



PORTRAYED BY A SERIES
OF
COMMEMORATIVE POSTER STAMPS



BY EDWINA GUILFOIL

ILLUSTRATED BY AL. DEMAREE
BASEBALL'S OWN CARTOONIST

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Foreword

Baseball is a game of tradition. The mighty men and mighty deeds that have made the sport our national pastime have left us memories which mirror the game for millions of fans the country over. In other words, the performances of men like Wagner, Young, Mathewson, Cobb, and Ruth constitute what baseball means to the average person.

Baseball's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N. Y., is a perpetuation of that tradition. It holds now, and will hold for years to come, visual proof of the tradition that is baseball. As the years roll on, the tradition will become stronger and stronger in the minds and hearts of millions of Americans to whom baseball is the NATIONAL GAME.

The purpose of this brochure is to present a series of commemorative poster stamps portraying major first events in "A Century of Baseball" and to strengthen the tradition that IS baseball; to bring back reminiscences of these heroes of the diamond and their valorous deeds.

Filling the book with the multi-colored stamps is a simple task. But it involves more than that; it perpetuates the game, it strengthens the tradition, it helps every American to know and understand more about the game as one of the principal patterns of American life. It puts the tradition of baseball into permanent form where it may be consulted again and again for reference and understanding. It visualizes the meaning of baseball.

By reaching those desirable goals this book will serve its purpose.

—Ernest Butt

Baseball is Our National Game

Crowded with action, filled with thrills, the game of baseball is truly the national pastime because it is all American. When the roar of the crowd greets a smashing hit or a marvelous fielding play, it is the voice of America, hailing its own game, played in its own way.

Other nations have ball games, some of them thousands of years old. As Ford Frick, president of the National League, very aptly pointed out in an article he wrote for "Who's Who in the Major Leagues," 1937 issue, polo was played in China and India centuries before the Christian era. Tennis was played before Shakespeare was born. A game resembling basketball was played in Mexico before the white men came.

But baseball, as we know it today, is only one hundred years old. Back in 1839 Abner Doubleday is said to have laid out the first real baseball diamond in Cooperstown, N. Y., and suggested the fundamental rules which guide the game today.

So baseball is the new game of a new country. It's a young man's game, and a game for those who stay young in heart. The boy who does not play baseball is missing something of his birthright as an American, and it must be confessed that many girls swing the bat and catch the ball with as much proficiency as their brothers.

Some people—not many—think baseball is a crude game, ungentelemanly in spirit, with too much emphasis on winning. But that's American, too, to play the game hard and clean, but play to win. Baseball has its own code, as democratic as the United States—a fair race to all and favors to none. Every player has a chance to star, and a chance to help his team.

Baseball is the true growth of the American soil, and as such has a claim to the affection of all true Americans. In our boyhood days we treasure our "ketcher's mitts" and our "genuine league baseballs." In our older days we sit in the stands, with our memories of the time we swung at the awkward pitching of some freckle-faced playmate, and we yell, "Sock it, Bill! Knock it out of the park!" and our youth comes back to us as Bill sends a screaming liner over the head of the second baseman.

Stands packed with frenzied fans, yelling themselves hoarse, following every play with expert eye, agonizing with the pitcher when his hurling goes wild, groaning with the batter as he swings and misses—that's the American scene, whether it's in the Yankee Stadium in New York or at some dusty cow-pasture diamond out in the sticks.

That's why baseball has grown into a mighty organization of major leagues, minor leagues of every description, from the Class AA to the bushiest bush leagues; of sand-lot and semi-pro teams, school and college teams all over the country. Study the roster of a big-league club, and you will find that the stars of the game came from Idaho and California, from Texas and Arizona, from Massachusetts and New York, from Georgia and Alabama, from sand-lot and college, from the small towns and the big cities. They are of different national origins: Italian, French, German, Irish, English, Polish, Bohemian, and nearly every other, but they all play the American game in the American way.

Every American boy has a chance to play the game; possibly to climb the ladder to stardom, but always a chance to enjoy baseball as a player and a fan. Whether he becomes a star of the diamond, or just an amateur player and later a fan, he will always be a better American for having played and loved our NATIONAL GAME.

U. S. COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Even the United States government recognized the importance of the baseball centennial as a part of our national life, and issued a special commemorative postage stamp in the three-cent denomination. This postage stamp is highly prized by collectors as well as baseball fans, for it is the first postage stamp ever issued by the United States Government in honor of a sport.

Baseball Quiz

How many questions can you answer? Try yourself and friends before you turn to the answers.

- Q. 1. What sort of bases were first used in baseball? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 2. Who was the first player to wear a glove? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 3. Who was the first player to wear a catcher's mask? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 4. What was the first real baseball park? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 5. Who was the first player to bunt? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 6. Who was the first umpire to use arm signals to denote balls and strikes? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 7. Who was the first player to make a triple play unassisted? Answer Page 12.
- Q. 8. Who was the first ball player to receive a salary? Answer Page 25.
- Q. 9. Who was the first player to steal a base by sliding? Answer Page 25.
- Q. 10. What team was the first to win a modern world series in four straight games? Answer Page 25.
- Q. 11. What was the first major league, and when was it founded? Answer Page 26.
- Q. 12. Who was the highest paid player in baseball? Answer Page 26.
- Q. 13. In what years was the world's series between the National and American leagues decided by the winning of five games? Answer Page 26.
- Q. 14. In what year did Babe Ruth set his record mark of 60 home runs? Answer Page 26.
- Q. 15. Who holds the record for home runs in one year in the National League? Answer Page 26.
- Q. 16. What pitcher holds the record for the longest string of victories under modern playing conditions? Answer Page 28.
- Q. 17. If the catcher drops the third strike and the batter gets to first safely, does the pitcher get credit for the strike-out? Answer Page 28.
- Q. 18. When is a batter rewarded for "hitting" an umpire? Answer Page 28.
- Q. 19. What two clubs have played continuously in the National League since the founding of the league? Answer Page 28.

- Q. 20. Who was the strike-out king of big-league pitchers? Answer Page 30.
- Q. 21. May a runner safely advance on a foul? Answer Page 30.
- Q. 22. How can a triple play result from the dropping of a fly by the fielder? Answer Page 30.
- Q. 23. Of all the measurements in baseball relating to sizes and weights of equipment, distances, etc., what one has remained unchanged since the beginning? Answer Page 31.
- Q. 24. What highly successful pitcher of the present day was once a fielder? Answer Page 31.
- Q. 25. What major-league club holds the record for the highest percentage of games won in a season? Answer Page 31.

Q. TO WHOM IS ATTRIBUTED AUTHORSHIP OF THE BASEBALL GAME?

A. Authorship of the baseball game is popularly attributed to Abner Doubleday, although some historians give other sources of our national pastime. In 1936 a national



museum was established at Cooperstown, N. Y., and in 1939, in observance of the centennial of baseball, the shrine was formally dedicated and opened to the public. It marks the spot where, in 1839, Abner is said to have traced on the ground with a stick the outline of the square diamond in use today, indicating the location of the bases and players.

Gen. Abner Doubleday was born in Ballston Spa, N. Y., on June 26, 1819. After

studying civil engineering, he was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1839. He was graduated in 1842 and assigned to the Third Artillery. He served with distinction in the Mexican War, and against the Seminole Indians, but won his greatest military fame in the Civil War.

As a captain of artillery he fired the first gun in the defense of Fort Sumter in 1861. On May 14 of the same year he was promoted to major in the Seventeenth Infantry, and late in the year he was put in command of forts and batteries on the Potomac and fought in defense of Washington. In 1862 he was given command of a brigade of volunteers, and fought in the second battle of Bull Run.

Late in the year he succeeded to the command of Hatch's division, and after distinguished service at Antietam, was promoted to major-general of the volunteers. On July 1, 1863, he was sent to Gettysburg to support Buford's cavalry. Upon the fall of General Reynolds he took command of the field until the arrival of General Howard, and aided in the repulse of Pickett's charge.

On March 11, 1865, Doubleday's brilliant service in the war was rewarded by a brevet commission as colonel in the regular army, and two days later he was promoted to brigadier-general and major-general successively. General Doubleday retired from the army in 1873 and died in 1892. He now rests with other national heroes in the Arlington Cemetery in Washington.

No public recognition of Doubleday's connection with baseball was accorded to him during his lifetime. In 1907 he was declared to be the author of baseball in the report of a special commission headed by A. G. Mills, a former president of the National League.

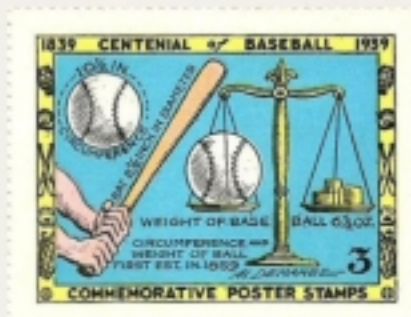
Q. WHICH WAS THE FIRST UNIFORMLY OUTFITTED BASEBALL TEAM?



A. THE FIRST UNIFORMLY OUTFITTED BASEBALL TEAM organized was the Knickerbocker club of New York. On June 19, 1846, the Knickerbockers played the New York Base Ball Club at Elysian Field, Hoboken, N. Y. The game lasted four innings, since in those days the first team to score 21 runs, innings even, was the victor. The New York Club won with a score of 23-1. At that time each home club had its own ball, which often varied in size, elasticity, and content, there being no standard baseball.

About 1849 the Knickerbockers, having adopted a blue and white uniform, became the first uniformly outfitted baseball team. Since there was no recognized baseball authority in those days, most clubs followed the lead of the Knickerbockers, and even adopted the playing rules drawn up by the Knickerbockers for their own use.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST CODE OF BASEBALL RULES ADOPTED STANDARDIZING THE GAME?



A. THE FIRST CODE OF BASEBALL RULES STANDARDIZING THE GAME was adopted during the month of May, 1858, by the National Base Ball Association. The said rules provided that the bat was not to exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and the ball $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, weighing $6\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. Formerly each team played under its own rules, adapted from those of the Knickerbocker Club usually, and provided its own baseball.

Q. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE FIRST BASEBALL GAME SERIES PLAYED?



A. THE FIRST BASEBALL GAME SERIES was played at the Fashion Race Course, Long Island, N. Y., between Brooklyn and New York teams. This series was played under the first published code of rules adopted and passed by the National Base Ball Association. The series was played in 1858, but so rapidly did the game progress thereafter that in a few years the clubs that were members of the National Base Ball Association were contending for a mythical national championship, though such a title was not recognized by the Association.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST INTERCOLLEGIATE BASEBALL GAME PLAYED?



A. THE FIRST INTERCOLLEGIATE BASEBALL GAME was played on July 1, 1859, at Pittsfield, Mass., between Amherst and Williams colleges. Victory went to Amherst by a score 66-32. The contest lasted 26 innings and there were thirteen players on each side. Amherst won its victory under the captaincy of J. T. Claffin, and Williams went to defeat under the leadership of H. S. Anderson.

Q. WHO WAS THE FIRST BASEBALL PITCHER TO CURVE A BALL?



A. THE FIRST PITCHER TO CURVE A BALL was "Nine" and the "Stars of Brooklyn" in 1866. Arthur Cummings, according to the best evidence available. This famous old time pitcher sometimes answered to the nickname "Candy," but was seldom called by his first name, which was William. A younger brother of the noted "Deacon" White, a catcher of the early days, also developed a curve ball, but it appears that Cummings was the first. Cummings played for the "Excelsior Junior

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST ADMISSION FEE CHARGED TO SEE A BASEBALL GAME?



A. THE FIRST ADMISSION FEE charged to see a baseball game was on July 20, 1859. On that day 1,500 fans paid fifty cents each to see a game of baseball. Early baseball players played for the sport, without pay, until 1863, when they began to receive a share of the gate receipts.

Q. WHICH WAS THE FIRST PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM?



A. THE FIRST PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM was the Red Stockings of Cincinnati. Up to 1869 several prominent clubs had paid players, and many gave their players some remuneration, but the Red Stockings were the first to let it be known publicly that their entire team drew salaries. Under the leadership of Harry and George Wright, they made a tour of the country, meeting local teams in 1869. They did not lose a game that season, and remained undefeated until June, 1870.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST NO-HIT BASEBALL GAME PITCHED?



A. THE FIRST NO-HIT, NO-RUN BASEBALL GAME was pitched on July 15, 1876, by George Washington Bradley of St. Louis against Hartford in a National league game, without allowing a hit and passing only one man. It climaxed four straight shut-outs pitched by him in four days.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST LEAGUE ORGANIZED?

A. The NATIONAL LEAGUE WAS ORGANIZED on January 2, 1876, and Morgan G. Bulkeley was elected its first president. He served from February 2, 1876, to December 7, 1876. Charter members of the league were the following baseball clubs: Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Hartford, Louisville, New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis. Only Boston and Chicago have remained continuously in the league since the beginning; Cincinnati, New York, and Philadelphia have dropped out and returned. A number of other cities have been represented in the league from time



to time.

The National League was the creation of William A. Hulbert, who succeeded Bulkeley as president. Hulbert was so disgusted with conditions in professional baseball that when he took over the reins of the Chicago White Stockings in 1875, he decided to start a new organization to end the evils of gambling, pool selling, and general crookedness that defiled the game in the early 1870's. He expelled four Louisville players for being involved in a crooked gambling deal in 1877, and cleaned up the game. From that time until 1919, when the so-called Black Sox episode took place, professional baseball was untouched by scandal, and became, as it is today, a clean sport cleanly played.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST BASEBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES PLAYED?



A. THE FIRST BASEBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES was played in 1884, between the Providence Club of the National League and the Metropolitan (New York) Club of the American Association.

The series was to have been decided by winning three games out of five, but Providence, with the masterly pitching of Charles "Old Hoss" Radbourn, won the first three games, played at the Polo Grounds in New York, and the other two were not played.

Q. WHEN WAS THE AMERICAN LEAGUE FIRST ORGANIZED?

A. THE AMERICAN LEAGUE was first organized in



1900. Byron Bancroft (Ban) Johnson was its first president, and served as its head until 1927. Johnson, who was a Cincinnati sports writer, first had the idea of starting a new league in 1893, and with the help of Charles Comiskey and financial backing of Matt Killilea of Milwaukee, founded the Western League, made up of several midwestern cities. At the time there were twelve clubs in the National League, and it was unwieldy and torn by disputes. Forseeing the

breakup of this twelve team combination, Johnson decided to transform his minor Western League into a major league, and launched the American League in 1900, with clubs in Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. After warring with the older league for three years, the new organization entered into a new National Agreement in 1903, and achieved full status as a recognized major league. The rivalry thus created proved to have a good effect on the game, which soon reached the heights of popularity which it has maintained consistently ever since. The first of the mod-

ern world series was played in 1903, between the Pittsburgh National League Club and the Boston American Leaguers. The New York Club of the National League refused to play the Boston American Leaguers in 1904, and Boston claimed the title by default.

Q. WHEN WAS THE FIRST BASEBALL GAME BETWEEN THE REGULAR LEAGUE TEAMS PLAYED AT NIGHT?



A. THE FIRST BASEBALL GAME BETWEEN REGULAR LEAGUE TEAMS PLAYED AT NIGHT was on July 8, 1909 at Grand Rapids, Mich., between Grand Rapids and Zanesville Central League teams. Grand Rapids won with a score of 11-10.

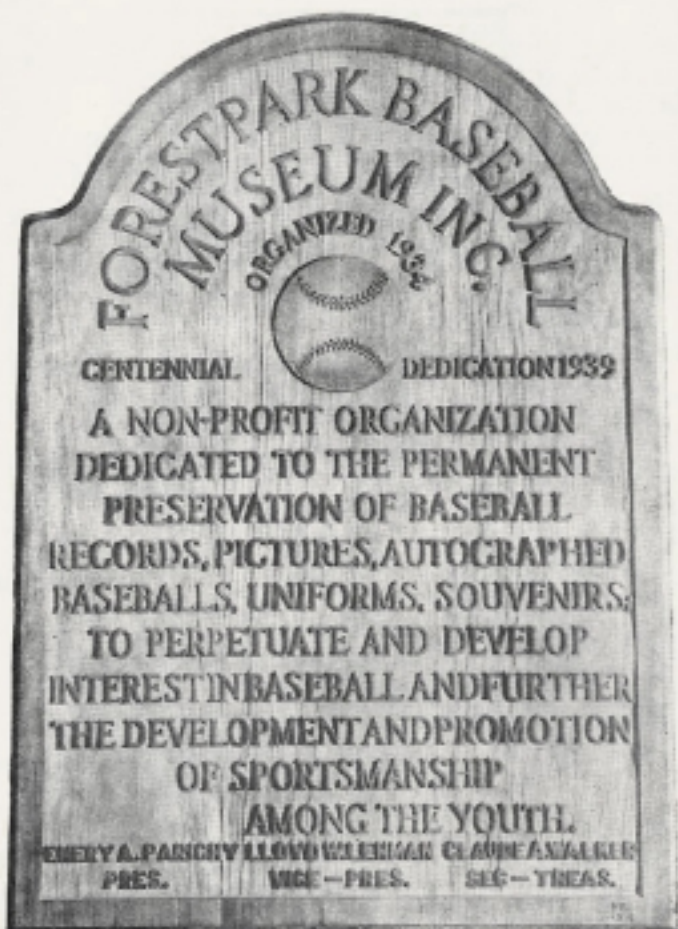
Baseball Quiz Answers 1 to 7

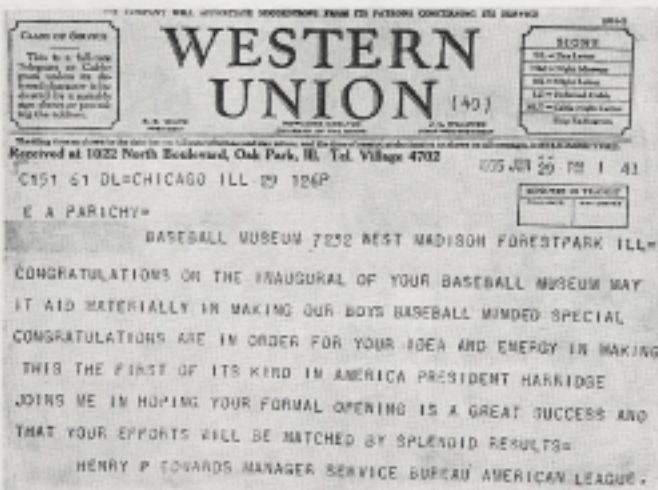
- A. 1. The bases originally were wooden posts three or four feet high.
- A. 2. Allison, catcher for the Cincinnati Reds of 1869, first wore a glove on his left hand.
- A. 3. Jim Tyng, a Harvard player, wore the first catcher's mask, on record, in 1875.
- A. 4. The Union Grounds in Brooklyn were the first enclosed field used for baseball, opened May 15, 1862.
- A. 5. Dickey Pearce, of the Brooklyn Atlantics, is credited with the invention of the bunt hit in 1866. He is also said to have been the first player to drop a fly ball purposely to make a double play.
- A. 6. Charles Rigler, veteran umpire of the National League, who died in 1935, was said to have been the first to use an arm signal.
- A. 7. Paul Himes is said to have made such a play for the first time at Providence, R. I., in 1878, but there are some authorities who dispute his claim. Although very rare, the play has been made a number of times in organized baseball.

Baseball Museums in America

FIRST MUSEUM OF BASEBALL

To Forest Park, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, belongs the honor of possessing the first museum of baseball to be established anywhere. The Forest Park Baseball Museum has the distinction of being the earliest, as well as that of possessing the finest collections of relics and souvenirs of our national game, and although it is not as yet well known to the entire country, it is a fitting memorial to the best in baseball.





In 1934 Emery A. Parichy, a business man of Forest Park who makes a hobby of baseball, decided that something should be done to preserve the records, books, pictures, and mementoes of the diamond. With his private



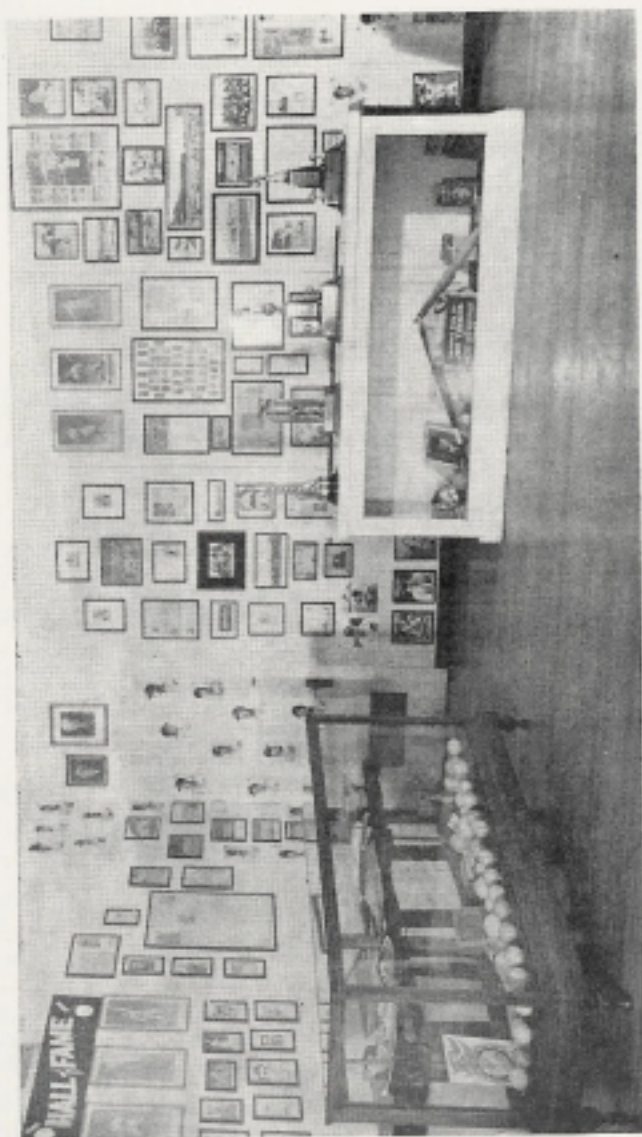
EMERY A. PARICHY
President Forest Park
Baseball Museum

collection of souvenirs as a nucleus, he organized a non-profit corporation of public-spirited citizens who, like himself, were devoted to our national game, and established the museum, which was opened to the public in 1935.

With Mr. Parichy as president, and Lloyd Lehman and Claude Walker as vice-president and secretary, respectively, the new institution met with a warm response from everyone connected with the game. Officials of both the American and National Leagues, club officials, sports writers, and many fans donated many unique and valuable

items to the Forest Park collection. The display of autographed baseballs is particularly fine, containing the autographs of nearly every prominent big-league player of recent years.

There are many priceless relics, such as bats, gloves, caps, and even uniforms — many of them autographed, which were actually used by famous players. The museum also contains the largest collection of baseball literature in the country, books and magazines dating back to the earliest days of baseball, many of them not found elsewhere. There are hundreds of pictures of teams and players, from the time of the Knickerbockers down to the present—all a treasure trove to the fan who worships his idols of the diamond.



An Interior View of the Forest Park Baseball Museum, 765 South Harlem Ave., Forest Park, Illinois

8. BUREAU
8000 ATLANTIC AVENUE
N. F. C. S. S. I. L.
CHICAGO, ILL.

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
800 N. MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.
MEMBERSHIP 1939

KIWANIS CLUB OF FOREST PARK FOREST PARK, ILL.

MEETING
OTTO'S CAFE, 7115 WASHINGTON BLVD.
8:15 P. M. TUESDAY



STANDARD OF THE LEADERSHIP IN CITIZENSHIP

OFFICERS 1939

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EUGENE H. WERNERKE
800 N. MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL. — MEMBERSHIP 1939

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1211 WASHINGTON STREET
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7115 WASHINGTON BLVD.
CHICAGO, ILL. — MEMBERSHIP 1939

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Forest Park Baseball Museum, Incorporated, has become an institution of great beneficial value and honor to our Community, our State and our Country,

AND WHEREAS, its principles and purposes in the interest of youth development - mental and physical - are identical to those of Kiwanis, both local and international,

AND WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club of Forest Park derives a cherished measure of satisfaction and pride in the knowledge that it fostered the Museum and encouraged its development to the end that those priceless objects, relics and treasures of baseball history might be preserved for posterity,

NOW, THEREFORE, upon the occasion of the one-hundredth anniversary of the origin of baseball in the United States of America, and coincidental with the successful conclusion of the first season of Forest Park's Baseball School - devoted exclusively to the training of talent - which was conducted during the current summer,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kiwanis Club of Forest Park hereby manifests its genuine and whole-hearted endorsement of the aims and principles of the Forest Park Baseball Museum as well as the Training School, and heartily congratulates the Officers and their Staff for the splendid growth and progress thus far evidenced, for the unretreatable benefits to Youth and Community already achieved, for their sacrifices of time, energy and capital to make these institutions possible; and so great and valuable is the obvious future thereof that we implore its Directors not to diminish their efforts or yield in their purpose but rather to stimulate and increase them in order to serve American Youth ever more fully.

Done this 29th day of August, A.D., 1939.

E. H. Wernerke Secretary
Raymond H. Wernerke President

The Cooperstown Museum

The museum at Cooperstown, N. Y., sometimes known as the Doubleday Museum, was completed and formally dedicated and opened to the public in the summer of 1939, when the national celebration of baseball's centennial year took place with an attendance of the nation's baseball celebrities gathered from all over the U. S. A.

The Cooperstown Museum was founded in 1936 with the primary object of memorializing Gen. Abner Doubleday



as the founder of the national game and to provide a suitable home for the National Baseball Hall of Fame, in which are enshrined the leading players and others who have helped to immortalize the game.

Bronze plaques on the walls of the museum record the names and deeds of baseball's illustrious great. The museum also contains a large collection of baseball mementoes,

valuable relics, pictures and many original documents.

Each year since 1936 the Baseball Writers' Association has conducted a poll of its members to choose players to be honored with a place in the Hall of Fame. The writers have restricted their choices to playing stars who have won a major portion of their fame since 1900. In 1936 they chose Ty Cobb, Christy Mathewson, Walter Johnson, Babe Ruth, and Honus Wagner. In 1937 the writers selected Napoleon Lajoie, Tris Speaker, and Cy Young. In 1938 only Grover Cleveland Alexander received the required number of votes. Early in 1939 the names of Eddie Collins, George Sisler, and Willie Keeler were added. In December, 1939, in order to mark the year in which he closed his playing career and set a record of playing in 2130 consecutive games, the writers honored Henry Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees by according him a niche in the Hall of Fame by special election.

The Baseball Centennial Commission, comprised of Judge Landis, and the presidents of the two major leagues, has chosen as honorary members of the Hall of Fame a number of players who starred in the old-time period before 1900, together with some men who have been outstanding in the development of the game. Their choices include George Wright, Morgan G. Bulkeley, Alexander Cartwright, Henry Chadwick, Ban Johnson, John J. McGraw, Connie Mack, A. G. Spalding, Charles Radbourne, A. C. Anson, William Arthur Cummings, William (Buck) Ewing, and Charles A. Comiskey.

IMMORTALS

— Of —

THE CENTURY

— Of —

Our National Game

Whose Bronze Plaques

Adorn Baseball's

HALL OF FAME

Cooperstown, N. Y.

1839 — 1939

MORGAN G. BULKELEY First President of the National League (See Page 10, Stamp 10).

BYRON BANCROFT (Ban) JOHNSON, First President of American League (See Page 11, Stamp 12).



H. CHADWICK

HENRY CHADWICK—Known as the "Father of Baseball", was the first baseball writer and chronicler of the game. He assisted in drawing up the Knickerbocker Club's playing rules in 1845, and for many years afterward contributed much to the development of the game by his suggestions of desirable changes in the playing rules.



ALEXANDER CARTWRIGHT — One of the pioneers of the Knickerbocker Club of New York, is credited by historians of the National pastime as being the "Father of Organized Baseball". In 1845 he assisted the Knickerbockers of New York in laying out a baseball diamond in the exact size as used today, and helped formulate their rules. He was also a great missionary of the game, and in his travels carried the seeds of the game across the country and on to Hawaii.



A. CARTWRIGHT



GEORGE WRIGHT

GEORGE WRIGHT—One of the earliest and most brilliant playing stars. Shortstop and manager of the Cincinnati Red Stockings in their undefeated season of 1869, in which he was credited with a batting average of .518. From 1871 to 1878 he managed the Boston club in the National Association and the National League.



CONNIE MACK

CONNIE MACK — Born to the handicap of the name of Cornelius McGillicuddy, he shortened his name and lengthened his fame. He began his marvelous career as a manager with the Philadelphia Athletics at the very beginning of the American League, and is still with them. Under his leadership the Athletics have won nine pennants, in 1902, 1905, 1910, 1911, 1913, 1914, 1929, 1930, and 1931.



JOHN J. McGRAW—A star player with the Baltimore Orioles until the break-up of that team in 1900. As manager of the New York Giants, he won the National League pennant ten times, in 1904, 1905, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1917, 1921, 1922, 1923, and 1924, being the first manager to win four consecutive pennants. He is generally considered to have been one of baseball's greatest strategists.



JOHN J. McGRAW



A. G. SPALDING

A. G. SPALDING—In his younger days, Spalding was considered the king of old-time pitchers. He began his hurling career with the Forest City Club of Rockford, Ill., and later pitched for the old National Association club in Boston. With the establishment of the National League in 1876, in which he assisted, he joined the Chicago White Stockings as manager, but soon withdrew to start the great sporting goods business which bears his name.



C. RADBOURNE

CHARLES RADBOURNE—Known affectionately as “Old Hoss”, Radbourne was unquestionably the greatest of old-time pitchers. His greatest record was made in 1884, when he pitched 74 games for the Providence club in the National League, winning 60 of them. Thirty-seven of the games he pitched were consecutive, and 18 of his victories were consecutive.



A. C. ANSON—Anson began his career with the Forest City Club of Rockford, Ill. In 1872 he joined the Philadelphia Athletics, and in 1876 went to the Chicago White Stockings. Becoming manager of the Chicago Club in 1879, he won five championships, in 1880, 1881, 1882, 1885, and 1886. He was a stellar first baseman, and led the batters of the National League four times, batting .300 or better 20 out of the 22 years he played.



A. C. ANSON



WM. EWING

WILLIAM (BUCK) EWING—Considered one of the greatest catchers of all times. Ewing was the first receiver to be honored with a position in the Hall of Fame. Although he played with other teams, he won his greatest fame with the New York National League club in the 1890's.



C. A. COMISKEY

CHARLES A. COMISKEY — As manager of the St. Louis Browns in the old American Association, Comiskey made a brilliant record as first baseman and manager of that team, winning the league championship in 1885, 1886, 1887, and 1888. With the establishment of the American League in 1900 he came to Chicago to head the White Sox, and as president built that club into one of the most valuable baseball properties.



WILLIAM ARTHUR CUMMINGS

—Generally conceded to have been the first pitcher to curve a ball, was also a leading hurler in the period between 1865 and 1880. He was credited with having hurled curves as early as 1866, while playing with the Brooklyn Stars, although the arm motion necessary to produce a curve was not legalized until 1877. Cummings was a winning pitcher for Hartford after the foundation of the National League in 1876.



WM. CUMMINGS



LOU GEHRIG

HENRY LOU GEHRIG—Baseball fans were saddened in 1939 by the sudden close of Lou Gehrig's career, caused by an unfortunate illness. On May 2, 1939, he asked to be excused from the line-up of the New York Yankees, thus breaking a string of 2130 consecutive games in which he had starred at first base. This iron-man record was further distinguished

by his brilliant play and heavy hitting.

GROVER CLEVELAND ALEXANDER—"Old Pete" or "Alex the Great," pitched twenty years, all in the National League. His record of



373 games won has never been equalled in one league. Alex was born in St. Paul, Neb., on February 26, 1887. He broke into the major leagues with the Phillies in 1911, and pitched for them until he went to the Chicago Cubs in 1918. He continued his phenomenal hurling for the Cubs until 1926, when he became more or less of a "problem child" for the management, and was traded

to the St. Louis Cardinals, winding up his major league service with that team in 1929. The following year he was on the mound in several games, wearing the uniform of Philadelphia again, but his effectiveness against big-time batters was gone, and he was credited with no wins. "Old Pete" was a remarkably fine hurler at the peak of his fame, working in an effortless manner that was highly deceptive. He deserves his high ranking with the other three pitchers in baseball's national Hall of Fame.

TYRUS RAYMOND COBB—"The Georgia Peach," was outstanding in three departments of the game, fielding, hitting, and base-running. Ty Cobb's record should be an



inspiration to any boy who has the necessary muscular co-ordination and brain power to be a great player, yet finds that he is not naturally good at the game. When Cobb first broke into organized baseball in Augusta, Georgia, he misjudged fly balls, was only a fair hitter, and could not slide at all. After his purchase by Detroit in 1905 he practiced

sliding until he was bruised and bloody. He went on until he was acknowledged the greatest slider in the game, a master of the hook and fall away slides. He applied him-

self so intensely to batting practice that he became the American League's leading batter for 12 years, and developed into a brilliant fielder, a cool resourceful player. His fiery temper made many personal enemies, yet it was only the expression of his burning determination to stand at the peak in the national game. Among the unique records held by Cobb are: Most consecutive years batting .300 or better, 23; most runs, 2,244; most runs batted in, 1,901; most stolen bases, 892, and many others. In recognition of his supreme artistry in the game, he is sometimes called the ball player's ball player. Cobb played for Detroit from 1905 to 1926, and for the Philadelphia Athletics in 1927-1928.

EDDIE COLLINS—Christened Edward Trowbridge Collins by his parents when he was born in Millerton, N. Y., May 2,



1887, this famous second baseman had one of the longest service records in modern baseball, stretching from 1906 to 1930 as a player, then several years as general manager of the Boston Red Sox. Collins was one of Connie Mack's famous products, and was developed by the old master into a claimant for the title of the game's greatest second baseman. There may be some dispute as to whether this title

belongs to him or to Lajoie or Evers, but there is no doubt that he ranked right at the top in playing the keystone sack. He could hit, run, and field with the best of them and play practically every fielding position except short-stop, where he was only mediocre. He played a few games for the Athletics in 1906 and 1907, was farmed out to Newark in 1907, and returned to Philadelphia where he helped win championships down to 1914. He was then sold to the White Sox in Chicago and helped them get into two world series. He was manager of the Sox in 1925-1926, and returned to Philadelphia in 1927 to close his playing career.

WEE WILLIE KEELER—This famous batsman was born in Brooklyn, March 3, 1876. He was signed by the New York



club in 1893, but was injured and unable to play. His release was secured by Brooklyn, and sold to Baltimore, and played for the mighty Orioles in that city until 1898. In 1899 he went to Brooklyn, and from there to the New York Yankees in the new American League. He played for the Yankees until 1910. Keeler was a wizard at the bat. He lacked the beef to be a long-distance hitter, but had no

equals in the art of dumping the ball just out of reach of the fielders. He is said to have given as the secret of his success, "I hit 'em where they ain't." His all-time batting average was .345. Keeler's belated elevation to the Hall of fame meets approval of the older fans. Keeler died in 1923.

Baseball Quiz

Answers 8 to 10

- A. 8. Although there may have been others before him, the first on record as receiving a regular salary was Al J. Reach, who was offered a salary in 1864 to play with the Philadelphia Athletics.
- A. 9. Robert Addy, playing for the Forest City team of Rockford, Ill., is credited with being the first to use the slide, in 1866. Some say that Eddie Cuthbert, of the Philadelphia Keystones, used the slide in 1865.
- A. 10. The New York Yankees, by defeating Pittsburgh four straight in 1926, were the first team to perform this feat since the American and National Leagues have been playing the world's championship series. Since then the Yanks have repeated this performance against St. Louis in 1928, against Chicago in 1932 and 1938, and against Cincinnati in 1939.

WALTER PERRY JOHNSON—All of “Barney” Johnson’s career as a pitcher was spent with the Washington Nationals,



with whom he established many slab records in his 21 years of hurling. Johnson was born in Humboldt, Kan., November 6, 1887. During 15 of his 21 years with the Washington club he had a mediocre second division team backing him up, yet he managed to win 60 games by a score of 1 to 0. He hurled two no-hit games, and holds the league shut-out record with 113. Fans have always speculated as to whe-

ther Johnson would not have been more successful with a stronger club, but perhaps he would not then have piled up his record of 3497 strike-outs, for with the knowledge that his team-mates might not always accord him full support, Barney was forced to rely on his blinding speed. After his pitching career ended in 1927, he managed the Washington and Cleveland clubs for several years.

Baseball Quiz

Answers 11 to 15

- A. 11. The National League, founded in 1876, was the first.
- A. 12. Babe Ruth received the highest annual salary paid in baseball.
- A. 13. The first series in 1903 was decided on a five-game basis, and in 1919, 1920, and 1921 it was tried again.
- A. 14. Babe Ruth's biggest home run year was 1927.
- A. 15. The home run record of the National League was made by Hack Wilson in 1930.

NAPOLEON LAJOIE—Better known as Larry, this French-American ball player is considered by many to have been the greatest second baseman in the history of the game. He was



born in Woonsocket, R. I., September 5, 1875, and began his career with the Phillies in 1896. In 1902 he went to Cleveland, where for 13 years he electrified the fans with his amazing hitting and fielding. So much did his playing and personality dominate the Cleveland club that it was called the Naps in those years. He batted above .300 in the

American League for 15 years, and in his time the younger circuit did not use the lively ball it now has. He returned to Philadelphia for two more years, 1915-1916, to close his remarkable career.

CHRISTY MATHEWSON—"The Big Six" was the pitching mainstay of the New York Giants from 1900 to 1914. He



was born in Factoryville, Pa., August 12, 1880. Fans whose memories go back to the early days of the century like to argue as to whether Mathewson or Johnson was the King of the Pitchers, but the title might well be shared by them, each king of his respective league. Mathewson's specialty was control, and it was almost miraculous the way he could cut the corners of the plate.

In 1908 he pitched 56 games, winning 37 of them, which is the best record of its kind in modern baseball. Mathewson might have gone on pitching for many years, for he had the head and heart, plus control, that a hurler needs when his arm is no longer supple as in the days of youth. But in spite of a rugged appearance, he had a tendency to tuberculosis, and finally succumbed to the disease, dying in 1925. He is greatly beloved by those who knew him, and his death was a great sorrow to the followers of the game.

GEORGE HERMAN RUTH—The “Babe” is still a mighty hero to the youth of America, for he typifies the magic of success as it might come to



any boy in the United States. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, February 7, 1894, and is of German extraction. His parents died when he was young, and he was raised in an orphanage. As a kid player, he wanted to be a catcher, but he discovered he had speed and control, and became a pitcher—a southpaw. He broke into the big time with the Boston Red Sox in 1915 as a

hurler. His all-time record as a pitcher was 79 games won against 38 lost, which indicates that he was outstanding as a moundsman. However, he loved to hit, and 1919 began to play the outfield, where his batting talents were oftener called into use. Sold to the New York Yankees in 1920 for a record-breaking price, he went on to become home-run king and the highest-paid player in baseball. Year after year he led the league in the number of home-runs, amassing 60 of them in 1927.

Baseball Quiz

Answers 16 to 19

- A. 16. Richard W. Marquard, known as “Rube,” won 19 straight victories in 1912.
- A. 17. Yes, the pitcher gets credit for a strike-out even if the batter gets to first.
- A. 18. When a batted ball hits the person or clothing of the umpire the runner is safe.
- A. 19. Chicago and Boston are the only teams that have been in the league continuously since it was started.

GEORGE SISLER—"Sis" was a stellar first baseman for the St. Louis Browns from 1915 to 1927, except for one year



that he had to give up playing on account of sinus trouble. Sisler was born in Manchester, Ohio, March 24, 1893. He was sent to Washington in 1928 and the same year was transferred to the Boston club in the National League. He was one of the few players of his day who was a college product, going directly from the University of Michigan to St. Louis. He was a sensational pitcher in college, but be-

cause of his ability to hit, he was made into a first baseman. He wound up his major league service in 1930. Ranking as one of the greatest fielders ever to play the initial sack, Sisler was also a heavy hitter, batting over .300 in all but one of his sixteen years of playing.

TRISTRAM E. SPEAKER—Better known as "Tris" or "Spoke," this star had no superiors as an outfielder. Born



in Hubbard, Texas, April 4, 1888, Speaker broke into the majors with the Boston Red Sox in 1907, but did not stay. He returned to Boston in 1908, mid-season, and continued to play the outfield for that team until 1915. He then went to Cleveland until 1926, finishing up with Washington and the Phillies in 1927 and 1928. Speaker was a most graceful player, and one of the few left-handers who have won

great success in the outfield. During his last seven years he managed the Cleveland club. He was one of the most powerful hitters of his time.

HONUS WAGNER—The stories told of the big Dutchman would fill many books, but none is more expressive than



the simple fact that with the possible exception of Joe Tinker he was the greatest shortstop of all time. With his enormous hands and feet, and his squat body topped by a long, sad face, he looked almost like a caricature of a ball player, but he was called by no less an authority than John J. McGraw the greatest player that ever wore spikes. Wagner broke into the big leagues with the old Louisville club of

the National League, but won his greatest fame with the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1900 to 1917. Born in Mansfield, Pa., February 24, 1874, and christened John Henry by his parents, Wagner was still actively connected with the game in 1939, as coach for the Pirates.

Baseball Quiz

Answers 20 to 22

- A. 20. Rube Waddell of the Athletics, who sometimes pulled a stunt of calling in his fielders and fanning the batters in order. His mark of 373 strike-outs in a single season, made in 1904, is the best in modern baseball.
- A. 21. The runner may not advance on a foul hit. But if the batter hits a foul tip which is caught and held by the catcher, just as a runner starts to steal second, the runner is entitled to second base if he gets there ahead of the ball.
- A. 22. A triple play can result from the dropping of a fly under the infield fly rule. If there are runners on first and second, and the shortstop drops a fly that has been called an infield fly by the umpire, and the runners try to advance, they may be thrown out before they get back to first and second. The batter is automatically out under the rule.

DENTON T. YOUNG—Known by most fans only as "Cy," a nickname applied to him because of his farmerish appear-



ance, this remarkable pitcher was born in Gilmore, Ohio, March 20, 1867, and was still hurling ball games in the majors when past forty. Young's unbelievable career began in Cleveland in 1890, when that city had a team in the National League. He pitched for the Boston Americans from 1901 to 1908, then for three years with the Cleveland Indians, winding up with the Boston Braves in 1911. Cy claimed

his arm was as good as ever when he quit, but his legs were playing out. His total number of games won, 511, is more than most pitchers even pitch, let alone win. In all but a few years of his career he pitched from 34 to 50 games a year, winning most of them.

Baseball Quiz

Answers 23 to 25

- A. 23. Practically all the measurements used in baseball have been changed at one time or another except the distance between bases, 90 feet.
- A. 24. Bucky Walters of the Cincinnati Reds, who with Paul Derringer, pitched the Reds into the 1939 championship of the National League, is a former shortstop.
- A. 25. The best record under modern playing conditions; that is, since the last of the really fundamental changes in the playing rules was made around 1900, was the championship record of the Chicago National League (Cubs) team in 1906, when they won 116 games and lost 36, for a percentage of .763. The best record under old-time conditions was also made by the Chicago National League club in 1880, when they won 67 games and lost 17, for a percentage of .798.

JUDGE KENESAW MOUNTAIN LANDIS

High Commissioner of Baseball

JUDGE LANDIS is known to fans as the man who settles the many knotty problems and disputes that arise in hand-



JUDGE LANDIS
High Commissioner
Of Baseball

ling the affairs of clubs and players in major league and minor league baseball. Not many know that this interesting and colorful personality had a distinguished career before his connection with organized baseball. As a federal district judge in Chicago in the early 1900's, Judge Landis was known far and wide for the forceful and original manner with which he conducted himself on the bench. In a famous trial of the Standard Oil Company for

alleged violation of the anti-trust law, the Judge imposed the record-breaking fine of \$29,000,000 on the company. His fearlessness and independence so attracted the public that he was called to act as arbiter in the feud between the Federal League and organized baseball in 1914. When August Hermann resigned as chairman of the National Commission in 1921, Judge Landis was induced to become the high commissioner of baseball, and since then he has conducted baseball affairs with the same vigor that characterized him while on the bench. Commissioner Landis was born in Millville, Ohio, November 25, 1866. His father was a surgeon in the Civil War who lost a leg at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and in memory of this event he gave his son this most unusual name.

WILLIAM HARRIDGE

President of the American League

WILLIAM HARRIDGE, the third president of the American League, has served his organization as an officer for



WILLIAM HARRIDGE
President
The American League

more than half of the time the league has been in existence. He was secretary of the league under the only two other presidents it has had, Ban Johnson and Ernest S. Barnard. Harridge was in the employ of the Wabash Railroad when Ban Johnson, admiring the efficiency with which he handled the traffic problems of the American League ball clubs, urged him to become his secretary. Harridge's service under Johnson and Barnard was so marked

with energy, tact, and levelheadedness that no other candidate was even considered when Barnard's death in 1931 obliged the club owners to elect a new president. To his splendid record of 20 years as secretary he has added nine as its chief executive, carrying on the best traditions of his office and perpetuating the highest ideals of baseball. President Harridge is a native of Chicago, born on October 16, 1886. He married Miss Maude Hunter, of Decatur, Ill., in June, 1911, and now resides in Wilmette, Ill. Although he is one of the staunchest supporters of the national pastime, he never played a game of baseball.

FORD CHRISTOPHER FRICK

President of the National League

FORD FRICK, who now guides the destinies of the National League, started his career as a newspaper man, but deserted



FORD C. FRICK
President
The National League

that occupation to become a schoolmaster in Colorado. However, he lived down this dark chapter in his life, as has many another ex-school teacher, and became a sports writer of national prominence in New York. He was also widely known as a radio sports commentator, and his wide acquaintance with baseball led to his being offered the post of publicity director for the National League, in which capacity he served for one year. When in 1934 John

A. Heydler, after 17 years of service at the helm of the league, announced his retirement, Frick was the unanimous choice of the club owners as Heydler's successor. His intimate knowledge of the game and his large acquaintance in the field of sports made Frick's election a most fortunate choice. He is the ninth president of the league. President Frick was born on a farm at Wawaka, Indiana, near Kendallville. He was graduated from DePauw College in 1915, and married Miss Eleanor Cowing on September 16, 1916.

THE CHICAGO WHITE STOCKINGS OF 1882

Three Times Champions of the National League



October 14, 1882

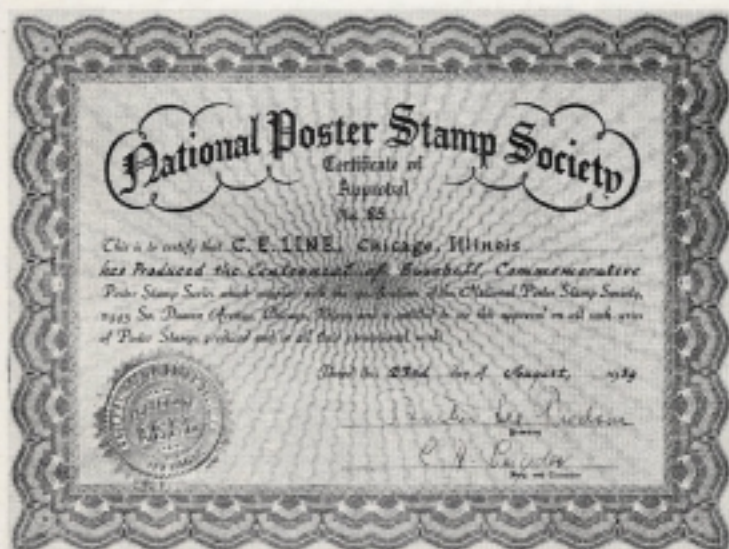
The first team to win the championship of a major league three successive years was the Chicago White Stockings. With the same set of players, the Chicago club captured the flag in 1880, 1881, and 1882.

In the year that climaxed this performance, 1882, the National League tried an experiment in uniforms, requiring each player to wear a cap and shirt of a color to denote his playing position. The colors were scarlet for the catcher; light blue for the pitcher; scarlet and white for the first base; orange and black for second base; gray and white for third base; maroon for shortstop; gray for right field; red and black for center field; white for left field; green or brown for substitutes. The scheme was unpopular with both players and fans, and was discarded after a year's trial.

The Chicago team that took the pennant three times in a row was made up of the following players: Left to right: 1—Ed. Williamson, third base; 2—Mike Kelly, right field and alternate catcher; 3—Silver Flint, catcher; 4—Fred Goldsmith, pitcher; 5—Joe Quest, second base; 6—Tommy Burns, shortstop; 7—A. C. Anson, captain and first base; 8—Dalrymple, left field; 9—George Gore, center field; 10—Hugh Nicol, right field; 11—Larry Corcoran, pitcher.

The author of "Major First Events in a Century of Baseball" gratefully acknowledges that many hints, helpful knowledge, data and information for this work were obtained by her from the Forest Park Baseball Museum, where she found a number of rare relics; illustrations, pictures, photographs and other documentary data of utmost value and importance to fans and students of Baseball lore. The author also wishes to express her appreciation to the ardent and enthusiastic baseball fan, Emery Parichy, President and Founder of the Forest Park Baseball Museum for his splendid cooperation and assistance in the furtherance of this work.

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