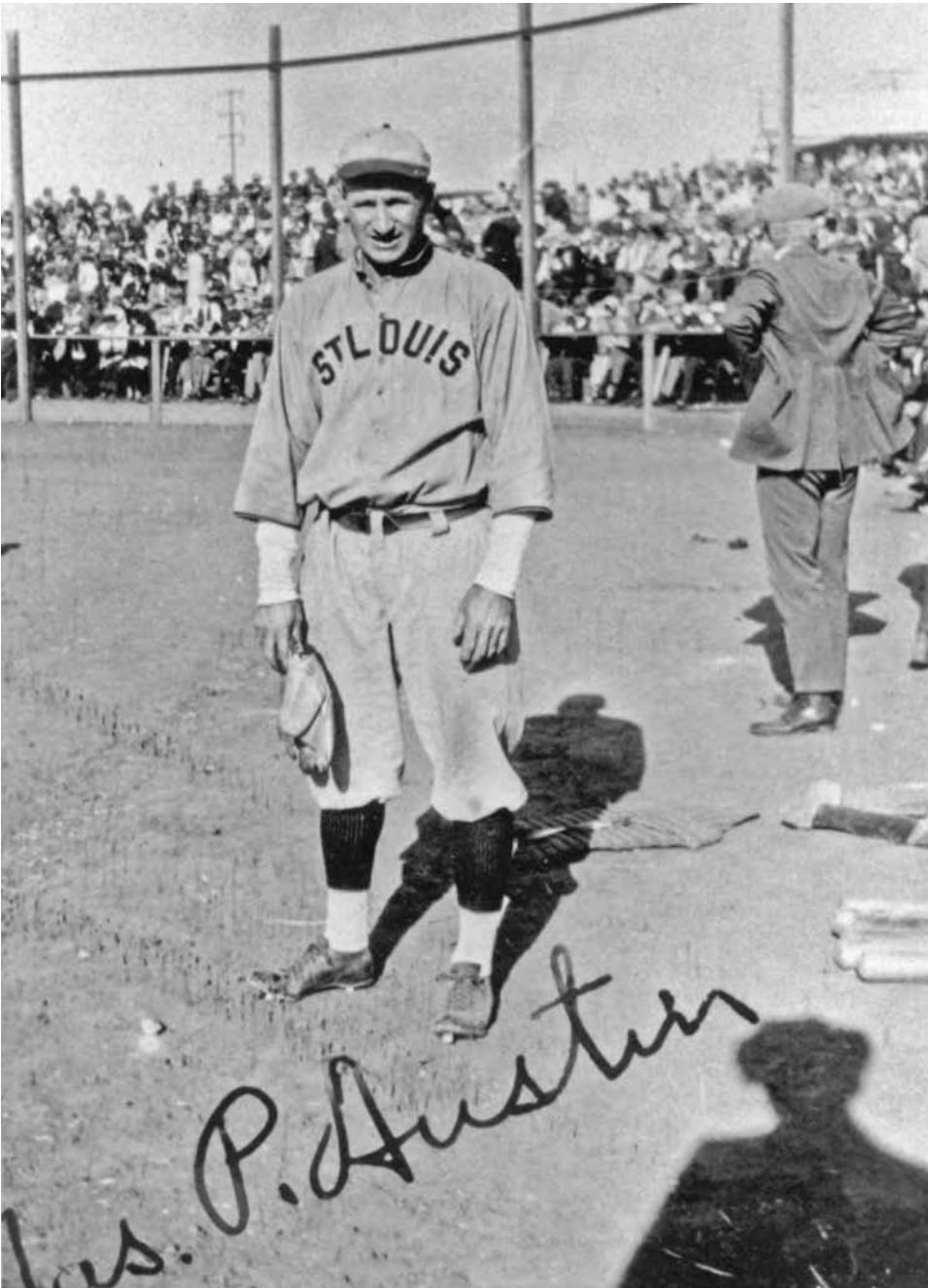
Am sending back the
Kodak snap Autographed.

If you will stop in some
time at my home here will
be glad to give you a
large picture of myself
in Detroit uniform.

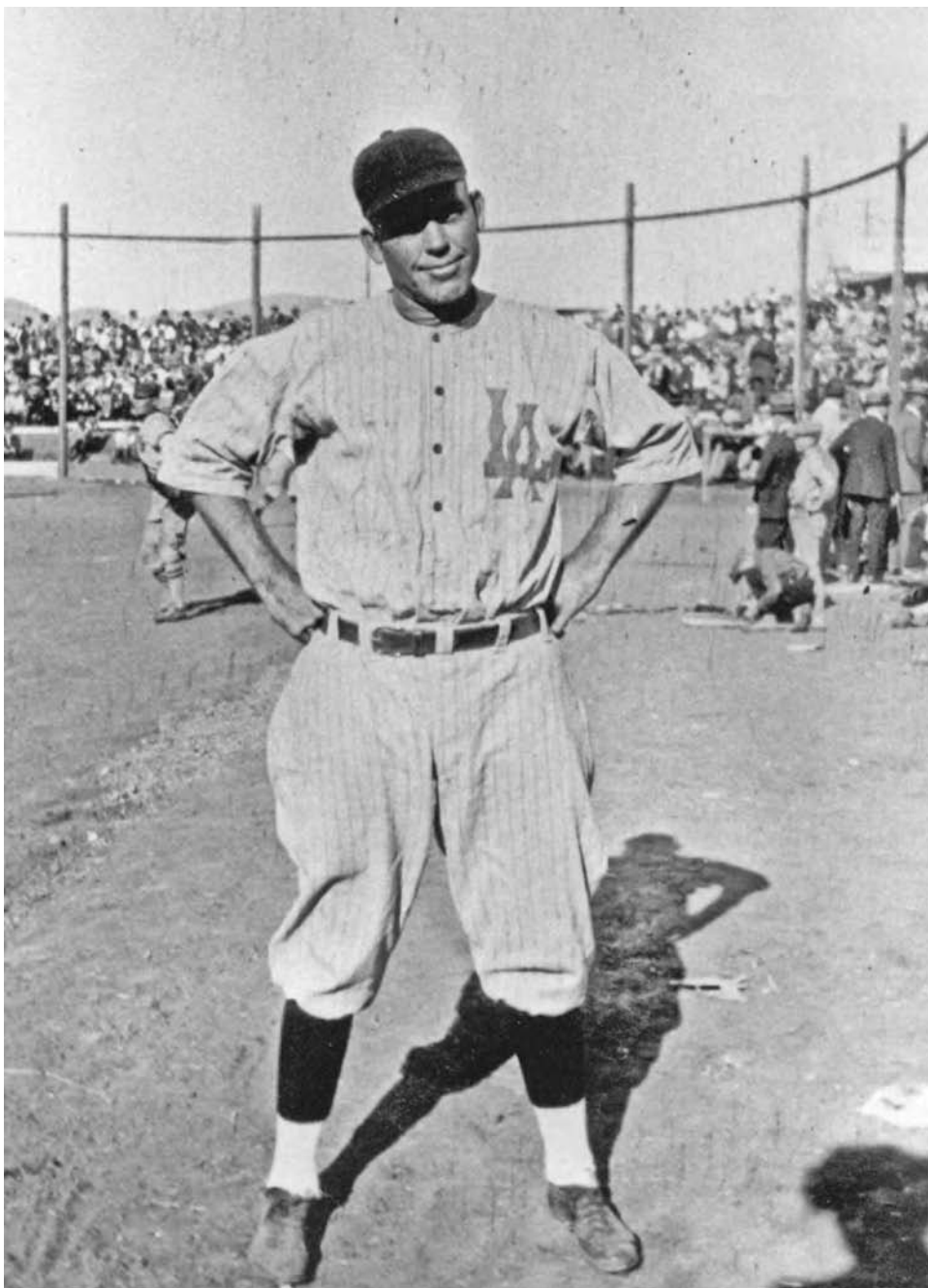
Thanking you for your
interest in Base Ball

Sincerely yours
Samuel Crawford

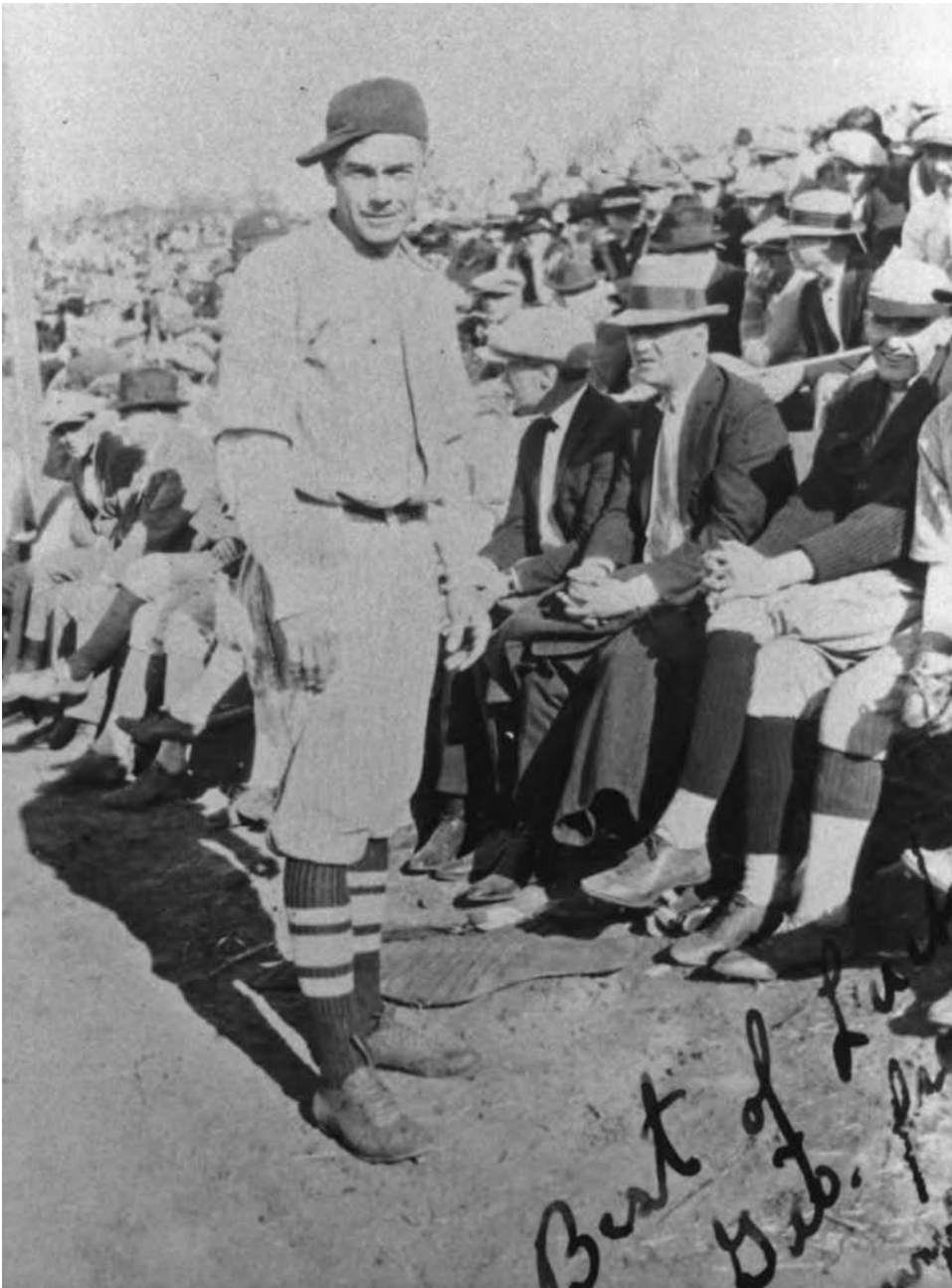
Letter from Sam Crawford: Letter to George Outland, February 9, 1928.



152. Jimmy "Pepper" Austin: Jimmy Austin was almost 45 at the time of the Brea game. He had not arrived in the majors until the age of 29 in 1909. In 1911 he began his tenure as the regular third baseman for the St. Louis Browns and, while not hitting for a high average (.246 career), he was effective at drawing walks and stealing bases. After his playing days were over, he continued as a coach for the Browns and later for the White Sox.



153. George "Rube" Ellis: Rube Ellis hit .260 as the starting left fielder for the Cardinals between 1909 and 1912, and his career with the Los Angeles stretched from 1913 to 1921. His best year was 1914 when he hit .310 with 120 RBI. At the time of this photograph, Ellis had begun coaching the Whittier College baseball team, so my father may have gotten to know him somewhat over the next four years.



154. Carl "Huck" Sawyer: George had earlier photographed Sawyer while he was with Vernon in 1922 (see Chapter 1), but this picture perhaps better captures the antic behavior that was typical of Sawyer, whose nickname was "Huck." Former teammate Dallas Locker is quoted in Scott Mackey's book as saying that Sawyer "was quite a clown. If we were up six or eight runs in a game, he'd catch the ball behind his back. Never missed one that I saw. The fans loved it and they never knew what he was going to do."⁴

3. *Everything Los Angeles,* 1925–1926

1925

From a picture-taking perspective, 1925 was an active year for George, his third most productive in terms of numbers. Surprisingly, however, he describes 1925 in his home run log as “not as interesting a baseball year from a home run or any other standpoint as the preceding one.” This can be explained, in large part, by the fact that all of the home runs for the year—and indeed for 1926 as well—were seen in Los Angeles. The home run total for 1925 dropped to 21, much fewer than he would see during any of the next nine years. Significantly, the end of the 1925 season did mark the passing of L.A.’s Washington Park and its replacement by the new Wrigley Field, the venue which would become by far the site of the most home runs (482) that George would witness at any one ballpark (see Appendix 2).

From the standpoint of the Pacific Coast League as a whole, the year must certainly be considered an “interesting” one, if not particularly dramatic in terms of its pennant race. The San Francisco Seals had one of the greatest seasons in minor league history, winning 128 of 199 games for a .643 winning percentage. They finished 12½ games ahead of Salt Lake City and 22½ games ahead of Seattle and Los Angeles. In terms of individual accomplishments, 1925 was the year of Tony Lazzeri’s 60 home runs and 222 runs batted in while Paul Waner led the league with a .401 batting average. Clyde Barfoot won 26 games for cellar dwelling Vernon, and Herman Pillette lost 26, also for Vernon.

It is not clear how many games George saw in 1925. His small diary accounts end with a game of March 21 and do not resume again until March 27, 1926. Obviously, there is a volume missing. The three games that he does describe in 1925 are all spring exhibition contests in March, and all involve the Chicago Cubs, two against Los Angeles and one with Vernon. The pictures of the 13 Cubs George photographed were no doubt taken during this time period. Three of the men became Hall of Famers, with two others (Grimm and Cooper) certainly worthy of consideration.



155. Grover Cleveland "Pete" Alexander: One of the great pitchers of all time, Pete Alexander recorded 373 career victories, including three 30-win seasons in a row from 1915 to 1917. His lifetime ERA over 21 major league seasons was a remarkable 2.56. Known for his outstanding control, "Old Pete" recorded 90 career shutouts, a National League record. In 1925, when this picture was taken, he was in his last full year with the Cubs.



156. Charles Leo "Gabby" Hartnett: An outstanding catcher in all phases of the game, a young Gabby Hartnett is here pictured in the early stages of his 19-year Chicago Cubs career. He was named the National League's All-Star catcher for six straight seasons and was the league's most valuable player in 1935. During his last three years with the Cubs, he served as the team's player-manager and helped lead them to the 1938 pennant with his famous September 28 "homer in the gloamin'." (Note the two young boys playing catch in the background of this picture.)



157. **Walter “Rabbit” Maranville:** Although sporting only a .258 career batting average, the 5'5" Maranville was a pesky hitter and an extraordinarily consistent fielding short-stop and second baseman. The fun-loving and aptly nicknamed “Rabbit” had a 23-year National League career, but only one year, 1925, was spent with the Cubs. It was not his best season, as he hit only .233 in 75 games and was fired after serving as player-manager for two volatile months during the middle of the year. The Rabbit was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1954, shortly after his death in early January of that same year.

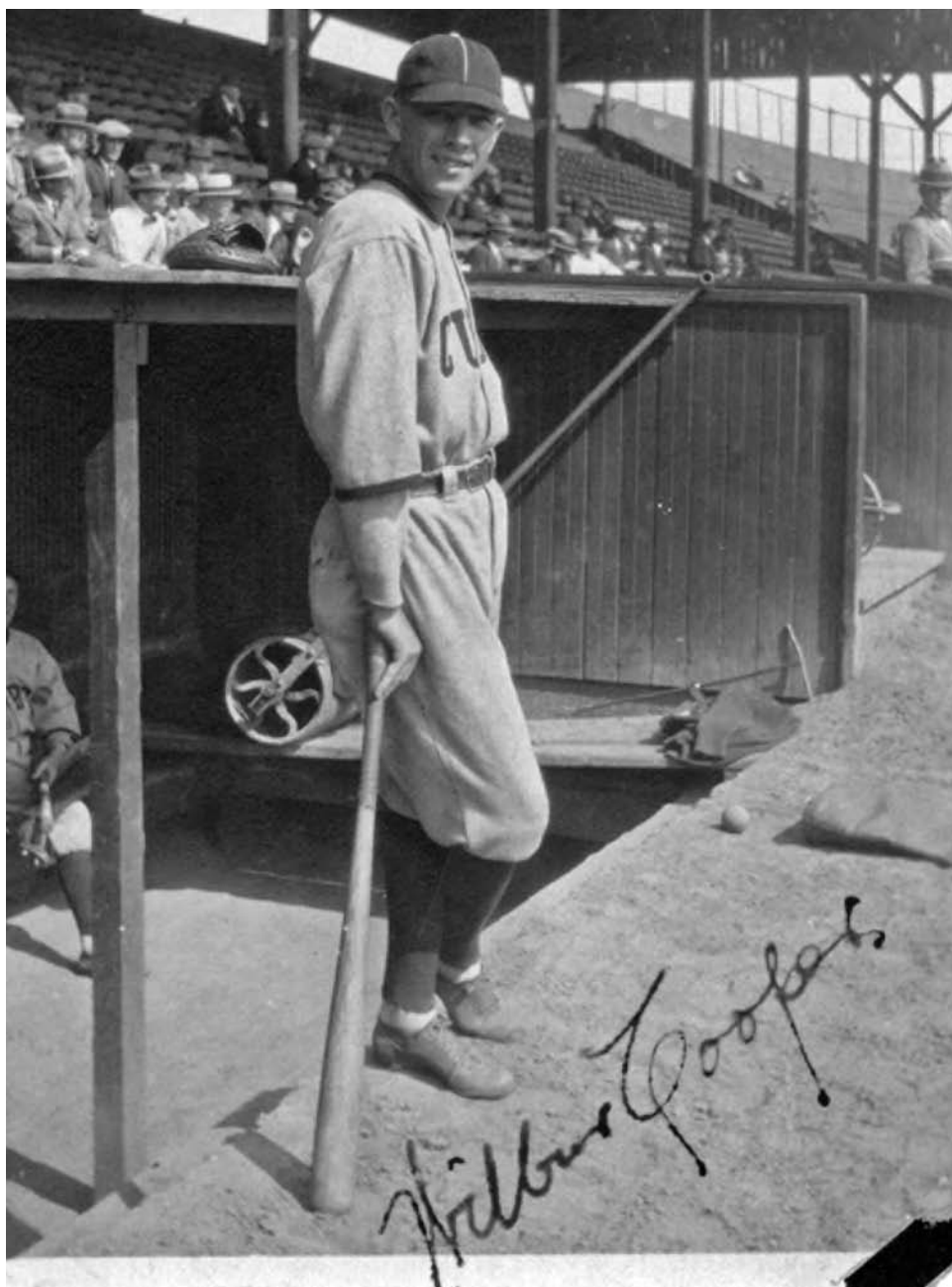


158. “Raindeer Bill” Killefer: Killefer, the brother of “Red” Killefer previously pictured, was the long-time friend and battery mate of Grover Alexander and was the manager of the Cubs from 1921 to July, 1925, before giving way to Rabbit Maranville. Killefer’s major league playing career stretched from 1909 to 1921 and ended with a batting average of .238 in 3,150 at-bats. His non-playing career as a coach, minor league manager, and scout lasted until 1955.

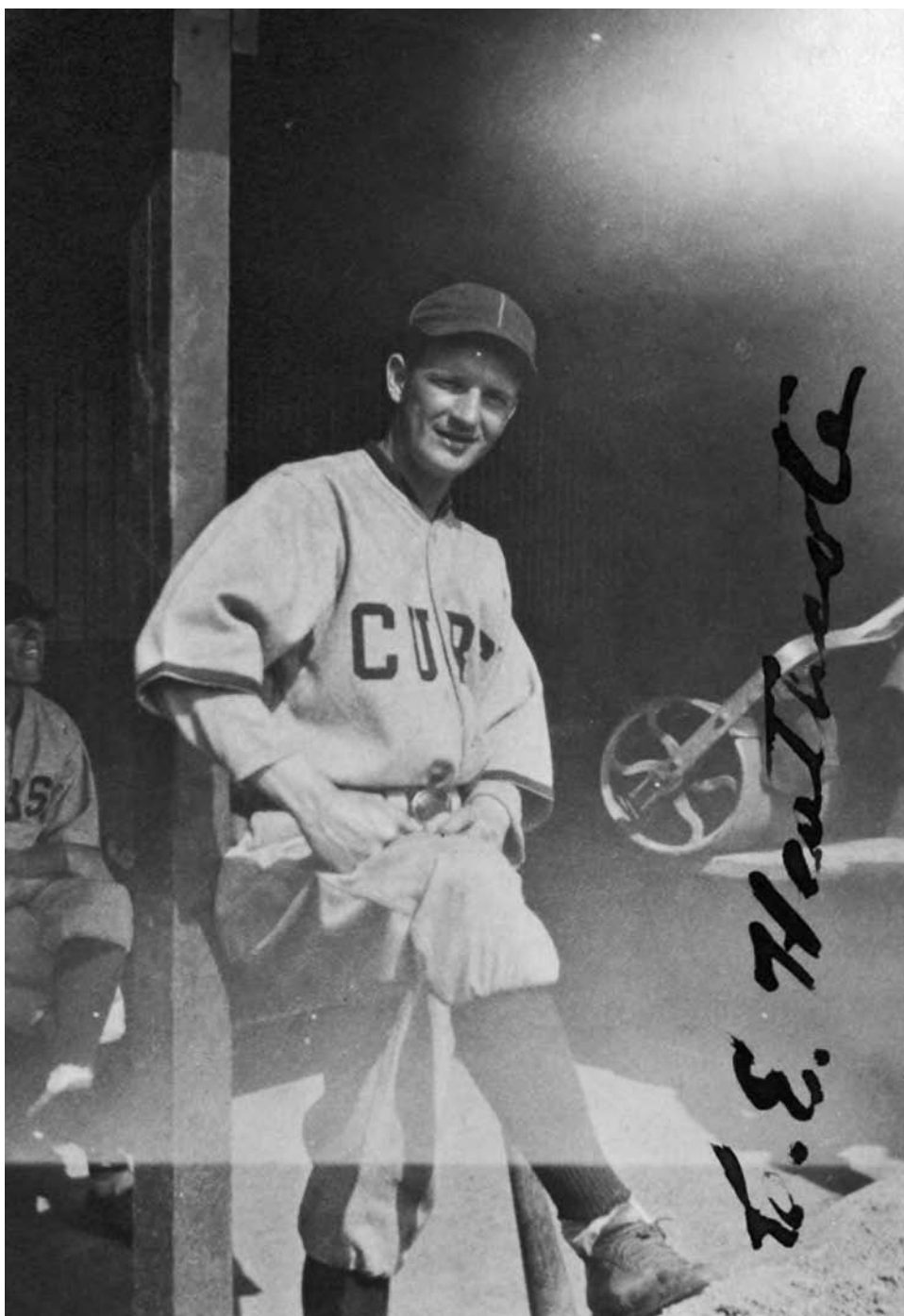


159. Laurence "Hack" Miller and Charlie Grimm: Two interesting and fun-loving characters are depicted in this photograph. Barrel-chested Hack Miller (left) was the son of a circus strongman and was capable of amazing feats of strength. He played for Oakland in the Coast League from 1917 through 1921, and his back-to-back .347 seasons in 1920 and 1921 earned him a shot with the Cubs. In his first two years with Chicago, he hit .352 and .301, but by 1925 his fielding liabilities had caught up with him, and, within two months after this picture was taken, he was back with Oakland where he hit .321 for the 1925 season.

“Jolly Cholly” Grimm was a good-hitting, smooth-fielding first baseman who was in his first year of twelve with the Cubs at the time of this picture. He, Rabbit Maranville, and Wilbur Cooper had been acquired from the Pirates during the fall of 1924. Grimm took over as manager of the Cubs in 1932 and led them to pennants in 1932 and 1935. He was succeeded as manager by Gabby Hartnett in mid-1938, another pennant winning year, but continued to manage on and off in both the major and minor leagues until 1960.



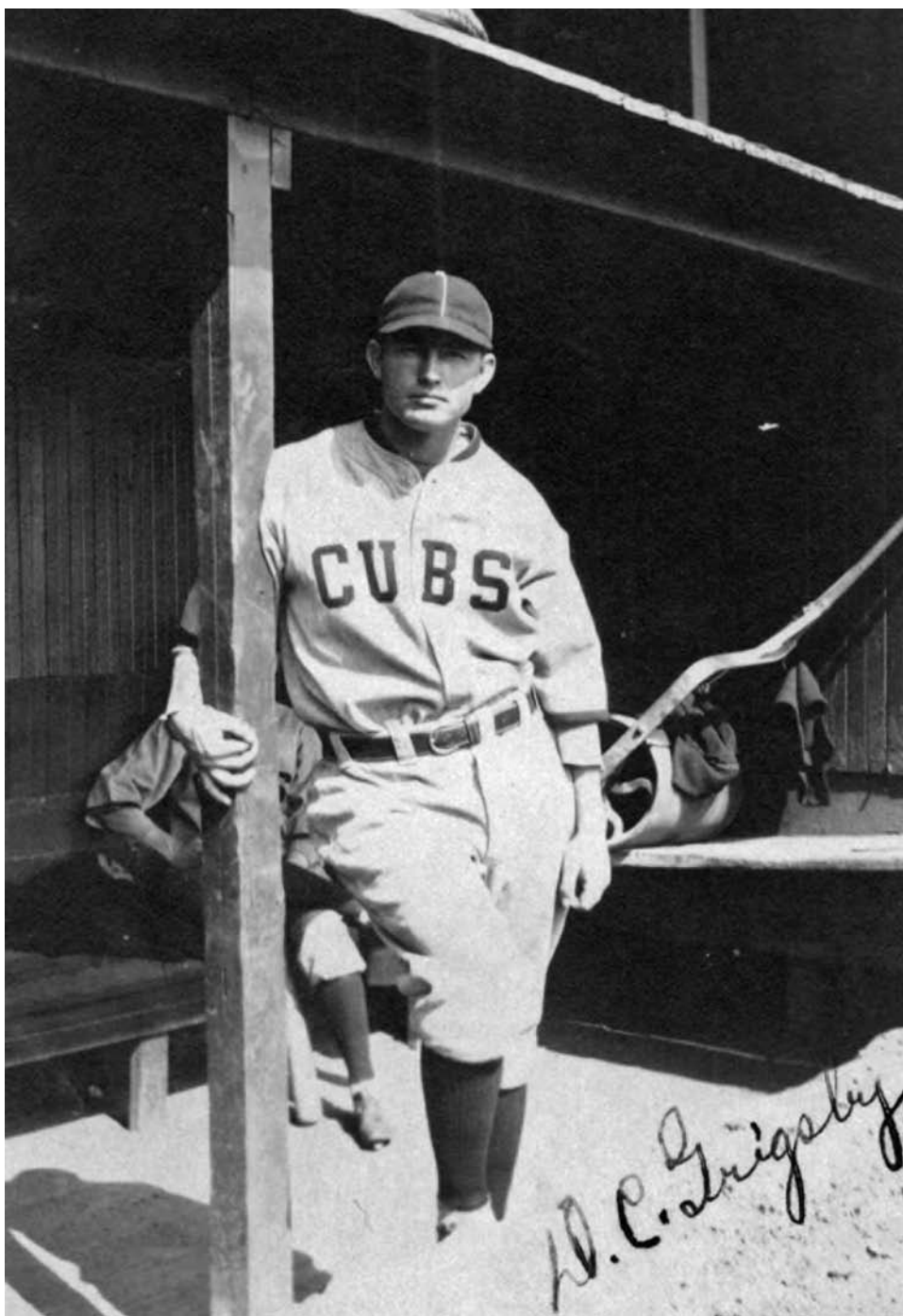
160. Wilbur Cooper: Wilbur Cooper was an outstanding pitcher who won 202 games over 13 seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates before being traded to the Cubs in 1925. In his one full year with Chicago, and his last full season in the majors, Cooper went 12-14. He continued to pitch in the minors, including two years with Oakland, through 1930. It is appropriate that he is pictured here holding a bat, since Cooper was an excellent hitting pitcher with a lifetime batting average of .239.



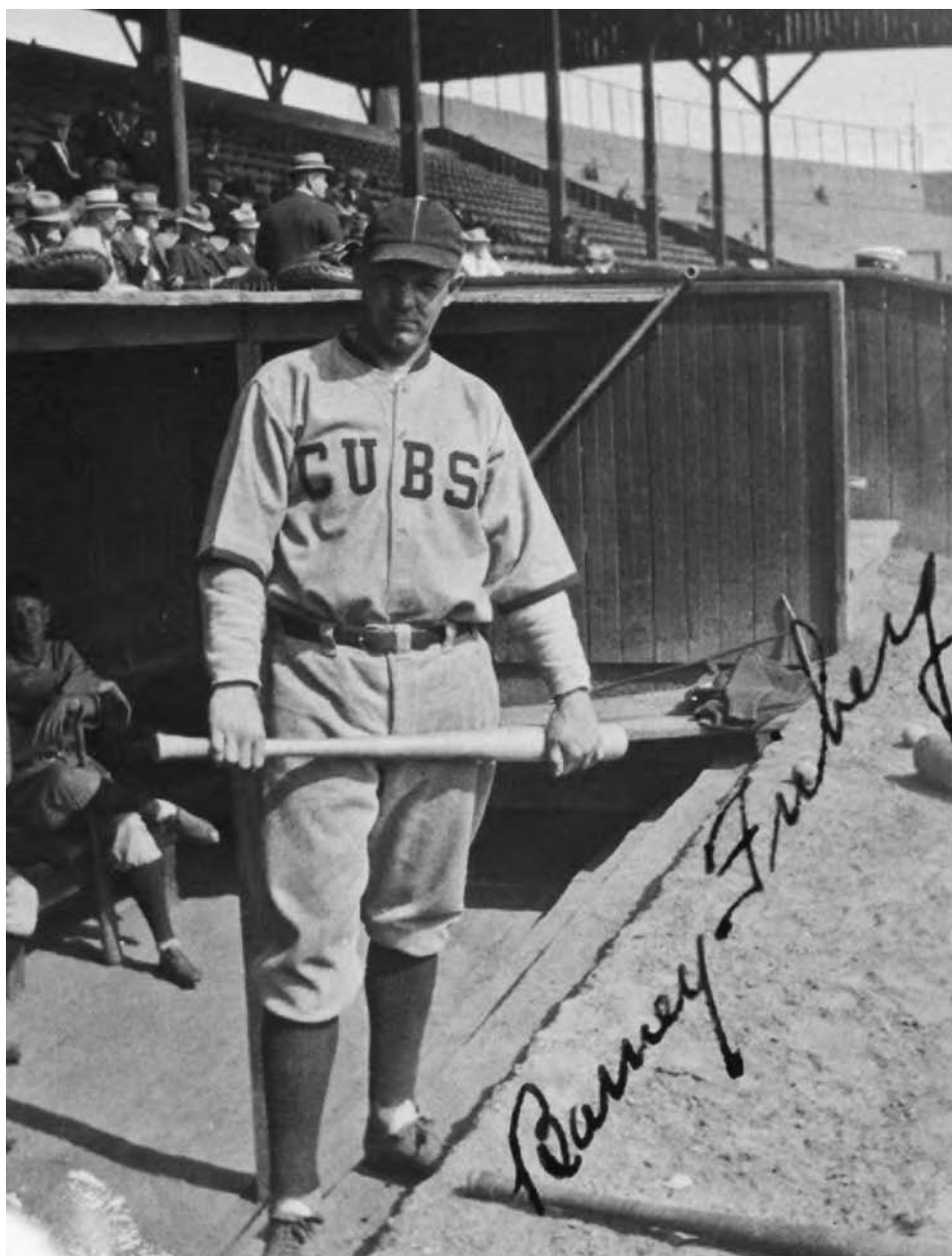
161. Cliff "Rubberhead" Heathcote: A speedy, lefthanded hitting outfielder, Heathcote played in the National League for 15 years between 1918 and 1932. He had a career batting average of .275 in 4,443 at bats. He was with the Cubs from 1922 through 1930.



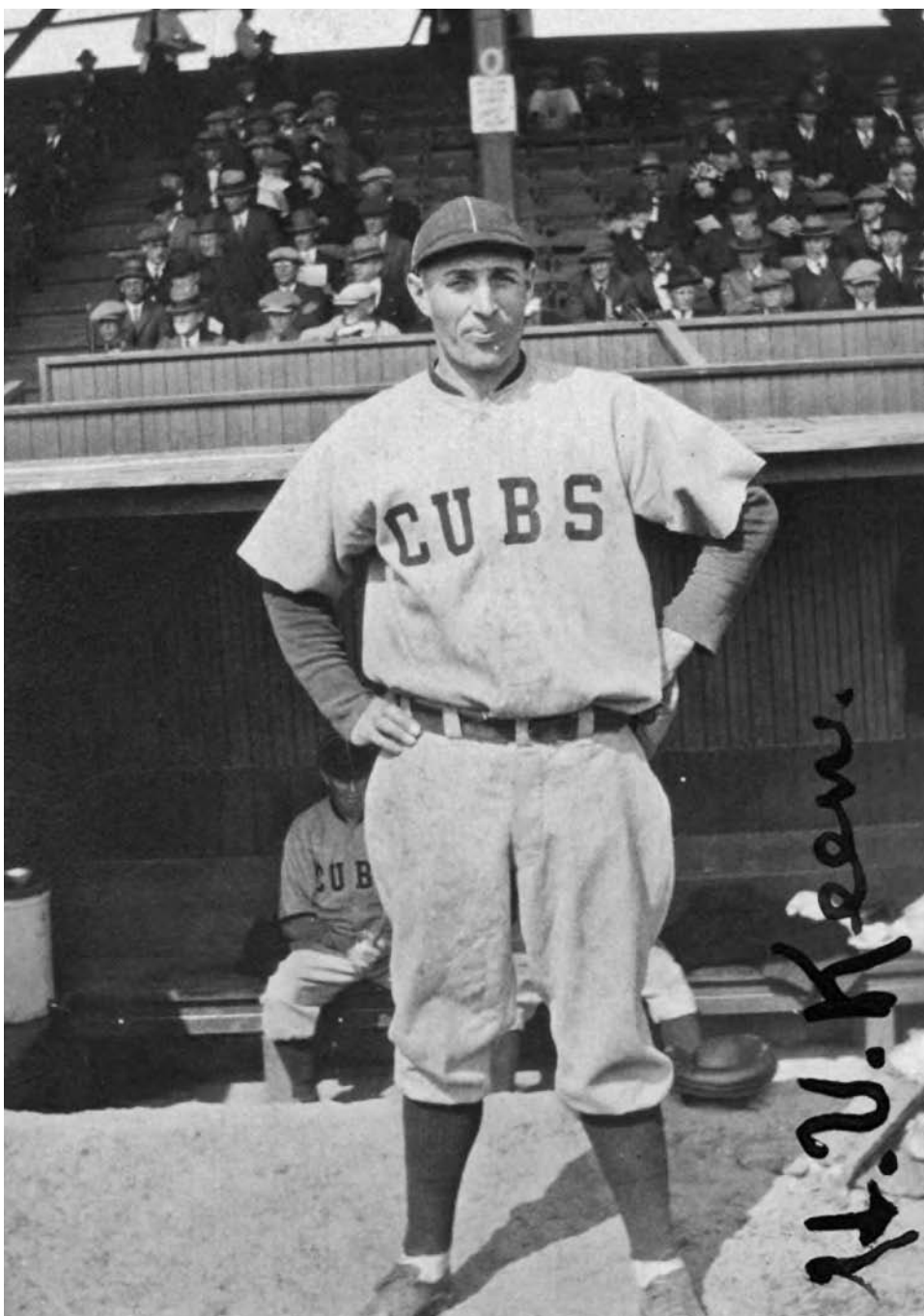
162. **Herb Brett:** There probably are not many pictures available of Herb Brett in a Cubs uniform since his career with them was very short, lasting for only 22.2 innings pitched over the course of the 1924 and 1925 seasons. He compiled a 1-1 record.



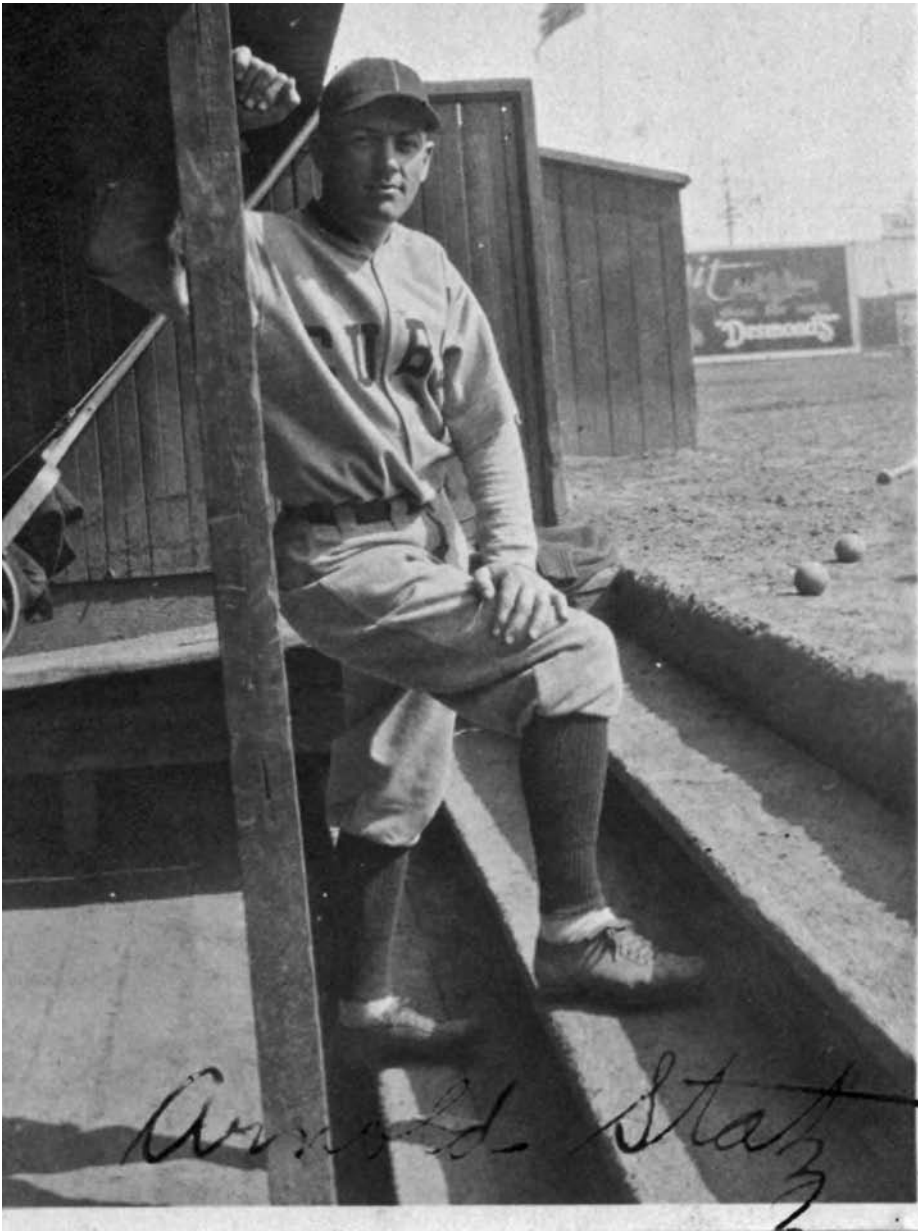
163. D. C. Grigsby: Outfielder Denver Grigsby played in 199 games for the Cubs over the 1923–1925 seasons and hit .289. 124 of those games were in 1924 when he was a major contributor to the Cubs' offense with a .299 batting average.



164. Barney Friberg: Utility man par excellence, Barney Friberg had a 14-year career in the majors. His first 5½ years were spent with the Cubs, including an excellent season in 1923 when he hit .318 with 12 home runs in 547 at-bats. In 1925, when this picture was taken, he was to be traded in mid-season to the Philadelphia Phillies with whom he was to remain through 1932. Friberg's trade broke up the Cubs' musical quartet that consisted of Friberg on the mandolin, Cliff Heathcote on the ukulele, Hack Miller on the guitar, and Charlie Grimm on the banjo.¹ George was able to photograph them all.



165. Vic “Parson” Keen: A righthanded pitcher, Vic Keen had two reasonably strong years with the Cubs in 1923 and 1924 when he won a total of 27 games. In 1925 he slipped to 2–6, however, and was traded to the Cardinals just in time to contribute ten wins to their 1926 pennant-winning season.



166. Arnold "Jigger" Statz: An accomplished center fielder, Jigger Statz played off and on for eight seasons in the majors, including with the Cubs from 1922 through the early part of 1925. He had an excellent year in 1923 when he hit .319 and was second in the league with 209 hits. Statz's real accomplishments, however, came in the Pacific Coast League, where he played an amazing 18 seasons with the Los Angeles Angels and finished with a career PCL batting average of .315. He was still playing in 100 games for the Angels in 1942 at the age of 44. It is ironic, given the fact that Los Angeles was GEO's favorite team, that his one photograph of Statz is while he was with the Cubs.

The Chicago Cubs had been conducting their spring training in Southern California since the early 1920s with their headquarters at Avalon on Santa Catalina Island. They played their exhibition games in the Los Angeles area against local Coast League teams as well as the Pittsburgh Pirates, who trained at Pirates Field in Paso Robles. Between the years 1925 and 1927, George took 44 pictures of the Pirates, far more than of any other team during that period. In several cases, he took pictures of the same player during different years with Lee Meadows, for instance, being photographed all three years. In such cases of multiple photographs, I have sometimes selected only the picture that is likely to reproduce best although in most instances, I have chosen to display more than one photograph of the same individual. While the majority of Pirates are pictured in 1927 (Chapter 4), there are many shown from 1925. The Pirates won the National League pennant in both 1925 and 1927.



167. Hazen "Kiki" Cuyler: Cuyler's career with Pittsburgh started slowly, with single game appearances in 1921 and 1922, but by 1925 he was one of the stars of the team, if not the National League. He hit .354 in 1924 and followed it up by hitting a healthy .357 in 1925, including 18 home runs and a league-leading 26 triples. Cuyler had fallen out of management's favor by 1927, however, and was traded to the Cubs in 1928. He continued his outstanding play with Chicago until mid-season of 1935 when he was dealt to Cincinnati. His major league career ended in 1938 with a lifetime batting average of .321. Cuyler was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1968. This picture is a good one of him because it shows off his notoriously curly hair. Cuyler's nickname, if not "Kiki," could easily have been "Curly."



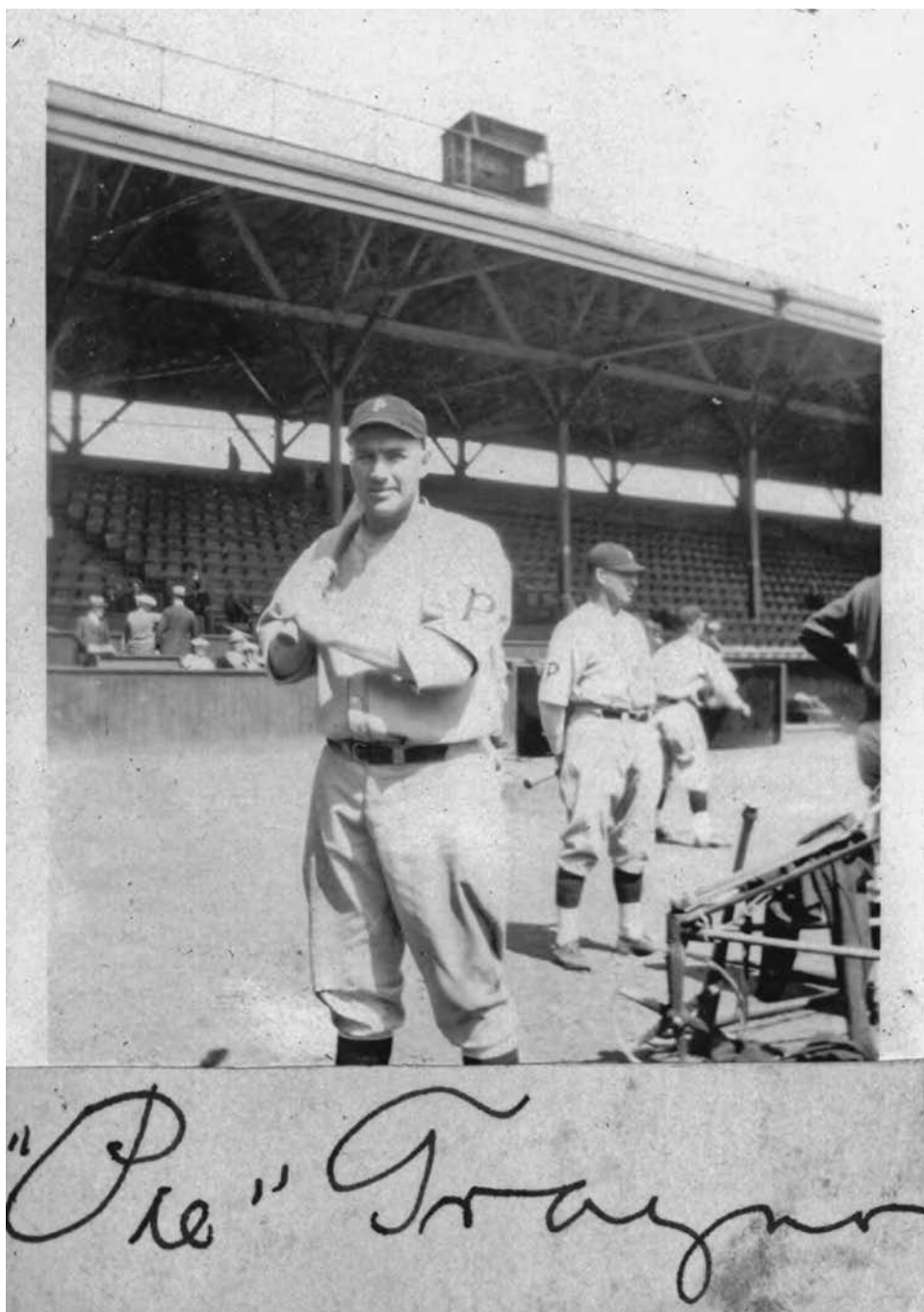
168. "Kiki" Cuyler, George Grantham, and Max Carey: The Pirates were stocked with .300 hitters in 1925, and this picture shows off three of them. In addition to Cuyler's .357, first baseman George Grantham hit .326 and center fielder Max Carey hit .343. None of the three seems particularly animated about it in this picture, however.



169. Max Carey: An outstanding all-around center fielder, Carey frequently led the league in defensive statistics as well as stolen bases and bases on balls. Although 35 years old at the time, his .343 average in 1925 was his career best, and he ended up with a lifetime average of .285. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1961. As with all of the 1925 Pirate photographs, the backdrop here is Washington Park, Los Angeles.



170. Glenn “Buckshot” Wright: Glenn Wright came up with the Pirates in 1924 and was their regular shortstop through the 1928 season. He was a strong fielder with a rifle arm as well as being a consistent hitter. In 1925, the year of this picture, he hit .308 with 18 home runs and 121 RBI and was a major contributor to the Pirates winning the National League pennant and World Series title.



171. Harold "Pie" Traynor: One of the great third basemen of all-time, Pie Traynor's career with the Pittsburgh Pirates stretched from 1920 to 1937. A slick fielder and .320 career hitter who seldom struck out, Traynor was an outstanding all-around player. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1948.



172. Clyde “Pooch” Barnhart: Barnhart played all nine years of his major league career with the Pirates from 1920 to 1928. He began as a third baseman but switched to the outfield with the arrival of Pie Traynor. Although lacking in power, Barnhart was a good hitter, exemplified by his .325 average in 1925.



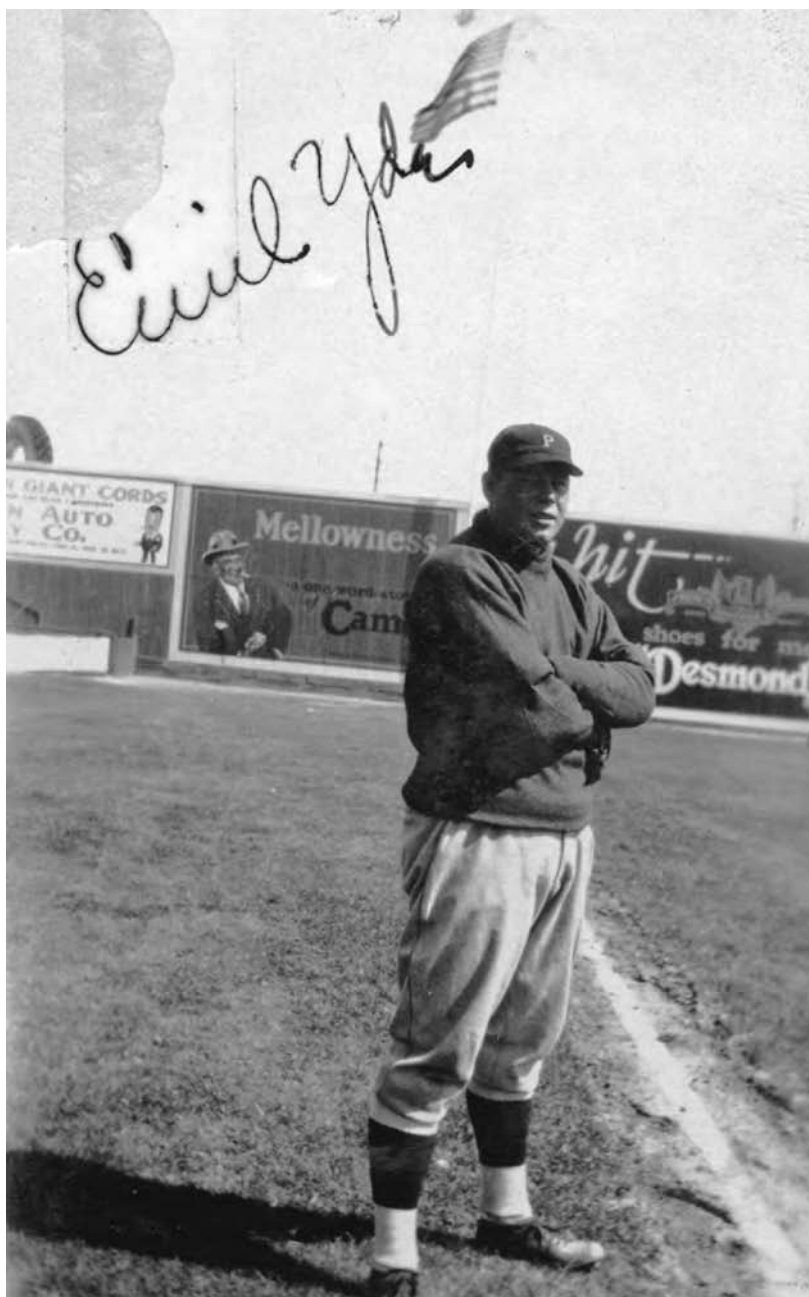
173. Carson "Skeeter" Bigbee: Another career player with the Pirates, Bigbee played from 1916 through 1926. He had a career average of .287 with two outstanding years in 1921 and 1922 when he hit .323 and .350. His eyesight had begun to fail him by 1925, however, and he averaged only .238 in 126 at-bats that year.



174. **Johnny Gooch:** Gooch split the Pirates' catching responsibilities in 1925 with Earl ("Oil") Smith. Both men had good years with Gooch hitting .298 and Smith .313. For his career, Gooch hit .280 in 2,363 at-bats. He played up through 1933 and later managed in the minors.



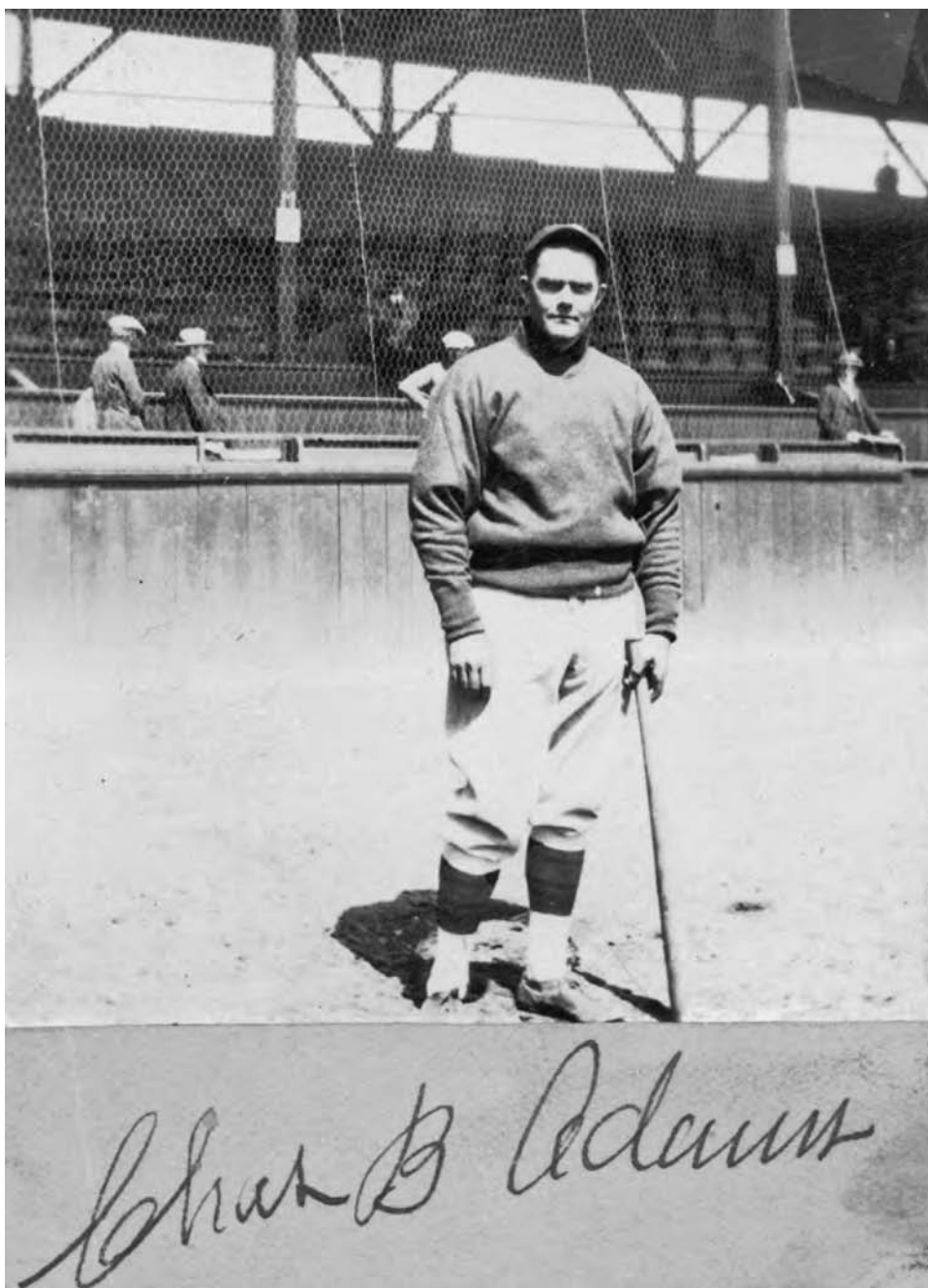
175. “Jughandle” Johnny Morrison: A righthanded pitcher with a sweeping curve ball (thus the colorful nickname), Morrison was a work-horse pitcher for the Pirates during their heyday of the mid-1920s. He won 25 games for them in 1923 and 17 in both 1922 and 1925. For his career, which ended with the Dodgers in 1930, Morrison went 103–80.



176. Emil Yde: A good-hitting, sidearm-throwing lefthanded pitcher, Yde had two strong seasons for the Pirates in 1924 and 1925. He went 16–3 during his rookie year of 1924, completed 14 of 22 games with four shutouts, and had an ERA of 2.83. In 1925, he contributed a 17–9 record to the Pirates’ championship season. After that, however, it was downhill for Yde, and his major league career was over by 1929. He did pitch for Hollywood in the Coast League from 1930 to 1932, going 45–35 over that three-year period.



177. Lee “Specs” Meadows: Lee Meadows had a 15-year National League pitching career in which he won 188 games with a 3.37 ERA. His strongest years were with the Pirates from 1923 to 1927 when he won 87 games and lost 51 and helped them win two league pennants and one World Series. He and future teammate Carmen Hill are credited with being the first two major league pitchers to wear glasses.



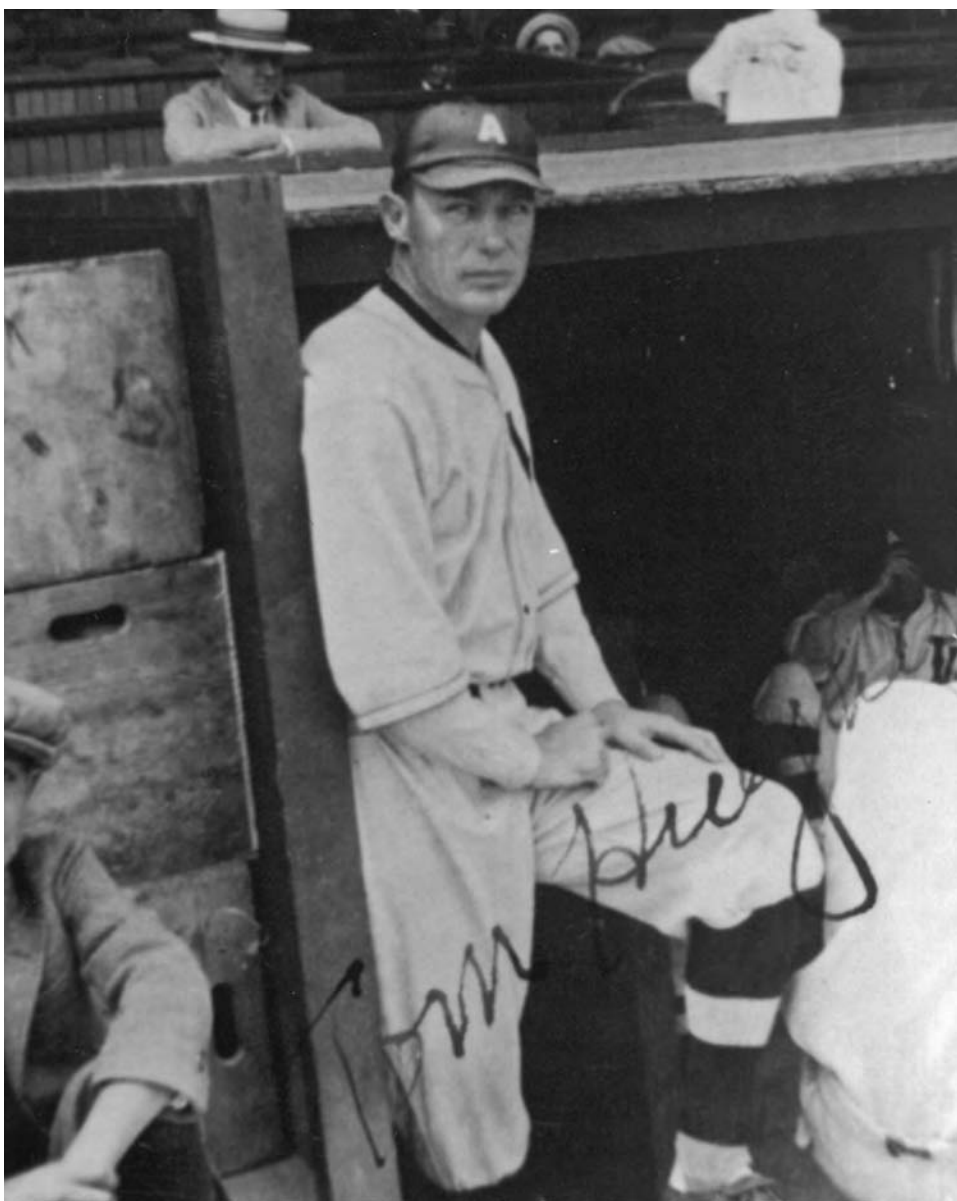
178. Charles "Babe" Adams: Known for his pinpoint control, the good-looking Adams won 194 games and compiled a 2.76 ERA for the Pirates over the course of 18 seasons with them. He won over twenty games in 1911 and 1913 and won all three of his World Series starts in 1909. By 1925, Babe's effectiveness had begun to fade, and his ERA jumped to 5.42. He was being used primarily in relief.



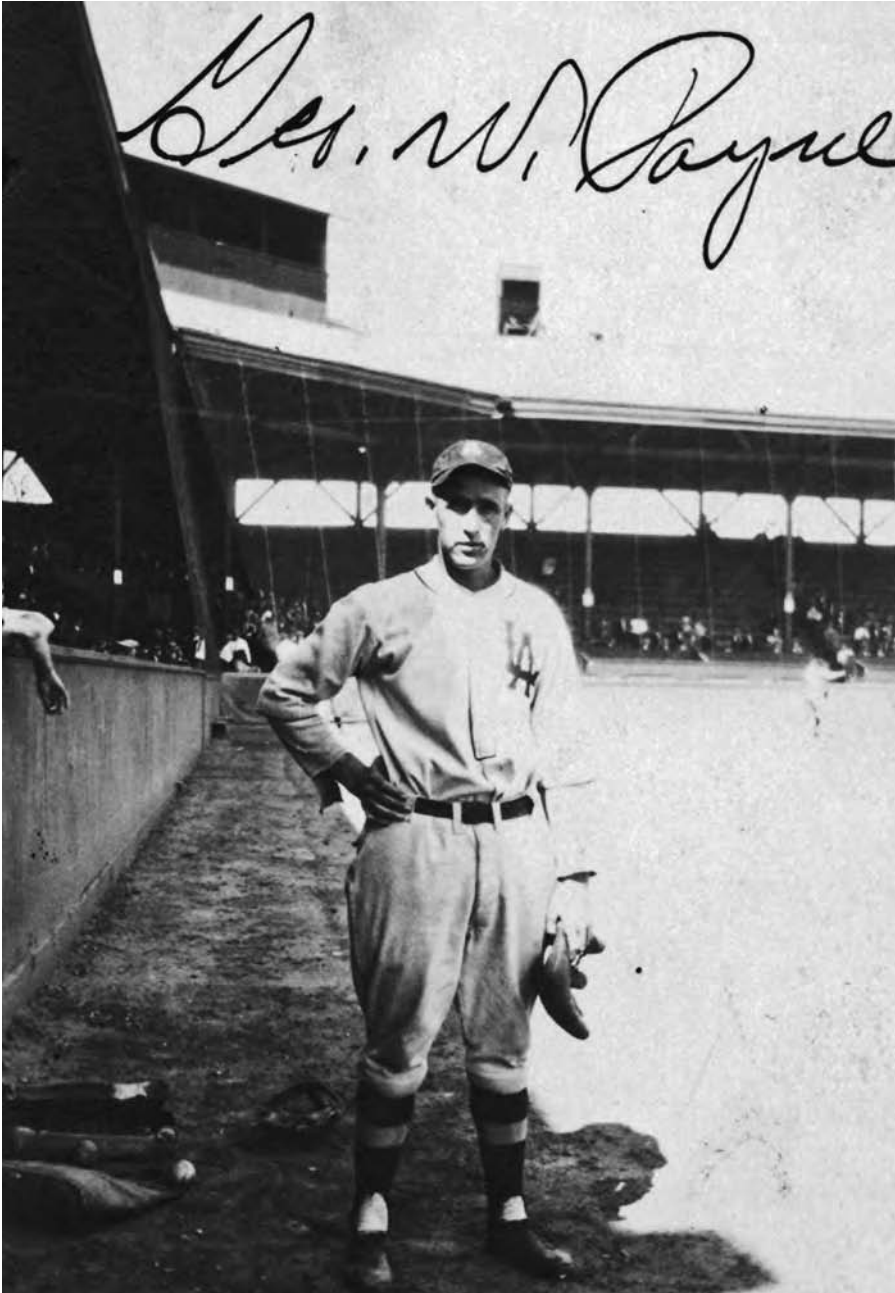
179. Bill Hinchman: This is an interesting photograph of an old deadballer, Bill Hinchman, who played in the majors from 1905 to 1909 and then again from 1915 to 1920. His best years were with the Pirates in 1915 and 1916 when he hit .307 and .315. After his playing days were over, he continued his affiliation with the Pirates, primarily as a scout. A more direct picture of him is included among the Pirates of 1927 (see Chapter 4).

As noted earlier, the three games in March of 1925 that Outland catalogued in his diary involved two with Los Angeles versus the Cubs and one with the Cubs versus Vernon. It was either at these games or later in the season that George took pictures of numerous Angels and Tigers.

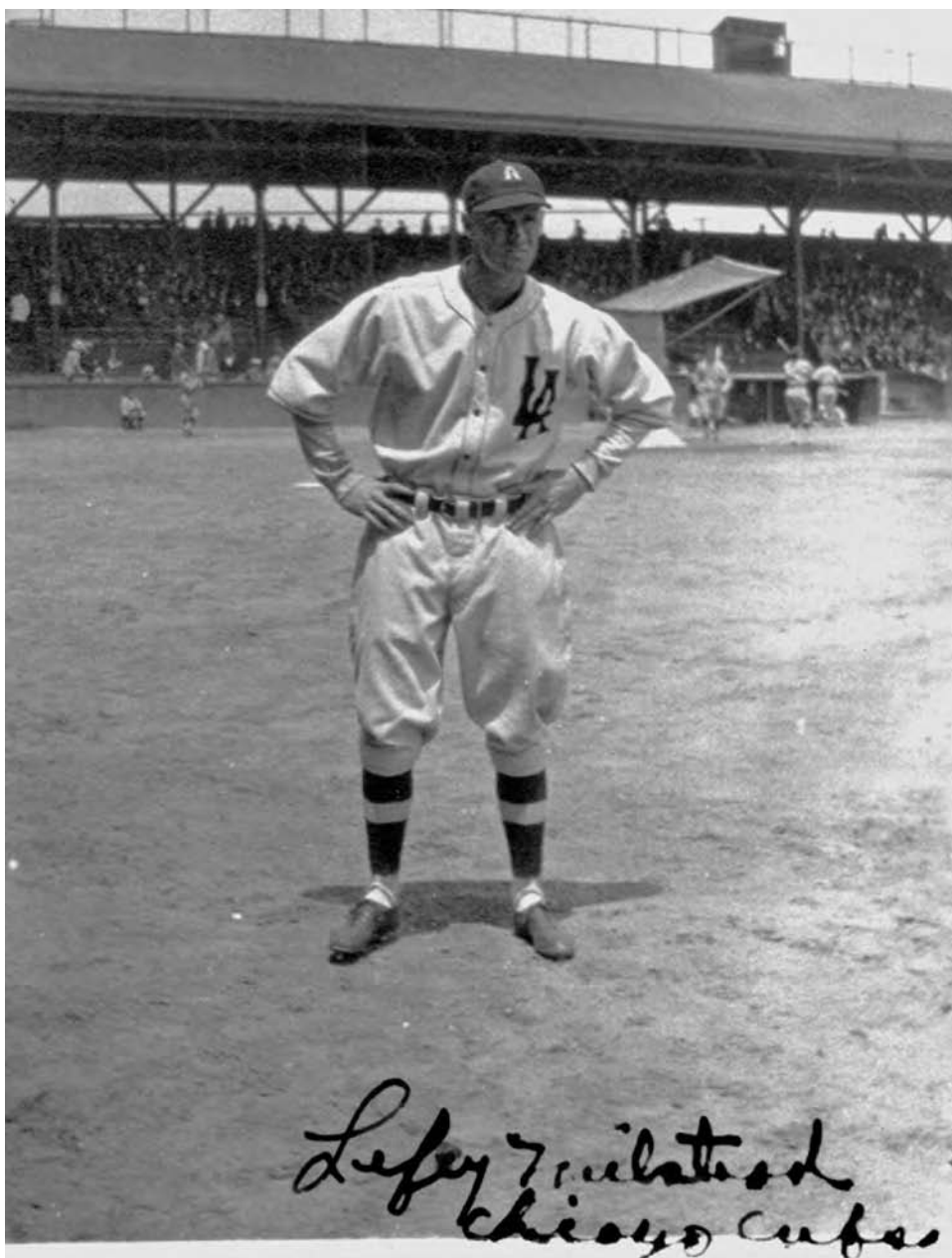
The Angels in 1925 could not keep up with the powerful San Francisco Seals, but they did have a good team, finishing the year at 105–93 and tied Seattle for third place. The team had a productive mix of older veterans and talented youngsters. The pitching staff exemplified this, with old-timers Doc Crandall, Tom Hughes, and George Payne alongside the younger George Milstead and rising star Charlie Root.



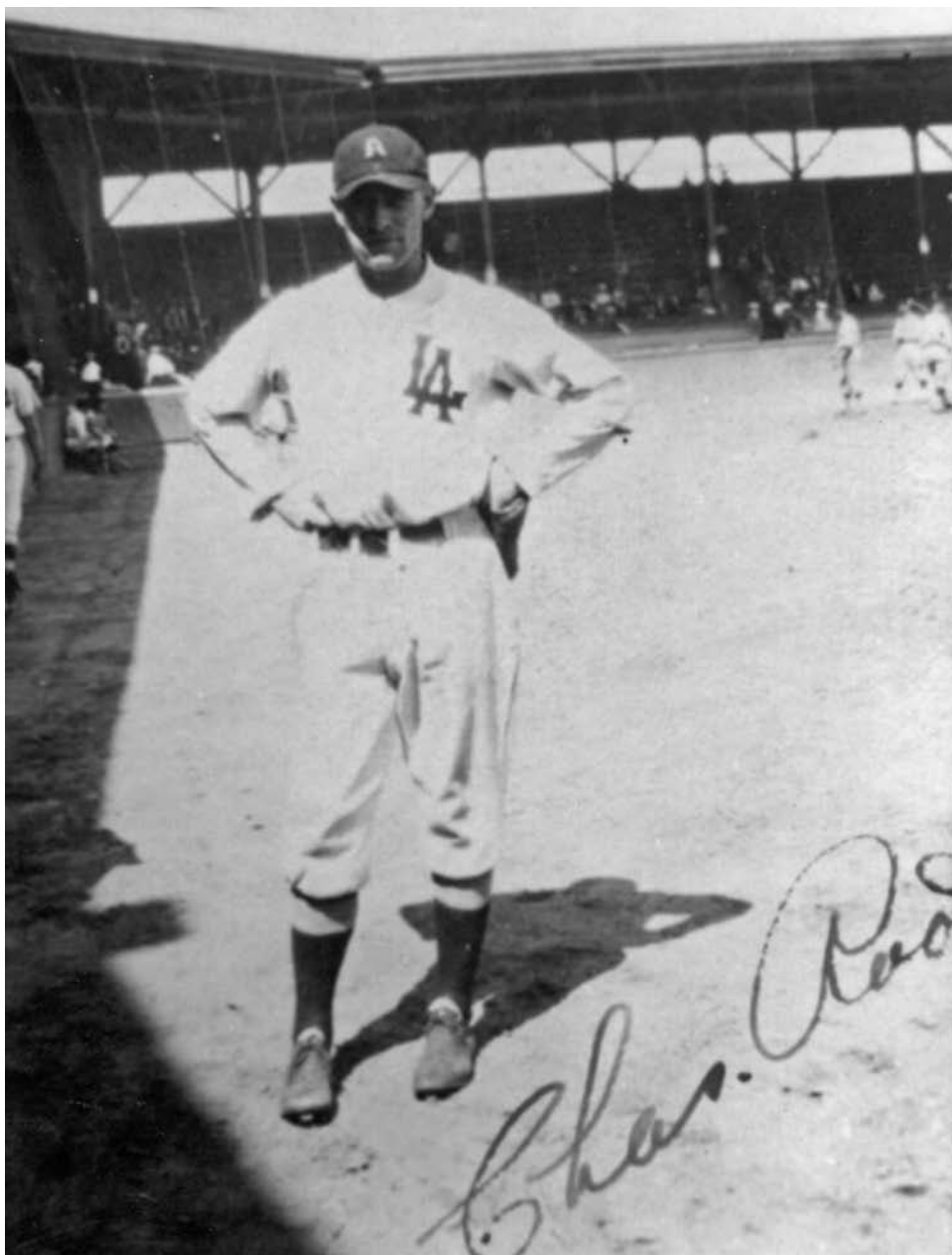
180. Tom “Salida Tom” Hughes: Tom Hughes was 41 and at the tail end of his career when this picture was taken in 1925. He actually had two distinct careers in the majors, one with New York in the American League, off and on between 1906 and 1910, and a somewhat more successful one with Boston in the National League from 1914 through 1918. Overall, he went 56–39 (although there is some confusion over his exact totals) with an outstanding 2.56 ERA. His best year was with the Braves in 1916 when he was 16–3 with an ERA of 2.35. From 1919 through 1925 he enjoyed a third career, this one with the Los Angeles Angels where he was 70–61, including 17–9 in 1922. From 1924 to 1925 his innings pitched dropped from 208 to 89.



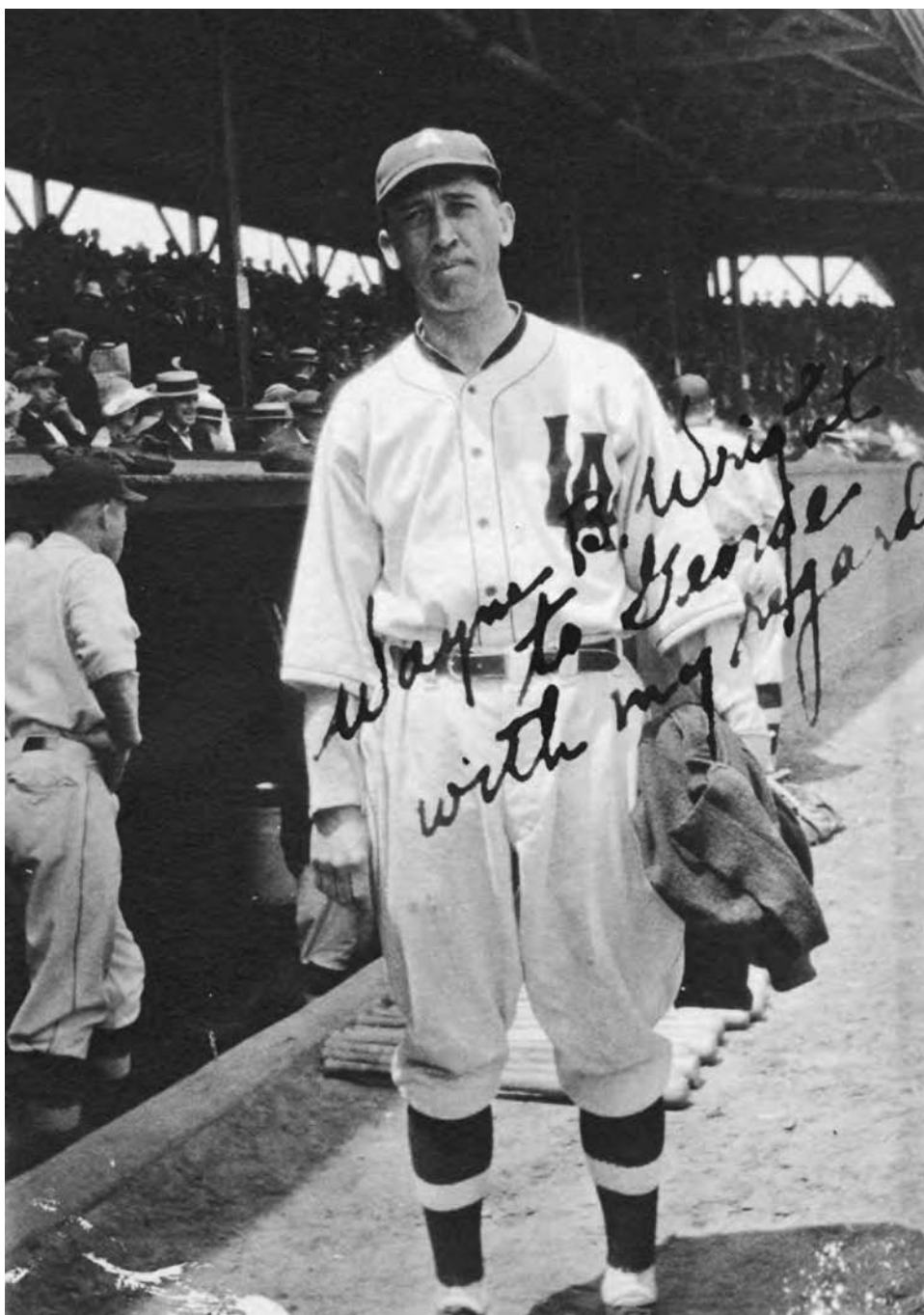
181. George Payne: George Payne had a remarkable minor league career that stretched from 1913 to 1940 and included 18 different teams. He also made a brief 1920 appearance with the Chicago White Sox where he went 1–1. He spent 1924 and 1925 with the Angels and pitched 634 innings during the two seasons. Payne won 39 and lost 32. He was traded to Portland in 1926, his last year in the Coast League. Payne’s overall minor league record for 900 games was 348–262 with an ERA of 3.33.



182. George "Lefty" Milstead: In some respects, Milstead's minor league career was even more remarkable than George Payne's. It stretched from 1921 to 1950 with four years off during the Second World War. Milstead pitched for 25 different minor league teams as well as having a brief stint with the Chicago Cubs. His minor league career showed 231 wins against 249 losses. In his autograph on this picture, Milstead identifies himself as with the Chicago Cubs, suggesting that while the picture was taken in 1925, his one year with Los Angeles, it was signed in 1926.



183. Charlie Root: Righthander Charlie Root made a brief appearance with the St. Louis Browns in 1923 before coming back to Los Angeles to gain more experience in 1924 and 1925. In both years he won more than 20 games, going 25–13 in 1925 and earning his way back to the Chicago Cubs where he would win 201 games over the next 16 years. His one 20-win season was in 1927 when he went 26–15. Root returned to the PCL in 1942 and went 29–24 for the Hollywood Stars over the next three years, the last two as player-manager.



184. Wayne "Rasty" Wright: Another member of the Angels pitching staff, Rasty Wright compiled a 24–19 record in limited service with the St. Louis Browns between 1917 and 1919 and 1922 and 1923. With the Angels from 1925 through 1928, Wright went 47–42, including a 19–7 year in 1926.



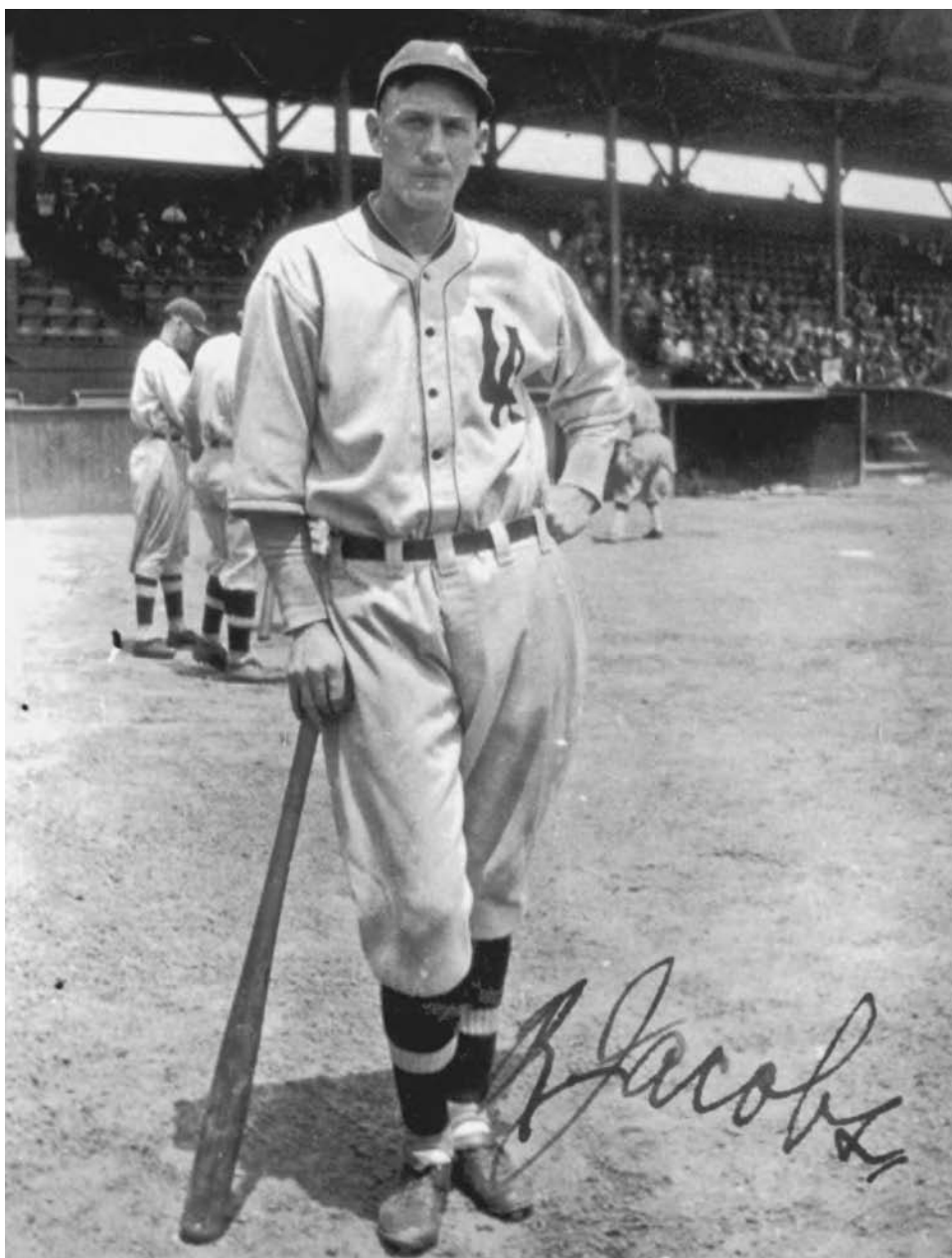
185. C.A. "Buck" Ramsey: Buck Ramsey was 7-3 for the Angels in 1924 and 6-7 for L.A. and Seattle during 1925. He was 4-3 in limited duty with Seattle in 1926.



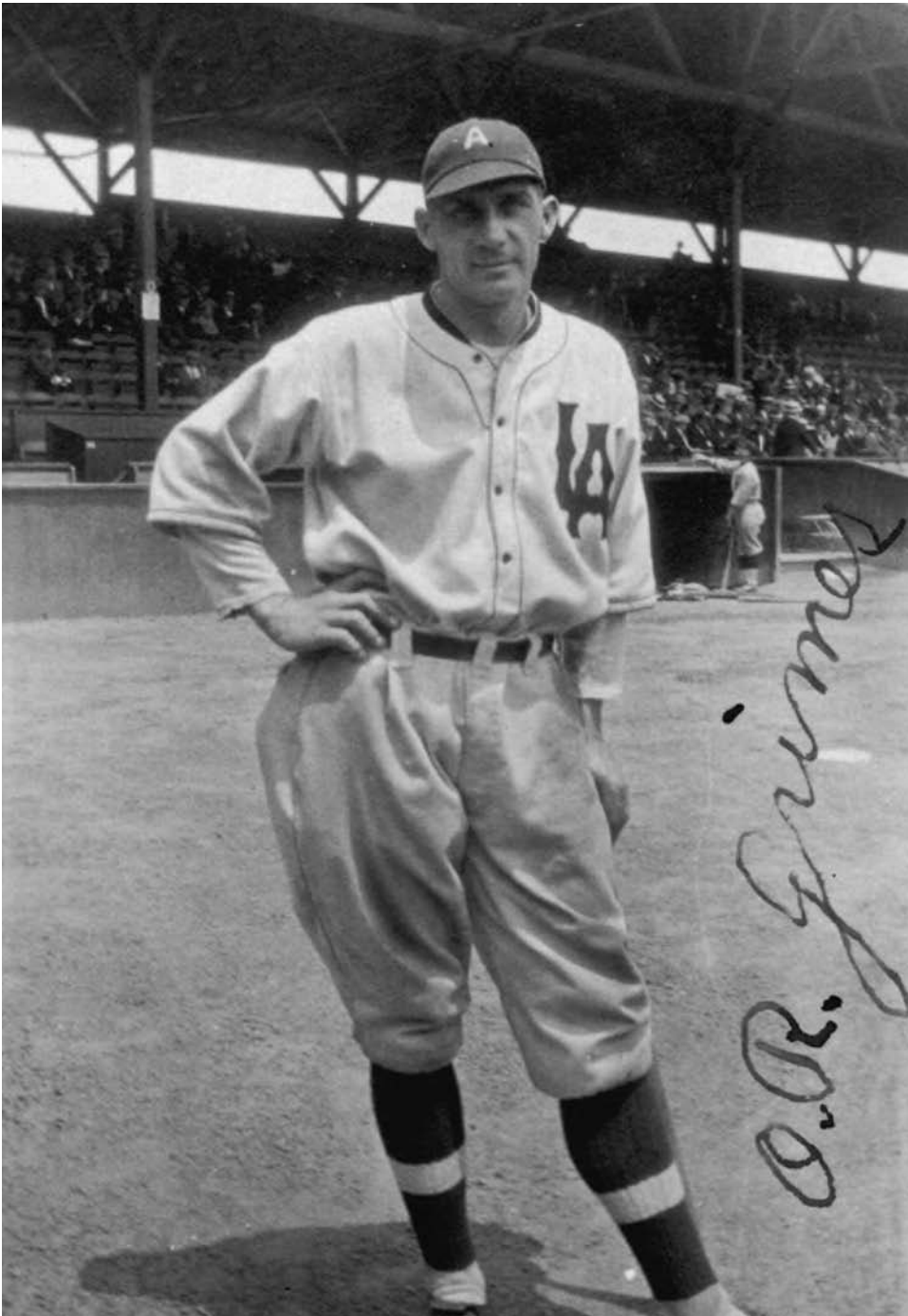
186. **Gus Sandberg:** 1925 was the first of Sandberg's five years of regular catching duties with Los Angeles. He had seen very limited service with Cincinnati in 1922–24. Unfortunately, Sandberg died prior to the 1930 season from burns suffered in a freak accident involving a gasoline fire in his automobile. His name is frequently misspelled as "Sanberg" in various baseball encyclopedias.



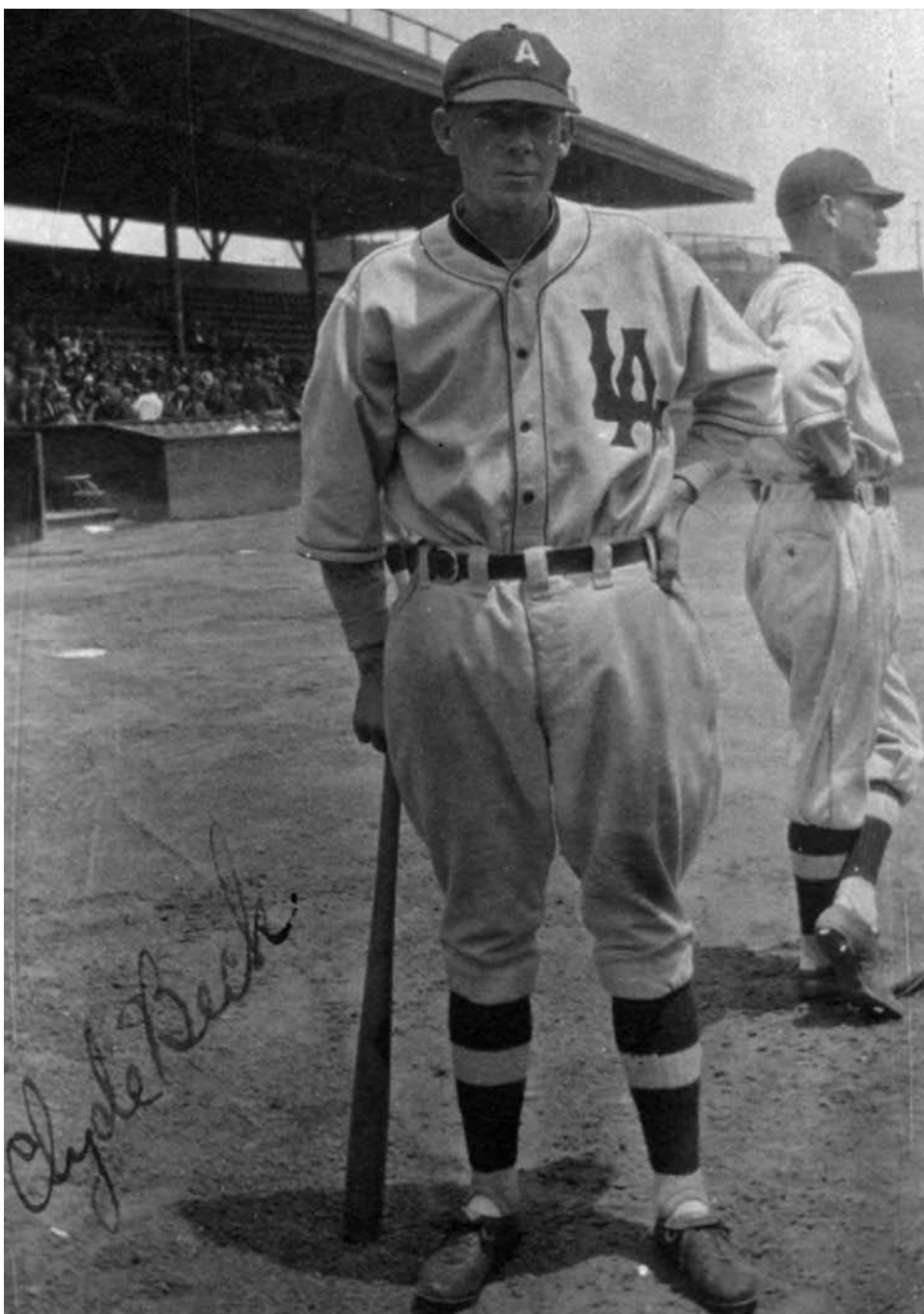
187. Russ “Hack” Ennis: Sandberg’s backup catcher for the 1925 Angels, his one year with the team, was Russ Ennis. Ennis in one of those individuals whose name is included in *The Baseball Encyclopedia* for playing in one game, for Washington in 1926, even though he did not have an official at-bat. His nickname is given as “Hack,” although his signature appears to read “Hask.”



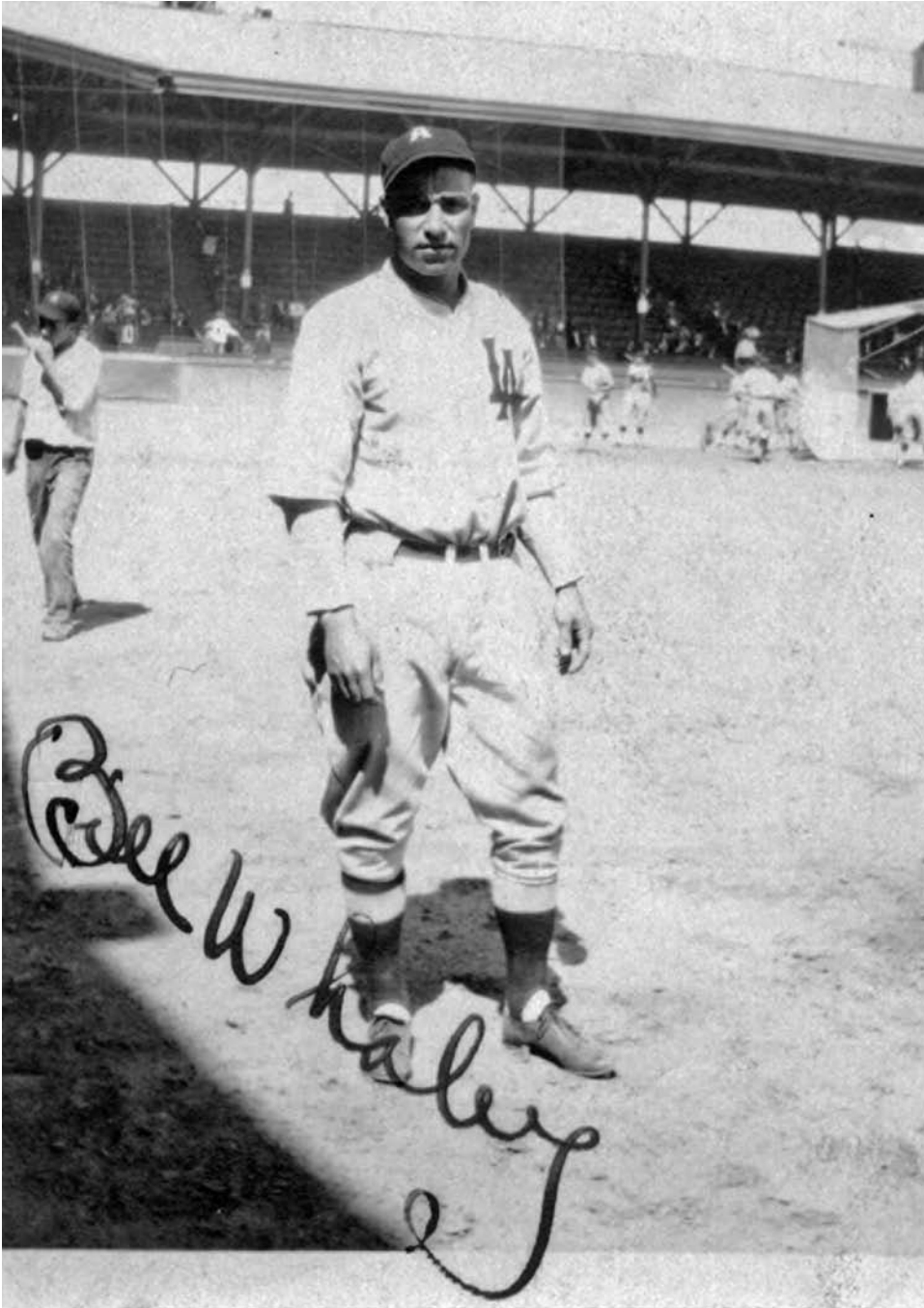
188. Ray Jacobs: Ray Jacobs was another player who had only two major league at-bats, in his case with the Chicago Cubs in 1928. In contrast to Russ Ennis, Jacobs had a distinguished Pacific Coast League career lasting from 1923 through 1936. From 1924 through 1931, he played wherever necessary in the Angels' infield, usually at first base, and generally averaged around .300 with 15–20 home runs. Most interesting about Jacobs from Outland's standpoint is that George saw him hit 16 homers between 1925 and 1936, the most by any single player in Outland's home run log.



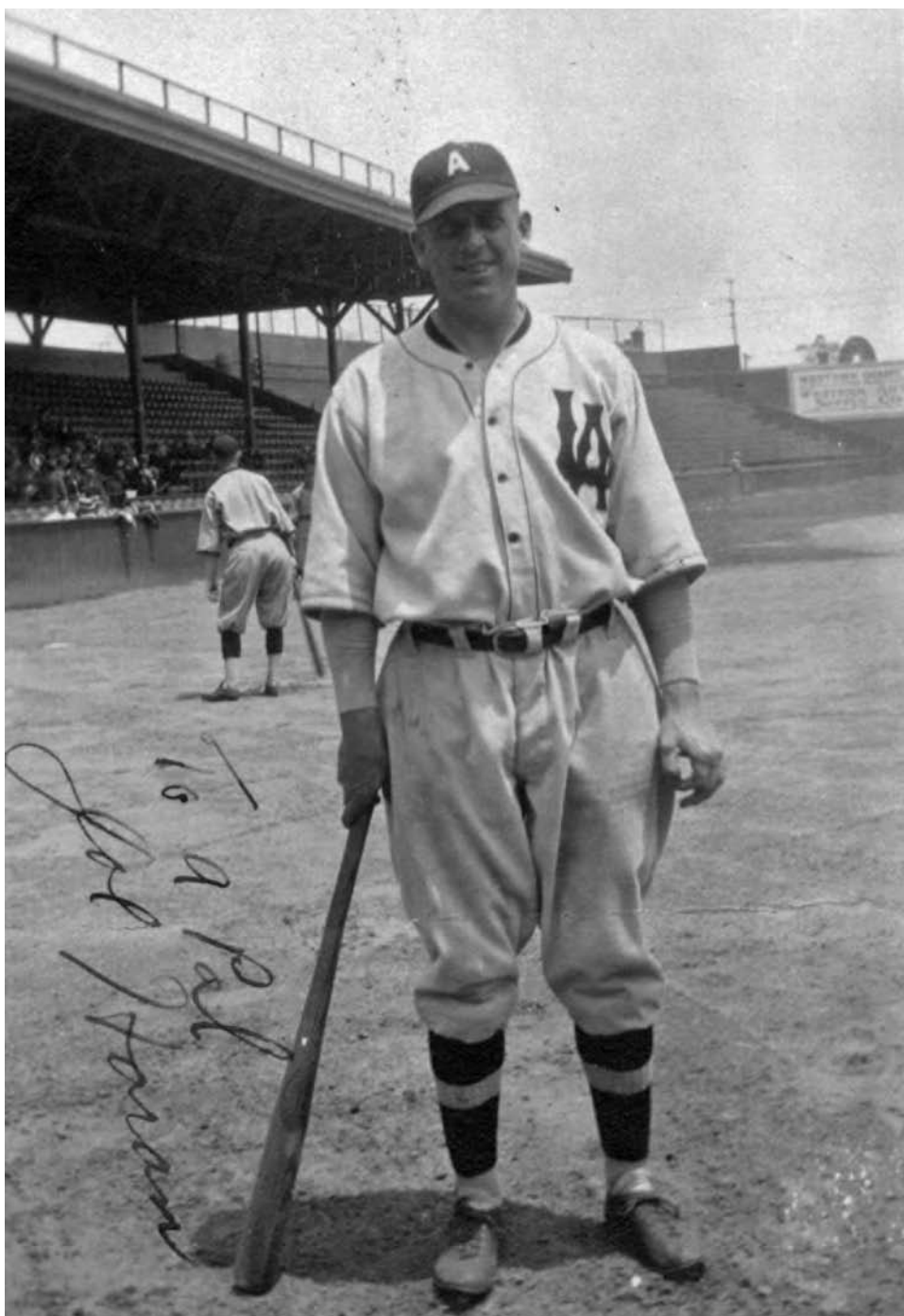
189. Oscar Ray Grimes Sr.: Earlier pictured with the Cubs in 1924, Ray Grimes was the regular first baseman for the Angels in 1925. He hit .294 with 104 RBI, but was gone from the team by 1926, presumably in part because of his back problems.



190. Clyde Beck: Playing second base for the Angels was Clyde Beck, who hit .310 in 1925 and earned himself a promotion to the Chicago Cubs for 1926. Beck remained with the Cubs as a utility man through 1930. He performed in the same capacity for Cincinnati in 1931, his last year in the majors.

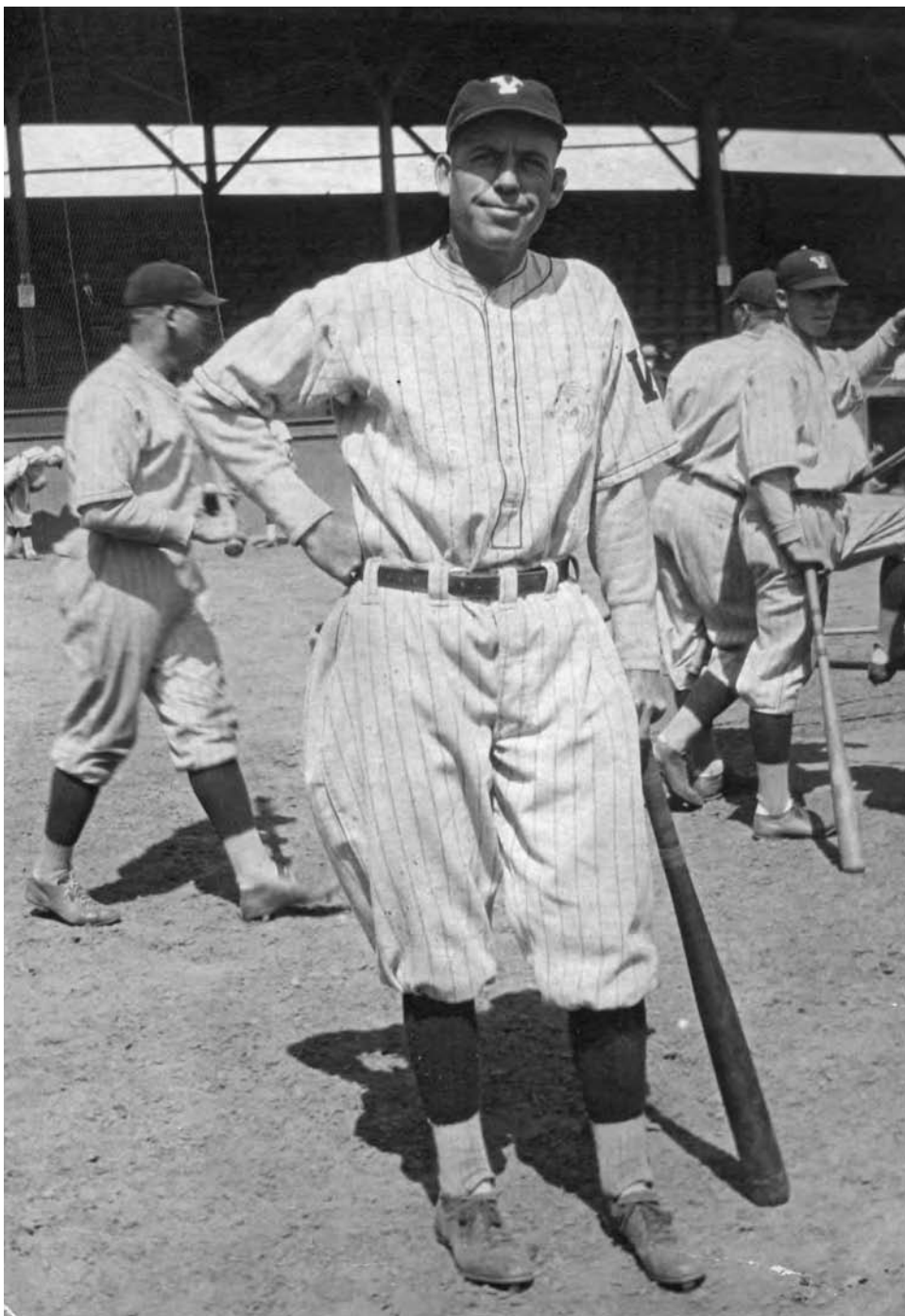


191. Bill Whaley: Bill Whaley played in the outfield for Los Angeles in 1924 and 1925, hitting .328 and .257, respectively. He lacked power, however, hitting only two home runs in over 1,100 at-bats during those two seasons. He had played briefly with the St. Louis Browns in 1923, hitting .240 in 50 at-bats.



192. Joseph "Shags" Horan: After coming down from a brief stint with the Yankees in 1924, outfielder Shags Horan split the 1925 season between Los Angeles and Vernon. He hit .254 in 276 plate appearances. He signed his autograph "To a pal, Joe Horan."

Vernon's 1925 season was a dismal one with the team finishing in the cellar with an 80-120 record. This was to be the Tigers' last year in Vernon as they relocated to San Francisco as the "Mission Bears" in 1926. The nucleus of the 1925 Tigers played in San Francisco the next year, and the team improved to third place with a 106-94 record.



193. George "Rube" Ellis: Pictured earlier at Brea in 1924, Rube Ellis replaced long-time Vernon manager Bill Essick during the 1925 season. He essentially played a caretaker role until the team left town for San Francisco in 1926.



194. Clyde Barfoot: A native of Richmond, Virginia, Clyde Barfoot pitched from 1914 through 1935. He made it to the majors for two seasons in 1922-23 with the St. Louis Cardinals where he went a combined 7-8 in 219 innings. With Vernon in 1925, Barfoot won a league-leading 26 games for a team that finished dead last. That earned him a brief return to the majors with Detroit in 1926, but he spent the bulk of the 1926-27 seasons with the new Mission team in San Francisco. Barfoot's Pacific Coast League totals from 1925 to 1930 were 104 wins and 88 defeats while his overall minor league totals were 314 wins and 243 losses with a very respectable 3.37 career earned run average.



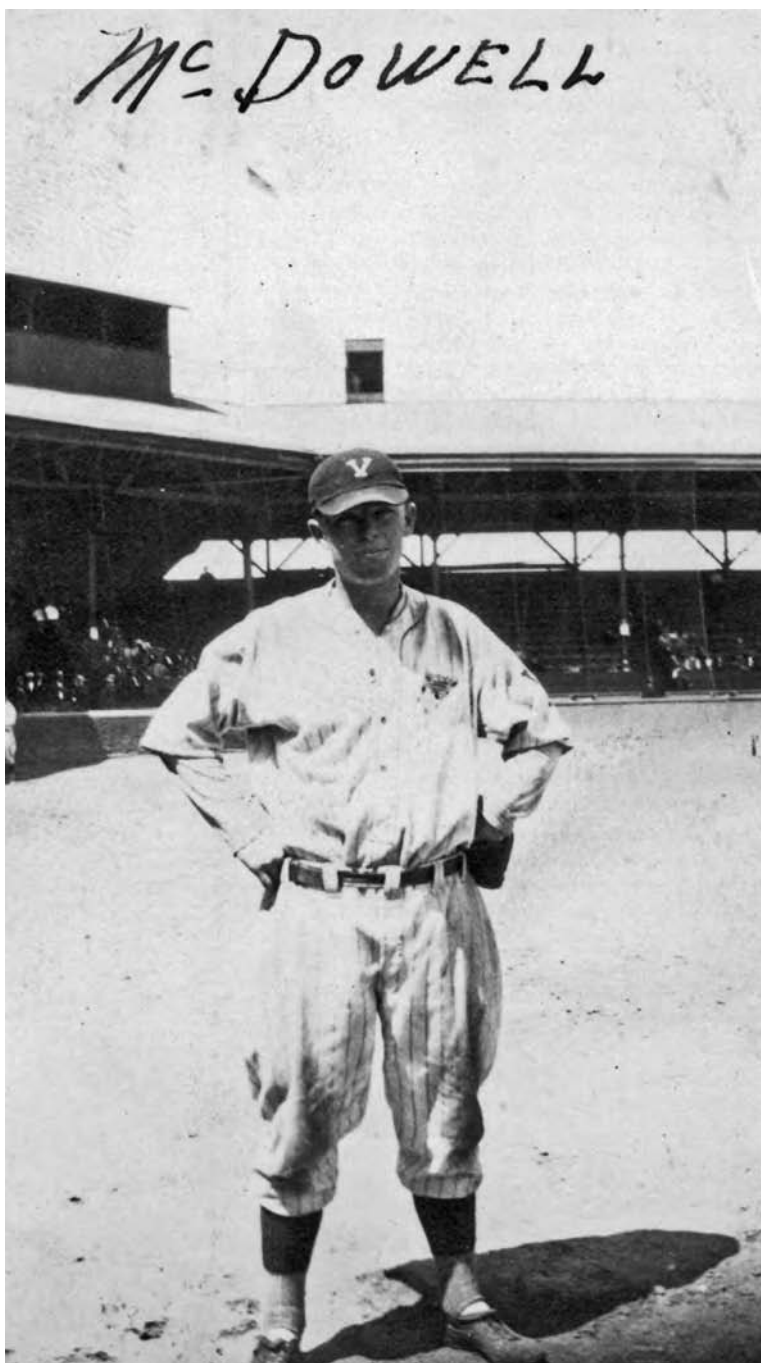
195. Herman “Old Folks” Pillette: While his teammate Clyde Barfoot was winning 26 games in 1925, Herm Pillette was losing 26, also a league-leading statistic. Pillette bounced back the next year and won 21 for the new Mission squad. This is the same Herm Pillette who lost 30 games for Portland in 1921 and then turned around to win 19 for the Detroit Tigers in 1922. In 1923, he lost 19 with the Tigers. Aside from his time with Detroit, Pillette’s record in the Pacific Coast League between 1920 and 1945 showed him winning 226 games and losing 235. Herman’s son Duane also pitched in the PCL and the major leagues.



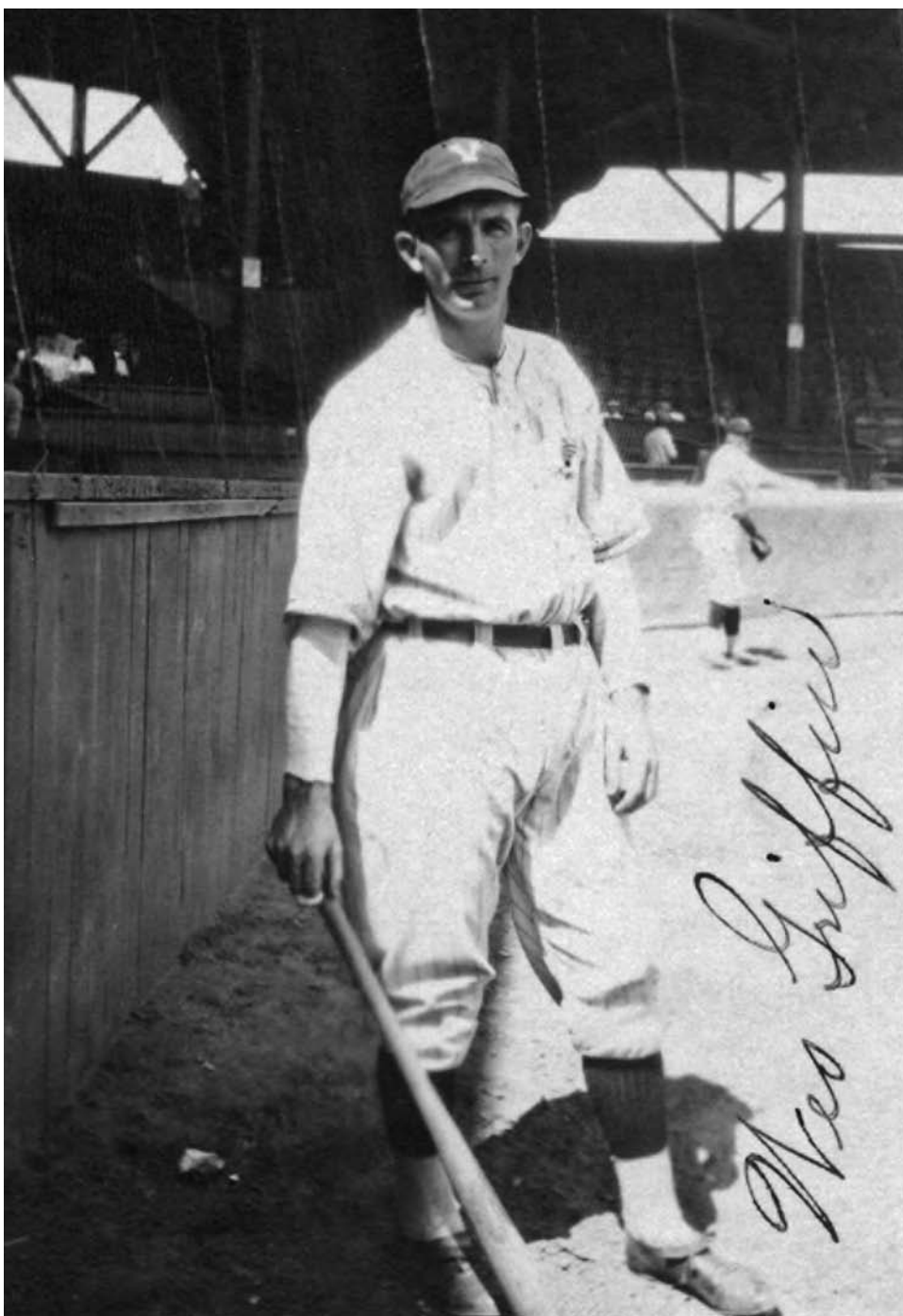
196. George Johnson: George Johnson was a third pitcher on Vernon's 1925 team and had a worse season even than Herm Pillette, going 3-17 with a 4.66 ERA. It was his only year with the organization.



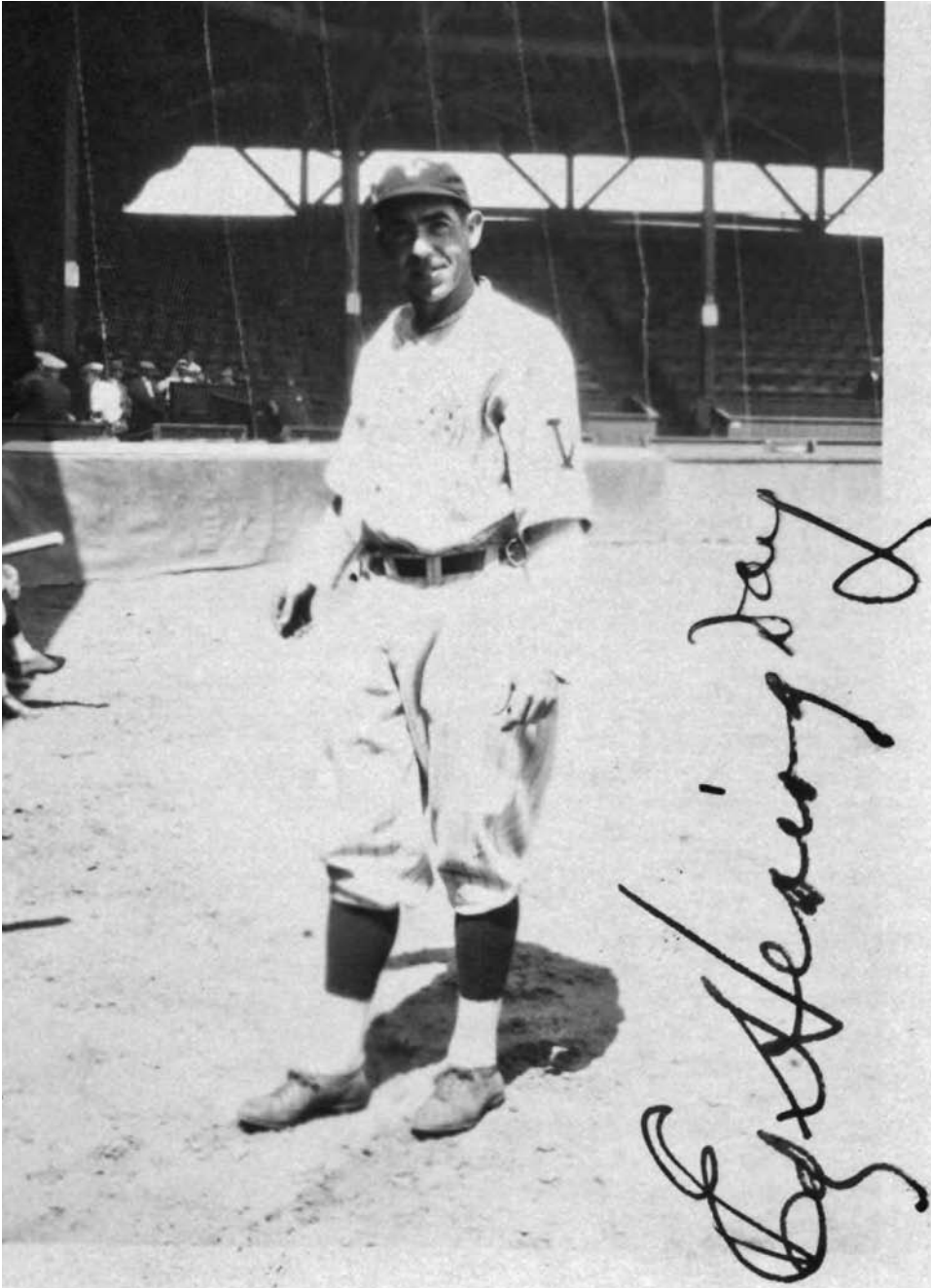
197. Rod Whitney: Rod Whitney was a catcher for the Vernon/Mission franchise from 1923 to 1928 when he was traded in mid-season to Portland. 1925 was a typical year for Whitney as he hit .248 with no home runs in 355 at-bats.



198. Jim McDowell: The regular first baseman for the Tigers/Missions from 1924 through 1926 was power-hitting Jim McDowell. He hit 64 home runs over those three years as well as supplying 306 RBI. He was traded to Hollywood for the 1927 season where he would play a backup role to Mickey Heath.



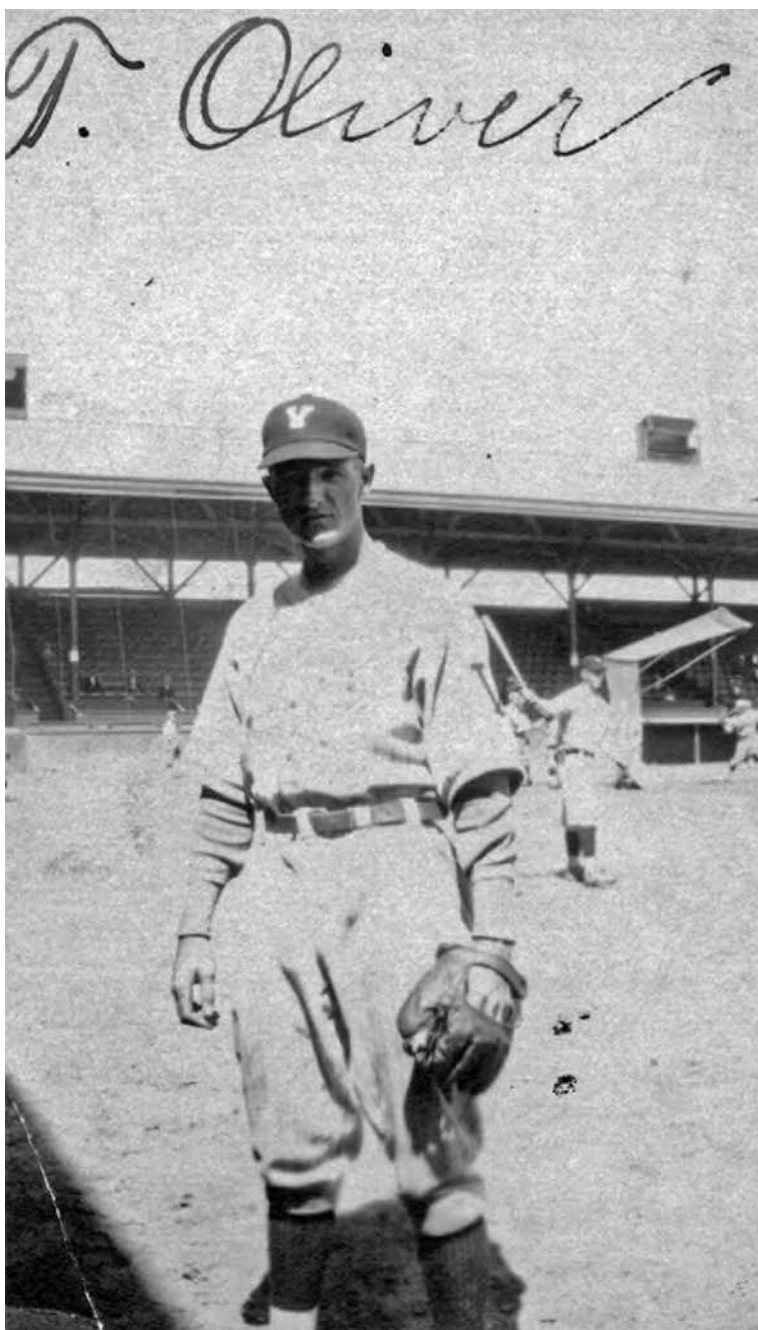
199. Westel "Wes" Griffin: At second base for the Tigers in 1925 was steady Wes Griffin, who hit .305 with 73 RBI. He was with the team from 1924 through 1928, playing second base or the outfield as necessary.



200. Ed Hemingway: Ed Hemingway played shortstop for Vernon in 1925, his only year with the team. He was comfortable also at third base and second base, positions he played with Sacramento in 1923-24 and with Los Angeles in 1926-27. Hemingway had a limited exposure to the big leagues with three separate teams in 1914, 1917, and 1918. He hit a combined .225 in 138 at-bats.



201. James "Sunny Jim" Blakesley: Outfielder Jim Blakesley supplied some necessary punch to the Vernon lineup in his two years (1924–25) with the team. He had three exceptional seasons with Wichita in the Western League from 1921 through 1923 where he averaged .350 with 25 home runs a year. After his two years with Vernon, he returned to the Western League with Omaha in 1926 where he hit .384 with 39 home runs. Blakesley never got a chance in the majors though he ended his 15-year minor league career with a batting average of .333.

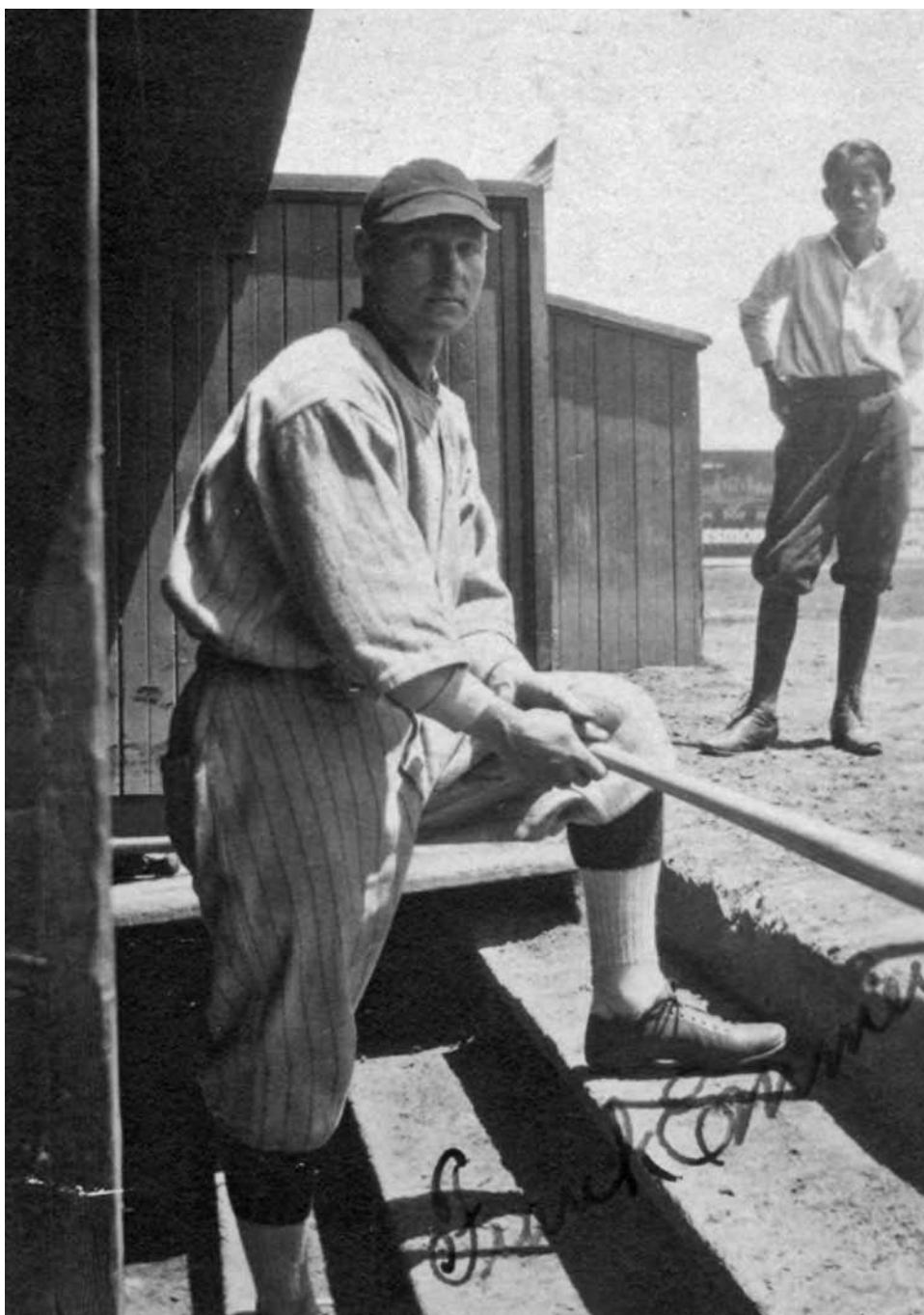


202. Tom Oliver: A young Tom Oliver played alongside Jim Blakesley in the 1925 Vernon outfield. He was later the regular centerfielder for the Boston Red Sox from 1930 to 1932. Oliver lacked power and hit no home runs for the Red Sox during his four years with them — he was a reserve in 1933 — but was respected for his speed and defensive ability. He finished with a career major league average of .277.

In contrast to Vernon, which finished in the cellar, the Seattle Indians had a good year in 1925 although not as strong as their pennant-winning season of 1924. The Indians won 103 games but still ended up 22½ games behind the dominant San Francisco Seals. Seattle was led by the powerful bat of Frank Brazill at third base as well as by the up-and-coming Babe Herman at first, the surprisingly good-hitting Frank Emmer at shortstop, and Brick Eldred's play in the outfield and at bat. Interestingly, George's photographs of the Indians were almost all taken at the exact same dugout location with the same white-shirted young man in the background.



203. Floyd “Babe” Herman: Babe Herman was only 21 when this picture was taken during his one year with Seattle. He had a good season with the Indians, hitting .316 with 15 homers and 131 RBI. 1926 found him in Brooklyn for the first of his six full years with the Dodgers. He played in the majors through 1937 and then found himself back in the Pacific Coast League with Hollywood from 1939 to 1944. While not generally playing every day — except in 1940 — the Babe was consistently able, during this latter part of his career, to hit well over .300, including .354 in 147 plate appearances in 1943 at the age of 40. Herman ended his career back in Brooklyn for some cameo appearances in 1945. His lifetime statistics show a major league batting average of .324 and a Pacific Coast League average of .323.



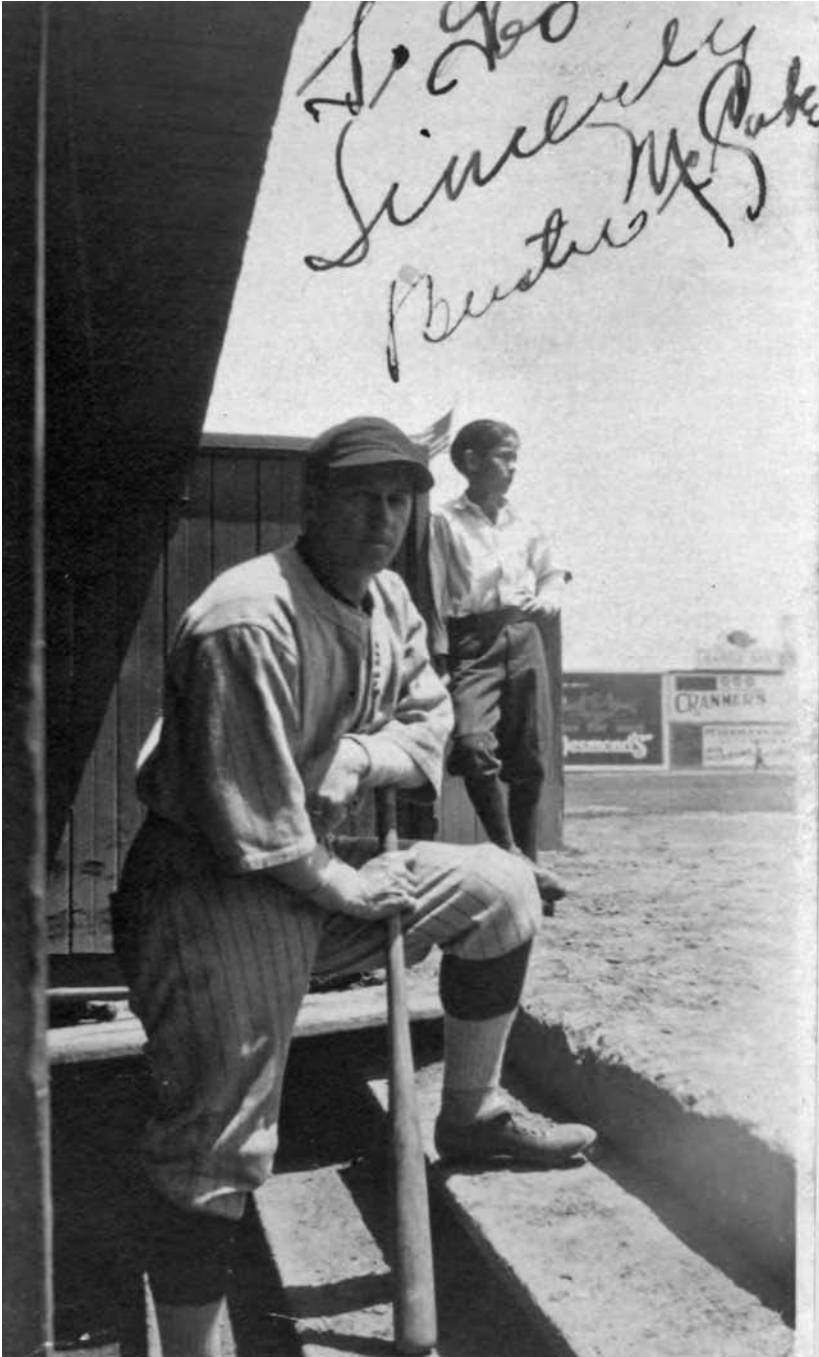
204. Frank Emmer: Emmer had two brief experiences, ten years apart, with Cincinnati in the National League. One was as a 20-year-old in 1916, the other was in 1926 following a good year at shortstop for Seattle when he hit .329 with 85 RBI. Unfortunately, he was only able to hit .196 in 80 games in his return visit with the Reds.



205. Ross "Brick" Eldred: Brick Eldred's playing career, all in the minor leagues, began with a brief appearance with Salt Lake City in 1916 and ended with Sacramento in 1930. His best years were with Seattle from 1920 through 1928 where, although standing only 5'6", he often batted cleanup and consistently averaged well over .300. He was a line-drive hitter who ended his career with 592 doubles and a batting average of .327.



206. Bill Lane: Playing alongside Eldred in the Seattle outfield was another 5'6" player, the speedy Bill Lane. Like Eldred, Lane never got a shot at the major leagues but was a steady performer in the minors, primarily with Oakland and Seattle of the PCL. 1925 was his next-to-last year of playing, and he was coming off a sterling 1924 season when he hit a career high of .336 to help Seattle win the pennant. Lane stole 670 bases during his career, 468 in the Coast League.



207. William "Buster" McCabe: The third regular outfielder for Seattle in 1925, McCabe contributed a .280 average with 11 home runs and 105 RBI. McCabe had been a consistent performer for Los Angeles in 1922 and 1923 and is pictured earlier in 1922 (Chapter 1) while with the Angels.



208. Cliff Brady: A good fielder, Cliff Brady was the regular second baseman for Seattle during the 1924–27 period. He hit .266 in 1925, his high point for those four years. Brady had played in 53 games for the 1920 Red Sox, his one trip to the major leagues.



209. George “Clancy” Cutshaw: A long-time major leaguer, second baseman Clancy Cutshaw had begun his career in Oakland from 1909–1911. He then played twelve consecutive years in the majors, primarily with Brooklyn and Pittsburgh in the National League where he had a career batting average of .265. Cutshaw closed out his career playing part-time with Seattle during the 1924–1926 seasons. In 1925, the year of this picture, he appeared in 42 games and hit .371 in only 70 at-bats.



210. Henry "Ted" Baldwin: Not to be confused with his teammate, catcher "Red" Baldwin, Ted Baldwin played third base for Seattle from 1924 to 1926. During 1925 he was replaced as the starter by slugger Frank Brazill, but Brazill was gone by 1926, and Baldwin regained the position, although hitting only .246.



211. Charles “Red” Lucas (“The Nashville Narcissus”): As with teammate Babe Herman, Red Lucas was in the early stages, in 1925, of what would be a distinguished career. The 23-year-old had gained a little major league experience with the New York Giants and Boston Braves in 1923 and 1924 but was back in Seattle for one more year of seasoning in 1925. He went 9–5 with a 2.82 ERA in only 121 innings pitched, but that was enough to earn him a place with Cincinnati in 1926, a team for whom he would win 109 games through 1933. From 1934 through 1938, he played with Pittsburgh and won an additional 47 games. Lucas was most known for his outstanding control and his hitting ability. He finished his career with a .281 batting average, including 114 pinch hits.



212. Sterling "Dutch" Stryker: Dutch Stryker went 16–10 with a 3.65 ERA in his one year with Seattle. He had been with the Boston Braves (3–8) in 1924 and pitched two innings for Brooklyn in 1926 but otherwise had no major league experience.

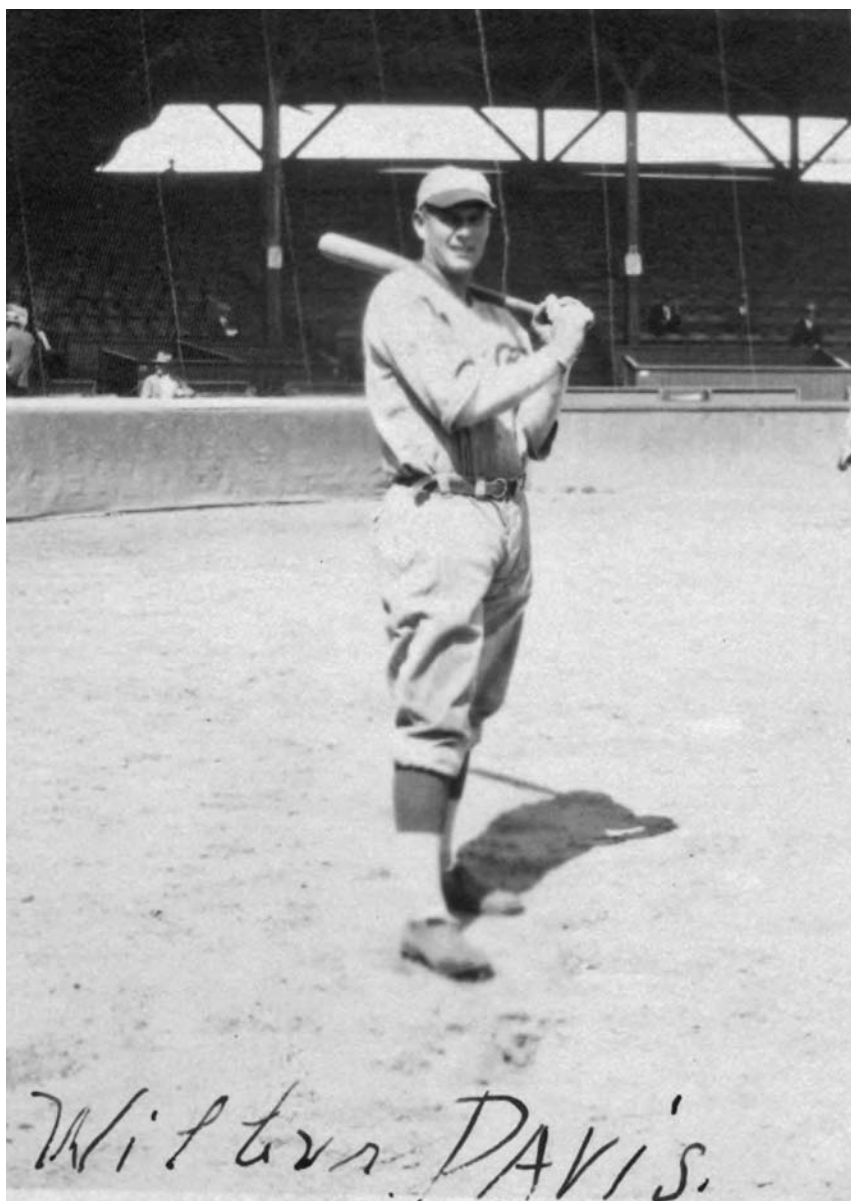


213. **Bob Hasty:** Bob Hasty pitched for six years with the Philadelphia Athletics, going 29–53, before coming to the Coast League in 1925. He split the 1925 season between Portland and Seattle, winning 14 and losing 18. In 1926, he went 16–20 for Seattle but did record his first-ever ERA under 4.00. Hasty wound up his Coast League career with Oakland in 1927 and 1928, going 18–18.

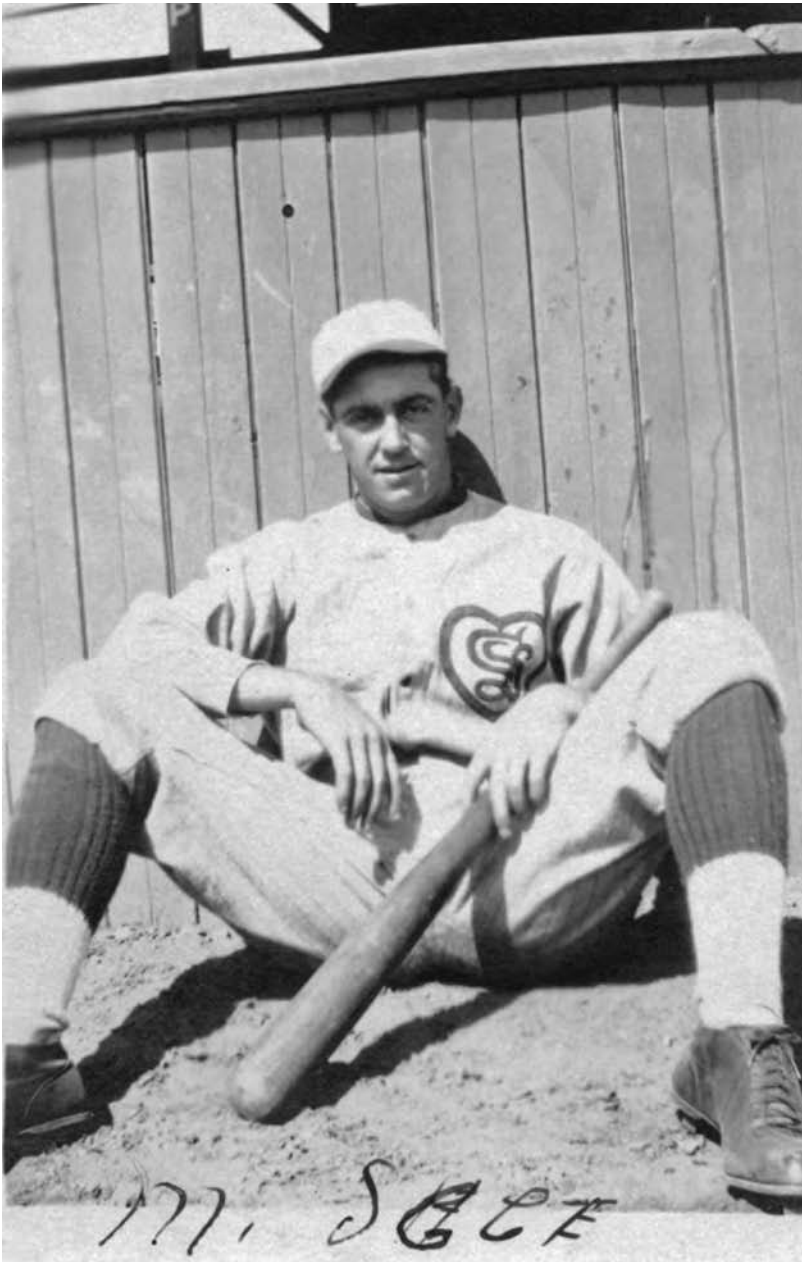
At some point during the 1925 season, Outland photographed four members of the Sacramento Senators. One of the players is unidentified and will be included among “the mystery players” in chapter six, but the other three—all with interesting stories—can be shown here.



214. Frank “Shelly” Shellenback: Frank Shellenback had a playing career that lasted from 1917 to 1938 and a non-playing career as a pitching coach, scout, and manager that in many ways was even more notable. Shellenback, a spitballer, reached the majors with the Chicago White Sox by 1918 and went 11–15 while pitching in 36 games during 1918 and 1919. He held out during the spring of 1920, however, and Charles Comiskey sold him to Vernon. Because Shellenback was not on a major league roster at the end of 1920, when the spitball was outlawed, he was not among those exempted for major league play. He was “grandfathered” in for the PCL, however, and went on to win a remarkable 295 games against 178 losses in the Coast League over the course of 19 seasons. Most of his time was spent with Vernon and Hollywood, and he had seven 19-or-more-win seasons for the Stars between 1926 and 1935. Ironically, the picture that George took was during Shellenback’s one season with Sacramento in 1925. It was his one losing season (14–17) in the league prior to 1936 (6–7).



215. John Wilbur “Bud” Davis: Wilbur Davis’s career stretched from 1915 to 1937. Interestingly, he began at the top with his first year being as an 18-year-old pitcher for the Philadelphia A’s. He went 0–2 in 66.2 innings, but he hit .308. Over the next few years in the minors, he began slowly converting to the outfield and then to first base. In 1925 and 1926, he was the regular first baseman for Sacramento, hitting .330 and .308, respectively. Those were his only two years in the PCL as he moved on to New Orleans in the Southern Association where he hit a league leading .376 in 1927. Davis finished his minor league career with a batting average of .331 in 8,118 at bats. After his 1915 season, he never made it back to the big leagues.



216. **Merv Shea:** Merv Shea had two particularly productive years for Sacramento in 1924 and 1925 when he generally split the catching duties with Art Koehler. Shea batted .338 as a backup in 1924 and .319 as the starter in 1925. From 1927 to 1929 he was a reserve catcher for the Detroit Tigers, and from 1933 through 1939 he served in the same capacity for five separate major league teams. He ended his major league career with a .220 batting average in 439 games played. (Note: The chicken scratch signature at the bottom of this page is barely decipherable, but it suggests that the player is Shea.)

The 1925 season ended on a positive note for my father as he was among the 18,000 fans in attendance at the inaugural game, September 29, of the new Wrigley Field in Los Angeles.² Four homers were hit during the game, three by Paul Waner, Smead Jolly, and Bert Ellison of San Francisco off of Dad's hero Doc Crandall. The Angels won the game, however, 10–8, with Jigger Statz, now back with the team after starting the year with the Cubs, hitting the final home run, off "Davey" Crockett, no less. Dad describes Statz's homer in his log book as "the most appreciated" of the four, "not only because it was hit by an Angel, but because it climaxed a day in which Statz had also hit a single, double, and triple, one of the few times I have ever seen a batter hit for the cycle." The day marked the beginning for George of many more games and many more home runs at Wrigley Field.

1926

1926 began for George where 1925 had left off, namely, at the new Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. Outland attended the field's formal dedication ceremony on January 15, which was presided over by Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis and which featured an old-timers game as part of the festivities. George took along his camera and got several nice pictures of the new ballpark as well as some old dead-ballers who either participated in or simply attended the game. He also experienced a tremendous thrill when his hero, 46-year-old Sam Crawford, homered during the game. George's description of the home run helps to set the stage a bit as well as provide a little Pacific Coast League history. It deserves to be quoted in full:

Homer number 57 was hit by the man who, next to Doc Crandall, was my idol of all ballplayers, Sam Crawford. It was not the first homer I had seen Crawford hit, but if anything it was even more dramatic than that one which he had lined off of Walter Johnson at Brea two years before. To get the full dramatic effect of this homer, it is necessary to digress a moment into a past leaf of Pacific Coast League history.

Before the franchise was moved to Hollywood, the easiest place in the league to hit a home run was at Salt Lake City. Three reasons contributed to this: the rarity of the air, the shortness of the fences, and the general ineffectiveness of the Bees pitchers. The Mormon city was a home run paradise. Here was where Pete Schneider hit 5 home runs and a double in one game; here was where Bert Ellison hit 10 homers in one series. And here was where took place the little incident which forms the background for home run #57.

The game was between Salt Lake and Los Angeles in 1920. The pitcher was Spider Baum, the batter was Sam Crawford. Baum had been hit hard by Crawford all during the game, but this time it looked like the tables were to be turned at last. The first two balls thrown broke beautifully (Baum was a spitballer), and Crawford missed them by the proverbial mile. On the next pitch Crawford was fooled completely; a slow ball tied him in knots. But he reset himself and, off balance, with one hand only holding the bat, he cracked that pitch out and over the right field fence! Baum threw off his glove, walked to the bench, and never pitched another game of professional baseball. What was the use?

The scene shifts to the spring of the year 1926. The Old Timers are staging their annual old time game before the few but enthusiastic rooters. The game is being played at Wrigley Field before Judge Landis who has just dedicated the field to the soldiers

killed in the world war. The Old Timers are divided into the Sons of the Revolution and the something-or-others, as classified by Dan Tobey, veteran announcer. They are cavorting around the field, ranging in age from old Kid Mohler, now over 60, down to such recent ones as Chet Chadbourne and Wheezer Dell. But the ceremonies are over, and now the game begins.

Pop Dillon's team takes the field, Spider Baum and Jess Orndorff being the battery, and Sam Crawford's Sons of the Revolution advanced to the attack. Some old Son, I think it was Walter Carlisle, leads off with an infield single. The next two men were easy outs, and the clean up batter, old Sam himself, advances to the plate. Dan Tobey peals out, "The batt—er, Wahoo Sam Crawford, old Detroit wallopppppper!," and the crowd gives more than the customary polite handclap. They remember when Sam was the punch of the Los Angeles lineup and cheer him vigorously.

Sam does not play and cavort like the other old timers. He has always taken his baseball seriously and always will. He takes his position at the plate and fouls the first pitch over the grandstand. The umpire throws out a new white ball to the pitcher, the same old Spider Baum that Crawford had literally knocked out of the box so many years before. Baum fidgets, winds up and delivers the ball. Sam's still powerful shoulders come around, and the bat hits with a heartening thud, and out in right field Rube Ellis takes a few steps backward and then saves his breath. The ball clears the right field screen by a good margin and rebounds lustily from the very top of the distant brick wall beyond. The crowd comes to its feet with a roar and gives old Sam a wild ovation as he crosses the plate. Baum turns to face the next batter nonchalantly; what matters it now; he might have known it would happen anyway, and besides such things don't count anymore when he is secretary of the Hollywood club. But to Sam it is another distance clout in his already long record; to Marty Krug, Angel manager watching, it is a reminder of what might have been had not the club officials cut Sam's salary; to me it was a dramatic touch to the career of my favorite slugger.

Some photographs of the new Wrigley Field:



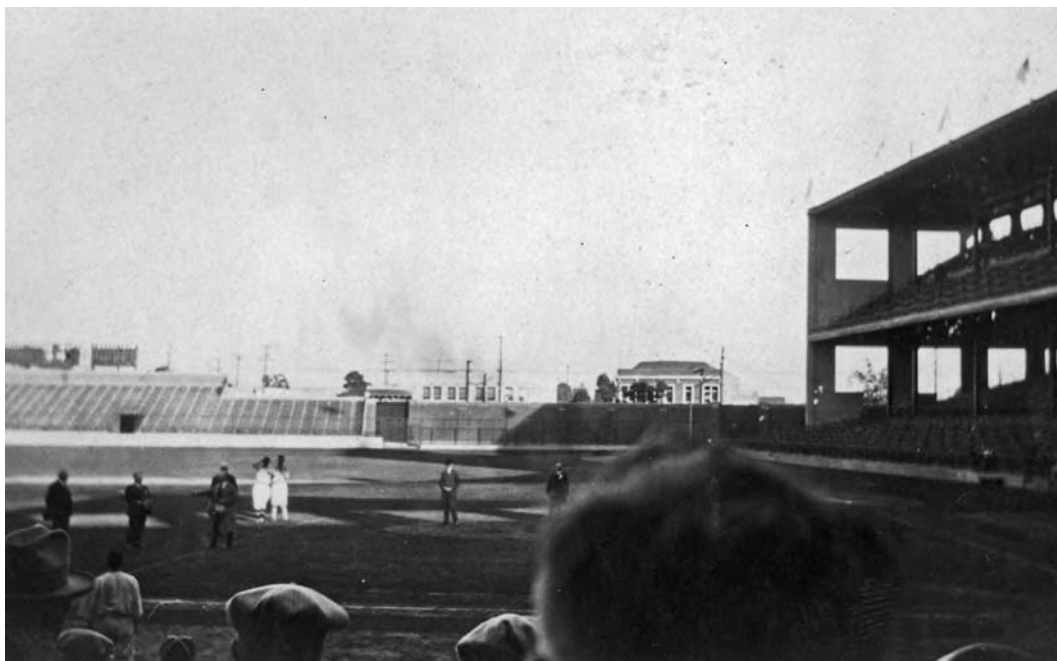
217. The famous Wrigley Tower: Functional and innovative but described appropriately by sportswriter Bill Henry as “a package of chewing gum standing on its end.”³



218. The view as seen from the second deck: This picture was taken during the first game ceremonies in September of 1925.



219/220. Two panoramic shots of the Wrigley Field grandstand, 1926: Considered a state of the art ballpark for its day, Wrigley Field sat 21,000 fans.



221. Formal dedication ceremonies, January 15, 1926: Judge Landis (second from left), Spider Baum and "Pop" Dillon in the white uniforms.

Some "old timers" participating in the game:



222. **Tony Mangerina and Frank “Pop” Dillon:** Mangerina (on left) was a feisty catcher who played in the turn-of-the-century California League that preceded the Pacific Coast League. Pop Dillon was a California League first baseman who graduated to the major leagues where he played sporadically for Pittsburgh, Detroit, Baltimore, and Brooklyn between 1899 and 1904. His real impact came in the Pacific Coast League, where he hit .360 in 190 games for Los Angeles in 1903, and then returned to the Angels from Brooklyn in 1905 to become their player-manager up through 1915. He averaged .288 in 1,564 games as a player for the Angels and also led them to three first-place finishes in his first four years as player-manager. Only twice during Dillon’s eleven seasons of piloting the team did the Angels fail to win at least 100 games.



223. "Turkey" Mike Donlin: Another California League graduate was the irrepressible Mike Donlin. Beginning his career as a pitcher, Donlin finally found his niche in the outfield although his biggest assets were as a hitter and base stealer. A fan favorite because of his flamboyant play and personality, Donlin had a major league career batting average of .333 spread out among six teams over 12 seasons. He also had a career of sorts in vaudeville and, after his baseball days, in the movie industry. This picture from 1926 shows Mike during his Hollywood days, but it also captures the spirit and cockiness (note the hat angle) that characterized Donlin throughout his life. It is one of my favorite Outland photographs.



224. **George “Firebrand” Stovall:** George Stovall’s major league career, spent primarily with Cleveland, lasted throughout the heart of the deadball era, from 1904 to 1915. A first baseman, Stovall also did some managing with Cleveland in 1911 and with the St. Louis Browns in 1912 and 1913. He was the first big-name player to sign with the Federal League, and he helped recruit others for the 1914–1915 seasons while also serving as player-manager of the Kansas City franchise. In 1917, Stovall gained some exposure to the Pacific Coast League by serving as the player-manager for the Vernon Tigers. His career major league batting average was .265.



225. **Clifford "Gavy" Cravath:** Breaking in professionally in 1903, Gavy Cravath played with Pop Dillon on the Los Angeles team that won the Pacific Coast League pennant that year. Cravath was still with the Angels when Dillon returned to manage the team to another pennant in 1905. After hitting .303 with 10 home runs for the Angels in 1907, Gavy got his first opportunity in the majors with the Boston Red Sox. He failed to produce, however, and found himself back in the minors in 1910, this time with Minneapolis of the American Association. After two strong years with the Millers, Gavy made it back to the majors with the Philadelphia Phillies and, between 1912 and 1920, was one of the National League's most productive power hitters. From midway through the 1919 season until the end of 1920, Cravath also served as player-manager for the Phillies. In 1921, Cravath returned to the PCL as player-manager for one final year with Salt Lake City where he finished his playing career with a flourish, hitting .326 with 18 homers in 341 at-bats. Gavy's life after baseball consisted of 36 years of service as a Justice of the Peace in Laguna Beach, California — with occasional breaks to play in old-timers games such as the one in 1926 at Wrigley.

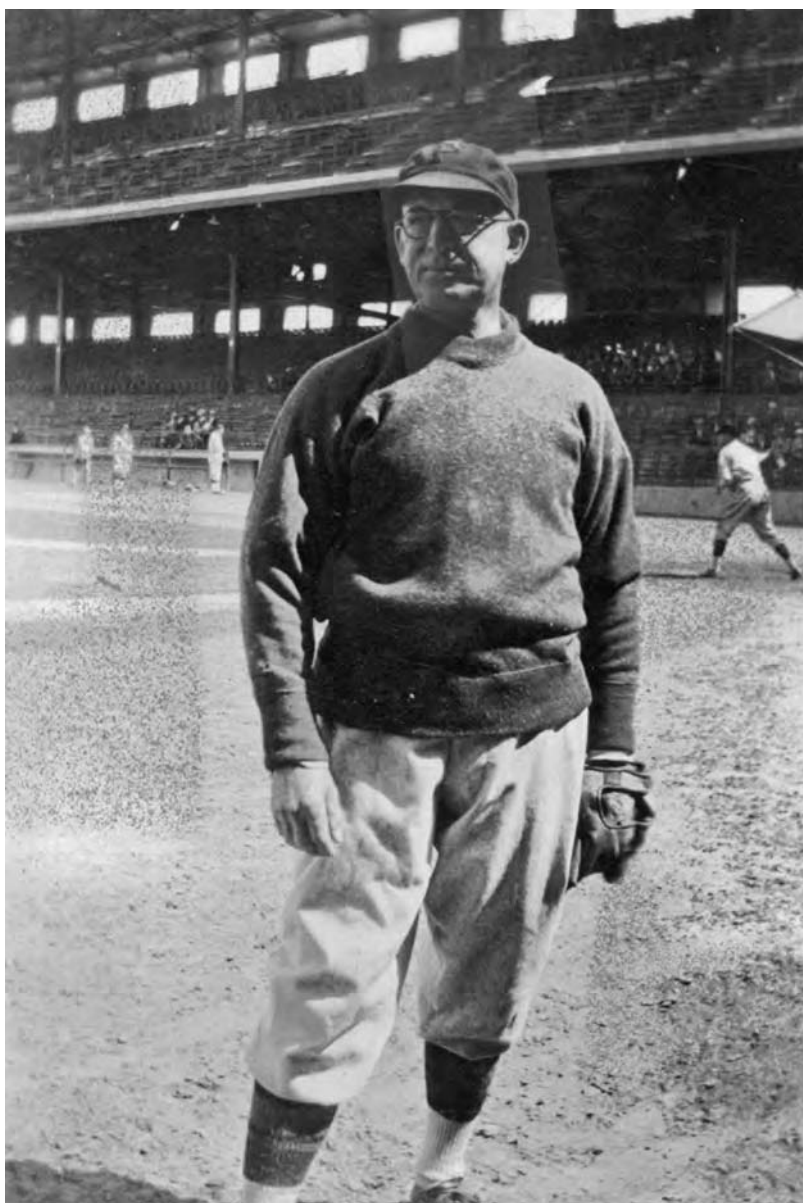


226. Fred “Snow” Snodgrass: It is not clear exactly when this picture was taken, but the background suggests it was not at Wrigley Field in 1926. Nevertheless, Snodgrass is included here with some of his old playing compatriots. “Snow” was a native of Ventura who played very briefly with the Los Angeles Angels before moving to the New York Giants in 1908. By 1910 he had become New York’s regular centerfielder and played with the team, including their pennant-winning years of 1911–13, until being traded to the Boston Braves during the 1915 season. After a somewhat lackluster year with the Braves in 1916 (.249 batting average), Snodgrass chose to return to the Coast League for one final season with Vernon in 1917, the year the Tigers were managed by George Stovall. Snodgrass played in 170 games that season and hit a respectable .277 with 34 stolen bases, but he nevertheless elected to retire while only 30 years old. During the 1930s, Snodgrass, similar to Gavy Cravath, went into public service, in Fred’s case as a member of the Oxnard City Council and, briefly, as mayor. Later, like George’s father Elmer, Snodgrass owned a Ventura County ranch, growing lemons and walnuts, among other crops.⁴ It is possible that the two families knew each other.

The accounts included in one of George's small diaries indicate that he attended twenty games between March 27 and June 9 of 1926. All of the games, including five doubleheaders, were played at Wrigley Field, Los Angeles. It is also likely that the missing diary recorded some exhibition games prior to March 27. At any rate, the game of March 27 involved the Pittsburgh Pirates and Hollywood Stars and that of March 30 saw the Chicago Cubs taking on the Los Angeles Angels. These were the only two recorded games that involved the Pirates and Cubs and, presumably therefore, were the probable dates on which George's pictures of the two big league teams were taken. Curiously, aside from the old-timers game, the only pictures that Outland took during 1926 were of the Pirates and Cubs. Among the Pirates, four photographs stand out.



227. “Deacon” Bill McKechnie: “Deacon Bill” began and ended his unspectacular 11-year major league playing career with the Pittsburgh Pirates. In between, he played for six other teams, including two in the Federal League during 1914-15. His career batting average as a utility infielder was .251. McKechnie’s more notable success came as a manager, a career which stretched over 25 years and saw him win National League pennants with three teams, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. The 1925 Pirates and 1940 Reds were also World Series winners. The year this picture was taken, 1926, turned out not to be a happy one for McKechnie. His Pirates fell to third place, and he was released at the end of the season, in part, no doubt, due to some role confusion and resulting player dissatisfaction involving McKechnie and his assistant coach and “managerial consultant,” Fred Clarke.



228. Fred Clarke: Fred Clarke is in the Hall of Fame based on both his playing and managerial careers. His active playing days were from 1894 with Louisville through 1911 with Pittsburgh (not counting a few appearances he made in 1913–15). A lefthanded hitting outfielder, Clarke had a career batting average of .315. His managerial career with both Louisville and Pittsburgh covered the years 1897–1915 and saw Clarke win four pennants with the Pirates. He had an overall winning percentage of .576, including .595 with Pittsburgh. Clarke's long-time association with the Pirates ended on a down note in October of 1926 when he resigned after the unfortunate bickering and bad feelings of the just-completed season.



229. Charles "Babe" Adams: This photograph was taken in Adams's last year of 1926, when the Babe would have been just shy of his 44th birthday. It is the better of the two pictures that George took of Adams—and it was his last opportunity since Adams was released by the Pirates in August of 1926.



230. **Johnny Rawlings:** Rawlings was a .250 career hitter as a utility man for six different teams between 1914 and 1926. One wonders whether the fictional character of Mickey Rawlings in author Troy Soos's baseball novels may have been patterned after Johnny.

On March 30, toward the very end of spring training, the Chicago Cubs shut down the Los Angeles Angels 7-1 behind three run homers from Hack Wilson and Gabby Hartnett and a strong pitching performance from Sheriff Blake. George used the occasion to take pictures of several Cubs whom he had not previously photographed.



231. Joe McCarthy: The 24-year, Hall of Fame managing career of Joe McCarthy was about to take off when this picture was taken in the spring of 1926. McCarthy guided the Cubs to a pennant in 1929 but was fired after a second place finish in 1930, only to end up with the powerful New York Yankees from 1931 through May of 1946. He managed the Yankees to eight pennants and seven world championships and came within one game each year of leading the Boston Red Sox to a pennant in 1948 and 1949. None of McCarthy's teams ever finished lower than fourth, and he ended his managerial career with a winning percentage of .614, the highest recorded of any manager in baseball history.



232. “Sunset” Jimmy Burke: “Sunset Jimmy” had a playing career of 548 games in the majors for five teams between 1898 and 1905. He hit a combined .244 while primarily playing at third base. A native of St. Louis, Burke had the opportunity in 1905 to manage the Cardinals for 49 games while still playing for them. From mid-1918 through 1920, he had a more extended tenure as manager of the St. Louis Browns. Burke was a friend of Joe McCarthy’s and served as a coach under him during McCarthy’s five years with the Cubs and then later with the pennant-winning 1932 Yankees.



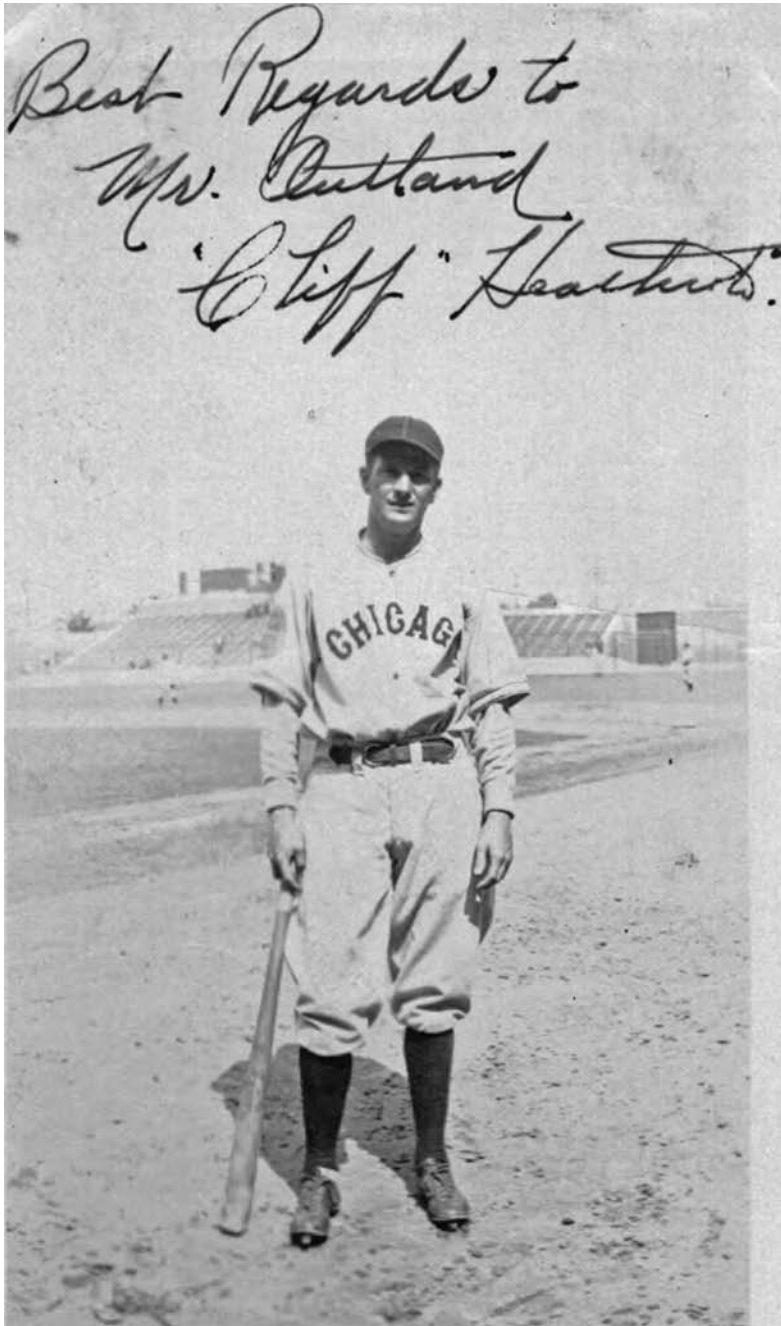
233. Lewis “Hack” Wilson: Built like a fireplug, the 5'6", 190-pound Wilson packed tremendous power and was a surprisingly competent outfielder. In 1926, the year of this picture, Wilson was just entering his prime at the age of 26. He had five dominant years through 1930, hitting well over .300 each season while seeing his home run production increase dramatically. Wilson’s 1930 season with 56 homers, 191 RBI, and a .356 batting average constitutes one of the most outstanding years ever recorded. Unfortunately, it was generally down hill from 1931 to 1934 when Hack’s major league career ended. Like many other ballplayers of his era, Wilson’s playing days were cut short by alcohol. Nonetheless, his numbers were sufficient to get him elected to the Hall of Fame in 1979.



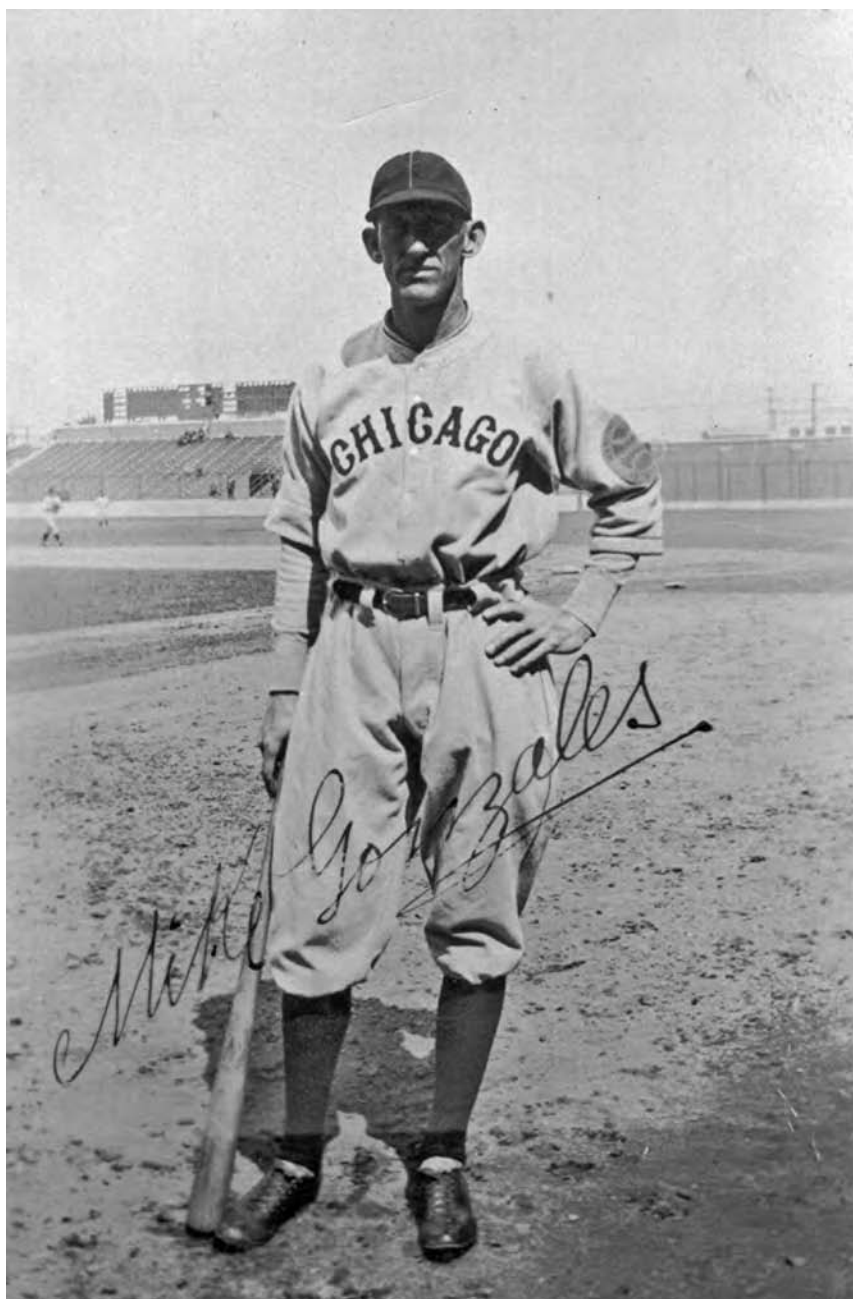
234. **Charlie Grimm:** Grimm was pictured earlier in 1925 with Hack Miller. This photograph suggests a more belligerent pose than was typical for the fun-loving, slick-fielding first baseman who played twenty years in the majors and managed for almost thirty years after that.



235. Guy Bush, "The Mississippi Mudcat": Bush pitched from 1923 through 1938 in the National League and reemerged briefly again in 1945. His career record was 176–126 with the great bulk of his success (152 wins) coming with the Cubs for whom he was a mainstay between 1924 and 1934. Bush is sometimes remembered as the pitcher who gave up home runs number 713 and 714 to Babe Ruth in 1935. The autograph on this picture is interesting for two reasons, the first being that it is signed "Guy Joe Bush." The "Joe" seldom appears in printed references to Bush, since his actual middle name was Terrell. The second notable element of the autograph is that it is probably phony; note the signature similarity with Cliff Heathcote's.



236. Cliff Heathcote: Heathcote was also pictured earlier in 1925, but is included again here because of the similarity of the autograph with Bush's (Heathcote's 1925 signature appears to be authentic) and because of Outland's favorable but curious reference to him in his home run log: "For years Heathcote had been one of my particular idols, for no reason at all. I longed to see him hit a homer — again for no reason at all!"



237. Mike Gonzales: Mike Gonzales was a good-fielding backup catcher whose playing career in the National League stretched from 1912 to 1932. He finished with a lifetime batting average of .253, similar to the year he had with the Cubs in 1926 when he hit .249 in 253 at-bats. The Cuban-born Gonzales— whose name is frequently misspelled as Gonzalez — is most often associated with the St. Louis Cardinals for whom he played eight seasons and coached for many more.



238. Howard "Ty" Freigau: A utility infielder, Freigau played in the National League for four teams between 1922 and 1928. In 1925, he and Mike Gonzales were traded from the Cardinals to the Cubs for Bob O'Farrell. For the major part of 1925 and all of 1926, Freigau was the starting third baseman for Chicago, hitting .307 for them in 1925 and .270 in 1926. His seven-year career average was .272. Tragically, Freigau died of a swimming accident in 1932, just two weeks shy of his 30th birthday.



239. Jonathan "Mandy" Brooks: A righthanded hitting outfielder, Brooks played parts of two seasons for the Cubs, his only big league experience. In 1925, he got into 90 games and hit a respectable .281 with 13 home runs and 72 RBI. In 1926, however, his production dropped off to .188 and one home run in only 48 at-bats.



240. Maurice "Red" Shannon: A utility infielder who saw limited action in the American League between 1917 and 1921, Shannon reemerged for one year with the Cubs in 1926 where he hit .333 in 19 games, primarily while playing shortstop.



241. Percy Jones: Lefthander Percy Jones pitched for the Cubs from 1920 to 1922 and then again from 1925 through 1928. He finished his major league career with the Braves and Pirates in 1929 and 1930, respectively. Of his 53 career wins, 46 came with Chicago, with his best year (12–7, 3.09 ERA) being 1926, the year of this picture. In 1924, Jones had played in the Pacific Coast League, contributing 13 wins to Seattle’s pennant-winning season. In 1931, Jones’s career had almost as tragic an ending as Howard Freigau’s as Jones fell from a third-story window and broke his back. He spent the rest of his life, until 1979, in a wheelchair.

1926 was the last of three consecutive years that George photographed the Cubs. He had just gotten started with the Pirates, however, as he would photograph more Pittsburgh players in 1927 than he would of any other team in any one year.

4. *The Peak Year, 1927*

The “Roaring Twenties” perhaps peaked in 1927, both for baseball and for the country as a whole. The year marked the height of Yankee dominance, as they won 110 of 154 games and ran away with the American League pennant by 19 games. Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs along the way, and Lou Gehrig contributed a league leading 175 RBI. During that same summer, Charles Lindbergh flew nonstop across the Atlantic and received a hero’s welcome while George Outland made the same trip by ship, albeit with considerably less fanfare.

For George, now in his junior year in college, 1927 was his most productive year from a photography standpoint. He took pictures of 77 players on seven different teams, as well as five others on an individual basis. He attended 53 games and saw 56 home runs with most of the homers (44) coming in the spring prior to his trip to Europe. On his way to the east coast before embarking for the continent, George experienced his second extended exposure to major league baseball, this time strictly on his own.

The season began in January at a California Winter League game involving both black and white players. The game produced three interesting pictures as well as one of George’s biggest home run thrills. The latter was provided by 39-year-old Ping Bodie, and Dad’s memo, written up several years later deserves to be quoted in full:

As I write this account of a home run hit back in 1927 some 21 years later (11-29-48), I wonder how such a thing can be so vivid. And yet, I can close my eyes tonight (I am almost doing this as I am writing these notes) and see that ball that PING BODIE hit clearing the right center field fence at the old colored baseball field (White Sox Park) way out on Hooper Avenue in Los Angeles.

This was one of the few notable homers that came exactly when I wanted to see it, exactly when I had made a special trip to this particular place on this particular day to see this particular feat. There are not many such. As I look back on several decades of baseball, several decades of wishing to see homers, there are only a few that I can honestly say came as quickly and as timely and as beautifully as this one.

By 1927 I had already begun to be extremely interested in home runs as such. The previous year there had been men like Hack Wilson and Gabby Hartnett and Glenn Wright, following up my first trip to the big leagues in 1924, and with each one my particular interest in baseball came to center more and more on the individual homer. When 1927 commenced, and I began to think in terms of going back east and actually

again seeing big league games, my mind began to turn more and more to what homers I might see on the Pacific Coast itself.

Honestly, I had never expected to see PING BODIE hit one. He had been an old time hero of mine—not as close as Sam Crawford or Doc Crandall or Sam Agnew—but still one of my favorites. However he had been out of organized baseball for several years, and I had dismissed the possibility of seeing home runs by such old time stars as Frank Schulte and Beals Becker and Walton Cruise. However, I suddenly saw that Bodie was to play for an all-star team against a Negro outfit out at the old ramshackled park near Jefferson High School, in the spring of 1927. I had no idea how to get there but finally discovered that to get out to Hooper Avenue one took not the “H” car but the “B” car. And get there I did.¹

The park really was old and ramshackle, but a fear of mine was immediately dissipated when I saw old PING BODIE in uniform. I recognized him immediately. I had feared that in spite of the newspaper accounts he might not play. The game started with an all-star colored team playing against one managed by Joe Pironne, famous semi-pro manager and night club owner in Los Angeles. Bodie came up first in the second inning. I looked at the extremely distant left field fence and hoped there might be a chance of his pulling one over the short but extremely high right field screen. By God, he did neither, but he hit almost the first pitch out of the lot! He drove a hard, low liner over the right center field fence, just barely clearing the barrier, and yet ticketed from the moment it was hit for the distance. Never have I been so completely satisfied so soon and so directly! The odds against Ping hitting a homer were at least 100–1. This time he clunked one off an A-1 Negro pitcher, and it was a genuine, honest-to-God home run if ever I saw one. And it went over a most distant part of the fence, and a most difficult one for a righthanded batter to clear.

For me the game ended right then and there in the second inning. The colored team finally won a really fine game in the last half of the 9th, 4–3, but what did it matter: I had a good dinner in downtown Los Angeles afterward with old schoolmate friend Ernest Tolin, but what did it matter? I had played the 100–1 shot to see PING BODIE hit a home run. I had gone to a park that I had never seen before, and the first time up the old boy had done it. My Lord, what more does one want?

California Winter League expert Bill McNeil has identified the “A-1 Negro pitcher” that Dad refers to as Andy Cooper, recently elected to baseball’s Hall of Fame. My Dad’s log has the pitcher down as Puzzle Harney, but the box score that McNeil provides shows that, while Harney also pitched in this game, Cooper was indeed the starter whom Bodie faced.² Among the black players participating in this game, Dad was able to take pictures of two other Hall of Famers, Wilber “Bullet Joe” Rogan and Norman “Turkey” Stearnes. McNeil has called my attention to the fact that individual photos of Stearnes, in uniform, are “at least scarce, if not rare.”³

It might be added, with respect to the accuracy and vividness of memories of this sort, that one is reminded of the comments of Lawrence Ritter in the concluding paragraphs of his preface to *The Glory of Their Times*, that really fine collection of ballplayer reminiscences: “The reader may wonder at the detail contained in these narrations, the near total recall of events that took place a half century or more ago. If so, he can join me in that wonderment. The memory of man is a remarkable storehouse indeed.” After pouring through record books and old newspapers to verify; the accounts he was hearing, Ritter concluded: “...almost without exception I found that the event took place almost precisely as it had been described. And in those instances where something had been added, the embellishments invariably were those of the artist; they served to dramatize a point, to emphasize a contrast, or to reveal a truth.”⁴



242. George Outland and Ping Bodie: Bodie, one of my father's favorites, was pictured earlier with the 1922 Vernon Tigers. Here he is on January 15, 1927, while playing for the Joe Pirrone All-Stars in a California Winter League game at the age of 39. Bodie's relatively small size, 5'8", is noticeable in this picture compared to the 6'3" Outland. Bodie packed a punch, however, as he homered in his first time up. "...The old boy had done it," rhapsodized George, "My Lord, what more does one want?"

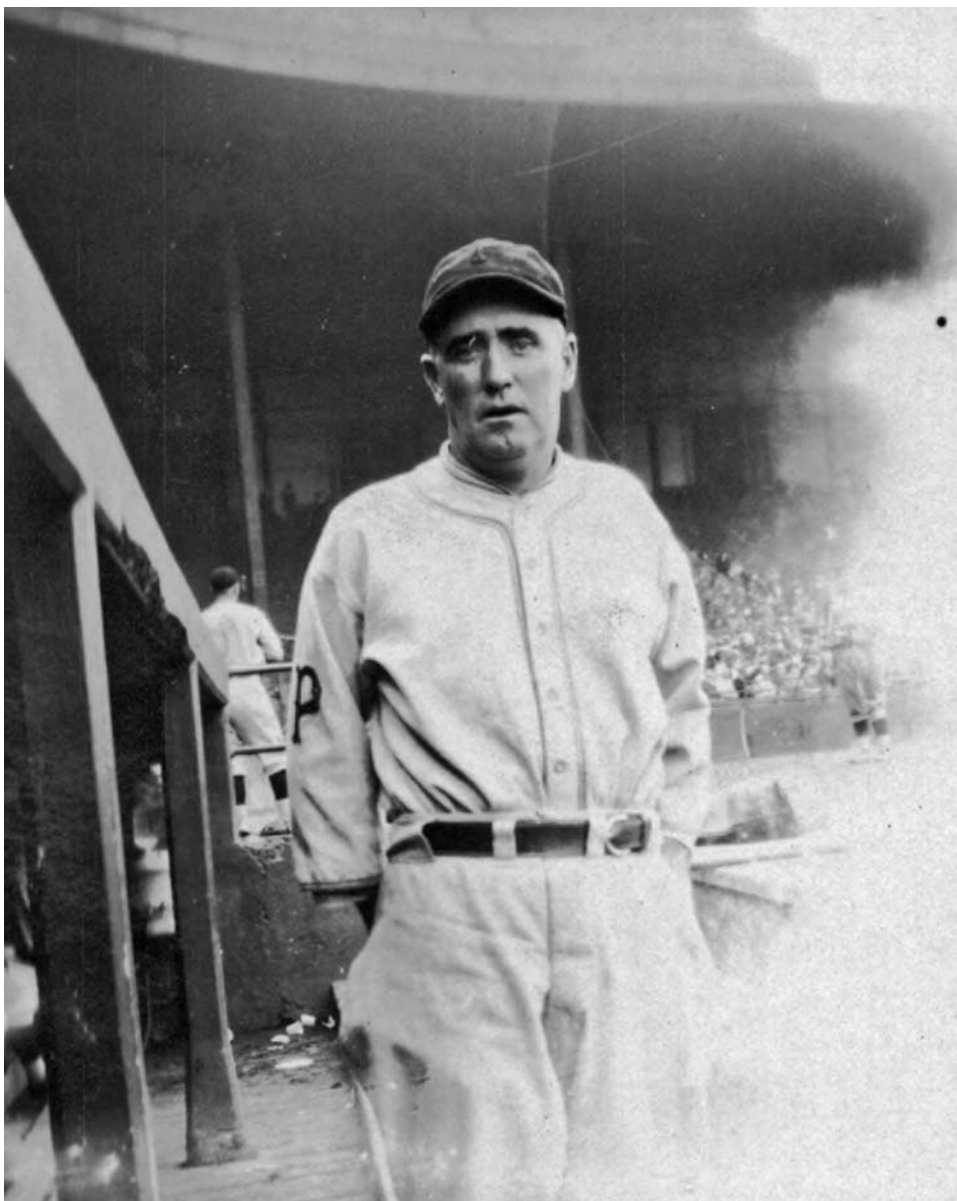


243. Wilber "Bullet Joe" Rogan: A dazzling pitcher as well as hard-hitting outfielder, Bullet Joe played in the Negro Leagues between 1920 and 1938 where he compiled 151 wins and a .348 lifetime batting average. He was also a two-way standout in the integrated California Winter League where his pitching statistics were rivaled only by Satchel Paige and Chet Brewer. Rogan was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame in 1998.

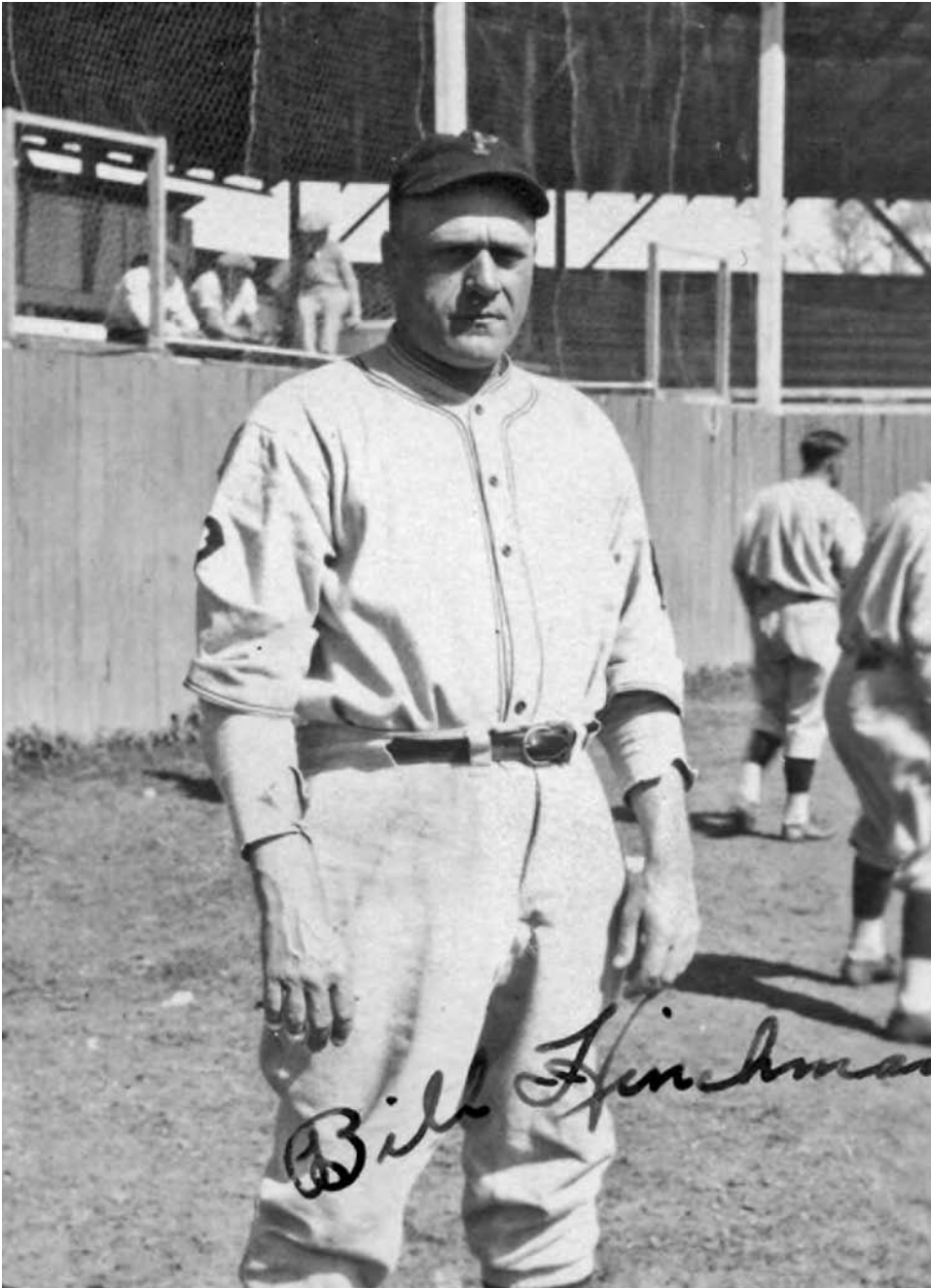


244. **Norman "Turkey" Stearnes:** Stearnes was a long ball-hitting, slick-fielding centerfielder who played for several Negro Leagues teams between 1923 and 1942. Only once in his nine years with the Detroit Stars did he hit below .340, and he was consistently among the league leaders in home runs. In his nine years of participation in the California Winter League where he faced strong white pitching, Stearnes hit for a .373 average in over 200 games.⁵ He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2000.

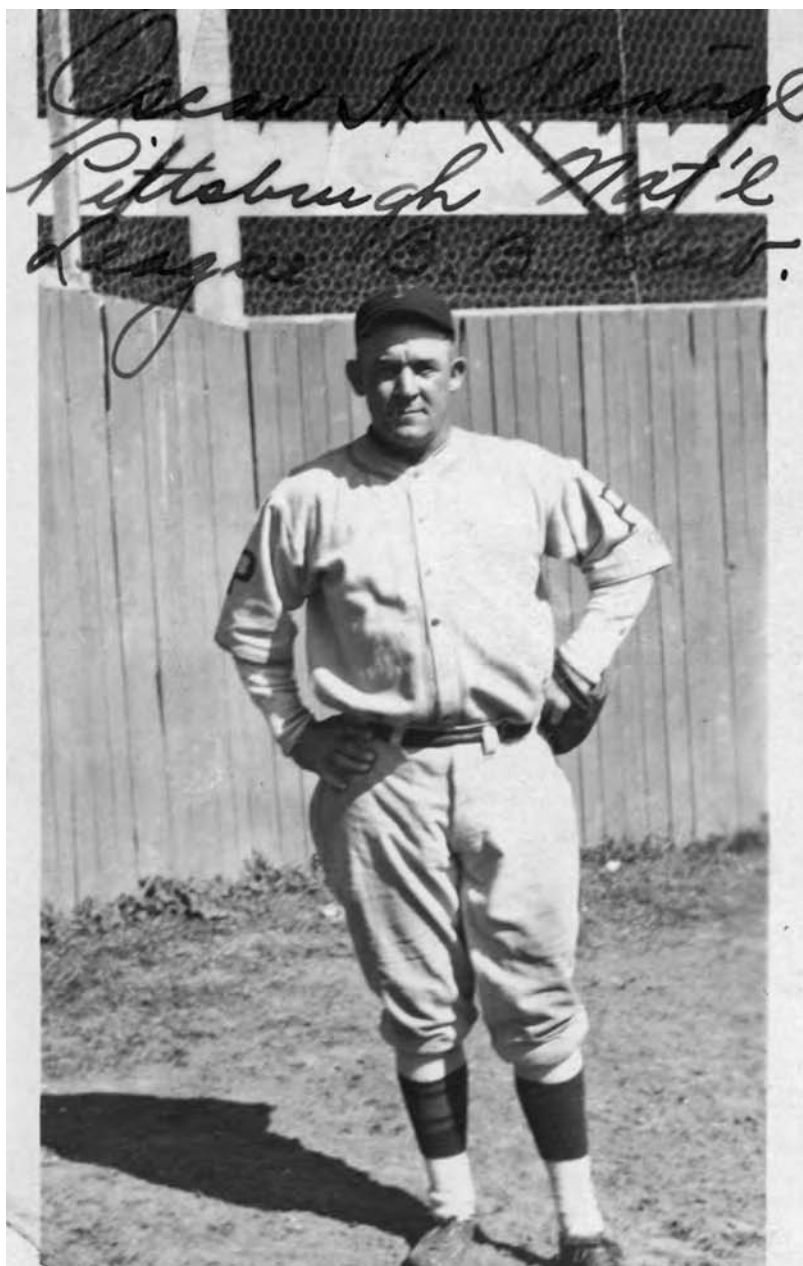
Later in the spring of 1927, George saw several exhibition and regular season games before his school year ended in early June. He and his cousin Loren Ayers spent one particularly productive afternoon, from a picture taking standpoint, at the Pittsburgh Pirates training facility in Paso Robles. George was able to take 20 pictures of Pirate players that day, the most that he ever took of a single team on a single occasion. The photos assume particular significance since the Pirates had a pennant winning season in 1927 although they were to be swept in the World Series by the even more powerful New York Yankees.



245. Owen "Donie" Bush: A lifetime baseball man, Bush was a player, manager, scout, and team president during his 65-year affiliation with the game. During his playing career, Bush was the switch-hitting, lead-off man for the Detroit Tigers of Ty Cobb. He was a defensive stalwart who lent stability to the Tiger infield. Between the years 1923 and 1933, Bush managed four major league teams for a total of seven seasons with his greatest success coming with the Pirates from 1927 to 1929. He later managed at the Triple-A level, scouted for the Boston Red Sox and Chicago White Sox, and served as president for many years of the Indianapolis Indians. Like Ping Bodie and Doc Crandall, Bush was born on October 8, 1887. October 8 was also my father's birthday.

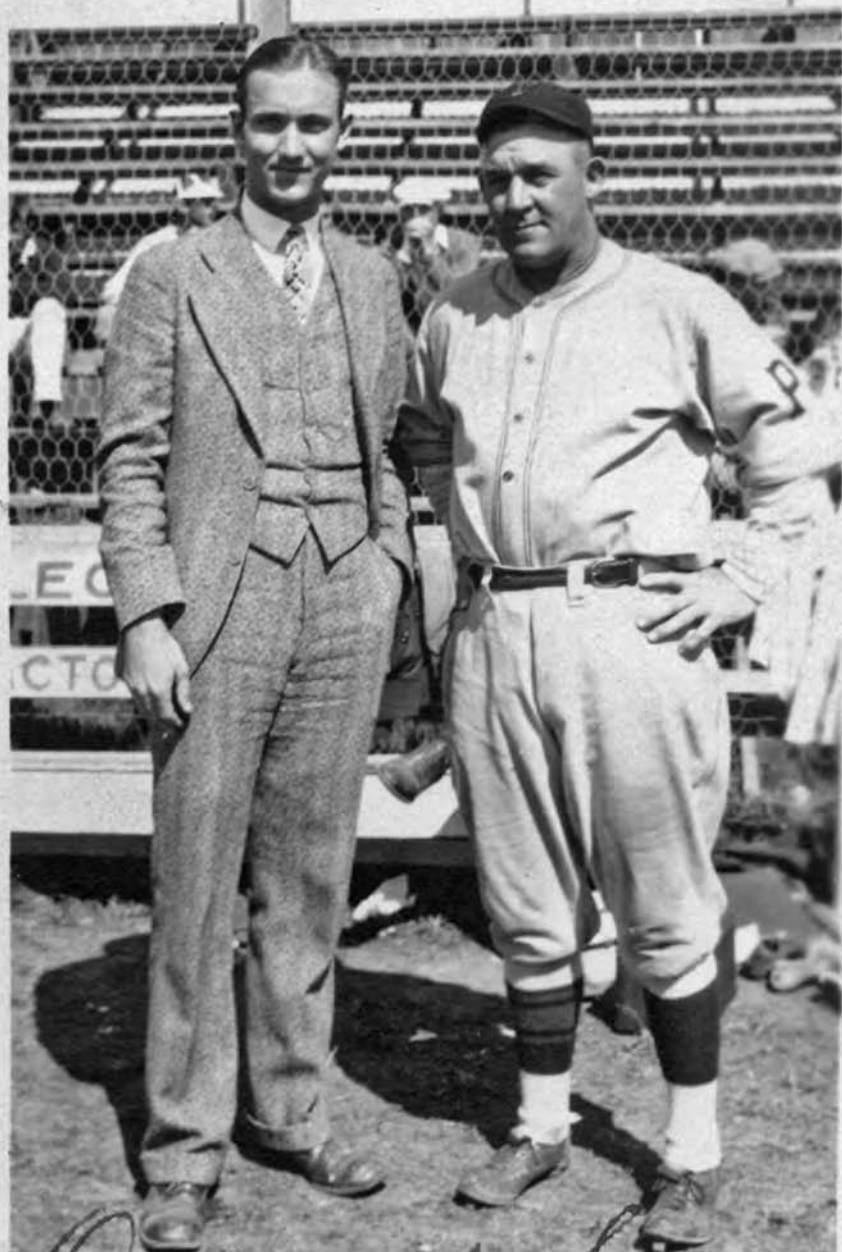


246. Bill Hinchman: An earlier picture was shown of Pirate coach Bill Hinchman in 1925, but this photo better captures his stocky build. Hinchman played ten years in the majors between 1905 and 1920 and ended with a career batting average of .261. As a scout for the Pirates, he is credited with discovering Arky Vaughan and Lloyd Waner, among others.



247/248. Two pictures of Oscar Stanage (one with George Outland, opposite): A tough but popular catcher during his playing career, Stanage was a long-time teammate of Donie Bush's on the Detroit Tigers. It was only appropriate that Bush asked him to serve as his bench coach with the Pirates during Bush's tenure with the team from 1927 to 1929. A native Californian and a friend and teammate of Sam Crawford's, both with the Tigers and for one year with the Los Angeles Angels in 1921, Stanage needed no further endorsements to rate well with my father.

With very best
wishes



Oscar H. Starnagh
Pittsburgh Baseball Club.



249. Jewel Ens: Another coach on the 1927 Pirates was 37-year-old Jewel Ens, who later replaced Donie Bush as manager in August of 1929. Ens managed the Pirates to two fifth place finishes in 1930 and 1931. Ens had played as a utility infielder on the Pirates from 1922 to 1925 but had participated in only 67 games.



250. Hazen "Kiki" Cuyler: Cuyler, pictured earlier in 1925, experienced his fateful final year with the Pirates in 1927. He angered manager Donie Bush late in the season and was benched for the World Series. The next year he found himself with the Chicago Cubs where he had seven-and-a-half very productive seasons. Note: It is interesting to compare the autograph on this picture with the one taken in 1925. The latter one, signed "Hazen," appears to be more authentic.



251. **Harold "Pie" Traynor:** Also pictured earlier in 1925, Traynor was approaching the peak of his career in 1927 when he hit .342. Extraordinarily popular with both players and fans, Traynor managed the Pirates from June of 1934 through 1939. He later went on to become a broadcaster.



252. **Joe Cronin:** This picture shows a 20-year-old Joe Cronin at the very beginning of his Hall of Fame career as a player, manager, and major league executive. Cronin broke in with the Pirates in 1926 but played in only 12 games for them in 1927. By 1929, his career had taken off with the Washington Senators and, by 1933, he was the Senators' player-manager, guiding them to an American League pennant. In 1935, Cronin began his long affiliation with the Boston Red Sox as a player and manager up through the 1947 season. He then served eleven years as an executive with the Red Sox before becoming American League president for 14 years starting in 1959. Another fellow Californian, Joe Cronin was four days younger than my father, having been born on October 12, 1906 in San Francisco.



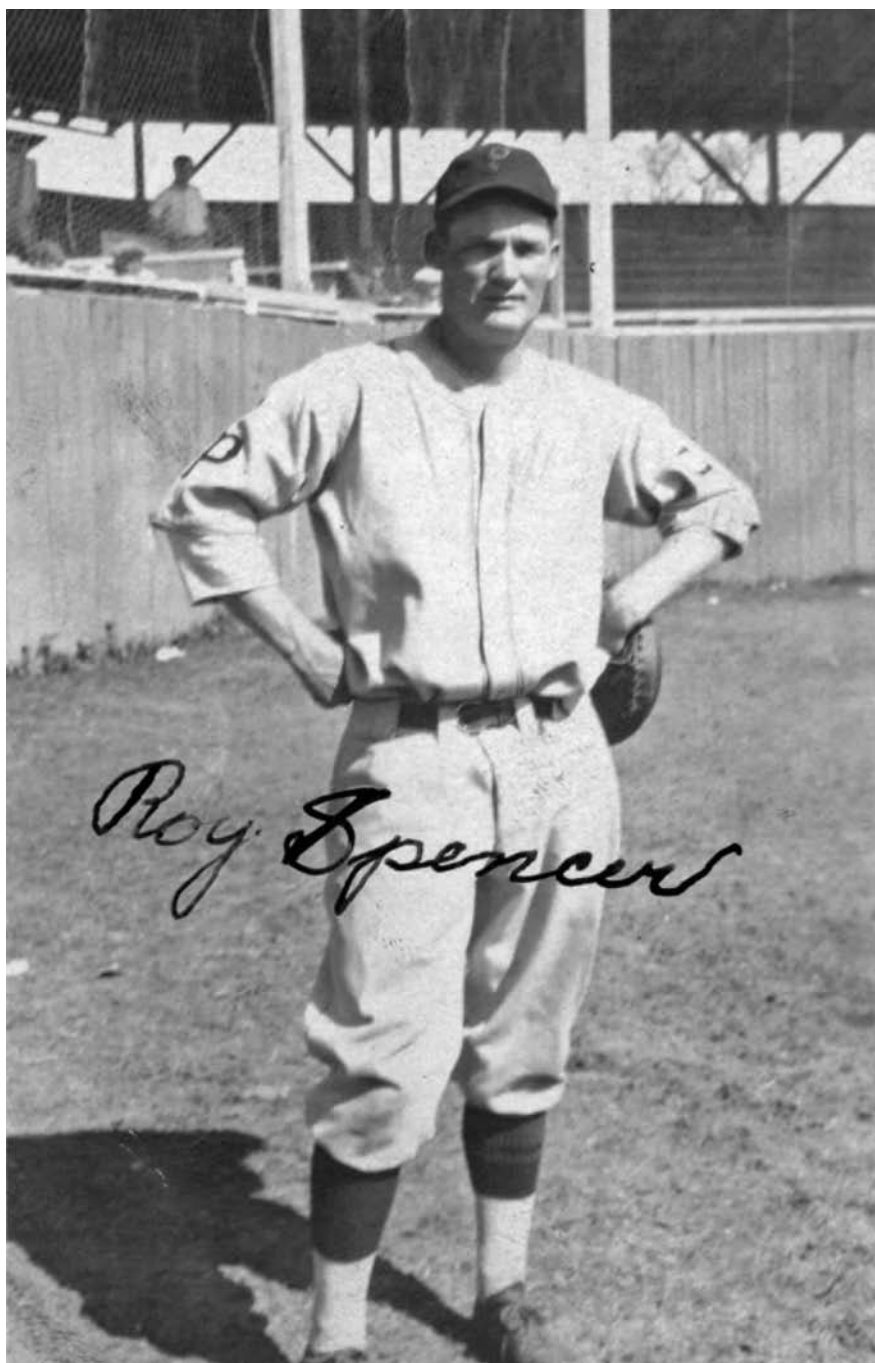
253. Paul “Big Poison” Waner: Another future Hall of Famer on the 1927 Pirates was Paul Waner, who had come up to the team in 1926 after three sensational years with San Francisco of the Pacific Coast League. The year this picture was taken, Waner was the National League’s Most Valuable Player in just his second year in the majors. He led the league in several categories, including a .380 batting average, with 131 RBI and 237 hits. Waner’s younger brother Lloyd, whom George was not able to photograph, collected 223 hits for the Pirates during that same 1927 season. Paul Waner finished his career with a lifetime average of .333.



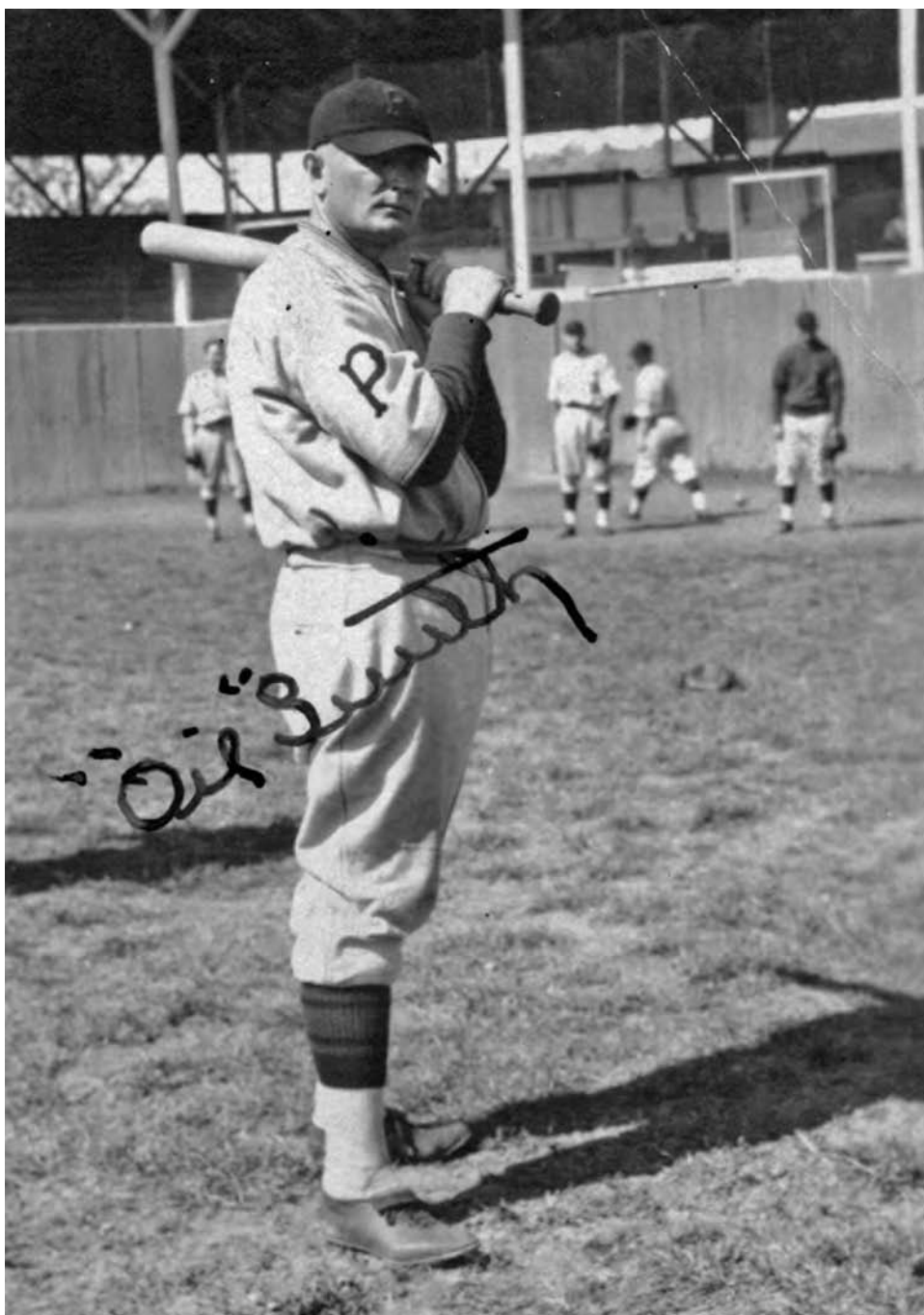
254. George “Boots” Grantham: George Grantham began his major league career with the Cubs in 1922 but had his most success with the Pirates from 1925 through 1931. A consistent .300 hitter, Grantham played both first and second base during his years in Pittsburgh. He was traded to Cincinnati for the 1932 season where he had one more good year. Grantham’s major league career ended in 1934 with a lifetime batting average of .302.



255. **Joe "Moon" Harris:** Joe Harris played ten years in the big leagues with six different teams and posted a career batting average of .317. He seldom was a starter, however, and generally played as a backup first baseman or outfielder. He hit .440 with three home runs for Washington against the Pirates in the 1925 World Series and then played for Pittsburgh in the 1927 Series. Harris had an outstanding year for the Pirates in 1927, hitting .326 in 129 games, but he played in only 16 games for them in 1928 before being traded to Brooklyn where he ended his career that year.



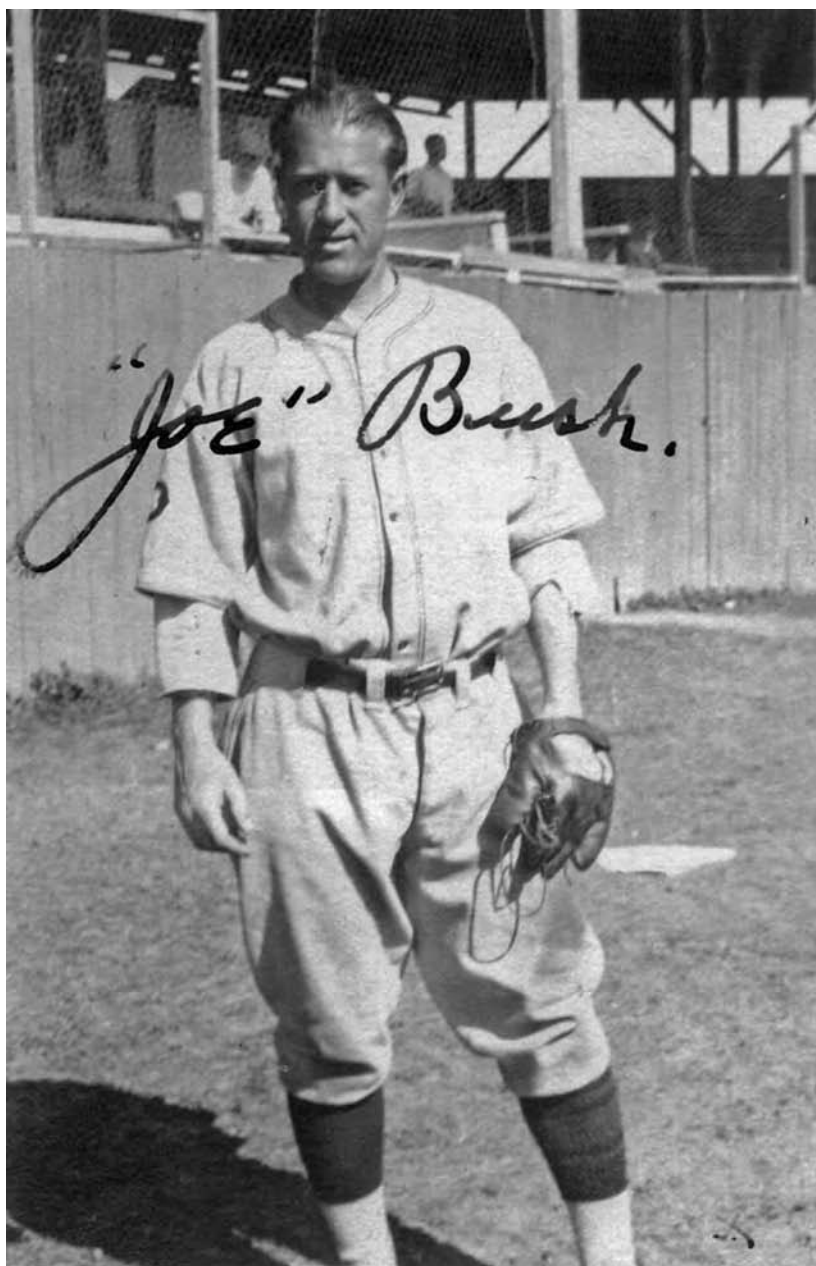
256. **Roy Spencer:** Spencer was a backup catcher for several major league teams between 1925 and 1938. His first three years were with Pittsburgh although he played in only 80 games during that period. His best years were with Washington in 1931 and 1932 where he played in over 100 games each season and hit .275 in 1931.



257. Earl "Oil" Smith: A tough and pugnacious catcher, Smith was the principal backup to Johnny Gooch in 1927. He played in the majors for 12 seasons, including on five pennant-winning teams with the Giants, Pirates, and Cardinals. Although hitting for a career .303 average, he played in 100 games or more in only two seasons.



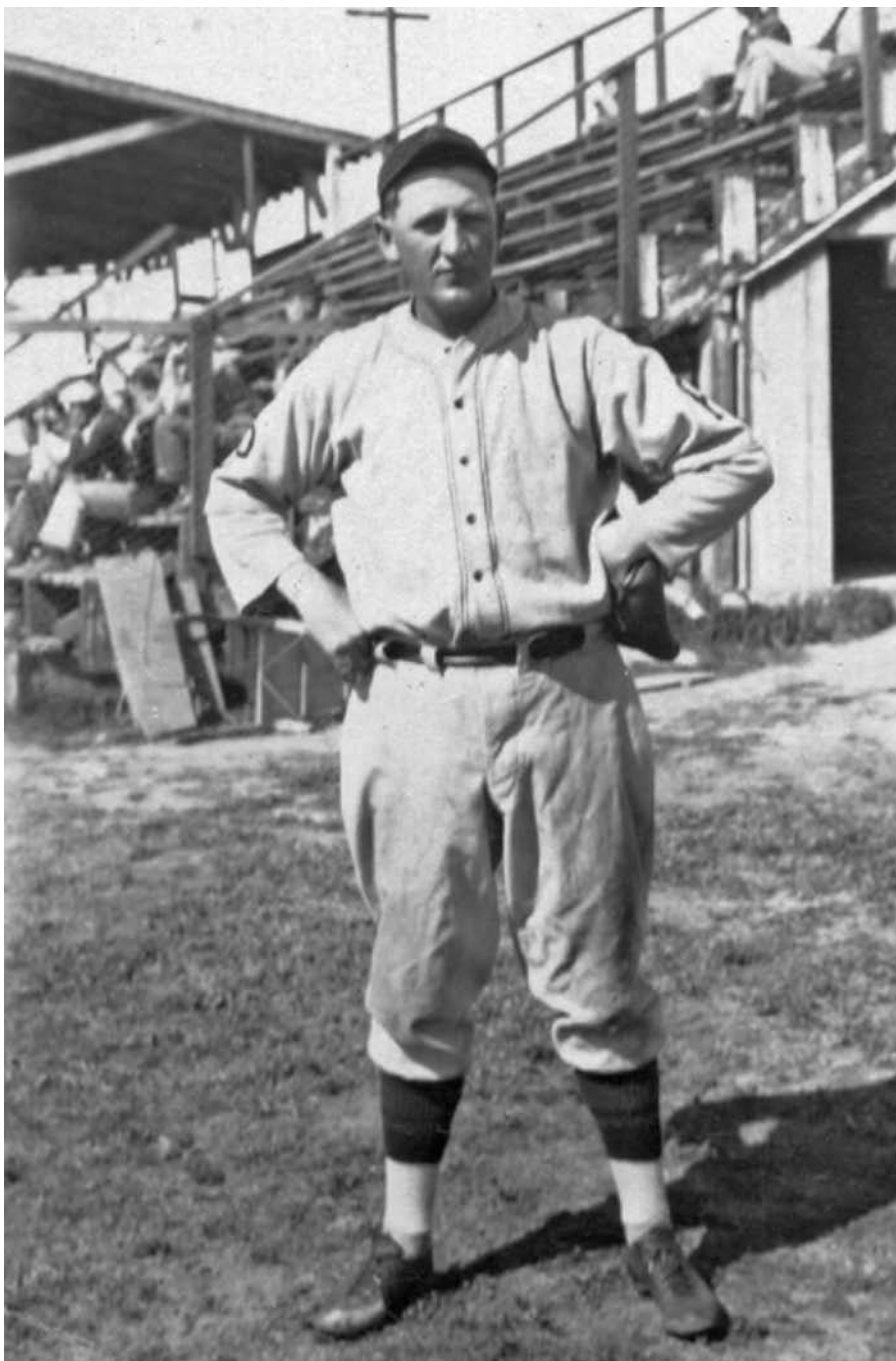
258. **Herman Layne:** This is a rare photo indeed since Herman Layne played in only eleven games, with six at-bats, for the Pirates in 1927, his one exposure to the major leagues. Layne's minor league career as a righthanded outfielder lasted from 1922 to 1934, and he consistently hit well over .300. His minor league career average in 6,405 at-bats was .327.



259. **“Bullet Joe” Bush:** In 1927, Joe Bush was winding down a well-traveled major league career that had begun in 1912. His first year in the National League had been 1926 when he went 6–6 for the Pirates after coming in mid-season from the Washington Senators. In 1927, he appeared in only five games before being traded to the Giants. Bush won a total of 194 games in the big leagues with his best season being with the Yankees in 1922 when he went 26–7. It was his only 20-win season although he came back and won 19 for the Yankees in 1923.



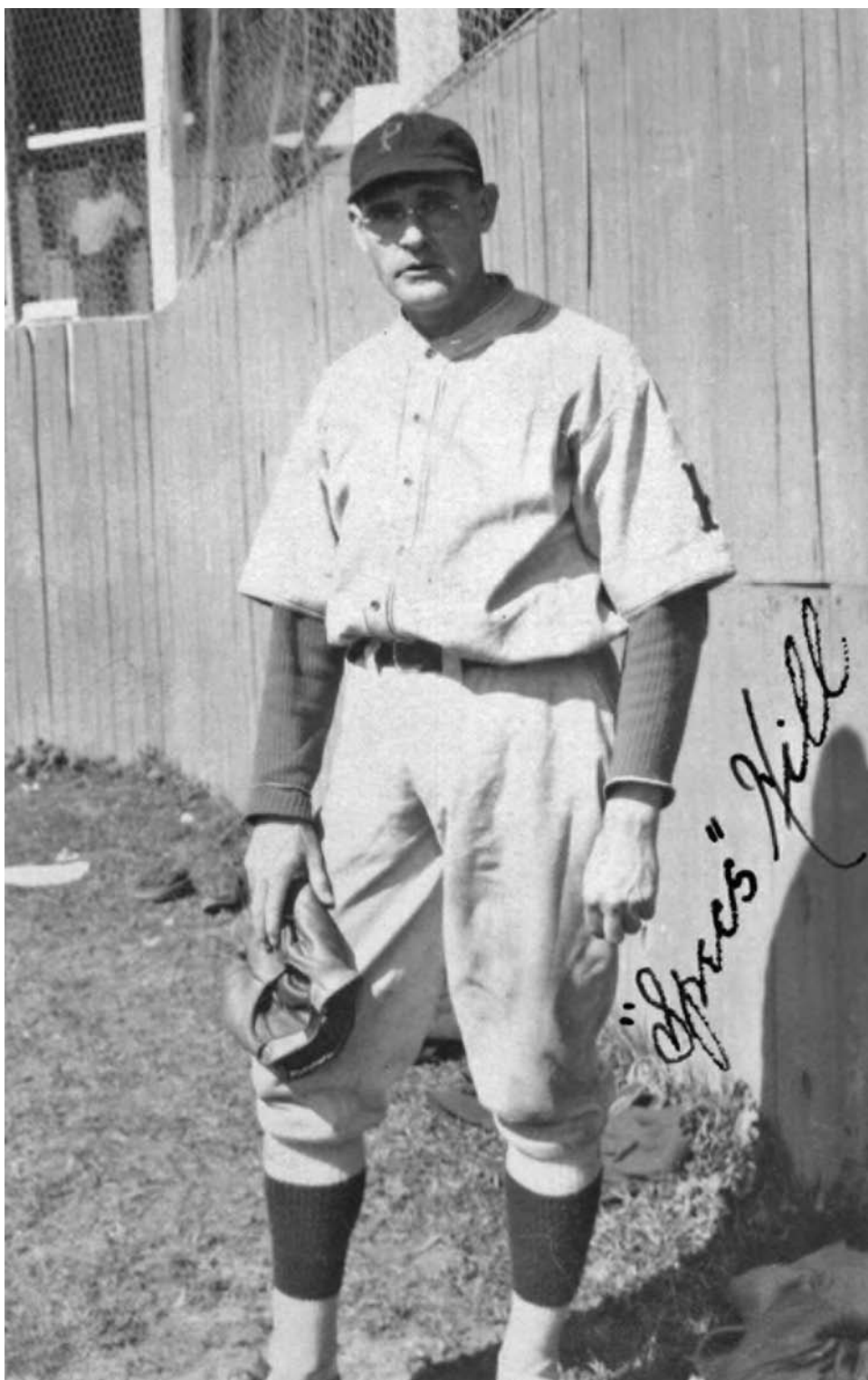
260. Remy “Ray” Kremer: After an extended seven-year PCL tenure with Oakland, Ray Kremer finally made it to the big leagues at the age of 31. He then spent ten years (1924–33) with the Pittsburgh Pirates where he was a dependable double-digit winner, finishing with a career record of 143–85 and an ERA of 3.76. In 1926 and 1927, he went a combined 39–14 with outstanding ERAs of 2.61 and 2.47. The high point of Kremer’s career, perhaps, came when he was credited with winning games six and seven of the 1925 World Series.



261. **“Jughandle Johnny” Morrison:** Pictured earlier in 1925, Morrison was in his last year with the Pirates in 1927 when he went 3–2 in only 54 innings pitched. After sitting out the 1928 season, he had one more good year with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1929, primarily as a relief pitcher.



262. Lee "Specs" Meadows (with Loren Ayers): Meadows, also pictured in 1925, was kind enough here to pose with George's cousin Loren Ayers whom George always thought looked a lot like "Babe" Herman. Meadows had a strong 19–10 season in 1927 but pitched 299 innings, the most in his career. Unfortunately, his arm was burned out by 1928, and his career was over.

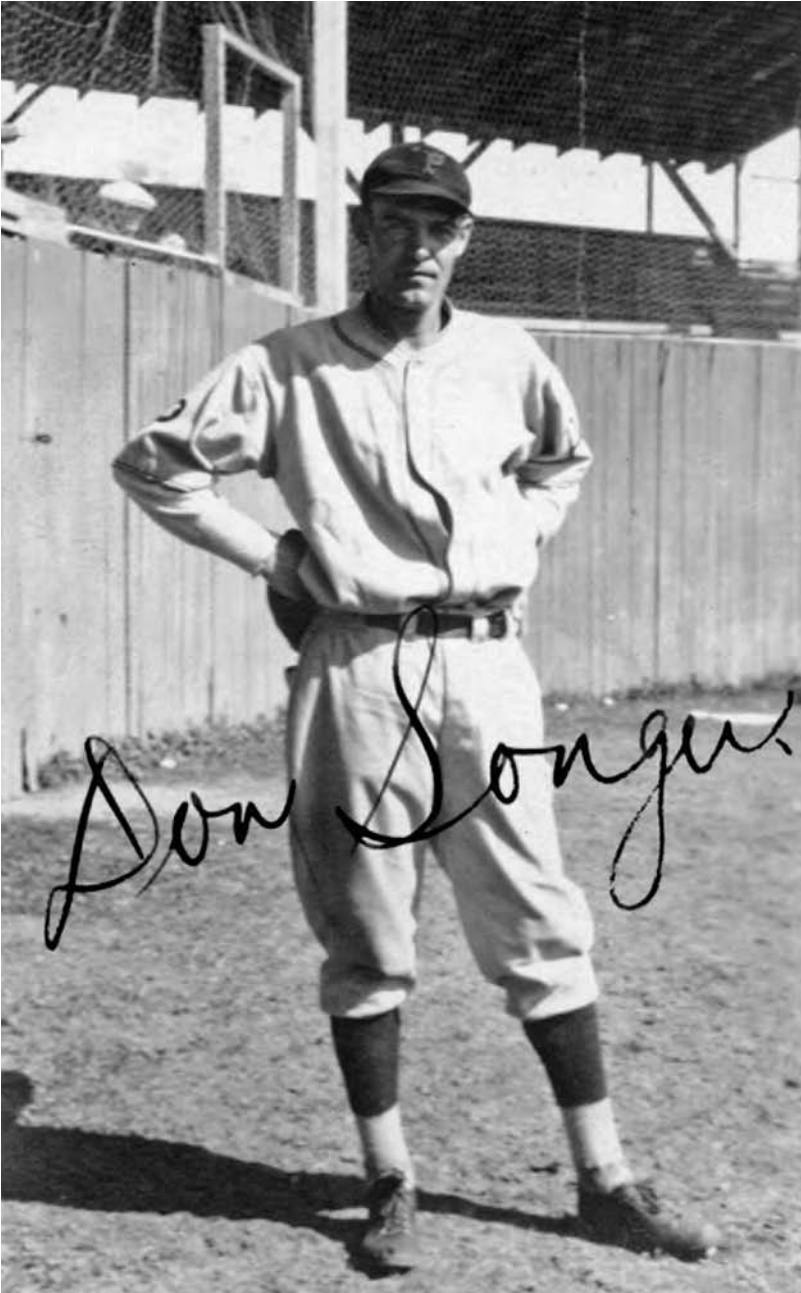




263/264. Two pictures of Carmen "Specs" Hill: Hill had a somewhat unusual major league career that stretched off and on from 1915 to 1930. Of his 49 career victories, he won 38 of them in 1927 and 1928, including a 22–11 record for the 1927 Pirate pennant winners. In the other nine seasons he pitched in the majors, Hill never won nor lost more than three games in a given year. However, in between major league appearances Hill won 202 games in the minors. As noted previously, he and Specs Meadows both arrived in the majors in 1915 and are jointly credited with being the first pitchers to wear glasses.



265. Vic Aldridge: After gaining a brief exposure to the majors in 1917 and 1918, Vic Aldridge had three strong years in the Pacific Coast League with Los Angeles, including a 20-win season in 1921. Returning to the majors in 1922, Aldridge proceeded to have three good consecutive years each with the Chicago Cubs and Pittsburgh Pirates. He won 15 games each year for the pennant-winning Pirates of 1925 and 1927 and, along with Ray Kremer, also won two games of the 1925 World Series. Aldridge finished with a major league career record of 97–80.



266. Don Songer: Based largely upon a 31–4 season for Enid, Oklahoma, in the Class C Western Association, Don Songer was considered a strong prospect. Disappointingly, however, the lefthander achieved only a 10–14 major league record between 1924 and 1927. For the 1926 Pirates, he was 7–8 with a 3.13 ERA. Although with the Pirates in the spring for this picture, Songer was sold to the Giants early in the 1927 season. By 1930 he was in the restaurant business in Oklahoma City.

As indicated earlier, the great majority of the baseball games that George saw in 1927 were prior to his June 11 departure for Montreal and subsequent tour of Europe. The presumption that can be drawn from this is that most probably all of the pictures taken of Coast League players in 1927 were taken before the end of the first week in June. Those included players from Oakland, Portland, and Hollywood, and a few from Sacramento.

Having finished a strong second in 1926, the Oakland Acorns (Oaks) turned out to be the class of the league in 1927. Their 14½-game margin over second-place San Francisco was almost as great as that of the American League's New York Yankees over Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics. The 1927 Oaks were solid in all phases of the game.



267. Russell “Buzz” Arlett: The dominant hitter on the Oaks was 28-year-old Buzz Arlett, now in his prime as a full-time outfielder. His 1927 statistics were typical for Arlett: .351 batting average, 30 home runs, 123 RBI in 187 games. Arlett’s consistency and productivity over his 13 years in the PCL have led R. Scott Mackey to describe him as “the most prolific power hitter in Pacific Coast League history.” He also wrote that “Arlett was more than just a hitter; he was the heart and soul of the ball club, a man who was as likeable as he was talented.”⁶



268. Joe Bratcher: Joe Bratcher started in left field for the Oaks in 1927 and contributed a .321 average with 12 home runs and 101 RBI. Although only getting four plate appearances in the major leagues, Bratcher sported a .331 career average for 12 years in the minors. He was with Oakland for principal portions of the 1924 through 1928 seasons, his only PCL affiliation.



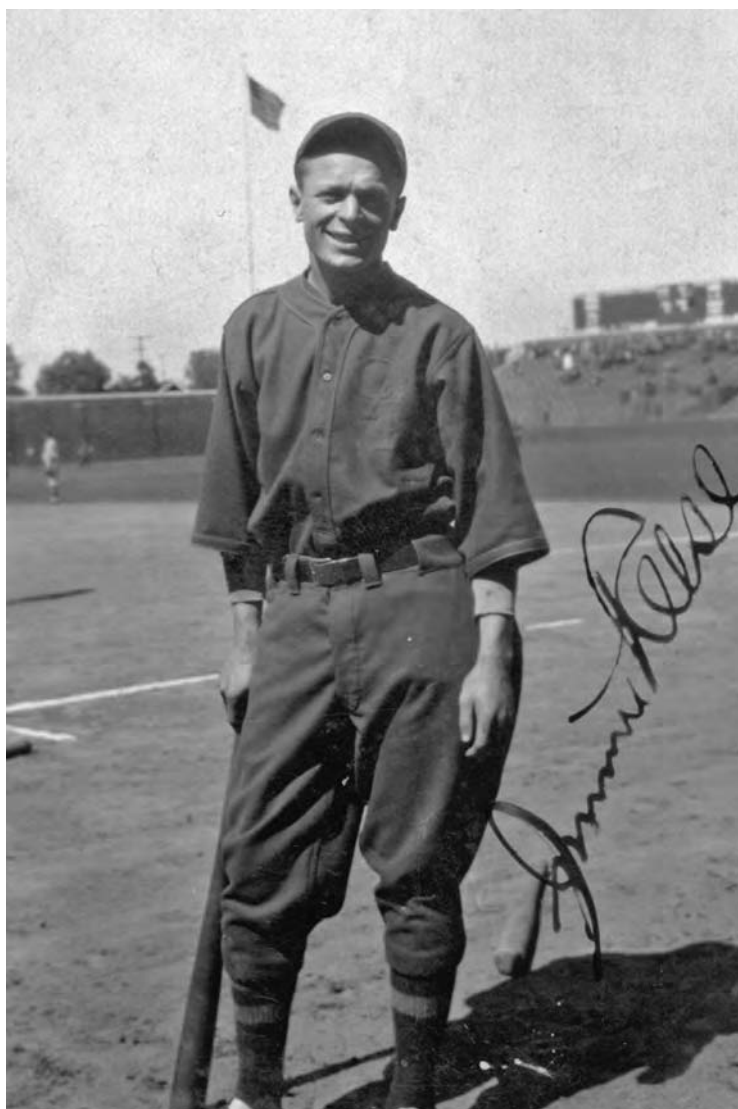
269. Ralph Shinnars: Shinnars was a dependable backup outfielder on the 1926 and 1927 Oaks. In 1927, he posted a .297 average in 313 at-bats. Shinnars had three years of limited service in the National League with his best season being with the Cardinals in 1925 when he hit .295 with seven home runs in 251 plate appearances.



270. **Gene Valla:** Another outfielder winding down his Pacific Coast League career was Gene Valla, who had been a major contributor to the dominant San Francisco teams of the early to mid 1920s. Valla appeared in only 35 games for Oakland in 1927 and hit a paltry .173.



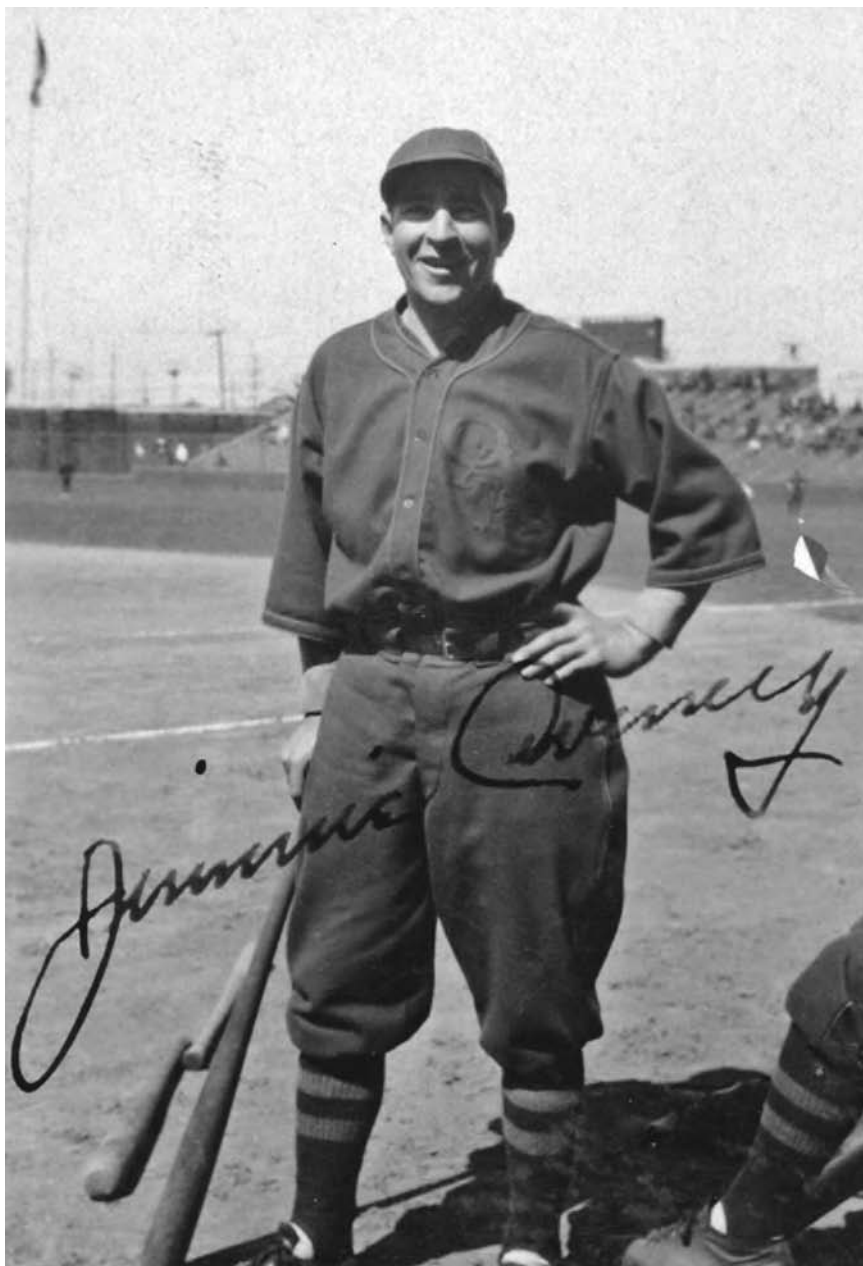
271. John "Jack" Fenton: The infield for Oakland was anchored by Jack Fenton at first base. For the season, Fenton hit .278 with 12 home runs and 110 RBI while leading the league's first basemen in fielding percentage. Fenton was a regular with the Oaks from 1925 through 1930 and later had three good years with Portland in 1931 and San Francisco in 1933 and 1934.



272. Jimmie Reese: The double-play combination for the Oaks began with second baseman Jimmie Reese. The legendary Reese, who spent 78 years in baseball, was a regular for Oakland between 1925 and 1929 even though the Yankees had purchased Reese and Lyn Lary together in January of 1928. Reese's .337 average in 1929 got him promoted to the Yankees where he spent two years in a backup role to Tony Lazzeri followed by a third year with the Cardinals before returning to the Coast League with the Angels in 1933. Reese continued to play a steady second base with Los Angeles and San Diego through the 1938 season and ended his Coast League career with a lifetime .289 batting average. Jimmie remained affiliated with baseball for the rest of his life, including a 23-year span as conditioning coach (and accomplished fungo hitter) for the California Angels from 1972 until his death in July of 1994. Among many other things, Reese is remembered for his close friendship with Babe Ruth.



273. Lyn Lary: Lary was the smooth-fielding shortstop on the Oaks who played with them from 1925 through 1928. His .314 year in 1928 got him promoted to the Yankees at age 23, and he hit .309 for them in 80 games in 1929. He was the Yankees' starting shortstop in 1930-31, batting .289 and .280, respectively, but then began to fade. Lary was traded to the Red Sox in 1934, but his best four-year period came from 1935-38 when he split time between the St. Louis Browns and Cleveland Indians. Lary finished his major league career in 1940 with a lifetime average of .269.



274. Jim "Ike" Caveney: At third base for the Oaks was Ike Caveney. Caveney had begun his 21-year playing career in 1914 and, after three solid years with San Francisco, had made it to the Cincinnati Reds by 1922. He played in 466 games over the next four years as the Reds' shortstop with his best season being 1923 when he averaged .273. Ike returned to the Coast League in 1926 and played a full season for the Oaks in 1927. He was traded to San Francisco in mid-1928 and stayed with the Seals through 1934 with his last two years being as player-manager.



275. **Lou Guisto:** Shown earlier with Oakland in 1924, Lou Guisto had lost his starting first base role to Jack Fenton by 1927. It was Guisto's last year in the league.



276. Bob Hasty: Tall righthander Bob Hasty was the only Oakland pitcher whose picture George was able to take in 1927. As noted earlier, Hasty had posted a 29–53 record with the Philadelphia As between 1919–1924 before finding himself in the Coast League with Portland and Seattle in 1925–26. His innings dropped off from 286 with Seattle in 1926, where he posted a 16–20 record, to 198 with Oakland in 1927, where he went 12–11 with a team high 4.14 ERA. By 1928, his last year with the Oaks, he was 6–7 in 123 innings.

Sacramento, Portland, and Hollywood placed fourth, fifth, and sixth behind Oakland in 1927. George was able to take several pictures of the Portland and Hollywood players but only five of the Senators, two of whom are unidentified and will be shown in Chapter 6. Sacramento had improved its record slightly from 1926 and managed to finish with an even 100 wins, while losing 95. Three of its more well-known players were old-timers Hank Severeid and Jack Knight and star pitcher Ray Keating.



277. **Henry "Hank" Severeid:** Severeid's major league career as a tough, durable catcher lasted 15 years from 1911 to 1926. His best seasons were with the St. Louis Browns from 1915 to 1925. Severeid was the Brownies' starting catcher during most of that time and hit over .300 for five straight years from 1921 to 1925. He turned 36 during the spring of 1927 when he joined Sacramento, but he experienced five more solid seasons in the PCL, hitting .341 in 597 games for Sacramento and Hollywood. Hank Severeid personified the kind of veteran professional that my father most admired.



278. John “Schoolboy” Knight: An old deadballer, Jack Knight played for four teams in the American League as a utility infielder between 1905 and 1913. He emigrated to the Coast League in 1919 and played for Seattle, Oakland, and Sacramento for seven more seasons. At the age of 41, Knight hit .311 with ten home runs in 270 at-bats as the backup first baseman for the 1927 Senators. Jack played one final season for Denver in the Western League in 1928.



279. Ray Keating: Ray Keating went 30–51 with a 3.27 ERA while pitching for New York in the American League (1912–16, 1918) and Boston in the National League (1919). He was a spitball pitcher who brought the pitch with him to Los Angeles in 1920 and for six years with Sacramento from 1925 to 1930. Keating went 20–15 for the Senators in 1927 and 27–10 in 1928, by far his two best years. He ended his career splitting the 1931 season with Seattle and Portland.

The Portland Beavers finished in fifth place in 1927, posting an even 95–95 record. They led the league in team batting average, however, and George was able to get pictures of their three leading sluggers: Elmer Smith, Frank Sigafoos, and Paul Strand. Unfortunately, three other Beavers who were photographed remain unidentified. As with the other “mystery players” from 1927, their pictures are included in Chapter 6.



280. Elmer Smith: A ten-year major league veteran, primarily with Cleveland, with a .276 career batting average, Smith had landed with Portland in the Coast League by 1926. He had three strong years with the Beavers, leading the league in home runs twice, including forty in 1927 at the age of 35. Smith is most remembered for hitting the first grand slam in World Series history off Burleigh Grimes of the Dodgers in 1920.



281. Francis "Frank" Sigafoos: Frank Sigafoos was a 23-year-old second baseman for the 1927 Beavers and contributed a .335 batting average with ten home runs. He gained limited big league exposure in 1926, 1929, and 1931, playing a variety of infield positions, but he was unable to consistently produce at the plate. From 1931 to 1938, the bulk of his time was spent in the American Association. Sigafoos ended his 14-year career with a .313 minor league batting average.



282. Paul Strand: Paul Strand had a rather unusual career beginning as a pitcher where he won 42 games in the minors and seven more for the Boston Braves in 1914 and 1915. Six of his wins for the Braves came as a 20-year-old pitching during their “miracle” year of 1914. A sore arm put Strand back in the minors in 1916, and he began the transition to the outfield. Three sensational years with Salt Lake City, including a 325-hit (.394 average) season in 1923 took him back to the majors with Connie Mack’s Philadelphia As in 1924. Unfortunately, he got off to a terrible start and was back in the minors with Toledo for the bulk of 1924. Strand arrived in Portland during the 1926 season and resumed his potent hitting. In 1927, his next-to-last in baseball, he hit .355 for the Beavers with 18 home runs and 105 RBI. Strand’s overall minor league record for 5,865 at-bats showed a batting average of .334. He hit .359 during his five-plus years in the Coast League.



283. Alford "Alf" McCurdy: Alf McCurdy split time at first base with Dud Branom in 1927 with McCurdy hitting .280 with ten home runs in 382 at-bats. In 1926, he divided time with George Lafayette, hitting .316 in 228 at-bats. Those were McCurdy's only two years in the Coast League.



284. Marvin "Red" Smith: Red Smith was a journeyman shortstop who had seen limited action for Oakland in 1923. In 1925, he appeared in 20 games for the Philadelphia Athletics but was back in the Coast League with Portland by 1926. Smith turned in a credible job that season, hitting .264 as the Beavers' starting shortstop, but by 1927 he had lost his position to the rising star, Bill Cissell.

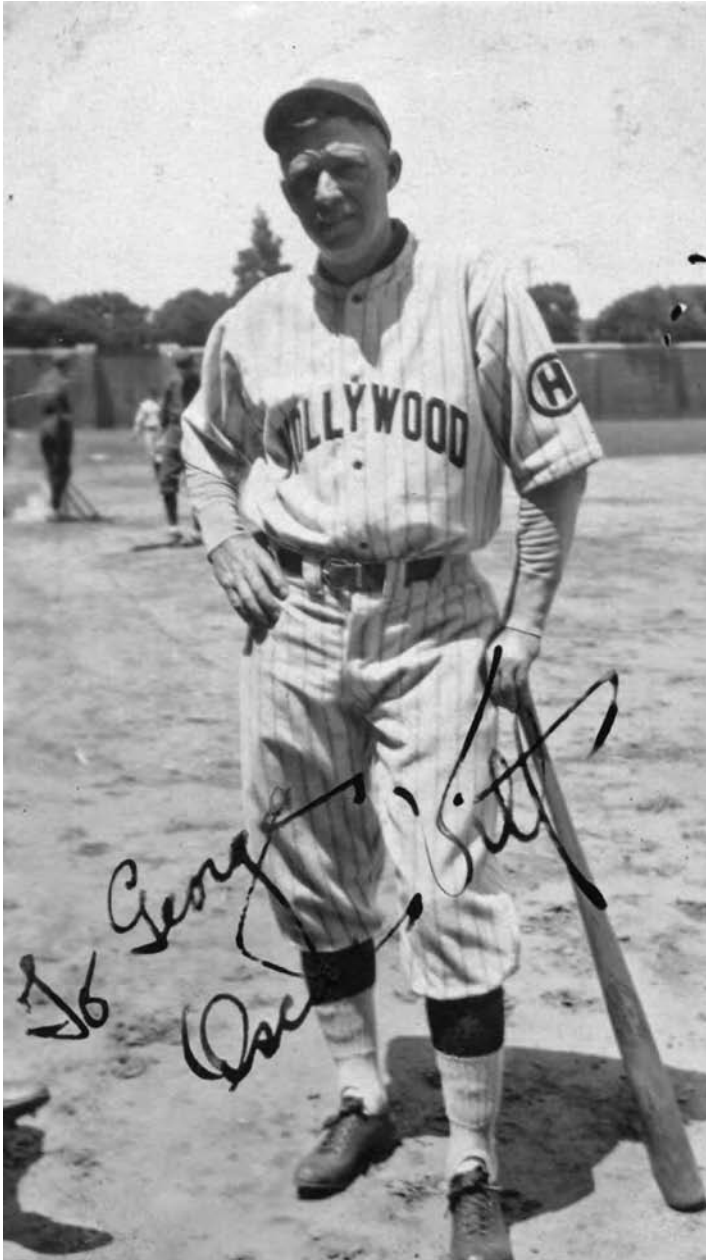


285. Ernie Johnson: Ernie Johnson was a veteran shortstop who had played ten years in the big leagues between 1912 and 1925. He had also put in a year with Salt Lake City in 1920. From 1926 to 1928, he was the player-manager for Portland and held a similar position with Seattle from 1929 to 1932 although he ceased playing in 1931. Johnson is sometimes remembered as the shortstop who replaced Swede Risberg for the White Sox in 1921.



286. Ed Tomlin: Ed Tomlin was a good-hitting pitcher for Portland from 1927 through early 1929. He went 16–9 for them the year this picture was taken and hit .304 while also occasionally playing in the outfield. In 1928, his innings pitched went down, but his number of at-bats increased to 324 as he was to hit .327 with 43 RBI.

The Hollywood Stars—or Sheiks as they were frequently called—finished in sixth place in 1927, six games behind Portland. It was the team's second year in Southern California after leaving Salt Lake City, but their fortunes had actually declined. Their 1927 record was virtually identical to their sixth-place finish of 1926. Perhaps their only satisfaction came from the even more dramatic collapse of their emerging cross-town rivals, the Los Angeles Angels, who dropped from first in 1926 to eighth in 1927, a decline of 38 games. Unfortunately, Hollywood had compounded its own difficulties by foolishly selling their leading hitter, Lefty O'Doul, to San Francisco where O'Doul would go on to lead the league in runs, hits, and total bases. Hollywood could not make up in reasonably good fielding and pitching what it lacked in punch at the plate.



287. Oscar Vitt: Ten-year big leaguer Oscar Vitt was profiled earlier in Chapter 1 while playing for Salt Lake City in 1923. He took over as player-manager in 1925 but in 1927, with the team now in Hollywood, decided to manage only. Vitt continued in that capacity with the Stars up through 1934. Beginning in 1928, the Stars had a winning record for the next seven years under Vitt, winning the pennant in 1930 and finishing second three times. Vitt won another pennant in 1937, this time with the Newark Bears of the International League, a team considered by many to be the greatest minor league team ever.



288. Frank Isbell (“The Bald Eagle”): Manager Ossie Vitt chose a couple of seasoned veterans to help as coaches, one of whom was Frank Isbell, the old Chicago White Sox infielder who had been with the Sox from 1901 through 1909 and who had contributed significantly to the White Sox World Championship team of 1906. My father always treasured the pictures he was able to take of old-timers such as Isbell.



289. Frederick "Specs" Harkness: Twelve years younger than Isbell and helping out with the pitchers was the former Cleveland (1910-11) righthander, Specs Harkness. Harkness was a native Angeleno, so he felt right at home with Hollywood.



290/291. Two pictures of Sam Agnew (one with George Outland, opposite): George was able to reunite with one of his old favorites, Sam Agnew, in 1927. Agnew came over from the San Francisco Seals during the season to help with the Stars' catching. He was now 40 years old and would stay with Hollywood through 1928 when he ended his career by hitting a robust .321 in 88 games.





292. Lester "Doc" Cook: Pictured five years earlier with Sacramento in 1922, Les Cook also did some catching for Hollywood in 1927. He was winding down his playing career but continued in the game as the long-time trainer for the San Diego Padres. "Doc" caught in only 61 games after 1927.



293. Richard "Dick" McCabe: A finesse, righthanded pitcher, McCabe played from 1914 through 1933 having a cup of coffee with Boston and Chicago in the American League for a total of 13 innings pitched. McCabe's stay in the Coast League began with Salt Lake City midway through the 1922 season and lasted until mid-1929, including the transition to Hollywood in 1926. He won 98 and lost 99 for the Bees/Stars and could always be counted on for 200-plus innings. In June of 1929, McCabe was sold to Fort Worth of the Texas League where he had two 20-win seasons. He retired after the end of 1933 with a minor league career record of 259 and 212.



294. Johnny Kerr: An outstanding second baseman, Johnny Kerr had a brief exposure to the majors with Detroit in 1923 and 1924 before finding himself with Salt Lake City in 1925. He moved with the team to Hollywood in 1926 and had three good years with the Stars. In 1928, he hit .301 with 16 homers, and that earned him a promotion to the Chicago White Sox. Kerr stayed with the Sox and Washington Senators through the 1934 season, finishing with a major league career average of .266. While with Hollywood, Kerr was also a base-stealing threat, leading the league in 1927 with 41 stolen bases.



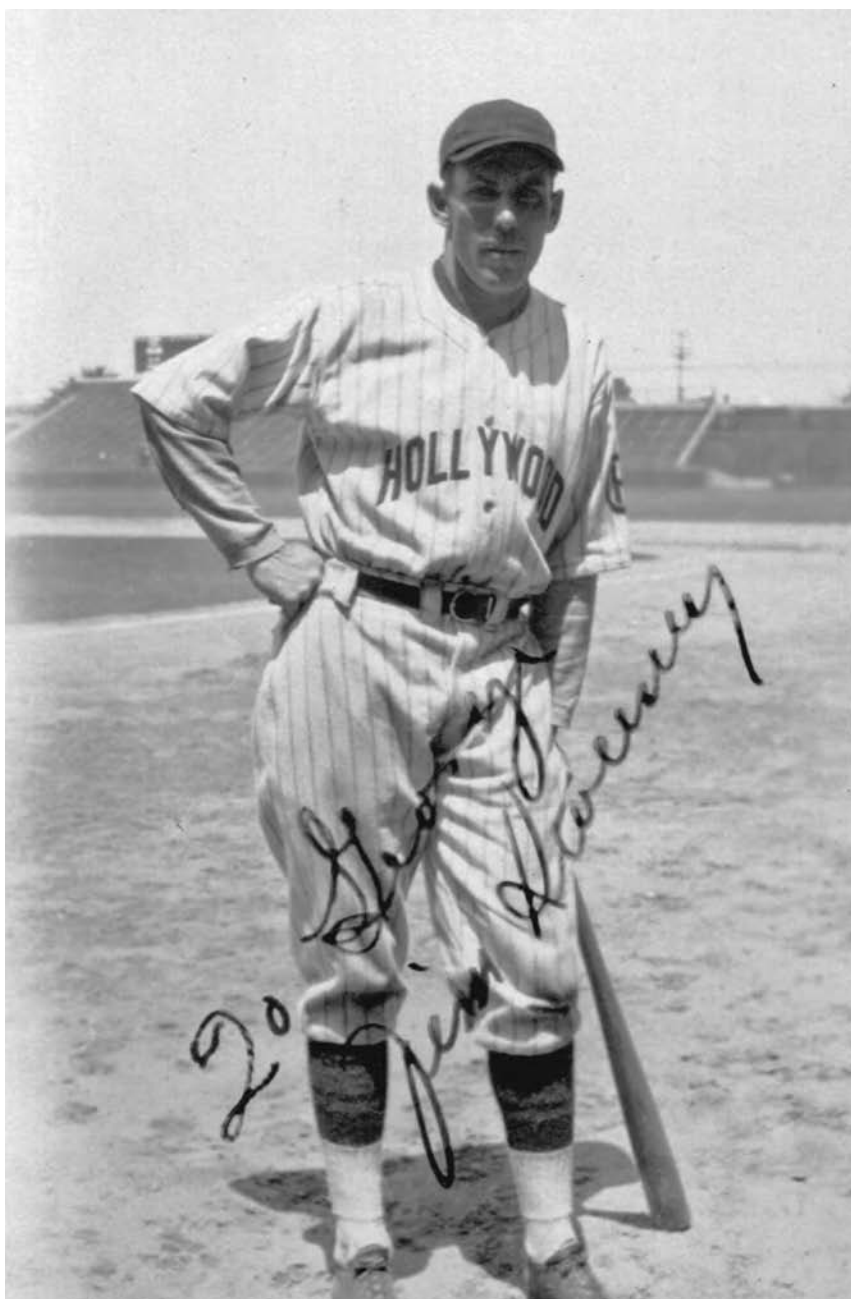
295. Dudley Lee: Along with his partner Johnny Kerr, Dud Lee helped form one of the top keystone combinations in the Coast League during the 1920s. Lee gained major league experience early in his career with the St. Louis Browns in 1920 and 1921 and the Boston Red Sox in 1924 and 1925. He was acquired by Hollywood early in the 1926 season and stayed with the Stars up through 1932 and was a fan favorite. Lee was out of the PCL from 1933 to 1935 but reemerged with Portland for three final seasons in 1936 to 1938. His minor league career totals for an even 2,600 games showed a batting average of .260, three points higher than he averaged in the Coast League for 1,667 games.



296. Les Sheehan: Les Sheehan, shown earlier with the 1922 Sacramento Senators, was a mainstay in the Coast League from 1920 through 1928, initially with Sacramento, then with Salt Lake City/Hollywood, and finally back to Sacramento for his final year in 1928. He played some infield but was primarily an outfielder and, like so many others, his batting statistics took off during his years with Salt Lake City. From 1923 through 25, Sheehan never hit below .338 while averaging 30 home runs and 129 RBI. Never in his other five years in the league did he come close to those numbers. In 1927, the year of this picture, he hit .288 with six home runs in 361 at-bats.



297. Johnny Frederick: By 1927, the lefthanded Johnny Frederick was an established star (as well as Star), although still only 26 years old. He was on the verge of an outstanding rookie year with the Dodgers in 1929 when he hit .328 with 52 doubles and 24 home runs. After playing the outfield his entire career, Johnny returned to the Coast League in 1935 as an outfielder/first baseman and for six more years continued his torrid hitting with Sacramento and Portland. He finished his minor league career with a .323 lifetime average and batted .308 during his six years with Brooklyn.



298. Jim Sweeney: For reasons that are described in the accompanying narrative, this player caught my father's fancy. He was purchased from Sacramento to help bolster the Sheiks' weak hitting and, in George's view, did exactly that although his statistics for 1927 were not overly impressive: a .251 batting average with six home runs and 24 RBI in 231 at bats. Nor did Sweeney particularly impress anyone else since he was no longer in the league by 1928. He had his moments, however, as indicated below.

A Hollywood v. Oakland game (#171 in George's log) in the late spring of 1927 was one of the last Outland attended before heading east and on to Europe. The Stars won the game, 6–5, on a walk-off home run in the 10th inning by Jim Sweeney. My father's account of this homer (#155) gives evidence that he could be excited by no-name players as well as by accomplished stars:

The name Jim Sweeney probably means very little to the average baseball fan. It probably means very little even to the patron of the Pacific Coast League.... But to me the name of Jim Sweeney conveys one lasting impression ... and memory, a 10th-inning home run which won the game just at the time when I was wanting to see it won in just that fashion.

...I had never heard of Sweeney except as a semipro player with the Shell Oil team of Long Beach.⁷ His sudden appearance in the Hollywood outfield was a surprise to me. But I instantly took a great liking to the man, for what particular reason I do not know. He was not colorful, he was not an old big league star, he was not a potential big league star. He was just an ordinary ball player, a rather poor fielder, and less of a base runner. But the way he hit! There are some men you know who look good up there at the plate whether they are hitting home runs, popping out, or fanning. You delight to watch them swing, for the sake of the swing itself. Harry Heilmann is such a man; Gabby Hartnett is another; old Art Griggs was one. And Sweeney was one. Sacramento may have released him for weak plate work, but on the first few occasions that I saw him such action looked like the height of folly. Jim pounded drive after drive to right center field, against the low bleacher wall or just over the head of the second baseman. But whether the ball landed safely or not, Jim was a pleasure to watch at the plate. And it was not long before he was batting number four in the Star lineup.

Soon I began to root with all my power for a home run by Sweeney. I longed for such a hit just as I was longing for such a drive from the bat of Hank Severeid and other former big league stars. ...Jim always fell just short of such a hit. He piled up double after double, but alas the home runs came when I was not a spectator at Wrigley Field. Such ill luck, however, could not last forever. Sweeney was hitting too many homers, and I was spending too much time at the games to perpetuate this lack of coordination.

Game number 171 was one of the last I saw before going East and seeing REAL big league home runs. Charlie and Raymond were with me, and we watched interestedly as Hollywood and Oakland tussled that hot afternoon.... The game was 5–5 going into the 9th, and it was the same when the 9th was past. Oakland failed to score in the first half of the 10th, and a new pitcher, Big Bob Hasty, went in to pitch. Hasty threw just one ball, just one. He threw it to Sweeney, and Jim kissed it square on the nose. It lined out to right field, rose, and kept rising, and hit with a thud against the brick wall on the other side of the right field screen. ...The game was Hollywood's, 6–5, and Jim Sweeney had won it with a homer.

After the game, when Charlie and Raymond and I were going up town, the former nudged me and pointed to a man smiling at me across the aisle. I looked. It was Harry Williams, president of the Pacific Coast League. I smiled back at him, a very broad smile. We could afford to smile at each other, because had we not both just seen Jim Sweeney hit a home run?

The bulk of my father's summer of 1927 was taken up with a ten-week trip to Europe as part of a Whittier College excursion. George was allowed to participate by his father, Elmer, if George agreed to complete his education at Whittier rather than transfer to Southern California. George needed little additional incentive.

The trip occurred in three segments, the first being the trip across country (June

11–23) to rendezvous with the rest of the Whittier group in Montreal; the second (June 24–August 14) being the actual tour of Europe, including the sea voyages to and from; and the third being the trip back west from New York City (August 15–August 20). On this adventure George not only kept a diary, along with taking many photographs, but he also sent back daily updates to the *Santa Paula Chronicle* that were published under the title “Local Boy Writes of his World Tour for the *Chronicle*.” The “world” in this case consisted of what we would now call Western Europe.

Also this time, my father, four months shy of his 21st birthday, was traveling east on his own. He planned the trip so as to maximize the number of big league ball-games that could be seen, and, for that reason, went several days ahead of the rest of the Whittier party and by an entirely different route.

After an evening spent in Kansas City with the John Outland family, George reached St. Louis by the morning of Wednesday, June 15. The city was eagerly preparing for the triumphant homecoming of Charles Lindbergh on Saturday. As for George, he attended his first ballgame of the trip that Wednesday afternoon, pitting the Cardinals against the New York Giants. Unfortunately for Dad, who was rooting especially for Rogers Hornsby of the Giants, Jesse Haines shut out the New York team on two hits, and only Billy Southworth homered for the Cardinals. However,

...those stands looked so close and beckoning, and I realized that Jesse Haines would not pitch the following day! So I changed my trip calculations and decided to remain over in St. Louis another day in the hope of seeing Hornsby hit a homer.

The game was the climax to a great all-around day. I was at the park hours before the game was scheduled to start and snapped pictures of Bottomley, Haines, Frisch, and other Cardinals.⁸ And then, almost before I knew it, the game was on.

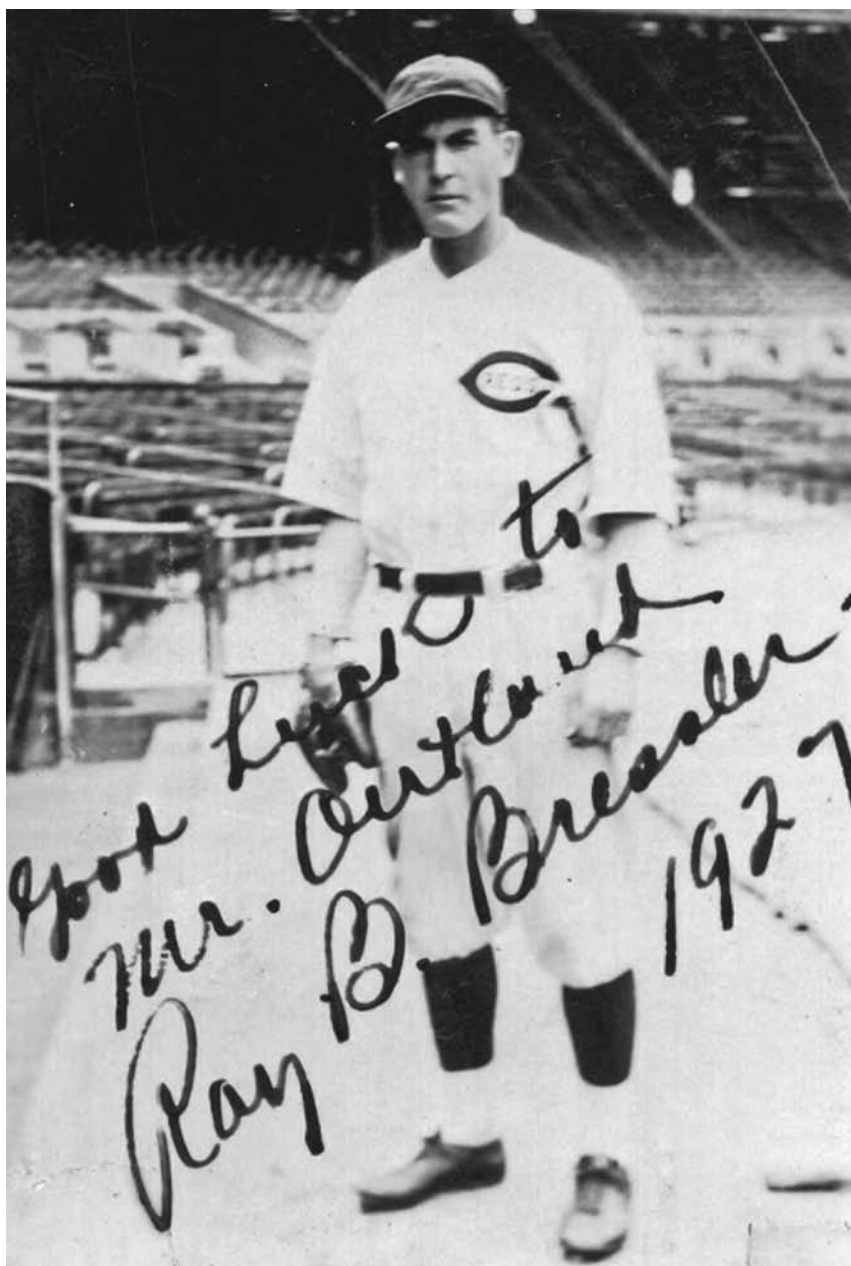
I soon realized that it was not to be another pitching duel. St. Louis started off with the lead, but the Giants were hitting. Hornsby singled in the first inning; he had his eye on the ball. In the third inning he came up for the second time and found the Giants behind. Someone was on base, Freddie Lindstrom I think it was, after a long single, I gripped my seat in hope but not in expectation. The one thing which I wanted to see above all others was almost a 50–1 shot. It was too much to hope for. But wait!

The very first pitch was good, and Hornsby swung. The instant the ball was hit I realized that it was a homer. “By golly, he did it!” I said right out loud, although no one heard me in the din. The ball was labeled homer at the first instant; I never doubted it. But I did not realize it was such a long wallop. It went out toward right center toward the pavilion. But it did not enter the lower pavilion; I thought for an instant it had entered the right. But no, it kept soaring, landed on the roof of the stands, took one big bounce, and hopped on over onto Grand Avenue. It was a tremendously long swat for a righthanded hitter. It eventually meant the game to the Giants. But to me it was a wonderful start to my European trip. A homer by Hornsby. And my 50–1 shot had panned out.

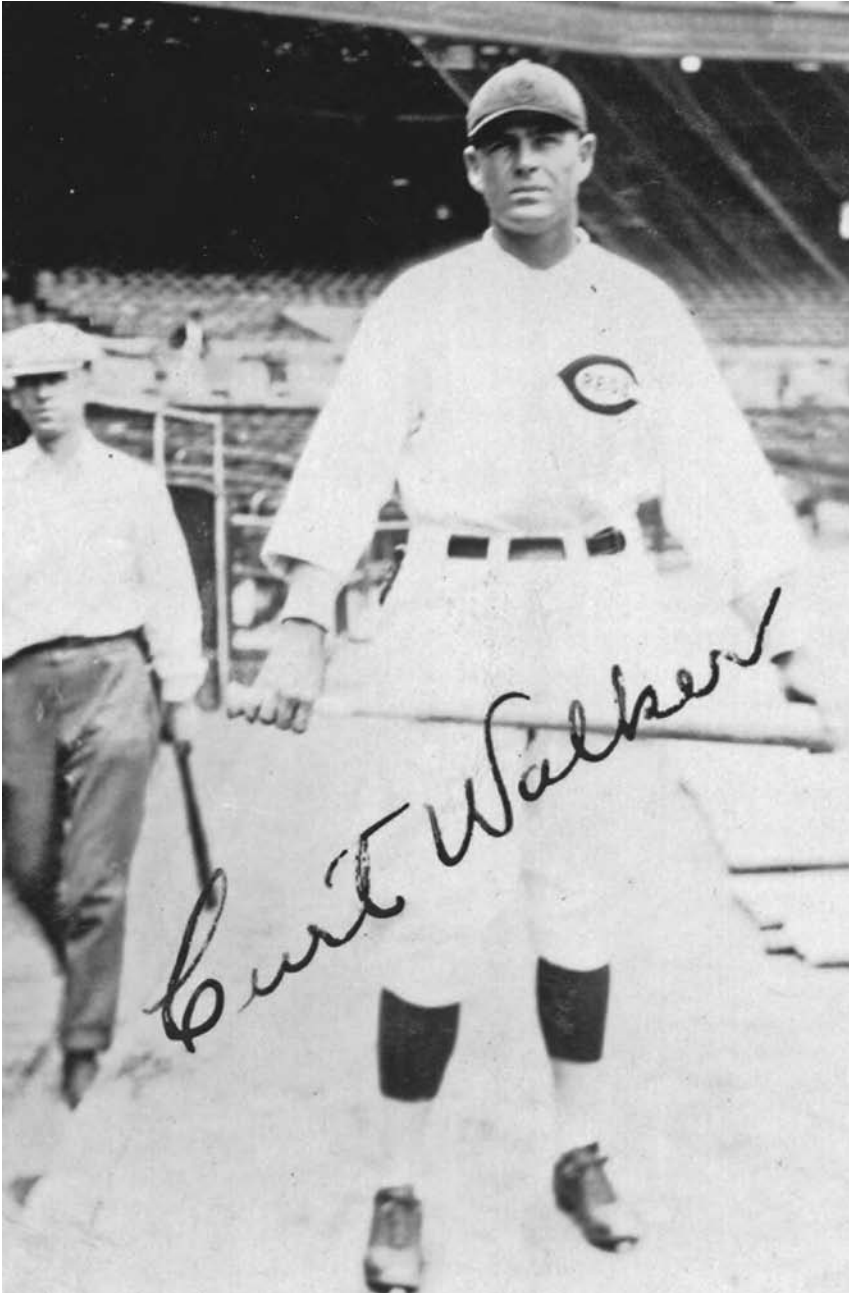
That night I cuddled down into the upper berth of my Pullman, Cincinnati bound. In the berth were all of the evening papers I could lay my hands on. Hornsby was the name screaming from all the sports headlines, for the Rajah had made 3 singles in addition to his homer. I smiled happily and, as the train roared on toward the Ohio River, my thoughts were most joyous. A homer by Hornsby. Surely St. Louis was a nice town.⁹

On June 17, George was in Cincinnati to see a game at Redland Field between the Dodgers and the Reds. There were no homers in what was a rather boring contest

from George's standpoint, but he was able to take pictures of virtually the entire Cincinnati team prior to the game as well as Dazzy Vance of the Dodgers. What is interesting about the Reds' pictures is that the autographs on some of them, for example Wally Pipp's and Rube Bressler's, have obviously been signed by the same person, while the rest (e.g., Eppa Rixey's and Ethan Allen's) appear to be genuine. Clearly, George must have sent the developed photos to the Cincinnati team, and some of the players took his request for an autograph seriously while others did not. Such has probably always been the fate of the autograph seeker although the fact that George got the pictures back at all is also of interest. In most instances, he was able to protect against fake signatures by taking the pictures with him to subsequent games to have them autographed personally.



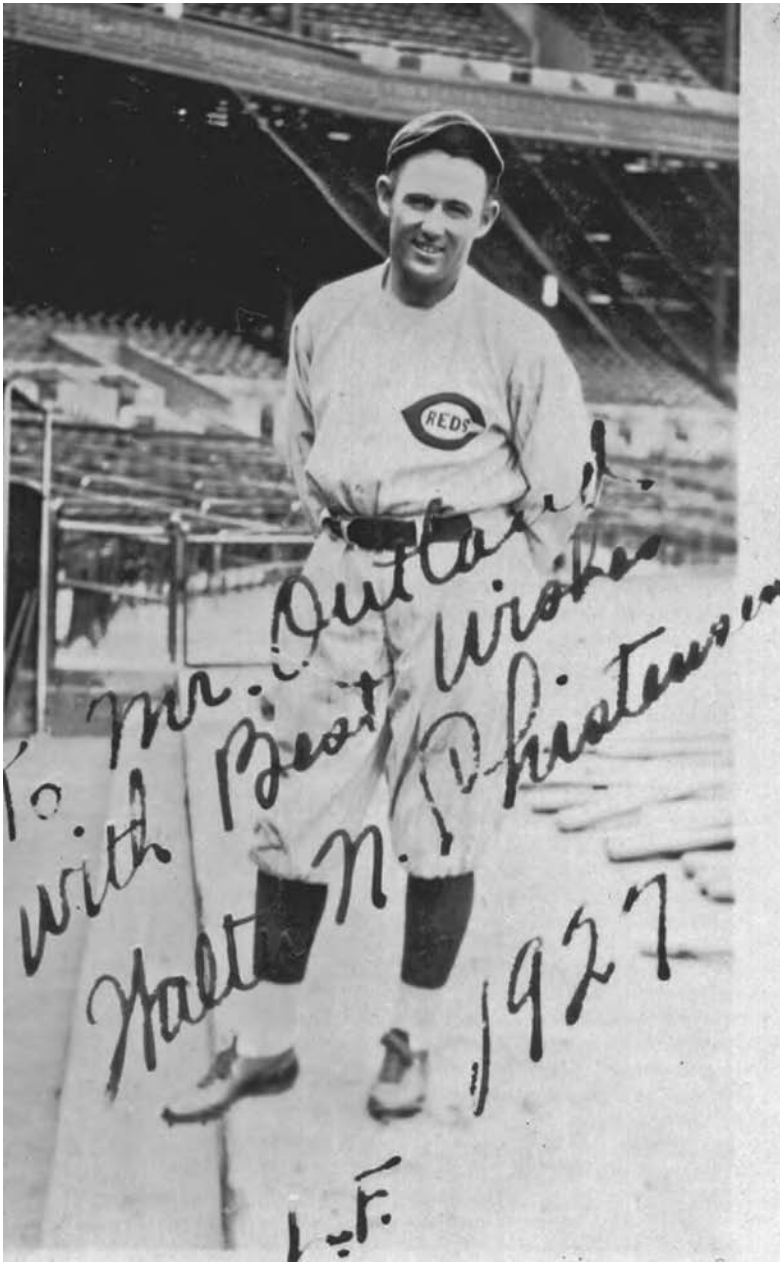
299. Raymond “Rube” Bressler: Rube Bressler started his career as a pitcher and won ten games as a rookie for the World Champion Philadelphia As in 1914. His pitching tailed off after that although he did go 12–9 for Cincinnati between 1918 and 1920. Bressler essentially reinvented himself as a first baseman/outfielder and, in 1921, had the first of his five .300-plus seasons. Rube played with the Reds through 1927 before being traded to Brooklyn where he had four more productive years. He ended his career in 1932 with a lifetime .301 batting average.



300. Curt “Honey” Walker: A speedy lefthanded outfielder, Curt Walker began his major league career with one at-bat for the Yankees in 1919. He had a breakthrough year with the Philadelphia Phillies in 1922 when he hit .337 with 12 home runs and 89 RBI. Walker was traded to the Reds during the 1924 season and was a regular for them through 1930. He finished with a career average of .304 which included 117 triples. Walker grew up and died in Beeville, Texas—hence the nickname “Honey.”



301. Ethan Allen: Another career .300 hitter, Allen was a highly educated man with a master's degree from Columbia. His entire career was spent in the majors, running from 1926 to 1938. In his first full year with Cincinnati, 1927 (the year of this picture), he hit .295 in 111 games. Allen later played with the Giants, Cardinals, Phillies, and Cubs in the National League and ended his career with the Browns in the American League. He went on to become the baseball coach at Yale for 21 years as well as authoring several books on baseball techniques.



302. Walter “Seacap” or “Cuckoo” Christensen: Cuckoo Christensen was a centerfielder who played in 171 games for the Reds in 1926 and 1927, his one experience in the major leagues. He hit .350 but with no power in 1926 in 329 at-bats. His average dropped to .254 in 185 at-bats in 1927. Christensen resurfaced with the Mission team in the Coast League in 1929–30 and was their regular centerfielder during 1929 when he hit .319, but again with no homers. The nickname “Cuckoo” came from Christensen’s occasional antic, on-field behavior.¹⁰



303. **Bill Zitzmann:** After a brief “cup of coffee” in the majors in 1918 and 1919, Zitzmann returned to the minors before reemerging with the Reds for five years beginning in 1925. In 1927, he hit .284 in 88 games and raised that to .297 in 101 games in 1928, his best season. Needless to say, Zitzmann is one of the few men in *The Baseball Encyclopedia* with two z’s in his name, especially if one disregards all those named Gonzalez!



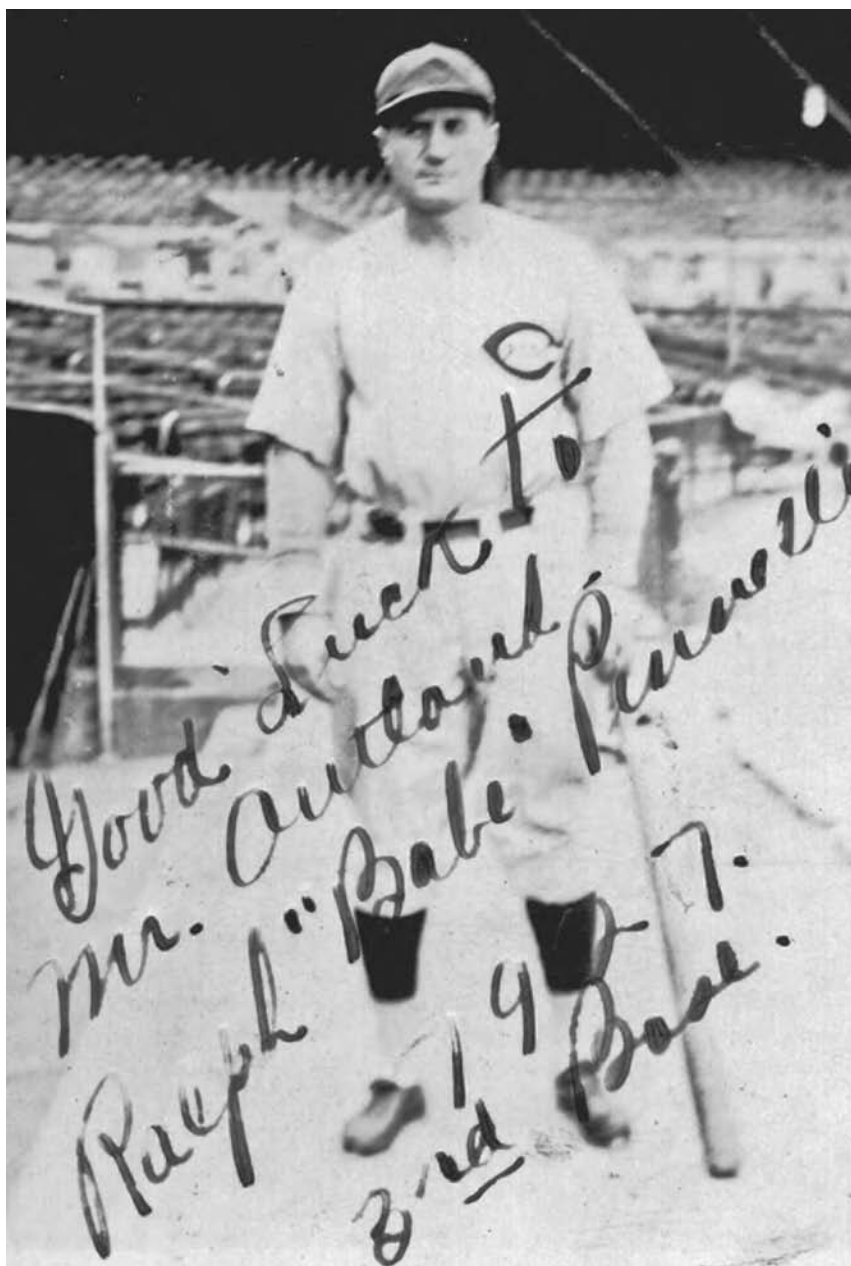
304. Walter “Wally” Pipp: 1927 was Wally Pipp’s next-to-last year in the majors, a career that began in 1913. From 1915 to mid-1925, he was the good-fielding, solid-hitting first baseman for the New York Yankees. Prone to headaches, Pipp was given a day off in early June 1925 and replaced by Lou Gehrig. Gehrig’s performance plus a concussion suffered from a beaming in batting practice sealed Pipp’s fate. He was sold to Cincinnati for the 1926 season and stayed with the Reds through 1928. He retired following a year with Newark of the International League in 1929. Pipp’s 1925 experience has ever since served as a cautionary tale to players who withdraw themselves from the lineup. One does not wish to get “Pipped.”



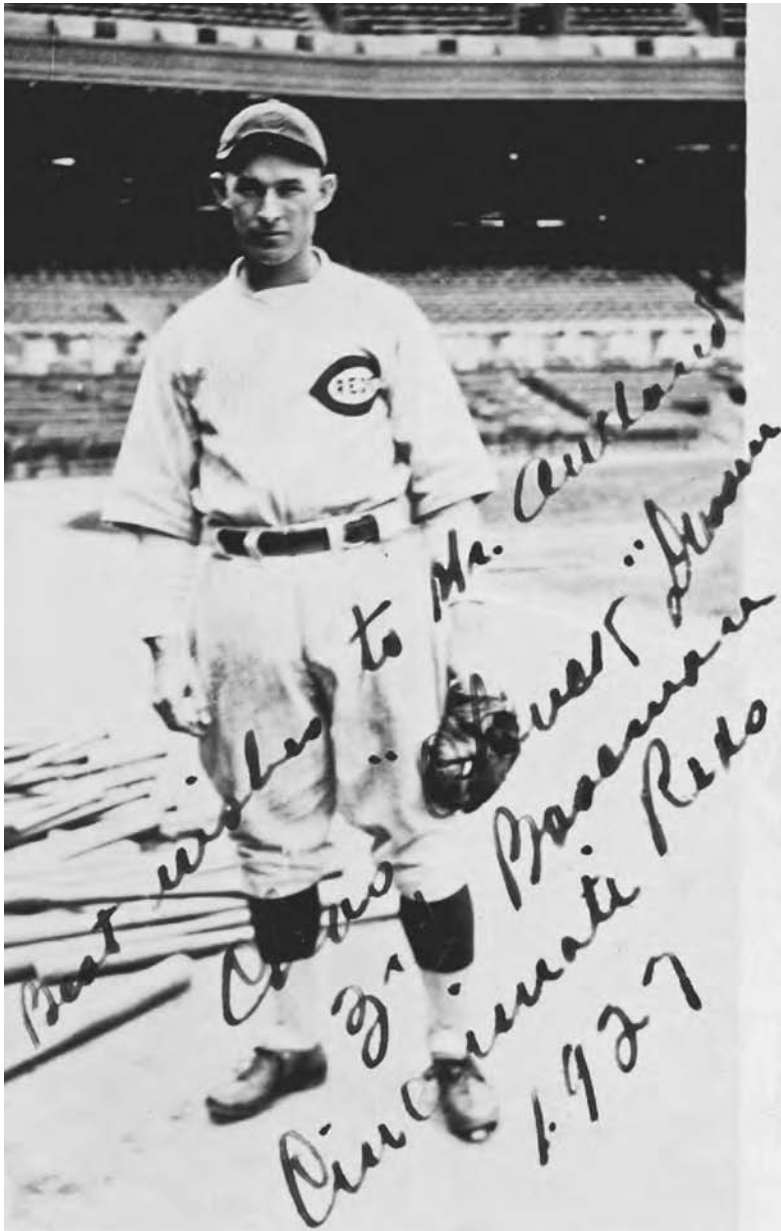
305. Hugh “Hughie” Critz: Second baseman Hughie Critz’s twelve years in the National League were divided between the Cincinnati Reds and the New York Giants. He established himself during his rookie season of 1924 by hitting .322. Never again a .300 hitter, Critz nevertheless was a tough out in his almost 6,000 at-bats in the league. A Mississippian, Critz supposedly loved to tell stories about baseball in the south.¹¹



306. Paul "Pee Wee" Wanninger: Another southerner (Alabaman), the 5'7" Wanninger played only two years in the big leagues. He was brought up in 1925 to help bolster the Yankee infield at shortstop and, in 1927, split time between the Boston Red Sox and Cincinnati. He happened to be with the Reds on that June 1927 day when George came through town.



307. **Ralph "Babe" Pinelli:** Pinelli had his first exposure to the major leagues with Chicago and Detroit of the American League in 1918 and 1920. In 1922, he became the starting third baseman for Cincinnati and had a fine year, hitting .305 in 156 games. He was a regular through the 1925 season after which his playing time dropped off. Pinelli appeared in only 30 games in 1927, his last year as a player. He went on to spend 22 more years (1935–1956) as a National League umpire and was working the plate on his final day when Don Larsen threw his perfect game in the 1956 World Series.



308. Charles "Chuck" Dressen: Aside from a few games with the New York Giants in 1933, Chuck Dressen spent his entire eight-year major league career with Cincinnati. A versatile player, the 5'5½" Dressen even played three years of professional football. For the Reds, he essentially took over the third base position from Babe Pinelli in 1926. His best year was 1927, the year of this picture, when he hit .292 in 144 games. Dressen is most remembered for his up-and-down managerial career where he skippered five different major league teams over a 16-year period between 1934 and 1966. The 1952 and 1953 Dodgers were his only pennant winners.



309. Val Picinich: Val Picinich managed to stick in the major leagues for 18 years as a dependable backup catcher. The bulk of his time was spent with Washington and Boston of the American League (1918–25). Ninety-six games were the most he appeared in during any single season, and that occurred in 1928 with the Reds when he hit .302, his highest season average. Picinich had the distinction of catching three no-hitters during his career, each with a different team and all prior to his three-year (1926–28) stay with the Reds.



310. Carl "Sub" Mays: Known primarily as the man whose pitch killed Ray Chapman in 1920, Mays was a tough and intimidating righthanded submarine-style pitcher. He had a 15-year major league career in which he won 207 and lost 126 with an outstanding ERA of 2.92. Mays had five seasons where he won 20 or more games and one more (1926) where he won 19. By 1927, however, his career was beginning to ebb. Mays is shown here holding a bat, which is only appropriate since he was a capable hitter who sported a .268 lifetime batting average.



311. Eppa Rixey: A graduate of the University of Virginia, the 6'5" Eppa Rixey had an exclusively major league career which lasted 21 years from 1912 to 1933 with a year out for the war in 1918. The lefthander pitched for two teams only, the Philadelphia Phillies and the Cincinnati Reds. His career record stood at 266 wins, 251 losses, and an ERA of 3.15. Rixey had four 20 win seasons and two seasons where he lost more than 20. A work-horse and fierce competitor who pitched until the age of 42, Rixey had 12 seasons where he pitched at least 200 innings. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963 shortly after his death in February of that same year.



312. Adolfo “Dolf” Luque, “The Pride of Havana”: The righthanded, Cuban-born Dolf Luque had a major league pitching career that lasted almost as long as Eppa Rixey’s. After a limited stay with the Boston Braves in 1914 and 1915, Luque caught on for good with the Reds in 1918 and pitched for them for 12 years. Later he pitched five more full seasons, two with Brooklyn and three with the Giants. Luque had his best year with the Reds in 1923 when he went 27–8 with a 1.93 ERA. For his career he was 193–179 with a 3.24 ERA.

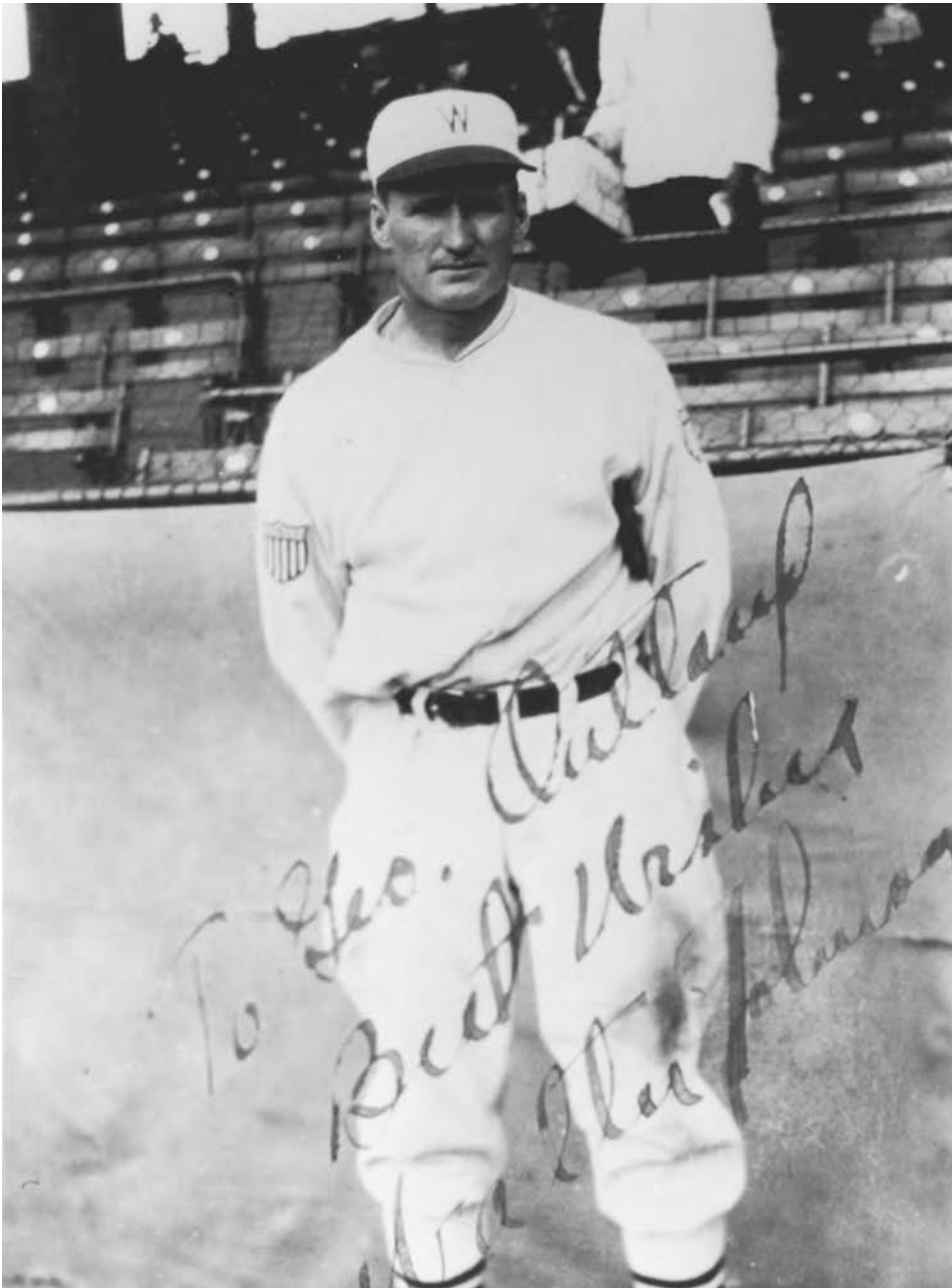


313. **Grover Land:** Coaching for the 1927 Reds was former deadball era catcher Grover Land. Land played for Cleveland, without great distinction, between 1908 and 1913 but had his best year in 1914 with Brooklyn in the Federal League. It would be surprising if there are many pictures of Land available.

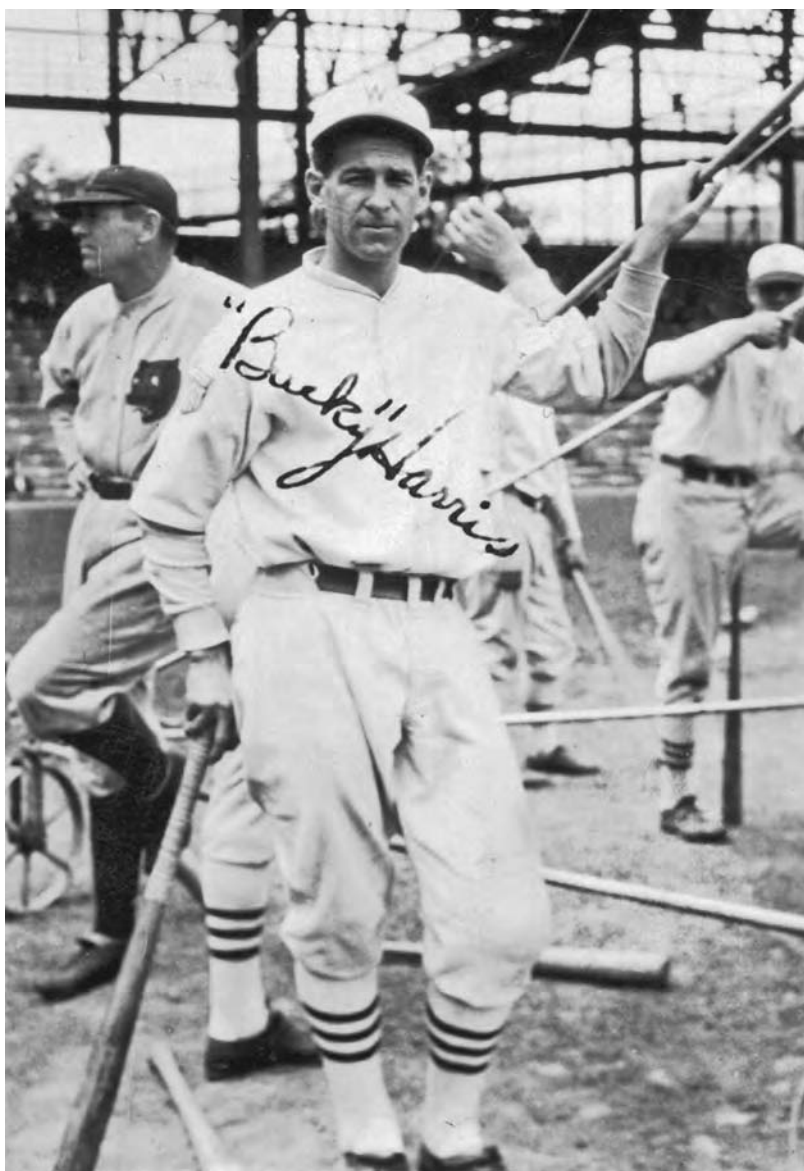


314. Clarence "Dazzy" Vance: The one Dodger whom George was able to photograph this June day in 1927 was a good one. Dazzy Vance had been a failure in two early appearances in the big leagues in 1915 and 1918. In fact, Vance spent nearly ten years knocking around the minors before establishing himself with Brooklyn in 1922 at the age of 31. For the next ten years, Vance was an overpowering strikeout pitcher, leading the league in K's for seven straight years from 1922 through 1928. In 1924 and 1925, he was a combined 50–15 with 483 strikeouts. Vance continued to pitch, at the age of 44, through the 1935 season. He ended his Hall of Fame career with 197 major league victories, all achieved after the age of 31.

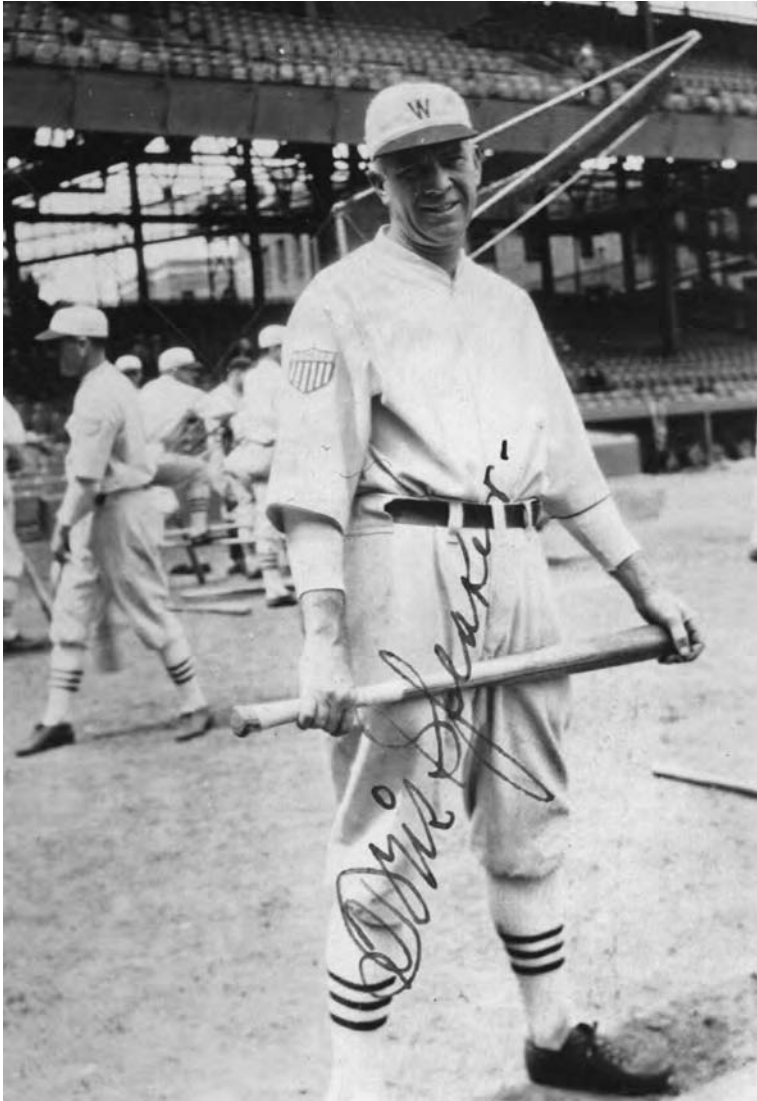
Leaving Cincinnati, George moved on to Washington and Philadelphia in pursuit of ballgames although rainy weather was his constant companion. In Washington on June 18, he was able to squeeze in a game between the Tigers and the Senators but saw only one home run, a ninth-inning inside-the-park blast by Jackie Tavener. George's expectations had not been great, however, given the size of Griffith Stadium, and he was able to go on the field before the game to take some really nice photos of Walter Johnson, Bucky Harris, Tris Speaker, Goose Goslin, Joe Judge, and Harry Heilmann, all but Judge now in the Hall of Fame. It is rather interesting to note in these pictures the rather rickety background that Griffith Stadium presents. See the Judge picture especially.



315. Walter “The Big Train” Johnson: George had taken Johnson’s picture at Brea in 1924 but had another opportunity in 1927. It was the last year of Johnson’s spectacular career, as he went 5–6 with an uncharacteristically high ERA of 5.08. For his career, Johnson won 417 games with an ERA of 2.17. He was clearly one of George’s heroes probably as much for his character as his athletic ability. At some point, George had also acquired from Johnson an 8 × 10 personally autographed picture of Johnson in a business suit.



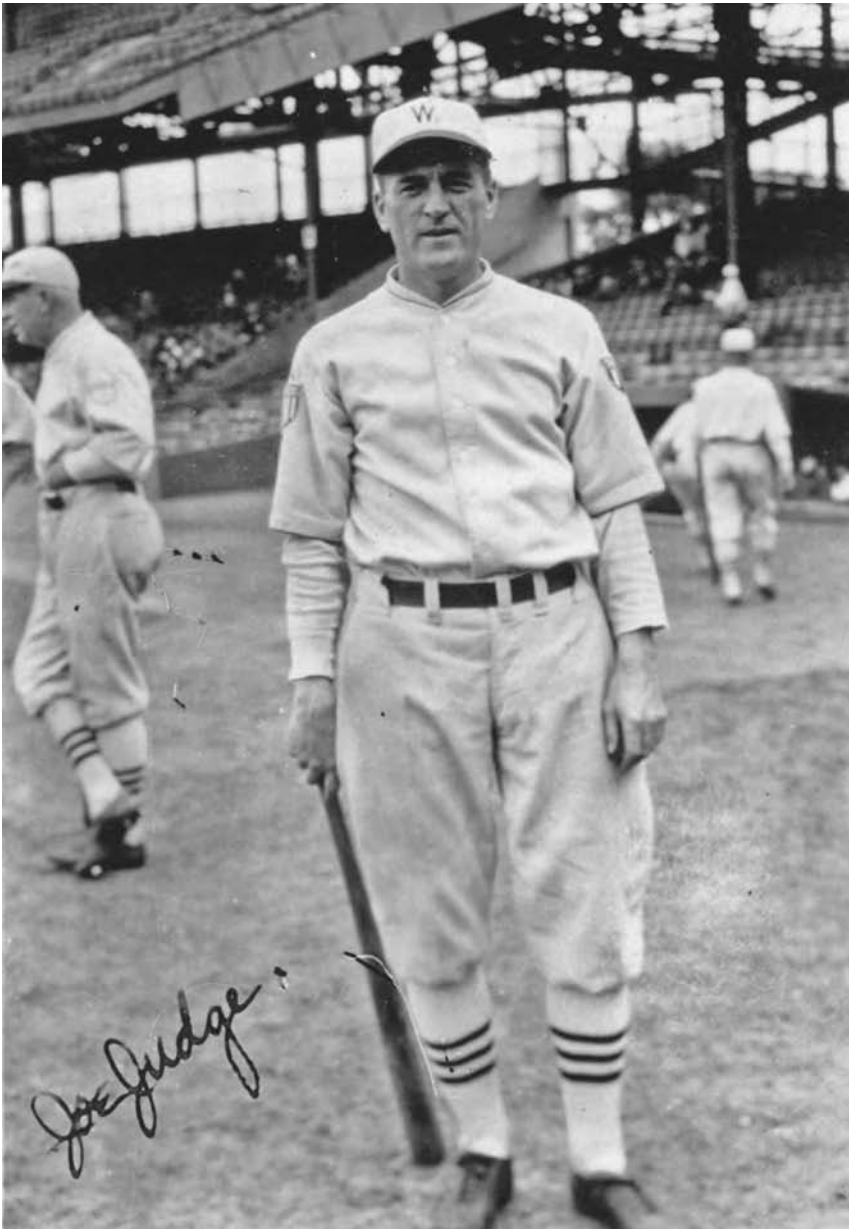
316. Stanley "Bucky" Harris (with Harry Heilmann in the background): Second baseman Bucky Harris had a playing career that ran from 1919 to 1931 although his last two years saw him make only a few token appearances. He was a good and steady fielder who generally hit in the .280s, but it was as a manager, and initially as a player-manager, that Bucky achieved his greatest success. As a 27-year-old, he led Washington to its first pennant in 1924 and then repeated the feat the next year. He later managed the Tigers, the Red Sox, the Phillies, and the Yankees as well as two more periods with the Senators, but, with the exception of the world champion 1947 Yankees, his teams seldom finished out of the second division. However, Harris was well liked and respected throughout the baseball world, and he was elected to the Hall of Fame as a manager in 1975.



317. Tris “Spoke,” “The Grey Eagle” Speaker: Clearly one of the greatest players in baseball history, Tris Speaker was among the eight original inductees into baseball’s Hall of Fame in 1937. His career was somewhat slow to get started, but it took off in 1909 with the Boston Red Sox. Speaker excelled offensively and defensively for the Red Sox for the next seven seasons, helping to lead them to the 1912 and 1915 World Series titles. In 1916 he was traded to Cleveland where he spent another eleven spectacular seasons, including winning the 1916 A.L. batting title (over Ty Cobb) and leading the Indians in 1920 as a player-manager to a World Championship. Speaker spent one year with Washington in 1927 when George was able to take this picture. Even at the age of 39, Spoke hit .327 while playing 141 games. Speaker’s final season as a player was with the Philadelphia A’s in 1928. He finished his career with a lifetime batting average of .344 and the distinction of being considered one of the greatest fielding centerfielders of them all.



318. **Leon "Goose" Goslin:** The lefthanded hitting Goslin's career lasted 18 years, from 1921–1938, and included three separate tours of duty with the Washington Senators. The Goose's best years came with the Senators from 1924 through 1928 when his lowest batting average was .334. In contrast to Walter Johnson and Tris Speaker, who were winding down their careers in 1927, Goslin was in his prime and would be productive for another ten years. He played in a total of 32 World Series games, three series with Washington and two with Detroit, and averaged .287. For his career, he hit .316 and had eleven seasons with more than 100 RBI. Goslin had an infectious love of the game, and it is appropriate that he was elected into the Hall of Fame in 1968, three years prior to his death at the age of 70.



319. Joe Judge: Of all the players that George photographed on this June 18 day of 1927, Judge is the only one not in the Hall of Fame — and his numbers make him worthy of consideration. Although short in stature (5'8½") as first basemen go, Judge was a excellent gloveman with a lifetime fielding average over twenty seasons of .993. While not a power hitter, Judge's .298 career batting average included over 1,000 RBI and 433 doubles. Judge played 18 years for the Washington Senators, an accomplishment in itself, and later stayed on in Washington to coach the Georgetown University team for another twenty years.



320. Harry “Slug” Heilmann : A fellow Californian by birth and playing background, Harry Heilmann was one of George’s favorite players. After a strong season with the San Francisco Seals in 1915, Heilmann’s career with the Detroit Tigers commenced in 1916. It really took off in 1921, however, when Ty Cobb became the player-manager of the Tigers and assisted Heilmann with his hitting mechanics. Heilmann won the American League batting titles in the odd years of 1921, 1923, 1925, and 1927 with a remarkable composite average of .397. Traded to Cincinnati at the end of 1929 when he hit “only” .344, Harry hit .333 for the Reds in 1930, his final season of full-time activity. Following his playing career, Heilmann became one of the first premier athletes to achieve success in the broadcast booth. He was the regular Detroit Tigers announcer from 1934 to 1951 and was extremely popular with both fans and players. Heilmann was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1952, one year after his death from lung cancer at the age of 56.

By June 21, George was in Philadelphia, and the rain had subsided enough so that he was able to get in a doubleheader at Shibe Park between the Senators and the As. The games were exciting, but there were no homers, and the big disappointment was that Ty Cobb was restricted to the coaching box because of a bad ankle. This, as it turned out, was George's only chance to see Cobb play, and it didn't happen. While Cobb did not qualify as one of his heroes, probably because of too many character flaws, George did speak of him with considerable deference, referring to him in his *Santa Paula Chronicle* dispatches as either "Mr. Cobb" or "T. Raymond."

More rain greeted George in New York on June 22, and his trip to the Polo Grounds was in vain. "Oh, how I hate rain" was the lead sentence sent back to the *Chronicle*. As was the case at other stops and in between ballgames, George did some sightseeing, went to movies, and wrote long letters home to his sweetheart, Virginia ("Ginnie") Stevenson. He also talked about her in his travel diary: "When I get home from Europe, I'll never leave her again, even if all the baseball games in the world happened to be the reward." Clearly, George was serious about this woman!

By June 23 George had arrived in Montreal and met up with his Whittier friends prior to their sailing for Glasgow, Scotland. The time from July 1, their arrival in Scotland, until August 5, their departure for home from Havre, France, was spent visiting England, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and France. There was not a lot of baseball being played in these places, but the trip was an eye-opening one for George from a political standpoint. His dispatches back to the *Santa Paula Chronicle* were remarkably prescient for a twenty-year-old. Three short examples are typical.

July 13, and his first impressions in Germany:

...France had better adopt a different attitude in her relations with her former enemy or there will be an 1870 repeated one of these days.... There is a certain foreboding in the stubbornness and grimness with which Germany is working, and [this] bodes no good for France.¹²

July 14, on the Rhine. First impressions strengthened even more:

As we passed by the Lorelei, the Germans on board broke into their song of the same name, and continued to sing for an hour or more. Their old folk songs are beautiful.... It again made some of us realize that perhaps the Germans were not entirely Huns after all. And I am more firm in my opinion of yesterday that France is making a mistake in her treatment of Germany. French soldiers stroll throughout the streets of Coblenz and every few minutes a car full of them will dash by. And the furtive looks of those little German boys—the German men of a few years hence—bode no good.¹³

July 28, on viewing an Italian newsreel in Genoa:

There is no use talking—Europe is going to be embroiled in another family quarrel inside of ten years. They live too close together over here; there are too many traditional enmities; there is too much national hatred for them to live at peace very long. The national sports seem to consist in the competition in the construction of bigger battle-ships and armies. A real peace conference could accomplish a great deal, but some of these fellows don't want peace.¹⁴

The ocean voyage home lasted from the evening of August 5 until Sunday, August 14. Upon reaching the United States, George was able to see one baseball game at

Philadelphia's Baker Bowl between the Phillies and the Boston Braves, with home runs by Jack Fournier and Jimmy Wilson, before heading west via New Orleans on August 16. While George did not take any pictures of ballplayers in Philadelphia, he was able to take a rather grainy photograph of the famous "Lifebuoy" billboard along Baker Bowl's right field fence.



321. Baker Bowl, 1927: First opened in 1887, Baker Bowl was the home of the Philadelphia Phillies until 1938. It was well past its prime in 1927 but was noteworthy in part because of its distinctive 40-foot-high right field wall (raised to 60 feet in 1929) adorned by the famous "Lifebuoy" sign. On the left hand side of the sign is the notation that "The Phillies use Lifebuoy," to which one wag is reported to have responded "because boy do they stink." The ramshackle park was torn down in 1950.

The latter part of the 1927 season saw George at a few final Pacific Coast League games as well as a late October barnstorming exhibition game at Wrigley Field between the "Bustin' Babes" and the "Larrupin' Lous." It was the first time that Outland had seen Lou Gehrig homer, and he hit two, the first one being "one of the longest and most wonderful homers I have ever seen." It was hit directly over the center field wall at Wrigley and supposedly traveled about 500 feet. Unfortunately, George's full page memo describing this homer has been lost. We're left simply with his summary account: "What a beaut." It was a fitting way for the 1927 season to end for George, and it portended many more major league thrills to come.

5. “Bawdy Boston,” 1928–1930

1928

The spring of 1928 was an eventful one for my father as he was completing his final semester at Whittier. March was a particularly significant month as a result of two non-baseball related events. In the late evening of March 12, there occurred a break in the St. Francis Dam, one of the main water sources for the Los Angeles region of Southern California. The collapse of the dam, less than two full years after its completion, still ranks behind only the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire in the annals of California catastrophes. Over 400 people were killed or unaccounted for, and much of the fertile Santa Clara Valley, including low-lying areas in Santa Paula, suffered extensive damage. Since he was away at college at the time, George did not experience the disaster directly, but his brother Charles, who was living at the family ranch, did witness the destruction and several years later would write what is generally considered to be the definitive account of the dam break and its consequences.¹

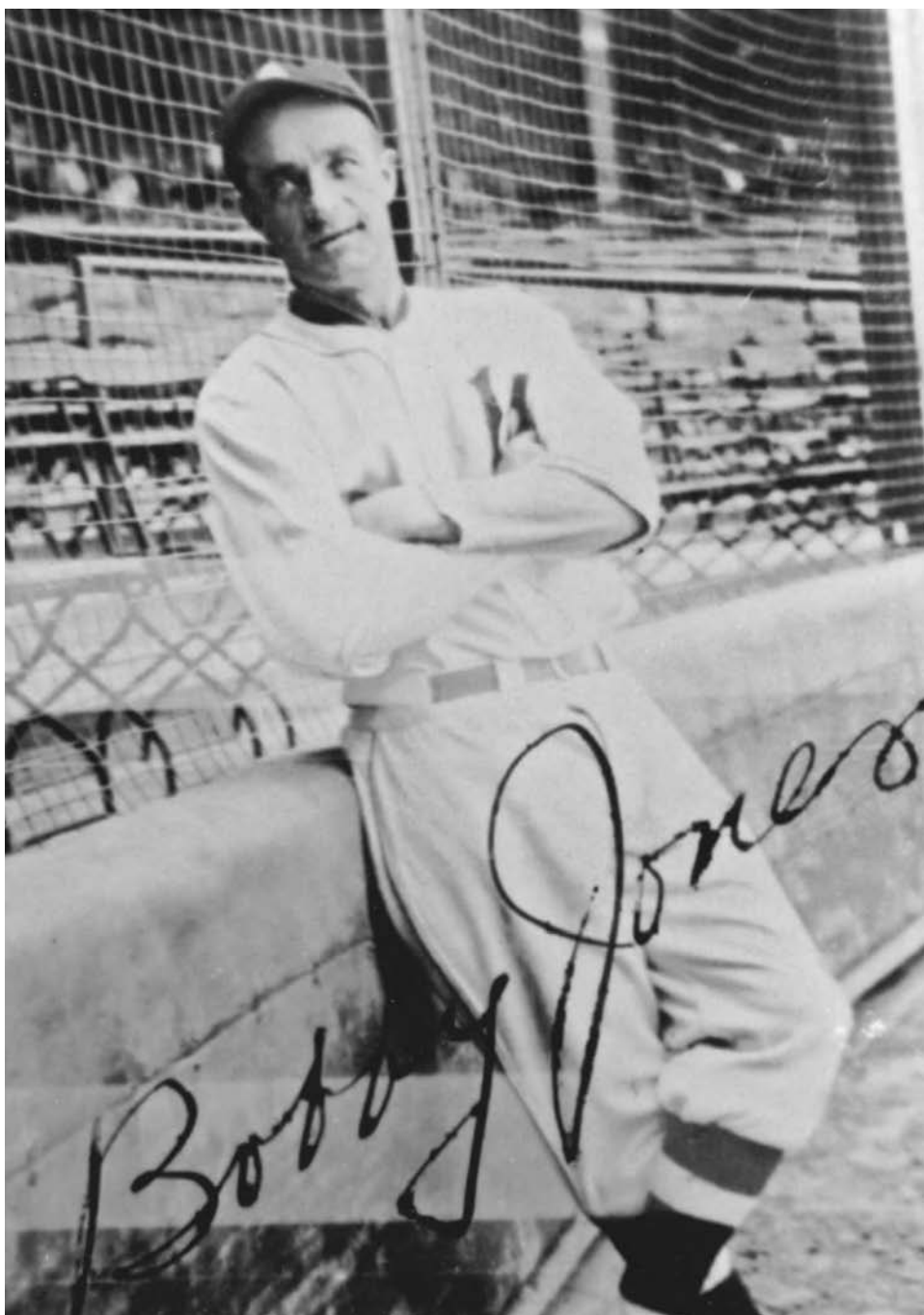
The second major event in March was that late in the month George and Virginia Stevenson were married. George had returned from Europe in 1927 determined to propose to Virginia, and, when he did, she accepted. Consequently, much of 1928 was a process for both of them of adjusting to married life. Marriage was not allowed to interfere, however, with Dad’s continuing visual pursuit of the ultimate home run. He was, in fact, to see 72 homers in 1928, his all-time high up to that point. Sixty-two of the round-trippers were seen on the west coast during the spring and summer prior to the Outlands’ cross-country move to Boston in September. The only pictures of ballplayers that GEO took that summer (nine in total) occurred at Wrigley Field and were of Los Angeles Angels and Seattle Indians. They were the last Pacific Coast League players that he photographed.



322. **James “Truck” Hannah:** Pictured earlier with Vernon in 1922, the 37-year-old Hannah was in his third year as the primary catcher for Los Angeles. He caught in 97 games, the first time since his stay with the Yankees from 1918 to 1920 that he played in less than 100 games. Hannah’s playing time, with the exception of 1930, was gradually declining and, from 1937 to 1939, he managed the Angels, including guiding them to a pennant in 1938. The durable Hannah had a minor league career batting average of .277 in 2,267 games.



323. Wallace "Wally" Hood: Wally Hood was in his last year of six with the Angels in 1928 and hit .290 with 20 home runs. His average had declined slightly each year from a high of .340 in 1923. Wally ended his ten-year PCL career after the 1930 season with Sacramento. He posted a .lifetime .314 Coast League average with 132 home runs, of which George recorded seeing five.



324. Bob “Ducky” Jones: Bobby Jones began and ended his playing career in the Pacific Coast League. In between, he played nine years with the Detroit Tigers where he had a career average of .265. He was back in Los Angeles for the 1928–29 seasons and hit .296 as the Angels starting third baseman the year this picture was taken in 1928.

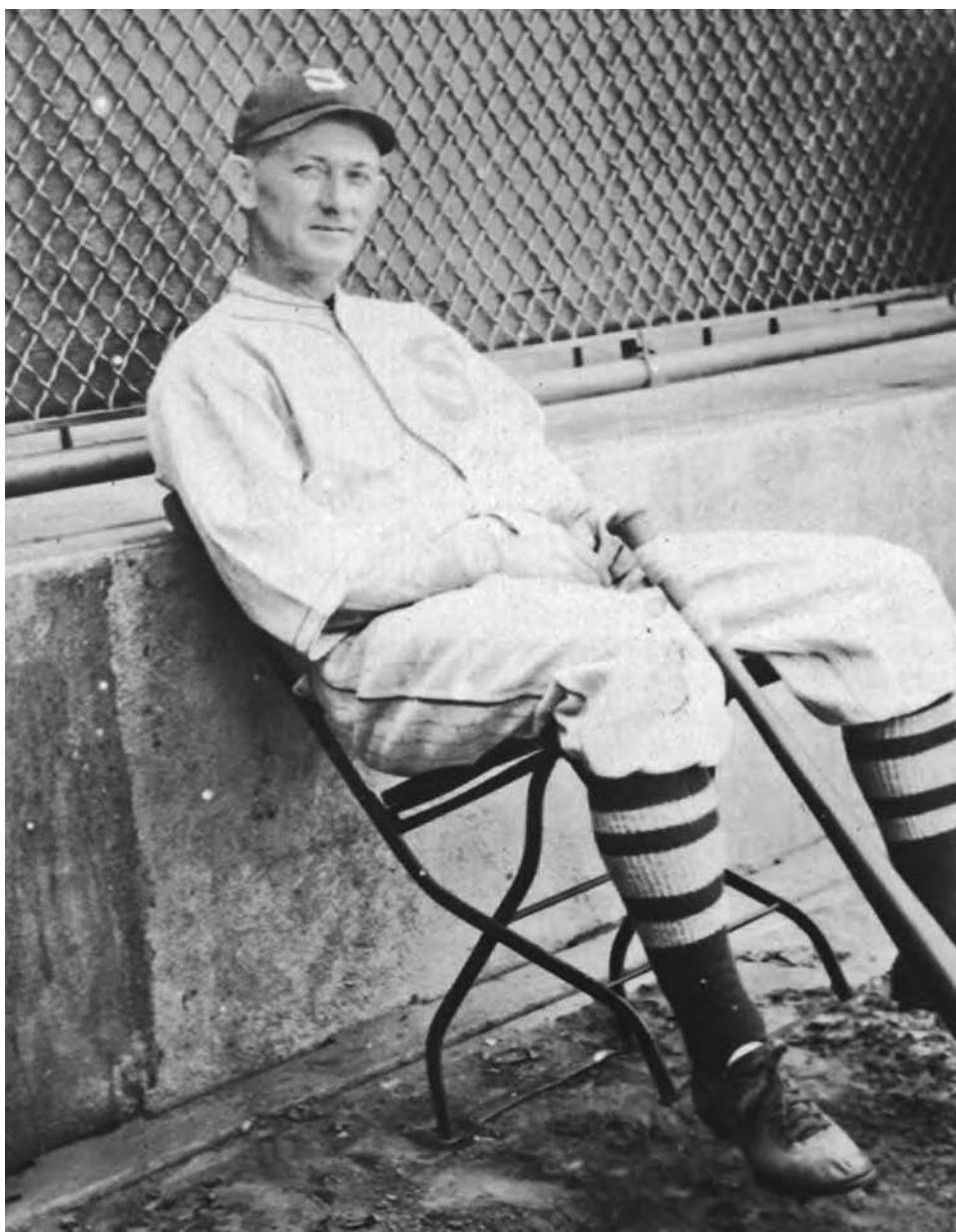


325. **Chester "Chick" or "Slug" Tolson:** Chick Tolson was a slugging first baseman who hit a robust .351 with 28 home runs and 108 RBI for the Angels in 1928. He had seen limited duty with the Chicago Cubs in 1926-27 and was called back up to the Cubs toward the end of the 1929 season after hammering the ball in Los Angeles at a .359 pace with another 28 home runs. Unfortunately, his time in the majors was not as productive as he was to hit .284 with only four homers spread out over five seasons. George saw seven of Tolson's 28 homers in 1928, including two on Opening Day, which he interrupted his honeymoon to attend. "Good stuff" is what is recorded in George's log book after Tolson's two homers.

The Pacific Coast League experimented with a split season in 1928, but, unfortunately for Seattle, the Indians finished last during both halves of the season. They won a total of only 64 games while losing 127. The four identified players that George was able to photograph were among those who supplied what little energy the Seattle lineup was able to generate.



326. **John "Monk" Sherlock:** One can perhaps see from this picture why Jack Sherlock got his nickname of "Monk." A first baseman and consistent hitter, albeit without great power, Sherlock hit .289 with ten home runs for the 1928 Indians. The next year with Mission he had a great season, hitting .336 with 14 homers and 156 RBI. That earned Sherlock a trip to the majors with the Philadelphia Phillies in 1930 where he hit .334 in 299 at-bats. Unfortunately, he supplied no home runs and was out of the big leagues in 1931 at the young age of 27. Monk's younger brother Vince made a brief appearance with the Dodgers in 1935.



327. Johnny Mitchell: The well-traveled Johnny Mitchell was approaching the end of his career when he arrived in Seattle for a single season in 1928. A switch-hitting, smooth-fielding shortstop, Mitchell had played with Vernon from 1918 through 1920. Between 1921 and 1925, he was in the majors as an occasional starter with the Yankees, Red Sox, and Dodgers and hit a cumulative .245 in 329 games. Mitchell returned to the Coast League with Los Angeles for the 1926–27 seasons and then split time in 1928 with Seattle and Mission. Interestingly, his best season statistically was his final one when he was no longer a starter but did hit .316 in 326 plate appearances.



328. **Art Ruble:** Outfielder Art Ruble's one year in the Coast League with Seattle was a good one statistically, as he hit .326 with ten home runs and 71 RBI. Unfortunately, he could not duplicate those numbers in his two years of limited service in the majors, in 1927 with Detroit and in 1934 with the Phillies. In 145 at-bats, he hit a paltry .207.



329. Bernie Neis: Another one-year player with Seattle in 1928, Neis had eight years of major league experience, playing in 1920–26 with Brooklyn and Boston of the National League and splitting time with Cleveland and Chicago in the American League in 1927. He participated in more than 100 games during three of those seasons and for the eight years averaged .272 in 1,825 at-bats. Neis had been a teammate of Johnny Mitchell's on the 1924 Dodgers when he hit .303 in 80 games. For Seattle in 1928, Neis hit .286.

George describes 1928 as a "transition year" in his home run log since he and Virginia relocated to Boston in late August and George began graduate work for a master's degree in History at Harvard. If he is to be taken literally, baseball had some influence on where he planned to study. As he explained in a later account of a home run by Lester Bell:

When I read in Los Angeles that the Boston Braves had shortened that left field fence by putting in close bleachers, my mind was determined to go to Harvard! But it was too much of a good thing; too many homers were hit, and before I got within 3000 miles of Boston, they had been moved back ... to the place where they were over 350 feet from home plate, and where it took a real clout to hit a ball into them. Still I saw occasionally in the paper that a homer or so was in there, and I took heart. Perhaps it was not so bad after all.

Dad's biggest home run thrill of the 1928 season—and perhaps of all time—came not in Boston but in Philadelphia, as George had again routed his journey east to maximize his chances of seeing home runs from his wish list of favorite players. This time the player in question was veteran Cy Williams, a name not too familiar to many modern day fans. The emotional impact of the occasion comes through in Outland's account, written up in detail in January of 1949:

For sheer personal thrill, this home run was probably number one of all I have seen, at least up until the present time. Dramatic yes, and oh so satisfying. The hitter was old Cy Williams of the Philadelphia Phillies, the man who up until that time [1928] had hit more home runs during his entire career than any other player with the one exception of Babe Ruth.

Coming east I had planned on the two days in Philadelphia, particularly because of a chance to see three ball games and more particularly because of the chance of seeing Cy Williams hit a homer. When we landed from the steamer in New York, the evening papers carried the story of how the same Cy had that very afternoon beaten the Giants with a homer in the 9th after two were out. That looked bad because it did not seem probable that he would hit another within the next two days.

The first afternoon in Philly it rained cats and dogs, and there was no ballgame, and no homer by Cy. The next day would be the last chance I would have that season, perhaps the last I would ever have, as it was rumored that the 1928 season was to be the last for Williams. But the next day the word came that the game would be played, although the weather threatened.

Needless to write of the first game of the doubleheader. There was very little hitting of any kind, let alone home runs. The first time at bat, Cy hit a long fly which I thought for an instant had cleared that near right field fence, but it turned out to be merely the last out of the inning—a routine fly.

The second game was even worse. It was my pet aversion: a pitcher's battle. Not a Boston man hit for the first 6 innings, and Philadelphia had done little better. Cy Williams had been up three times. The first time he had fanned, swinging on the third strike. The second time he drew a base on balls which was just exactly as satisfactory for me as the previous performance.. And the third time he had gone out on an infield roller. Seven straight times up that afternoon and not even a hit for Cy. And not one solitary home run at the park which was supposed to be a paradise for the slugger.

When the 9th inning began, Boston was leading, 3–2, and when the first two Philadelphia batters, Leach and Klein, both powerful hitters, had been easy outs, the crowd got up to go. Virginia and Dick and I sat still. I scarcely dared to hope—I had been hoping

and praying and swearing all afternoon, and none of it had done any good. I sat tight, too miserable to do any of the three, and waited merely because I could not leave with Cy Williams getting one more swing at that old apple.

Cy came to the plate dragging two big bats and swung both of them viciously before taking his position in the batter's box. Jess Barnes, Boston pitcher, apparently thought nothing of that vicious swing.² Hadn't he been fooling Williams all afternoon? It was his game. Nobody was on base, two were out, and he had a one run lead. Very well. Now to dispose of this old man and then for the showers and that evening show. And the quicker the better.

The first ball was in there, and Cy cracked it. The instant that the ball was hit I knew it was labeled homer, but I dared not move until I saw it disappear on the other side of that right field fence, well over toward center and far above. That ball soared and soared and would have cleared many a fence farther distant. As that white speck sank from sight, as the few Philly rooters rushed back to their seats in delight, as Jess Barnes dejectedly returned to his box, as old Cy ambled awkwardly around the sacks—then I rose and shouted until I was hoarse. And so did Virginia. We had seen old Cy Williams hit a home run!

It is not clear how much of a baseball fan Virginia was, but there is little question that she did accompany George to several games. She was with him again, for instance, later in the 1928 season as he wound down his home run viewing for the year in dramatic fashion at Yankee Stadium on September 9. The event was a doubleheader between the Yankees and the As, the beginning of a four-game series that would probably determine the pennant. It should be noted that my father was rooting for the As:

Virginia and I were at the park at 10:30 in the morning, and the grandstand was full. We squeezed into the bleachers after nearly being trampled, not by the immense crowd, but by the New York mounted police. Once inside we sweltered for hours along with the greatest crowd that ever witnessed a baseball game, over 80,000 people. What a setting for what was to be homer #235.

The Yankees took the first game behind the superlative pitching of George Pipgras. In the second, the Athletics seemed to be the probable victor, for they were leading 3–0 in the 7th, thanks to a homer into the right field bleachers by Al Simmons with one man on and a single a few moments later by the same individual. But in the last of the 7th Walberg grew wild, passed three men, and a couple of hits tied the score. So going into the last half of the 8th inning we find the score tied 3–3 in this most important of games before this most tremendous of crowds.

Koenig opened the 8th with a sharp single, his first hit of the doubleheader. Gehrig promptly doubled to left, and Rommel was at once in a desperate situation. One run would probably win, and the next batter was Babe Ruth. Whether Rommel suddenly grew wild or whether he merely refused to flirt with fate by giving the Bambino a good ball will probably never be known. At any rate, he passed him, and the bases were bulging, with the tall Bob Meusel at the bat.

The crowd was in hysterics, especially out in the bleachers where the rabid New Yorkers were congregated. Meusel was begged, demanded, pleaded with to do anything—even a long fly would probably win the game, as Koenig could score from third. It would take something miraculous to save the Athletics. It didn't happen. Bob looked over a couple of pitches, then swung hard on what he afterward declared was a sharp curve. I could follow the flight of the ball better than most of the hits that had been made, as the sun was now behind the grandstand, and I saw the ball line out toward left field. At first I

thought it was a fly to Simmons and wondered if Al could throw Koenig out at the plate after the catch. But the ball did not drop. It sailed over Simmons' head and on into the low box seats, while all four runners cavorted around the sacks. A home run with the bases filled and four runs and the game for New York. And the championship. The crowd shrieked and howled and whistled and kept it up until the game was over. It was one of the most dramatic hits that I have ever seen, even though my appreciation was not tempered with enthusiasm nor my interest with approval.³

In total, George was able to see 19 games during that early fall of 1928 when, still newlyweds, he and Virginia were settling into a busy life of work and study in Boston. George had found employment as Assistant Director of Hale House, a settlement house in the downtown area. It was the first of three settlement houses with which he would be affiliated. His task over the next few years would be to help promote recreational opportunities for young men in the neighborhood, often immigrants, through the organizing and coaching of athletic teams, including baseball, six-man football, and even basketball, a sport about which George knew or cared relatively little. Overall, it was a chance for Outland to combine his interest in sports with some of the youthful idealism and service ethic that he had absorbed at Whittier. It was a busy time, and the picture taking of ballplayers became somewhat of a secondary priority.

1929

For reasons that are not entirely clear, my father seemed to adopt the Braves more than the Red Sox as his Boston team of choice. Baseball fans will recall that neither team was very good as both finished in their league's cellar in 1929 with almost identical records. The Braves were 56–98 while the Red Sox went 58–96. My suspicion is that George was attracted to the Braves because they were a somewhat better hitting team, averaging .280 as a team as opposed to the Red Sox' .267. The Braves had five batters in their starting lineup who hit over .290 versus only two for the Red Sox. Both teams had woeful home run totals with the Braves hitting only 32 for the season and the Red Sox an even worse 28.⁴

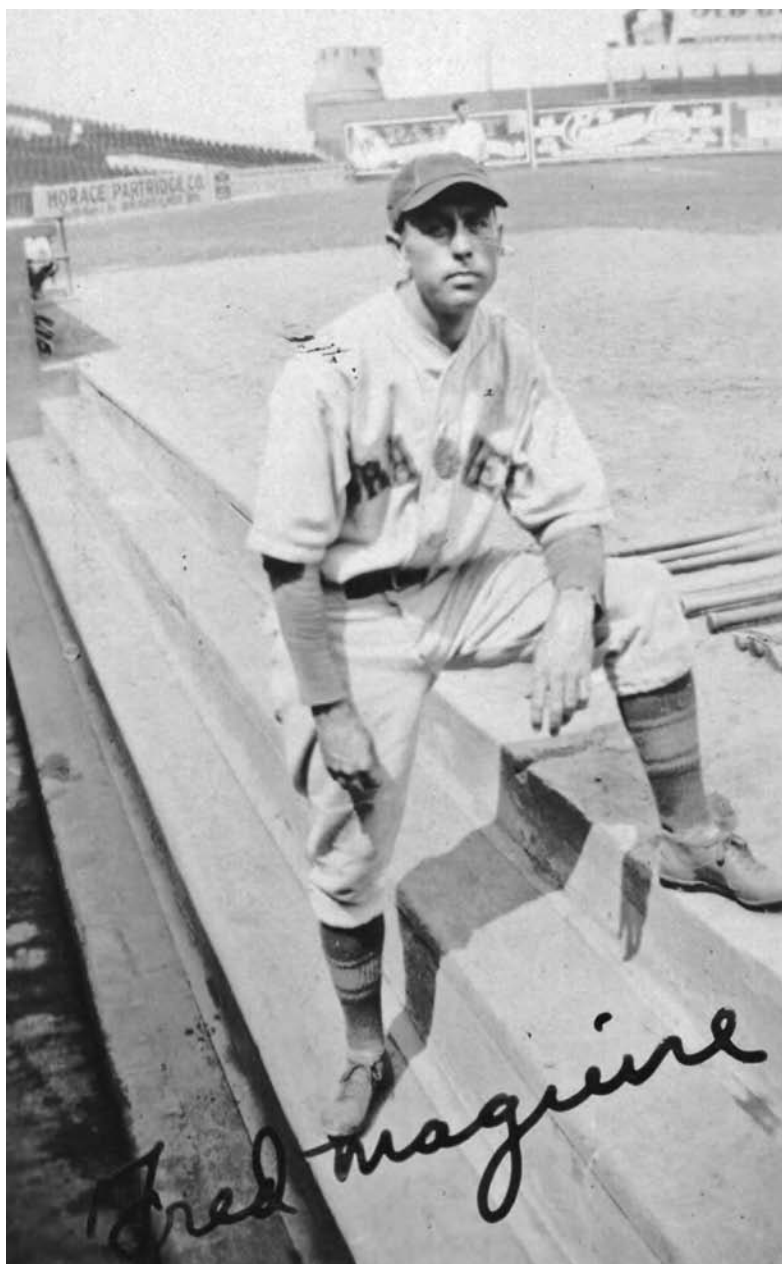
For his part, and despite the birth of his first son, George Faulkner, in May, Dad was able to witness 54 home runs in 1929. Twenty-eight of these came at Braves Field and fourteen at Fenway Park, again suggesting that GEO was spending more time with the Braves. And he was to take fourteen pictures of Braves, perhaps establishing a relationship with some of the players in the process. The Braves had several interesting personalities on their team, including three future Hall of Famers. Rabbit Maranville had been photographed earlier with the Cubs, but Johnny Evers and George Sisler were newcomers for George.



330. **Johnny “Crab” Evers:** In this photograph George has coaxed a smile from the notoriously high-strung and hard-nosed Johnny Evers. Evers was a coach under Judge Fuchs with the Braves in 1929 as he wound down his lengthy and celebrated baseball career. A classic deadball player with the Cubs from 1902 through 1913, Evers was the middle man in Chicago’s immortal “Tinker to Evers to Chance” double-play combination. Released as player-manager of the Cubs at the end of 1913, Evers signed on with the Braves and became team captain and the National League’s Most Valuable Player on what would be the World Champion “Miracle Braves” of 1914. Evers’s playing career essentially ended in 1917, despite his making one token appearance for the Braves in 1929, the year of this picture. Although concluding his career with a relatively modest .270 batting average, Johnny Evers was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1946, one year prior to his death in March of 1947.



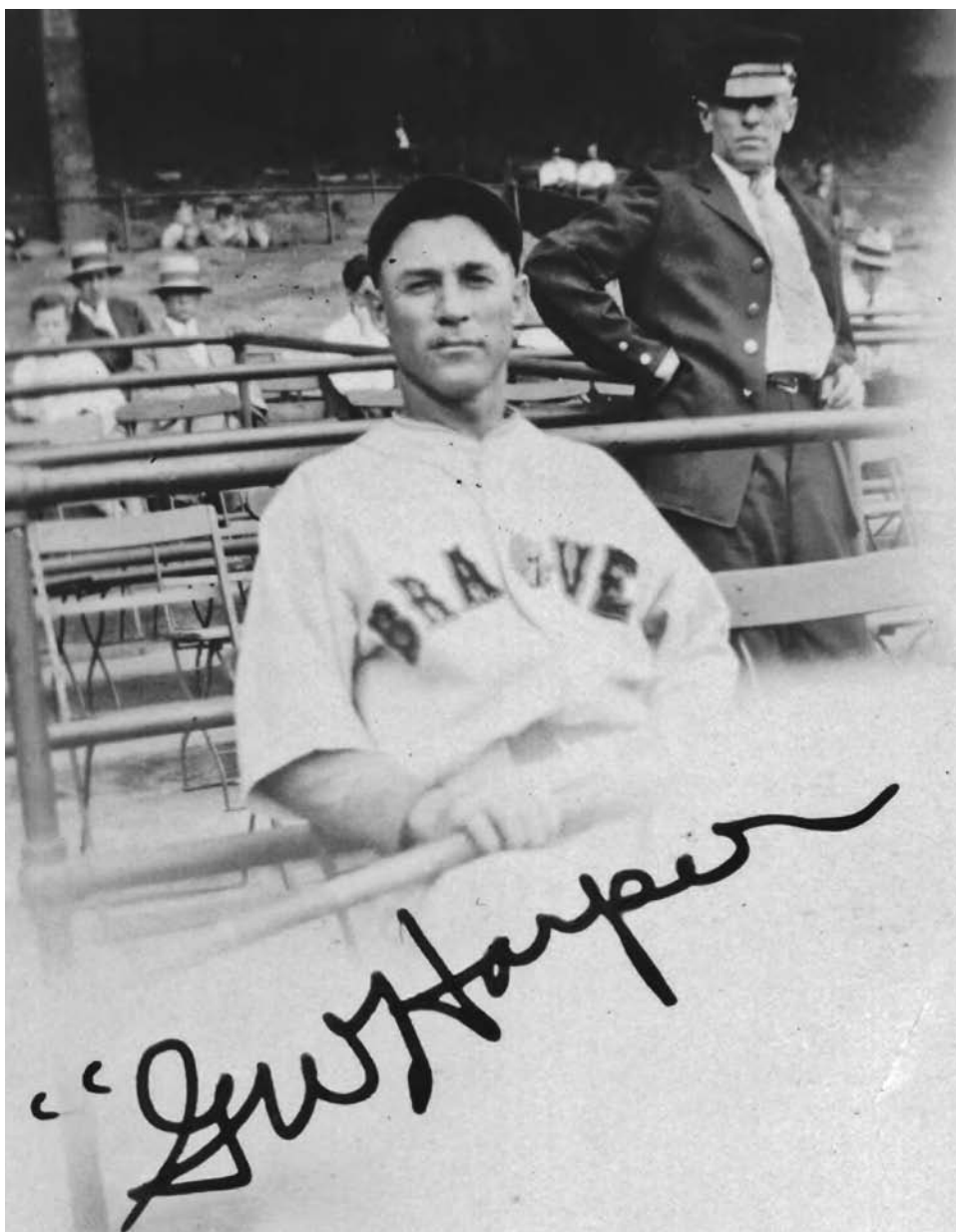
331. George Sisler: One of the great players of all time, the graceful and speedy Sisler could do it all. Although he started his career as a pitcher, it was soon obvious that Sisler's bat could not be kept out of the lineup. Thirteen times in his 16-year career, Sisler hit over .300, including twice over .400. Despite eye problems that developed in 1923, Sisler still hit .340 for his career. From 1915 through 1927, Sisler was a fixture at first base for the St. Louis Browns and is generally considered to be the greatest player in Browns' history. In 1928, Sisler began the season with Washington but soon moved over to the Braves where he ended his career in 1930. In 1929, the year of this picture, he hit .326 with 205 hits in 154 games at the age of 36. The college-educated Sisler was an early inductee into baseball's Hall of Fame, being elected in 1939.



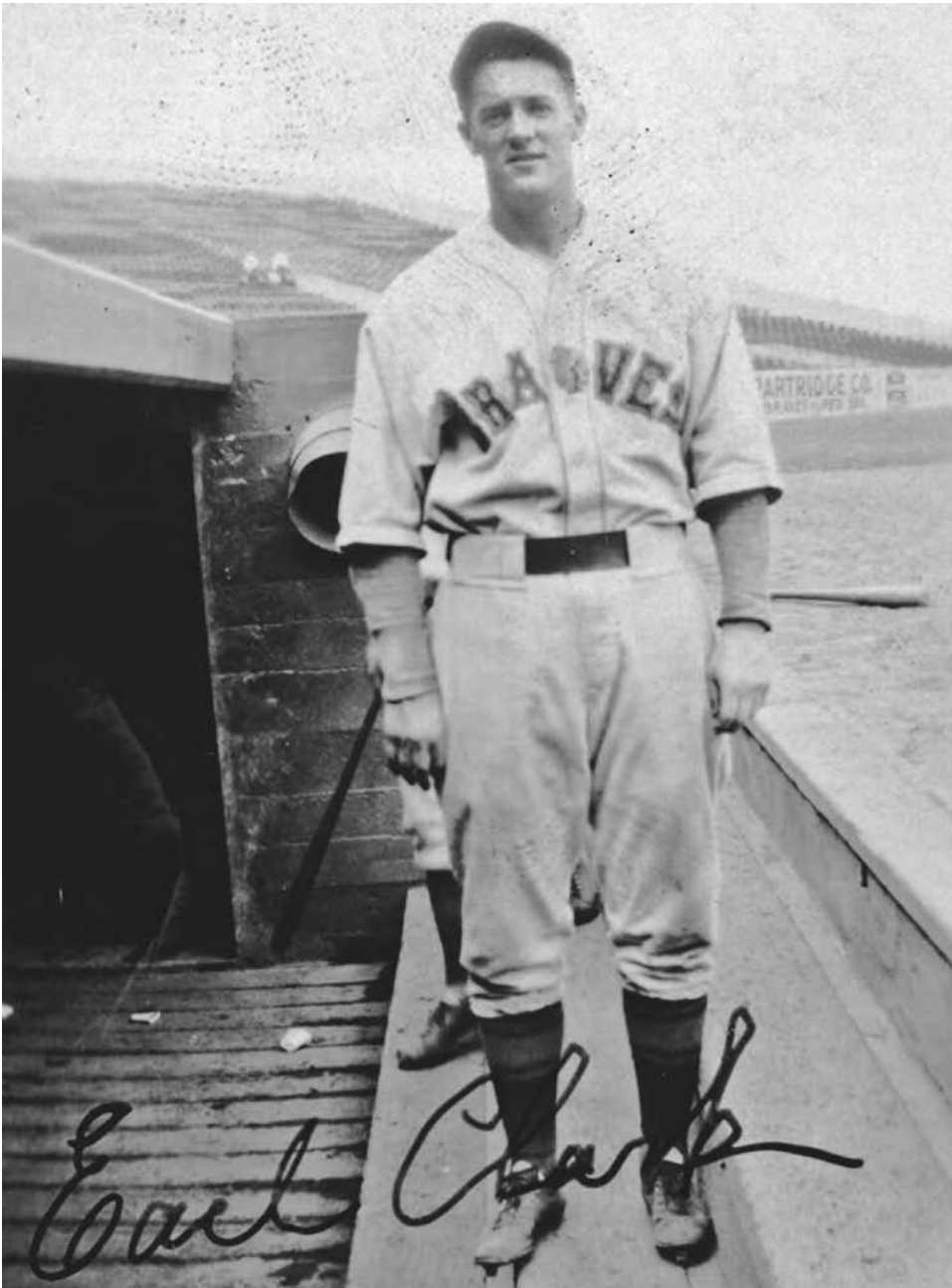
332. **Fred Maguire:** After a “cup of coffee” with the New York Giants in 1922-23, Fred-die Maguire returned to the minors for further seasoning with Toledo of the American Association. He made it back to the majors with the Cubs in 1928 where he became their regular second baseman and hit .279. The Cubs wanted to upgrade, however, and included Maguire in the deal with Boston that brought Rogers Hornsby to the Cubs. Maguire, in effect, took Hornsby’s place in the Braves’ lineup, where he was their starting second baseman from 1929 through 1931.



333. **Lester Bell:** A third baseman, Les Bell played in the majors for nine years from 1923 through 1931. He played his first five years with the Cardinals and had his best overall season during their pennant-winning year of 1926 when he hit .325 with 17 home runs and 100 RBI. A good hitter but only a fair fielder, Bell's last year of over 100 games came in 1929 when he hit .298 with the Braves and, in effect, helped welcome George to Boston. Bell ended his career with the Cubs in 1930-31.



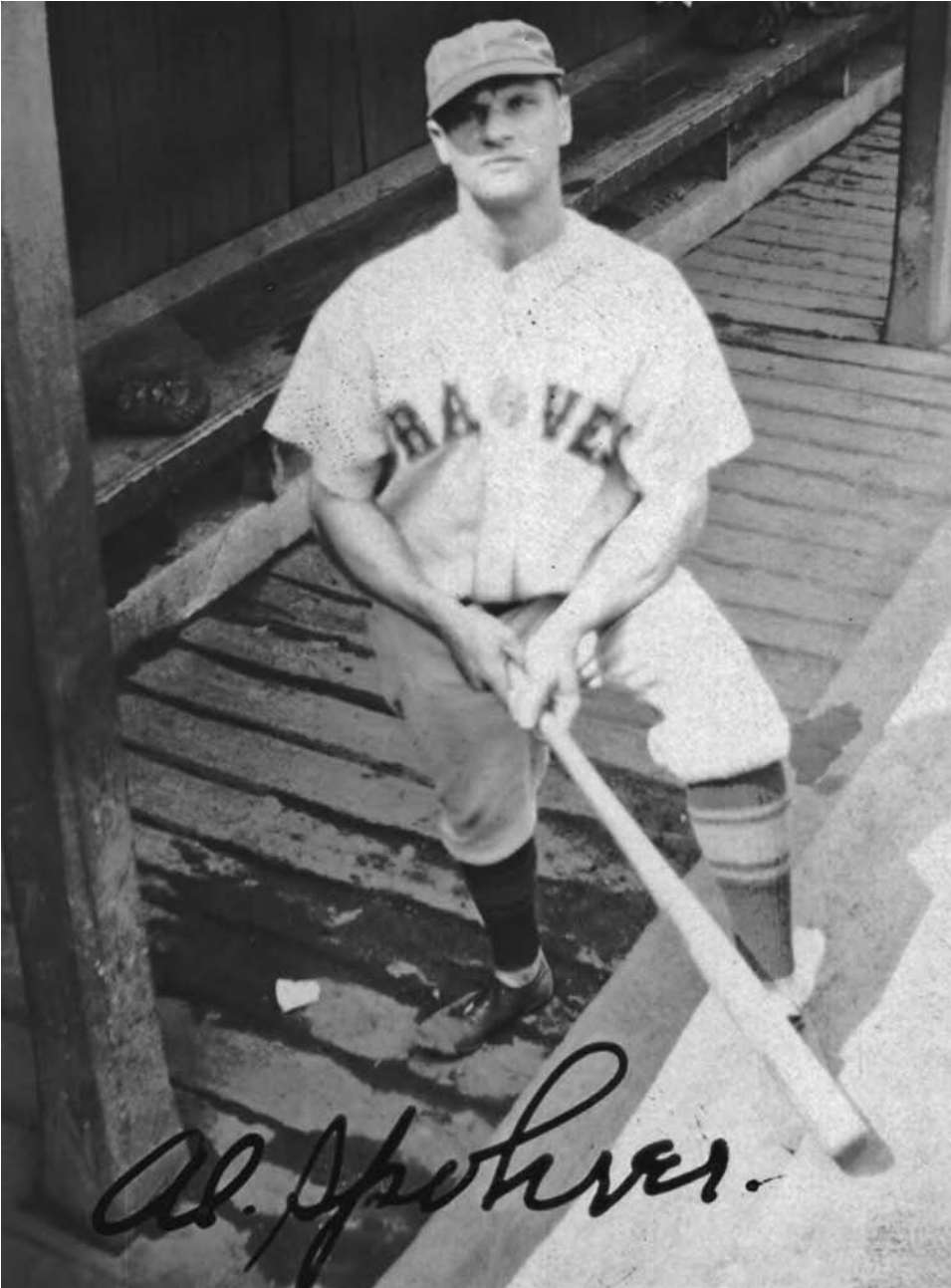
334. **George Harper:** In left field and hitting .291 for the Braves in 1929 was 37-year-old George Washington Harper. Harper had started in the majors in 1916 with the Detroit Tigers for whom he played three years before returning to the minors. G.W. reemerged with Cincinnati in 1922 and proceeded to play for four teams before landing in Boston for his final big league season. A good hitter, Harper finished with a .303 career average with his best year being in 1925 with the Phillies where he batted out a .349 average with 18 homers and 97 RBI. Harper had a .308 season for Los Angeles in the Coast League in 1930 and continued as a player and player-manager in the minors until the age of 44.



335. **Earl Clark:** Playing next to the aging Harper for much of the 1929 season was 21-year-old centerfielder Earl Clark. Clark was in his second of seven years with the Braves, and 1929 proved to be his best season in terms of number of games played (84), batting average (.315), and RBI (30). Clark lacked power but finished up in 1934 with a career batting average of .291. Unfortunately, he died prematurely as a result of a car accident at the age of 30 in January of 1938.



336. **Jimmy Welsh:** Playing 53 games in right field for the Braves in 1929 was lefthanded-hitting Jimmy Welsh. Welsh had been purchased by the Braves in 1925 after an outstanding season with Seattle in the Coast League where he had hit .342 with 16 home runs. In his first year with the Braves, Welsh hit .312, his highest average for six major league seasons. After a year-and-a-half hiatus with the Giants, Welsh returned to the Braves mid-way through the 1929 season and played one more full year for them in 1930. He finished his major league career with a .290 batting average and then returned to the Coast League for three more good seasons from 1931 to 1933.



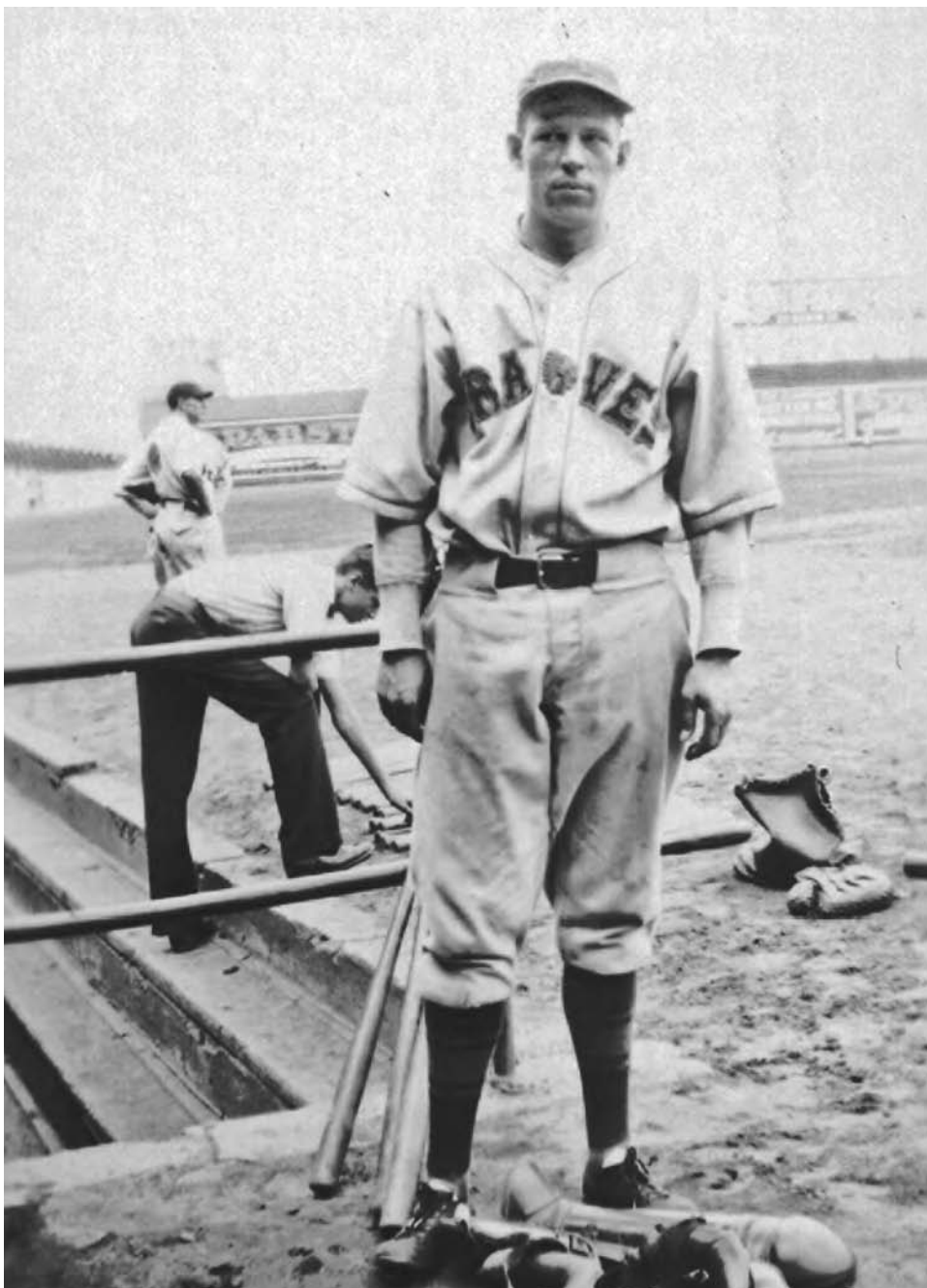
337. Al Spohrer: This picture captures pretty well the somewhat pugnacious personality of the Braves' starting catcher, Al Spohrer. Spohrer was in his second of eight seasons with the Braves when he hit .272 in 114 games in 1929. His best season from a hitting standpoint came in 1930 when he hit .317, his only season over .300. Spohrer was only an adequate fielder, but his fielding percentage improved over the course of his career as his batting average tended to drop off.



338. Henry "Hank" Gowdy: A transition player between the deadball and lively ball eras, catcher Hank Gowdy's 17-year major league career stretched from 1910 to 1930. He is most remembered for two things: his superlative play in the 1914 World Series when he helped lead the sweep of the As by the "Miracle Braves" by hitting .545; and, becoming the first active major leaguer to volunteer for combat duty in World War I. A genuine war hero, Gowdy split his baseball time between the New York Giants (1910–11, 1923–25) and the Boston Braves (1911–23, 1929–30). Except for the years 1914–16 when he was a starter, Gowdy was a backup catcher, including in his next-to-last year in 1929 when he appeared in only ten games. For his career, Hank played in 1,050 games and averaged .270.



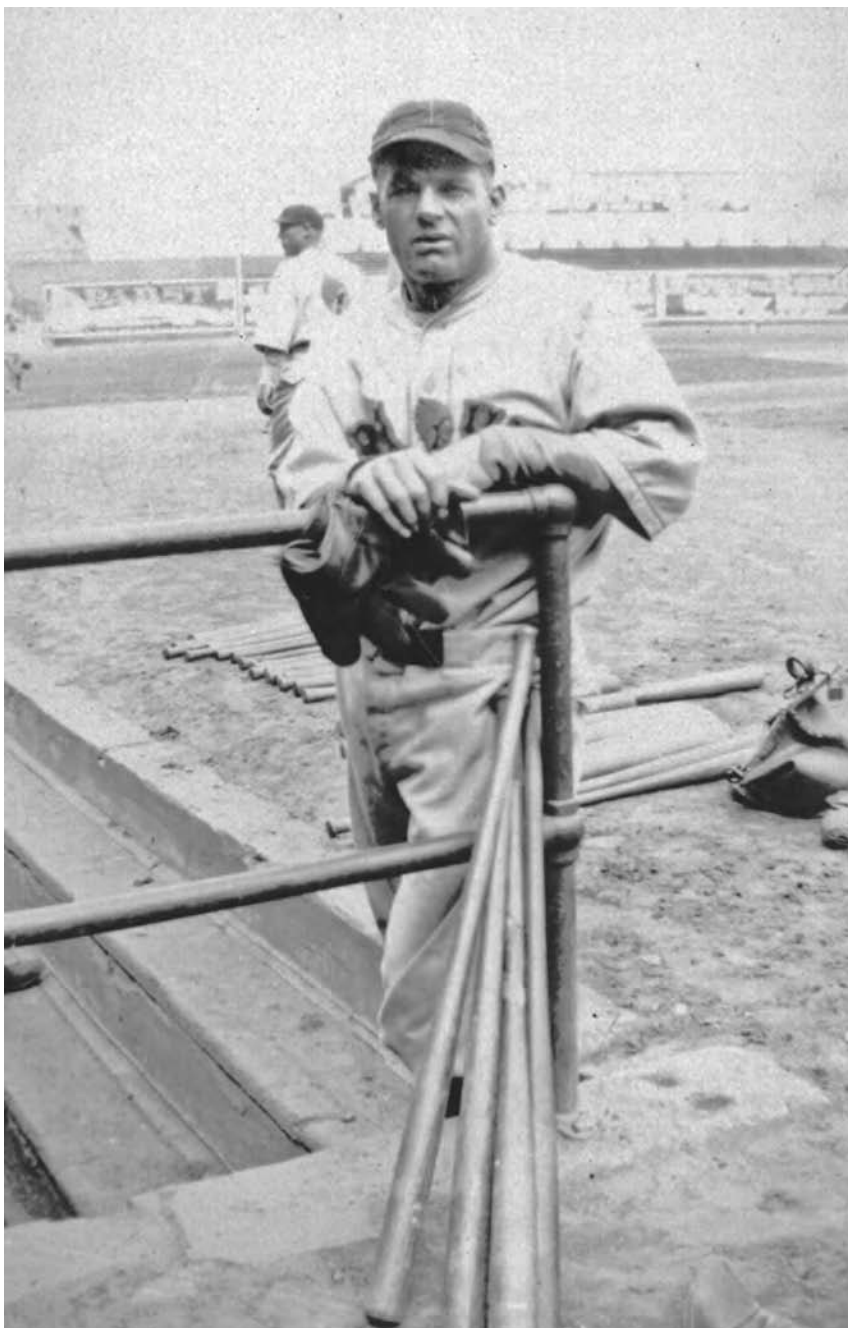
339. Ed Brandt: The good-hitting, forkball-throwing Ed Brandt was in his second of eight seasons with the Braves in 1929. He had lost 21 games in his rookie year of 1928 and would not hit his stride until 1931 when he experienced his first of four solid seasons with the gradually improving Braves. A workhorse pitcher who often threw over 200 innings a season, Brandt ended his career in 1938 with a lifetime major league record of 121-146 and an ERA of 3.87.



340. Ben Cantwell: Another pitcher who started with the Braves in 1928, Ben Cantwell was both a starter and reliever for the Boston pitching staff through 1936. By far his best seasons were 1932 and 1933 when he went a combined 33–21 with an ERA each year under 3.00. 1935, on the other hand, was a disaster as he was 4–25 for the season. Cantwell's career totals were 76–108 and an ERA of 3.91.



341. **Bob Smith:** Bob Smith was a converted infielder who pitched for the Braves from 1925 to 1930 and again from 1933 to 1937. In between, he spent two-and-a-half years with the Cubs. From 1926 through 1931, he both won and lost in the double digits, usually losing more than he won. The year of this picture, 1929, he was 11-17 for the Braves. Smith lived on until 1987, but there is considerable discrepancy regarding the year of his birth, 1895 or 1898.



342. Gorham "Dixie" Leverett: Dixie Leverett began as a promising pitcher with the Chicago White Sox in 1922 when he went 13–10 in 224 innings pitched. He reversed those numbers in 1923 in 192 innings. For the rest of his major league career, he won only six games while losing eleven. The Braves brought him up from the minors for one year in 1929, and he went 3–7 with an ERA well over 6.00.

The only other players that George photographed in 1929 were from his old companion team, the Pittsburgh Pirates, who were to finish in second place, 10½ games off the pace set by the pennant-winning Chicago Cubs. A couple of the Pirates, Paul Waner and Ray Kremer, George had photographed in earlier years; some others were new. Unfortunately, three of the nine players remain unidentified and are "relegated" to the mystery player collection in Chapter 6.



343. Paul Waner: Paul Waner hit a career-high 15 home runs in 1929, and it was only the second time of two occasions when he reached the 100 RBI mark. His average dropped somewhat to .336, but he was clearly in his prime years while still only 26. And his prime would last for a good ten years more.



344. Ray Kremer: Photographed virtually every year that George took pictures of the Pirates, Ray Kremer was clearly a favorite of my father's. My assumption is that it stemmed from Kremer's California background and particularly his many years in the Coast League with Oakland (1917-23). Remy had won 45 games for the Oaks in 1922-23, so he was clearly one of the dominant pitchers in the league during my father's early years of Coast League enthusiasm. The fact that Kremer also made it big with Pittsburgh cemented that respect.



345. Earl "Whitey" Sheely: Earl Sheely was another ballplayer with both extended experience in the major leagues and the Pacific Coast League. A big, good-hitting, somewhat slow-footed first baseman, Sheely played five years with Salt Lake City before moving up to the Chicago White Sox for seven years in 1921. Sheely regularly hit around .300 but, after slumping in 1927, he found himself back in the PCL for 1928 where he hit .381 in a full season at Sacramento. That earned him another shot in the majors in 1929 with the Pirates, which is when George caught up with him. Although hitting .293 for the Pirates, Sheely was again in the Coast League with San Francisco in 1930 where, at the age of 37, he had an outstanding year, hitting .403 with 29 home runs and 185 RBI. Sheely continued to blister the ball up through the 1934 season, and, all told, had remarkable career statistics. For nine years and 4,471 at bats in the major leagues, he hit an even .300. For ten years and 5,325 at bats in the Coast League, he averaged .342. Sheely's affiliation with the PCL continued in the 1950s when he served as general manager of the Seattle Rainiers.



346. Ira "Pete" Flagstead: Although appearing in four games in 1917, Pete Flagstead's major league career essentially lasted from 1919 through 1930. A good hitter and smooth-fielding center fielder, Flagstead's best years came with the Red Sox between 1923 and 1928. In 1929, the year of this picture, he played for three teams, winding up with Pittsburgh for whom he also played in his final season of 1930. For his career, Flagstead ended with a .290 batting average.



347. **Adam Comorosky:** The poor picture quality here fails to do justice to outfielder Adam Comorosky. He played the first eight of his ten major league seasons (1926–35) with the Pirates where he often shared outfield duties with the Waner brothers. In 1929, while only 23 years old, Comorosky hit .321 with 97 RBI. He followed that up with a .313 season in 1930 with 119 RBI. For his career, he finished with a .285 average.



348. Jesse Petty ("The Silver Fox"): A rather colorful lefthanded pitcher, Petty came to the Pirates prior to the 1929 season in the trade that sent Glenn Wright to the Brooklyn Dodgers. Petty flirted with the .500 mark for most of the seven years he was in the majors, and that was the case with the 1929 Pirates, for whom he went 11-10. His best season was with the Dodgers in 1926 when he was 17-17 with a 2.84 ERA.

As indicated earlier, George spent more of his time at Braves Field in 1929 than he did at Fenway Park. Nevertheless, he saw “high quality” home runs at both locations and wrote glowing full page memos to describe those by George Sisler, Ken Williams, George Kelly, and Harry Heilmann. Heilmann’s blast, number 272 for George, came toward the end of the season, and Outland wrote it up on the same day that it occurred. His account is interesting in part because it gives some passing insight into George’s activities with his young settlement house boys:

I have just undergone one of the biggest thrills of my life, my baseball life. Everything seems so strange. The streetcar was different coming home this evening than it was this morning. The people on the streets, the newsboys, everything was so different and unreal. It was the most fantastic feeling that a home run has ever given me and that includes every one from 1922 to date. It is strange. Let me explain how it all happened.

Harry Heilmann had always been one of my favorite players, only a little behind Sam Crawford and Doc Crandall. Being a slugger, a homer from him would be a thrill of thrills. But it seemed, as in the case of Cy Williams, that such was not to be. In 1927 I saw him in one game at Washington, especially routed my trip to Montreal in that fashion in order to see him, and then he was passed three times! During the 1929 season I went to see Detroit play every time that the Tigers were in Boston for the one reason of seeing old Harry hit the ball out of the lot. He got plenty of singles and doubles, and one triple, but that left field fence at Fenway Park seemed to be too high for his vicious drives.

Game #312 was the first time that I had ever sat in the bleachers at Fenway; the occasion being that I was taking my baseball team, through the courtesy of Bob Quinn [Red Sox owner]. The boys wanted to see home runs, and I wanted to see home runs in spite of what the old fogies in the sport say about too much hitting. The only difference between the wishes of the boys and those of me was that I wanted particularly to see Heilmann hit one; they did not care who hit it, so long as the ball took a ride out of the park.

But, as luck would have it, the game was a pitching duel between Owen Carroll and Milt Gaston; hits were few and far between; home runs were a minus quantity. Heilmann did his best to give me a thrill. After walking in the first inning, he came up again in the 4th and drove a tremendous clout to the deepest part of center field, a home run if hit to any other sector. Here the ball rebounded from the fence, and old Harry halted at second. In the 5th and again in the 7th he failed to put the ball out of the infield.

The first of the 9th opened with Heilmann being the fourth batter due to face Gaston. The chances were against his getting to bat and all against his hitting a home run if he did. But Carroll opened the 9th with a pass, and things looked better. Johnson fouled out and Gehringer nearly ended things. He drove a grounder to Rhyne, and Hal forced Carroll at second, but Gehringer beat the relay for a double play by inches, and Harry got his chance to bat after all.

Heilmann’s stance at the plate is peculiar at any time, and now it seemed accentuated. He stands far back in the box, feet close together, and shoulders humped far over, looks long at the ball, and then swings with a tremendously swift cut at the last possible instant. I watched him particularly on this occasion. My chief fear was that Gehringer would be thrown out on an attempted steal. Gaston had the same general idea and pitched out on the first ball but with no success. The next was a strike, old Harry letting the ball pass. It appeared to me that he would also let the next one pass, but he didn’t. All the force of those powerful shoulders went into the ball, and it sailed high and far out toward left field. I knew instantly that it was high enough to clear the fence, but did it have the distance to go against the slight breeze? That home run was the longest in

time to watch of any I have ever seen. The ball seemed to drop, drop, drop, and, as I watched in fascination, disappeared on the other side of that left field fence. I was still watching that spot, unable to believe my eyes, only noticing out of one corner old Harry Heilmann lumbering around the bases. It was all in the day's work for him. It was my biggest thrill of the 1929 season.

As the narrative indicates, Harry Heilmann was one of George's heroes. He had taken Heilmann's picture in Washington prior to the European trip in 1927 and now, finally, had the good fortune to see him homer. The fact that George was able to see it in the company of some of his young Greek, Italian, and Serbian settlement house boys perhaps made the event even more memorable. Fortunately, a picture exists to document the afternoon's experience.



349. GEO and his settlement house team at Fenway Park, 1929: "The only difference between the wishes of the boys and ... me was that I wanted to see Heilmann hit one; they did not care who hit it, so long as the ball took a ride out of the park."

The final home run George saw during the 1929 season was by famed minor league slugger Joe Hauser, hit at Yankee Stadium off of Waite Hoyt. What makes this homer worth mentioning is that George was accompanied by his brother Charlie. Charlie had come east to stay with George, Virginia, and young George while taking classes at Boston University during the fall 1929 semester. With the onset of the Depression, however, Charlie thought it important that he return to Southern California to help with work on the ranch. The next few years would be difficult ones for everyone.

1930

George finished his master's degree at Harvard in 1930 but remained in what he referred to as "Bawdy Boston" to continue his settlement house activities, particularly at Denison House where he now carried the title "Director of Boy's Work." Son George turned one year old in May and helped to keep his father and mother occupied, but there was still time available for ballgames and home runs, if not especially for photographs.

The year's home run total (70) consisted of a nice mix of east and west coast experiences, with the spring (23) and fall (9) spent in the east and the summer (38) back at Wrigley Field, Los Angeles. For the first time, home runs were seen at the Polo Grounds, Ebbets Field, and Wrigley Field, Chicago. There were 34 new homers with the most coveted coming from Joe Cronin and Chuck Klein and the most dramatic being a ninth-inning, two-out, three-run homer by Cleveland's Charlie Jamieson to tie the Red Sox. It was Jamieson's only home run of the year, and, as George noted ruefully in his account, "it may cause Heinie Wagner to commit suicide tonight." Wagner had the misfortune of guiding the 1930 Red Sox to a 52-102 record in his one year as a major league manager.

The last photographs of ballplayers that George took occurred in 1930 and were of the St. Louis Cardinals. The Cardinals had a pennant-winning team that year, and George was able to photograph many of their starters. Unfortunately, perhaps due to weather conditions, the pictures are rather washed out and are not among George's best.



350. **James "Sunny Jim" Bottomley:** The always cheerful Hall of Famer Jim Bottomley anchored the Cardinals' infield at first base from 1922 through 1932. Never in those years did he fail to hit below .296, and, in 1925, he was the National League's Most Valuable Player, hitting .325 with 31 home runs and 136 RBI. One year earlier, Bottomley had set the single-game major league RBI record with 12 in a game against Brooklyn. Bottomley played his last five years with Cincinnati and the St. Louis Browns and ended with a career average of .310 in almost 7,500 at bats.



351. **“Handy” Andy High:** Sharing time at third base for the 1930 Cardinals was Andy High, the middle of the three High brothers, all of whom George photographed. Andy’s major league career was by far the longest of the three and stretched from 1922 to 1934. Andy’s best year came with Brooklyn in 1924 when he hit .328 in 144 games while playing primarily at second base. His best year with the Cardinals was 1929 when he hit .295 with ten home runs in 146 games. Andy’s playing time dropped off significantly after 1929.



352. **Taylor Douthit:** The leadoff-hitting centerfielder for the Cardinals from 1923 through early 1931, Taylor Douthit was an excellent defensive outfielder and a consistent career .291 hitter. He put together three very good years from 1928 to 1930, but he was traded to Cincinnati as his career began to turn downward in 1931. He finished with the Cubs in 1933, playing in only 27 games.



353. **Charles “Chick” Hafey:** Despite chronic sinus problems that affected his eyesight, Chick Hafey starred for the Cardinals both in the field and at bat from 1924 through 1931. From 1927 through 1931, he hit .329, .337, .338, .336, and .349 while averaging 23 home runs a season. After his league-leading .349 season, Hafey held out in 1932 and, as a result, was traded to Cincinnati by a hard-nosed Branch Rickey. Hafey had three generally good years with the Reds, including 1933 when he got the first hit of the first All-Star game. After sitting out most of 1935 and all of 1936, Hafey played one final season in 1937. He left the game with a .317 career average and, like Taylor Douthit, spent his post baseball years in California. Hafey was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1971.



354. **Ernie Orsatti:** A native of Southern California like George, the 5'7" Orsatti was an all-around athlete who spent his entire nine-year major league career with the Cardinals. Primarily a backup outfielder, Orsatti sported a .306 career batting average and had his best single season in 1932 when he hit .336. Ernie was with the Cardinals during some of their best years and got to play in four World Series.



355. Earl "Sparky" Adams: After being one of the first major leaguers photographed by George in 1924, it is perhaps appropriate that Adams was among the last pictured in 1930. Adams joined the Cardinals prior to the 1930 season and played a strong third base for them during their pennant-winning runs of 1930 and 1931. His .314 average in 1930 was his highest during his 13-year major league career. Adams's last season was with Cincinnati in 1934.



356. Jimmy "Ace" Wilson: Jimmy Wilson was one of the superior catchers in baseball during the 1920s and 30s. Starting with the Phillies in 1923, Wilson came to the Cardinals during the 1928 season and helped them to the pennant that year and again in 1930 and 1931. The year of this picture, he hit .318 in 107 games. In 1934, Wilson again became affiliated with the Phillies, this time as player-manager. While he continued to do well as a player, the Phillies as a team did not, and, through the 1938 season, they never finished higher than seventh place. As a player, Jimmy had one "last hurrah" when, while coaching Cincinnati in 1940, he was activated for the final part of the season and the World Series and made a major contribution in helping the Reds win a World Championship. His subsequent managerial experience with the Cubs from 1941 through early 1944 was only marginally better than it had been with the Phillies.

For reasons that are not entirely clear nor definitively discoverable, George's active picture taking career ended rather abruptly with the 1930 season. My suspicion is that life simply began to get in the way. George turned 24 in October; he now had a wife and son; economic pressures were undoubtedly intruding; and his career goals were as yet undetermined. Not that any of these things would diminish his interest in ballgames, but they did probably deny him the luxury of showing up at ballparks two hours early to watch batting practice and attempt to gain access to the players. Also, he may have made the pragmatic decision to focus his attention on his home run log, a recordkeeping activity that could be done at his leisure and that he would continue for another 44 years.

The story of George's pictures is not quite over yet, however. There remain some loose ends, in particular, the question of who the handful of players are that are as yet unidentified. Also, there are some ballpark photographs that are worth showing. A final chapter is helpful in these two respects.

6. Other Photographs of Interest

One of my more pleasant leisure activities over the last several years has involved scrutinizing the Outland photographs in order to determine who is pictured and where and when the photographs were taken. Answering the “where” question frequently helped to resolve the “when” issue, of course, since often the ballpark location assisted in dating the photograph. The distinctive background provided by Washington Park, for example, means that a picture was taken prior to October of 1925. Wrigley Field, Los Angeles, on the other hand, indicates that the photograph is from 1926 or later. Also helpful in this regard are the differences in uniforms and who the players are that are wearing those uniforms. The fact that a player was on a team for only one or two years helps to narrow the time frame both for him and for many of his similarly clad teammates. Finally, of course, are the clues offered by Outland in his log notes and travel diaries. The pictures of the Cincinnati and Washington players, for instance, could only have been taken in 1927.

The process of identifying the individual players was often facilitated by their autographs—though sometimes difficult to decipher—and by my father’s notations on the back of the photographs. Also, as indicated in the Preface, the first 85 or so pictures that I acquired were of fairly well-known players, including many Hall of Famers, and were inserted in the pages of baseball books where the name of the player was mentioned. Needless to say, these players were relatively easy to identify.

The second cluster of pictures, which arrived two or three years later, presented somewhat more of a challenge. Several of these were also autographed and/or had notations on the back, but some were left blank and a few were even misidentified. Under these circumstances, the logical thing to do was to search through other photo sources to see if resemblances could be established. Sometimes this was successful, and sometimes it was not.

Absolutely indispensable in this whole process of player and year identification were the published works of others. With respect to the major league players, the most useful sources were Mike Shatzkin’s edited volume, *The Ballplayers: Baseball’s Ultimate Biographical Reference* (1990); *The Baseball Encyclopedia*, both the 4th (1979) and 9th (1993) editions (the 4th because it could still be carried in one hand!); and, surpris-

ingly perhaps, the card collection of Charles Conlon's baseball photographs, produced by Megacards in collaboration with *The Sporting News* in the early and mid-1990s.

With respect to the Pacific Coast League players, I had the good fortune to have available several invaluable publications that were produced primarily during the 1990s. These included R. Scott Mackey's *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920's* (1995); Dennis Snelling's *The Pacific Coast League: A Statistical History, 1903-1957* (1995); John E. Spalding's *Pacific Coast League Stars: One Hundred of the Best, 1903-1957* (1994) and *Pacific Coast League Stars, Volume II: Ninety Who Made It in the Majors, 1903-1957* (1997); and the three volume set of career records of *Minor League Baseball Stars* (1984 revised edition, 1985, 1992), compiled by the Society for American Baseball Research. Other publications were also helpful, and a complete listing is included in the bibliography.

Mystery Players

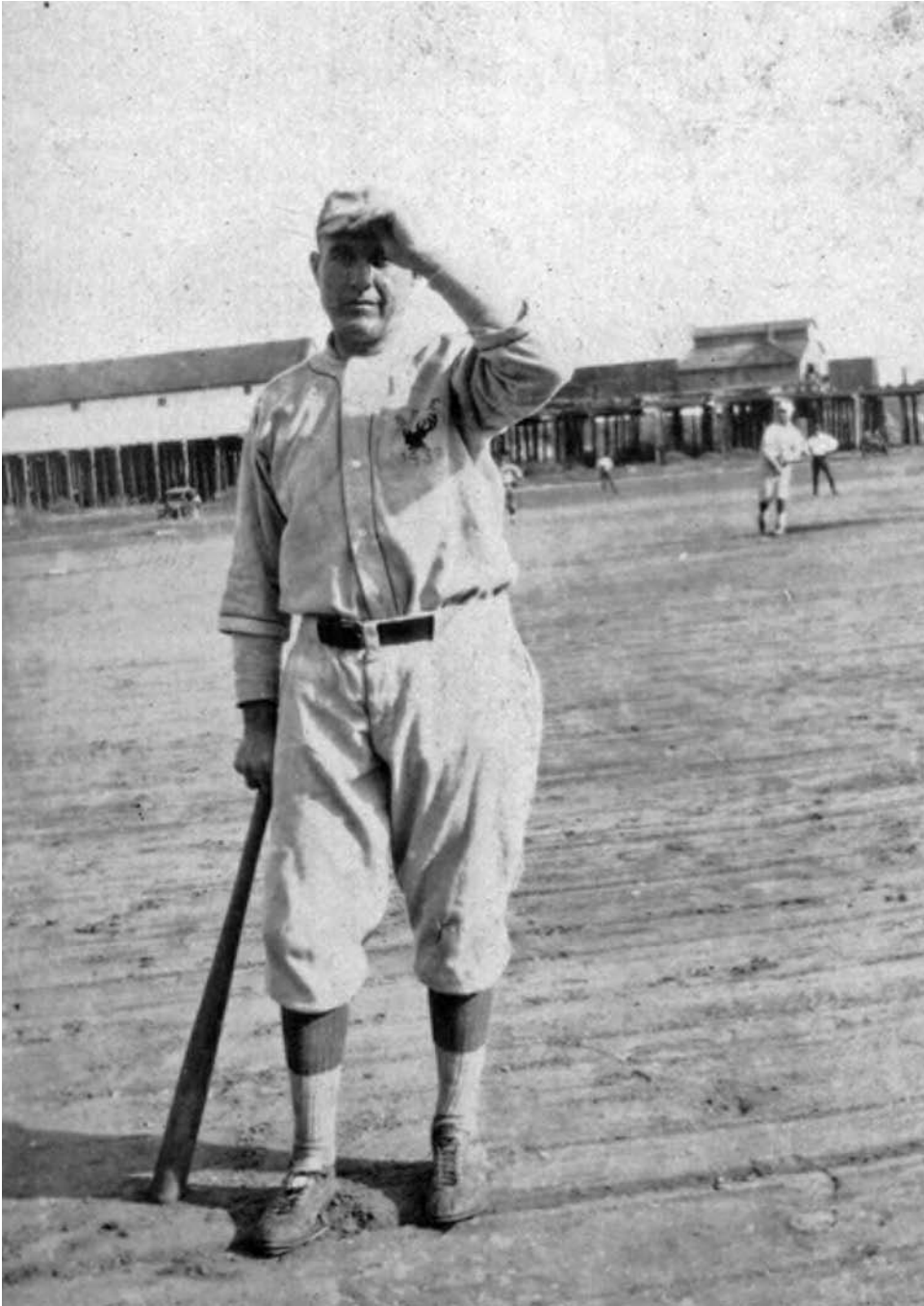
Despite all of the available resources, however, it has not yet been possible to establish who all of the players are that Outland photographed, even though I have generally been able to catalog them by team and year. It seems only appropriate that these pictures be included in this final chapter with the hope that interested readers might offer some assistance. Before displaying these "mystery players," however, there can be shown three individuals whose names are known and about two of whom, at least, the only real question is when the picture was taken.



357. **Ferdie Schupp:** There is no mystery here other than the year this photograph was taken. Ferdie Schupp pitched in the majors from 1913 through 1922 and was particularly effective for the New York Giants in the 1916-17 period. During those two years he won 31 games and lost 10, with an ERA well under 2.00. Schupp was less effective after returning from service in the First World War but did have a 16-13 season with the Cardinals in 1920. After leaving the majors, Schupp became a regular participant in the California Winter League for teams such as Shell Oil, as pictured here, and pitched up through the winter of 1930-31. The best estimate on the year of this picture is 1926 since George notes in his log book that he attended games at the Shell Oil Park in Long Beach that year.



358. **Fred Fairbanks:** I have been unable to locate any statistical record for Fred Fairbanks although he is described as “one of the most efficient pitchers in the county up through the 1920s” in Jeffrey Maulhardt’s book *Baseball in Ventura County*.¹ Fairbanks is also credited with striking out Babe Ruth on three pitches in an October 28, 1924, exhibition game.² For whom he is playing and when in this picture has not been determined.



359. **Carl Lewis:** Wearing the same uniform as Fairbanks is an individual identified on the back of the photograph as “Carl Lewis.” There is a reference to a “Sam” Lewis in McNeil’s account of the California Winter League season of 1921-22, but it seems doubtful that this is the same individual.³ Whoever this player is, he deserves a tip of the cap!

The seventeen players who are not as yet identified by name consist of eleven Pacific Coast Leaguers and six major leaguers. Fourteen of the seventeen fall into the years 1926 through 1929, with half of those—all Coast Leaguers—being from 1927. Of the six major leaguers, five are Pittsburgh Pirates. The photographs will be shown in chronological order beginning in 1922.



360. San Francisco, 1922: This autographed picture is one of the most puzzling in GEO's collection, both from a signature and a background standpoint. It appears to read "Hap Roman," but I have been unable to uncover any player who comes close to that name, except for a "Hap Hogan" who died in 1914. Is it possible that this is pitcher Herb McQuaid? That is probably unlikely since this individual looks old enough to be a coach. Interestingly, whoever it is is posing in front of what appears to be the Vernon clubhouse (note sign) with plenty of clothes left out to dry!



361. **Sacramento, 1922:** George photographed and identified almost all of the 1922 Sacramento Senators, so this individual might be deduced through a process of elimination. Possible candidates include Dick Niehaus, Billy Orr, Art Schinkel, and Mike Fitzgerald.



362. **Sacramento, 1925:** George has identified this player as Mervin Shea on the back of the photograph, but I believe the real Merv Shea is pictured in Chapter 3 in almost the identical pose.



363/364. Pittsburgh, 1926 (2): Pictured here are two Pittsburgh Pirates for whom I have no clues.







365/366/367. Portland, 1927 (3): Here are three members of the 1927 Portland Beavers about whose identity it may be reasonable to speculate. The individual behind the batting cage appears to resemble shortstop Bill Cissell, who was sold to the Chicago White Sox for \$123,000 prior to the 1928 season. The fellow with the bat on his right shoulder may be James "Doc" Prothro, a practicing dentist who, after his playing days, had a distinguished minor league managing career and who was also the father of football coach Tommy Prothro. The lefthander may be first baseman Dud Branom. It would be nice to be able to confirm any or all of these.





368/369. **Sacramento, 1927 (2):** Along with Ray Keating, Hank Severeid, and Jack Knight, who were shown earlier from the 1927 Senators, there are these two rather distinctive-looking players. I am reluctant to guess at their identity but am hoping that the clarity of the photographs may make them recognizable to someone. One player they are not is Johnny Monroe, who is shown posed along this same Wrigley Field railing in John Spalding's history of Sacramento Senators baseball.⁴ The Monroe picture is credited to the collection of Dick Dobbins and is, I am convinced, one example of an Outland photograph that was acquired by Dobbins.

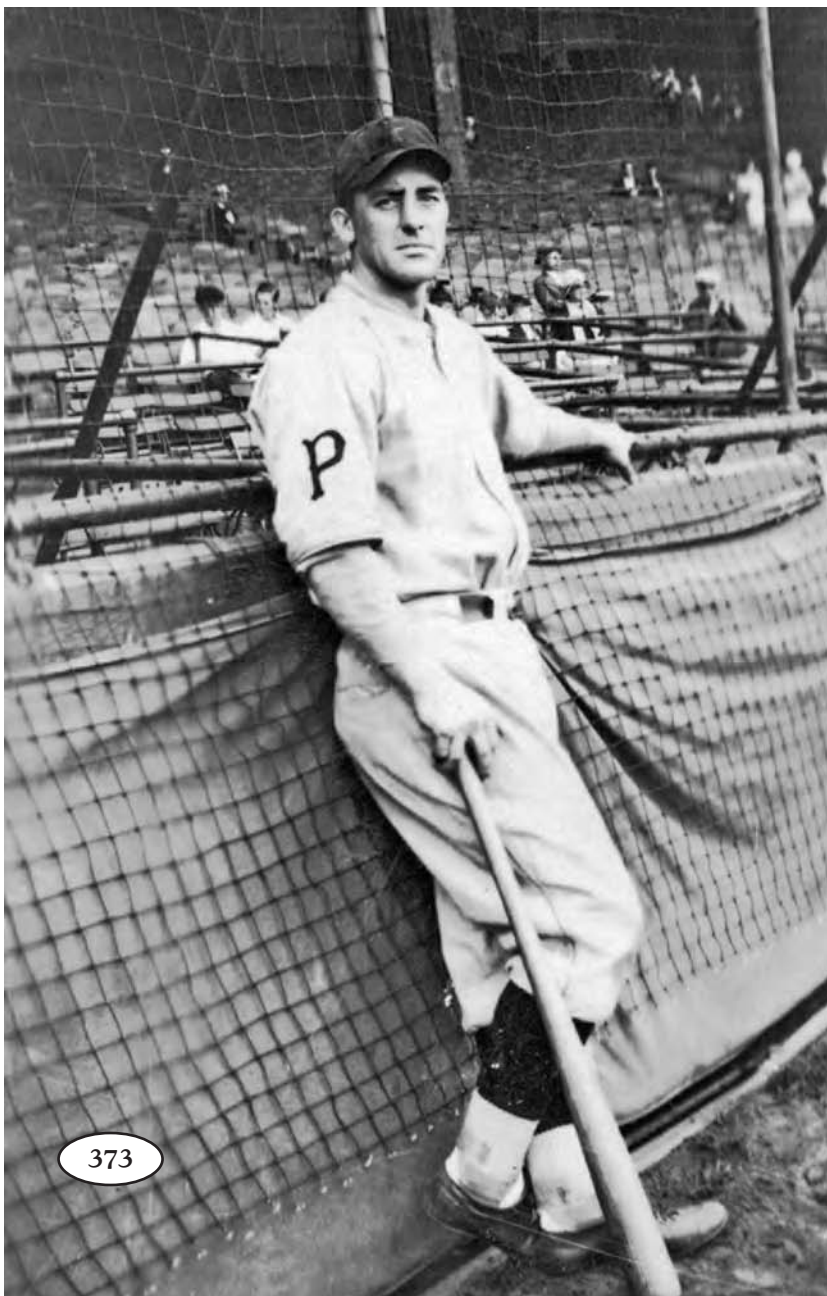


370/371. Hollywood, 1927 (2): Again, I hesitate to speculate as to who these two Hollywood Stars might be other than to suggest that the player with his hands by his side does look somewhat like Mickey Heath. The gentleman with his hands on his hips appears old enough perhaps to be a coach.

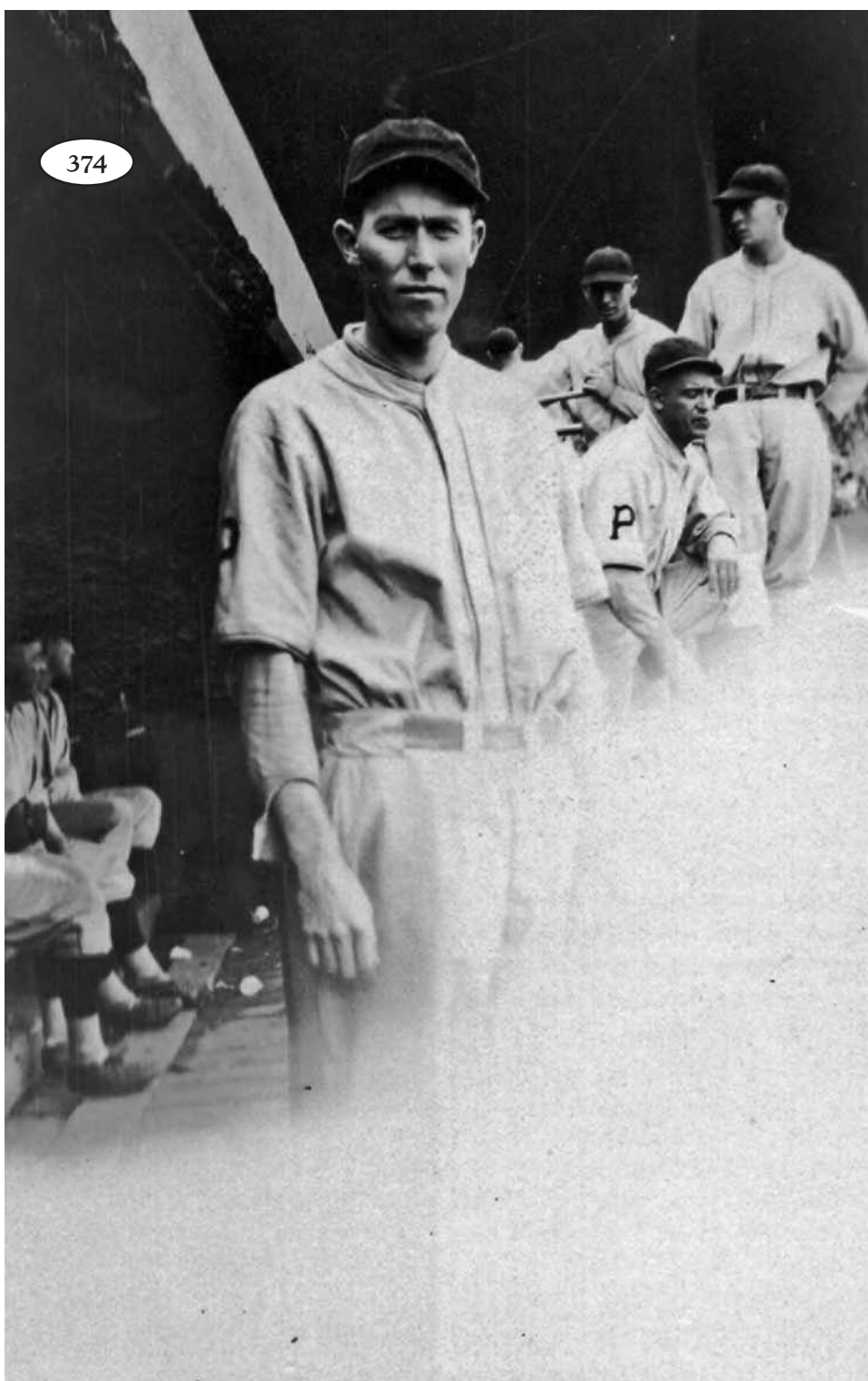




372. Seattle, 1928: Other than this man being a member of the 1928 Seattle Indians, I have no insight as to whom he might be.



373/374/375. Pittsburgh, 1929 (3): Pictured here are three Pittsburgh Pirates who ought to be recognizable. The man leaning against the fence with the bat in his hand looks like Ray Kremer, but I am reluctant to make that identification definitive given the several other pictures that George took of Kremer, including another in 1929, where Remy adopted more of a pitcher's pose. The slight man standing on the dugout steps may again be Jewel Ens who, by the middle of 1929, was managing the Pirates. The individual seated on the rail is possibly Dick Bartell although the face appears to be a little bit fuller than Bartell's.



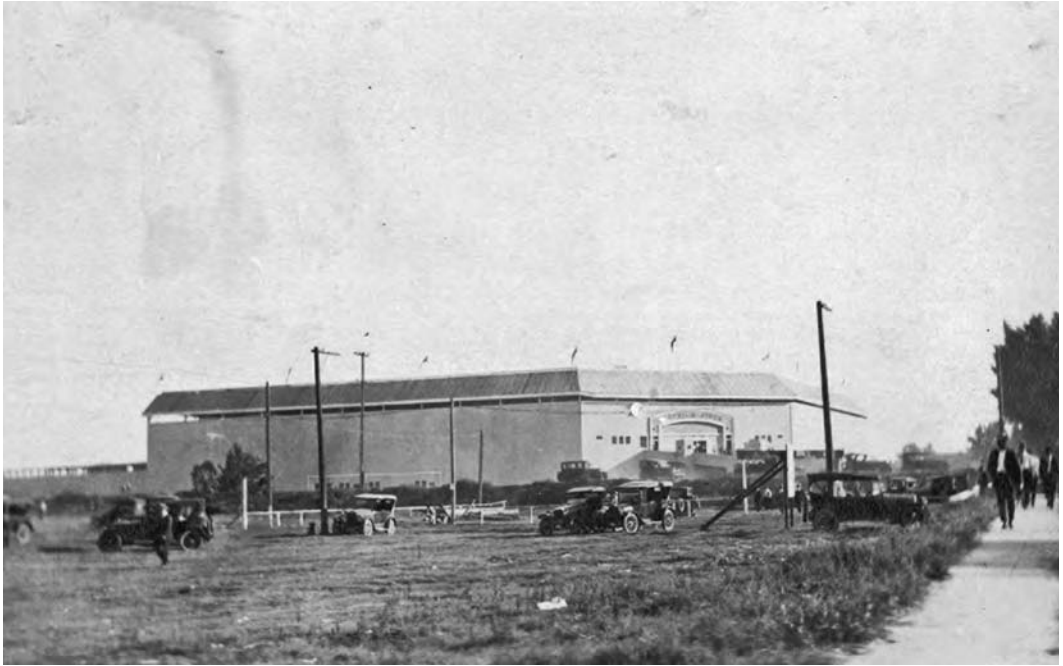




376. Boston, 1929: Finally, there is one player from the 1929 Boston Braves. Since George photographed virtually every other Braves regular that year, I was hoping that this might be Lance Richbourg. Unfortunately, the facial resemblance does not appear to be that close. One other possibility is pitcher Harry "Socks" Siebold.

Ballparks

While Outland was not particularly systematic in his photography of ballparks, he did take some pictures that might be of historical interest. Arriving early at games allowed him to roam the stands and often take his photographs from different angles and locations. A good example are the pictures shown earlier of Wrigley Field, Los Angeles. An extensive sample of his other photographs, again organized chronologically, is presented here.



377/378. Moreing Field, Sacramento, 1922 (2): Although still only 15, George was in Sacramento in the late summer of 1922 and was able to photograph the new stadium that had been built that year by Senators' owner Lew Moreing. The ballpark was, in effect, a thorough reconstruction of the preexisting Buffalo Park and could now comfortably accommodate 10,000 fans. George's exterior and interior pictures shown here were previously published in John Spalding's 1995 history of the Sacramento franchise.⁵

Washington Park, Los Angeles, 1922–24. Outland spent his earliest baseball years watching games at Washington Park in Los Angeles. Aside from the numerous photographs he took of ballplayers with Washington Park as the backdrop, George took at least 17 pictures of the park itself or of games in progress. He particularly liked to photograph Opening Day ceremonies. Four pictures of the park, representing different angles and years, are included here.



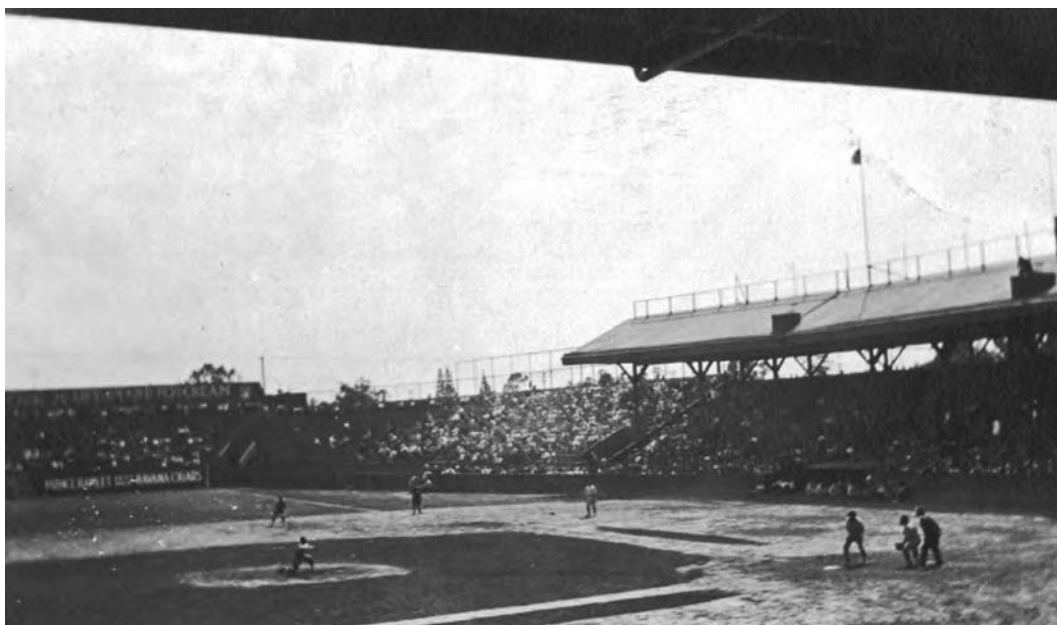
379. WP, 1922: Opening Day, 1922, with the first pitch being thrown out by Los Angeles Mayor George Cryer.



380. WP, 1923: Another Opening Day ceremony, this time in 1923. Note the announcer with the megaphone on the right.



381. WP, 1924 (1): Here the Angels are warming up along the first base line, again taken on Opening Day, 1924.



382. WP, 1924 (2): Game action of August 9, 1924, a contest between Oakland and Vernon. Players include George Foster pitching and Pete Read catching for Oakland, and Jim Blakesley batting for Vernon.



383. Comiskey Park, Chicago, 1924. The first major league game that George attended was at Comiskey Park in Chicago. Shown here is the main entrance to the park with its several ticket booths. Shown earlier in Chapter 2 was the picture of Marty McManus crossing home plate after homering. Two years after these pictures were taken, the park was entirely double-decked.

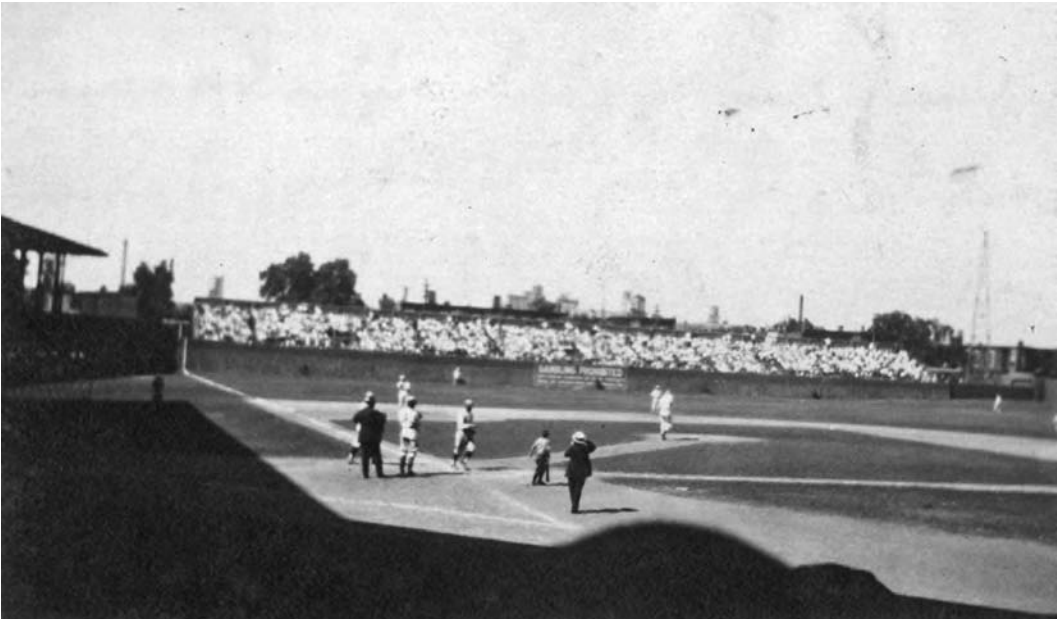
Shibe Park, Philadelphia, 1924. On his first trip east, George visited Shibe Park, Philadelphia, which became one of his favorite major league venues. Shown here are three photographs taken from that 1924 visit.



384. Shibe I: Although badly faded, this picture portrays the Lehigh Avenue approach to the first of the concrete-and-steel ballparks, built in 1909.



385. Shibe 2: Shibe's covered double-deck grandstand is shown here.



386. Shibe 3: This game action shows the single-deck left field bleachers. A second deck and roof were added one year later in 1925.⁶ In this picture from July 6, Bobby Veach of the Red Sox is completing a home run hit off of Fred Heimach of the As. Catching is Cy Perkins.

Yankee Stadium, New York, 1924.

387. Yankee 1: This photograph of the exterior of Yankee Stadium, only in its second year of existence, shows the somewhat desolate surroundings of the area. The Harlem River is in the foreground.



388. Yankee 2: This interior photograph captures the rather sparse crowd attending the Yankees v. White Sox game of July 9, 1924. George has identified the players as Red Faber pitching, Ray Schalk catching, Bob Meusel at bat, and Miller Huggins coaching.



389. Recreation Park, San Francisco, 1924: Again, a somewhat similar photograph was shown in Chapter 2 of the Vernon v. San Francisco game of July 18, 1924. Here Wes Griffin of the Tigers completes his home run trot after connecting off Bob Geary of the Seals.



390/391. **Pirates Field, Paso Robles, 1927 (2):** Here are two probably rather rare exhibition game pictures taken at the Pittsburgh Pirates training facility in Paso Robles, California, during the spring of 1927.

Redland Field, Cincinnati, 1927. Four views are shown here of Redland Field in Cincinnati. The name was changed to Crosley Field in 1934 after the purchase of the Reds by Powel Crosley, Jr.



392. Redland 1: An exterior view of the entrance to the ballpark.



393. Redland 2: The view from behind third base. Note the absence of fans, suggesting how early George was accustomed to arriving at ballparks, especially ones that were new for him.

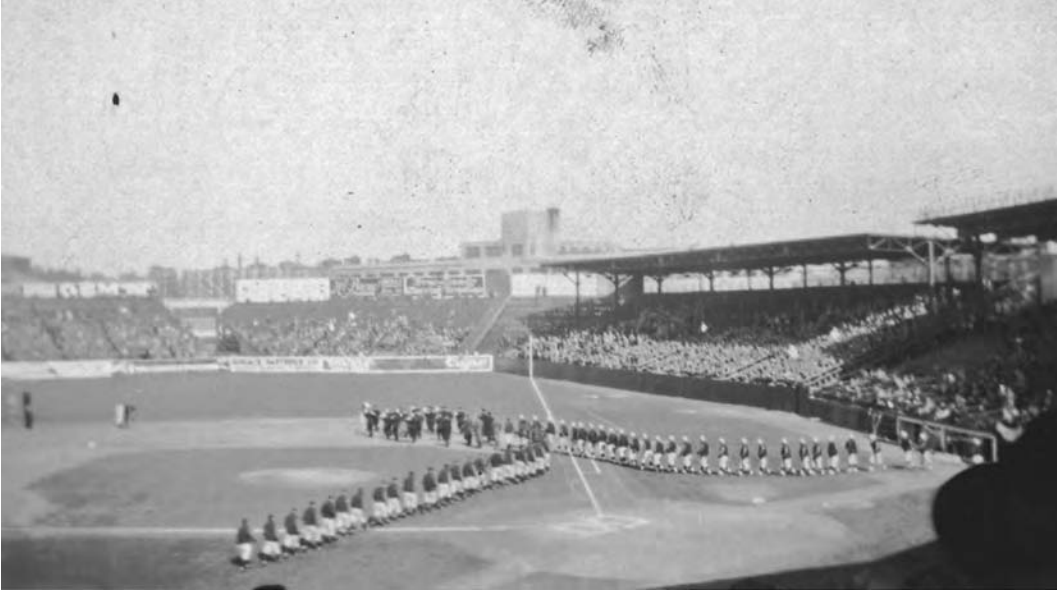


394. Redland 3: Straight away centerfield. Only barely visible is the four-foot terrace in left field.



395. Redland 4: From home plate to the grandstand. During the preceding winter of 1926-27, home plate had been moved twenty feet forward, thus expanding the size of foul territory.⁷

Fenway Park, Boston, 1929. Two pictures are shown here from Opening Day, 1929.



396. Fenway 1: The teams parade onto the field before the game, Boston from the first base dugout.

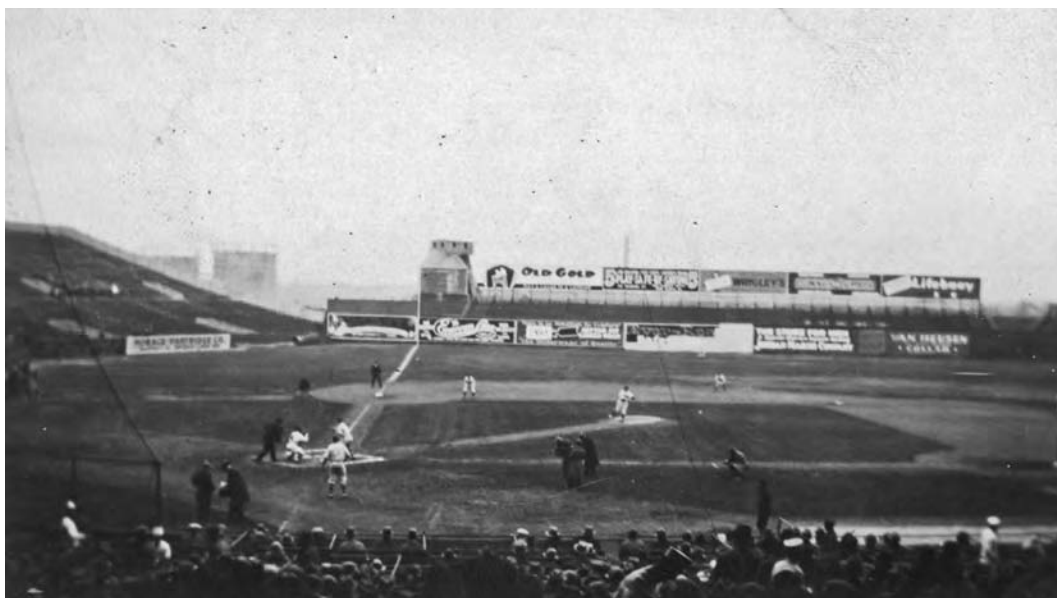


397. Fenway 2: Babe Ruth of the Yankees batting against pitcher Ed Morris of the Red Sox. Note the photographers on the field.

Braves Field, Boston, 1929. Shown are three representative photographs of George's frequent hangout at Braves Field.



398. Braves 1: A view of the right field pavilion at Braves Field. This portion of the stands has been preserved and is now part of Nickerson Field, Boston University.⁸



399. Braves 2: This picture is of the opening game of the 1929 season with Bob Smith pitching for Boston against batter Johnny Frederick of Brooklyn. Again, note the proximity of the photographers on the field.



400. **Braves 3:** This is a somewhat unusual photograph since the home team here is the American League's Red Sox. The batter is Boston first baseman Phil Todt. Between April 28, 1929, and May 29, 1932, the Red Sox were forced to use Braves Field for Sunday games since Fenway Park was off-limits due to a law that stated that no games on Sunday could be played within 1,000 feet of a church.⁹

The Polo Grounds, New York, 1930. Outland's first visit to the Polo Grounds came in 1930. It would not be his last. Indeed, the Polo Grounds, undoubtedly because of the short leftfield bleachers, became one of his favorite haunts and was the site of the most home runs (111) that he was to see at any major league park (see Appendix 2).



401. Polo 1: The view toward dead centerfield, 505 feet from home plate.



402. Polo 2: Looking in from centerfield, an equally long distance!



403. Wrigley Field, Chicago, 1930: This photograph was unidentified but looked suspiciously like Wrigley Field, Chicago, before the ivy was planted along the left field wall. Sure enough, an almost duplicate copy of this picture is included in Philip Lowry's *Green Cathedrals*.¹⁰



404. Oaks Ball Park, Emeryville, CA, 1936(?): It is unfortunate that this picture was not taken on the horizontal, since that perspective would better capture the fans leaving Oaks Park via the leftfield entrance/exit gate. It is not clear exactly when this picture was taken. George's home run log indicates that he attended a game in Oakland for the first time in 1936 and then did so again in 1937 and 1938.



405. Oaks Ball Park, 1951: For contrast purposes, I have taken the liberty of including a picture that I took, at the age of eight, of Oaks Park in 1951. My recollection is that this park was a very nice place to watch a game.

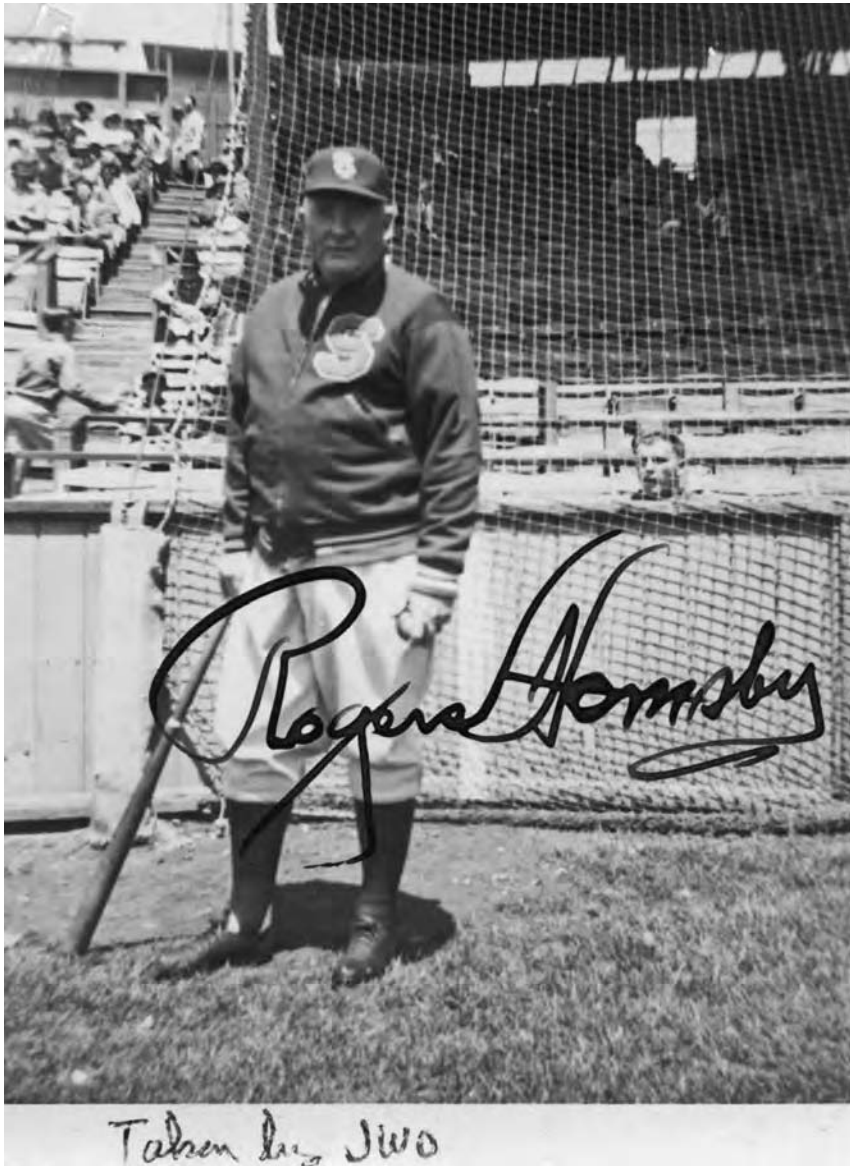
Postscript

While my father's picture taking ended, for all intents and purposes, in 1930, he did, as the last picture suggests, attempt to introduce me to his hobby while I was still quite young. It was a habit I did not adopt, except briefly during that one year of 1951. On that day at Oaks Park, for instance, I was able to go on the field and photograph two old Hall of Famers and favorites of my father's, George Kelly, then a coach for the Oakland Oaks, and Rogers Hornsby, the manager for one year of the Seattle Rainiers.

I am including these pictures as a kind of postscript to the legacy that my father left for me, both his love of the game and the photographic affirmation of it.



406. **George “Highpockets” Kelly:** A good hitter and slick fielder, the 6’ 4” Kelly held down first base for the New York Giants during their glory years of the early 1920s. After token appearances in the National League from 1915 through 1919, Kelly fully established himself in 1920 and was to continue to be productive through his final season with Brooklyn in 1932. He had a career average of .297, which included five seasons with 100 RBI and another with 99. After his playing days were over, Kelly coached and scouted for several teams, including accompanying his good friend Charlie Dressen to Oakland in 1949. Kelly stayed on to assist another former Giant, Mel Ott, who managed the Oaks in 1951 and 1952.



407. **Rogers Hornsby:** Arguably the greatest righthanded batter of all time, Hornsby hit for both power and average during his remarkable 23-year major league career. In 1924, he hit .424 with 25 home runs and followed that up in 1925 with a .403, 39-homer season. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1942. Known as a perfectionist and a hard taskmaster, Hornsby's managerial career was less successful although he did lead the Cardinals to a World Championship in 1926. Here he is shown in his one year as manager of the Seattle Rainiers. He guided the Rainiers to the 1951 PCL pennant, which was good enough to get him back to the majors as manager of the 1952 St. Louis Browns. The crusty Hornsby was gracious enough to allow an eight-year-old to take this picture and later to autograph it for me in a Sacramento hotel lobby.

Epilogue: The Later Years, 1931–1981

George Outland lived another fifty years beyond 1930, and he maintained his home run log for forty-four of those years. The log reflects, to some extent, the peaks and valleys of his life and is indicative of where he was and what he was doing at a particular time. For instance, he stayed on in Boston until mid-1933, continuing his settlement house work, and his home run totals for those early 1930s, with the exception of a few at the end of 1932, were exclusively major league in nature.

During this period in Boston, George appears to have made an effort to become acquainted with several local sports celebrities, sometimes asking them to visit with the boys at Denison House. Notable examples included Boston Bruins hockey stars Eddie Shore and “Dit” Clapper, Harvard All-America center Ben Ticknor, boxer Ernie Schaef, and Boston Braves outfielder Wes Schulmerich. In the case of Schulmerich, he and George actually became rather close friends—being fellow West Coasters didn’t hurt—and Wes may have even been a visitor at George’s summer camp during the 1931-32 period. George had first seen Schulmerich homer when Wes was playing for the Los Angeles Angels in 1928, and it was fortuitous that they were “reunited” during those early 1930s years in Boston.



408. George Outland and Wes Schulmerich: Outland (left) poses here with Wes Schulmerich of the Boston Braves. The outdoor setting perhaps suggests that the picture was taken near the Baldpate Pond area of Massachusetts where George ran a summer camp. Schulmerich, a former football player at Oregon State, played 429 games in the major leagues and posted a .289 average. His greatest success came in the Pacific Coast League where he played six years and averaged .332.

1933 marked the all-time high point in George's home run log. He witnessed 98 that year with the great majority of them again coming in the late summer at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. George was in the process of transitioning back to the West Coast, having accepted a position as Director of Boy's Work for Neighborhood House in Los Angeles. Included in the home runs for the year were four-baggers by both Joe and Vince DiMaggio. GEO's retrospective on Joe's, hit off of Win Ballou of the Angels, reads as follows:

The hard low liner into the center field bleachers was just another new homer to me at the time. Later I saw him hit his first big league home run. But who could have known that this slender Italian would become one of the great homer hitters of all time? This Sunday afternoon I much preferred Funk (Elias) and Zinn (Jimmy). I really did.¹

Late in 1933, Outland experienced a significant upgrade in his employment status as he was hired to become Supervisor for the Federal Transient Service's Boy's Welfare Department for Southern California. The FTS was an agency created during Franklin Roosevelt's First 100 Days to deal with the problem of migrant young men who had "hit the road" during the height of the Depression. It was part of the larger Federal Emergency Relief Administration. The "Boy's Department" included young men between the ages of 16 and 20, so George's settlement house background qualified as useful preparation.

The Federal Transient Service proved to be short lived, however, as most of its functions were assumed by the National Youth Administration beginning in June of 1935. Perhaps seeing the end of the FTS in sight, George applied to Yale to pursue a Ph.D. in what amounted to educational sociology beginning in the fall of 1935. He and his young family were thus off again for the East Coast, this time by way of train to New Orleans and ship to New York. What made the trip notable was that they were aboard the Morgan Liner's "Dixie" when it was caught off the Florida Keys during a ferocious category five hurricane on Labor Day weekend. The ship floundered on the hazardous rocks of French Reef, sixty miles south of Miami. For 48 hours, the passengers were stranded on a violently rolling ship with no fresh water. Outland's 1927 sea voyage to Europe perhaps allowed him to "weather the storm," and he is implicitly credited, in a recent account of the hurricane, with helping to calm the passengers, first by playing the piano and stimulating a sing-along and later by organizing a poker game.²

The years 1935 through 1937 were described as "lean" ones in George's home run log as he saw only 44 homers during that three-year period. The description might also apply to other dimensions of his life since he and Virginia were experiencing marital difficulties and, after a separation period in the fall of 1935, were formally divorced in 1936. GEO was hard at work on his Ph.D. during this period while also serving as Director of New Haven Community College. Baseball, and perhaps family life, were taking a back seat.

In June of 1937, Outland received his Ph.D. from Yale, having been able to tap his Federal Transient Service experience for his dissertation. He also by this time had met the woman, fellow graduate student Ruth Clara Merry, who became my mother.

His other priority that summer was to return to California “toward whatever job beckoned.” That job turned out to be a teaching position at Santa Barbara State College, now the University of California at Santa Barbara.

The following summer of 1938, George traveled east once more, this time to propose to Ruth, to meet her parents, and to bring her west with him. An artist by training, Ruth was not a great baseball fan, but she and George struck up a *modus operandi* of sorts, as described in Dad’s comments regarding homer number 650:

With Ruthie on the way south and west. She to the art galleries and I to the baseball games, this day with the taxi cabs on strike. In the first inning in this game at Shibe Park, Philadelphia, George McQuinn socked a beauty, high and far over that right field fence atop the old one in the first inning. It was a grand blow and much appreciated by GEO on seeing this particular park again after many years.

On December 2, 1938, Ruth and George were married and proceeded to settle down to California college life in the pretty little town of Santa Barbara. The following year George’s book, *Boy Transiency in America*, was published and was well received by the academic community.³ Life was good for the Outlands, and, despite the disruptions occurring in the rest of the world, it appeared that a period of relative stability lay ahead for them.

That illusion ended by 1942. Not only had the country entered into war, but George had been asked that spring if he would be interested in running as a Democrat for the open congressional seat in the newly created 11th district, a contiguous area that ran along California’s Pacific Coast for over 300 miles and linked the adjacent counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey. While terribly gerrymandered today (it is now the 23rd district), in 1942 the district was geographically coherent, largely rural, and politically competitive. The fact that it was a new district and that there was no incumbent meant that the race would be wide open.

George won the nomination against four Democratic rivals and then defeated his Republican opponent in November in a very close election. He had bucked a conservative tide in 1942 which saw the GOP gain 47 seats in the House of Representatives.⁴ Consequently, in November of 1942, one month after his 36th birthday, George Outland and family—I had been born in August and my half-brother George was now living with us—once again prepared to travel east and this time take up residence in Washington D.C.

Outland served two terms in Congress and, despite his short tenure, rose to a position of considerable prominence within Democratic congressional ranks. His physical size (6’3”, 230 lbs), youthful vigor, intellectual background (Yale Ph.D.), and assertive willingness to speak out on controversial issues made him an attractive spokesman for the liberal, New Deal wing of the party. Perhaps the highlight of his legislative career came with his role as floor leader in the House (i.e., Chair of the Executive Committee) on behalf of what was originally entitled the “Full Employment Bill” of 1945. A watered down version, the Employment Act of 1946, was eventually passed, and it represented a major piece of post-war legislation. Its purpose was to assure the government’s active involvement in the economy so as to minimize the likelihood of future depressions—a not unworthy objective, as we have been recently reminded.



409. President Truman signs the Employment Act of 1946: Outland is the tall man in the dark suit immediately behind Truman. Others in the picture include (left to right) Senator Joseph O'Mahoney (Wyoming), Representative Wright Patman (Texas), Senator William Langer (North Dakota), Representative Outland, Representative William Whittington (Mississippi), President Harry Truman, Senator Charles Tobey (New Hampshire), Senator George Radcliffe (Maryland), Representative George Bender (Ohio), Senator Abe Murdock (Utah) [Credit Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C.].

Needless to say, Outland's attendance at baseball games during his congressional days was limited. He recorded seeing only 16 home runs between 1941 and 1944. Things began to pick up in 1945 as he saw 13 that year including 12 in New York as a result "of special trips for exactly that purpose." Four of the homers were witnessed on Opening Day at the Polo Grounds and were hit by Phil Weintraub, Mike Sandlock, Eddie Stanky, and Harry Feldman. The write up for Weintraub's gives an indication of GEO's hectic schedule:

I dashed in from the Washington train en route from Washington to New Haven for a speech just in time to pause in the lower stands and see Weintraub whack one way out in the lower right field stands. The papers the next day said it was over 400 feet in length; I was so out of breath and in such a rush that I could not possibly tell. Anyway, it was a good one.

1946 saw George's home run total increase to 30, a small indication of the many more to come. His most revealing comment for the year regarded one he saw by Stan Musial: "I thought at the time that this was the greatest baseball player I had ever seen—and have never stopped so thinking." He wrote this in 1950, and nothing George ever said subsequently seems to have altered that opinion. For someone who had seen the number and quality of ballplayers that my father had, this tribute to Musial is high praise indeed.

Outland's reelection in 1946 seemed almost assured, as he rolled up impressive numbers in the June primary and came within 900 votes of even winning the Republican nomination under California's unique cross filing system. By November, however, the Republicans had poured substantial resources into the district in an effort "to oust Outland" just as they were supporting Richard Nixon in the neighboring 12th district against George's friend and colleague Jerry Voorhis. In fact, the 1946 election turned out to be a Republican landslide with the GOP's representation in California's 23 House seats going from seven to fourteen. The liberal journal *The New Republic* bemoaned the outcome, referring specifically to George Outland, "the unofficial leader of the informal liberal bloc.... His loss for the liberal cause is the equivalent of at least 10 average Northern Democrats."⁵

Following his defeat, my father did not wish to return to the Santa Barbara area and concluded that it was time "to start anew." That opportunity came when he accepted a teaching position, beginning February 1, 1947, at San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State University). He also agreed to stay involved in Democratic party politics by accepting an offer from friend and California State Central Committee Chairman James Roosevelt to chair a newly created party policy committee which would undertake the difficult task of attempting to articulate a common party position on various policy issues facing the state and the nation. Despite these new challenges, however, George confessed, in the final comments of his home run log for 1946, that it was "back to the minors" in 1947, both from a baseball and a more personal standpoint.

As with many baseball fans throughout the country, my father's interest in the game resumed with a vengeance following the war. Indeed, for the six-year period between 1947 and 1952, he saw 465 home runs, an average of almost 78 per year. His work on behalf of the Democratic Party, beginning in 1947, allowed him to see games throughout California, with his "home base" now located in San Francisco and Oakland. George's biggest home run thrill for the 1947 season came at the very end of the year in an exhibition game at Seals Stadium between a black team and a group of Bob Feller–led All-Stars. The batter was the emerging slugger Ralph Kiner:

...It was hit harder and farther than any of the wonderful blows he had hit during batting practice. Seldom has a game started out with the first inning itself seeing the one man I wanted to see come through so perfectly and so completely. There was little to the rest of the game, no more homers by Kiner or anyone else. It mattered not. I had seen what I came to see, and the 1947 season ended on exactly the right note.

By the late fall of 1949, my father's political involvement began to accelerate as he was informally advising James Roosevelt, still the State Democratic Chairman, on

a possible run for governor of California in 1950. In December, Roosevelt moved to formalize the relationship by asking George to serve as his campaign manager. Outland agreed and worked in that capacity through the primary election in June. At that point he and Roosevelt parted company, and George prepared to resume his teaching responsibilities at San Francisco State in the fall. Even in the midst of a hectic campaign, however, George had managed to squeeze in some baseball. Note his entry with respect to new homer number 521 by Monte Irvin of the Giants:

Sneaked away from JR's office for an extra half hour to see this one. Giant 2nd stringers down to play USC at Bovard Field. Durocher there too. In the second inning this big colored boy smacked one high and far over the deep center field fence, and I had a real thrill. Also felt compelled to go back to the office! What a conscience!



410. Ralph Kiner, James Roosevelt, Wally Westlake: California gubernatorial candidate James Roosevelt poses with outfielders Ralph Kiner and Wally Westlake of the Pittsburgh Pirates during spring training of 1950. Outland was serving as Roosevelt's campaign manager and encouraged him to pose with celebrities whenever possible [Credit: Randolph Studios, San Bernardino, California].

By 1951, my father was divorcing himself more and more from politics and focusing his attention on his professional and family responsibilities. I was now at an age (eight-and-a-half) where I could accompany him to ballgames and, as indicated earlier, he encouraged me to take a camera with me on such occasions. He also recommended that I take along a baseball magazine featuring the teams we were about to see so that if autograph opportunities arose I could get players to sign their pictures rather than simply a piece of paper. He obviously enjoyed passing on to me the lessons he had learned from his many years of interacting with ballplayers and collecting signatures.

1951 was also the year that my father introduced me to the game a little more directly. Perhaps drawing upon his old settlement house experiences, he organized a little neighborhood baseball (*i.e.*, softball) team. Like a pied piper, he started with a half dozen of us, ages 8–10, and other kids began to flock around. There was no organized league to play in, and the availability of fields limited us to softball, but Dad would call around the city and schedule games for us against whoever could come up with a team: the Columbia Park Boys Club, Funston School, cub scout troops, *etc.* We usually practiced on asphalt, so certain maneuvers were limited, but Dad taught us the fundamentals: how and when to bunt, how to hit the cut-off man, the value of batting last and, most of all, how to have a good time. He would post weekly announcements, game accounts, and updated batting averages, along with some positive comment about each boy who played, on our back patio door, and team members would crowd around to see how they and the team were doing. We called ourselves the “Park Merced Bullpups,” and our progress was chronicled in the neighborhood newspaper. So successful was our experience that my father continued it for three more years, always *ad hoc* until our final season (1954) when we did play in an organized league.



411. George and John Outland: Manager and second baseman of the Park Merced Bullpups, June, 1953.

As it turned out, 1952 proved to be the last really big year in George's home run life, as he saw 63 homers at 24 different parks across the country. The opportunity for travel arose as a result of a Ford Foundation grant he received to help strengthen the social science component of S.F. State's general education program. George visited approximately 25 colleges and universities throughout the country—including schools such as Columbia, Colgate, Michigan State, and Florida State—that were recognized for their effective integration of the social sciences into their general education programs. Needless to say, he planned his trips strategically, beginning in Florida during spring training, so that he could maximize the number of ballgames while visiting the various colleges on his list. Almost all the games he saw that year were prior to mid-June, as we would increasingly spend the summer months at a small cabin in the Sierras that my folks had purchased at the end of 1951.

Indeed, George's declining attendance at ballgames throughout the 1950s can at least partially be explained by his desire to spend as much time at our mountain cabin as possible. His preferred form of relaxation, in effect, found him increasingly reading in a hammock rather sitting in the grandstand. Nevertheless, the home run reduction was gradual. He was still able to see 39 in 1953 and 30 in 1954, made possible in part by his periodic trips to New York and particularly the Polo Grounds. Throughout much of the 1950s, Outland was a member of the Board of Directors of Consumer's Union, publisher of *Consumer Reports*, and would attend their periodic board meetings in New York City.

By the late 1950s, the Giants and Dodgers had moved west, so that big league baseball was now coming to George rather than the reverse. As a result, his home run totals rebounded slightly to 29 in 1959 and 24 in 1961. Nevertheless, the pattern was downward, as health problems also diminished his desire to travel extended distances for ballgames. He and I did see our only World Series game in 1959 as the Dodgers defeated the White Sox, 3–1, before 92,000 fans at the Los Angeles Coliseum. I recall the game being thoroughly boring. Fortunately, the weekend had been made more complete by our being able to see USC shutout Ohio State, 17–0, two nights earlier on the same Coliseum floor. My father's only other sports passion besides baseball was USC football, an allegiance he had also introduced me to back in 1951.

The 24 home runs seen in 1961 were bolstered by ten which George saw as a result of two last nostalgic trips to Wrigley Field in Los Angeles, the temporary home of the new major league Los Angeles Angels. Fittingly, the last home run he saw at Wrigley was by Roger Maris, who was on his way to a record-breaking 61 homers that year.

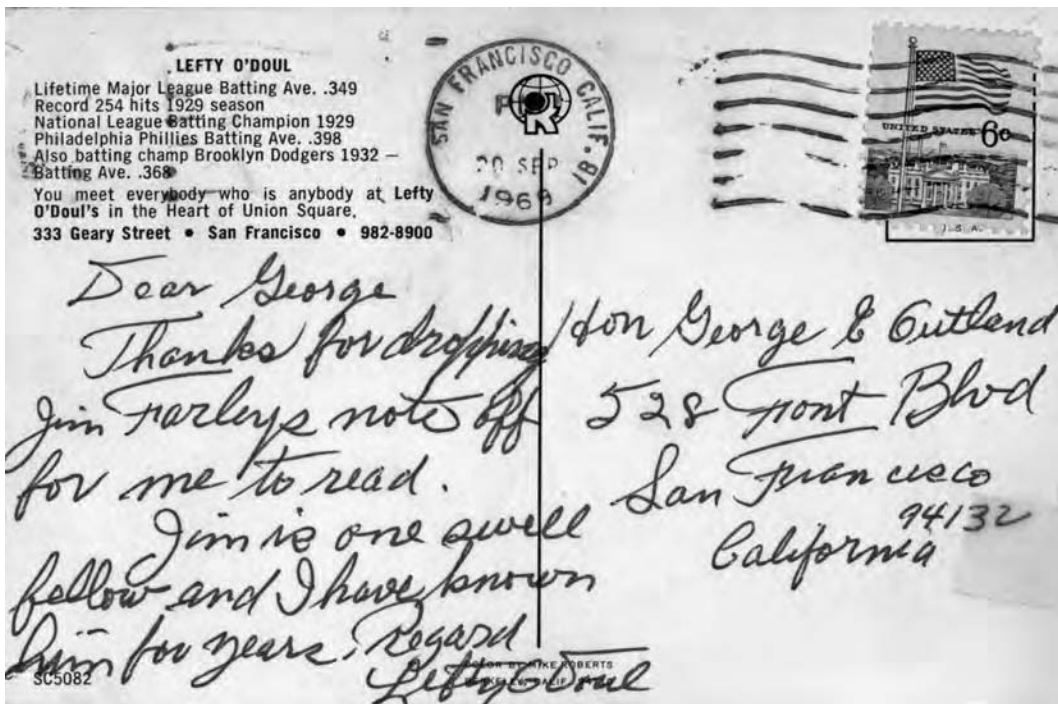
Throughout the rest of the 1960s, George's home run totals dropped precipitously, including two years, 1968–69, when he saw none at all. He did stay engaged with the game in the early 1960s by managing a Social Science division softball team at S.F. State which challenged all comers within the college. The players participated for the fun of it, but my father took it fairly seriously, as he did any kind of competitive contest.⁶ His team called him "Alvin" after Alvin Dark, then the brooding manager of the San Francisco Giants, and Dad would wear the same old Boston Braves jersey that he had used ten years earlier when I was playing for him. The story he told

was that he had gotten the shirt from the Braves during the early 1930s when he did some informal bird dog scouting for them while organizing his Boston settlement house teams.

It was somewhere during this period of the early to middle 1960s that my father became seriously acquainted with Frank “Lefty” O’Doul, the famous ballplayer, long-time manager of the San Francisco Seals, San Francisco restaurateur, and general man about town. O’Doul ran a restaurant/saloon on Geary Street not far from Union Square, and my father would stop in there occasionally after teaching an evening “extension” course at S.F. State’s downtown center on Powell Street. O’Doul was an easy person to know, and my father found many interests in common with him, beginning, of course, with baseball. George had first seen O’Doul homer, twice in one game off of Earl Kunz, while Lefty was playing for Hollywood in 1926. In 1929, he saw him homer at Braves Field while George was in Boston and O’Doul was in the midst of his National League–leading career year (.398 batting average) for the Philadelphia Phillies.

One evening my father took several of his baseball photographs with him to show to O’Doul. Lefty was intrigued and asked if he could keep them for awhile. My father reluctantly agreed. On several subsequent occasions, he inquired about them, but Lefty either wasn’t available or asked if he could keep them a little longer. Finally, in early 1968, almost three years after George had first brought them in, Lefty returned Dad’s photographs. Fortunately, my father got them when he did. Lefty died unexpectedly at the age of 72 on December 7, 1969.

A second common interest my father had with O’Doul was that they shared many mutual acquaintances. Perhaps the most prominent of these was James Farley, long-time Democratic party leader and, like Lefty and my father, a gregarious extrovert. GEO had first met Farley in 1946 at Farley’s Coca Cola headquarters in New York City, and he considered Farley to be “one of the most likeable, interesting, and able persons” he had ever met.⁷ Farley was famous, of course, for his fantastic memory and his ability to remember names, not only of the people he met but also of their friends and family members. Farley maintained an extensive network of contacts, with my father being one of them, and he immediately wrote to O’Doul in November of 1969 upon hearing from George of Lefty’s illness.⁸



412. Postcard: Postcard from Lefty O'Doul regarding Jim Farley. GEO served as a kind of conduit between the two gregarious Irishmen.

By the late 1960s, things had turned ugly at San Francisco State, as multiple controversial issues, including the Vietnam War, the free speech movement, minority student demands, and resistance to outside authority as represented by Governor Ronald Reagan, had become intertwined. Even the traditional camaraderie among faculty was threatened. Things reached a peak about the time of the November 1968 election. Several students and faculty were calling for a boycott of classes and were attempting to intimidate those, including my father, who were urging the continuation of business as usual. Perhaps to deter interruptions, GEO kept one of my old baseball bats prominently displayed in a corner of his classroom. He also fully supported the efforts of his friend and colleague, the newly appointed President of S.F. State, S. I. ("Don") Hayakawa, to bring order to the campus. All told, it was not a happy time, both at San Francisco State and in George's life generally. Indicative, perhaps, were those two years, 1968–69, with the absence of home runs.

Adding to my father's sadness, and to my own, was the death of his wife and my mother, Ruth Merry, in mid-January of 1970. George recovered somewhat by the fall of 1971 when he married for the third time, this time to a neighbor who had provided considerable support during the period surrounding Ruth's death. Dad's baseball attendance also picked up somewhat, and he saw 23 home runs in 1971, most of them at either Candlestick Park or the Oakland Coliseum, but a few were also at RFK

in Washington and Parker Field in Richmond when he came east to visit his newest grandchild.

In the fall of 1974, George and his wife Martha moved from San Francisco to live out their retirement years in Anacortes, Washington, a small but growing community located in the San Juan Islands northwest of Seattle. The last home run that Outland saw, number 1,503 in game 1,328, was hit by Darrel Chaney of the Cincinnati Reds off Jim Barr of the Giants in a late September game at Candlestick Park. Ironically, Dad's home run list, which includes so many great ballplayers, thus begins and ends with light hitting journeymen infielders: Howard Lindimore, who never reached the big leagues, and Darrel Chaney, who did, but who hit only 14 home runs in his eleven-year big league career.

George's final years in Anacortes were peaceful ones, but there is little doubt that he missed the amenities of the big city, including the opportunity to attend ball games. I made my last trip to visit him in August of 1980 when his health was deteriorating rapidly. His mind, however, fueled by constant reading, was still sharp and active. On March 2, 1981, he died in his Anacortes home of a massive heart attack. His wife Martha recalled that:

In the final hours of his life, he once again was reading Alistair Cooke's *America*. George paused in his reading to say, "Every time I read this book I get more out of it." Then, looking pensive, staring into a dark corner of the room, he mused, "This is a wonderful country." Closing the book on his hand, he said "And by God, I contributed to it."⁹

Little did George probably realize that among his contributions were the baseball memories that are recalled and shared in this book.

Appendix 1:

A Home Run Biography, 1922–1974

Individuals who were seen homering for the first time (new) were typed into Outland's log in red; those seen homering a second or more times (old) were typed in blue. (Readers of a certain age will recall that typewriter ribbons once came with both red and blue ink on a single spool.)

<i>Era</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Old</i>	<i>Total</i>
I. The Early Years	1922	3	1	4
	1923	4	1	5
	1924	24	2	26
	1925	15	6	21
II. The Glory Years	1926	26	29	55
	1927	20	36	56
	1928	31	41	72
	1929	32	22	54
	1930	34	36	70
	1931	19	23	42
	1932	15	18	33
	1933	36	62	98
	1934	14	30	44
	1935	7	7	14
III. "The Big Home Run Depression"	1936	6	9	15
	1937	7	8	15
	1938	16	13	29
	1939	26	27	53
	1940	8	6	14
	1941	6	1	7

<i>Era</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Old</i>	<i>Total</i>
III. “The Big Home Run Depression” (<i>cont.</i>)	1942	0	0	0
	1943	2	3	5
	1944	2	2	4
	1945	11	2	13
IV. The Years of Renewal	1946	26	4	30
	1947	39	36	75
	1948	36	51	87
	1949	49	39	88
	1950	37	28	65
	1951	38	49	87
	1952	36	27	63
	1953	7	32	39
	1954	13	17	30
	1955	1	3	4
V. The Years of Decline	1956	12	6	18
	1957	6	6	12
	1958	3	4	7
	1959	14	15	29
	1960	0	3	3
	1961	10	14	24
	1962	4	9	13
	1963	1	0	1
	1964	0	1	1
	1965	3	3	6
	1966	3	2	5
	1967	2	6	8
	1968	0	0	0
	1969	0	0	0
	1970	4	0	4
	1971	19	4	23
	1972	9	4	13
	1973	8	2	10
	1974	7	4	11
VI. The Last Hurrah	Totals	749	754	1503

Appendix 2: *Home Runs by Ballpark*

I. Top Ten	No.
1. Wrigley Field (Los Angeles)	482
2. Seals Stadium (San Francisco)	183
3. Polo Grounds (New York)	111
4. Oaks Ball Park (Emeryville)	101
5. Candlestick Park (San Francisco)	86
6. Braves Field (Boston)	79
7. Yankee Stadium (New York)	69
8. Fenway Park (Boston)	48
9. Gilmore Field (Hollywood)	35
10. Washington Park (Los Angeles)	27
Total	1221
 II. Other Major League Parks	
1. Griffith Stadium (Washington)	14
2. Shibe Park (Philadelphia)	12
3. Oakland Coliseum (Oakland)	12
4. Ebbets Field (Brooklyn)	11
5. Sportsman's Park (St. Louis)	11
6. Forbes Field (Pittsburgh)	10
7. Wrigley Field (Chicago)	9
8. Baker Bowl (Philadelphia)	7
10. Municipal Stadium (Cleveland)	5
11. R.F.K. Stadium (Washington)	5
12. Redland (Crosley) Field (Cincinnati)	3
13. Navin Field (Detroit)	3
14. Dodger Stadium (Los Angeles)	2
15. Los Angeles Coliseum (Los Angeles)	2
Total	112

III. Other California Parks (30)

Range from Moreing and Edmonds Fields in Sacramento with a total of 13 to ten parks with one each.

Total 128

IV. Others (11)

Range from Nicollet Park (Minneapolis) with 11 to Ruppert Stadium (Kansas City) and Henley Field (Lakeland) with two each.

Total 42

Chapter Notes

Preface

1. As is also indicated in chapter six, I relied on more than just *The Baseball Encyclopedia* for reference purposes, both for player identification and for the statistical information used throughout the book. With respect to statistical data, I drew heavily from material in my own library with *The Baseball Encyclopedia* being the most important source for major league players and Dennis Snelling's *The Pacific Coast League: A Statistical History, 1903–1957* (with supplement) being the most useful for records compiled strictly in the Coast League. SABR's three-volume set, *Minor League Baseball Stars*, had the unique advantage of including the entire career records (major and minor league) of the players they identified. William McNeil's book, *The California Winter League*, was indispensable for those occasional cases where reference to accomplishments in that off-season league was appropriate. PCL team records were drawn primarily from R. Scott Mackey's *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920's*. Other sources are mentioned in chapter six with full bibliographic information in the bibliography.

2. Personal letter from Dick Dobbins, no date.

3. Neal McCabe and Constance McCabe, *Baseball's Golden Age: The Photographs of Charles M. Conlon*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1993, p. 11.

Prologue

1. Loren Ayers, personal letter to the author, August 19, 1988.

2. George E. Outland, *James Roosevelt's Primary Campaign, 1950*, Interview conducted by Amelia R. Fry, Earl Warren History Project. Berkeley, CA: University of California, 1976, p. 3.

Chapter 1

1. Note: In order to vary the references to my father a bit, I have occasionally used his initials "GEO." They were also the first three letters of his first name and were the mechanism he used frequently when signing informal correspondence.

2. Frederick G. Lieb, *The Pittsburgh Pirates*. Carbondale, IL., Southern Illinois University Press, 2003, p. 136. Originally published by G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1948.

3. R. Scott Mackey, *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920s*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1995, p. 50.

4. See Bill Lee, *The Baseball Necrology: The Post-Baseball Lives and Deaths of Over 7,600 Major League Players and Others*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2003, p. 215. Lee's book is a useful source for information of this sort.

5. George Outland, "Baseball vs. Football," *El Solano*, Twenty-first annual edition. Santa Paula, CA: Published by the students of Santa Paula Union High School, 1923, p. 64.

Chapter 2

1. Charles W. Cooper, *Whittier: Independent College in California*. Los Angeles: The Ward Ritchie Press, 1967, pp. 168–169.

2. Henry W. Thomas, *Walter Johnson: Baseball's Big Train*. Washington D. C.: Phenom Press, 1995, pp. 256–257, 415–416.

3. GEO's small diary account of the homer is supported by Thomas, *ibid.*, p. 257. The two men do differ on the score of the game, with Thomas having it at 12–1. George's account is supported by the newspaper box score in his diary.

4. R. Scott Mackey, *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920s*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1995, p. 182.

Chapter 3

1. William F. McNeil, *Gabby Hartnett: The Life and Times of the Cubs' Greatest Catcher*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2004, p. 77.

2. For an elaboration on the park, the day, and the game, see R. Scott Mackey, *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920s*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1995, pp. 108–110.

3. Mackey, *ibid.*, p. 109.

4. Gabriel Schechter, "Frederick Carlisle Snodgrass, Outfielder 1908–1915," in Tom Simon (ed.), *Deadball Stars of the National League*, (Cleveland, OH: Society for American Baseball Research, 2004), p. 66.

Chapter 4

1. Note: The park to which George is referring here is White Sox Park II, which was located at 38th and Compton Avenue, not Hooper Avenue. It was, however, across the street from Jefferson High School. Apparently GEO was not the only one confused by the location since the *Los Angeles Times* also reported it to be at 38th and Hooper. While George describes the park as "old and ramshackle," it had only been open since October 1924. See Lauren Ted Zuckerman, "Ballparks of Los Angeles, and Some of the History Surrounding Them," in Carlos Bauer and Bob Hoie (eds.), *The Minor League Baseball Research Journal*, I. Cleveland, OH: The Society for American Baseball Research, 1996, pp. 48, 69.

2. William F. McNeil, e-mail correspondence, January 15, 2001.

3. William F. McNeil, personal letter, February 3, 2001.

4. Lawrence S. Ritter, *The Glory of Their Times: A Story of the Early Days of Baseball as Told by the Men Who Played It*. New York: Macmillan, 1966, p. xviii. Note that George's knowledge (if not his memory) does fail him with respect to his remark that Bodie "had been out of organized baseball for several years." In fact, he had been out of the Coast League since 1923 but actually returned in 1927 to play two final seasons with San Francisco and Mission. See SABR, *Minor League Baseball Stars*, III. Cleveland, OH: Society for American Baseball Research, 1992, p. 42.

5. William F. McNeil, *The California Winter League: America's First Integrated Professional Baseball League*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2002, pp. 239, 261. McNeill deserves great credit for having put together the league's difficult-to-compile statistical data.

6. R. Scott Mackey, *Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920s*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1995, p. 133.

7. George seems here to be mistaking Jim Sweeney for Bill Sweeney. The latter did play for Shell Oil in

the Winter League and had also played in the majors for three years. Jim did not. See. McNeil, *ibid.*, p. 288.

8. These pictures seem to have been lost. The only one of these named players for whom I have a photograph is Jim Bottomley and that appears to have been taken in 1930 (see Chapter Five).

9. While George was unable ever to take a picture of Hornsby, he was able to help me do so in 1951. I have included it in Chapter Six.

10. See, for instance, Dick Dobbins and Jon Twichell, *Nuggets on the Diamond: Professional Baseball in the Bay Area from the Gold Rush to the Present*. San Francisco: Woodford Press, 1994, pp. 199–200.

11. See David Cantaneo, *Peanuts and Crackerjack: A Treasure of Baseball Legends and Lore*. Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press, 1991, pp. 199–200.

12. George E. Outland, "Local Boy Writes of His World Tour for Chronicle," *Santa Paula Chronicle*, Dispatch of July 13, 1927.

13. *Ibid.*, Dispatch of July 14, 1927.

14. *Ibid.*, Dispatch of July 28, 1927.

Chapter 5

1. Charles F. Outland, *Man Made Disaster: The Story of St. Francis Dam*. Glendale, CA: The Arthur H. Clarke Co., 1963.

2. Note: George is somewhat confused on the pitcher in this game. Jesse Barnes's last year was 1927 with Brooklyn. It's likely that the pitcher to whom George is referring is Virgil Barnes, Jesse's brother, who did pitch in 16 games for the Braves in the latter part of 1928.

3. It should be noted that the enthusiasm and excitement of the Yankees following this double-header sweep were also muted upon hearing of the death that day of Urban Shocker, their 38-year-old former teammate and star pitcher. See Jonathan Eig, *Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2005, p. 125.

4. These data are taken from *The Baseball Encyclopedia: The Complete and Definitive Record of Major League Baseball*, Ninth Edition. New York: Macmillan, 1993, pp. 241–243.

Chapter 6

1. Jeffrey Maulhardt, *Baseball in Ventura County*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia, 2007, p. 13.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 16.

3. William F. McNeil, *The California Winter League: America's First Integrated Professional Baseball League*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2002, pp. 81, 84, 293.

4. John E. Spalding, *Sacramento Senators and Solons: Baseball in California's Capital, 1886 to 1976*. Manhattan KS: Ag Press, 1995, p. 60.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 47.
6. Lawrence S. Ritter, *Lost Ballparks: A Celebration of Baseball's Legendary Fields*. New York: Viking Penguin, 1992, p. 179
7. *Ibid.*, p. 43.
8. There is a picture of Nickerson Field, including the pavilion, in *ibid.*, p. 27.
9. Philip J. Lowry, *Green Cathedrals: The Ultimate Celebration of Major League and Negro League Ballparks*. New York: Walker, 2006, p. 31.
10. *Ibid.*, p. 56.

Epilogue

1. DiMaggio's first big league home run was on May 10, 1936, off of George Turbeville of the Philadelphia As. GEO was in attendance and has the details of the occasion duly noted in his log, albeit misspelling Turbeville's name. Verification of George's information can be found in Richard Whittingham (ed.), *The DiMaggio Albums, Vol. I, 1932-1941*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1989, p. 73.
2. See Willie Drye, *Storm of the Century: The Labor Day Hurricane of 1935*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2002, pp. 128, 167.
3. The complete title was *Boy Transiency in Amer-*

ica: A Compilation of Articles Dealing with Youth Wandering in the United States. Santa Barbara, CA: Santa Barbara State College Press, 1939. Among the reviewers was Philip Ryan of the Council on Interstate Migration, who noted in the June 1940 issue of *The Family* that "any bibliography on transiency would be seriously incomplete if it did not include articles by George Outland."

4. John Patrick Diggins, *The Proud Decades: America in War and Peace, 1941-1960*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1988, p. 20.

5. "We Were Licked," (editorial), *The New Republic*, November 18, 1946.

6. Social Science's stiffest competition, as might be expected, came from the Physical Education Department. Their "natural rivals," however, were the Humanities and Language Arts, whose team included English professor Mark Harris, noted author of *The Southpaw*, *Bang the Drum Slowly*, and other baseball novels.

7. George E. Outland, "Congressional Reminiscences," oral history tape, William Cowan interviewer, produced at San Francisco State University, April, 1974.

8. Letter from James A. Farley to George E. Outland, November 21, 1969.

9. Note from Martha A. Outland to George F. Outland and John W. Outland, no date.

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Index

Numbers in ***bold italics*** indicate pages with photographs.

- Adams, Charles “Babe” **204, 259**
 Adams, Earl “Sparky” **126, 406**
 Adams, Spencer **161**, 164
 Agnew, Sam 2, **78**, 82, **95**, 275, **328, 329**
 Aldridge, Vic **300**
 Alexander, Grover Cleveland “Pete” **179**, 182
 Allen, Ethan 339, **342**
 America (Cooke) 464
 American Association 254, 318, 380
 Anacortes, WA 1, 464
 Anaheim Elks 167, 171
 Arlett, Russell “Buzz” **159**, 160, **303**
 Austin, Jimmy “Pepper” 167, 171, **175**
 Avalon, CA 192
 Ayers, Alpha 5
 Ayers, Farel 5
 Ayers, Loren 5, 6, 274, **297**
 Ayers, Raymond 5, 6, 337
 Ayers, Rhoda 5
 Avery, Martha *see* Outland, Martha Avery
- Bagby, Jim “Sarge” **133**
 Baker Bowl (Philadelphia) **364**, 467
 Baldpate Pond, MA 453
 Baldwin, Earl “Red” 8, **14**, 55, 56, 238
 Baldwin, Henry “Ted” **238**
 Ballou, Win 454
The Ballplayers: Baseball’s Ultimate Biographical Reference (Shatzkin) 409
 Baltimore (International League) 159
Barbary Baseball: The Pacific Coast League of the 1920’s (Mackey) 3, 175, 410
 Barfoot, Clyde 178, **221**, 222
 Barnes, Jesse 376
 Barnhart, Clyde “Pooch” **198**
 Barr, Jim 464
 Bartell, Dick 427, 429
The Baseball Encyclopedia 1, 213, 344, 409
- Baseball in Ventura County* (Maulhardt) 412
“Baseball v. Football” (essay) 123
 Bathhouse Grounds (Ventura, CA) 15, 18
 Baum, Spider 246–247, 250
 Beck, Clyde **216**
 Becker, Beals 275
 Bedient, Hugh **143**
 Beeville, TX 341
 Bell, Lester 375, **381**
 Bender, Rep. George **456**
 Benton, Stan “Rabbit” **138**, 139, 140
 Biemiller, Harry **43, 44**
 Bigbee, Carson **199**
 Blake, Sheriff 261
 Blakesley, “Sunny Jim” **228**, 434
 Bodie, Frank “Ping” **74**, 274–275, **276**, 280
 Boehler, George **164**
 Booneville Park (Salt Lake City) 99, 103, 106
 Boston, MA 365, 375, 377, 381, 400, 452, 462
 Boston Braves 54, 64, 100, 114, 160, 206, 239, 240, 255, 316, 319, 353, 364, 375, 377–390, 430, 444, 452, 453, 461–462
 Boston Bruins 452
 Boston Red Sox 16, 86, 100, 143, 147, 156, 170, 229, 236, 254, 262, 280, 287, 333, 347, 359, 377, 395, 400, 437, 443, 445
 Boston University 400, 444
 Bottomley, Jim 338, **401**
 Bovard, George 152
 Bovard Field (Los Angeles) 458
Boy Transiency in America (Outland) 455
 Brady, Cliff **236**
 Brandt, Ed **387**
 Branom, Dud 320, 421
 Bratcher, Joe **304**
 Braves Field (Boston) 377, 398, **444–445**, 462, 467
 Brazill, Frank 135, **136**, 138, 230, 238

- Brea Exhibition Game, CA 68, 124, 167, 170–177, 220
 Bressler, Raymond “Rube” 339, **340**
 Brett, Herb **187**
 Brewer, Chet 277
 Brooklyn (Federal League) 354
 Brooklyn Dodgers 39, 59, 91, 108, 201, 231, 296, 317, 335, 339, 340, 349, 355, 374, 397, 401, 402, 444, 450, 461
 Brooks, Mandy **270**
 Brubaker, Ray **163**, 164
 Bryan, William Jennings 6
 Buffalo, NY 156
 Buffalo Park (Sacramento, CA) 432
 Burke, “Sunset Jimmy” **263**
 Bush, “Bullet Joe” **294**
 Bush, Guy **266**
 Bush, Owen “Donie” 171, **280**, 282, 283, 285
 “Bustin Babes” 364
 Byler, C.A. “Butch” 120, **148**
 Byler, Eddie 120
- California Angels 308
 California League 96, 251, 252
 California Winter League 15, 17, 274, 277, 278, 411, 413
The California Winter League: America's First Integrated Professional League (McNeil) 3
 Camp, Walter 153
 Candlestick Park (San Francisco) 463, 464, 467
 Canfield, Carroll **29**
 Canfield, Carroll, Jr. 29
 Cantwell, Ben **388**
 Carey, Max **194**, **195**
 Carlisle, Walter 247
 Carroll, Dorsey “Dixie” **54**
 Carroll, Owen 398
 “Casey at the Bat” (poem) 123
 Cather, Ted “Scotch” **160**
 Caveney, Jim “Ike” **310**
 Chadbourne, Chet **63**, 247
 Chance, Frank 378
 Chaney, Darrel 464
 Chapman, Ray 351
 Chautaugua (assembly) 6
 Chicago, IL 152, 154, 435
 Chicago Black Sox 60
 Chicago Cubs 25, 61, 113, 114, 124–130, 154, 178–192, 193, 205, 208, 209, 214, 216, 256, 261–272, 285, 300, 369, 378, 389, 407
 Chicago White Sox 77, 79, 96, 156, 207, 243, 280, 322, 326, 332, 390, 394, 420, 461
 Christensen, Walter “Seacap” **343**
 Cincinnati, OH 338, 356, 441
 Cincinnati Reds 73, 156, 212, 216, 232, 239, 289, 310, 339–354, 362, 382, 403, 404, 407, 409, 464
 Cissell, Bill 321, 420
 Clapper “Dit” 452
 Clark, Earl **383**
 Clarke, Fred 257, **258**
 Cleveland Indians 31, 101, 102, 103, 131, 133, 162, 253, 309, 317, 327, 354, 359
 Cobb, Ty 65, 123, 280, 359, 362, 363
 Coblenz (Germany) 363
 Coca Cola Headquarters 462
 Cochrane, Mickey 55, 137
 Colgate University 461
 Collins, Eddie 154
 Columbia Park Boys Club (San Francisco) 439
 Columbia University 342, 461
 Comiskey, Charles 243
 Comiskey Park (Chicago) 154, 155, **435**
 Comorosky, Adam **396**
 Compton, Anna “Pete” 20, **35**, **85**
 Congress, U.S. 455
 Conlon, Charles 4, 410
Consumer Reports (magazine) 461
 Consumer's Union (organization) 461
 Cook, Lester “Doc” 20, **30**, **330**
 Cooke, Alistair 464
 Cooper, Andy 275
 Cooper, Wilbur 178, 184, **185**
 Coumbe, Fritz **101**, 102
 Cox, Dick 36, **39**
 Crandall, James Otis “Doc” 8, **10**, **11**, 16, 47, 50, 74, 172, 205, 246, 275, 280, 398
 Cravath, Gavy **254**, 255
 Crawford, “Wahoo Sam” 8, 167, **172**, **173**, 174, 246–247, 275, 282, 398
 Critz, Hughie **346**
 Crockett, Davey 246
 Cronin, Joe **287**, 400
 Crosley, Powel 441
 Crosley Field (Cincinnati) 441
 Crouse, Buck 155
 Cruise, Walton 275
 Crumpler, Roy **45**
 Cryer, George 433
 Cutshaw, George “Clancy” **237**
 Cuyler, Hazen “Kiki” **193**, **194**, **285**
 Cvengros, Mike 155
- Daly, Tom **55**, 56, **137**
 Dark, Alvin 461
 Davis, John Wilbur “Bud” **244**
 “Deadball Era” 6, 172, 253, 354, 386
 Deal, Charlie “Chuck” **114**
 Dell, William “Wheezer” 57, **59**, 60, 247
 Democratic Party 455, 457, 462
 Denison House (Boston) 400, 454
 Denver (Western League) 315
 Depression, Great 400, 454
 Detroit Stars 278
 Detroit Tigers 58, 67, 82, 90, 132, 147, 222, 245, 280, 332, 362, 368, 382, 398
 Dillon, Frank “Pop” 250, **251**, 254
 DiMaggio, Joe 454
 DiMaggio, Vince 454
 Distel, George “Dutch” **139**, 140

- "Dixie" (ship) 454
 Dobbins, Dick 2, 423
 Dodger Stadium (Los Angeles) 467
 Dolan, Cozy 76
 Donlin, "Turkey Mike" 252
 Douthit, Taylor 403, 404
 Doyle, Jesse 57, 58
 Dressen, Charles "Chuck" 349, 450
 Dumovich, Nick 129, 130
 Durocher, Leo 458
 Durst, Cedric 151
- Ebbets Field (Brooklyn) 400, 467
 Eckert, Charlie 122
 Edmonds Field (Sacramento) 468
 Eldred, Ross "Brick" 124–125, 129, 130, 230, 233, 234
 Elliot, Harold "Rowdy" 41, 42
 Ellis, George "Rube" 167, 171, 176, 220, 247
 Ellison, Bert "Babe" 89, 90, 246
 Emeryville, CA 448
 Emmer, Frank 230, 232
 Employment Act of 1946 455, 456
 England (U.K.) 363
 Enid, Oklahoma 301
 Ennis, Russ "Hack" 213, 214
 Ens, Jewel 284, 427–428
 Essick, Bill 220
 Europe 274, 302, 337, 338, 363, 365, 454
 Evers, Johnny "Crab" 377, 378
- Faber, Red 438
 Faeth, Tony 69
 Fagan, Paul 2
 Fairbanks, Fred 412
FAN Magazine 3
 Farley, James 462, 463
 Faulkner, George W. 5, 6, 152
 Faulkner, Roda 5
 Faulkner, Seymour 5
 Federal Emergency Relief Administration 454
 Federal League 10, 114, 143, 253, 257, 354
 Federal Transient Service (FTS) 454
 Feldman, Harry 456
 Feller, Bob 457
 Fenton, Jack 307, 311
 Fenway Park (Boston) 377, 398, 399, 443, 445, 467
 First World War *see* World War I
 Fittery, Paul 28
 Fitzgerald, Mike 416
 Flagstead, Ira "Pete" 395
 Florida 461
 Florida Keys, FL 454
 Florida State University 461
 Forbes Field (Pittsburgh) 467
 Ford Foundation 461
 Fort Worth (Texas League) 331
 Foster, George 434
 Fournier, Jack 364
- France 363
 Frederick, Johnny 108, 335, 444
 Freigau, Howard "Ty" 269, 272
 French Reef, FL 454
 Friberg, Barney 189
 Frisch, Frankie 338
 Fuchs, Judge Emil 378
 Full Employment Bill 455; *see also* Employment Act of 1946
 Funk, Elias 454
 Funston School (San Francisco) 459
- Gabby Hartnett: The Life and Times of the Cubs' Greatest Catcher* (McNeil) 3
 Gardner, Harry 144
 Gaston, Milt 398
 Geary, Bob "Speed" 80, 89, 157, 439
 Geary Street (San Francisco) 462
 Gehrig, Lou 156, 274, 345, 364, 376
 Gehringer, Charlie 398
 Genoa (Italy) 363
 Georgetown University 361
 Germany 363
 Gilder, Ray 62
 Gilmore Field (Hollywood) 467
 Glasgow (Scotland) 363
The Glory of Their Times: The Story of the Early Days of Baseball Told by the Men Who Played It (Ritter) 1, 275
 Goebel, Ed 162
 Golvin, Walt 149
 Gonzales, Mike 268, 269
 Gooch, Johnny 200, 292
 GOP (political party) 455, 457
 Goslin, Leon "Goose" 356, 360
 Gould, Al "Pudgy" 102
 Gowdy, Hank 386
 Grantham, George "Boots" 194, 289
Green Cathedrals: The Ultimate Celebration of Major League and Negro League Ballparks (Lowry) 447
 Gregg, Vean 130, 131
 Gressett, Leo "Tex" 141
 Griffin, Wes 156, 226, 439
 Griffith Stadium (Washington D.C.) 356, 467
 Griggs, Art 52, 337
 Grigsby, Denver 188
 Grimes, Burleigh 317
 Grimes, Oscar Ray 128, 215
 Grimes, Oscar Ray, Jr. 128
 Grimm, Charlie 178, 183, 184, 189, 265
 Guisto, Lou 162, 164, 311
- Hafey, Charles "Chick" 404
 Haines, Jesse 338
 Hale House (Boston) 377
 Hall, "Sea Lion" Charley 15, 16, 18
 Hannah, James "Truck" 72, 366
 Harkness, Frederick "Specs" 327
 Harlem River (New York City) 438
 Harney, George "Puzzle" 275

- Harper, George W. **382**, 383
 Harris, Joe "Moon" **290**
 Harris, Stanley "Bucky" 356, **358**
 Hartnett, Charles Leo "Gabby" **180**, 184, 261, 274, 337
 Harvard University 156, 375, 400, 452
 Hasty, Bob **241**, **312**, 337
 Hauser, Joe 400
 Havre (France) 363
 Hawks, Nelson "Chicken" **71**
 Hayakawa, S.I. "Don" 463
 Heath, Mickey 225, 424
 Heathcote, Cliff **186**, 189, 266, **267**
 Heilmann, Harry "Slug" 337, 356, 358, **362**, 398–399
 Heimach, Fred 437
 Hemmingway, Ed **227**
 Hendryx, Tim **98**
 Henley Field (Lakeland, FL) 468
 Henry, Bill 248
 Herman, Floyd "Babe" 230, **231**, 239, 297
 High, Charlie 67, **117**
 High, "Handy Andy" **402**
 High, Hugh 67
 Hill, Carman "Specs" 203, **298**, **299**
 Hinchman, Bill **205**, **281**
 Hodge, C.C. "Shovel" 89, 91, **93**
 Hogan, Hap 415
 Holland 363
 Hollywood Stars (Sheiks) 70, 103, 202, 209, 225, 231, 243, 324–337, 424–435, 462
 "Homer in the Gloamin'" 180
 Hood, Wally **150**, 151, **367**
 Hood, Wally, Jr. 150
 Hooper, Harry 100
 Horan, Joe "Shags" **218**
 Hornsby, Rogers 127, 338, 380, 449, **451**
 House of Representatives, U.S. 455
 Howard, Del 158
 Howard, Ivan **158**
 Hoyt, Waite 400
 Huggins, Miller 438
 Hughes, "Salida" Tom 205, **206**
 Hyatt, R. H. "Ham" **66**
 Hylan, John F. 123

 Indianapolis Indians 280
 International League 120, 142, 159, 325, 345
 Irvin, Monte 458
 Isbell, Frank **326**
 Italy 363

 Jacobs, Ray **214**
 Jacobson, William "Baby Doll" 155
 James, William "Big Bill" 57, **60**
 Jamieson, Charlie 400
 Jefferson High School (Los Angeles) 275
 Jenkins, Joe **105**, 148
 Johnson, Ernie **322**
 Johnson, George **223**
 Johnson, Roy 398
 Johnson, Walter 167, **168**, 169, 171, 246, 356, 357, 360
 Jolley, Smead 246
 Jones, Bob "Ducky" **324**
 Jones, Percy **272**
 Judge, Joe 356, **361**

 Kamm, Willie 76, **77**, 89, 91, 96, 156
 Kansas 5, 153
 Kansas City, KS 152, 338
 Kansas City (Federal League) 253
 Kansas Relays 152
 Keating, Ray 313, **316**, 423
 Keen, Vic "Parson" **190**
 Kelly, George 398, 449, **450**
 Kelly, Joseph **84**, 98
 Kenworthy, Bill "Duke" 36, **37**, 135
 Kerr, Johnny **332**, 333
 Kilduff, Pete **87**
 "Kill the Umpire" 123
 Killefer, "Raindeer Bill" 48, **182**
 Killefer, Wade "Red" **48**, 55, 56, 109, **134**, 182
 Kiner, Ralph 457, **458**
 King, A.V. "Rip" **42**
 King, Lee **117**
 Klein, Chuck 375, 400
 Knight, Jack "Schoolboy" 313, **315**, 423
 Koehler, Art 245
 Koenig, Mark 376, 377
 Kopp, Merlin **23**
 Krause, Harry **165**
 Kremer, Remy "Ray" **295**, 300, **393**, 427
 Krug, Marty 109, **110**, 111, 247
 Kunz, Earl "Pinch" **34**, 462

 Lafayette, George 320
 Laguna Beach, CA 254
 Land, Grover **354**
 Landis, Judge Kenesaw Mountain 36, 246, 250
 Lane, Bill **234**
 Langer, Senator William **456**
 "Larrupin Lous" 364
 Larsen, Don 348
 Lary, Lyn 308, **309**
 Layne, Herman **293**
 Lazzeri, Tony **102**, 178, 308
 Leach, Freddy 375
 Lee, Dudley **333**
 Lehigh Avenue (Philadelphia) 436
 Leslie, Roy **107**
 Leverenz, Walter "Lefty" **142**
 Leverett, Gorham "Dixie" **390**
 Lewis, Carl (Sam?) **413**
 Lewis, George "Duffy" **100**, 103
 Lieb, Frederick G. 1, 66
 Lindbergh, Charles 274, 338
 Lindimore, Howard 8, **12**, **111**, 464
 Lindstrom, Freddie 338
 Locker, Dallas 177

- Long Beach, CA 411
 Lorelei (Germany) 363
 Los Angeles, CA 152, 178, 274, 275, 375, 433, 454, 461
 Los Angeles Angels 8, 9, 13, 39, 47–56, 72, 109–115, 129, 145–151, 172, 176, 178, 191, 205–218, 235, 246, 251, 254, 282, 324, 365–368, 382, 434, 452, 461
 Los Angeles Coliseum 461, 467
 Los Angeles Dodgers 461
 Louisville Colonels 258
 Lowry, Philip 447
 Lucas, Charles “Red” 239
 Luque, Adolfo “Dolf” 353
 Lyons, George 115

 Mack, Connie 137, 302, 319
 Mackey, R. Scott 3, 75, 177, 303, 410
 Maderas, Al 164
 Maguire, Fred 380
 Mails, Walter 69
 Mangerina, Tony 253
 Maranville, Walter “Rabbit” 181, 182, 184, 377
 Maris, Roger 461
 Massachusetts 453
 Mathewson, Christy 143
 Maulhardt, Jeffrey 412
 May, Jackie 57, 61
 Mays, Carl “Sub” 351
 McAuley, Jim “Ike” 112
 McCabe, Constance 4
 McCabe, Dick 331
 McCabe, Neal 4
 McCabe, William “Buster” 56, 235
 McCann, Emmett 46
 McCarthy, Joe 262, 263
 McCurdy, Alf 320
 McDowell, Jim 156, 225
 McGaffigan, Marty 27
 McGraw, John 123
 McKechie “Deacon Bill” 257
 McManus, Marty 154, 155, 435
 McNeely, Earl 20, 22
 McNeil, William 3, 275, 413
 McQuaid, Herb 415
 McQuinn, George 455
 McWeeny, Doug “Buzz” 89, 91
 Meadows, Lee “Specs” 192, 203, 297, 299
 Megacards 410
 Merry, Ruth 454; *see also* Outland, Ruth Merry
 Meusel, Bob “Dutch” 15, 17, 18, 171, 376, 438
 Meusel, Emil “Irish” 15, 17
 Meusel’s All Stars 15
 Miami, FL 454
 Michigan State University 461
 Middleton, Jim 36, 46, 116
 Miller, Jack “Dots” 78, 89
 Miller, Jake 140
 Miller, Lawrence “Hack” 183, 189, 265
 Milstead, George 205, 208

 Minneapolis Millers 254
Minor League Baseball Stars (Vols. I–III) (SABR) 410
 “Miracle Braves” of 1914 160, 319, 378, 386
 Missions, Missions Bears *see* San Francisco Missions
 Mitchell, Johnny 372
 Mitchell, Oliver 81, 89
 Mohler, “Kid” 247
 Mollwitz, Fred “Fritz” 20, 21, 22
 Monroe, Johnny 423
 Monterey, County of (CA) 455
 Montreal (Canada) 302, 338, 363, 398
 Moreing, Lew 432
 Moreing Field 15, 432, 468
 Morris, Ed 443
 Morrison, “Jughandle” Johnny 201, 296
 Mostil, Johnny 156
 Mulligan, Eddie 96, 97
 Municipal Stadium (Cleveland) 467
 Murchio, George 166
 Murdock, Sen. Abe 456
 Murphy, Denny 70
 Murphy, Robert “Rod” 26
 Musial, Stan 457
 Myers, Elmer 145, 146

 National Register of Historic Places 5
 National Youth Administration 454
 Navin Field (Detroit) 467
 Negro Leagues 277, 278
 Neighborhood House, (Los Angeles) 454
 Neis, Bernie 374
 New Deal 1, 455
 New Haven, CT 456
 New Haven Community College 454
 New Orleans, LA 364, 454
 New Orleans (Southern Association) 244
The New Republic 457
 New York City 156, 338, 363, 375, 438, 454, 456, 461, 462
 New York Giants 10, 17, 76, 94, 239, 255, 338, 346, 349, 375, 380, 386, 411, 450, 461
 New York Yankees 17, 67, 72, 75, 102, 151, 156, 206, 218, 262, 279, 294, 302, 308, 309, 316, 341, 345, 347, 358, 366, 376, 443
 Newark Bears 325, 345
 Niagara Falls 156
 Nickerson Field (Boston University) 444
 Nicollet Park (Minneapolis) 468
 Niehaus, Dick 416
 Nixon, Richard 457

 Oakland, CA 448, 457
 Oakland Acorns (Oaks) 27, 34, 157–166, 183, 185, 241, 295, 302–312, 337, 393, 449, 450
 Oakland Coliseum 463, 467
 Oaks Ball Park (Emeryville, CA) 448, 449, 450
 O’Connell, Jimmy 76, 89

- O'Doul, Frank "Lefty" 324, 462, 463
 O'Farrell, Bob 127, 130, 269
 Ohio River 338
 The Ohio State University 461
 Oklahoma City, OK 301
 Old Timers Game 246–247
 Oliver, Tom 229
 Omaha (Western League) 52, 228
 O'Mahoney, Senator Joseph 456
 Onslow, Eddie 120
 Onslow, Jack 120
 Oregon State University 453
 Orr, Billy 416
 Orsatti, Ernie 405
 Ott, Mel 450
 Outland, Charles 5, 337, 365, 400
 Outland, Elmer G. 5, 6, 124, 152, 154, 156, 255, 337
 Outland, Esther 5
 Outland, George E. (GEO) 1, 3–6, 7, 10, 11, 20–21, 50, 57, 59, 99, 104, 116, 124, 145, 152, 154, 156–157, 167, 173–174, 178, 189, 191, 205, 214, 241, 246, 252, 255–256, 267, 273–274, 276, 279, 283, 297, 313, 329, 336–339, 356, 357, 362–365, 369, 375–377, 391, 393, 398–400, 408–410, 415–416, 423, 430–431, 433, 436, 446, 452, 453, 454–459, 460, 461–464
 Outland, George F. 377, 400, 455
 Outland, John H. 152, 153, 154, 338
 Outland, John W. 459, 460
 Outland, Lawrence 5, 6
 Outland, Martha Avery 1, 464
 Outland, Ruth Merry 454–455, 463
 Outland, Stella 5, 6
 Outland, Virginia Stevenson 375–376, 377, 400, 454; *see also* Stevenson, Virginia
 Outland Trophy 152, 153
 Oxnard City Council, CA 255

 Pacific Coast League (PCL) 2–3, 8, 10, 16–17, 29, 33, 78, 124, 136, 146, 157, 165, 172, 178, 191, 202, 209, 214, 221–222, 231, 234, 241, 243–244, 246, 251, 253–254, 272, 288, 300–301, 306, 308, 314, 319, 333, 337, 364–365, 368, 370, 382, 384, 393–394, 410, 414, 451, 453
Pacific Coast League Stars, Vols. I & II (Spalding) 3, 410
The Pacific Coast League: A Statistical History, 1903–1957 (Snelling) 410
 Paige, Satchel 277
 Park Merced "Bullpups" 459
 Parker Field (Richmond, VA) 464
 Paso Robles, CA 192, 279, 440
 Patman, Rep. Wright 456
 Payne, George 205, 207, 208
 Pearce, Walter "Pard" 24
 Penner, Ken 30, 164
 Perkins, Cy 437
 Peters, John "Shotgun" 105, 106
 Petty, Jesse 397
 Philadelphia, PA 356, 363, 364, 375
 Philadelphia Athletics 38, 80, 136–137, 146, 156, 165, 241, 244, 302, 312, 319, 321, 340, 359, 376, 437
 Philadelphia Phillies 27–28, 106–107, 159, 189, 254, 341, 352, 364, 371, 375–376, 382, 407, 462
 Picinich, Val 350
 Pick, Charlie 20, 25
 Pillette, Duane 222
 Pillette, Herman 178, 222, 223
 Pinelli, Ralph "Babe" 348, 349
 Pipgras, George 376
 Pipp, Wally 156, 339, 345
 Pirates Field (Paso Robles, CA) 192, 440
 Pirrone, Joe 275, 276
 Pittsburgh Pirates 34, 49, 66, 185, 192–205, 239, 256–260, 273, 279–301, 391–397, 414, 418–419, 427–429, 440, 458
 "Play Ball" 123
 Polo Grounds (NY) 363, 400, 446, 456, 461, 467
 Ponder, Elmer 47, 49
 Poole, Jim 36, 38
 Portland Beavers (Ducks) 36–46, 55, 116–122, 132, 135–144, 207, 317–323, 333, 420–421
 Powell Street (San Francisco) 462
 Powers, John 8, 9
 Prothro, James "Doc" 421
 Prothro, Tommy 421
 Prough, Bill 33

 Quinn, Bob 398

 Radcliff, Sen. George 456
 Ramsey, C.A. "Buck" 211
 Rawlings, Johnny 260
 Rawlings, Mickey 260
 Read, Addison "Pete" 163, 434
 Reagan, Ronald 463
 Reardon, John "Beans" 171
 Recreation Park (San Francisco) 156, 157, 439
 Redland Field (Cincinnati) 338, 441–442, 467
 Reese, Jimmie 308
 Rego, Antone "Tony" 53, 55
 Republican Party 457; *see also* GOP
 R.F.K. Stadium (Washington, D.C.) 463–464, 467
 Rhine River (Germany) 363
 Rhyne, Hal 86, 87, 398
 Richbourg, Lance 430
 Richmond, VA 160, 223
 Rickey, Branch 404
 Risberg, Swede 322
 Ritter, Lawrence 1, 275
 Rixie, Eppa 339, 352
 Rogan, Wilbur "Bullet Joe" 275, 277
 Rommel, Ed 376
 Roosevelt, Pres. Franklin D. 454

- Roosevelt, James 457, **458**
 Root, Charlie 205, **209**
 Ross, Sam **46**
 Ruble, Art **373**
 Ruppert Stadium (Kansas City) 468
 Ruth, George Herman "Babe" 6, 98, 123, 159, 167, **170**, 171, 266, 274, 308, 376, 412, 443
 Ruth All Stars 167
 Ryan, Buddy **31**
- Sacramento, CA 451
 Sacramento Senators (Solons) 15, 20–35, 85, 242–245, 313–316, 330, 334, 336–337, 394, 416–417, 422–423, 432
 St. Francis Dam (California) 365
 St. Louis, Missouri 338
 St. Louis Browns 53, 97, 115, 142, 147, 151, 154–155, 175, 209–210, 217, 253, 263, 309, 314, 333, 379, 401, 451
 St. Louis Cardinals 61, 117, 190, 221, 263, 268, 305, 338, 381, 400–407, 411, 451
 Salt Lake City Bees 2, 13, 24, 32, 49, 73, 99–108, 147, 178, 246, 254, 319, 322, 325, 331, 334, 394
 San Bernardino, CA 124
 Sandberg, Gus **212**
 San Diego Padres 30, 151, 330
 Sandlock, Mike 456
 San Francisco, CA 156, 287, 457, 462, 464
 San Francisco earthquake and fire 365
 San Francisco Giants 461, 464
 San Francisco Missions 77, 122, 219, 221, 343, 371
 San Francisco Seals 2, 57, 75–98, 178, 205, 230, 288, 302, 306, 310, 324, 328, 362, 394, 415, 439, 462
 San Francisco State College/University 457, 461–463
 San Juan Islands, WA 464
 San Luis Obispo (County of, CA) 455
 Santa Barbara, CA 455
 Santa Barbara (County of, CA) 455, 457
 Santa Catalina Island, CA 192
 Santa Clara River Valley, CA 5, 365
 Santa Fe Grounds, CA 124
 Santa Paula, CA 5, 104, 365
Santa Paula Chronicle 338, 363
 Santa Paula Union High School 6–7, 123–124
 Sargent, Joe **46**
 Sawyer, Carl "Huck" **68**, **177**
 Schacht, Mike 3
 Schaef, Ernie 452
 Schalk, Ray 437
 Schang, Bobby **23**
 Schinkel, Art 416
 Schneider, Pete **73**, 246
 Schulmerich, Wes 452, **453**
 Schulte, Frank "Wildfire" 275
 Schupp, Ferdie **411**
 Scotland (U.K.) 363
- Scott, "Death Valley" Jim **79**, 89, **95**
 Seals Stadium (San Francisco) 2, 467
 Seattle, WA 1, 464
 Seattle Indians (Rainiers) 26, 37, 124, 130–134, 136, 144, 230–241, 272, 312, 365, 370–374, 384, 394, 426, 449, 451
 See, Charlie **88**
 Settlement house team 398, 399
 Severeid, Hank 313, **314**, 337, 423
 Shannon, Maurice "Red" **271**
 Shatzkin, Mike 409
 Shea, Merv **245**, 417
 Shea, Pat "Red" 89, **94**
 Sheehan, Les **32**, 99, **334**
 Sheely, Earl "Whitey" **394**
 Shelby, Ohio 5
 Shell Oil Park (Long Beach, CA) 411
 Shell Oil team 337, 411
 Shellenback, Frank **243**
 Sherlock, Jack "Monk" **371**
 Sherlock, Vince 371
 Shibe Park (Philadelphia) 363, **436–437**, 455, 467
 Shinnars, Ralph **305**
 Shore, Eddie 452
 Siebold, Harry "Socks" 430
 Sierra Nevada Mountains, CA 461
 Sigafos, Frank 317, **318**
 Simmons, Al 376, 377
 Singleton, John "Sheriff" **105**
 Sisler, George 377, **379**, 398
 Slade, Oskie 157
 "Slide, Kelly, Slide" 123
 Smith, Bob **389**, 444
 Smith, Earl "Oil" 200, **292**
 Smith, Elmer **317**
 Smith, J.C. "Red" **64**, 114
 Smith, Marvin "Red" **321**
 Snelling, Dennis 410
 Snodgrass, Fred "Snow" **255**
 Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) 410
 Songer, Don **301**
 Soos, Troy 260
 Soria, Frank "Lefty" 8, **13**
 Southworth, Billy 338
 Spalding, John 3, 423, 432
 Speaker, Tris "Spoke" 100, 356, **359**, 360
 Spencer, Edward "Tubby" **147**, 148
 Spencer, Roy **291**
 Spohrer, Al **385**
The Sporting News 410
 Sportsman's Park (St. Louis) 467
 Stanage, Oscar **282**, **283**
 Stanky, Eddie 456
 Statz, Arnold "Jigger" 114, **191**, 246
 Stearnes, Norman "Turkey" 275, **278**
 Stevenson, Virginia 363, 365; *see also* Outland, Virginia Stevenson
The Story of the World Series (Lieb) 1

- Stovall, George "Firebrand" **253**, **255**
 Strand, Paul 99, 317, **319**
 Stryker, Sterling "Dutch" **240**
 Stumpf, Bill **119**
 Sutherland, Harvey "Suds" **132**
 Sweeney, Jim **336**, **337**
- Tavener, Jackie 356
 Texas League 331
 Thomas, Chet "Pinch" 15, **19**
 Thomas, Henry 167
 Thorpe, Jim 36, **40**, **41**
 Ticknor, Ben 452
 Tinker, Joe 378
 Tobey, Sen. Charles **456**
 Tobey, Dan 247
 Todt, Phil 445
 Toledo (American Association) 319, 380
 Tolin, Ernest 275
 Tolson, Chester "Chick" **369**
 Tomlin, Ed **323**
 Toronto (Canada) 156
 Trans-Canada Limited 156
 Traynor, Harold "Pie" **197**, 198, **286**
 Truman, President Harry S. **456**
 Tulsa (Western League) 52, 164
 Turner, Tom 36, **44**
 Twombly, Clarence "Babe" **113**
 Twombly, George 113
- Union Square (San Francisco) 462
 United States of America 363
 University of Kansas 152
 University of Pennsylvania 152, 153
 University of Southern California (USC) 152, 172, 337, 458, 461
 University of Virginia 352
 USC *see* University of Southern California
- Valla, Gene **83**, **306**
 Vance, Clarence "Dazzy" 339, **355**
 Vancouver (Canada) 156
 Vargus, Andy 156
 Vaughan, Arky 281
 Veach, Bobby 156, 437
 Ventura, CA 15, 157, 255
 Ventura (County of, CA) 5, 16, 18, 255, 455
 Vernon Tigers 8, 26, 57–74, 78, 156–157, 178, 219–229, 253, 255, 276, 366, 372, 415, 439
 Vietnam War 463
 Vitt, Oscar **103**, **325**, 326
 Voorhis, Rep. Jerry 457
- Wagner, Heinie 400
 Walberg, George "Rube" 376
 Walker, Curt "Honey" **341**
- Wallace, Bob **51**
 Walsh, Dee **97**
 Waner, Lloyd 281, 288
 Waner, Paul 178, 246, **288**, **392**
 Wanninger, Paul "Pee Wee" **347**
 Washington, D.C. 156, 356, 399, 455, 456
 Washington Park (Los Angeles) 8, 15, 43, 116, 124, 178, 195, 409, **433–434**, 467
 Washington Senators 22, 131, 156, 162, 213, 287, 290–291, 294, 332, 356–361, 409
 Weaver, Buck 96
 Weintraub, Phil 456
 Welch, Frank 156
 Welsh, Jimmy **384**
 Western Association 301
 Western League 12, 145, 221, 315
 Westlake, Wally **458**
 Whaley, Bill **217**
 White House (Washington, D.C.) 156
 White Sox Park (Los Angeles) 274
 Whitney, Rod **224**
 Whittier College 152, 167, 174, 176, 337–338, 363, 365, 377
 Whittington, Rep. William **456**
 Wichita (Western League) 52, 104, 145–146, 228
 Wilhoit, Joe 103, **104**
 Williams, Cy 375–376, 398
 Williams, Harry 337
 Williams, Ken 171, 398
 Wilson, Jimmy "Ace" 364, **407**
 Wilson, Lewis "Hack" 261, **264**, 274
 Wolfer, Merle "Ike" **118**
 World Series 318, 405; (1909) 204; (1912) 143, 359; (1914) 64, 114, 386; (1915) 359; (1918) 25; (1919) 60; (1920) 317, 359; (1924) 22, 167; (1925) 257, 290, 295, 300; (1926) 127; (1927) 279, 290; (1940) 257, 407; (1956) 348; (1959) 461
 World War I 49, 386, 411
 Wright, Glenn "Buckshot" **196**, 274, 397
 Wright, Wayne "Rasty" **210**
 Wrigley, William, Jr. 9
 Wrigley Field (Chicago) 400, **447**, 467
 Wrigley Field (Los Angeles) 178, 246, 247, 248–250, 255, 256, 337, 364–365, 400, 409, 423, 431, 454, 461, 467
- Yale University 342, 454, 455
 Yankee Stadium (New York) 156, 376, 400, **438**, 467
 Yarrison, Byron "Rube" **121**
 Yde Emil **202**
 Yelle, Archie **82**, 157
- Zeider, Rollie "Bunions" **65**
 Zinn, Jimmy 454
 Zitzmann, Bill **344**