

Date	Team	Vs	SCORE	IP	R	ER	H	BB	K	WP	HBP	AB	H(XBH)	R	PO	A	E	Catchr
1910:																		
1/1	Santa Ana	"	3-1	9	1	0	3	2	8			3	1		1	1	1	Meats
1/9	"	McCormicks	2-0	9	0	0	1	0	12		1	3	0		1	3		"
1/23	"	Maiers	2-1	9	1		2	0	11			2	1		2			"
1/30	"	Occidental	3-0	9	0	0	2	0	15			3	1	1	1	2		"
2/6	"	CoastLg AS	2-1	9	1	1	5	0	15			2	1		2			"
2/13	"	"	3-1	9	1	1	1		10			1(HR)		1				"
2/20	"	SantaBarb	3-0	9	0	0	4		15									"
2/27	"	McCormicks	2-1	9	1	0	3	0	11			2	2	1	1	4		"
1924:																		
10/26	WK Soap	VernPCL	1-5	7	0	0	3	1	7			2	0					1
10/29	Devines	MailsAS	2-0	5	0	0	2	1	3	1		2	1(2B)		1			
10/31	AnaElk	RuthStars	1-12	5	8	8	8	1	6			1	1					1

Feature Game of this date

In what was almost a "comedy of errors" the Santa Ana and Hoegees clubs of the Southern California Winter league played the game below during the winter of 1907-8. The Hoegees committed eight muffs and the locals five.

Despite these misplays, the teams fought 9 innings to a 4 to 4 deadlock, the game being called on account of darkness. It was the second tie played between these clubs during the season.

Walter Johnson, famed hurler of the Washington American league club, was on the slab for Santa Ana and allowed only three hits and whiffed fifteen batters. But for the sake of his teammates he would easily have won his game.

The box score:

Santa Ana						L. A. Hoegees							
AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E		
Head, ss	5	0	0	2	0	1	McQuade, 2b	4	0	0	0	0	
Mott, 3b	4	1	2	1	2	0	Nichols, lf	4	0	0	4	0	
G. Meats, c	5	0	1	15	0	0	Snodgrass, c	4	1	1	11	3	
Johnson, p	4	2	2	0	1	0	Adams, 1b	4	2	0	9	0	
Brown, 2b	3	0	1	3	0	2	Ferline, 3b	3	1	1	2	2	
W. Meats, rf	4	1	1	0	0	0	Goodman, cf	4	0	0	0	0	
Walbridge, cf	3	0	0	1	0	0	Gamble, p	4	0	1	0	1	
Robinson, 1b	4	0	0	3	0	0	Flick, ss	3	0	0	1	1	
Slaback, lf	4	0	1	2	0	2	Wilkinson, rf	3	0	0	0	0	
Angle, rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	Hartman, p	1	0	0	0	0	
							Thompson, p	1	0	0	0	0	
Totals	37	4	8	27	3	5	Totals	35	4	3	27	7	8

SUMMARY—Three base hit, Johnson; two base hit, Brown; struck out by Johnson 15, by Gamble 11; base on balls, Johnson 0, by Gamble 2; stolen bases, Mott 1, Robinson 3, Slaback 1, Adams 1, Ferline 1, Flick 1; sacrifice hits Johnson 1, Brown 1, W. Meats 1.

In this game of the 1907-8 Southern California Winter league, Walter Johnson of the Washington Americans, hurling for Santa Ana held the Hoegees team of Los Angeles to two bingles and whiffed nine batters but all he could get was a 1 to 1 tie. The affair went only the regulation nine innings, being called on account of darkness.

Included in the Hoegees lineup were Snodgrass and Flick, both later of the New York Giants.

The box score below was furnished The Register by Roy West of this city, who played on the local team under the name of Brown.

Santa Ana						Hoegees							
AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E		
Slaback, lf	4	0	1	3	0	0	Flick, ss	5	0	0	2	1	0
Brown, 2b	3	0	0	1	4	0	Nichols, lf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Head, ss	4	1	3	4	1	1	Goodman, cf	4	0	0	1	0	0
Johnson, p	4	0	0	0	0	0	Snodgrass, c	4	1	1	5	0	0
W. Meats, rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	Ferline, rf	4	0	1	4	1	0
G. Meats, c	3	0	0	14	1	0	Chamber, 3b	3	0	1	0	1	0
Robinson, 1b	3	0	0	3	0	0	McQuade, 2b	3	0	0	2	2	0
Angle, cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	Wilkinson, 1b	4	0	0	10	0	0
Stambaugh, 3b	3	0	0	0	1	2	Thompson, p	3	0	0	0	2	0
Totals	31	1	5	27	7	3	Totals	34	1	3	24	7	0

SUMMARY—3 base hits, Head; 2 base hits, Head, W. Meats; struck out by Johnson 9, by Thompson 6; base on balls, Johnson 0, by Thompson 2.

The great Walter Johnson was at his best January 13, 1907 and the Santa Ana team of the Southern California Winter league whitewashed the Christopher-Levy club of Los Angeles, 2 to 0. Johnson fanned eighteen of the visiting batters, an average of more than two an inning. Claire Head, Mallett, Johnson, Roy (Brown) West, Robinson and Lester Slaback led the Santa Ana swatting assault. The box score:

Santa Ana						Christopher-Levys of L. A.							
AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E		
Head, ss	4	0	3	1	1	0	Heinzeman, c	4	0	0	9	1	0
Mallett, 3b	4	0	1	1	1	0	G. Dear, ss	4	0	0	1	1	0
Meats, c	0	0	18	0	1	0	Reld, 3b	4	0	2	3	0	1
Johnson, p	1	2	0	1	1	0	J. Dear, cf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Brown, 2b	4	0	1	1	1	0	Kimmerle, 1b	3	0	0	9	1	0
Walbridge, lf	4	0	0	1	0	0	H. Dear, rf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Robinson, 1b	3	0	1	5	0	0	Howard, lf	3	0	0	2	0	0
Angle, rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	Salier, 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0
Slaback, cf	3	1	2	0	0	0	Whitredge, p	3	0	0	0	2	0
Totals	33	2	10	27	4	1	Totals	29	0	2	24	5	1

SUMMARY—Three base hit, Head; two base hit, Head, Johnson, Reld 2; struck out by Johnson 18, by Whitredge 7; stolen bases Head 2, Johnson, Brown; base on balls, Johnson 2, Whitredge 1.

Here's the box score of one of the first games pitched in 1907-8 for the Santa Ana club of the Southern California Winter league by Walter Johnson, famous hurler of the Washington Americans. It will be remembered that Johnson then was in his prime and his addition to the local team increased baseball interest here 100 per cent. The big speed ball twirler held the Meaks of Los Angeles to two hits, fanned thirteen men and would have blanked the opposition but for errors of his teammates. He also contributed to the Santa Ana victory by two solid hits. Johnson, it will be remembered, still is a powerful hitter.

These scores were furnished The Register Sports through the courtesy of Roy West of this city. West played with the local team under the name of Brown.

The box score:

Santa Ana						Meaks of L. A.							
AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E		
Head, 2b	4	0	1	1	2	1	R. Rafferty, rf	4	0	0	0	1	0
Mott, 3b	4	1	0	0	1	2	Cahill, lf	4	0	0	0	0	0
G. Meats, c	4	1	0	13	3	1	Burness, cf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson, p	3	1	2	1	0	1	Autrey, 1b	4	0	0	2	0	0
Brown, ss	2	1	0	3	1	0	Dodge, 2b	4	1	0	10	0	0
W. Meats, rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	Dodge, 2b	4	1	0	10	0	0
Lebell, cf	2	0	0	2	0	0	L. Rafferty, ss	4	1	1	0	3	0
Robinson, 1b	4	0	1	4	1	0	Hemus, c	2	0	0	7	1	0
Slaback, lf	3	0	0	3	0	0	Gray, 3b	3	0	0	1	0	1
							Trager, p	3	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	28	4	4	27	10	5	Totals	32	3	2	24	8	2

SUMMARY—Struck out by Johnson, 13; by Trager, 7; base on balls, by Johnson, 2; by Trager, 8; stolen bases, Mott 2; double plays, Johnson to Brown to Robinson.

Pitches No-Hit Game

The first 13 years are the hardest evidently, for it was not until his fourteenth year in major circles that Walter Johnson pitched hitless ball for nine innings. It was at Boston on July 1, 1920, that Walter won his crown. Harris missed an easy chance in the seventh, and thereby Hooper was the only Bostonian to reach first. Walter fanned 10. Judge had only three chances at first. The score:

WASHINGTON						BOSTON							
AB	R	H	O	A	E	AB	R	H	O	A	E		
Judge, 1b	4	0	1	2	1	0	Hooper, rf	4	0	0	1	0	0
Milan, lf	4	0	0	3	0	0	McNally, 2b	3	0	0	1	3	0
Rice, cf	3	0	1	3	0	0	Menosky, lf	3	0	0	2	0	0
Roth, rf	4	1	0	0	0	0	Schank, cf	3	0	0	0	1	0
Shanks, 3b	4	0	3	1	1	0	McInnis, 1b	3	0	0	10	1	0
Hannon, ss	3	0	1	0	0	0	Foster, 3b	3	0	0	2	4	0
Harris, 2b	2	0	1	0	2	1	Scott, ss	3	0	0	4	3	0
Reinech, c	3	0	1	1	0	0	Walters, c	2	0	0	7	3	0
Johnson, p	2	0	0	3	0	0	Harper, p	2	0	0	0	0	1
							*Karr	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	29	1	7	27	4	1	**Eibel	1	0	0	0	0	0
							Totals	28	0	0	27	16	1

*Batted for Walters in ninth. **Batted for Harper in ninth.

WASHINGTON	AB	R	H	O	A	E
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boston	0	0	0	0	0	0

Stolen base—Rice. Double play—Walters to McNally. Left on bases—Washington, 4; Boston, 1. Bases on balls—Off Harper, 1. Hit by pitcher—By Harper (Rice, Harris). Struck out—By Johnson, 10; by Harper, 7. Umpires—Chill and Moriarty. Time—1:46.

W. Johnson's Debut

Jim Delehanty, new American Association umpire, was the first major league batter ever pitched to by Walter Johnson, and Jim simply cannot forget that experience.

It was early one afternoon in 1906, Walter had reported the night before, and this afternoon had warmed up preparatory to pitching to the Washington players in batting practice. It so happened Delehanty was up for his turn when the big rawboned Westerner strode into the box.

He just took a short wind-up and let go. "I never had time to take the bat off my shoulder," says Del. "That ball shot right by me, right in the groove, and was in the catcher's hands before I knew it had left the rookie's hand. And when he came right back with another in the same spot, I laid down my bat and, walking over to Joe Cantillon, said: 'Better get him outa there; he'll kill somebody.'"

"What's he got?" asked Cantillon. "Has he got a fast one?"

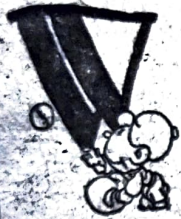
"Has he got a curve?" followed up Cantillon.

"I don't know and I don't care. What's more, I'm not going back to find out until I know how good his control is."

PROB 12/30/07

WALTER JOHNSON WHIFFS 27 S. A. HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS IN 1907 FULLERTON FRACAS

Speedball King of Majors, Hurling For Old Foe of Locals, Allowed Only Seven Hits In Fifteen Inning 0 to 0 Game But Was Outpitched



ALTER JOHNSON, the speed ball king of the major leagues and probably the greatest pitcher that ever went to the firing line, hurled what he himself calls the greatest game of his career against the Santa Ana high school baseball team.

Johnson, then a big, raw-boned lad of 16, was on the mound for the Fullerton high school team. George Coleman heaved for the Santa Ana nine and the two battle along fifteen innings to a 0 to 0 tie. This game of April 15, 1905 was played on the old Athletic park, just east of the Santa Fe tracks on Fruit street.

During the course of that momentous struggle which was for the Orange county championship, Johnson allowed seven hits, struck out twenty-seven men and issued but three bases on balls.

Coleman hurled a brilliant game, granting only three hits and whiffing seventeen hitters.

Two Still in S. A. Of the nine local men who played in that game only two, Garland Ross and Warren Hillyard, now are residents of this city. Ross is a local dentist and Hillyard is county surveyor. One, Ocell ("Rummy") Dubois is dead. Others of the team were Coleman, Lee Wilkinson, "Stub" Robinson, Art Bissell, Ralph Walbridge and Norman Freese.

The Santa Ana Evening Blade, describing the contest, evidently did not foresee that Johnson was to become the greatest of all baseball pitchers for it gave the game but passing notice under a small headline, entitled "A Series of Goose Eggs."

The story of the game, as it appeared in this paper follows:

"0 to 0. This tells the story of the scoring in Saturday's game between Fullerton and Santa Ana high schools. For fifteen innings the teams contended for victory on the local diamond and if the game had not been called they probably would have played several more.

Close, Well Played "In all respects it probably was the closest and best played game ever seen on the local field. Try as they might neither side could coax that much desired run across the rubber.

"The visitors' battery was the whole team in itself, being responsible for thirty-two of the forty-five putouts.

"For Santa Ana, Coleman pitched a great game, allowing but three scattered hits and one base on balls, while Johnson of Fullerton was touched for seven safe blows, including two two-baggers by Wilkinson and Hillyard.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 26 (By the Associated Press).—Years may come and years may go, but Walter Johnson, pitching ace of the Washington Senators, goes right on pitching the brand of ball that made him famous.

Today Johnson holds the distinction of having pitched his second no-hit game in major league baseball, his sixth scoreless game of the season, and the 107th shutout victory of his career.

With Washington only one point behind the league leading Yankees, and Detroit in third place, three and one-half games away, the American league race promises to be the greatest fight to the finish ever seen since the younger organization came into being.

Fullerton		AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Hansen, 2b	6	0	1	1	4	0	1
Porter, 1b	5	0	0	10	2	0	0
Johnson, p	8	0	0	1	0	0	0
Schultz, cf	5	0	0	1	1	0	0
Tanner, 3b	6	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hepkins, lf	6	0	1	3	0	0	0
Collins, c	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerick, rf	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
McFadden, ss	5	0	0	0	2	0	0

Santa Ana		AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Hillyard, ss	7	0	2	1	3	0	0
Walbridge, lf	6	0	0	2	0	0	0
Coleman, p	7	0	0	1	2	0	0
Ross, 3b	7	0	2	3	4	0	0
Bissell, 2b	6	0	1	1	3	2	0
Wilkinson, c	5	0	1	20	0	0	0
Dubois, rf	6	0	0	1	0	0	0
Robinson, 1b	6	0	1	16	1	0	0
Freese, cf	5	0	0	0	0	0	0

SUMMARY—2 base hits, Wilkinson, Hillyard; sacrifice hits, Wilkinson; struck out by Johnson 27, by Coleman, 17. Bases on balls off Johnson 3, off Coleman 2.

JOHNSON TO BE READY FOR HIS REGULAR TURN

NEW YORK, August 20.—Walter Johnson, premier pitcher of the Washington Americans, who was injured yesterday when hit by a line drive from Wally Schang's bat, will take his next turn on the mound for the Nationals despite the injury, he said today.

The ball bruised his pitching hand, but no bones were broken. It is expected that he will be able to carry the pitching burden on his veteran shoulders with a few days' rest.

Feature Game of this date

Besides hurling shutout baseball, holding the opposition to three scattered singles and whiffing fifteen strikers, Walter Johnson of the Washington Americans, helped Santa Ana defeat the Los Angeles Edison team with a home run, a double and a single on January 6, 1908. This was a regular game of the 1907-8 Southern California Winter League.

Guy Meats, local catcher, slammed out a brace of two-baggers and Clair Head, Anson Mott, Percy Angle and Robinson also aided the Santa Ana cause with hits.

Johnny Raleigh, Vernon coast league twirler, was on the slab for the Edisons and Briawalter who later played third base for the Angels held down that difficult corner. The box score:

Santa Ana		AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	Edisons of Los Angeles						
Head, ss	4	2	2	4	0	1	0	Briawalter, 3b	4	0	1	2	2	1
Mott, 3b	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	Broadbent, ss	3	0	2	0	1	0
Meats, c	4	1	2	16	2	0	0	Lucero, 2b	4	0	0	3	1	0
Johnson, p	4	2	3	0	1	0	0	Rowell, rf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Brown, 2b	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	Salyer, 1b	4	0	0	9	0	0
Mallet, rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	Legulin, c	4	0	0	6	3	0
Angle, cf	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	Encoe, cf	3	0	0	2	0	0
Robinson, 1b	3	0	1	6	1	1	0	Cornett, lf	3	0	1	0	0	0
Slabach, lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	Raleigh, p	3	0	0	1	4	0
Totals	32	7	10	27	7	2	0	Totals	30	0	3	24	13	0

Summary—Home run, Johnson; two-base hits, Meats 2, Johnson; single, Head; base on balls off Johnson 0, off Raleigh 2; wild pitch Raleigh.

With today's issue The Register begins a series of box scores of baseball games that were played in the Southern California Winter League of 1907-8. Santa Ana had one of the strongest teams in this organization, later in the season acquiring Walter Johnson of the Washington Americans, "Chick" Gandil, then of Sacramento, and other well known professionals.

Today's game was a 13-inning affair. Carson, pitching for Santa Ana, was sent here by Walter Johnson. Carson later became one of the leading hurlers of the Pacific Coast League. (PORTLAND)

Santa Ana		AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	Pasadena						
Head, ss	4	0	1	2	4	0	0	Harris, 1b	5	0	0	14	0	0
Slayback, lf	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	Hillyard, lf	4	0	0	2	0	1
Brown, 2b	4	1	2	2	3	1	0	Wolfe, cf	4	1	1	1	0	0
Mott, 3b	3	2	0	2	2	0	0	Wilson, ss	5	1	2	1	3	2
G. Meats, c	5	0	1	10	1	0	0	Walsh, rf	5	0	0	2	1	0
Walbridge, cf	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	Schmuck, 3b	5	0	2	1	5	0
W. Meats, rf	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	McDonald, 2b	4	0	1	1	3	1
Robinson, 1b	5	0	0	16	1	0	0	Leahy, c	5	0	0	14	0	0
Carson, p	5	0	1	0	4	0	0	Hitt, p	5	0	1	0	4	0
Totals	41	3	6	36	15	1	0	Totals	42	2	7	36	18	0

SUMMARY—Three base hit, Wilson; two base hit, Carson; struck out by Carson, 8; by Hitt, 12; base on balls, Carson, 2; Hitt, 3; stolen bases, Head 2, Brown 1, Walbridge 1.

Santa Ana's Southern California Winter league team of the 1907-8 season suffered defeat in this, the first game of a double-header, at Santa Barbara, December 29, 1907. The score was 2 to 1.

Walter Johnson, the big gun of the local team, wintering here after a strenuous season with the Washington Americans, played right field. He was being saved for the second game, the box score of which will appear in tomorrow's Register.

Charley Hall, Boston American leaguer, twirled for Santa Barbara and held Santa Ana to four scattered blows. He struck out ten men. The box score:

Santa Ana		AB	R	BH	PO	A	E	Santa Barbara						
Head, ss	4	1	2	2	2	0	0	Mangerina, c	4	0	0	10	4	0
Mott, 3b	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	G. Johnson, 1b	4	0	0	9	0	0
Meats, c	3	0	1	7	1	0	0	Martinke, lf	4	0	0	1	0	0
Johnson, rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	Carew, rf	2	1	0	2	0	0
Brown, 2b	3	0	0	3	1	0	0	Hall, p	3	1	1	0	3	0
Coleman, p	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	Rolner, 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2
Robinson, 1b	2	0	1	9	0	0	0	B. Johnson, 2b	3	0	1	4	1	1
Slabach, lf	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	Lewis, cf	1	0	0	1	0	0
Mallet, rf	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	Smith, ss	3	0	1	0	1	0
Totals	27	1	4	27	9	0	0	Totals	27	2	3	27	9	3

SUMMARY—Two base hits, Smith; struck out by Coleman, 5, by Hall, 10; base on balls, Hall 3, Coleman 0; sacrifice hits, B. Johnson, Lewis.

1/26/08(?)

11/10/07

according to S.A. Register 1/22/39

✓

FIVE STRAIGHT ERRORS ON LADIES' DAY

By

WALTER H. NAGLE

AS TOLD TO BRYSON REINHARDT

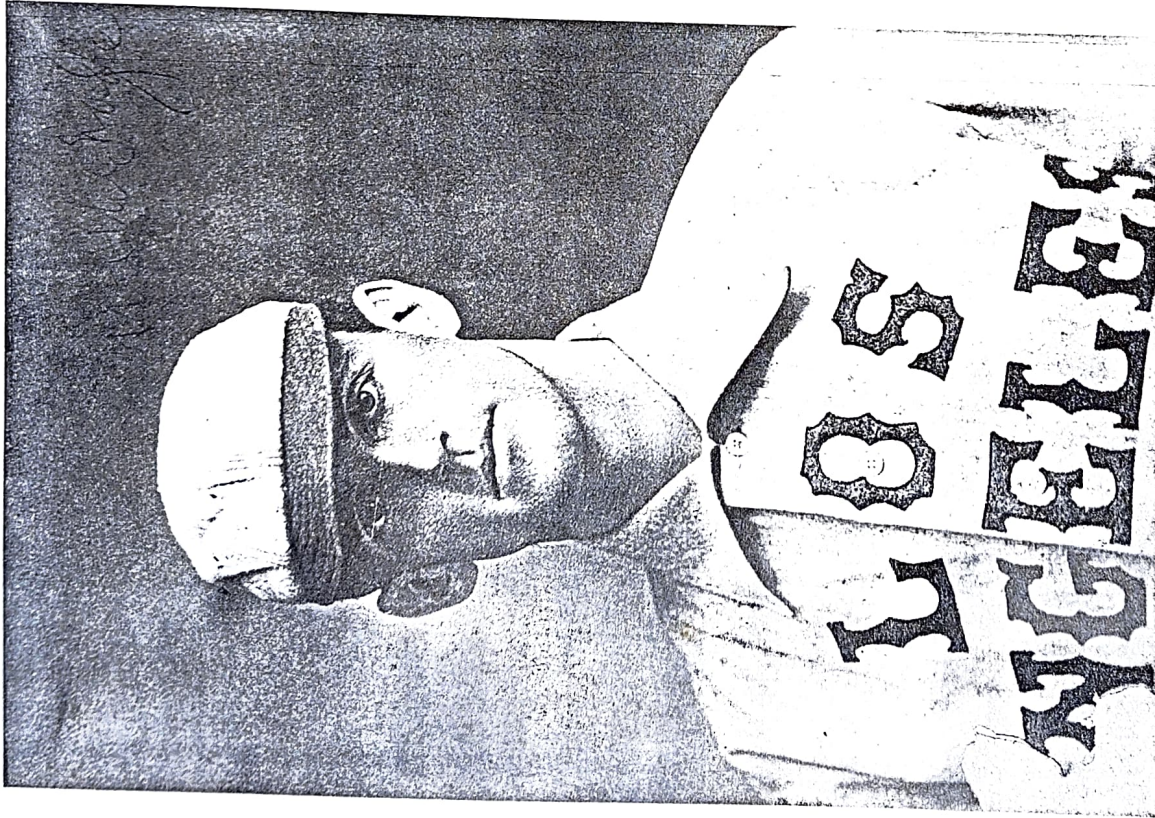
With an Introduction by

CASEY STENGEL

ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

b7c

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WALTER H. NAGLE

Early in his baseball career, when he was with the Los Angeles Angels in 1908

Big! . . .

Bashful! . . .

Blushing!

ABOUT TWO WEEKS after I signed up in Los Angeles, Cap Dillon invited a young busher who had been playing with Whittier and Downey to work out with the club for a few days. He was a promising young outfielder named George Ellis.

He arrived in his own uniform—an awesome combination of blue stockings, red pants, yellow shirt and a little red cap about three sizes too small, perched precariously on top of his head. His face was a mass of adolescent pimples. With the usual bashfulness of a busher he asked for Cap Dillon.

“Over there, Rube,” one of the players pointed. From that moment on, for the rest of his life, no busher named “Rube” ever left him. He didn’t mind: no busher minded anything when he was with real professional ball players.

Rube worked out so well that Cap Dillon offered him a contract at the standard salary of \$75 a month. Of course Rube jumped at such a wonderful offer! He became a fine outfielder, with only one serious problem: he couldn’t hit left-handed pitchers. But he kept working on the problem so persistently that

the St. Louis Nationals bought him in 1909, after which he had several real good years with them.

As soon as he had recovered from part of his painful bashfulness, Rube started talking about a wonderful pitcher he had been playing with on his former bush teams. “You never saw anything like him,” he enthused to all of us. “He throws the fastest ball I’ve ever seen. No curves or anything—he doesn’t need them. He just throws so fast the batters can’t even see the ball. He strikes out fifteen, eighteen, or twenty every game—and they don’t even get fouls—they don’t touch the ball!”

Even after discounting Rube’s stories a normal amount, Cap Dillon was interested. “Tell him to come down to the Hoffman on Monday, and I’ll talk to him,” he told Rube. “I’ll be there all Monday afternoon.”

“The Hoffman” was a cigar store and billiard parlor on Spring Street where the players liked to hang out, especially on Mondays when no games were scheduled because it was team-travel day. Rube’s descriptions of this super-pitcher had interested us so much that most of the players were there to see this specimen. Rube was one of the few not there; he was working on his family’s orange grove in Rivera. During the entire afternoon, no new pitcher approached Cap Dillon or any of the other players.

“Rube! . . . What happened to that great pitcher you were going to have at the Hoffman Monday?” Cap Dillon wanted to know the next day.

"He was there," Rube replied. "He arrived about one o'clock and hung around all afternoon, but nobody spoke to him; so he went home about six."

This young boy had been too bashful and filled with awe to approach any of the players, let alone the manager! He had hung around, patiently hoping that someone would speak to him, and finally gave up. I understood: I had felt the same way while waiting in front of Mr. Harris' cigar store in San Francisco.

Only a few days later the boy's parents moved to another state, and Cap never had a chance to talk to him. He immediately started playing on the bush team in his new town. He kept writing his friend Rube, and would mention in his letters how many games he was winning. He never mentioned any losses.

Rube and I had become close friends. He gave me all these reports—plus many enthusiastic descriptions of his own. Finally I was so impressed that I wrote about this youngster to the only big-league player I knew personally: Cliff Blankenship, then catcher for the Washington Senators.

Cliff had married a Santa Rosa girl whom I went to school with. We had become friends during their off-season visits to Santa Rosa. We had become real pals after I picked him off third base during an exhibition game. This pick-off has a bearing on the story, and probably should be mentioned in greater detail.

It was really a *delayed* pick-off, which has now become quite rare in baseball, in spite of its effectiveness. It started with my wasting a pitch rather obviously, which caused Cliff to shorten his lead in anticipation of a pick-off attempt by the catcher. Then, when the catcher returned the ball to me, he again lengthened his lead, assuming that we had failed. What he didn't know was that we had previously arranged this "feint" between the catcher, the third baseman, and myself. When I received the return from the catcher, I whipped the ball to third without even looking, and we caught him off by nearly three feet.

It was embarrassing to Cliff, not only because he represented the winning run, but also because he was the only big leaguer among a bunch of bushers. His anger was something to behold! But after the game was over, we became real pals and stayed that way. I knew that Cliff respected me and felt that he would take a letter from me seriously. He did: he passed the word along to his manager so effectively that when he was out of action with two broken fingers, his manager sent him out to take a look at this phenomenal young pitcher.

Cliff told me about his scouting trip later. "I didn't say a word to anybody about the purpose of my trip—just took a seat in the grandstand and watched him pitch. I had made up my mind by the end of the third inning, after he had struck out nine players with twenty-seven pitches. None of the

batters even got a piece of the ball; they couldn't see it . . . I couldn't see it!"

"Then I said to the fellow sitting next to me: 'That's quite a pitcher.'

"He told me, 'We've never seen anything like him around here. Only problem with him is that nobody can catch him. He's taking it easy now, but when he gets a runner on base with a lucky hit or a walk, that's when he bears down. Then the runner is likely to score because the catcher loses the ball. Last week he knocked the mitt clear off the catcher's hand!'"

Cliff signed up the young busher at the end of the game and took him to Washington with him the next day. There he made good and came out for several winters to see his friend Rube and pick up some of the big money in the California Winter League.

In the meantime I had married my childhood sweetheart, Leota Pedigo—who, after putting up with me for fifty-five years, urged me to write this book. Leota and I were living in a cottage on Rube's orange grove in Rivera, when one evening this young pitcher came around to see his friend Rube—who happened to be out for the evening with his new bride, the former Pearl Magill. This was our first meeting—a very cordial one because Rube had told each of us so much about the other that it seemed like meeting an old friend. After chatting

together for a short time, Leota and I invited him to go to a show¹ with us.

He made a tremendous hit with Leota. "He is the *niciest* fellow," she enthused at the end of a most pleasant evening. "He's so clean-cut and polite and thoughtful. . . . And did you *ever* see anybody so bashful? . . . I don't know whether you noticed it, Walter, but he blushed almost every time I spoke to him!"

Bashful or not, he lasted twenty-one years with the Senators. He pitched 802 games, with 416 wins to 280 losses. His record of wins is still the all-time high in the American League, being exceeded only by Cy Young's 511. He pitched the most innings of any American League pitcher in history: the staggering total of 5,924. He had the most strikeouts (3,508) and the most shutouts (113) of any pitcher in the history of baseball. He had twenty or more wins in each of twelve seasons with the (otherwise pathetic) Washington Senators.

I'm sure that every reader has recognized the town where Cliff Blankenship signed him up as Weiser, Idaho. And the name of this big, bashful, blushing young pitcher as Walter Johnson, "The Big Train."

¹ Vaudeville. Movies weren't yet known (not even black and white movies).

RECALL PIONEER DA

Walter Johnson Era Brought Many Stars To Old Hawley Park

Even Walter Johnson Cou



Santa Ana high school's baseball team of 1905 w astic championship; it was the first Saint team of any Kir Walter Johnson (then pitching for Fullerton high school George Coleman, p; Ed Robinson, lb; Ralph Walbridge, zeeon, c; Warren Hilliard ss; Roy (Brownie) West, cf.

By FLOYD MITCHELL
The grand old game of baseball was established in Orange county long before the Walter Johnson era. Many great players had done their bit but it was during the winter of 1907-08-09 that the brightest pages of baseball history were written as far as local fans were concerned.

A. E. Hawley, a local sporting goods merchant, and a great lover of the game, owned a small farm out west of the city and it was in the late summer of 1906 that he thought the town needed a ball park. So he squared off a piece of land large enough for a regulation diamond and got his team going.

The original Santa Ana Stars were organized, and it happened in this way. There was one team here composed of the following players: Lester Slaback, Roy (Brownie) West, Ward Stambaugh, James Ryan, Percy Angle, Jesse Robinson, Charles Berry and Andy Luxembourg. Their chief opposition was a team from Orange with such men as Henry Hinrichs, Oscar Gunther, John Maag, Henry Loptien. After a time the two teams were combined and called the Santa Ana Stars, with the following: Lee Wilkinson, Ryan, Loptien, Hinrichs, Gunther, Maag and Johnny Salkeld.

New Gray Uniforms

Dolled up in new gray uniforms, they played their first game at Hawley's park and met defeat by a score of 5 to 1. Their conqueror was the Dyas-Cline Sporting Goods team from Los Angeles.

In the spring of 1907 the first league was organized and operated every Sunday through the summer until early fall. Then there was talk of a Winter league. When finally organized it was known as the Southern California Winter league.

Business took too much of Mr. Hawley's time so he turned the management of the team over to Ed. Crolic, a billiard hall owner. Crolic purchased new dark green uniforms with "Santa Ana" in yellow letters across the front of the shirt, and yellow Sox. From then on the Santa Ana team was known as the Yellow Sox.

There were clubs from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Pasadena, San Bernardino, San Diego and Santa Ana in the Winter league. The opening game was played with Pasadena Nov. 11, 1907. Roy Hitt, southpaw pitcher for the Cincinnati Reds was in the box for Pasadena. "Soldier" Carson of the Portland club of the Coast league, hurled for Santa Ana. It was a pitcher's battle and was finally won by Pasadena after 13 innings, 3 to 2.

On Nov. 17, 1907, Walter Johnson joined the team for the first time. It was a bad day for baseball because there was a strong wind blowing. Hoegee's Sporting Goods club, made up of American and National league stars, the opposition. Johnson was in rare form in spite of the strong wind. The "Big Train" allowed the visitors three hits and retired 15 on strikes. The contest was called after 9 innings with the score 4-4.

But let us weak off here and go mull over Walter's early history and see how he got his start. Walter was a big, overgrown Olinda country boy of 16 or 17 when he started pitching for Fullerton high school and it was during this period that there was played the famous 15-inning, no-score game against Santa Ana high school. George Coleman was in the box for Santa Ana. I did not see this game myself, but was told by a member of the local team that Walter struck out 28 and allowed seven hits. Coleman allowed only one hit and retired 18 by the strikeout route.

After a successful school career as a pitcher, Walter joined the Olinda team that represented the town of Olinda in the Northern

part of the county, and still continued to do a great job of pitching.

Branching out with three of his fellow players (Guy Meats of Olinda, catcher; Clara Head of Garden Grove, shortstop and second base; and Billy Elwell, first baseman from Santa Ana), they landed at Weiser, Idaho, which then was a member of Idaho State league. The kid pitcher began to make a name for himself.

This all took place during the season of 1907, and when Johnson set up a record that attracted the attention of Cliff Blankenship, a disabled catcher for the Washington club of the American league who was out on scouting duty. He watched Johnson work and immediately wanted to sign him to a contract which he did. The record that Walter hung up was just a matter of pitching 75 innings without a run being scored.

Johnson was ordered to report immediately, and left Weiser for the big show on July 15, 1907, and for the next 20 years continued to stand them on their ears, so to speak.

Joins S. A. Yellow Sox

It was at the end of this first season as a major leaguer that Johnson returned to his home in Olinda and joined the Yellow Sox. I already have told of what he did in that game.

Another one of Walter's early achievements was a no-hit, no-run masterpiece against the Salt Lake railroad team managed by Charlie Hall, famous Coast league pitcher. This game was played January 25, 1909. (DEC 25)

Along with Walter Johnson, some of the most famous baseball men of the day played at Hawley's park, among them "Chick" Gandil, "Gavy" Cravath, Dave Altizer, Eddie Householder, Noah Henline, "Rube" Ellis, "Rebel" Oakes, Fred Snodgrass, "Chief" Meyers, George Stovall, and Ote Johnson.

The clubs were built around these "name" players, lineups being padded out with local athletes. Most of the pros wintered in the community where they played, and usually had a job of some sort. Gandil, who later was one of the game's biggest stars (until his participation in the "fixed" world series of 1919 with the Chicago White Sox) worked in Ed Crolic's Fourth street pool hall as "house man."

'Local Boys' in Lineup

A few of the mighty good "local boys" who played were Lester Slaback, "Brownie" West, Carl Stevens, Clare Head, Roy Head, Anson Mott, Jesse Robinson, Ralph Walbridge, Percy Angle, the Hinrich brothers, Bill Hank, Charlie Berry, George Coleman, Cecil DuBols and many others that I can't recall.

Ed. Vegely, present city clerk, was the official scorekeeper and Ed can tell some mighty good stories on the boys. I myself was his assistant and took the scores to the papers and gave them the story of the game.

Some of the fans that I can recall as being regular attendants were George Peters, C. W. Raney, Pat Knaut, Gip Bundren, W. B. Blakeman, Walter Walker, Sid Carmack, Clarence Brown, C. E. Parker, John and Fred English, J. S. (Dad) Robinson and Bill Nichols, better known as "Laughing Bill."

Dungan One of Umpires

We would be out of place if we did not name some of the men that did the guessing—better known to the fans as Blind Toms. The best of them were Sam Dungan, Fred Mansur (known by all the visiting teams as Honest Fred), Charles DeVine, C. W. (Tobe) Raney, and Ed Raines. Dungan was the former major league outfielder.

Having already mentioned some of the best local players, I neglected to tell the positions they

Winter league games that Les was beated by Elmer Rieger, at that time one of the best pitchers for the St. Louis Browns. It was a long time before Slaback played ball again but now he still is very active but mostly with softball.

Little "Brownie" West was a jack-of-all-trades, playing second base, shortstop and sometimes in the outfield. Occasionally he did a turn at pitching. West later played with San Jose in the California State league.

Jesse Robinson played a lot of first base for the locals and also was a good stickler. Cecil (Rummy) DuBols was a pitcher by trade. Ralph Walbridge was one of the best infielders that ever played here.

Big Bill Hinrichs was one of the best prospects to ever go out of Orange county. Like Johnson, he was a pitcher, tall and rangy with a good assortment of curves. He was taken to Washington by Johnson and given a tryout and was going good when stricken by infantile paralysis. Hinrichs was an Orange boy.

Salaries demanded by professional ball players, upkeep of the grounds, the small price of admission and lack of attendance eventually caused the closing of Hawley's park but the memories linger on among all the oldtime fans. Mr. Hawley will be long remembered by players and fans alike.

PLAYED. LESTER SLABACK TOOK CARE OF LEFT FIELD AND DID A MOUNTY FINE JOB. IT WAS DURING ONE OF THE

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AS A PITCHER, WALTER JOINED THE OLINDA TEAM THAT REPRESENTED THE TOWN OF OLINDA IN THE NORTHERN

ANAHEIM SHARES CLAIM TO 'BIG TRAIN' WITH OLINDA

Walter Johnson Started His Trail of Glory in This City; Once Southern California's Baseball Capital; Ancient History Recalled.

BY BOB GUILD

THE YEAR was 1905.

The mighty Olinda Oilers were playing a pickup team from Los Angeles on a dusty Sunday. Horses and buggies, surreys and carryalls lined the Anaheim ball park, out where the Santa Fe station now stands. Several hundred rabid fans lined the sides of the playing field, cheering for their team from the oilfields.

It was no match, however. Those Olinda giants were slapping the ball all over the field. The score mounted and mounted.

Finally, the score one-sided, and a foregone conclusion, Joe Burke, now one of Los Angeles' better known attorneys, waved to a lanky grammar school kid standing near home plate.

"Go on in, Walt," he said. "Let's see what you can do."

And that's where Walter Johnson, the Big Train of professional baseball, got his start—the start that saw him launched on one of the greatest professional baseball careers the game has ever seen.

Because lanky Walt handcuffed the Los Angeles gang, with the aid of his old battery-mate from Olinda Grammar school, a lad named Collins, now almost forgotten.

Later in the game Ted Craig, who later became speaker of the state assembly, and who was a school-mate of Johnson's, got in the same game on first base.

"Child" Fisher, now an Anaheim service station proprietor, was score-keeper for the game, and vouches for the story as the real lowdown on the Big Train's start.

All through that year Johnson

stayed on with the Olinda Oilers, all-conquering giants of the winter league, and then in 1906 he got his start, with a job in the Idaho state league, despite an offer from Los Angeles to play with the Angels for \$80 a month. But Idaho offered lanky Walter \$110 a month, considerably more money than he'd seen for some time.

Tacoma had a chance at him, sent a scout, Russ Hall, down to see him, as a matter of fact. But Hall was disgusted.

"They sent me all the way down here," he grumbled, "to look at a skinny kid that can't keep out of the way of his feet. Why, he's going to fall right on his face with the next pitch!"

(Continued on Page Three)

Anaheim Shares in Claim on 'Big Train', Hero of Many Games

(Continued from Page 1)

Hall signed Anson Mott and Jack Burnett instead.

Hall and Mott have both answered the last call.

From Idaho Walter Johnson went to Washington in 1907, and from there on in the lanky kid from Olinda saw his trail of glory and followed it without deviation.

That was team of greats that made baseball history in the early days of Anaheim. Fay Lewis, now a distinguished lawyer and Elk, and Fisher laid out the first five or six diamonds on which they played, one at the corner of Lemon and Charles street.

During the winter months Olinda took on all comers, many of them teams made of barnstorming big leaguers picking up a little extra change. And beat most of them, too.

There was Burnett, who went up to the St. Louis Cardinals from Tacoma, and Mott, who came down to play with the old Vernon Tigers in the Coast league. Claire Head, now postmaster at Garden Grove, went up to the Idaho league.

Johnny Tuffree, Joe Wagner, Bob Isbell were some of the mighty men of that old team. Joe Burke played a cagey game, Fay Lewis and Tommy Kedges laid 'em in the aisles in those old days. Ted Easterly went up to Cincinnati from here, but his morals got in the way of his future, and he landed out of baseball.

Perhaps the greatest of them all was Art Crips, the moundster who flung them before Johnson came along. Crips, now dead, won scores of games for the Oilers, went up to the Chicago White Sox, but dropped of baseball after illness cut him down.

After the Oilers along came the ELks with their series of great teams that cut wide swathes through the semi-pro ranks of Southern California, and won three state championships, and after them other greats.

But it was the Olinda Oilers, Big Train and no Big Train, that really made baseball history here.

Anaheim (CA) Bulletin
Mar 11, 1939

WALL OF FAME

Fullerton Union High School was founded in 1893. Its humble beginning was a rented room on the second floor of the Fullerton elementary school building. The library had a total of only 32 books. However, it was more than adequate for the first year's enrollment of eight pupils. Although Fullerton High has gone through many changes over the years, the most vital part still remains — the school pride, spirit and emphasis on excellence. This tradition and commitment to higher standards has spanned over ninety-three years, producing Fullerton alumni who have made outstanding contributions in all fields. Fullerton Union High School is proud to honor many of its distinguished alumni in the school's WALL OF FAME.

Class of

- 1905 WALTER P. JOHNSON - Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 1906 C. STANLEY CHAPMAN - Fullerton businessman and civic leader.
- 1919 JESSAMYN WEST McPHERSON - Author.
- 1920 W. HAROLD LANG - Businessman, civic leader, author.
- 1923 R. MERRILL GREGORY - Fullerton businessman and civic leader.
- 1927 RICHARD M. NIXON - 39th President of the United States.
- 1930 WENDELL PICKENS - Athlete - Orange County Hall of Fame.
- 1930 FLOYD "ARKY" VAUGHN - Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 1932 WILBUR STREECH - Artist of animation for Disney Productions.
- 1934 JOHN J. APALATEGUI - Distinguished mathematician, author.
- 1934 THOMAS L. BERKLEY - Lawyer, newspaper publisher, editor, Commissioner Port of Oakland.
- 1934 R. PHILLIP HAMMOND, Ph.D. - Internationally-known pioneer in nuclear energy and desalination.
- 1934 GEORGE JEFFERY - Mr. Fullerton Union High School Alumni, Alumni Chairman, Resource Person.
- 1934 R. L. SANKS - Founded Dept. of Environmental Engineering at Montana State. Professor and author.
- 1934 COL. RUSSELL R. STANBRO - Command Pilot, holder of 49 aeronautical ratings, Distinguished Flying Cross.
- 1934 ANN STANFORD, Ph.D. - Nationally-known poet, teacher and author.
- 1935 LEWIS E. HERBST - Fullerton businessman and civic leader.
- 1935 JOHN RAITT - Broadway, television and movie singing star.
- 1935 VICE ADMIRAL KEN. R. WHEELER - Commander in Chief Atlantic Fleet, Supreme Commander Atlantic NATO.
- 1936 JACK CADMAN - Internationally-recognized Forensic scientist. First director of C.C. Crime Lab - Sheriff's Dept.
- 1936 COL. DEVERE CHRISTENSEN - Distinguished Flying Cross WWII, Korea, Olympic Water Polo Team 1948, U.S. Water Polo Hall of Fame.
- 1937 WM. H. WICKETT JR., M.D. - Medical missionary, UCI Medical College, virus researcher, international author and lecturer.
- 1938 JEAN LAUNER WICKETT - Missionary lecturer, teacher, naturalist, Who's Who of American Women.
- 1939 BETH BARTON - Distinguished artist, creator of toy designs, giftware reproduced world wide.
- 1939 R. DUDLEY BOYCE - Founding President of Golden West College.
- 1939 BRIG. GEN. FRED C. KRAUSE - WWII, Korea, Vietnam. Decorated 60 times - including Silver Star.
- 1942 BOB BLACKBURN - Radio and television sports broadcaster, Voice of the Northwest.
- 1945 CHARLES M. JORDAN - Director of Design for all G.M. products.
- 1946 PHILLIP W. BORST, Ph.D. - President of Fullerton College.
- 1946 MARVIN D. BURNS, D.D.S. - National Water Polo Team, Olympic Water Polo Team, Water Polo Hall of Fame.
- 1946 ROBERT S. KRAEMER - NASA Director.
- 1946 JIM W. MURRAY - Distinguished businessman and President of J.W. Murray Co., oil drilling.
- 1946 ROBERT I. GOODWIN - Writer for television's "Bonanza," "Big Valley," "All in the Family," "Julia," et. al.
- 1947 DEL CRANDELL - Professional baseball, All Star Team manager.

Class of

- 1947 SHIRLEY A. WAGONER - Researcher, teacher, author, editor of reading skills books.
- 1948 GERALDINE DYER JUNG, M.D. - Physician and teacher at USC Medical School.
- 1948 THOMAS H. NELSON - President of Irvine Co.
- 1948 COL. THOMAS C. THOMPSON - Command fighter pilot USAF - 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses.
- 1949 MANUAL D. MORENO - Roman Catholic Bishop.
- 1949 CRUZ REYNOSO - California Supreme Court Justice.
- 1950 ROBERT I. SPIARS, M.D. - Physician, researcher, author, Director of Children's Hospital in Los Angeles.
- 1951 THOMAS W. HILL JR. - President and CEO Alpha Beta Co., President and COO American Stores, COO President McKesson Corp.
- 1954 PENNY HINEMAN McMAUGAI - Internationally-known artist, International Outstanding Women of America.
- 1955 JERRY F. CHRISTIE - Mayor of Fullerton, President of Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of Ford Foundation Medical School Project, V.P. Fullerton Savings and Loan.
- 1955 DIANE WAKOSKI, Ph.D. - Nationally-known poet, author, teacher.
- 1956 WAYNE ARMSTRONG - Lawyer, President of Del Face Corporation.
- 1957 JIM BUSH - Distinguished track coach.
- 1957 JERRY D. CHOTE - Senior V.P. All-State Insurance.
- 1959 DAVE BOIES - Prominent trial lawyer - currently representing Texaco against Penzoil in the largest lawsuit in the world.
- 1961 JANNA CLAIRE COLLINS, M.D. - Distinguished author, researcher, surgeon and professor of pediatrics.
- 1961 BRIG OWENS - Professional football player, lawyer.
- 1962 CATHY MAYNARD WEST, Ph.D. - Chief Psychologist, Who's Who Of American Women.
- 1965 ED CRAFIS - Opera singer.
- 1966 MARY ANN BROWN, Ph.D. - Internationally-known pianist.
- 1966 ERIC TAYLOR - Documentary film maker and sound recordist, Academy Award nominee for "Eight Minutes to Midnight."
- 1966 DOUGLAS R. YOUNG, J.L.D. - Lawyer and judge, Who's Who in U.S., Who's Who in American Law.
- 1967 STEVE BUSBY - Professional pitcher, two no hitters, sports broadcaster.
- 1970 KYLE W. CHADIN - Dancer, choreographer, director of film, television and stage.
- 1970 JAMES R. KRUSE - Captain U.S. Olympic Team in 1976, ABC television commentator for LA Olympics.
- 1971 ANITA CRAFIS LIGHTY - Internationally-known microbiologist, biochemist.
- 1973 MIKE McALISTER - 1985 Academy Award winner for visual effects in "Indiana Jones, Temple of Doom."
- 1976 KEITH VAN HORNE - Professional football, All American at U.S.C.
- 1977 HOBY F. BRENNER - Professional football.
- 1979 JOHN BRENNER - 1984 NCAA shotput and discus champion, world record - weight man's Pentathlon.
- 1983 NATAH KAAIAWAHIA - National record in shotput.
- 1984 JAMES MAKSHANOFF - All American in water polo.
- 1985 DAVID SEPULVEDA - National scholastic record in football for 26 pass receptions in one game.

January 27, 1993

Dear Hank,

I was going to try to wrap up my Whittier/Rivera researches in time to send them to you along with Christmas greetings, but with two business trips, a vacation and the usual holiday activities, that just didn't work out. Then both of Whittier Public Library's microfilm readers broke; after a week they're still out of commission and I don't know when I'll be able to resume my work there. So I'll wish you a very belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year anyway and give you this update...

The Whittier library is close enough to my work that if I take a really LOOOONG lunch hour, I can get in a fair amount of viewing of those old microfilms. Much beyond an hour and my eyes are worthless. I've covered the Whittier News from Nov 1904 to Oct 1905, except for March to July (I'll fill in that gap as soon as they get a microfilm reader working, but it may not have much of interest other than -- I hope -- a description of a second of three Rivera vs. Olinda games). The News reports the activities of the Rivera team, which played at "the Los Nietos grounds".

There is a Los Nietos Road near the present town of Pico-Rivera which probably follows the same railroad tracks mentioned in the description of the 1/29/05 game. So I could show you within a mile or so where those games took place. Pico-Rivera was incorporated in the '50's from the former rural communities of Pico and Rivera, and is about four miles west of downtown Whittier, or 12-15 miles from the Olinda Oil Fields. Los Nietos is one of the oldest settlements in California, going back to a 1771 Spanish land grant to the Nieto family. It's just south of the road from Whittier to Rivera. Walter probably caught a trolley in either Fullerton or La Habra to get to his games.

The following quote, which describes Walter Johnson's very first reported game, is a real eye-catcher and probably worthy of an appearance at the beginning of our article:

"Johnson, the young twirler for the Olindas, was presented as a High School kid, but he is certainly a graduate in the science of delivering the ball and fanned eight of the Rivera men, but allowed nine hits..."

I'm keeping chronological logs of the Johnson data, one of the overall project and one in a lot more detail of the Rivera info. I am enclosing print-outs of both. I feel like I need to lay out the data in a day-by-day, month-by-month format like this to be able to visualize the flow of history in my own mind. It also helps prevent duplication or omission of periods of research.

If you'd rather have this kind of data on diskette, it would be easy enough for me to send it to you that way. I have an IBM clone and keep everything in ASCII text files. I can send you either 3.5" or 5.25" floppies. When we get down to writing the article, I'll use Microsoft Word (or if you really prefer it, Word Perfect) and print the final product on my daughter's HP LaserJet printer. It will come out looking at least as good as anything else Joe Wayman publishes!

I did meet with Lecil Slaback just after my last letter to you. His clippings didn't contain much new info, but were fun to look through for background and local color. For instance, in 1908, his dad (Lester) was playing for the Orange YMCA team. Whenever they played, all the businesses in Orange would close down from 1:30 to 3:30 pm to go watch! That shows you the interest that baseball commanded in this area around the turn of the century. There was one clipping dated 4/29/08 which gave the batting averages of the Santa Ana Stars. WJ was right up at the top of the list with a .432 figure. And there's the possible 1/29/10 game that I'll need to track down.

I'll be continuing my research at the Fullerton, Santa Ana and Anaheim libraries, whether or not Whittier gets its microfilm act together. When I have a good bundle of data to send you, I'll write again.

There is talk of a Philly trip in April or May. I'll keep you posted.

Best regards to you and your family,

Chuck

LOG OF RIVERA GAMES, ETC.

1904

The newspapers for the last few weeks of the year were checked for any possible Olinda - Rivera games or anything else of interest. The Rivera column is often barely legible because it is next to the fold, so some scores, players' names, etc., can't be deciphered.

11/21 Rivera 11, Owls 14.

"... next Sunday Rivera plays the Olindas. The new grand-stand is a great improvement, and the admission price, 10 cents, very reasonable."

11/28 Rivera 8, Tufts-Lyons 8.

No mention of Olinda; there was also a game on Thanksgiving day in which Rivera "waxed" T-L.

12/ 4 Rivera lost to the Owls. Snodgrass (major leaguer?) caught for Rivera.

12/11 No baseball news.

12/18 No Rivera baseball news, but in the La Habra column, there was mention of a game on 12/17 which La Habra HS lost to Fullerton HS. No details of who played for either team. Another game scheduled for 12/31. I must look in the Fullerton papers for these!

12/25 Christmas day. No baseball news. A long drought was broken on 12/22 & 12/23 by a heavy rainstorm.

=====

1905

1/ 1 No baseball news.

1/ 8 Rivera lost to the Valencias.

1/15 Rivera 8, Woodmen 2. La Habra HS played FHS on 1/14 and lost.

1/22 Rivera 11, Tufts-Lyons 12.

1/29 Olinda 4, @ Rivera 5:

"GOOD BASEBALL

"The baseball lovers of this vicinity had a real treat Sunday afternoon in a hard fought contest of eleven innings between the Rivera nine and the so far invincible Olindas of the Oil Wells. After twenty-nine successful games, Rivera turned them down in the thirteenth [sic], five to four. It was a great game...

[The description of the 11th inning follows]

"Then with two men out for Rivera, Billy Anderson grabbed the bat and you could see he meant business. Two strikes; Billy, look out. He did, and found it for a two-bagger, which he made amid the wild cheers of the crowd. Then Ellis

picked up the stick and smashed one over towards the railroad track, bringing Billy in and scoring a home run himself. This gave Rivera the game, 5 to 4...

"Johnson, the young twirler for the Olindas, was presented as a High School kid, but he is certainly a graduate in the science of delivering the ball and fanned eight of the Rivera men, but allowed nine hits..."

OLINDA	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	--	4
RIVERA	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	--	5

Guy Meats caught for Olinda. Andy Pallett and Settle pitched for Rivera. Johnson hit one batter.

2/ 5 No baseball news. It rained more than 4" from 2/1 thru 2/4.

2/12 No baseball news.

2/19 No baseball news, but on 2/22 Rivera celebrated Washington's Birthday with a trip to Pomona for a game which they lost. "Pomona had 3 National League men." Article doesn't say who!

2/26 No baseball news; there was a storm on Saturday.

3/ 5 Rivera beat "Leonards". Next Sunday will play the Owls.

3/12 No baseball news; it rained about 4" from 3/11 to 3/16.

***** GAP TO BE FILLED IN *****

7/23 Olinda 5, @ Rivera 10:

"The Rivera nine confronted the Olindas last Sunday for the third time and did them up to the tune of 10 to 5. It was a very interesting game throughout. The gentlemen from the oil wells loomed up like giants in their scarlet suits, and led off in their first inning with two runs. But they got no more until the ninth, when some good stick work won them three more..."

OLINDA	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	--	5
RIVERA	0	0	2	0	0	1	5	2	x	--	10

Johnson recorded 7 SO & 2 BB. Total hits not given. Rivera stole 9 bases! Meats caught. Phillips pitched and "Holmes" or "Hennes" caught for Rivera.

If this was the "third time" the teams played, when was the second time? Check Whittier papers for Feb - July to see if I can find it !!!!!

7/30 Rivera 4, C. Leonardt 3:

The opposing team came from L.A. with a large group of fans. They had "never lost a game". No mention of WJ; Rivera battery was Rieger and Barris.

8/ 6 Rivera 4, Morgan Oyster Co. 2:

Another team from L.A. Still no mention of WJ. Few details; the correspondent apologized for not having the score book. Rivera's pitchers were Phillips and "Heines".

8/13 Rivera 12, C. Leonardt 4:

"RIVERA PLAYS BALL
Cleans up Crack Team to the Tune
of 12 to 4"

A long article refers to the Leonardt team's desire to avenge their 7/30 loss, when they allegedly didn't bring all their good players. This time, they came in full strength, including "Phil Knell, the celebrated league southpaw" who seems to have mouthed off a lot and is ridiculed throughout the story. There is great detail on most innings, including how runs were scored. Meats was in the Rivera lineup, probably to catch, although that is not spelled out. WJ ended up with 12 SO and 1 BB. No total of hits is given, but by adding up the hits described in inning-by-inning narratives, one comes up with at least 9 off him. He made at least 3 assists in the field and had the following batting record:

3rd: Safe on wild throw by SS; scored.
4th: Scored again, but no info as to how he reached base.
6th: Grounded out, 6-3.
8th: Singled to score Meats.

C. LEONARDT	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	--	4
RIVERA	0	0	3	4	0	3	0	2	x	--	12

Johnson and Knell both went the distance for their teams. The article mentions that there will be "no game at the Los Nietos grounds for two weeks", after which baseball activities will resume. Admission will be 25 cents.

NOTE -- John E. Spalding's book, "Always on Sunday", has Philip L. Knell as a California League performer intermittently from 1887 ("22-year-old left-hander Phil Knell") through 1908, when he managed the San Francisco team. "Total Baseball" credits Phil with a 79-90 major league record between 1888 and 1895.

8/20 No mention of a game in the following Thursday's paper. In the Rivera news, it describes a game coming up 8/27 between "the married men and single men of Rivera... Manager Cate [the regular Rivera manager] will arbitrate..." Lineups are given and include a few familiar names. Admission is 10 cents!

8/27, 9/3 No baseball activity of any kind is mentioned in the following weeks' papers.

9/10 Rivera 4, Hamburger 7:

In Saturday's paper, it was mentioned that there was a game scheduled tomorrow at the Los Nietos grounds. Rivera and Hamburger were 2-2 for the year at this

point. "Johnson, the Olinda man, will pitch for Rivera, and Ford of San Pedro will do the same stunt for the Hamburgers." No mention in Monday's paper, though, of Johnson. Ford allowed the Riveras only 4 hits. "Next Sunday the Hoegee Flags."

9/17 No mention of any game. HT has Rivera 7, LA Christian ⁹ today.

9/24 Rivera 6, Tufts-Lyons 3:

Tufts-Lyons defeated Christopher 15-0 at 1 pm, then took on Rivera. Friday's paper states "Johnson will do the twirling for the Riveras". No details of the game appeared in Monday's paper, which says simply, "the Riveras are holding their enviable record for being the 'crack team' in amateur circles."

10/ 1 Rivera 4, Hamburger 6:

Saturday's paper said Lucero was to pitch. No mention of WJ in Monday's paper.

10/ 8 Rivera 4, @ Santa Barbara 13:

No details of this game, just that "Rivera was badly waxed". LA Pacific beat Christopher of LA 9-3 at the Los Nietos grounds that day for its 9th straight.

10/15 Rivera 8, LA Electrics 4:

HT has Walter back with Olinda by this time; WN says the Rivera battery was Morrison and Meats. Summer editions of the WN didn't have much on Rivera. In the 10/19 paper they say, "Glad to note the return of 'G' to the columns of the News after a temporary absence. Rivera news is always interesting -- Ed." [The Rivera correspondent was listed as W. D. Groton in some of the earlier columns.]

THE NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL RIVERA GAMES, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED:

The Whittier News, "published every Saturday". There was a regular column headed "The Valley", which included news items from Rivera, La Habra, etc. In March, 1905, it became the Daily News. It was then [usually] published every day except Sunday. The Rivera news items usually appeared in Thursday's editions under headings such as "Rivera Ripples". All home games were played at the "Los Nietos grounds".

WALTER JOHNSON RESEARCH PROJECT

CHRONOLOGICAL LOG

DATE	SOURCE	EVENT
1887		
11/ 6		Walter born near Humboldt, KA.
1900		
??/??		Grandparents, John L. and Lucinda Perry, move to California.
1901		
??/??		The Johnsons move to Olinda.
	R3	Enrolled in Olinda School, where Carbon Canyon Regional Park is today. Took up baseball.
	"	
1904		
	HT	Played for Olinda [boys?] team.
fall	HT	Enrolled in FHS as freshman.
1905		
1/29	HT	Olinda 5, @ Rivera 6.
	WN	Whittier paper says 5-4 in 11 innings, although the final hit of the game was a 2-run homer and modern scoring practice might call it 6-4. See RIVERA.LOG for details of this and subsequent games in Rivera.
2/26	HT	Olinda 7, Downey 5. RF.
3/ 5	HT	Olinda 4, Hoeges 5.
4/ 1	HT	FHS 0, SAHS 3. Was this the game he supposedly lost 21-0?
4/ 2	HT	Olinda 7, Hoeges 6.
4/ 9	HT	Olinda 2, LA Owls 5.
4/15		FHS 0, @ SAHS 0 in 15 inns. Walter strikes out 27.
	R1	Or did he strike out 28? Opposing pitcher, George Coleman, allows 1 hit, strikes out 18. "After a successful school career as a pitcher, Walter joined the oil team that represented the town of Olinda in the northern part of the county."
	"	
	"	
	"	
	"	
	B1	This article has the game as the preceding Saturday.
	"	The article doesn't mention the number of strikeouts, but says the visitors' battery was responsible for 32 of the 45 POs and that Johnson allowed 7 H & 4 BB. It has Coleman allowing 3 H.
	"	According to Walter's memoirs (WHAT MEMOIRS?!), he was a catcher at FHS in his freshman year until their pitcher got badly beaten by SAHS.
	R2	
	"	
	"	
	R3	Was put in as pitcher halfway thru a game, got beat 21-0, then the next Sat, pitched 0-0 game vs SAHS. This article has him as 16 years old at the time. "Quit after freshman year and enrolled in SA Business Coll".
	"	
	"	
4/16	HT	Olinda 7, Tufts-Lyons 6. CF.
5/14	HT	Olinda 7, Tufts-Lyons 9. 1B.
5/28	HT	Olinda 2, Hoeges 4.
6/11	HT	Olinda 9, Hoeges 4.
7/ 9	HT	Olinda 2, @ Ventura 1.
7/16	HT	Olinda 12, LA Christian 2. RF.
7/23	WN	Olinda 5, @ Rivera 10.
7/30	HT	Olinda 9, Sioux Ind[ians?] 5.
	"	Olinda disbands after this game.
		[The Anaheim Gazette article of 8/3 says he will be playing for Rivera henceforth.]
8/13	WN	Rivera 12, C. Leonardt 4.

9/10	WN	Rivera 4, Hamburger 7. ?
9/17	HT	Rivera 7, LA Christian 9. LF.
9/24	HT	Rivera 6, Tufts-Lyons 3. ?
10/15	HT	Olinda 4, Tufts-Lyons 3.
10/22	HT	Olinda 3, Tufts-Lyons 7.
10/29	HT	Olinda 7, Dyas-Cline 5. 1B.
11/12	HT	Olinda 1, Tufts-Lyons 0.
11/19	HT	Olinda 8, LA Hamb 5.
11/26	HT	Olinda 7, LA Examiner 0.
12/ 3	HT	Olinda 6, LA Leonard 2.
12/17	HT	Olinda 6, Hoeges 2.
12/31	HT	Olinda 5, LA Christian 0.
1906		
1/ 7	HT	Olinda 1, @ Pomona 4.
2/11	HT	Olinda 5, Rivera 4.
2/18	HT	Olinda 16, Downey 1.
3/ 4	HT	Olinda 3, @ Rivera 5.
3/18	HT	Olinda 8, Tufts-Lyons 6. RF.
4/ 1	HT	Olinda 7, LA Hamb 0.
4/ 8	HT	Olinda 2, Tufts-Lyons 3. RF.
4/19	HT	"has received an offer to pitch for Tacoma", News-Tribune.
Apr	TMJ	Tryout with PCL Angels.
Apr/May	TMJ	Pitches two exhibition games for Tacoma (PacNWL).
	R3	This was supposedly in 1903 and he had a 1-1 record. The
	"	tryout was arranged by Joe Burke of SA.
5/18	TMJ	"in the May 19th Signal, a squib in the 'All Around the Town' column noted that 'Walter Johnson of Los Angeles was among city arrivals yesterday."
Summer	TMJ	Pitches for the Weiser Kids in Idaho State League.
Fall		Did Walter pitch for Olive after his return from Weiser? Investigate! Look in the Orange Daily News!
10/21	HT	Olive ??, Santa Monica ??.
11/25	HT	Olinda 5, LA Pacific 4.
12/25	R	Olinda 4, SA Stars 1.
12/30	HT	Olinda 12, Alhambra 2.
12/31	HT	Olinda 4, LA Pacific 0.
1907		
1/20,	HT	Missed games, due to illness.
1/27	"	due to illness.
2/ 3	HT	Anaheim 3, Tufts-Lyons 0.
2/10	HT	Anaheim 2, @ SD Pickwicks 1.
2/24	HT	Anaheim 4, Morans 1.
3/ 3	HT	Anaheim 0, @ Pasadena 1.
3/10	HT	Anaheim 0, Hoeges 0.
Apr-Jul	TMJ	Pitching for Weiser.
7/22	TMJ	Departs for Washington.
Summer		***** WASHINGTON SENATORS *****
10/17	HT	Returned to Olinda during the past week.
10/27	HT	SA Stars 9, SealGard 2. CF. (2nd game) SA Stars 1, Hoeges 1.
10/28	LS	"SA plays on local diamond next Sunday and WJ will be on the mound for the locals."
11/ 3	HT	SD Pickwicks 2, Dyas-Cline 4.
11/ 7	HT	SD Pickwicks 1, LA Angels 0.
11/10	HT	SD Pickwicks 4, LA Angels 3. (2nd game) SD Pickwicks 2, LA Angels 9.
11/17	HT	SA Stars 4, Hoeges 4.
11/24	HT	SA Stars 4, MeeksLA 3.

12/ 8 HT SA Stars 0, Santa Barbara 1.
 12/15 HT SA Stars 1, McCormicks 2.
 12/22 HT SA Stars 12, MeeksLA 1.
 12/30? HT SA Stars 2, Chr/LevyLA 0.

1908

1/ ? HT SA Stars 7, Edisons 0.
 1/ ? HT SA Stars 13, Morans 0.
 1/ 5 HT SA Stars 0, @ San Pedro 0.
 1/12 HT Missed game due to illness.
 1/19 HT SA Stars 1, Hoegees 0.
 LS No-hitter! Went 2 for 3 as cleanup.
 Fanned 9, hit Snodgrass twice; Meats sick, Cody caught.
 "Has been sick for the past week and a half".
 2/23 LS "Sickness prevented Johnson from pitching" in game in which
 SA defeated San Pedro 3-0.
 2/27 HT Mastoiditis operation.
 4/29 LS Blade article lists "SA Winter League Team"'s batting averages;

	G	AB	R	H	Ave.
WJ had:	10	37	8	16	.432

This was best of any player who had played at least ten games.
 Some players on team had been in as many as 22 games.

5/11 LS "Walter Johnson failed to show up to pitch the first ball" at
 a SA vs. Edisons game; when did he leave for Washington?

Summer

B2 ***** WASHINGTON SENATORS *****
 Winter ball in Santa Ana.
 10/18 HT Olive 5, LA Colored Giants 6.
 10/25 HT SA Stars 3, Pasadena 11.
 11/ 1) Walter and Guy Meats
 11/ 8) both missing from SA; did they play for Olive?
 11/15 HT SA Stars 6, Edisons 2.
 11/22 HT SA Stars 0, Salt Lake 0.
 11/29 HT SA Stars 2, San Diego 3.
 12/ 6 HT SA Stars 0, McCorm 1.
 12/13 HT SA Stars 2, Azusa 4.
 12/27 HT SA Stars 7, Pasadena 2.

1909

1/ 1 HT SA Stars 3, Salt Lake 1.
 1/16 HT SA Stars 5, Edisons 2.
 1/23 HT SA Stars 4, Salt Lake 2.
 1/25 R2 No-hit, no-run game vs. "the Salt Lake railroad team managed
 by Charlie Hall, famous Coast league pitcher."
 [Could this be the game HT lists on 12/26/09?]
 "Johnson continued to pitch Sunday winter ball out at old
 Hawley's Park at Santa Ana for several years. There was a
 Southern California Trolley League in operation (the players
 traveled by Pacific Electric)..." Once made an incredible
 throw from CF when playing there in 2nd game of twin bill.

1/30 HT SA Stars 3, San Diego 7.
 2/22 HT SA Stars 11, San Diego 0.
 2/27 HT SA Stars 2, Hoegees 0.

Summer

***** WASHINGTON SENATORS *****
 10/27 HT All-Nationals 3, A's 5.
 11/ 3 HT All-Nationals 5, SF Seals 4.
 11/ 7 HT All-Nationals 7, SF Seals 0.
 11/10 HT All-Nationals 10, LA Angels 5.
 11/15 HT All-Nationals 9, LA Angels 1.
 11/18 HT All-Nationals 5, A's 6.
 11/25 HT All-Nationals 7, A's 2.

11/29 HT All-Nationals 4, A's 1. CF.
 12/ 5 HT All-Nationals 2, A's 1.
 12/12 HT All-Nationals 3, A's 4.
 12/26 HT SA Stars 2, Salt Lake 0. No-hitter!
 LS This was Johnson Day; 2000 portraits (photos?) of WJ were given away to those in attendance.

1910
 1/ 1 HT SA Stars 3, Salt Lake 1.
 1/ 9 HT SA Stars 2, McCormicks 0.
 1/23 HT SA Stars 2, Maiers 1.
 1/30 HT SA Stars 3, Occidental 0.
 LS (Opponents were a colored team from Salt Lake City. There was also a 1/29 game scheduled.)
 2/ 6 HT SA Stars 2, PCL All-Stars 1.
 2/13 HT SA Stars 3, PCL All-Stars 1.
 2/20 HT SA Stars 3, Santa Barbara 0.
 2/27 HT SA Stars 2, McCormicks 1.
 3/ 9 HT Left for Coffeyville, Kansas, with parents.

1914 R3 By this time, he was ensconced in a Kansas farm, where
 "Griffith made a beeline" to rescue him from the FL.

1924
 Exhibition tour:
 10/26 HT White King Soap 1, Vernon Tigers 5.
 10/29 HT Devines 2, Mails All-Stars 0.
 10/31 C1 Exhibition game in Brea vs Babe Ruth's team.
 R3 "a crowd estimated at 10,000 packed into now-defunct Brea Bowl to watch the biggest baseball game in county history..."
 HT Anaheim Elks 1, Ruth All-Stars 12.
 LS Lecil's clipping says 5,000 were in attendance.

=====

SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS:

B1 The Daily Evening Blade, Mon 4/17/05, article:
 "A Series of Goose Eggs".
 B2 same, 9/29/08, article:
 "Johnson Will Pitch for Local Baseball Team".
 C1 California Herald (official publication of the Native Daughters of the Golden West), 5/62, article:
 "The Big Train", by Dr. Leo F. Friis.
 HT Hank Thomas' research papers.
 LS Lecil Slaback's clippings, mostly from Santa Ana Blade.
 R Santa Ana Daily Register, article on day after game.
 R1 Santa Ana Daily Register, 11/22/39, article:
 "Recall Pioneer Days", by Floyd Mitchell, who was an assistant scorekeeper at So Cal Winter League games. He "took the scores to the papers and gave them the story of the game".
 R2 same, 8/11/57, article: "West Winds".
 R3 same, 2/12/78, article: "Johnson Remembered As Baseball's Hardest Thrower / Baseball Complex in Brea Dedicated to Hall-Of-Famer's Memory", by Steve Grimsley.

***** INVESTIGATE! IS THAT "COMPLEX" STILL THERE? *****

R47 1947 Baseball Register feature article by Vincent X. Flaherty.
 TMJ "Too Much Johnson" by A. D. Suehsdorf, in Winter 1987/1988 issue of "Baseball History".
 WN The Whittier News.

LOCALS DEFEAT VISITORS BY SCORE OF TWO TO NOTHING

Mon
Jan 10
1910

Johnson Gives the Fans Full Worth of Their Money and Other Members of the Team Show up in Good Shape

Jan 9.

By defeating the McCormicks yesterday, the locals took fourth place in the percentage column. Johnson, the pitching wonder, almost duplicated his feat of two weeks ago, only one scratch hit being made off his delivery and only one runner reaching first base. Twelve batters fanned the air. The home boys seem to have their batting clothes on and gathered five hits off the famous Tozer of Los Angeles. Gandil, the heavy hitting second sacker, secured a double and a single out of four trips to the bat. The team is going better than any other time of the season and with about all the games to be played on the home grounds the yellow Sox will no doubt win the most of the games that they have yet to play. Next Friday the boys will go to San Diego to play two games, Saturday and Sunday.

Dope from the scorer:

	Santa Ana	McCormicks
	AB R H PO A E	AB R H PO A E
C. Head, SS	3 0 1 0 2 0	3 0 1 0 2 0
Ellis, LF	4 0 0 3 0 0	4 0 0 3 0 0
Mott, 1B	4 1 1 12 0 0	4 1 1 12 0 0
Gandil, 2B	4 1 2 0 2 0	4 1 2 0 2 0
Acats, C	3 0 0 11 1 0	3 0 0 11 1 0
R. Head, 3B	3 0 0 0 0 0	3 0 0 0 0 0
Robinson, RF	3 0 0 0 0 0	3 0 0 0 0 0
Angle, CF	3 0 1 1 0 0	3 0 1 1 0 0
Johnson, P	3 0 0 1 3 0	3 0 0 1 3 0
Total	30 2 5 27 8 0	30 2 5 27 8 0

	McCormicks
	AB R H PO A E
Kerwin, CF	3 0 0 1 0 0
Harris, 2B	3 0 1 0 1 2
Plake, SS	3 0 0 2 2 1
Pittman, LF	3 0 0 0 1 0
Newell, 3B	3 0 0 1 1 0
Kimmerle, RF	3 0 0 0 0 0
Manes, 1B	3 0 0 9 1 0
Crittenden, C	3 0 0 10 0 0
Tozer, P	3 0 0 1 2 0
Owens,	1 0 0 0 0 0
Total	28 0 1 24 8 3

Score by innings:
 Santa Ana 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 * 2
 McCormicks 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 Two base hits—Mott, Gandil, Harris; struck out by Johnson 12, Tozer 10; stolen bases, Harris, Gandil, Ellis, R. Head; left on bases, McCormicks 2, Santa Ana 3; double plays,

Tozer to Manes to Newell; hit by pitched ball, C. Head, Harris; time of game, 1 hour 18 minutes; umpire, Allen.

CASE SET FOR THURSDAY

Charge of Booze Selling Against Capistrano Woman Dismissed, But She Must Answer Charge of Keeping Disorderly House

Mrs. Lucy Preston today pleaded not guilty to the charge of violating the county prohibition ordinance, and that she had already been once in jeopardy, as she pleaded guilty before Township Justice Landell at San Juan Capistrano and paid a fine of \$100.

District Attorney Davis thereupon moved to dismiss the case, but the charge of keeping a disorderly house will be pressed against Mrs. Preston, and it was set for trial on Thursday. According to an arrangement between Attorney R. V. Williams and the District Attorney, court will open on that day at 9 o'clock in the morning for the purpose of securing a jury, and the witnesses will be in court at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

It is expected that a majority of the population of the Mission town will be present at this trial, as many of them will be called as witnesses, and many others are interested in finding out just what constitutes a "disorderly house."

Petition for Administration

Marie Kusel today filed a petition for letters of administration in the estate of Julius W. Kusel, deceased. The estate is valued at \$1400 and consists of a one-half interest in the stock of groceries and general merchandise at Olive belonging to the firm of Kusel & Baum, and two lots.

Remember on Wednesday, January 12th, free tailor made shirts at Crook Shank-Beatty Co. 10-31

More positions than graduates at Orange County Business College.

Melis & Winbigler, funeral directors and embalmers, 504 N. Main.

Subscribe for the Blade, 50c a month.

This is
Cluck
who will
go up to White
Sox in 1910

PITCHERS' BATTLE YESTERDAY GIVES VICTORY TO LOCALS

See
Jan 23

Yesterday's game between the Malers and the locals developed into a pitcher's battle between Seaton for the visitors and Walter Johnson for Santa Ana. Not a run was scored until the eighth inning the visitors secured two hits which was the total for Johnson the entire game. This gave the visitors one run and almost certain victory. Meats secured a hit in the locals last half. R. Head followed with a line drive which put Meats on third. Then Little Midget Brown, who had already secured two hits in the game, came to the bat and with two strikes called on him he landed a long single scoring both Meats and

Head and winning the game for the locals. Head's one handed stop of a line drive in the third inning with midget's batting were the only features of the game. The colored Occidental team of Salt Lake will play here Saturday and Sunday.

BASEBALL ENTHUSIASTS WILL GIVE PITCHER JOHNSON GREAT WELCOME NEXT SUNDAY

1909

Next Sunday, December the 26th, will be Johnson Day at Santa Ana, when Orange county's famous pitcher will make his first appearance on the mound for the local nine, he having just lately returned from Washington. It is planned to make this a great day among the fans and no doubt every section of the county will be represented. The greatest turnout in Orange county's baseball history is expected, as every prominent man in baseball circles has been invited and also all the sporting writers of the Los Angeles papers have received invitations, and are expected to be present as guests of the association on that day.

E. E. Croffe, manager of the S. A. B. B. club, has had 2000 portraits of Johnson made and every patron of the game on that day will receive one free. The Salt Lakes will be the visiting team on that day and a hard struggle is expected, as they are near the top of the percentage column. The Malers will play a postponed game on Christmas, young Dutch Henrichs, Orange county's other favorite pitcher, will be on the mound this game. The line-up for both games will be as follows: Johnson and Henrichs, pitchers; Altizer, of the Chicago White Sox, c.s.; Ellis, St. Louis Nationals, I. F.; Gaudin, Chicago White

Sox, 2nd base; Mott, Los Angeles; 1st base; C. Head, Salt Lake, 3rd base; Meats, c; Anglo, c.f.; Robinson, r.f.; substitutes, R. Head, Brown

SASKATCHEWAN FARMER PURCHASES THIRTY AUTOS FOR HIS FRIENDS

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 23.—J. C. Coe, a Saskatchewan farmer, dropped into Detroit Sunday and by the time he had finished his errand yesterday he had purchased thirty automobiles for his large friends of the far northwest. He is not an autocrat. He told his relatives that as game players they gave him their orders accompanied by bank checks.

The deals were mostly cash and aggregated nearly a hundred thousand dollars. Coe paid \$1,000 for his own machine.

The cars were all high grade, several being in the \$4,000 to \$5,000 class. Bumper wheat crops in the Northwest were the cause of so much prosperity.

Complete line of Xmas post cards at
Potter's. 11-12t

Learn bookkeeping and shorthand
at the Orange County Business Col-
lege. 12-2-1f

TO LOCAL TEAM

"SIMPLE" SIMON HAS BAD INNING
 CELERY CHUMPS FINDING HIS
 DELIVERY FOR SEVERAL
 HITS SCORING 3 RUNS

Yesterday Santa Ana once more defeated the first Moran team of Los Angeles by the score of 5 to 4. The last time it was 13 to 0. Walter Johnson was sick and Cody pitched in his stead.

Both teams had errors to spare as Santa Ana made three and the visitors four. Santa Ana won the game in the eighth inning by battling poor old "Simple" Simon wild and getting three runs. Simon had "everything" up runs. Simon had "everything" up runs to the eighth, holding Santa Ana down to one hit, but the locals made up for it by making four hits and three runs in the eighth inning.

The Morans started off like sure winners, getting three runs the first inning, but it didn't last long as Cody steadied down from a nervous spell and allowed the visitors only one run and one hit during the remaining eight innings. He fanned nine men and passed three to first base.

Guy Meats, the man with the wire over his face, caught a fine game behind the bat. He got a two-bagger in the fourth inning and scored a minute later on two wild pitches.

Jess Robinson, on first, played a good game although he made an error. An unusual thing happened to him yesterday as he put out all three men in the seventh and eighth innings and that was all he put out during the game.

Captain Brown, on second, did not play his usual steady game. He had two errors marked against him on two bad throws.

Head, on short, made the star catch of the game, nailing a ground liner and getting the runner on first. Head made a pretty two-bagger to centerfield, which scored Slaback in the eighth inning.

Mott made two pretty assists. He got a hit that the rightfielder missed and he got a home run on it, winning the game.

Walbridge in left, Slaback in center and Angle in right was how the outfield looked. Slaback got a pretty hit to shortstop which he beat out. Angle got one hit in three times at bat and had three put outs to his credit.

"Tub" White, a big two hundred pounder, played first for the Morans and had lots of ginger, getting everything that came his way.

"Simple" Simon pitched for the visitors and he showed improvement over his work in the other games. He held the Celery Chumps to five hits.

R. W. Lee, the Moran's regular first baseman, caught and played a pretty good game. He got a two-bagger in the fifth inning that didn't buy him anything.

break two ties, 1 to 1, and 4 to 4. The following is the summary of yesterday's game:

MORANS

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
A. Moore, 3b	4	1	1	0	3	0
Simons, p	3	1	0	1	3	0
White, 1b	3	1	0	12	0	0
E. Ritter, lf	4	0	1	1	0	0
E. Moore, ss	4	1	0	2	2	1
Whalen, c	4	0	1	5	0	0
Huston, rf	3	0	0	0	0	1
H. Ritter, 2b	4	0	0	0	2	1
Russ, cf	4	0	0	3	0	1

SANTA ANA

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Head, ss	3	1	1	2	2	1
Mott, 3b	4	1	1	1	2	0
Meats, c	4	1	1	11	1	0
Cody, p	3	0	0	0	1	0
Brown, 2b	4	0	0	1	0	2
Walbridge, lf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Robinson, 1b	3	0	0	6	0	1
Angle, rf	2	1	1	3	0	0
Slaback, cf	2	1	1	2	0	0

Totals	28	5	5	27	6	4			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Morans	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Santa Ana	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	5

Two base hits—Head, Whalen, E. Ritter, Meats, A. Moore.
 Struck out—By Cody 10, Simons 4.
 Base on balls—Off Cody 3, Simons 1.
 Hit by pitched ball—Head, White.
 Left on bases—Morans 3, Santa Ana 3.
 Passed balls—Meats, Whalen 2.
 Sacrifice hits—Cody, Slaback, Robinson.
 Stolen bases—Angle 2, Walbridge.
 Umpire—Dungan.

YESTERDAY'S WAS
 BASEBALL GAME
 OF FIRST WATER

SANTA ANA WINS GAME BY MAKING JUST ONE SCORE, THE RESULT OF A PRETTY STEAL
 BY MOTT
 January 20, 1908

Santa Ana 1.
 Hoegees 0.
 One of the best games played in the California Winter League in this city was played yesterday by the league leaders and the Hoegees of Los Angeles.

Johnson, the tall boy from the Oil Wells, has been sick for the past week and a half but he went in the box to pitch, and pitched one of his best games, shutting out the visitors without a run or hit. He fanned nine and hit "sorehead" Snodgrass, twice.

Guy Meats was sick yesterday and did not play. George Cody caught Johnson as easy as rolling off a log. Cody was "game" to the core. In the first inning he sprained his ankle but he didn't care and went in and caught anyhow. He got the first hit in the game, a two-bagger. After this hit he was playing off second and when he tried to get back sprained his ankle. He was carried off the field and with his ankle bound tight he went in and caught the rest of the game.

me one yesterday, stealing home while Gamble held the ball in his hand ready to deliver it. He made three pretty assists without any errors.

Head on short, made two assists and nailed four hot liners which seemed like the safest kinds of hits. He failed to get a hit in four times at bat. Brown, on second, played a good game, nailing three flies which were all Slaback's in centerfield. He also made two fine assists. He failed to get a hit in three times up.

Jess Robinson played first and made but one error in nine chances.

Walbridge, in left, Slaback in center and Angle in right made up the outfield. Slaback made an error and beat out a bunt.

Gamble pitched for the Hoegees and pitched a good game, fanning twelve, walking two and allowing four hits, two of which were made by Pitcher Johnson of Santa Ana.

HOEGEE

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
McQuade, ss	4	0	0	1	1	1
Goodwin, lf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Snodgrass, c	2	0	0	12	2	0
Nichols, cf	4	0	0	1	0	0
McClelland, 3b	4	0	0	1	1	0
Adams, 1b	3	0	0	5	0	1
Plick, 2b	3	0	0	4	2	0
Wilkinson, rf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Gamble, p	3	0	0	0	1	1

Totals

	30	0	0	24	7	3
--	----	---	---	----	---	---

SANTA ANA

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Head, ss	3	0	0	4	2	0
Mott, 3b	2	1	0	0	3	0
Cody, c	3	0	1	10	0	0
Johnson, p	3	0	2	0	1	0
Brown, 2b	3	0	0	3	2	0
Walbridge, lf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Robinson, 1b	3	0	0	5	0	1
Angle, rf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Slaback, cf	2	0	1	0	1	1

Totals

	25	1	4	27	9	2
--	----	---	---	----	---	---

Score by Innings

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hoegee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Ana	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	x	1

Two base hits—Cody.
 Struck out—By Johnson 9, Gamble 12.
 Base on balls—Off Gamble 2.
 Stolen bases—Mott 3, Snodgrass 2, Wilkinson.
 Left on bases—Santa Ana 4, Hoegee 5.
 Passed balls—Cody.
 Hit by pitched ball—Snodgrass 2; Mott.
 Umpire—Dungan.

The box score, and the two columns of "goose eggs", attests to the tremendous pitching power of "Walt", as we called him. Adding Anson Mott's deceptive hook-slide base stealing, and the unusual catching of pitcher Cody, it gave the "fans", and the rest of the players, a thrill to long remember! Johnson's Big League record: 5925 innings, 3497 strike outs, .60- an inning! And 113 shutouts! Verified by Lester W. Slaback 61 years later.

Lester W. Slaback
 5/21/69

Modified Coed D1
Lushes 8 pts, Team NAP 6 pts, We're Not Ready 3 pts, T.T. 3 pts, Veritone 2 pts, Big Dogs 0 pts

Lions 5 pts, Johnson & Sons 4 pts, Ballpark Pizza 3 pts, Ballbusters 2 pts
Men's D3
Boatswain's Locker 8 pts, Bulls 4 pts, Royals 0-4

D1 League
OB's 4-0, Rim Rockers 3-1, Jack's Surfboard 3-1, Rebels 1-3, Running on Empty 1-3, S & M 0-4

Pirates 11-1, Yankees 6-7, Phillies 5-8, Royals 3-9, Cardinals 2-11
National League
Eastern Division

Park (doubleheader), Expos vs. Memorial Park; Royals vs. Cardinals University High (doubleheader) White Sox, 10 a.m., at TeWinkl

Many major-leaguers were OC alumni

Man's hobby is tracing athletes' alma maters

By Joel Rippel
The Orange County Register
July 30, 1992

As a student at Washington High School in Los Angeles, Richard Obrand kept hearing the name of one of the school's most noteworthy alumni.

"All I ever heard about was (football legend) Hugh McElhenry," Obrand said. "I decided to find the names of some other athletes who went to my high school."

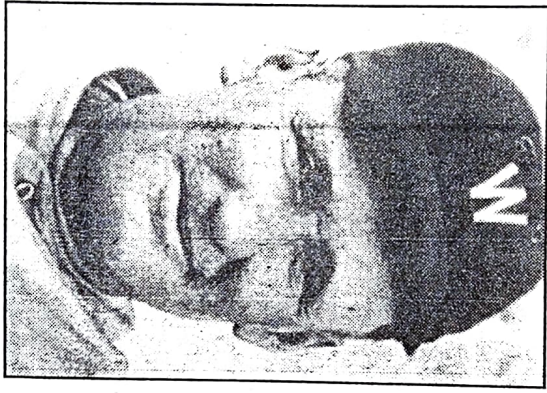
Obrand's search for other prominent Washington High alumni became a lifetime hobby. Today, Obrand, 45, has verified the high schools of about 9,000 former major-league baseball players.

"About 20,000 have played major-league baseball," said Obrand, an elementary school teacher in Carson. "About 2,000 of those are from California."

Of those 2,000, Obrand has compiled a list of 101 who attended high school in Orange County. Obrand also has listed two who attended only elementary school in Orange County.

"For post-World War II, it's not too hard to verify high schools," Obrand said. "After the war, teams started producing media guides more.

"But in some cases, I've written to individuals. Sometimes, my letters were too late. But I've gotten responses from wives and children. And, as a kid, I went to the Helms Athletic Foundation Library (now the Amateur Athletic Foundation Library) to look at



Walter Johnson
Elected to Hall of Fame in 1936

The earliest known former Orange County high school player to make it to the majors is arguably the greatest.

In 1907, two years after striking out 27 Santa Ana High School batters in a 15-inning game (still a California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section record), Walter Johnson made his debut for the Washington Senators.

Johnson pitched 21 seasons in the major leagues, winning 416 games (second-best all-time) and striking out 3,508 (seventh-best). Johnson was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1936.

Johnson was the first of eight Fullerton High School students to reach the majors — more than any other Orange County school. Anaheim, Garden Grove and Sa-

vanna (Anaheim) high schools each produced six major-leaguers. Johnson was the first of two Hall of Famers from Fullerton High.

Arky Vaughan, who played in the big leagues from 1932 to 1948, was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1985. Fullerton High is one of two high schools in the country with two alumni in the hall. Sacred Heart High School in San Francisco produced Joe Cronin and Harry Heilmann.

Fullerton alumni also include:
■ Steve Busby, who posted a 70-54 record and threw two no-hitters for the Kansas City Royals from 1972 to '80.

■ Del Crandall, a big-league catcher who had a 364-469 record while managing the Milwaukee Brewers from 1972 to '75 and the Seattle Mariners in 1983 and '84.

The second Orange County resident to make it to the big leagues was Gavy Cravath (Santa Ana High) in 1908. Cravath, who played 11 years in the big leagues and was one of baseball's first power hitters, led the National League in home runs six times (including 24 in 1915) and retired with 119 home runs. Later, Cravath was justice of the peace in Laguna Beach, where he died in 1963.

Other early Orange County major-leaguers were Dutch Hinrichs, a pitcher from Orange High, who appeared in three games with the Washington Senators in 1910, and Dwight Stone, of Anaheim High, who pitched for the St. Louis Browns, of the American League, in 1913 and Kansas City of the Federal League in 1914.

Stone is the only Orange County resident known to have played in

Fullerton's No. 1

The top producers of major-leaguers among Orange County high schools:

- Fullerton — 8
- Anaheim — 6
- Garden Grove — 6
- Savanna — 6
- Loara — 4
- Troy — 4

Alumni hit it big

The eight major-leaguers from Fullerton High School are: Steve Busby, Jim Gampanis, Del Crandall, Willard Hershberger, Walter Johnson, Bob Ross, Arky Vaughan and Mike Warren.

the Federal League, which operated as a third major league in 1914 and 1915.

Another Fullerton High product was Willard Hershberger. Hershberger made his debut as a reserve catcher with the Cincinnati Reds in 1938.

In 1940, Hershberger was catching every day because of an injury to starter Ernie Lombardi. The Reds had won the National League pennant in 1939 and were on their way to another when Hershberger committed suicide Aug. 3, 1940, reportedly because he was unhappy with the way he was playing. Hershberger, who was 30, was hitting .309.

Obrand's list is updated through the 1991 season, when three Orange County products (Kyle Abbott, Chris Beasley and Chris Cron) made major-league debuts.

Obrand has written an article on Orange County ballplayers that will appear in the Grandstand Baseball Annual, to be published this year.

Color/Lead in Torneo

The Orange County Register

Color/Colo, from the County Soccer League Ana, has taken over the the Torneo Budweiser week's games.

Color/Colo defeated Tan July 23, 3-1, at Mile Square Fountain Valley to improve At Morelia, from Orange, tied with Color/Colo, but feztepec, 2-1, at Mile Square Morelia is 3-1 and third standings.

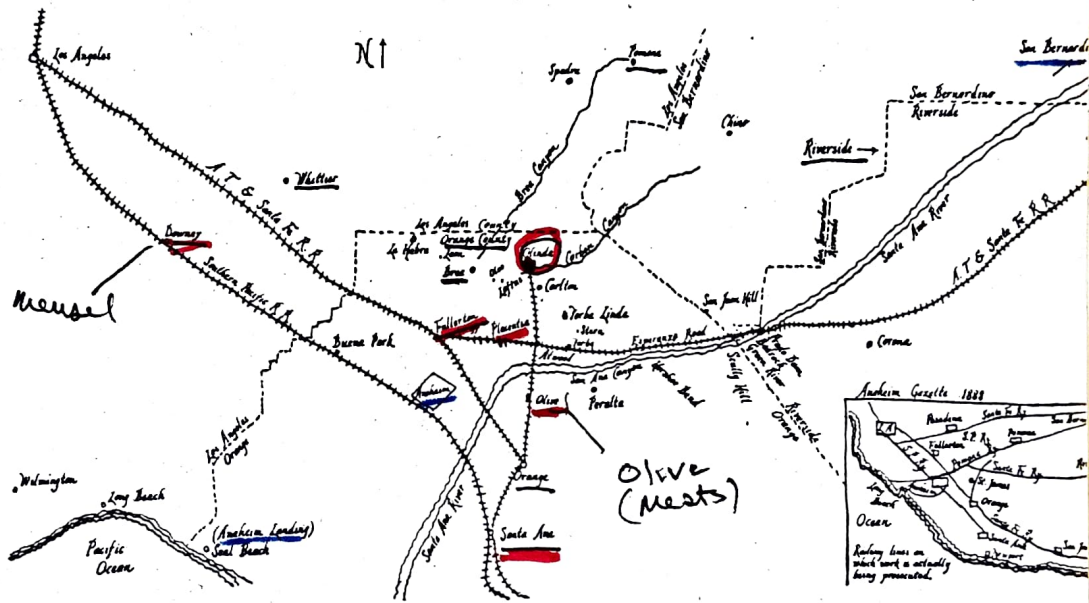
Guadalupanos (Anahe Zamora (Santa Ana) also Tigres de Nayart moved ond place with a 9-1 vict Saravia on July 22 at Linc Tigres, from Santa Ana, i to 3-0-1.

Other scores from las Sport Boys (Santa Ana)

ON THE RUN/

Coming running events
County include:
Aug. 9: Arvida 5000 (5K).
San Clemente, 492-1131.
Aug. 15: Distance Derby (1C Huntington Beach Per. 536-5
Aug. 23: Northwood Run. 1 Community Park, Irvine. 5K, 10 a.m., 1K Fun Run at 8:30. Berr A-Wish Foundation. 476-9474

Map from Pipelines to the Past: an oral history of Olinda, California. CSU, Fullerton Oral History Program 1978



Early Olinda

showman at heart and it didn't require much talk to get him down here.'

It would be nice to dig up the 50 year-old story and chronicle that Johnson shaded Ruth 1-0 in a brilliant pitching battle, only this wouldn't be true. Instead Johnson was raked for 8 runs and 8

hits, four of them homers, during his 5-inning occupancy of the mound and the 'Walter Johnsons' were given a 12-1 shellacking by the 'Babe Ruths'. Ruth gives up 6 hits and had a shutout until the ninth

when he "gave Yankee teammate Bob Meusel a gopher ball which Meusel slammed out of Brea".

"Those who played, and still live around these parts, say Johnson never threw a curve ball and the home run pitch he made to the Babe was 'complimentary'--right down the pipe." On the "Johnsons" were Meusel, Ken Williams and Jimmy Austin of the Browns, Cart Stevens, Donie Bush, Johnny Pendleton and

"Bub" Callan behind the plate. The "Ruths" had Ernie Johnson of the Yankees, Sam Crawford of the old Detroit Tigers, Rube Ellis of the Browns, Harvey McClellan of the White Sox. ("Golden Day": Ruth,

Johnson at Brea", Orange County Register, 10/30/74)

"Brea resident W.E. Griffith, 79, was a spectator at the game: *'The papers all said there were 15,000 people at the game but I think 6,500 would be more like it. I remember that the weather was fine and that there was a terrific traffic jam. I also remember Babe Ruth hit a foul ball that bounced off a car and hit a boy in the head. He started howling and Ruth walked over to him, handed him a silver dollar and said, 'Don't cry, kid--here''*" ("The Day Ruth and Johnson Came to Orange County", L.A. Times, 8/4/70)

"Old-timers will long remember Oct 31, 1924. Forrest B. "Bus" Callan of Anaheim, was prevailed upon to catch Johnson on this occasion. In later years Bus recalled the game. He said:

'I used to be a pretty good catcher, but I wa pretty rusty by then. Honestly, when he threw in some of those fireballs, I couldn't see them. We had a short conference at a spot between home plate and the pitcher's mound and I said, "Walter, I just can't see the ball". He replied, "Just put your mitt where you want me to throw and I'll throw into it", and he did! Since I couldn't see the fast balls coming, I couldn't jerk my mitt back as one does to ease the shock in catching them. I got a beautifully sprained wrist.'

When Babe Ruth came up to bat for the first time, Walter and Bus had another conference. Johnson whispered, *'Bus, the crowd wants to see Babe make some home runs and we don't want to disappoint them. The first two times I'll throw him couple easy ones that he can't miss. The last time I'll fan him'*. And so the enthusiastic spectators saw the Babe smack two home runs. He came up to bat the third time with his usual confidence. Johnson bore down and on the third ball thrown umpire "Beans" Reardon called him out. Babe's short temper got the better of him. He slammed down his bat and left the diamond. ("Kleinigkeiten", by Leo J. Friis, Orange County Pioneer Series #4, 1975)

Ruth has 4 K's, is 2 for 5, both homers; Strikes out once vs WJ; Crawford is 3 for 5 with a homer; every player on the "Ruths" gets a hit, 16 total. Last of 15 games on Ruth's barnstorming tour, all won by Ruth.(Anaheim Bulletin, 11/1/24)

By Judge Landis' ruling, all major league players must cease playing by Nov 1.(Scrapbook X)
11/2---Presented with luggage for his "services in charity games in Southern California."

catcher's mitt. A pop-up and two strikeouts on seven pitched balls retired the side and Johnson was taken out so that the Coast League sluggers might have a chance.

Joe Jenkins (Soaps catcher), who caught Johnson in 1912, informs the world that Big Walter had just as much stuff yesterday as he had a dozen years ago. Jenkins' swollen hand is mute testimony to the blinding speed of the great Walter. Chester Chadbourne, who has as good an eye as there is in the league, admitted that Johnson whipped a third strike over on him that he never even saw after it left the pitcher's fist." (Wash. Post, 10/27/24)

10/29--Oakland; WJ pitching for Devine's major league all-stars vs. (Walter) Mails' Coast League all-stars. Ray Kremer(Pitt NL) pitches first four innings for the Mails', giving up only WJ's double; A luncheon in his honor given by the Oakland Chamber of Commerce and the Oakland Press Club (luncheon is there) precedes game.

10/30--"The great masquerade parade of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association of Anaheim Thursday night, Oct 30, will be headed by the illustrious Walter Johnson and the team he played with in 1905. The older residents of Orange County will have the privilege and opportunity of again looking upon the boys who were the winners in the county in those years. The following boys from the old team will be here:

Walter Johnson, pitcher
 Guy Meats, catcher from Olive
 Bob Isbell, first base, Olinda
 Fay Lewis, second base, Anaheim
 Anson Mott, third base, Garden Grove
 I.W. Fuqua, field, Whittier
 Joe Wagner, Field, Placentia
 Joe Burke, Field, Los Angeles
 Johnny Tuffree, Field, Placentia
 Dutch Brown, field, Brea
 Bill Kammerer, umpire
 Clare Head, shortstop, Garden Grove

His (WJ) friends have arranged a dinner at the Elks club immediately after the parade and a pleasant evening will be spent with his old associates."(Scrapbook, paper and date unknown)

"Parade said to be "mammoth, in which thousands of friends and admirers of the big league star are expected to participate. Seventy decorated floats will be in the procession, and two bands have been engaged to furnish music."(WJ scrapbook X, 1924, source unknown)

E.L. Doheny, who "employed Frank Johnson and bought the uniforms for Fullerton H.S. when WJ pitched there" receives an invitation to the reunion "while waiting in court for the Government Lease trial (Teapot Dome scandal) to begin." " 'Guess I can't go', Doheny said, 'but I have bought two boxes for the benefit game(10/26). Johnson is going to pitch and you just be I'll be there.'"(WJ scrapbook X, 1924, source unknown)

Douglas Fairbanks gives WJ and Babe Ruth a tour of Fairbanks' studio in Hollywood. Props from "The Thief of Bagdad" in background of pictures.(WJ scrapbook X, 1924, source unknown)

"Walter took Babe on a tour of Olinda and the nearby hills to show him his boyhood home, which was still standing, and to meet the old friends with whom he had played on the first Olinda Wells team."("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

WJ and Ruth to appear at the Hollywood American Legion boxing matches, where WJ is to receive a gold watch. (Scrapbook X)

10/31--Brea Bowl Game--"Holiday atmosphere...businesses closed at 1:30...parades and dinners...Tired from the long season and a month of exhibition pitching, Johnson fired strictly fastballs to the likes of Ruth, Ken Williams and Sam Crawford, and they responded by pounding them all over Brea. Ruth hit two homers, including one estimated to have traveled 500 feet...biggest baseball game in county history...A. 10,000(S.A.Register, 2/12/78);

"...You go to Vic Ruedy for the inside story of this historic occasion. Then a professional ballplayer but later to become parks superintendent for the city of Anaheim, and still in charge the day Anaheim Stadium was opened (1966, California Angels), Ruedy remembers well the details of Oct.31,1924:

'Like Johnson, the Babe was barnstorming out here on the coast', Ruedy remembers. 'Somebody at the Anaheim Elks Club got the idea that it would be a big deal if we got them down here for a post-season all-star contest for charity. Although Ruth had not pitched for several years, he was a

Ana...Johnson day was a grand success and the fans cheered when they heard the good news that the Olinda boy will be in the lineup all season...the high position he holds in the baseball world has not in any way affected his genial disposition."(Blade, 12/27/09)

Notes on Games--1910

1/9--Chick Gandil plays second for Santa Ana, 2 for 4; Gandil and Ellis batting 3-4. New Washington manager McAleer at game.

1/15--S.A. team arrives San Diego for two games. WJ said to be "looking bigger and more husky than ever". Manager Cronic refuses to play, apparently using wet grounds as excuse. California Winter League dissolves, with San Bernadino and Salt Lake teams disbanding, now San Diego dropping out.(San Diego Union, 1/17/10)

1/30--Occidentals called the "crack colored team of Salt Lake(Utah?)", also "the dusky boys".(Register, 1/31/10)

2/27--"Johnson played, won, and pitched his final game for the Yellow Sox."(Santa Ana Register, 2/28/10)

Feb--"Olinda Oil Fields Push development."

"Development work is being rushed day and night in all the oil fields in the Olinda district. The wells owned by the Santa Fe Co. produced 1,100,000 barrels of oil during the past year, being a heavy increase over the previous year."(L.A. Herald, 2/14/10)

"They were a grand family. His(WJ) younger brother(s) lived with his sister, and Les lived in the bunkhouse. Les was the youngest driller on the Columbia lease. It seemed strange that Les could be a driller at eighteen, because every driller had to serve time as a tool dresser, under a driller, to learn to drill and to sharpen the bits."(Merle Van Ness Hale, "Pipelines to the Past: An oral history of Olinda, California", date unknown)

2/26--Parents to move to Coffeyville, Kansas, WJ to go with them;

3/2 --WJ will not return to California next winter;

3/9 --"Mr and Mrs. F.E. Johnson, accompanied by their son Walter, left for Coffeyville, Kansas."(Fullerton Tribune)

"He first accompanied his parents to Coffeyville on March 9, 1910. His father had purchased a farm east and south of Coffeyville only a few days before."("A History of Kansas and Montgomery County", 1943)

"As he later explained, Johnson never became acclimated to the changeless pattern of Southern California's climate and he yearned for his old home in Kansas. So, when Johnson's father found a suitable farm near Coffeyville, Walter purchased it immediately."(Flaherty, TSN Baseball Register, 1947)

Notes on Games--1924

10/26--WJ pitching for the White King Soap Co. team, mostly L.A. Angels(PCL) players, vs. Vernon(PCL) in Los Angeles(Vernon Stadium?), 20,000 at game. White King Soap Co. pays \$1,000 plus expenses for WJ and family.(L.A. Herald, 11/1/24)

The Doheny oil lease case (Teapot Dome scandal) is postponed so E.L. Doheny could take part in the game. He comes on the field to an ovation, and WJ comes out to greet him, "recalling when his Daddy worked for Doheny at the Santa Fe leases, and his(WJ) first job was there after school and during vacations. WJ pitches a ball to Doheny, then autographs it for charity. Doheny buys it for \$500, then they both autograph one that auctions for \$100--"Johnson autographed 50 baseballs, and himself received a ball autographed by 50 moving picture stars."(Scrapbook X)

"He took it easy in the seventh when he had allowed his opponents only one hit. The local champions (Vernon-PCL champs?), with none out, got to 'Barney' for two clean hits and were feeling chesty when, true to form, Johnson tightened up and amid delighted cries of 'attaboy' and 'it's the same Walter', his speed became so great that batters swung at the sphere after it was safely in the

10/18--Grover Collins C? Meats 1b. 6 E for Olive, 3 by Collins. 4 SB for LA. 14 K's for Hunt and Clark. WJ making "his first appearance in the South this season."

Giants called "the champion colored team." (L.A. Herald, 10/19/08)
; have won 34 of 35 games as of 11/1. The San Diego Winter League team sets up 4-game series with them, and the L.A. Angels (PCL) arrange a match with them. "The Giants stock was given a big boost when they won from the Orange Athletic Club (Olive), with Walter Johnson, the famous pitcher of the Washington American League club, twirling against them, but Johnson's friends contend that his defeat was due to poor support." (Herald, 11/8/08)

Giants lose to a "picked team made up mostly of players from the Angel camp in the Coast League", 14-2. Dillon, Brashear and Dolly Gray(P) homer for the Angels against the "heretofore invincible Giants, the pride of darktown". Crowd of 5,000, half colored, at the game. (herald, 11/9/08)

10/25--WJ "not in the best of shape...in spite of not feeling well he fanned fifteen." Pasadena scores 7 runs in the sixth on three hits; 5 S.A. errors in the game. (Santa Ana Register, 10/26/08)

11/1 & 11/8--S.A. plays without WJ; ill?, playing elsewhere? (Meats also not in lineup.)

11/15--"Dummy" Price C.

11/29-- 1,000 at game vs San Diego. Meyers C, George Stovall(Cleve, etc., '04-15) LF for S.D.

Notes on Games--1909

1/16--"Johnson has taken to a style of toothpick for a bat. Walter got two hits with the toothpick." (Santa Ana Register, 1/18/09)

1/23--"...At times the 'little fellow', as Meats calls him(WJ), would steam them over so fast that the boys with the salty name could not possibly see 'em." The Salt Lakes called the "Mormons" (Utah?) (Register, 1/25/09)

2/27--"The Hoeges couldn't see them, let alone securing a safe hit off the speedy delivery of the big boy Johnson." S.A. ends season 3/6 at 11-9, probably finished fourth or fifth in 10-team league; San Diego champions at 15-3, Salt Lake second at 11-4. WJ said to be in 12 games, .215 BA(9 for 42). Henline(LF/CF) top hitter at .373 in 16 G, Householder .323 in 12. Meats .278 in 16 G, Altizer .200 in 7. Team BA .245, 2HR. Robinson only man to play all 20 games. (Register, 3/17/09)

9/22--WJ says his arm is "fine" in letter to Ed Crolc, Santa Ana manager. (Fullerton Tribune, 9/22/09)

10/27--WJ joins barnstorming tour in Seattle(began in Chicago 10/19) with "All-Nationals"(Marquard, Myers, Snodgrass, Doyle, from Giants, Ellis from Cards, etc.) vs Phil A's.

11/10--"The bleachers were well packed to see players whose faces were once familiar on local diamonds again playing before Los Angeles fandom and with big league company. Walter Johnson, the mighty pitcher of the Washington Americans and the pride of the big Eastern league, went into the box for the winners." (L.A. Herald, 11/11/09)

11/15--"Sunday will be Johnson day at Chutes Park. The wonderful Washington-American twirler will be greeted not only by a large delegation of fans from Fullerton, his home town, but in all probability by every devotee of the game who remembers Walter as a busher." (Herald, 11/12/09)

12/12--All 4 runs in the 8th, 3 unearned on E by Snodgrass(C) and Hemmel. "It will be the first contest between major league teams ever played in Los Angeles...It is expected that a strong array of Fullerton fans will occupy seats today to see their townsman, WJ, perform." Past week's games rained out; Last game for Cal players as tour heads east. WJ, Gray, Meyers, Snodgrass, Ellis, Heitmuller stay. (L.A. Herald, 12/11-13/09)

Barnstorming tour called "a dismal failure." Broke about even, says Bancroft; Players say that it would have been worse except for the capable management of Bancroft(Frank) and Mack; 25 of scheduled 50 games played, rest cancelled for rain or cold; Some played to empty stands...San Jose game netted players 30 cents each. (New Orleans Picayune, 12/20/09)

12/26--"Johnson Day" at Hawley Park--"The greatest turnout in Orange County's baseball history is expected, as every prominent man in baseball circles has been invited and also all the reporting writers of the Los Angeles papers are expected to be present. Ed Crolc, manager of the club, has had 2,000 portraits of Johnson made and every patron of the game will receive one free. (Santa Ana Evening Blade, 12/?/09) No-hitter called "the most phenomenal feat ever to have taken place in Santa

12/15--"Gavvy" Cravath joins Santa Ana "to keep in training before going to the Boston Americans next season".

12/30(?)--George Coleman pitches for Santa Ana in first game of a doubleheader, WJ plays RF; Date may be 12/29.

Notes on Games--1908

1/5--WJ strikes out 8 of first 9; one on, by error, in first 8 innings--"It was a case of walk right up to the bat, wiggle your bat three times and walk right back to the bench...Ford, the harbor city pitcher, although a cripple, is a fine pitcher. He had 15 strikeouts to his credit."(Santa Ana Register, 1/9/08)

1/12--WJ sick, Cody P as S.A. beats Morans, 5-4; Leading the league at 7-2(.778), San Pedro second at .769.

1/19--"Johnson, though not in the best of shape, pitched big league ball." Hoegees had men on second and third in the ninth, WJ strikes out last two to end game. Meats sick. Snodgrass HBP by WJ twice.(Santa Ana Register, 1/23/08)

WJ has been sick the past week and a half, "but he went into the box to pitch...George Cody caught Johnson as easy as rolling off a log."(Santa Ana Evening Blade, 1/20/08)

WJ leads team in batting at .472 (Fullerton Tribune, 1/22/08)

"Homerun Johnson"--"Pitching Phenom Develops Into Wicked Slugger"--"...In a letter to a friend, an attache of the senate, Johnson writes that he has had several offers to join outlaw clubs:

"I have played ball nearly every Sunday since I came home, and my arm is in fine shape. I never let it out too much, but just toss the ball over. You ought to see me bat. I bat better than any man in the league, and there are some good hitters and pitchers out here. I don't pull away like I used to back there. I hit two over the fence for home runs thus far.

I never thought of playing outlaw ball here. There's good money in it, but I intend to stick to Washington as long as I can."(WJ encloses clipping saying he is 13 for 25, .520, and has struck out 98 in seven games.)(Unknown Wash. paper, Jan.'08, from HOF clippings file)

2/1--Coleman P; WJ to pitch next day (sunday), but rained out.

2/16--Cody P; "This (next Sunday's game vs. San Pedro) will be Johnson's last game with the locals. Everybody come."(Santa Ana Register, 2/17/08)

2/23--Cody P; No WJ; Third shutout for S.A. without WJ. S.A. fielding averages have WJ in 10 games at .900--4PO, 14A, 2E.(Santa Ana Register, 2/29/08); Struck out 120 in 131 innings, .432 BA.(Fullerton Tribune, 2/26/08)

2/27--Mastoiditis operation; In bed 2 weeks before, condition grew worse until surgeons decided abcess had to be removed. WJ puts off operation, hoping it would get better and he could join Washington for spring training. Feeling bad most of the Winter League season, friends say."It is thought that the abcess was the result of being hit by a pitched ball, but Johnson is too ill to confirm it and his family is noncommittal." Estimated that he will be in hospital 3 weeks to a month and another month recuperating." Johnson's relatives are in constant attendance and are doing all in their power to permit the bed-ridden patient to pass the time as agreeably as possible. Johnson is not allowed to talk much, as the working of the jaw affects his sore ear. He is in considerable pain at times, but the administration of opiates to the wound relieves him. the pitcher is keenly disappointed over his illness as he had expected to work for a record this season. He expressed keen interest over the arrival of the White Sox in Los Angeles this morning, and says he would like to get to the city and see them play, but of course that is impossible."(L.A. Times, 3/1 & 3/5/08)

A piece of bone is removed from behind an ear, the operation performed during the night of the 27th; WJ in "critical condition...but resting well".(Santa Ana Register, 2/28/08)

"...Acute mastoiditis, about the same trouble as Thomas A. Edison is suffering from. It is now stated that he has been feeling badly all winter, and that his pitching has not been up to standard."(Unknown Wash. paper, 3/5/08, from HOF clipping file)

J.L. Perry(grandfather)--"His(WJ) life was once despaired of." Mastoid operation cost \$700.(Iola, Ks Register 1908 from scrapbook)

5/7--"Johnson leaves to join Washington team."(Fullerton Tribune, 5/7/08)

10/11--California Winter League season to open 10/11, S.A. vs Asuza. General admission 25 cents, grandstand 10 cents extra, ladies admitted free to grandstand. New grandstand and bleachers. New S.A. uniforms are green with yellow sox. Team nickname becomes "Yellow Sox". (Santa Ana Register, 10/10/08)

without the services of both 'Dummy' Taylor (N.Y. NL '00-08) and 'Ike' Butler (Balt. AL '02), two twirlers who had been depended on to win their games. Taylor was unable to come to San Diego this winter, and Butler leaves on the afternoon train today for Michigan with the body of his wife who died last Friday afternoon.":

"Walter Johnson is so well known he requires but little mention. Six months ago he was an unknown corner-lot twirler in Anaheim. There is not a sporting writer who has seen him work who does not predict that in another year he will be the best in the business."

P Harry McIntyre (NL, '05-13)

P Roy Hitt (Cinc NL '07)

P Alex "Soldier" Carson (Chi NL '10)

P Bergeman (ex L.A.)

C Jack "Chief" Meyers (NL '09-17)

2b Tom Downey (NL '09-15)

Meyers an actual Indian Chief of the Mission Tribe which inhabited the area of Riverside, California, before it was settled by white men.

11/3--Pickwicks make 5 errors, three by Downey--"(WJ)...with any kind of support would have won easily. He had terrific 'smoke' and all kinds of benders, but it takes more than on or two men to win a game." (San Diego Union, 11/4/07)

11/7--"If ever there was surprised bunch of champions, it was this Los Angeles crowd yesterday afternoon. After the last man had gone out in the last inning it took thim nearly five minutes to recover from the catastrophe. Captain Dillon was so surprised he could hardly speak, and his faithful minions did not have the heart to bring him out of his trance.

'There's the boy you turned down last season!' This was the cry that greeted Dillon when Walter Johnson stepped out on the diamond for the first time. And at regular and frequent intervals during the entire nine innings of play the cry was repeated, that Dillon might not have the opportunity to forget the chance that was once his. Just as though it was necessary to remind the Angel leader of the fact that he had erred. There is no one who realizes his mistake more than Dillon himself, and he has been well aware of his error for several months. But the crowd delighted in rubbing it in, and Dillon did not mind it in the least. But it nevertheless galled him to stand on the coaching line near first base and watch man after man, including the heaviest hitters on the nine, step to the pan, nearly wrench their vertebrae out of joint in wild and ineffectual attempts to connect with the leather as propelled by the good right arm of Johnson, and then retire with more or less bad grace to the bench."

Only two men reach second for L.A.; Easterly, who was supposed to play for the Pickwicks, struck out the first two times up, to the great delight of the fans, who called him "traitor"--"When he went back to the bench for the second time, Easterly was so filled with wrath he could have bitten a ten-penny nail in two." Meyers got three of the five hits off Bill Burns and threw out two of three at second. (San Diego Union, 11/9/07)

11/8 & 11/9--Pickwicks lose both games, making 5 errors the first and 10 the second; Meyers suffers a bad finger cut 11/8 and won't play again until he pinch-hits in the final game.

11/10--Morning game-WJ relieves Karns, who left with a hand injury, with one out and the bases loaded in the sixth; double play on a bunt attempt ends the inning.

Afternoon game-L.A. gets 1 run in the first on a passed ball, 2 in the fourth, 1 in the fifth and 3 in the seventh:

"It remained for the afternoon game to be the poorest of the entire series. After four pretty exhibitions of the national sport, the Pickwicks put up a listless game, comparatively speaking, and proved a disappointment to the largest crowd that has ever passed through the gates of Athletic Park. By the time the umpire called play the crowd had spread out on either side of the field and threatened to encroach upon the playing territory.

With Johnson pitching for the Pickwicks and Dolly Gray doing the honors for the champs, it was figured that the battle would be worth going miles to see. And so it would have proved, had it not been for the fact that Johnson was handicapped with a sore arm which prevented his doing any more than lobbing the ball over the pan after the third inning. By the time the seventh rolled around it was clearly impossible for him to continue and Bergeman was substituted." (San Diego Union, 11/11/07)

11/17--"Although Johnson was not in his finest form yesterday (still suffering sore arm?), he struck out fifteen of the visiting sluggers and allowed them only three little dinky swats." 500 at game. (Santa Ana Register, 11/18/07)

that was the toughest. It was a team down by Santa Ana, for which Walter Johnson pitched. If people think Walter was fast later on, they should have seen him then. Whew! Most of the time you couldn't even see the ball!" ("The Glory of Their Times", Ritter)

11/5--California Winter League organized: 10 teams--Anaheim and San Bernadino rejected "on account of being short of men and their grounds not being in condition for play. All teams are made up of players from the Eastern and Coast leagues. (Santa Ana Register, 11/7/07)

Ed Cronic, local billiard hall owner, appointed manager of S.A. team, called the "Stars". The other clubs from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Pasadena, San Diego. Many big leaguers in league--Chick Gandil, Gavy Cravath, Dave Altizer, Rube Ellis, Fred Snodgrass, Chief Meyers, George Stovall and Ote Johnson. Local players filled out the lineups. Gandil worked in Cronic's Fourth Street pool hall as a 'house man'.

'Big Bill' Hinrichs, was one of the best prospects out of Orange County--tall, rangy, with a good assortment of curves. He was taken to Washington by WJ, but his career was cut short by infantile paralysis. "Salaries demanded by professional ballplayers, upkeep of the grounds, the small price of admission and lack of attendance eventually caused the closing of Hawley Park (and the league)." (Santa Ana Register, 11/22/39)

"it was during the winters of 1907-08-09 that the brightest pages of baseball history were written as far as the local fans were concerned. A.E. Hawley, a local sporting goods merchant and a great lover of the game, owned a small farm out west of the city and it was in the late summer of 1906 that he thought the team needed a ball park. So he squared off a piece of land large enough for a regulation diamond and got his team going.

15 miles from olinda; games at Hawley's Park, built Fall, 1906; players traveled by the Pacific Electric RR;--Most of the clubs had several major league players on their rosters. Some of the better local players played with the professionals. One of these was Lester Slaback, long-time Orange County court reporter, who believes he saw Johnson make the most astounding throw in all baseball history. Slaback played left field. Johnson, a good hitter, was used in center in the second game of a double-header after he had pitched the opener. *'The other team had a man on third base with one out', Slaback told this column. 'The batter hit a line single to center. the ball hit in front of Johnson and he fielded it on the first hop. Walter threw the ball to the plate like a shot out of a gun. Guy Meats was catching and Johnson's peg bulleted into his glove, ankle high, just in time to nail the baserunner. That's the only time I ever have seen a man thrown out at home on what was a clean basehit. Walter's throwing ability was unbelievable.'* (Eddie West, S.A. Register, 8/11/57)

WJ given \$5 per game by Hawley, later raised to \$10. Other pros given \$3. ("The Early Days of Sports in Orange County", Orange Coast Magazine, July, 1990)

Oct--Bob Isbell--*"What a change a few months in the big league made in his throw to the bases! When he played with us as a kid, he made a few false motions before he got the ball to a base. But when he returned at the end of the season he got his throws there faster and straighter than anyone before or since. It was suicide to try to steal a base on him."* (Orange County Historical volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

11/2--WJ arrives in San Diego to pitch for the semi-pro Pickwicks against the PCL champion Los Angeles Angels in a five-game series; Picture taken with Pickwicks in new uniforms, after which they beat the Dyas and Cline team in the first of two games to warm up for the L.A. series--" *'First time I ever knew it to happen'*, remarked 'Big Chief' Meyers after the game. *'Never played on a team before that was able to win the game after having its picture taken'*. The Pickwicks are said to be "Champions, Southern State League; The series is billed as the "Coast Championship".

The Angels called "one of the strongest teams that has ever been on the Pacific coast":

P "Dolly" Gray--"The star pitcher of the PCL". (Wash AL, '09-11)

P "Judge" Nagle--(Pitt NL and Bost AL, '11)

P Bill Burns--(Wash AL, etc., '08-12)

1b Frank 'Pop' Dillon--(ML, '99-04) L.A. manager

2b Bernard--(Curt?, N.Y.NL '00-01)

3b Brashear--(Kitty?, St.L.NL '02)

LF Walter "Rosy" Carlisle--(Bost AL '08)

CF Ellis--(Rube?, StL AL '09-12)

RF "Gavy" Cravath--(AL, '08-09, Phil NL "12-20, 6 NL HR titles)

"Manager Palmer fully realizes the task he has put before his men and has done everything possible to get together a bunch that will be able to make things interesting. Unfortunately, he will be

crowd around the oil fields got after me again. I simply had to try out with the Giants, they said, and they would not have it any other way. But if I wasn't good enough for Dillon and Los Angeles, how in the world could I expect a chance with McGraw and the famous New York Giants? That's how I looked at the situation. The big leaguers practiced at Washington Park, which, in the old days, was called Chutes Park.

One morning I went to the ballpark alone. Naturally, no one knew me, as I took a seat in the old wooden grandstand and watched Christy Mathewson and all the famous stars go through their practice. I made several feeble starts in McGraw's direction, but at each move it seemed some Giant player would step up for a few words with his manager. As the big league players worked out and new baseballs went sailing around the field, I turned the matter over in my mind. Continuing with Weiser was a 'sure-thing', and trying out with New York was a gamble. My salary at Weiser had been \$100 per month. My salary in the coming season at Weiser was to be \$150. The Giants might pay me even twice that much (I wasn't certain as to big league salaries). On the other hand, McGraw might let me go without as much as pitching a single game--like happened at Tacoma. Anyway, I decided to stick to Weiser, and left the Los Angeles ballpark without as much as meeting John McGraw. ("My Pitching Years")

2/25-3/20--N.Y. Giants train in L.A.

WJ-- "I told my father and mother of my ambition to become a professional baseball player, and they readily assented to my return to Weiser in the Spring of 1907. The team had wanted me back and at a fairly good salary and I was pleased to play with them once more." (Barker interview)

3/20--WJ said to be headed, along with Anson Mott, for Butte, Montana of the Northwestern League. Claire Head "who played professional ball last year", going to Pueblo, Col. of the W.A.; Meats and Elwell to the Idaho State League. (Fullerton tribune, 3/20/07)

April--WJ getting \$150 a month, Guy Meats \$100 a month to play in Weiser. (Orange County Historical Volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963; Figures probably from Meats.)

6/19--Fullerton Trib article on WJ success in Weiser, says that he was taken there by Clare Head, "who is captain of that team" (?).

"...there seems to be no doubt but what his (WJ) future is assured...no one need be surprised to see Johnson climb into the national league." (Fullerton Tribune, 6/19/07)

7/10--Fullerton Trib article on Weiser record and signing by Wash:

"...Young Johnson is modest. He goes about his work on the diamond in a business-like way and is good-natured throughout, never questioning the decisions of the man with the indicator. He has the characteristic California faith in himself and with this, coupled with headwork, he has more than made good in a state league composed of fast and heady players, brought to this part of the northwest from the baseball centers in the middle west, east, and Pacific coast." (Fullerton Tribune, 7/10/07)

August--"In Olinda and Fullerton, Johnson's old amateur teammates were rendered spellbound at the swiftness with which he attained greatness in the big leagues. His progress was reported dutifully by the Fullerton Tribune, which offered the following comment in August of 1907:

'Walter Johnson of Fullerton, the wonderful pitcher, is more than making a hit with the Washington team of the American League, and eastern papers are heralding him as the greatest find in many years and filling the sporting columns with such nice things about him as have ever been said about any ballplayer.' In the same story, the writer added, 'He is not of the kind that swell up and get chesty and he will not be carried away by the many compliments his is receiving.'" ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

10/17--WJ returns to Olinda during the past week--"Johnson returns loaded with laurels from Eastern baseball centers. He wears the same sized hats, and is the same gentlemanly, unassuming ballplayer he was before he went away." (Anaheim Gazette, 10/17/07)

SANTA ANA-

Fred Snodgrass-- "At the time, the only contact I had with baseball was playing Sundays on a semipro team called the Hoeege Flags. We were sponsored by a sporting-goods house, and on our backs we had flags of all nations. We played teams all over southern California, and I still remember the one

Notes on Games--1907

1/7/07--Anaheim admitted to the Southern California league, with Tufts-Lyons, Hamburgers, Morans, Pacifics, and Hoeges, all of L.A., and Pasadena, San Diego, San Bernadino, and Santa Barbara.--"These nines are composed of professional players, and we may expect to see first-class ball during the season. It is the first time Anaheim has ever ventured into professional baseball, but local fans bank on the Oil Wells to give a good account of themselves. the club has defeated every club outside of professional ranks, and now goes up against stronger nines."(Gazette, 1/10/07)

1/20--WJ misses games 1/20 and 1/27 due to illness; Crips P

2/3--1,000 at game.

2/10--"Hats off to the 'rubes'. Oh, what a surprise it was. There was nothing about the appearance of the visitors(Anaheim) to indicate that they were ballplayers extraordinary. Whenever you see a team whose men are wearing two or three kinds of uniforms you can bet they don't put up much of a game. It is to Johnson, their pitcher, that the big share of the honors of the day must be given.

Without Johnson it is more than likely that there would be a different story to tell. Just where Anaheim managed to pick up such a twirler is something that the San Diego fans would give a good deal to know. there are some who maintain that he is a ringer who was brought to San Diego especially for the purpose of trimming the Pickwicks. This is denied by the Anaheim boys, who say he belongs in their neck of the woods and that he is not a ringer in any sense of the word.

From the very start of the game Johnson showed that he was going to make the Pickwick sluggers look like 'thirty cents'. He had an easy delivery and apparently did not exert himself in the slightest in throwing the ball. but nevertheless the sphere came to the plate like a shot out of a gun.

Besides this Mr. Johnson had the benders and shoots of a Mathewson, and with it all excellent control." San Diego hit called a 'scratch hit'. Jack Meyers, Pickwicks catcher, batting .390 and "since he joined the team the boys have improved wonderfully". (San Diego Union, 2/11/07)

2/24--Morans pitcher is Elmer Rieger, (St.L.,N.L.'10)

3/3--Anaheim 4th in league; San Bernadino 1st at 6-2, Tufts-Lyon 5-2.

3/10--"Specs" Harkness(Cleve.A.L '10-11) and Fred Snodgrass(N.Y.N.L. '08-15) battery for Hoeges, Rube Ellis(St.L.N.L.'09-12) CF. Harkness gives up 2 hits, K's 10. WJ, Meats and Isbell to leave next month for Montana, Northwestern League.(Gazette, 3/14/07)

WJ-- "*Naturally, the news about my strikeouts in Idaho caused some talk down around Los Angeles and 'Pop' Dillon again showed interest in me. In fact, he asked me to meet him and 'Hen' Berry, then owner of the Los Angeles club, at a billiard room. I was on time for the appointment and sat near the door where they would enter. They came in a little while after I arrived and immediately started playing a game of billiards. They didn't ask for me and didn't seem to be much concerned whether I had come or not. I didn't feel as though I ought to go up and interrupt such important men. And besides, I'd always remembered how Dillon had passed me up at Olinda and I didn't like to have him turn me down again. Pretty soon their billiard game was finished and they left without knowing I was present. The billiard parlor incident didn't bother me in the least. I kept on playing baseball and trying to improve.*"("My Pitching Years")

WJ-- "*...I decided that I would like to get employment in the Coast League, as I believed that I could make good in that company. I always liked Los Angeles, and consequently went there for a position. It happened that the club had a staff of excellent pitchers, and my appeal to the manager of the club received slight attention. I did my best to show him that he was making a mistake, but couldn't make much of an impression. My bank balance was none too large, and after staying at Los Angeles for a time without making any progress, I decided that as a ballplayer I was doomed to shine at Weiser. I knew there was a position open to me, and so I went back to that town.*"("Some Experiences of a Speed King, or My Life Story", St. Nicholas Mag, Oct 1914)

WJ-- "*A friend recommended me to the Los Angeles club, and the manager sent a man down to look me over. I won the game he witnessed, and I was asked to come up to Los Angeles for a conference. When I arrived I was directed to the pool room where the manager and president were playing, and although I waited for them to finish the game, they ignored me entirely and went away without an interview. While there I heard that manager McGraw of the Giants was in town to watch a young phenom by the name of Grants.*"("Some of My Early Experiences")

WJ-- "*John McGraw and the New York Giants trained in Southern California. Joe Burke and all that old*

of fellows who won 70 of 77 games last year, including their last nineteen. Who they played is not mentioned, but it must have been with the nines just over from Foo Chow. (Gazette, 1/3/07)

feelings when they told me that Hall had also passed me up and at the same time had signed two of my teammates, Anson Mott and Jack Burnett. After this incident I kept right on with Olinda, taking my share each Sunday out of what the crowd donated. The entire collection each week averaged \$25. ("My Pitching Years")

"Johnson says that when he was pitching at Anaheim and tried to get a job with the Los Angeles team, the only man who could see him was Rube Ellis. 'Frank Dillon came over to look at me', recalled Johnson, 'and he said that I wouldn't do because I couldn't hold runners on the bases. I've always remembered Rube Ellis for the kindly interest he took in me. He predicted I would be a star when no one else could see me.'" (Abe Kemp, Scrapbook X)

3/4--"Johnson had an off day, that was all, and the Riveras landed on him as never before. Russ Hall, manager of the Seattle team, and Oscar Jones were interested spectators. This was Hall's second visit here. He has his eye out for new material. He is quoted as saying that Kid Johnson is a comer." (Anaheim Gazette, 3/8/06)

3/18--"LeBrandt goes to Helena, Mont., next month." (Gazette, 3/22/06)

4/1--"Johnson was in good form and had the foreigners guessing all the time...Jack Burnett and Ed Mott are making good with the Siwashes(Seattle)." (Gazette, 4/5/06)

4/8--"The Oil Wells will not play again until the 29th of April...The team will be reorganized...LeBrandt goes to Butte City, Mont...Burnett has been sent to Tacoma (by Seattle) and will play in the up-country this season...Mott is doing well at third for Seattle." (Gazette, 4/12/06)

4/19--"Walter Johnson, the crack young pitcher of the Olinda ball team, has received an offer to pitch for the Tacoma league team this season. Johnson has not decided yet whether he will enter the league this year or wait until next season." (Fullerton News Tribune, 4/19/06)

"...He probably had not played more than ten real games of ball until a friend of his, Barnett, offered him a position with the Tacoma club in the Northwest League." (Boston Globe, 9/27/12, article based on interview with WJ)

WJ--"I received an offer to play with Tacoma. I was 18 years of age and the decision was entirely up to my father and mother. My parents didn't object, but relatives and neighbors were nearly horrified. I have often heard my mother tell how many well-meaning persons rushed to her with warnings of what would be my future if I turned to baseball as a life profession. As they (parents) were willing, I sent a wire accepting. My mother insisted that I be well dressed when I met my employers, so I put down \$12, which seemed like the earnings of a lifetime, and bought a new suit. The following day I boarded a local train at Fullerton with the new suit under my arm and a cheap leather satchel full of home-made sandwiches. Outside of that, all I had was enough cash to take me from Los Angeles to Tacoma and the clothes on my back." ("My Pitching Years")

8/2--WJ returns to Olinda. "Agitation" for reorganization of the Olinda team. Tom Young moves to L.A. (Gazette, 8/2/06)

11/25--First game of Winter schedule. "In the seventh the foreigners had three men on bases, but Johnson steadied down, struck two men out and the third was an easy out at first. Johnson was in fine form, but in the absence of Meats, his regular catcher, has to ease up a bit at times. This accounts for the 11 hits against him."

Burke is manager; Team to be admitted to the Southern California League, will be called the Anaheim Oil Wells--"There was a good crowd out and collections were first-class. If this keeps up, games will be played all winter." WJ said to have had a fine record at "Wisser, Idaho", to return there next season. Other Olinda players:

Burnett--.300 BA, 32 SB, 9 HR, 26 2B, a "great record" for Tacoma; "drafted by" Montreal of Eastern League for next season.

Head--Played for "Wisser", Idaho and Parks, Utah; To play for Pueblo, Col. next year.

Mott--"Made good" at Seattle. (Anaheim Gazette, 11/29/06)

12/25--Hinrichs P for Santa Ana.

12/30--"Johnson fanned two of the foreigners in the first, three in the second, two in the third, two in the fourth and so on until the reporter couldn't count any more. The visitors were a gentlemanly lot

CALIFORNIA-1906

Date	Team	Vs	SCORE	IP	R	ER	H	B	K	WP	HBP	AB	H(XBH)	R	PO	A	E	OP/C
1/7	Olinda	Pomona	1-4	8	4	1	6	0	6		3	0	1	3				LeBra
2/11	"	Rivera	5-4	9	4	10	1	1	1	3	0	2						"
2/18	"	Downey	16-1	9	1		15											
3/4	"	Rivera	3-5	9	5													
3/18	"	Tufts-Ly	8-6						WJ-RF	4	1		1					Crips-P
4/1	"	LA Hamb	7-0	9	0	0	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	1				Lebra
4/8	"	Tufts-Ly	2-3						WJ-RF	4	1		4					Crips-P
10/21	Olive	Santa Mon.		9														Meats
11/25	Olinda	Pacifics	5-4	9	4	1	1	2	13		4	0	1	2				Burk/Mot
12/25	"	@ Santa Ana	4-1															
12/30	"	Alhambra	12-2	9	2	4	2	14		5	2	2	1					Meats
12/31	"	LA Pacif	4-0	9	0	0	2											

Notes on Games

2/11--Rube Ellis and Fred Snodgrass in lineup for rivera. Ellis said to have signed with L.A., Jack Burnett called "Manager Hall's (Russ Hall, Seattle-N.W.L.) new find". (Anaheim Gazette, 2/15/06)

Joe Burke-- "Walt's pitching got noised abroad throughout Southern California. The games we were playing Sunday after Sunday turned the eyes of a number of scouts in our direction. I will remember one Sunday when Frank Dillon, manager of the Los Angeles Coast League team, and Rusty Hall, of the Seattle team, came down to look us over. One of my pet ambitions at that time was to get Walt into fast company. I felt sure that if he had half a chance he would develop into something great. We all liked him, he was our kind of fellow. So when we heard that Dillon and Hall had their eagle eye on us we gave the lad the best support there was in us. After the game I led a delegation of oil wells players to where Dillon had been sitting in the little grandstand directly back of the catcher.

'What did you think of the kid?', I asked Dillon.

'Well', said Dillon, 'he won't do yet. He telegraphs everything he throws'.

And the player who is the greatest pitcher in the world remained the undisputed property of the Olinda team, dividing \$18 to \$25 among nine players every Sunday afternoon. Not only had Dillon passed him up, but Hall had not even given him consideration or attention. Hall was spread out on the ground off third base during the game, and after it was over he picked Jack Burnett and Anson Mott, outfielder and infielder, and signed them up." ("How Walter Johnson Got His Start in Baseball", Joseph Burke, Phil(?) Enquirer, 9/20/13, from HOF clipping files)

Frank "Pop" Dillon is a cousin of Clark Griffith. ("Minor League Baseball Stars II", SABR, 1985, Bob Davids editor)

WJ-- "I was getting by with a lot of strikeouts, but of almost equal importance was my awkwardness. It seemed as my pitching improved my awkwardness got worse. I couldn't field a bunt to save my life. At bat I could hit pretty good pitching, but once on the bases I used to get tangled up with my own feet. The chief worry to Joe Burke and my many other boosters was that everybody was getting excited about my pitching except the ones who counted most--the professional managers. I was not worried, because I had no particular hopes or plans. I was pitching and winning and was satisfied with that. I wasn't making much money, but I was home with my family and that meant much to me. Every community has its young pitching marvel. The managers naturally discounted such reports.

One Sunday afternoon two men appeared in the crowd. To the crowd they were very important. It turned out they were scouts and the news had been kept from me for fear I might be nervous. After the game I was introduced to Mr. Dillon and Mr. Hall. I didn't know who in the world they were. The next morning I learned that Hall was from Seattle in the Coast League and the tall, thin fellow with iron gray hair was Frank 'Pop' Dillon. He was a former big league star and the manager of the Los Angeles club in the Pacific Coast League, and therefore a good judge of pitchers.

The news was broken to me very sadly that Dillon had passed me up. I wasn't good enough for Los Angeles, he said. He principally objected to my style of pitching, which he claimed 'telegraphed' everything I threw. I was too green, Dillon said. And I couldn't hold runners on first base. His objection to my delivery I used to hear many times. Dillon's refusal was bad enough but imagine my

Rivera team said to be after WJ, Burnett to have a tryout with L.A.." The Olindas hold the amateur championship of Southern California(?), and that the club should be permitted to disband is a reproach to local fandom."(Anaheim Gazette, 7/20/05)

WJ gives up first home run. "The Oil Well team has disbanded. Johnson, Meats and Isbell will be seen in Rivera uniforms."(Anaheim Gazette, 8/3/05)

8/13--Leonardt's pitcher is Phil Knell, 40 year-old ex major leaguer and longtime(1887-1908) California Leaguer.

10/15--Mott elected captain of the reorganized Olinda. Fred Snodgrass C for Hamburgers.(Anaheim Gazette, 10/19/05)

11/12--"The best game of ball ever witnessed here...with Kid Johnson as the star performer, the way he struck them out was wonderful. Johnson is no doubt one of the best amateurs in the state and has the stuff in him to send him up the line. Le Brandt is the best catcher the Oil Wells ever had."(Anaheim Gazette, 11/16/05)

4/1--Santa Ana HS at Fullerton, wins 3-0 on 3-hitter by George Coleman. Unnamed Fullerton pitcher gives up 9 hits, including a triple--presumed to be WJ.(Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/3/05)

4/8--Santa Ana HS loses their "first defeat of the season" to Occidental College, 5-2; will play the Fullerton HS team next Sunday.(Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/10/05)

4/15--Fullerton HS 0, Santa Ana 0--"A Series Of Goose Eggs": "This tells the story of scoring that was done in Saturday's game on the local diamond. If the game had not been called they would probably have played several more. In all respects it was probably the best and closest game ever seen on the local grounds. the visitors' battery (WJ and Grover Collins) was the whole team in itself, being responsible for thirty-two of the forty-five putouts. for Santa Ana, Coleman (George-Los Angeles P.C.L. 1908) pitched a great game, allowing but three scattered hits and one base on balls, while Johnson of Fullerton was touched up for seven safe ones, including two-baggers by Wilkinson and Hillyard, and walked four. Rooters were out in force for both sides and the grandstand was kept in a constant uproar applauding the brilliant work of the players. the local boys showed decided superiority in fielding and teamwork but could not connect safely at critical times. Probably another game will be played later to play off the tie, although Santa Ana won the first game of the series (3-0, 4/1/05).(Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/17/05)

"Warren 'Cap' Hillyard(S.A.HS), one of the survivors of the marathon contest, says *'the game wasn't called because of darkness but because the officials decided it was too tough on the players, especially the pitchers...furthermore, the rooters had long since lost their voices so it seemed useless to carry on any longer.'*"(Orange County Historical Volume III, Mildred Yorba MacArthur, 1963)

"Walter Johnson's legacy to Orange County sports legends is the 1905 game between Fullerton and Santa Ana, a confrontation which was to have decided the Orange County championship that year. According to McFadden, it was a game that almost never was: *'We didn't have a catcher who could catch Walter's fastball. So we found a grammar school boy, Roy (Grover?) Collins, who could catch it--most of the time. Well, Santa Ana got wind of the fact before the game that we had a grammar school boy on our team and at first threatened not to play us. But we talked them into it and we played the game.'*"(When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Garland Ross of Santa Ana, who was captain of the Saints' team(3b, cleanup hitter, 2 for 7), recalls this about Johnson: *'For the most part, we just went up to the plate, took our three swings, and walked back to the bench. I remember we all kept saying to the next batter, 'he ain't got a thing but a fast ball' and that was true. But what a fast ball! It came up to the plate like a pea shot out of a cannon.'*"(Walter Johnson, One of Nation's Top Ball Players, From Fullerton", paper and date unknown, Fullerton Library Clipping file)

Minnie Johnson at this game?--"I used to see him play there(Fullerton HS) sometimes, when the Fullerton team played the Santa Ana High School. When he started out he was a catcher. Then I used to hear some of the boys say they thought Walter would make a better pitcher than a catcher. So he began to pitch."(WJ Scrapbook VIII, 1924, source unknown)

4/15 game played at Santa Ana's Athletic Park on Fruit Street; for the "Orange County championship".(1924 scrapbook, retrospective article, probably the S.A. Register)

Last game of the season.(Fullerton HS yearbook)

a graduate in the science of delivering the ball and fanned eight of the Rivera men, but allowed nine hits." Andy Pallett and Settle pitched for Rivera. Game played at the "Los Nietos grounds". (Whittier News, 2/4/05)

"John Tuffree recalled Walter's first outside appearance with the Olinda team. There was no uniform for him to wear so they gathered some odds and ends. Always a husky youth, the shirt he wore was too short, so his shirttail was out after every pitch and his pants hit him well above the knees. They were too tight to buckle and his cap bobbed on his head. He took an awful ribbing, which he ignored, fanned every batter, and before he was through he had the entire crowd cheering for him. (Orange County Historical Volume III, Mildred Yorba MacArthur, 1963)

2/5--Downey to play Olinda at Athletic Park; Johnston(sic) listed as right fielder, Crips P. Mention of defeat at Rivera 1/29, no detail. (Anaheim Gazette, 2/2/05)

3/5--L.A. Hoegees 5, Olinda 4--"Far and away the most pleasant feature of the game was 'Kid' Johnson's pitching for the Olinda team, this being his debut in fast company. (No-1/29 game; this is first on home grounds) He remained cool headed throughout the game... Johnson is a good 'find' and he had a host of admirers upon his first appearance." Olinda makes 5 errors. (Anaheim Gazette, 3/9/05)

4/2--"Kid Johnson's left fielding (box has him in RF) was way up and he gathered in the sky-scrapers with neatness and dispatch. The collection was not as good as it should have been, considering the large crowd." (Anaheim Gazette, 4/6/05)

4/9--L.A. Owls 5, Olinda 2. Six bunts in a row bring in 3 runs and Olinda's defeat--"...The locals in their bewilderment made some fearful fumbles and throws... Johnson pitched a wonderful game for a youngster and the way he clipped the Owls wings at the plate was a distinct feature of the game... Manager Tom Young stepped out onto the diamond between curtains and, motioning the crowd for silence, made a businesslike speech upon the financial question that proved a winner. The boys are 50 dollars to the bad, he said, and the contributions have been light, very light, and it is a question of more money or no more baseball in the future. Young's forceful oratory moved the assemblage to loosen, and a better contribution than usual was taken up when the lid went around. The boys really ought to be better patronized as they are under quite an expense. Personally they get nothing." (Anaheim Gazette, 4/13/05)

4/16--Attendance 1,000, "the largest crowd of the season".

5/14--Game interrupted in the fifth inning--"...The expenses for each game amount to about \$24, and only \$15 was thrown in the hat on this occasion. Young addressed the large gathering, stating that in all fairness a more liberal contribution had been expected to defray expenses. He and his team freely give their time and money to bring the games here and his appeal for financial assistance struck a responsive chord. Upon a second passing of the hat enough was secured for all purposes, and the game was again proceeded with. It is hoped that better results will be had in the future. Baseball is the national game and the ball put up here is the best of amateur playing on the coast." (Anaheim Gazette, 5/18/05)

5/28--"...The feature of this game was the pitching of Kid Johnson. He should have won his game hands down but for an error and a lucky two-bagger... Johnson must have had 'em buffaloed for a couple of the seraphs, failing to find them with the bat, turned their anatomy toward the ball, getting it amidstips (3 HBP)... The money question still bothers some. Jack Burnett, the amiable captain, gave a forceful dissertation on the cumulative effect of frenzied finance, with the result that the second offering sufficed to play even with the expense account." (Young writes note to the paper about the trouble meeting expenses, listing railroad fare for visiting teams, meals for same, livery hire, baseballs, etc., says that 10 or 15 cents per fan would take care of it.) (Anaheim Gazette, 6/1/85)

6/11--Olinda 9, Hoegee Flags 4. First WJ win; "Kid Johnson is going to have a tryout in the box with a Los Angeles team (Rivera?) at Chutes Park this week."

7/23--Rivera steals 9 bases off Meats in 10-5 loss; 5 R in 7th inning, 2 in 8th--"It was a very interesting game throughout. The gentlemen from the oil wells loomed up like giants in their scarlet suits, and led off in their first inning with two runs..." (Whittier Daily News, 7/24/05)

7/30--Olinda team disbands due to "lack of financial interest in games played here (Anaheim)". The

GAMES-1905

Date Team Vs SCORE IP R ER H BB K WP HBP AB H(XBH) R PO A E OP/C

1/29	Olinda Rivera	4-5	115	9	?	8	1										Meats
2/26	" Downey	7-5															WJRF-Cripps P
3/5	" LA Hoeg	4-5	95	4	1	5		40		1	1	4					Meats
4/1	Ful HS S.A. HS	0-3	93	9													4/2 Olinda LA Hoeg
7-6	WJRF-Cripps P		40	3													
4/9	" LA Owls	2-5	95	9	2	11		41									Meats
4/15	Ful HS S.A. HS	0-0	150	0	7	3	27		61								2 Collin
4/16	Olinda Tufts-Ly	7-6								4	1	1					WJCF-Morrison P
5/14	" Tufts-Ly	7-9								4	1	10					WJ 1B-Cripps P
5/28	" LA Hoeg	2-4	94	0	6	2	12		3	3	0						5 Waters
6/11	" "	9-4	94	5	2	7		41		1	1						
7/9	" Ventura	2-1	131	6	0	13		50									12 Meats
7/16	" LA Chris	12-2								4	0	1					WJRF-Morrison P
7/23	" Rivera	5-10	8	10	2	7											Meats
7/30	" Sioux Ind	9-5	95	9	0	10		1	30								2 "
8/13	Rivera Leonardt	12-4	94	9	1	12			4	2							3 "
9/10	" Hamburger	4-7	97														
9/17	" LA Christ	7-9								5	0	2					WJLF-Lucero P
9/24	" Tufts-Ly	6-3	93														Meats
10/15	Olinda "	4-3	93	6	1	4		40									12 Leahy
10/22	" Tufts-Ly	3-7	97	10	2	9		40									1 Meats
10/29	" Dyas-Clin	7-5								4	0	9					WJ 1B
11/12	" Tufts-Ly	1-0	90	1	3	13		32									1 LeBran
11/19	" LA Hamb	8-5	95	8	1	8		30									4 "
11/22	" Tufts-Ly	6-0															WJ P?
11/26	" LA Examin	7-0	90	2	4	9		40		1	1						"
12/3	" LA Leonar	6-2	92	7	0	10		30									2 "
12/17	" LA Hoeg	6-2	92	6	3	11		20		1	1	2					"
12/31	" LA Christ	5-0	9														

Notes

on Games:

OLINDA/RIVERA

1/1 Olinda 6, Tufts-Lyon 4. Cripps P, Meats C.

1/15 Olinda 6, L.A. Owls 3. Cripps and Meats.

1/29--Probable first game WJ playing for Olinda; Fred Snodgrass C for Rivera-17 years old, student at Los Angeles HS;

"Pico-Rivera was incorporated in the 50's from the former rural communities of Pico and Rivera, and is about 4 miles west of downtown Whittier, or 12-15 miles from the Olinda oil fields. Los Nietos is one of the oldest settlements in California, going back to a 1771 land grant to the Nieto family. It's just south of the road from Whittier to Rivera. Walter probably caught a trolley in either Fullerton or La Habra to get to his games." (Letter from Chuck Carey, 1/27/93)

"The new grandstand(at Los Nietos) is a great improvement, and the admission price, 10 cents, very reasonable." (Whittier News, 11/27/04)

"The contest was a close one all the way...a fair-sized crowd watched the play." (L.A. Times, 1/30/05)

"The baseball lovers of this vicinity had a real treat Sunday afternoon in a hard fought contest of 11 innings between the Rivera nine and the so far invincible Olindas of the Oil Wells. After 29 successful games(?), Rivera turned them down in the 13th(11th), five to four. It was a great game...Then(11th inning) with two men out for Rivera, Billy Anderson grabbed the bat and you could see he meant business. Two strikes; Billy, look out. He did, and found it for a two-bagger, which he made amid the wild cheers of the crowd. Then Ellis picked up the stick and smashed one over towards the railroad track, bringing Billy in and scoring a home run for himself. This gave Rivera the game, 5 to 4.

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The two pitchers we had were beaten in two games, and we were called together for another throwing contest. Each boy had three throws from the plate to second base with the manager there to catch them. I won, and was picked to pitch the next game. I did, or rather I pitched against the bats of the batters. I was slugged, 21-0 (?--the score of this game probably 3-0). Another throwing contest for a new pitcher. I insisted on participating, and when the manager caught my three throws, he said: 'I'll give you another chance. With that speed you ought to throw 'em past the batters. I was on the bill in the second game, and it was quite a contrast. I won, 1-0, in 15 innings.' (0-0 tie) (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 8/17/19)

"He was a relatively unknown player when he enrolled at Fullerton High School as a freshman in the fall of 1904. When he turned out for the baseball team the following spring, Hollis Knowlton, the leftfielder, was the only player at Fullerton High who had seen Johnson play with the Olinda team. 'I had played against him when I was playing for the Fullerton town (boys?) team the year before, in 1904', says Knowlton, 84, who still lives in Fullerton. 'I can remember he played catcher with no mask and played about 10 feet behind the plate. I got on first and tried to steal once. He threw me out by 30 feet. So when ol' Walter enrolled at Fullerton the following year, I was the only one around who was aware of how hard he could throw a ball.

Well, Downey was beating us 6-0 one day and I said to our captain, Bob McFadden--we had no coaches in those days--'Why not let Walter pitch some?' Well, he said to me, 'I'm the captain here. If you don't like how I'm running things it's too bad.' Later, I talked to our school principal, Prof. W.R. Carpenter. He said that after school one day he'd come down by the school barn and let Walter pitch some to him. Walter threw a half-dozen balls at him at normal speed and then he threw a hard one and it knocked Prof. Carpenter's glove off. He said to Bob McFadden, who was standing there, 'better let this boy pitch, Bob.'

McFadden, 83, the captain and shortstop, is another who still lives in Fullerton. 'Walter was a real tall, raw-boned kid with long arms and he threw a terrific fastball. We knew in those days long ago that Walter was a great pitcher but as far as thinking sometime he'd be in the big leagues, we didn't think about that at all. The big leagues were another world away from us. It was a make-believe world.'

The first baseman of the '05 Fullerton nine was Rufus Porter, 81, also living in Fullerton. 'He threw that fast ball like a bullet', recalled Porter. 'He had long arms and long fingers. He weighed about 180 pounds. There were about 60 students at Fullerton High then. We were in no league and we had no coach. We played teams like Anaheim, Orange, Santa Ana, Pomona, and some school in Long Beach.'

The student manager of the club was C. Stanley Chapman, now 81. 'Johnson was a big, tall, curly-headed and tow-headed kid. And he had that great fastball. He was a very easy-going boy. It was one of the reasons, I think, why he became what he was--he was always comfortable and never got excited. He was, of course, by all odds the best player we had.' ("When the Big Train ran on rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

WJ writes that 0-0 game is his fourth for Fullerton, the first one pitching. No mention of "21-0" game. ("My Life So Far", BB Mag, Aug 1912)

WJ-- "I never pitched but two games in High school." (N.Y. Sun, 8/24/42)

The high school students from Olinda were bussed (horse-drawn) the nine miles to Fullerton Union H.S. ("Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, 1975)

Fullerton alumni include Richard Nixon ('27), Arky Vaughn (HOF, '30), 8 major league players.

"He dropped out of school soon after that Santa Ana game--he was only a freshman--and enrolled for a term at a Santa Ana business college." He continued to live in Olinda with his family, play for the town team, work in the oilfields and play a skilled game of poker at the Stein and Fassel general store. Transportation was a black mare, a horse all four of his high school teammates remember distinctly. ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Johnson quit high school after his freshman year and enrolled in a Santa Ana business

old experienced baseball players tell him to change his style, cut out the under-throw. They said it would hurt his arm, and was an out-of-date delivery. but it was the throw that was born in Walt, and as long as I have known him it has always been his best.

The oil wells bunch has no mercy on its friends, and boring into some fellow is a favorite pastime. Their joshing was rough-shod stuff, and Walt had a lot to take. Tall and angular, his feet and hands were abnormally big, out of proportion to the rest of him. He afterwards grew up to his extremities. He was the awkwardest fellow on the team. He knew it and took his joshing like a man. While he handled himself like a barnyard animal in fielding and baserunning, he was always a good batter, and he had that graceful swing of the shoulders and free action with his arm that fans in the east have grown to know so well. How the old grown-up pitchers used to try to persuade him to quit using that delivery. Time and again they told him it would never do in fast company.

Many a time I have seen Walt pitch a superb game, and along toward the last a little bunt would come rolling down to him gently, like a zephyr from the western sea. Walt would start to get it, his feet were sure to tangle and Walt was sure to fall down on the ground. But he could pitch." Burke says that WJ's favorite pitch was a "high ball close to the batter's head"(?) and that "he never had any other nickname--just Walt." ("How Walter Johnson got his start in baseball", Joseph C. Burke, Phil(?) Enquirer, 9/20/13, from HOF clipping files)

WJ-- "The boom spirit of the west seemed to strike baseball at this time, and practically everybody in our part of the country was either a player or a fan. In the oil fields the rivalry was intense and the managers did not hesitate to import the best amateurs or professional players they could secure. On account of my father's connection with the oil fields, I became a frequent spectator at these games, and finally asked manager Tom Young to allow me to pitch for his team(?). He put me in to finish a game(?), shortly after which I became a regular. The best players received a salary while the lesser lights were never sure of their pay. My share was often 50 or 75 cents, and frequently nothing. this, however, did not worry me as the keen enjoyment of the game was compensation enough." ("Some of my early experiences", manuscript in Johnson archives, c.1918)

Olinda 'home' games played at Anaheim, promoted by saloons serving liquor on Sundays, only place legal in Orange County.(Santa Ana Register, 2/12/38)

FULLERTON HS:

A four-year high school, opened in 1893. 13 seniors graduated 6/16/05:

"In November(1904), we organized our baseball team. The school board gave us 25 dollars and two-thirds of the walnut crop, which we used to buy baseball goods. Then, by the liberal givings of the town merchants and friends, we secured enough money to buy our suits(School colors are red and white). The lineup of the team was soon made and was as follows: Walter Johnson, pitcher...We had a team that would have made the Fullerton school famous, but in February, just when the baseball season opened, two of our best players left school(Hartung, catcher, and Knowlton, CF). Then during the latter part of February the baseball spirit slackened until we secured a new catcher, a young fellow by the name of Grover Collins. With this lineup we have put up many a stiff game.

The baseball team for the next season will be much stronger. There is no reason it could not be, because you will still have that little(?) Freshman Johnson, the swiftest amateur pitcher in Orange County." ("The Lucky Thirteen", Fullerton Union HS yearbook, 1905(the school's first YB)

Minnie Johnson-- "I don't believe Walter ever saw a game of baseball until he was 14 or 15 years old. He began to play with the high school team when we lived in Fullerton, California. I used to see him play there sometimes, when the Fullerton team played the Santa Ana High School, When he started out he was a catcher. Then I used to hear some of the boys say they thought Walter would make a better pitcher than a catcher. So he began to pitch." (Scrapbook VIII)

WJ-- "When our manager lined all of us up and had us throw to second base, he said my throws were the hardest. 'Walter, you'll be my catcher, and he picked out the other boys for their positions according to their arms. The boy who couldn't shoot 'em a mile lost his uniform, didn't make any difference how far he hit--he had to throw.

siding called Atwood.

The Olinda team had a couple of memorable managers. The first was Joe Burke, who devoted much time and talent to his boys. One Sunday he sent in a 5-man team against a Coast League nine, with Walter on the mound.(?) Olinda won and Burke beamed. He ended his career as U.S. District Attorney at Los Angeles. The second manager was Tom Young, the village barber who received 10 cents for a shave and 20 cents for a haircut. Business permitting, he often acted as a catcher when the boys practiced on the main street in front of his shop. ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

WJ-- "After finishing school at Olinda, I entered high school at Fullerton. Following the 5-inning game in which I struck out 12 boys, the news spread around that Frank Johnson's kid was showing signs of being quite some pitcher. The older heads naturally considered the talk as so much sandlot gossip. Enthused by my newly discovered ability, I continued to strike out the youngsters that played on the flat, and before long my work caused talk in the stores and around the derricks. One afternoon we were hard at it down by the stable, when two of our best local players appeared on the flat. The two stood behind the catcher for a while, watching my pitching with an air of amusement. One was Joe Burke, a bookkeeper for the Santa Fe Railroad. His companion was Jack Burnett. They wanted to find out just what I had on the ball, if anything.

Burke asked if I would throw him a few, and, winking at Burnett, he stepped to the plate. Burke was a good bunter, and that's what he tried when I started pitching. He missed three in a row and then, a little embarrassed, remarked, 'Now I'll really try', and removed his coat. But the best he got was a foul and after missing three more he stepped aside for Jack Burnett. Jack was the slugger type and could hit the best of pitchers with little trouble. I was just going good and let them sail up to the plate with plenty of speed. I used an underhand delivery, my natural style, and it seemed to puzzle both batters Burnett did no better than his partner and they soon departed in the direction of the store where baseball was always the topic of discussion. ("My pitching Years")

Joe Burke:

"I discovered Walter Johnson as a pitcher when he was about 14(?) years old, a big, overgrown, awkward, lazy boy. I discovered him one day when Jack Burnett, afterward a centerfielder for the St. Louis Cardinals, and I stood up to bat a few of the kid's balls. We expected to take the lad down a notch or two. Instead, he threw us a dozen or so balls apiece and we couldn't touch him. Right then is when I discovered Walter Johnson. From that day to this I have never been surprised at anything he has done in organized baseball. I have watched him through all his career. After he got to pitching on my team, I saw some big men in Pacific Coast baseball turn him down, but never once has any of his old teammates lost faith in Walter. We knew him from the days he played numbers on the flat at Olinda, with other boys using our cast-off bats, balls and mitts, and when he was with us, a green youngster, we saw him strike out best men who batted for the Coast League teams. We had Walt discovered long before he went to Weiser--long before he went to Washington, D.C.

There were 15 kids at Olinda--no more, no less--and Walt Johnson was one of them. He squatted on the sidelines on Sunday afternoons regularly. His dad was a great fan then, as now. When our team got to winning the Olinda kids went baseball crazy. Every evening they got together on the flat below the old livery stable and played numbers. Some of the boys got to talking in the office about the enthusiasm in the flat, and Jack Burnett and I decided to go down and have some fun with the lads. Somebody told us that they had a notion that Frank Johnson's kid, Walt, was some heaver. Jack and I sauntered down and found Walt idly throwing to another kid alongside the store. I gave Jack a wink and asked Walt to throw us a few. He blushed, but was willing. I stepped to the imaginary home plate, posed a bit, and told Walt to let 'em come. They came. I made an attempt to bunt, missed thought it an accident, tried another, missed it, got another and missed it.

I gave way to the slugger. Jack squared away to put a crimp in the young bloods, and the way he fanned the air has never been equalled in front of Walter Johnson from that day to this. Jack Burnett was the most surprised man in California, except myself and maybe Walt. He took it all as a huge joke. He was never anything else than good-natured, easy-going and smiling.

Right then is when I discovered Walter Johnson. We walked back up the hill, and Jack and I confided to each other that we were all-fired glad we had not invited the bunch down to watch us make monkeys of the kids. Walt had pitched us balls of his own fast, under-hand style. That under-hand throw was his natural sling. Many a time during the time that Walt was growing into his baseball manhood I have heard

OLINDA OIL WELLS TEAM

"Life was especially sweet in Olinda if you could play baseball. It was the age of the town team throughout America and the Olinda aggregation had a particularly rabid following. Nothing was said when the oil field players knocked off work at noon and worked out behind a hill the rest of the day before an important game. the team made exhausting trips to places like Riverside and Pomona. ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Any potential ballplayer was invited to join...the result was a first-class team that often wandered far afield in search of new worlds to conquer. They often took on the boys at Rivera where Rube Ellis and Ted Easterly (Easterly would catch Cy Young and Addie Joss at Cleveland) played, or up to San Bernadino to play against the Santa Fe Railroad team where the great Indian Player, Jack 'Chief' Meyers, played. If they went to Rivera they took the day and went by horse and carriage and if to Riverside, the Santa Fe rolled out a special car for them which they boarded down at what is now Atwood." (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown)

"Duke" LeBrandt would play at Omaha (W.L.) 1908-09; Anson Mott at Vernon (P.C.L.); Jack Burnett at St. Louis (N.L. 1907); Art Crips had a try-out with Chicago White Sox; (Anaheim Bulletin, 3/4/39)

"There were a lot of men out looking for competition, and the Santa Fe Oil Company was determined to do its share to see that proper competition was provided. some of its regulars were Bob Isbell, Jack Burnett, Joe Wagner, Joe Burke, John Tuffree, Guy Meats, Fayette Lewis, Art Crips, Clair Head, Art Ferris, and Bill Rayburn. Practice was the order of the day and all of the officials of the oil company were unofficial ball scouts. All of those hired for jobs were given plenty of time to train for their Sunday games. Training was accomplished by means of a 'weed gang'. Its members were given hoes, rakes and shovels and told to go out and abate the fire hazards. They disappeared into the nearby terrain and practiced their pitching, catching, and fielding, and when they felt exhausted they sought out the shade of a nearby tree. The result of this happy state of affairs was that Olinda was the mecca of all aspiring ballplayers."

The late Guy Meats of Orange was Walter's favorite catcher and the man who probably knew him better than anyone. He said, *'He was the easiest man I ever caught. Despite his great speed he threw a light ball and his control was so perfect that you always got what you asked for. I could have caught him in a rocking chair and that was before anyone had come up with the idea of a jointed glove. Nowadays mitts have a pocket in them like an oriole's nest. I don't see how these guys ever miss one.*

If an umpire called a close one, Walter never took issue with him because he believed that the umpires make mistakes the same as players do and the next one might be in his favor. He just tossed the next one over the plate in such a fashion that it left no doubt in anyone's mind.' Another of Walter's contemporaries of his Olinda days was his first baseman, Bob Isbell, who never ceased to marvel at Johnson's game. Isbell said, *'He was a magnificent athlete, weighing about 175 pounds, with long arms and powerful shoulders. He had the perfect delivery. His back muscles did all the work. He was a three-quarter sidearm when he started, but somewhat under that as he grew older. What a change a few months in the big league made in his throw to the bases! When he played with us as a kid, he made a few false motions before he got the ball to a base. But when he returned at the end of the season he got his throws there faster and straighter than anyone before or since. It was suicide to try to steal a base on him.'* (Orange County Historical volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

Olinda has the best team in Orange County, and faced the teams from the surrounding counties, many sponsored by large Companies. Los Angeles had the Hoegee Flags, Tufts-Lyons, and two black teams, the Trilbys and the Giants. San Diego and San Bernadino counties had plenty of talent. And neighboring oil companies, like CCMO, Graham and Loftus, Union Oil.

"Road trips to neighboring cities meant that you hitched your horse to a buggy or a cart and drove to the game, usually dressed in your uniform, for there were no dressing rooms under the old see-through wooden stands. If the game was in Anaheim, which was a wide open town, they dressed in the back room of a saloon, while their fans up front placed their bets. Games at Anaheim Landing, a beach city about 30 miles south of Olinda, were an outstanding event that required an overnight stay. Longer trips were negotiated by trains, courtesy of the Santa Fe railroad. They picked up the boys at a nearby

ball down to second base with so much speed he ought to be a pitcher; throwing half the distance should double his speed.' In the beginning, I disagreed with him because what I enjoyed was not so much the use of speed but the long, straight throw, combined with speed. My argument used to be: The throw from third to first is just as far and the throw in from the outfield is farther, but those players don't get as many opportunities to throw as the catcher. A catcher is always throwing to some base, and the throw to second base is the nicest throw in baseball. 'And Papa', I used to point out with considerable pride, 'they don't ever steal when I'm behind the bat.'" (My Pitching Years")

WJ-- "Here (boys games on the flats) I played my first real game of baseball, breaking in as a catcher. This position was not an enviable one for I was required to go behind the bat without a mask. My limited experience in baseball, coupled with the natural awkwardness of a country boy, made my debut as a catcher a complete failure. However, I was able to whip the ball to the bases with such speed that I was allowed to pitch the next game against the boys from the orange groves. ("Some of my early experiences", manuscript in the Johnson archives, C. 1918)

"When I was a youngster I didn't know that I was pitcher. I played ball, but my position was catcher. The manager of our team had a funny idea of testing pitchers. He always put them at a mark and had them go through a long-distance throwing course. The lad who made the longest throw was assigned to that game. Just for the sport of it, one day I asked the manager to let me throw. It was far enough to send me to the hill that afternoon and I won, 1 to 0, striking out 18 batters. That's how I started as a pitcher." (WJ scrapbook V, 1923-24, source unknown)

WJ-- "As I recall, there were exactly 15 kids at Olinda--of baseball age. We didn't quit by innings, but waited for the gas lights that spouted from the surrounding derricks to warn us that any further playing meant the loss of our baseball as well as the loss of our suppers at home.

One afternoon, two surrey loads of youngsters drove up with a noisy challenge. A game was soon underway and I was behind the plate, as usual. The visitors, absolute strangers, were a smart crowd and pretty good players for their ages. After using three different pitchers, I went into the box in the fourth inning. It was my first taste of real competition. I soon found there was just as much pleasure in whipping the ball to the catcher as in shooting it to second base. And, as one after another retired on strikes, I found the pleasure even greater. I pitched the remaining 5 innings and a dozen of the boys struck out. Anyway, we won the game and I was through with catching.

I had the speed, but what I lacked was control. I used to gather up all the empty tomato cans in the district. I always carried a supply under the seat of my wagon and just as soon as the noon whistle blew, target practice started. Placing a can on the edge of the wagon, I would stand back about 90 feet and begin pitching. Baseballs were too expensive, so rocks were used. Not speed, but the development of control was the object of my throwing. Practice would last as long as the tomato cans lasted and then I'd climb up to the driver's seat and eat my lunch. ("My pitching Years")

1905

PERSONAL

Guy Meats-- "He didn't drink or smoke, but how the son-of-a-gun liked to play poker! Any time there were four or more in a room, Walter would start a poker game and he could draw to anything. He was such a soft touch for any amount. I could have retired on what he gave away. (Orange County Historical Volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

"After school and on holidays, Johnson spent all of his time working for Maurice Ray, proprietor of a general store in the oil fields. Ray took a fatherly interest in the big, overgrown kid and he was to be a lasting influence in Johnson's life." (Flaherty, TSN Baseball Register, 1947) (A Maurice Rey was the manager of the Stern and Goodman Grocery and Dry Goods store on Santa Fe Ave. in Olinda--later to be Stein and Fassel's, after WJ leaves California. From "Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown McMillan, 1975)

"Bob's (Isbell) favorite story about Walter was the time Olinda was playing a Ventura team, the only hit against him was a homer, by another guy named Johnson. Walter just stood there and grinned as he watched the ball gain momentum as it disappeared from sight. This was in the days when baseball was fun to play and to watch. Another Johnson fan was his catcher, Guy Meats of Orange, who later became a very successful citrus grower: 'He (WJ) never complained or noted an error behind him'" ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

\$3.50; a single man could live like a king on \$10.00 a month, eating in the company boarding house and sleeping in the bunk houses." (Orange County Historical Volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

All supplies at first hauled by horse and buggy from Fullerton, six miles southwest of Stearn's lease (Olinda), later from Anaheim, also Southwest.

In 1897, "oil pioneer" E.L. Doheny drills wells for the Brea Canyon Oil Co. and makes a partnership with the Santa Fe railway to explore and drill for oil in the Olinda Ranch area. In 1899, the Santa Fe ran a spur to the fields of Olinda; The lower Santa Fe lease, where Carbon Canyon Regional park now stands, became the Olinda Crude Oil Co, also known as the Olinda Land Company Lease. (Historical Guide to Carbon Canyon Regional Park, 1975)

BASEBALL:

WJ-- "As a boy I followed the fortunes of the players and read of the exploits of Jim (ED?) Delehanty, Willie Keeler, Jimmy Collins, Honus Wagner, Larry Lajoie and, of course, Christy Mathewson and Cy Young. How we followed the news of our favorites, learned the lingo of the baseball lot!" ("A Quarter Million Strong", American Legion Magazine, date unknown)

WJ-- "Just at that time there was a great baseball boom in the oil fields. The drillers and workers organized teams and the big event each week was the Sunday game between our favorites and some nearby club. When Sunday came around, I was always one of the first to find a place along the foul line, where I could watch the 'stars' perform. And there were some stars in the lineup, although the bulk of the players worked in the oil fields or in one of the village stores. One of the first 'big leaguers' I ever laid eyes on was Ted Easterly of the Chicago White Sox. Also Doc Crandall, then a star in the National League. 'Rube' Ellis lived at Rivera, not far away, and he always played in the outfield. The rivalry between the town teams was always at a high pitch, and the importing of Eastern players, wintering in Southern California, added a touch of class to the contests. My father was even more of a fan than I was. The ball team had been losing for a long time, but when it finally hit a winning streak the kids caught the fever and the entire community was baseball mad." ("My Pitching Years")

WJ-- "We (Olinda Elementary kids) made no pretense at having a regular team but spent many hours down on what was called 'the flat' playing 'numbers' or 'one o'cat'. Every afternoon, rain or shine, we made for the flat ground down below the livery stable and played until the sun had disappeared behind the hills." ("My Pitching Years")

Minnie Johnson-- "I don't believe Walter ever saw a game of baseball until he was 14 or 15 years old." (WJ scrapbook VIII, 1924, source unknown)

"Walter Johnson believes that another reason for his continued success is the fact that he did not start playing ball until he was 16 years of age. He was born on a farm in Kansas, and until his family moved to California, he had never been in a ball game. 'I never had a chance to play ball until I was 16', says the Speed King, 'and by that time I had attained sufficient strength so that I could not hurt myself.'" (WJ Scrapbook XVIII, 1927, source unknown)

"Speaking of his career on the diamond, Johnson said: 'I never played a game of ball until three years ago, when I started as a catcher on an amateur team (boys team?), in my home town near Los Angeles. After catching a few games, I tried my hand at twirling, and have been pitching ever since.' (Wash Herald, 7/27/07)

WJ-- "Strangely enough, I took to catching and seemed to like it better than any other position. Back in Humboldt, when a youngster, I had pitched, but as my arm began to develop strength, the job behind the bat was most attractive. What I liked was that long throw to second base. I discovered that I could get a ball from home plate to second base with considerable speed, and it afforded me more opportunities for long throwing than any other position. At the time I didn't realize it, but that desire for long and speedy throwing, which catching seemed to satisfy, was the first definite indication of an arm that was built for nothing else in the world but pitching.

My father noticed my increasing speed, and I remember hearing him remark, 'If the boy can put that

Maxwells, Overlands and Great Smiths. The population of Fullerton was 1,700. Envied oil workers in nearby Olinda were making \$2.50 for a 10-hour day. In the first decade of this century the town (Olinda) flourished. There was work for anyone who wanted it, and plenty of poker. ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"She (Minnie) says that the happiest days of her life were those spent in Olinda, when her family was complete and all about her each day". (Anaheim Bulletin, 9/6/57)

OLINDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL--Called the "little red school house" by residents; accommodated all eight grammar school grades. ("Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, from C.C. Reg. Park brochure, 1975)

WJ-- "I attended school in a little red building built upon a hill. ("My Pitching Years")

PERSONAL:

WJ-- "My father was employed by the Santa Fe oil wells and outside of school hours I spent my time driving a team of mules for him. I look back now and get great pleasure out of those recollections, with me perched up there on a seat that wobbled like a ship at sea, driving over the oil dirt roads on warm afternoons. More than once I fell asleep with the reins in my hand, as the team plugged along and kicked up clouds of yellow dust. In those days Olinda was situated in the heart of the oil well belt, close to a valley of oranges and walnuts. Derricks literally dotted the hillsides and ran all day and night. Nearby were bunk houses for the men, rough office buildings, company eating houses, stores, and always a livery stable. ("My Pitching Years")

"He enjoyed all of his neighbors and friends...and had time to saunter across the street to the lower deck of the old Steinfassel general store where he took his seat at the poker game which was always in session. That was Walter Johnson's indoor sport." (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown)

"Walt drove a team for his father most of the time when he was not going to school in the little red schoolhouse on the hill. Walt did most of his growing when he was about 13 years old, and a good half of him was feet and hands. He was the awkwardest kid I ever saw. Many a time I have seen him on a warm afternoon hunched upon the seat of a wagon, two-thirds asleep, moping along the road, kicking up shots of dust. That was Walter Johnson, the boy. ("How Walter Johnson Got His Start in Baseball, Joseph C. Burke, Phil(?) Enquirer, 9/20/13, from HOF clipping files)

WJ-- "I shall always remember California as the state where I pitched my first game of baseball and received my first lesson in hunting, and the two have gone hand in hand with me ever since. It was my good fortune, while living in California, to go on several extensive tours into the foothills of the neighboring mountains. The Sierras are the big range of Southern California, and there are many high peaks where the snow never melts. I did not get into the mountain district itself, but I did spend some time in the foothills, and these are rugged enough to satisfy the average person, being much cut up with deep ravines and steep cliffs. There is a pretty uniform growth of timber with many rock ledges and cleared spaces.

I never encountered any big game as I did not penetrate far enough into the heavy timber where deer and bears might be found. But I was not after them in any event, so I was not disappointed. There were large flocks of quail in these regions, and they furnished the bulk of the game, but of course there were numbers of rabbits, squirrels and the like, that might justify a chance shot. I found a great deal of excitement on these little jaunts and not a little good shooting as well. I never tried for any world's records and have never laid claim to being a crack shot. But I do know I never came back from a day's excursion empty handed. ("What I Think About Hunting", BB Mag, 1913)

SANTA FE RAILROAD:

Father and grandfather (John L. Perry) employees of the Santa Fe Drilling Co. (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown);

"A roustabout got from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a day, tool pushers \$2.00 to \$2.50, and the best drillers

CALIFORNIA--1901-1904

OLINDA:

The oil companies owned the land and the houses, and rented them to the employees. Single men lived in bunk houses, rent free, and they ate the large dining room just down the street. There was a never-ending poker game on the main street, Santa Fe Avenue, in the side-hill basement of Stein and Fassel's general store. ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

"People held cookouts and hunted local game, wildcats, rattlesnakes, rabbits and coyotes. All major supplies came from a day's trip to Anaheim. Carbon Canyon was a wonderful place for children to live. Often they could be found drinking water from hillside springs, especially two miles up the canyon from the park at La Vida Hot Springs. It was a treat to be able to wash one's hair with soft water at the oil pumping houses, poke around for 'trapdoor' spiders and their satin-like spun tunnels, and slide down the gravel pit hill on corrugated metal sheets. *'It was all kids and dogs...a happy place to play'*, reminisces Mrs. Ella Armstrong Post. *'A neighbor's dog was affectionately treated like a member of the family. At night the constant pumping of the wells would rock us all to sleep. Our parents told us that each creak of the pump whispered "five dollars", "five dollars", "five dollars", until we finally dozed off.'*"

At age 14, family moves to Olinda, living about 100 yards north of the old store on Carbon Canyon Road, part of the CCMO (Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil) lease. Frank Johnson was a teamster and car loader for the Santa Fe Oil Co. (Historical Guide to Carbon Canyon Regional Park, 1975)

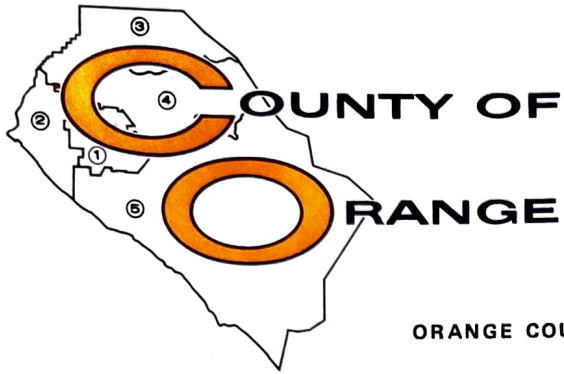
Chester Johnson-- *"He moved with the family to Olinda in 1901. The Olinda home of the Johnsons was about 100 yards up from the old grocery store on the right hand of the street."* (Letter to George Key of Pacentia, Cal., 3/27/68)

The board-and-batten houses had only three or four rooms. Water was pumped into the kitchens, but there were no inside bathrooms. Gas was burned for heating. there was electricity. Laundry was done by washboard in large tin tubs, which also served for bathing. Living quarters were cramped, but the fenced yards were ample for cows, chickens, etc. Groceries, meats, ice, and vegetables were all delivered by horse-drawn cab. The big social event was the Saturday night dance, when a three-piece orchestra was hired to play until midnight, and would sometimes be paid extra to play until 2:00 A.M. (Bob Isbell, an accountant with the company and first baseman on the baseball team, played violin and led the orchestra.) Baseball was played on a diamond in the 'flat' just east off Santa Fe Avenue (the main street of Olinda). The railroad spur brought empty oil tanks in and filled ones out. The company would occasionally run passenger cars in to take residents out on day-long excursions to San Bernadino, Redondo Beach and other places along the line.

"...hard-working, happy people living on the southern slopes of those beautiful foothills in northern Orange County. Granted, our houses were small, our mechanical luxuries few, but we did not feel deprived. One could step outside and fill the lungs with bracing fresh air, look up into the blue sky through glorious sunshine, find solace in a view of vilvet-green hills and, when the orange groves down in Placentia were in blossom, our hills were bathed in such and exquisite fragrance that one could close the eyes and breathe in Heaven! We youngsters found coy yellow violets nestled close under the sagebrush in the springtime, and mariposa lilies growing straight and tall out of the grass. even the clumps of cactus that dotted our hillsides were beautiful when the gorgeous yellow and red blossoms burst open--and at Christmastime there were armloads of holly berries to be carried home from the Toyon shrubs in Carbon Canyon. Life was good in Olinda!" ("Memories of early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, from Carbon Canyon Regional Park brochure, 1975)

Historians writing of the period frequently make reference to huge sunflowers once found in abundance throughout Orange County: 'The road from Fullerton to Anaheim was rutted and crooked and sunflowers beside the road touched your hat', wrote one. It was 1905 and that buckboard trip to Anaheim and back required half a working day. A trip to Santa Ana and back required a full day.

It was a time of slow progress in Orange County and much of it was painful. The land was being overworked. In 1906, a blight wiped out the celery crop. Beans, sugar beets and chili peppers quickly appeared in their place. You could buy an acre of citrus land for \$150 and the new cars were Fords,



TELEPHONE: (714) 634-7841

431 CITY DRIVE SOUTH
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA 92668

ORANGE COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 30, 1978

Mr. Henry W. Thomas, III
3746 Jocelyn Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20015

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Attached you will find a copy of the research paper recently completed by one of our applicants for the position of Staff Aid II.

We hope that it answers some of your questions and feel that you will enjoy its content.

Sincerely,

Harry M. Rowe, Jr.
Secretary

HMR:nf

Attachment

WALTER JOHNSON

Research Assignment in Application

for the position of Staff Aid II

Orange County Historical Commission

December 16, 1977

by

Ellen Malino James

P.O. Box 326, Claremont, CA 91711 714-624-2397

WALTER JOHNSON HURLS NO-HITTER

Holds Browns Helpless for
Seven Innings, Nats Win-
ning, 2 to 0.

1924
WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—Holding
St. Louis hitless, Johnson today
pitched Washington to a 2 to 0 vic-
tory in the first game of a scheduled
double header which was halted by
rain after seven innings.

The second game was called off on
account of wet grounds. It was John-
son's sixth scoreless game of the

THIS STORE CLOSED
Friday Afternoon
October 31, 1921, on Account of
WALTER BABE
JOHNSON-RUTH
BALL GAME

Brea Bowl, Brea, California

Auspices Anaheim F.R.S. Club

ELLEN M. JAMES Post Office Box 326 Claremont CA 91711

December 15, 1977

Mr. Harry M. Rowe, Jr.,
Secretary, Orange County Historical Commission
431 City Drive South
Orange, California 92668

Dear Mr. Rowe,

Thank you for your letter of November 22 informing me that my application for the position of Staff Aid II had been selected for a research assignment.

Enclosed is the paper I have written on "Walter Johnson," including primary and secondary reference material. Once I discovered Johnson's connection with Fullerton and Brea, I found this subject fascinating for two reasons. One, because I had known so little about the man and his early history in California. Two, because it brought me into contact with some interesting people in Orange County...indeed, their public spirit and citizenship and pride in their community's past exceeds anything I have observed elsewhere in local history.

I look forward to discussing this assignment with you and your staff at an interview. The upcoming holidays present no problem for me. I am available to come to Orange at your convenience. A note to my post office box or a phone call to 714-624-2397 will be sufficient.

Your program in public history is one of the few in the country on a county level. Historians have just now begun to establish such programs where taxpayers agree to fund them. But it is a slow process, and few colleges outside the California system have made much headway in public history courses. Thus I would be fortunate to work as a Staff Aid because it coincides with my professional interests and with what I believe to be a future trend in historical scholarship. (Indeed, a new journal "Public Historian" is just getting off the ground at UC Santa Barbara, and they are looking for articles about local history in the state.) I am in touch with colleagues at Fullerton who have done much in your county with oral history, especially through the graduate student intern program. I would like to be part of this whole process and hope I will be chosen for one of your positions.

Sincerely,

Ellen M. James

ROCPMS

I). Primary Sources

A). Interviews

Ted Craig, December 9, 1977. Mr. Craig in a long telephone conversation described the 1924 game in Brea which he attended and other aspects of Johnson's early career.

Bucky Walters, who played baseball during the Johnson period, could not be reached at his Funeral Home in Fullerton, but associates describe him as a valuable source of information.

B). Photographs of Johnson pre-1925 or in California

Carbon Canyon Park, photo exhibit on wall: Olinda 1900s, Johnson with parents, 1924 Brea game.

Citizenship Athletic Foundation Museum, Citizens Bank, Los Angeles International Airport, many photos.

Los Angeles Times, November 1, 1924, p. 9, Johnson and Babe Ruth at Brea game.

New York Times, October 11, 1925, sports page.

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II). Secondary Sources

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Leonard Koppett, baseball historian and sportswriter, The New York Times, Palo Alto.

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WILLIAM
SCHROEDER,
CURATOR

Microfilm
FILM

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Walter Perry Johnson was born in Humboldt, Kansas, on November 6, 1887. He died in Washington, D.C., on December 10, 1946. Yet he was a true son of California and of Orange County. Though sportswriters and contemporary baseball players called Johnson the "Humboldt Thunderbolt" and thought of him as a native of the Kansas prairies, in fact Johnson's roots as a baseball player go deep in Fullerton history. From 1901 when Johnson came as a teenager with his family to help his father work the oil fields to 1906 when he entered the minor leagues, Johnson attended the Fullerton Union High School. Here he pitched his way to semiprofessional baseball and attended for a brief time a business college in Santa Ana. Johnson later returned to a town that had been incorporated as Brea in 1917 to play an exhibition match some still remember on October 31, 1924. It was the year Johnson won the World Series for his team the Washington Senators, which in turn led to his election as the American League's most valuable player. Johnson, who was perhaps the greatest pitcher in baseball history, then became a charter member along with four other legendary players of the National Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York, in 1936. Thus it is fitting that a half dozen Little League diamonds located within the 125-acre Craig Regional Park be named the Walter Johnson Ballpark this coming February, 1978.

Johnson's is the classic story book success story, a perfect example for youth in the 1920s and for Little Leaguers today. As President Calvin Coolidge remarked in 1926, Johnson exerted a "wholesome influence in clean living and clean sport." The image of an American folk hero, Johnson's celebrity status was enhanced by sportswriters in the national capital. Red

Patterson, who formerly wrote for the Herald Tribune, questions whether Johnson's ball would be so fast by today's standards. But like Christy Mathewson before him, Johnson set records as a pitcher and as a fine character. Right-handed, he stood at 6'1" and 200 pounds in his prime with the longest arm span in the major leagues. Handsome in the classic American image, he had blue eyes and curly hair and a smile that reflected his warm and friendly manner. Batters who opposed him knew that, despite the speed of the ball, they were safer than with other pitchers. Ty Cobb, Davy Jones, Sam Crawford all noted how careful Johnson was not to hit an opponent. The words "nice guy" and "good sport," old-fashioned today, were frequently applied to Johnson by teammates and members of the press. In 1915 when Johnson was in his prime, the batter Jimmy Austin described his balls as so fast they couldn't be seen on a cloudy day. He was the Pitching Machine, the Big Train, Big Barney (after auto racer Barney Oldfield). In his best season 1913, his record of fifty-six scoreless innings stood for fifty-five years. Johnson set more than forty records in baseball history. His four-hundred fourteen victories ranks the highest of any twentieth-century pitcher. He ranks second in wins, first in strikeouts and first in shutouts. He holds the American League record for victories, losses, completed games and innings, which is all the more remarkable because Johnson's team, the Washington Senators, was a weak, perennial second-division team. Still Johnson spent his whole career with the Senators from 1907 to 1927 giving the team an image of stamina and power even though he waited seventeen seasons to play in the World Series.

When Johnson arrived to play with the Senators in 1907 he was considered a Kansas hayseed, a farm boy from the Midwest. In fact, Johnson gained his baseball experience in California, though his parents Frank Edwin Johnson and Minnie Perry Johnson were originally from Ohio and Indiana, respectively. Of Scots Irish, Dutch, and English descent, Walter, the second of six children and the oldest of four sons, learned from his Midwestern parents a love of farming and Protestant middle-class values. While in his early teens, Walter moved with his family to help drive a horse and buggy for the Sante Fe railroad on the oil leases around the town of Fullerton. In those days when the railroad needed oil for locomotives and the wagons of farmers to transport the "black gold" from the fields, the chief form of entertainment on Sundays was sand lot baseball. Walter excelled in this sport while still in High School and was soon signed by a Tacoma, Washington, team for the Pacific Coast League. This was in 1906, the year of the San Francisco earthquake. Thus Johnson could not move north as planned and went instead to Idaho where he played for a semiprofessional team and soon attracted the attention of a scout for the Washington Senators. Johnson signed a major league contract with the team in 1907 with the proviso, insisted upon by Johnson's father, that Walter, just turned twenty years of age, would be paid return fare if his career did not work out. Johnson stayed with the Senators twenty-one years. In 1927 at the end of his last season his annual salary was \$20,000, one of the highest before Babe Ruth. Johnson's father, together with his family, migrated back to Kansas, settling in Coffeyville, which accounts for the "Kansas connection" among historians and sportswriters of the day.

Johnson's middle and retirement years proved as interesting as his active career as a pitcher. After his last season in 1927 from which he was forced to retire because of a broken leg, Johnson managed the Senators until 1932. He then retired to his beloved farm in Germantown, Maryland where he raised cattle and horses. He came out of retirement briefly in 1933-35 to manage the Cleveland Indians. Later he served as President of the Association of Professional Baseball Players and briefly as a radio announcer. He remained a patriot to millions of Americans who admired his feat in 1936 when on Washington's Birthday Johnson hurled two silver dollars across the Rappahannock River. That year he also sponsored a rally for Republican presidential candidate Alf Landon. Elected to Republican office in Maryland in 1938, Johnson ran unsuccessfully for Congress on the Republican ticket in 1940. When he died at the age of fifty-nine of a brain tumor he left five children, including a son Walter, Jr., who played baseball for a time. Johnson's wife Hazel Lee Roberts had died in 1930. He married her in 1914 at a political gathering in the nation's capitol. She was the daughter of Edwin Roberts, Congressman from Nevada. Johnson's funeral services in 1946 at Washington Cathedral attracted a large crowd. He was buried at Rockville Cemetery in Maryland.

It is interesting for Orange County history that in 1924, the year of Johnson's triumphal win over the Giants in a twelve-inning classic of the World Series, a California congresswoman wanted to name a national holiday for Walter Johnson. That year Johnson barnstormed around the country with Babe

Ruth and other star players. On October 31, 1924, before a crowd of fifteen thousand fans, Johnson played an exhibition game in the Brea Bowl, sponsored by the Anaheim Elks. Proceeds of the game went to the Elks' Christmas fund. This was truly Brea's day. The Motor Transit Company rerouted its schedules between Anaheim and Los Angeles to pass the cars directly through Brea. Though Ruth's team won by a score of eleven to one, the fans were clearly there to honor their hero, a local boy made good, Walter Johnson. The field was completely encircled by spectators who talked of an "Anaheim native son." Though the sun was hot and Johnson retired after the fifth inning, he talked to the people after the game and signed autographs. In the memories of local residents who saw that game, it was the greatest "de luxe sand lot game" Southern California has ever seen.

One souvenir that has been preserved from that event is an autographed baseball owned by former mayor of Brea and state assemblyman Ted Craig. Along with other memorabilia, that baseball will be part of the Walter Johnson Ballpark to be used by the Brea and Fullerton Little Leagues. The Brea Bowl no longer exists. The land has been subdivided and built up like so much of Orange County. (It was located on Lambert Road and Brea Boulevard in the town of Fullerton.) At the dedication in February, 1978, there will be no close Johnson relatives. But the youth of the county are truly his children.

CALIFORNIA PROJECT--RESEARCH INQUIRIES

Notes on Newspapers:

Anaheim Plain Dealer	(APD)	(1898-1923)	not available on micro.
Santa Ana Bulletin	(SAB)	(1899-1937)	" " " "
Orange Post	(OP)	(1885-1915)	" " " "
Pasadena Daily News	(PDN)	(1894-1916)	" " " "
Orange Daily News	(ODN)	(1889-1929)	at Cal State Fullerton.
Downey Champion	(DC)	(1888-1894)	not useful, if dates are correct.

(From "Newspapers in Microform" by the L.O.C.--Whether anyone has these is another question. The Cal State Library at Sacramento has only Pasadena, also the L.A. Examiner, Santa Monica Evening Outlook, and Long Beach Press, Tribune.

Anaheim Gazette	AG
" Plain Dealer	APD
Fullerton Tribune	FT
Santa Ana Evening Blade	SAEB
" Register	SAR
Long Beach Progress	LBP
" Tribune	LBT
Pomono Progress News	PPN
" Daily Review	PDR
Santa Monica Evening Outlook	SMEO
Los Angeles Examiner	L.A. EX
" Press	LAP

<u>Date</u>	<u>Questions</u>	<u>Sources</u>
<u>1904:</u>		
	WJ Olinda games per momentous Carey discovery;	AG, APD
	FUHS Activity in fall--first year FUHS baseball?	FT, ?
	Possible FUHS opponents 1904-05:	
	Santa Ana	SAEB, SAB
	Norwalk	?
	Downey(H.Knowlton, "FUHS/Downey game", LA Times 6/2/70)	?
	La Habra(12/17, 12/31 vs FUHS per Whittier News)	?
	Long Beach(B.McFadden, LA Times, 6/2/70)	LBP, LBT
	Anaheim (" " " ")	AG, APD
	Orange (" " " ")	ODN, OP
	Pomona (" " " ")	PPN, PDR
<u>1905:</u>		
1/29	End of Olinda 29-game win streak?--"...the so far invincible Olindas...after 29 successful games, Rivera turned them down..."(WN, 2/4/05);	AG
	Need WJ batting, fielding stats, also Walks.	APD
2/ 5	Olinda vs. Downey? Johnston(sic) scheduled to play RF (per AG).	APD, DC?
2/18	FUHS vs. Norwalk--Need stats; First WJ high	?

	school game?	
2/26	RF, Olinda/Downey--Need batting & fielding stats.	DC? SAB
4/ 1	SAHS 3, FUHS 0--WJ play?	
5/ 7	L.A. Owls 14(15?), Olinda 5--WJ play?	APD, L.A. Ex
6/ 3	SAHS vs LAHS for "state championship"?	SAEB, SAB
7/23	Rivera 10, Olinda 5--Need batting & fielding stats, also Rivera hits total.	APD
9/10	L.A. Hamburgers 7, Rivera 4--Need stats.	L.A. Ex
9/24	Rivera 6, Tufts-Lyon 3--Need stats.	"
11/22	Olinda 6, Tufts-Lyon 0(1?) at Santa Ana--WJ play? (Crips P).	SAEB, SAB L.A. Ex
12/31	Olinda 5, LA Christophers 0--Need stats.	APD, L.A.Ex
<u>1906:</u>		
2/18	Olinda 16, Downey 1--Need stats.	APD, L.A. Ex
3/ 4	Rivera 5, Olinda 3--Need stats.	APD
4/13-20	Circumstances of going to Tacoma	"
Aug-Nov	Playing for Olive?	ODN, OP
10/21	Olive @ Santa Monica--Need stats.	SMEO
12/25	Olinda @ Santa Ana--Need stats.	SAEB, SAB, SAR
12/31	" " L.A. Pacifics--Need stats.	APD, L.A.EX
<u>1907:</u>		
1/20,27	WJ sick--Explanation?	APD
3/ 3	Anaheim @ Pasadena--Need stats.	PDN
10/27	Santa Ana vs Seal Gardens & Hoeges--Need batting, fielding stats.	SAEB, SAB
12/30(?)	Need date of Santa Ana/Santa Barbara game.	" "
<u>1908:</u>		
1/(?)	Need dates for Santa Ana 7, Edisons 0 & Santa Ana 13, Morans 0.	" "
11/1,8	Santa Ana finish in league standings? Playing for Olive?(L.A. Herald calls Olive "the Orange Athletic Club.")	ODN, OP
<u>1909:</u>		
2/9, 16	No games for Santa Ana?	SAEB, SAB
11/ 8	Barnstorming tour in Bakersfield--WJ play?	Bakersfield ?
11/ 9	" " " Fresno-- " "	Fresno ?
11/18	A's 6, All-Nationals 5; Where played? (11/15 @ L.A.)	L.A. papers?
11/29(?)	Tour @ Stockton--Is date 29 or 30? Need stats.	Stockton ?
12/26	Santa Ana 2, Salt Lake 0-- Need batting, fielding stats.	SAEB, SAB
<u>1910:</u>		
1/29	Santa Ana game?	SAEB, SAB
1/30	Any background on Salt Lake (City?) Occidentals, black team. Same Salt Lake team as 12/26/09?	" "
2/ 6,13	Need batting & fielding stats; Any background on Coast League (PCL?) All-Star team?	" "
2/20	Need batting & fielding stats, Santa Ana	" "

vs Santa Barbara. WJ in first game?

1924:

10/30-11/?--local coverage (Fullerton, Santa Ana, etc--. All the
Already have AG) of WJ visit to area; local
recollections of earlier days there, etc?; WJ papers
give Ruth a tour of the area? Mrs WJ in L.A.
hospital 11/4 with appendicitis? Any news
of WJ in L.A., Hollywood 10/30--11/? L.A.EX, LAP

Other:

Check Anaheim papers to make sure no games on these dates:

1905: 3/26, 4/23, 4/30, 5/28, 12/10.

1906: 1/28, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23.

According to the WPA index, there are AG articles re WJ 8/15/07, 11/6/13, 2/1/17. (I looked for these and couldn't find them, so they may be off a day or so)

Fullerton Tribune articles per WPA index. (TRIBUNE OR DAILY NEWS?)

Anaheim Bulletin, 9/6/57, sec III--Is there an article with the picture(s)?

Article--"Walter Johnson", by Ed West, Santa Ana Register, 7/3/76.

Olinda team history--"The ball team had been losing for a long time, but when it finally hit a winning streak (29 in a row?) the kids caught the fever and the entire community was baseball mad." (WJ, "My Pitching Years") When team organized?

Photos: The real prize, of course, would be a photo of WJ in an Olinda uniform. It may not exist, but who knows what does? Here are some sources to check--I'm sure there are many others:

- 1) Linda Lorenzi, ranger, Craig Park (Ph. 990-0271)--She sent me some pictures from the George Key collection, which you must check out. She might be a good place to start in the search for possible sources (public and private) of photos.
- 2) Orange County (formerly Santa Ana) Register picture morgue; Also files of the late reporter Ed West, whose father Roy played with WJ at S.A..
- 3) Amateur Athletic Foundation, L.A.
- 4) Historical Societies--Anaheim especially, also Fullerton, Santa Ana, Brea, Orange, Orange County, etc.. Maybe the Anaheim people can put you on to private photo collectors or collections--this is probably the best bet for an Olinda team pic with WJ. I'd bet there are many historically minded people in the area, and they might have some great stuff.
- 5) Speaking of photos, I sent Evelyn Cadman at the Fullerton Library a blowup of Walter I had made from the FUHS group picture, and she never returned it. If you're

there sometime, or maybe could call and ask her to return it, I'd appreciate it.

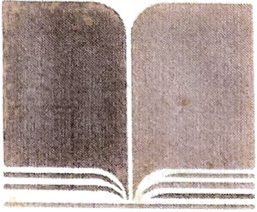
I've seen two different references to some kind of a file on WJ that was kept by Orange County:

- 1) A 1/20/78 letter from Larry Leaman, program manager, Recreation and Open Space for the OC Environmental Management Agency--"...will research the information you requested to see what can be found in the two to three-inch file on your grandfather.
- 2) A 1/30/78 reference by the Orange County Historical Commission(A county agency--to be checked out if it still exists) to various articles re WJ in the "clipping file in John Bushman's Santa Ana office of the Orange County public information office."

This could be the same file, or different ones, but there was some kind of file there on WJ. A trip to the Environmental Management Agency(12 Civic Center Plaza in Santa Ana) might well produce one or both of them--with gentle insistence that someone there go to the trouble to find them. Linda Lorenzi looked for them in 1991:

"The file you mentioned, in Mr. Leaman's possession, cannot be located. Mr. Leaman left the parks department years ago and I could not discover what happened to his files." How hard she looked, who knows?

Lastly, the Craig Regional Park should be investigated for pictures?, files?--but it may be that there are no offices there at all, just fields. If you go there, please take a camera and get pictures of any WJ signs or plaques--apparently, there are twelve baseball diamonds that together make up the "Walter Johnson Field". The Carbon Canyon Park also has something on WJ, I think.



FULLERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

ALBERT J. MILO
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

September 27, 1991

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you so much for your generosity in sending the two photos of your grandfather, Walter Johnson, so that we could have negatives and copies made.

They have been added to our collection and will be greatly appreciated by the community through the years.

Sincerely yours,

Evelyn M. Cadman

Evelyn M. Cadman,
Reference librarian

Enc: 2 photographs

August 31, 1991

Ms. Evelyn Cadman
Archivist, Launer Room
Fullerton Public Library
353 West Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, California 92632

Dear Evelyn:

Enclosed, as promised, the Fullerton High School c. 1904-05, with Walter Johnson fifth from the left in the top row. This copy came from the Baseball Hall of Fame. (I can't imagine where they would have gotten one -- maybe from another student -- I've never seen this picture reproduced anywhere). It's not as clear as ours and is missing several students on the right side of the photo, but is larger and Walter shows up fine. I had the blowup made from our original some years ago. On the other side is a wonderful shot from Walter's first year with Washington, 1907, at the age of nineteen. (Also from the HOF).

I'd appreciate any arrangements you could make for us to receive any 100th anniversary commemorative materials that include my grandfather. Thanks so much for your help.

Please return these pictures when you're finished with them.

Sincerely,

HENRY W. THOMAS
3746 JOCELYN ST, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20015

Charles W. Carey
2849 W. Polk Ave.,
Anaheim, Ca 92801

Oct 5, 1992

Dear Chuck,

It was great to talk to you, and I'm excited about the prospect of completing the research into Walter's California life and career and getting it published. I'm also looking forward to finding out more about the Perry side of the family. Although I guess we would be considered distant relations, it doesn't seem like it when I think that you and my mother (who sends her regards, by the way) are both great-grandchildren of John L. Perry, Jr..

As for the research itself, following this letter is a list I made up last year after going through everything I had brought back from my trip out there. Some of this is in the nature of re-checking material that has been gone over once, hurriedly (my friend Phil Wood, a SABR member, claims to be a speed reader and was blitzing through microfilm at incredible speed). I intended to go back over these to make sure no games were missed and also to possibly pick up some tidbits on WJ or the teams. The priority items are those for which there is evidence of a game played or an article written. Going down the list, here is additional information:

Anaheim Gazette--On micro at the Anaheim Library. It would be interesting to go backwards from his apparent first game of 1/29/05 to see when the team was organized, etc. I went through the WJ file in the local history room, where many of the articles came from. I see in my earlier correspondence with Mary Lou Begert, the curator there, the existence of a 1973 report by a high school student of an oral interview of a local resident who played in the 1924 Ruth-Johnson game. The report and tape are there and maybe worth checking out, although there may also be nothing we don't already have on that game.

The Library of Congress list the Anaheim "Plain Dealer" in publication 1898-1923, but unavailable anywhere on micro. Even if you could find it in bound volume, my guess is that the baseball coverage would be inferior to the Gazette, if it existed at all, but you never know. Might be worth asking about.

Fullerton Tribune--Apparently, there is no high school baseball coverage except brief notes on the 4/1 and 4/15/05 games. You might want to confirm this before we(you) search for his H.S. games elsewhere. The indexes are from the WPA, looks like some interesting items. My contact at the Fullerton library is Evelyn Cadman--I gave them copies of several pictures, including WJ's high school group photo, and she sent me the articles from their file that I didn't have.

Walter's high school career was apparently limited to four

games, two catching and two pitching--The 4/1 and 4/15 games vs. Santa Ana. Both the Fullerton Tribune and the Santa Ana Blade have only brief notes on the 4/1 game, and no mention of the Fullerton pitcher(WJ remembered the score of this game as 21-0, when it was actually 3-0!--but it is almost certainly the same game). The LOC lists the Santa Ana Bulletin in publication 1899-1937 but not available on micro. This could be the only chance at verification and stats for this game. As for the other games, one of WJ's teammates remembered that Fullerton played Anaheim, Orange, Pomona, "and some school in Long Beach", as well as Santa Ana. It's possible that much of Fullerton's season, or at least his part in it, could be reconstructed by checking these towns for Fullerton games or games against other schools that may have played Fullerton also. There was no organized league, it seems.

The rest of the list is a mess, but should be legible.

Here are a few other possible sources of information:

Santa Ana Library, 26 Civic Center Plaza--Their History Room was undergoing renovation when I was out there, so I didn't get to see their file on WJ. Might be worth checking out, although A.D. Suehsdorf had access to it for his article, apparently, and anything major would have been in his article, I presume.

Anaheim Historical Society--I got no reply from them (Ruby and Donald Betzsold, P.O.Box 927, Anaheim, Cal 92811)), so I don't know what the story is here.

Brea Historical Society--Same as above (P.O. Box 9764, Brea, Cal 92622).

Amateur Athletic Foundation, 2141 West Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, Cal 90018--Has some photos, no file.

Orange County Environmental Management Agency, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana--Apparently has collections of photos, etc., relating to WJ and the area when he was here. Most tantalizing of all is the "two to three-inch file on your grandfather" mentioned in a 1978 letter from them, said now to have been lost (copies of the letters enclosed). Some investigation and persistence with these people might be very productive. They also oversee a number of parks that have a WJ connection, and apparently produce exhibits, etc.. If you visit the Walter Johnson Field at Craig Regional Park in Fullerton, take a camera and see if you can get a picture of the WJ plaque there.

Well, I guess that's enough for a start! Seriously, though, I hope you are still enthusiastic about this after reading my letter. If not, just let me know. It will get done eventually, one way or the other. I hope you want to, because we can make it a great story that a lot of people, especially out there, will be amazed and delighted by, I'm sure.

Take note of any relevant photos you come across; we would like to get copies of any good ones. I think you should do an oral history with Johnny Kerr. You could ask him about playing against and for WJ, how he happened to meet and marry Walter's niece Olive Tongier, etc. Good luck, happy hunting and best regards,

November 4, 1992



CHARLES W. CAREY
2848 W. POLK AVE.
ANAHEIM, CA. 92801-6268

Dear Hank,

I thought I'd get off a quick letter to tell you about my first research efforts. Nothing too exciting to report yet, but the discovery of one more game which you didn't have in your chronology made me feel like I had really made some progress.

I went to the Cal State Fullerton library Sunday, mainly just to see what newspapers they have on hand. The ones which seem to be of most interest are:

Santa Ana Register, beginning 11/1/1906
Orange Daily News, from 1905 on
Anaheim Gazette, 1874 to 1943
some miscellaneous Santa Ana Blade, including 1905-10

After identifying what was available, I dug into the Blades for November and December 1905, but found very little sports news of any kind and no mention of an 11/22 game.

The Register was a lot more interesting. It carried reports of several Santa Ana Stars' games at the Hawley field. The amount of detail varied greatly, with complete starting lineups for a few games, very sketchy descriptions of other games, and no box scores of any. Here's what I found for December 1906:

12/2 Monday's paper missing! (There were a number of missing or mutilated newspapers.)

12/9 Stars game on front page; they tied the Dyas-Clines from L. A. 5-5 in 9 innings. Brown pitched for the Stars; no mention of Johnson.

12/16 Alhambras 6, Stars 5 in 10 innings. Dutch Hinrichs pitched for Stars; again no mention of Johnson.

12/23 Alhambras 6, Stars 2. No mention of ANY players on either team.

12/25 Christmas Day! The headline reads "Oil Well Boys Win by a 4 to 1". The starting lineups are given and Johnson is the Oil Wells' pitcher while Hinrichs started for the Stars. No comments whatsoever on anything Walter did, nor totals of any kind.

12/30 No mention of a game; your research has Walter winning two games in two days for the Oil Wells elsewhere on 12/30-31.

1/6/07 No mention of any game; it rained 1.55 inches on the 6th and 7th in Santa Ana.

So it looks like Walter Johnson did most of his Winter 1906-07 pitching for the Oil Wells of Olinda. My research efforts for that time period will be concentrated for now on the Fullerton

newspapers at the Fullerton Public Library, where there are all the other items indexed by the WPA project. Since the Santa Ana paper only carried reports of the local team's games, they would only be helpful for a game he might have played against the Stars. The papers in those days didn't seem to have a "Sports Section"; the sports news was just interspersed with whatever other news they printed, which makes searching for baseball info somewhat more tedious. It will take me a few more hours before I am a speedy microfilm scanner!

I finally got through to Lecil Slaback a few days ago. He seems like a really busy guy. He is very eager to talk about his dad's playing days with Walter Johnson, says he has some old scrapbooks which Lester left him, but downplays the likelihood of there being anything newsworthy in them. I'll get together with him later this month.

I'll write again when I have something significant or exciting to report. If you have any plans for visiting California, let me know; I'm looking forward to meeting you. I may be going to Philadelphia on business next summer. If it's like the trips I made the last couple of years, I'll have a day or two of free time. If possible, I'll work in a trip to Washington.

Please give my best wishes to your mother and the rest of my cousins. As I hear my aunt reminisce about "Uncle John and Aunt Lucinda" and your Perry cousins as though it were yesterday, and as I drive past the places where your grandfather lived and went to school and played ball, I don't feel like such a "distant" relative at all.

Best regards,
Chuck

SOME FAMILY HISTORY NOTES FOR HANK...

This past summer I went to Woodlawn cemetery in Santa Monica, where my grandparents are buried. I had never seen their graves before. I knew that John and Lucinda Perry were also buried there and I located their graves. They have a simple headstone with "FATHER" and "MOTHER" over their names. The death certificate in the cemetery's records lists John Perry as a "retired farmer".

There are quite a few other Civil War veterans buried nearby who have the names of their units on their headstones, but there is no mention of John's Civil War service on his marker. In this crowded urban cemetery, there are a lot of recent tombstones surrounding the Perrys' with names representing all the many nationalities that are now found in the Los Angeles area.

My inquiries to the cemetery haven't located any other Perrys who might be related to us. The woman who has taken my phone calls has been most cooperative and willing to search their records for me.

In the 1903 Orange County Directory, under Olinda, there is one "F. E. Johnson, Teamster". Jesse and Fannie Willhite are listed at 335 E. Commonwealth, Fullerton, in several later directories. That's apparently where Lucinda Perry lived the last few years of her life; it's a vacant lot now, surrounded by a few old houses and a lot of businesses.

Here's what my Family Records program said when I asked it how we were related to each other...

RELATIONSHIP CALCULATOR

Charles Warren CAREY-1

is the 3rd cousin 1 generation(s) removed
of Henry W. THOMAS III-2748

Their common ancestor is

John Wesley PERRY-130

November 20, 1992

Dear Chuck,

Congratulations on the Christmas, 1906 game! It hadn't occurred to me to check the Santa Ana 1906-07 season, though the articles on that team mentioned their organization that year. I wonder if the Anaheim Gazette didn't cover that game, or if I just missed it.

I'll be curious to see what the Orange Daily News might reveal. If there was any coverage of the Olive team, it would most likely be there. Since Guy Meats--from Olive--and Walter are a regular battery throughout the California period, I've suspected that there may be more games pitched for Olive than the two I've got. The 10/21/06 game is especially intriguing since, except for this game, there is a void from July, 1906, when Walter returns from Weiser, until November, when he is with Olinda for the 1906-07 season. Also, on 11/1 and 11/8/08, Walter and Meats are both missing from Santa Ana, and had played for Olive 10/18 against the L.A. Colored Giants. And finally, the Orange high school was mentioned as being in the same circuit as Fullerton H.S., so perhaps Walter may have played against them, or coverage of the Orange H.S. games may yield clues to other teams that Fullerton played against during the spring of 1905.

Have you tried to locate a source for the Whittier News? I'm hoping there is microfilm or copies somewhere, as they would have most likely covered the Rivera team, if anybody did. This might be the only possibility of picking up detail on the 1/29/05 Olinda-Rivera game, apparently his first game ever; the Aug/Sept, 1905 stint with Rivera for which we have only the 9/17 & 9/24 games; and the Olinda at Rivera games for which the Gazette didn't provide any stats.

It was probably Jesse and Fannie Willhite's daughter, Mrs. Grace Willhite Ellis of Stanton, California, who attended the opening of the Carbon Canyon Regional Park on August 28, 1975. The invitation sent to Uncle Ed reads, "we have sent invitations to 175 former residents of Early Olinda, and most will be in attendance." I wonder how they came up with their mailing list.

I hope you can make it to D.C. this summer. If the timing is right, maybe we can go over to Camden Yards and catch an O's game. If you see Joe Wayman, say hi for me. I was very much impressed with his publication--a good home for the results of our investigation, I would think.

2849 West Polk Avenue
Anaheim, CA 92801

September 22, 1993

Dear Hank,

I thought I should bring you up-to-date on my progress, or lack of it, in tracking down details of Walter Johnson's high school games. I haven't found anything yet which would require you to rewrite that part of the biography. If I do come up with anything, I'll get on the phone and let you know. Since you're using a computer, it won't be as difficult to add or rewrite a page or two of the book as it once might have been.

I've gone to the Long Beach library to investigate any possible game against LBHS or some other nearby school. There were at least four dailies being published there in 1905. I haven't come up with anything in first two and am working on the third. Their coverage of any kind of sports is minimal. (They all give more space to bowling and girls basketball than they do to baseball!) I will continue to peruse the remaining papers until I've covered his high school pitching days.

While at LB, I glanced through a weekend's worth of LA Times to see if it had high school sports coverage of the whole area such as it does now. No such luck. There was a good article, with several pictures, of the LAHS team, but nothing on other high schools. Complete box scores of PCL games and local college games and brief coverage of the majors. The LA County library, which has been closed for several years due to a fire, is due to reopen with a gala celebration in October. I'll make a trip some time to see what there might be in the other LA dailies, but only after I've exhausted the research I need to do elsewhere.

I went back to the Whittier library to double-check the stories of games in December 1904 and January 1905. They WERE indeed baseball games. Aside from a mention of the La Habra pitcher, there's no clue who played. In those days, high school sports were pretty unorganized, especially in rural areas like Orange County, so this might be a team that a few of the La Habra "boys" (no HS in La Habra till 1954!) got up to challenge the Fullerton boys, who may or may not be the team which the "Lucky 13" yearbook speaks of as being organized in November.

A game against Downey is still a possibility, but the Downey library has no old newspapers. They put me in touch with the woman who "is" the Downey Historical Society. She was quite anxious to help out and spent a lot of time checking through her files. She has some old newspapers (not microfilms, but the real thing!), but none from early 1905. She has a photo of the 1905 Downey HS team with names of all the players written on the back (no familiar ones). She also has some reminiscences on file from some old-timers with a mention of a loss to Fullerton in 1905, but nothing else. Downey HS was a small, poor school

and didn't even have an annual until several years later.

Our son Paul lives a few blocks from the Orange public library and will go there this week to see if their Orange Daily News microfilms cover the early part of 1905 (for HS games) or late 1906 (for Olive games). The librarian wasn't sure, so Paul's going to have to pop them in the viewer and scan a few issues for dates. If there are any papers from the period we're interested in, I'll go there ASAP to look for baseball articles.

I still need to go back to the Fullerton library to look at the Fullerton News for anything the Tribune might have missed. I have a friend checking to see if Huntington Beach HS was around as early as 1905. (Maybe the guy who remembered going to LB for a game really meant HB, which isn't too far away?)

And how 'bout that game with "NORWALK" in Feb ?????? What high school was it? Norwalk didn't have any HS till much later! And there wasn't any Norwalk newspaper till later either. Joe Wayman is a regular visitor at the Norwalk library and is going to see if he can find anything there to shed light on the story. Could it have been against Downey, which is nearby? I dunno!

So you can see that I've probably raised more questions than I've answered. But I'll try to tie down all the loose ends as soon as I can. Then we can at least say that there's no story lurking in the old newspapers that we've overlooked.

I'll enclose for your info Suehsdorf's answer to Joe Wayman's request to reprint his article. Joe feels the Meckler people will want to charge an arm and a leg, but will follow up with them anyway. We'll need to take a little different approach in our article if Suehsdorf's isn't going to appear side-by-side with ours!

I was able to read your word processor documents by using Word Perfect for Windows on a friend's machine. WPW seems to be able to convert any format to any other format. I had to tell it the files were "XyWrite III Plus 3.55 or 3.56" to get it to read them. I chose to output them as "Microsoft Word for DOS" files since that's what I use on my PC at home. Alice, our daughter, says she has Lotus Works on her PC, so I can always use that to look at anything you might send as long as I don't mind driving to San Diego.

I thought this clipping on the Carbon Canyon Regional Park, which was in the 8/22 L. A. Times sports section, might be of interest. Next time you're out here, I'll take you for a run where your grandfather learned to play baseball.

Some trivia...

For the breakdown of League Park vs. Municipal Stadium games, see Total Baseball, Third Edition, page 119. I wonder if Walter had anything to say about the decision to move out of Municipal after the 1933 season? Or was it strictly a business thing on the part of the owners? The 1935 All-Star Game was the only one to be played at a stadium where a team didn't play any of its games that year! (Could he have coached in that one as well as in the 1934 game, since he managed in the host city?)

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The All-Star Game I was trying to remember in which Joe McCarthy didn't use any of his own Yankee players was the 1943 game. See Total Baseball III, page 313. He had been criticized in 1942 for using too many Yankees. If Cito is back in 1994, will he similarly refuse to use Blue Jays? Ha!

Johnson is one of a handful of major league pitchers who have higher batting averages themselves than they permitted to their opponents. Check it out in Total Baseball.

Sorry if this sounds kind of negative,
Let's hope there's some great news item
just waiting to jump out at me from the
microfilms next time!

Best regards,

Chuck

September 10, 1993

Mr. Joseph M. Wayman
Grandstand Baseball Annual
P. O. Box 4203
Downey, CA 90241-1203

Dear Mr. Wayman:

The copyright for "Too Much Johnson" is held by the Meckler Corporation, which is the publisher of Baseball History, and I'm afraid you'll have to get reprint permission from it. The address is 11 Ferry Lane West, Westport, CT 06880. As far as I'm concerned, you're welcome to use the piece.

Let me know if you get Meckler's okay. An expert in Northwestern League history filled me in on some of the players I lacked or named incorrectly. I'll spell it all out for you if you're interested.

Perhaps you can do something for me. I've done an entry on Bob Meusel for Oxford University Press' forthcoming American National Biography and have had great difficulty determining his graduation year at Los Angeles High School, and how he spent the years between 1934 (with the Hollywood Stars) and 1961, when he became a security guard, the job he evidently held until his death in 1977. Although he was a Downey resident, neither the historical association nor the library appear to have anything about him. The local obit was negligible, and the LA Times didn't even have one!

I have a couple of leads on the school problem, but if you have any idea how Languid Bob spent those missing 27 years, I'd be pleased to hear it.

*(Barbara had just answered
Suehsdorf's letter on Meusel
when I called her)*

Regards,

A. D. S.

1371 Avenida Sebastiani
Sonoma, CA 95476

HENRY W. THOMAS
3746 JOCELYN ST., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20015

February 6, 1993

Dear Cousin Chuck,

Thanks for your letter and the computer log. It would seem that you have wrapped up WJ's Rivera career--the mention that Rivera is 2-2 before the 9/10 Hamburger game jives with the games we have beginning 7/23, Lucero is scheduled to pitched the 10/1 game, and the score on 10/8 would make it unlikely that WJ pitched that one. I guess we assume that he pitched the 9/10 game--as scheduled--without information to the contrary. L.A. papers had him pitching the 9/17 game vs. the Christophers(not Christians) and 9/24 vs. Tufts'-Lyons.

The detail on the 1/29 game is a real prize, considering the significance of the game. The L.A. Times had the score at 6-5 and his catcher as Waters--we'll definitely go with the WN account as closer to the source. Is it possible that Olinda really had a 29-game win streak going, and that WJ was responsible for breaking it? If they did, certainly the Anaheim Gazette would have something on that. Rivera catcher Snodgrass is the Fred of N.Y. Giants infamy (dropped a fly ball to help lose the 1912 series), a 17 year-old high school boy just like WJ. He pops up throughout WJ's California career.

The 12/17, etc., LaHabra-Fullerton HS games are intriguing, as, according to the Fullerton yearbook, the team wasn't organized until the next February. I wonder if this is baseball, or maybe football or basketball? At the least, this gives us another team in the high school circuit to check in trying to fill out the elusive WJ high school career.

I enjoyed the background on Los Nietos--an historic location in more ways than one! And the 7/23/05 game brings up a couple of interesting things--"the gentlemen from the oil wells loomed up like giants(!) in their scarlet suits"--I'm not sure we had a color for the Olinda uniforms; Also, how is it that Rivera is so interested in recruiting WJ after this lambasting? (Meats must have been sick or injured for this game).

Good work, Chuck, and I'll be looking for more as your busy schedule and microfilm-worn eyes permit. I hope you can visit this spring.

Best Regards,

A HUNDRED YEARS OF YESTERDAYS:

A CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF
THE PEOPLE OF ORANGE COUNTY
AND THEIR COMMUNITIES



Edited by

Esther R. Cramer
Keith A. Dixon
Diann Marsh
Phil Brigandi
Clarice A. Blamer

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FULLERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
FULLERTON CALIFORNIA

Pennsylvanian who was teaching school in San Francisco, came to Anaheim to visit friends and look at land. He bought ninety-one acres for \$10 an acre from the Stearns Company, a parcel which was a short distance from the Kraemers.

Peter Hansen also bought land, and then more people moved into the area, which began to be called North Anaheim. There was a mixture of nationalities. McFadden and Richard Gilman were from the east; the Kraemers, Hetebrinks, and Wagners, German; Atilio Pierotti, Italian; the Allecs, de Granges, and Tuffres, French; Mrs. Tuffree was South American; Thomas Crowther and George Hinde were from England; the Lemkes, Polish; Boisserancs and Bastanchury, Basques; Thomas Strain from Ireland; and George B. Key from Canada.

They worked together on their common problems. First a school, named the Cajon School, was built in 1874. Then water had to be brought from the only source, the Santa Ana River. The Cajon Irrigation District was formed in January, 1873, and they started to dig a canal from Santa Ana Canyon. There were many difficulties, and two years later the district was reorganized as the Cajon Irrigation Company. In 1878, after selling the Anaheim Water Company a half interest, the canal was finished.

That same year the school was moved from Orangethorpe Ave. to the corner of Chapman and Placentia avenues, and the name was changed to the Placentia School District. Mrs. McFadden suggested the name, which is Latin for "a pleasant place." Mr. McFadden had returned to teaching and was the Los Angeles County school superintendent.

In 1880 Richard Gilman planted several acres of a new orange, the Valencia; this was the first commercial grove. These did so well that in time the whole area became an orange grove.

The pioneer George Hinde, an excellent farmer, was a spiritualist. Some other families joined him, and in 1878 Louis Schlesinger took over the leadership and formed the spiritualist colony *Societas Fraterna*, which became popularly known as "the grasseaters" because they ate no meat or cooked food. They kept entirely to themselves.

There was an ostrich farm west of Anaheim, but in 1886 it was moved to the Atherton ranch (then in Placentia, but now at Acacia and Dorothy Lane in Fullerton). Founded in 1887, Fullerton gave Placentians a town and railroad station half the distance to Anaheim.

As oranges became the principal crop, a packing house was needed. The Placentia Orange Growers Association was formed in 1894; eventually there were six or more. Two of the new growers became leaders in the industry. One was Albert Sumner Bradford who came from Massachusetts in 1890 and bought twenty acres in Placentia. He planted Valencias and opened his own packing house. Charles C. Chapman arrived five years later and also opened a packing house. As a businessman, Chapman did so much to promote the industry that he was known as the father of it. George B. Key was another new grower beginning in 1893.

The first general store was built on the school grounds in 1896 by Hugo Wetzel, and the post office moved to it. Two years later the first baseball club was organized and the famous Walter Johnson played in it. Then in 1901-02, Chapman and Bradford built large homes. The women's club, Placentia Round Table, was organized at the same time.



Courtesy of the Placentia Founders Society

Albert S. Bradford, who came to the Placentia area in 1890, was prominent in the citrus industry.

The growers wanted a station to avoid hauling their oranges to Fullerton. In 1910, under the leadership of Bradford and others, the Santa Fe Railroad built a track from Fullerton to Atwood, and Sam Kraemer gave land for a station.

Bradford then bought sixty acres next to the station from Richard Melrose, and they filed the "Plat of the Townsite of Placentia." The boundaries were Chapman to Crowther avenues, and Bradford to Melrose. Bradford built a brick building for a bank. He also brought in a printer to start a newspaper and a grocer who became postmaster. Other stores followed in the next few years, including Robinson's drug store and a hotel over some stores. Later there was a movie house. The Presbyterians built a church at Center and Main. Bradford organized the Domestic Water Company, and telephones, gas, and electricity were brought to the town. In 1919 a library was organized and opened with ninety-three books in a rented room.

In that same year oil was discovered in Placentia and there was an oil boom. The largest gusher in California was on the Chapman property. In 1921, a Union Oil tanker was named "La Placentia" (combining Latin with Spanish) in recognition of the large amount of oil produced in Placentia.

In 1924 Bradford organized a Chamber of Commerce and was president until he died in 1933. Charles Fuller's Calvary Church erected its building in 1926. Fuller was the first to broadcast regular church services over radio from a Long Beach station. That same year, the Catholics built a mission church, a branch of Saint Mary's Church in Fullerton. The city library also built its own building in 1926, engaging the architect of the Los Angeles Library.

The great event of the year came on December 2, 1926, when Placentia incorporated as a General Law city. Its population was 800, its area 117 acres, and its tax rate was \$1.00 per \$100. Police and fire departments were formed in that year. Harry O. Easton was the first mayor.

There was not much change until the 1960s. Then the growth of the county surged and a disease called Quick Decline killed so many orange trees that the groves began to disappear and the packing houses began to close. Population increased: in 1960 it was 5,861 and on January 1, 1987, it was 39,184. The city covered an area of 6.7 square miles in the 1980s. The emphasis is on light industry, commercial activity, and housing. There are many schools.

Registered historical sites are the Key Ranch, the Bradford House, the

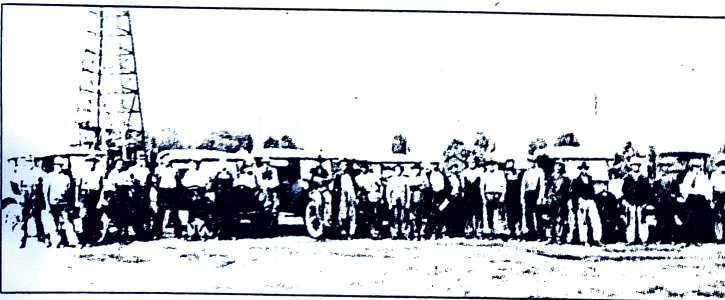
the Brea Canyon officials and the rich strike of A. Ous Birch. The oil companies objected strongly to the inclusion of their properties in the incorporated area. The county census showed that the proposed city had at this time 732 inhabitants. The first local election was held in February, 1917. Of the votes cast that day at attorney Albert Launer's office, 204 were in favor and 45 were opposed. The upper-floor rooms of the Sewell Building were rented as a council chamber and city clerk's office until the city hall was built in 1929. The old city hall is now designated an historical landmark.

At the time of its incorporation, Brea became the eighth city in Orange County. The first year's taxes amounted to \$5,889.40. The early council faced many problems, including building sewer lines and installing lights and roads. The area was wonderful for oil but not conducive to good drainage, and home owners had to dig to depths of sixty or seventy feet to reach sand or gravel. By 1925, Brea Canyon Road, which was a main artery for Orange County, was opened to Pomona. Three churches were built during this time, and a power plant furnished street lighting. A water reservoir was purchased from the Chaffee interest. The city continues to supply its own water and sewers. Since Brea was still part of the Fullerton Union High School District, the students finished school in that town. A new fifty-acre \$36 million high school will be built in 1988, replacing the old one which opened in 1927.

The oil workers attracted to the area were a different lot. Men had to be sturdy to endure the early methods of oil drilling and alert to the many dangers of their work. There were no saloons nearby to entice them. It was to be many years before liquor would be legalized in Brea. There were, however, tent shows, minstrel shows, and an occasional Chautauqua. As soon as the Orange County Library was established in Santa Ana in 1921, a branch was opened in a local garage.

In 1922, the Brea Investment Company, with Felix Yriarte as president, opened the doors of the Red Lantern Theater. The Brea Lions Club began in 1922 and the Woman's Club in 1925. This year also saw the passage of a \$150,000 bond issue for the paving and curbing of Brea Blvd.

The great baseball player, Walter Johnson, of the Washington Senators team grew up on the Santa Fe oil lease. In 1924, he returned to Brea with Babe Ruth to play an exhibition game. This event attracted thousands of



Oil workers on the Amalgamated Lease, Brea, about 1919.

people.

The nightmare of oil men has always been fire at one of the vast tank farms which once were necessary in the orderly flow of crude oil from the point of origin to the point of processing. On April 8, 1926, the Stewart Tank Farm on the northwest edge of Brea (at Berry and Puente, south of Central) was hit by lightning. An explosion which shattered windows a mile away set off a three-day inferno and brought national attention to Brea.

In the depression years activities decreased here as elsewhere in the county. However, during the 1930s, Ted Craig of Brea was elected to the state assembly and became the youngest speaker in the state's history. Craig Regional Park is a tribute to his contributions to all of Orange County. Carbon Canyon Road was also opened as a paved highway by this time. The year 1934 saw the erection of the "Welcome to Brea" sign that has greeted people in the downtown area ever since.

Brea was also known, along with much of Orange County, as a citrus-growing region. When Union Oil acquired its vast holdings, much of their land was set aside for future drilling. These areas became great orchards of oranges, lemons, and avocados to be shipped to eastern markets. These flourished until the 1940s.

Following World War II, many veterans who had been in California returned, and some chose to settle in Brea. The once quiet little oil town began to mushroom. The first wide-scale building program was begun in 1949 when 110 acres of citrus in the southeast section was converted to 500 homes and a modern shopping center. Subdivisions followed in the 1950s and 1960s, encircling the original townsite until it now includes more than ten square miles within the city limits. With the annexation of Carbon Canyon in 1960, Brea potentially became one of the largest cities in land area in Orange County. However, deliberately planned gradual growth was possible in Brea because citizens and councilmen wanted it that way.

In 1977, the dominant north Orange County regional shopping complex was opened in Brea on ninety-nine acres. The Brea Mall is presently undergoing major expansion. Adjacent to the mall is the four-acre civic/cultural center which was opened in 1980 and is the focus of many public meetings and community events. It includes an art gallery, library, and conference center along with police and school district offices and a



Courtesy of the Brea Historical Society

PLACENTIA,
A Pleasant Place

by
Virginia L. Carpenter

FRUIS-PIONEER PRESS
Santa Ana, California
1977

how, when the sophomores captured the freshmen and tied them to trees, he worked his hand loose and turned the tables. The other freshmen helped and took a picture of the tied-up sophomores. Both he and Clarence, who followed, played football and they were so good that when neither could play because of injuries, there was weeping and gnashing of teeth on campus. Ralph and Robert followed, so for fourteen years there was a McFadden, not only in the University, but on its teams.

Baseball

Anaheim had organized a baseball team years before, but it was 1898 when the Placentia Union League and Pastime Club formed for outdoor sports. They made up teams and began to play regularly with neighboring towns. Clarence McFadden was president, Jim Ortega, secretary; Fred Tuffree, treasurer; and Fred Betts, captain. Others on the team were Tom McFadden, John Tuffree, Joe Wagner, Henry Tuffree, Bill and Richard Hetebrink, Pete Sorenson, Russell Annin, Berkenstock, Benchley, Hogle and some others.

Tom and Clarence played with Santa Ana against Riverside and Clarence with the Los Angeles Olympics against Perris. Both games were lost. Robert was still in college. Lawrence Lemke played football and Frank Anderson baseball.

By 1905 a player on Olinde's Oil Wells team was attracting more attention. Walter Johnson pitched a wonderful game for a youngster. He became amateur champion of Southern California and soon was called a phenomenon, with the *Gazette* reporting his progress into and in the big leagues.

The McFaddens

Meanwhile McFadden himself came to be called the "Big Medicine Man of Placentia" because of his involvement in everything including politics. He was chairman of the Democratic committee, and delegate to the 1898 convention which nominated William Jennings Bryan for president, working hard in Bryan's campaign. Crowther went to the Republican convention at the same time. McFadden was also receiver for the

Las Bolsas lands when his health began to fail. He died of dropsy on July 21, 1902 when he was 60. The Masons conducted the funeral; he had been Master of both the Anaheim and Fullerton lodges. A few years afterward, on August 18, 1908, Mrs. McFadden died of a stroke at age sixty-two. The OES officiated as she had been Matron. The ranch was left to the children and they incorporated it as the Pioneer Rancho Company and operated until 1943.

Will was the first of the brothers to die. Driving home on a foggy night in 1912, he ran off a small bridge and was killed. His marriage in 1905 had been a grand affair, for he chose Lucana Forster, daughter of Marco of San Juan Capistrano. Her grandfather, Juan Forster, an Englishman, was one of the men who came early to California, married Spanish girls and acquired great ranchos. He bought the old mission and lived in it in 1844.

Lucana and Will were married in her father's house in rooms draped with rare old Spanish embroideries. They named their daughter Ysidora for her great-grandmother, Ysidora Pico. Later Lucana married Will's brother Thomas and spent the rest of her life in Placentia taking a very active part in the community. Tom had been city attorney in Bellingham, Washington, but he returned to practice law in Anaheim. Like his brothers, he had a long life.

Clarence managed the ranch and Ralph was an Orange County Supervisor for many years. Robert, the youngest became a vice president of the Edison Company and lived until he was 88, in 1975. Carrie, the oldest who had married Herbert A. Ford in 1889, had three sons, was widowed within five years, taught school and lived to be 93.

Water Again

AUWC made some important advances in this period, as well as doing a good deal of legal and verbal fighting. The first trouble was with Col. Tuffree, who owned half the land of the reservoir, the company leasing it from him for \$60 a year.

portable heaters, used then were fed by a flexible tube which could leak very easily.

The Yorba Adobe

1922: There were floods again in 1922 . . . Ralph Mc Fadden ran for sheriff, but was defeated . . . The state issued scrip . . . There was quite a depression at this time, 1921-22 . . . The Yorba adobes should be saved, proclaimed the *Gazette* in 1922. Orange Countians had been too indifferent to preservation, most of the old buildings were gone; but with the restoration of San Juan Capistrano Mission and the formation of the Historical Society, interest was increasing. Sam Kraemer owned the great Bernardo Yorba adobe which was falling into ruins. Now Yorba's descendants considered restoring it. Kraemer agreed to help and said he would give it to the county with some arrangement for its care. That was in December, 1922. The supervisors debated accepting the gift and finally refused it. The Native Daughters of the Golden West tried to save it, but in March, 1926, Sam Kraemer ordered it to be razed. It was too "attractive a nuisance" to vandals and the curious. It could not be protected and he would not be responsible any longer. All around it were oil wells and across the railroad tracks were the remains of the old church and the new one built eight years before. The NDGW erected a bronze marker on the site of the old adobe. This stood until 1976 when a subdivision was built around it.

1923: There was something of a rivalry between Sam Kraemer and Chapman, as both were erecting business buildings. When Chapman put five stories on his new Fullerton building, Kraemer added a sixth to his in Anaheim. He named his new hotel there the Angelina for his wife and held a grand opening. The Tuffree heirs had to go to court again to straighten out the ownership and titles of their property . . . The Bastanchury ranch, just north of Placentia, had such large business that both railroads and the Pacific Electric ran branches to it.

1924: In March came an echo from the past, when the *Gazette* printed a long obituary for Patricio Ontiveros who had died in Santa Maria, at the age of nearly 100. He was the son of Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, the first owner of all this land and Patricio had been the next owner of the Placentia area which Daniel Kraemer had bought and which the Ontiveros families had left nearly three quarters of a century before.

This year Babe Ruth and a team of all stars toured the country playing for charities, so the Anaheim Elks engaged them to play a local team at the Halloween Festival. All the stores closed that afternoon, there was much excitement over the game for Walter Johnson was home and would pitch for the Elks. Nevertheless, the locals were "slaughtered". The stars won all the fifteen games they played . . . In December Richard Melrose, co-founder of Placentia died.

1925: John Golaspy, an oil well driller, saw something sticking out of a hillside and uncovered one of the largest mastodon skulls. He told no one at first, hoping to find the rest of the skeleton, and even then refused to give the exact location. The skull weighed 487 pounds and he estimated the animal at 22 feet in height. He said he had been offered \$5000 for the skull . . . There was more about paving the Placentia roads: Carolina, Cypress, Golden, Kraemer, Alta Vista, Palm Drive, Dowling, Blue Gum, North Placentia Avenue, Madison, Alta, Chapman, Linda Vista, Richfield and Orangethorpe . . . The *Gazette* began to use headlines and a comic strip . . . Again there was a proposal to split Los Angeles County and add a Long Beach County.

HENRY W. THOMAS
2810 LORCOM LANE
ARLINGTON, VA 22207
(703) 522-5549

Dick Thompson
P.O. Box 236
Bridgewater, MA 02324

October 2, 1996

Dear Dick,

Thanks so much for the nice words about my book, and I'm glad you enjoyed it. I've enclosed several flyers for you to give to any friends who might like a signed copy.

The information about Ben Hunt was quite interesting, especially in the coincidences between his career and my grandfather's. Although unfortunately too late for your article, I found in my notes some indication that they did, indeed, pitch against each other, when Santa Barbara came to Santa Ana on February 20, 1910. Here are those notes, all of which came from the Santa Ana Register:

2/18/10 SAR -- Headline says "GREAT GAME FOR TOMORROW", but no mention of a Sunday game. Lineup lists both WJ and Hinrichs as pitchers. SB lineup includes Hunt of Red Sox, Bob Whaling of StL Nationals, Coy, Stovall and Shaffer of Vernon, Kelly and Nast of Portland, and McCoy of Oakland.

2/19/10 SAR -- SA Yellow Sox 0, Santa Barbara 4. Hinrichs & Meats. Line score, but no box. "Tomorrow afternoon will probably be the last chance to see Walter Johnson for many months... Walter will have a big leaguer for his opponent. That man is 'Slim' Hunt of the Boston Americans..."

2/20/10 SAR -- SA Yellow Sox 3, Santa Barbara 0. "It was again a plain case of too much Johnson." Meats C. 15K, 4H. Line score, but no box.

Unfortunately, I didn't pick up from the line score the Santa Barbara pitcher, so I can't be sure that Hunt actually pitched the game, but he was scheduled to. If you want to check on that, the Santa Ana Register is available from UCal Irvine and the Santa Ana library.

I would have loved to have had the tidbit about Matty showing Walter the fadeaway for the book, but never picked it up. I do mention the circumstances of the their meeting at that time, however, and there is the fabulous picture of that event.

None of Walter's brothers ever played ball, although he always said that his father showed a natural ability for throwing when tossing rocks and such around the farm. And two of my uncles made it to the minors, as you know. Thanks again for writing.

MONKS TURN VISITORS AWAY EMPTY HANDED

Yesterday's Games.

Santa Barbara defeated Santa Ana.
McCormicks defeated Pasadena, 2-0.
Salt Lake defeated San Diego, 9-2.
San Bernardino defeated Maters, 7-1.

Standing of the Clubs.

Club	Won	Lost	Per Cent
Santa Barbara	8	1	.889
Salt Lake	9	2	.818
San Diego	6	3	.666
San Bernardino	4	5	.444
McCormicks	3	4	.429
Maters	3	7	.300
Santa Ana	2	6	.250
Pasadena	2	8	.200

By Fred W. Tenney.

Too much there was the downfall of Santa Ana's first bunch of spheres, the bats in one of the best games of the season, yesterday afternoon, at White Horse park, when the local boys won by the route of 2 to 0.

The best the fans from the celerity land could get was one homey bungle which was secured by Gandill in the fourth inning.

There were only three innings in which more than three men walked to the plate and then only four took the trip.

Hunt had everything from the knuckle-ball to the fade-away working yesterday and with superb support by all his team mates moved the visitors down as fast as they could come to the plate.

Henricks, who pitched in place of Johnson, owing to Johnson's inability to arrive, also pitched great ball, and it was only by opportune hitting in one inning that the locals managed to secure the necessary two.

In the third, C. Head got free transportation to station A and Mot flying to Martinko doubled Head at first by a fast throw by Marty. Brown in the eighth rode on a pass and was doubled at first by Dairymple on a fly by Annie. Aside from this the visitors were at the mercy of our own phenom Hunt.

The Monks scored their first in the fourth Cushman fanning. Nast leaned on a groove for three cushions to center and scored on Dairymple's two strikes to left.

In the fifth McGay, the wings, I thought secured a free pass and showed his triple action by stealing second and third with the catcher was told by the ball and scored on a sacrifice fly by Coy. The rest was in one-two-three order on both sides.

Strike the hope below for the rest:

Player	AB	R	H	S	B	P	O	A	E.
Santa Barbara	4	0	0	2	8	7	1	0	0
McCormick	4	1	0	2	8	7	1	0	0
Keller	3	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Cushman	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nast	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dairymple	3	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0
Leavis	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Hunt	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Totals	25	2	3	5	27	10	1	1	0

Santa Ana AB R H S B P O A E.

C. Head	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
Mot	3	0	0	0	8	1	1	0
R. Head	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Gandill	4	0	1	1	7	1	0	0
Robinson	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Mets	4	0	0	0	5	1	0	0
Brown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amber	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henricks	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	26	0	1	1	24	8	2	0

Santa Barbara AB R H S B P O A E.

Runs	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Hits	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Strikes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Runs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hits	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Strikes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home runs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Batted runs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sacrifice hits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Base on balls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Santa Barbara 5, Santa Ana 1. First base on errors. Santa Barbara 2, Santa Ana 1. Struck out—By Hunt 6. Doubles—Robinson 1. Double play—Martinko to McCoy, Dairymple to McCoy. Hit by pitcher C. Head, Coy. Time of game—1 hour 30 minutes. Empire—White.

The Migratory Pastimer

Finding Ben Hunt

Dick Thompson

Benjamin Franklin Hunt made his major league debut on August 24, 1910, pitching the Red Sox to a 5-2 win against the St. Louis Browns. Also effective in his next two starts, a complete game win versus the White Sox, and a tough 2-0 loss to Jack Coombs and the Athletics, Hunt seemed well on his way to a successful big league career. But the rest of his time with Boston was unproductive, and following a short stay with the Cardinals in 1913, he sank back into the vast obscurity of pre-1920 minor league baseball.

For the next seven years Hunt continued to play professional baseball, pitching all over the western part of the country, a season here, a couple of weeks or a month there, before moving on. A true vagabond, he eventually drifted out of organized baseball and disappeared. When the various baseball encyclopedias arrived, first the Thompson and Turkin book, and then progressing to the current Macmillan, Neft and Cohen, and *Total Baseball* editions, Hunt remained a mystery. An incomplete birth listing had him born in Eufaula, Oklahoma in 1888. No death data had ever been recorded.

In April of 1992, after years of research, SABR's biographical committee finally discovered the last stop on Ben Hunt's journey. The long search for Big Ben Hunt wasn't easy, but it sure was interesting.

The *Boston Evening American* ran a story on Hunt shortly after his initial success with the Red Sox. BEN HUNT—WHO HE IS AND WHAT HE'S DONE, was the head-



The elusive Ben Hunt

Dick Thompson

line. The article, which gave his height as 6' 2" and his age as 21, read in part:

Never played a game of baseball until three years ago. Worked on a ranch in Oklahoma until then.

Signed with Salt Lake City after one trial. Pitched in the Imperial Valley Winter League, winning 11 straight games. Sold to Hutchinson, Kansas.

Signed with the Red Sox last spring. Farmed out to Sacramento, Cal., where he "made good."

Certainly the obvious place to start looking for Hunt was in Oklahoma, but the only death of a Benjamin Franklin Hunt located there was ruled out on information from that man's descendants. No leads on Hunt or his family were ever located in Eufaula.

The next step was to check the Ben Hunt file at the Hall of Fame. The file contained four small newspaper stories about Hunt and a listing of his contract assignments. One note said he was a native of California, another listed his home as Oklahoma City and his nationality as Irish. An item out of *The Sporting Life* in the spring of 1912 titled A REGULAR NOMAD, said that Hunt

Dick Thompson spent eight years on the trail of Ben Hunt. He would like to thank the staff of the Bridgewater, Massachusetts, public library.

had not been in Oklahoma since he was 11 years old.

The tall southpaw's experience during the 11 years of his travels have been many and varied. Hunt ran away from home and went to Memphis, Tenn., where he became a stable boy for a horse fancier there. In the employment of the breeder, who also kept a string of race horses, Ben journeyed to Jacksonville, Fla., Savannah, Ga., and Charleston, S.C. It was while in Charleston that he first started to play base ball. Hunt was a pitcher on a stable boys' nine. From there he stepped into the minors and worked his way up through the ranks until he landed with a major league team two years ago. He has made a permanent residence for himself in Sacramento, but intends to stop off for awhile in Oklahoma to see the old folks.

Ben Hunt's baseball odyssey began in Utah in August of 1908. *The Deseret Evening News* of Salt Lake City never made any mention of Hunt's first name during his two week stay with the club but did refer to him as the "two-story twirler" and "Beanpole" Hunt. On August 21, Hunt pitched a game against a touring club from Denver. When that team left town, he left with it.

By seasons end, "Stringer" Hunt, "a tall thin chap recently from the Idaho bushes," was in the Northwestern League where, on September 12, he hurled Tacoma to a 6-3 victory over Vancouver.

Hunt started the 1909 season in Tacoma. On April 14, *The Tacoma Daily Ledger* reported that "B. F. Hunt, the elongated southpaw" had been given his release.

In May and June, Hunt was with Salt Lake City's entry in the Intermountain League. By early July he had left the team and "had gone to Denver."

On July 17, Hunt was pitching for the Hutchinson team in the Kansas State League. The Hutchinson papers said that Hunt "had been playing independent ball out of Salt Lake City and drifting through here hooked up with the club." He was spectacular in Hutchinson, winning nine games in less than a month, and three days after the schedule ended on August 15, he was sold to the Boston Red Sox for \$600.

Hunt left Hutchinson and quickly turned up in Wichita where, during the next 10 days, he pitched in five Western League games. By September 10, he had jumped the team. The Hutchinson paper, on September 11, ran a story headed LOOKING FOR HUNT.

Wichita dopesters want to know where Hunt, the tall ex-Salt Packer twirler, is hanging his hat these days. When the star southpaw was

here early in the week he was on his way back to Salt Lake City.

The [Wichita] Beacon says:

There has been a rumor about town for several days to the effect that Tall Ben Hunt did not accompany the Jobbers on their trip north. Where Hunt is and why he left, if he did leave, is not known. Hunt's terms were met when he joined the team at the close of the Kansas State league season, and he expressed a desire to come to Wichita rather than go to Boston.

Last Wednesday was pay day, and it is possible that the big fellow took it into his head to lay off for the balance of the season.

In early November, Hunt was in Santa Barbara pitching in a California winter league. A number of then current and future major leaguers were playing in southern California that winter, among them Walter Johnson, but despite the presence of the Big Train, it was Hunt who was the pitching star of the league. The Santa Barbara paper reported that Hunt hurled 11 shutouts. Hunt remained in Santa Barbara until the end of February, when he sailed up the California coast to join the Sacramento club for the opening of the PCL training season. He arrived in Sacramento during the first week of March, 1910. The Sacramento papers gave no biographical data on Hunt other than he came from Santa Barbara.

On March 6, Thomas Collier Platt, a former U.S. Senator from the state of New York died in New York City. Platt had been a prominent politician on the national level, possibly most noted as a political antagonist of Teddy Roosevelt. When Platt died, his obituary was front page news in many of the country's newspapers. Sacramento, being no exception, ran his obituary on March 7, which was just about the time that Hunt arrived in Sacramento.

In November of 1910, *The Sporting News* carried an item about the wedding engagement of Ben Hunt to a Miss Edith Wolfe. Wolfe supposedly was a Vassar educated actress who was the niece of the late Senator Platt. She and Hunt had met on a stagecoach in Oklahoma while Hunt was attending college. Harold Seymour made reference to this in his book, *Baseball, The Golden Age*, and to researchers 70 years later, it looked just like the key needed to unravel the Hunt mystery. But when contacted, the Platt family denied ever hearing of either Hunt or Edith Wolfe. Vassar College had no record of Wolfe, and despite inquiries to every college in Oklahoma, none had any record of Hunt. No record has ever been found of this marriage.

The Sacramento Bee reported that Hunt spent the win-

ter of 1910-11 working on a ranch in Georgetown, California, milking cows to develop his wrist and forearm muscles. *The Sacramento Union* reported that he was working in a sawmill in "Germantown." The Red Sox had spring training in southern California in 1911. Hunt, not making the final cut, spent the entire season in Sacramento. The headlines of *The Sacramento Bee* on June 26 read:

BIG BEN HUNT DYING AT CHICO.
POPULAR PITCHER ILL WITH PNEUMONIA
AND HAS ONLY VERY SLIGHT CHANCE.

Ben Hunt, pitcher with the Sacramento Coast League team is dying in the Sister's Hospital at Chico.

Hunt complained a week ago of feeling poorly. At his request, he was granted a vacation and went to Richardson's Springs. His condition rapidly became worse and yesterday he was removed to the hospital at Chico.

Word from the hospital late this afternoon is that Hunt's condition is extremely critical. Dr. Inloe, who is attending him, says that the ballplayer has only the slightest chance to recover.

Hunt's parents reside at San Luis Obispo. He is unmarried. He was with Boston at the start of the season but a deal was fixed whereby he returned to this city. Hunt had frequently said he would rather play in California than in the East.

Despite the dire predictions, Hunt recovered and within a couple of weeks was back on the mound. No record of his parents was ever found in San Luis Obispo.

Hunt was traded to the Philadelphia Phillies on November 15, 1911. He spent the winter in Sacramento, and after failing to make the Phillies in the spring, had his contract sent back to the PCL team, which in turn sold it to Tacoma in the Northwestern League.

Hunt had a good year in 1912, and on August 7 was sold to the Chicago White Sox, but the deal fell through when Sacramento blocked the trade by claiming it still had an option on Hunt. Contractual rights were eventually awarded to Tacoma, which then sold Hunt to the St. Louis Cardinals, delivery scheduled for the spring.

Hunt spent the winter of 1912-13 living in Tacoma where he received quite a bit of newspaper ink as a member of the Indoor Yacht Club, a popular drinking society. He joined the Cardinals in the spring, but after two April

Benjamin Franklin Hunt

Year	Team	League	G	W	L	IP	BB	SO
1908	SLCity	Utah St.*	2	1	1			
	Tacoma	Northwestern	1	1	0	9	4	8
1909	SLCity	Intermountain*	14					
	Hutchinson	Kansas St.	13	9	3		32	76
	Wichita	Western	5	1	2	31	11	17
1910	Sacramento	Pacific Coast	37	12	18		93	174
	Boston	American	7	2	3	46.2	20	19
1911	Sacramento	Pacific Coast	21	4	13	152	52	57
1912	Tacoma	Northwestern	32	12	13	231	65	100
1913	St. Louis	National	2	0	1	8	9	6
	Chattanooga	Southern	2	0	2	10	4	3
1914	Vancouver	Northwestern		18	11	243	67	109
1915	Vancouver	Northwestern	13	4	6	78	20	24
1916	Tulsa	Western Assoc.	5	0	5	32	9	17
	Wichita**	Western	18	2	12	136	34	46
1917	Butte	Northwestern	17	5	9	94	23	37
1918		— Not known—						
1919	Casper-Laramie	Midwest*						
1920	Dallas	Texas	3	1	2	18	13	14
	Greybull	Midwest*						
1921	Greybull	Midwest*						

* League not a member of organized baseball.

** Wichita franchise of the Western League was transferred to Colorado Springs on September 11, 1916.

appearances was sent back to Tacoma, which then sold him to Chattanooga. Following two May games in the Southern League, he found his contract transferred back to the Northwestern League, this time to Victoria, British Columbia. Hunt, however, overshot Canada. On July 24, 1913, *The Sporting News* reported that Hunt was in Alaska, working a gold mine during the week and playing local baseball on the weekends. How long Hunt remained in Alaska is any one's guess, but he was there long enough to pitch a doubleheader for the Juneau team on the Fourth of July, and to marry a Miss Margaret Blanchard on July 15. Hunt came south to Vancouver in 1914, where he had his best season in professional baseball (see statistical table). Despite his successes, *The Vancouver Daily Providence* was stingy in regards to biographical clues. "Hunt's ability is well enough known in these parts and he needs no more introduction", was the best it could do.

Hunt spent the winter of 1914-15 in Vancouver. The paper reported on April 9, as Hunt defeated the touring Colored Giants, that "having spent the winter here and becoming thoroughly acclimatized, Ben Hunt was not the least bit bothered by the chilly atmosphere."

Hunt was released in June of 1915. The Vancouver papers indicated that Hunt's production didn't merit the salary he was drawing, but *The Sporting Life* of January 1, 1916 gave a more detailed story of personality problems between the Vancouver manager and a large portion of the team. Hunt was named as one of the team ringleaders who led a player strike versus the manager, which earned the pitcher his release.

After an unexplained absence of over a year's time, Hunt showed up in Tulsa, Oklahoma in July of 1916. The Tulsa papers never mentioned a first name, but Hunt's Hall of Fame contract file confirms that this was Ben. By the start of August, Hunt was in Wichita looking for work. *The Wichita Eagle* of August 6, 1916 reported:

Long Ben Hunt, a traveler by profession and a baseball pitcher by necessity, drifted into Hutchinson some seven years ago in the "good old days" of the Western Association. He hurled such masterful ball for the Salt Packers that the clever club president sold him to Boston and Wichita at the same time. Big Ben drifted from Boston to somewhere and from somewhere to the Pacific Coast and from the Pacific Coast to the Cactus league in Arizona, and from the border to Wichita, arriving at the Wolf Den two or three days ago.

At the start of September, the Western League trans-

ferred the Wichita franchise to Colorado Springs, Colorado. On September 24, *The Colorado Springs Gazette* listed the homes and the occupations of the players. Hunt was from Butte, Montana where he was a miner.

Hunt spent the winter of 1916-17 in Butte, and the next spring was with Butte's Northwestern League entry. The April 5 issue of *The Sporting News* listed the names and the homes of Butte's pitching staff. All of the pitchers had a hometown listed but Hunt, who was simply listed as "of Wichita Western League."

Due to World War I, the Northwestern League, like some of the other minor leagues of 1917, suspended the remainder of its schedule in early July. No further mention was made of Hunt in the Butte papers.

Hunt had no record in organized baseball in 1918 or 1919. His next documented appearance was in Texas in the spring of 1920. *The Dallas Morning News* reported on March 19:

Hunt, the lengthy left-handed pitcher, has not yet signed with Dallas, although he has been working out for a couple of days. Hunt, who has southpawed in nearly all of the Class A circuits, was a free agent this year after a couple of seasons in the Army.

Inquiries to the U. S. military archives turned up no record of military service.

On March 21, the paper printed the Dallas roster. Hunt's home was given as Seattle, Washington and his age as 31.

Hunt pitched in just three games for Dallas that year. His last game was on April 23, when he pitched a complete game win against Ft. Worth. Of that game the paper said:

Hunt, the lean and hungry lefthander with the moonshine wind-up and the lighting delivery is going to win other games for Dallas. Given good support, the antique southpaw is a mighty tough customer.

Hunt never won another game for Dallas, or for that matter, any other team in organized baseball. As per habit, and without explanation, he had jumped the team. On June 1, a brief mention was made that he would be rejoining the team at the end of the week, but he never did.

Where Hunt had gone and why he left would remain a mystery for another 72 years. Organized baseball had no further record of Hunt. Dallas carried him on its ineligible list through the mid 1930s.

The search for Ben Hunt was a SABR-wide effort. Bob Anderson, Steve Bennett, Dick Beverage, Rich Bozzone, Abbey Garber, Bob Hoie, Tom Hufford, Wayne McCombs, Bob McConnell, Ray Nemeec, Bob Richardson, Tom Shea, Rich Topp, Bob Wood and Rich Zucker were all involved. The deaths of more than 30 Ben Hunts from various parts of the country were investigated. Much of the data was obtained through the long process of reviewing microfilm of Hunt's minor league stops.

Bob Lindsay and Bill Haber had been on Hunt's trail the longest and were responsible for running down most of the impossible leads on Hunt. Haber turned up Hunt's Alaska marriage and investigated the Thomas Platt-Edith Wolfe mystery.

Bill Carle provided the two clues that finally broke the case. In 1989, Bill located Hunt's family in the 1900 U. S. census, living in Perry, Oklahoma. Haber had earlier found another reference to Perry so we were sure that this was the right family. Ben's father was born in Alabama, his mother in Michigan, his brother in Kansas, Ben in "Indian Territory" in February of 1888, and his sister in Oklahoma.

Armed with this information Haber contacted a genealogist in Oklahoma to help track down the family. His research showed that the Hunts owned property in Perry from 1899 to 1909, at which time they sold their farm and moved to parts unknown. Also of note was that the Hunts turned up twice in the 1900 census, and oddly, the ages of the family were different. Ben's father became five years older, his brother two, and his mother and sister a year each. Ben's birth was given as November of 1888.

In March of 1992, the 1920 U. S. census became available to researchers for the first time. Carle looked through every state, starting alphabetically with Alabama, for Hunt, and finally found a lead, in the state of Wyoming. A Ben Hunt was living in Casper, and while most of the entry was obliterated by an imperfection on the micro-film, Bill could read that this man's mother was born in Michigan and his father in Alabama.

An inquiry was sent to the Wyoming vital statistics office which provided a death certificate of a Benjamin F. Hunt who died in Greybull, Wyoming on September 27, 1927. He was 34 years old at the time of death, his birthdate being given as November 10, 1892. His birthplace was Oklahoma.

While the Oklahoma birth seemed promising, the age appeared a few years too young. The Greybull papers of 1927 were not immediately available and it took a while to find an obituary in the Basin, Wyoming paper:

Ben Hunt, a member of the old Midwest

ball team at Greybull, died Tuesday, after several years of suffering, following an accident. All those familiar with the old Midwest team will remember Ben Hunt, one of the most popular ball players and who but for the accident would be with the big league today.

Was this him, did we have our man? While we were sure it was, we still needed more. Finally an obituary was located from the Greybull paper:

Benjamin Franklin Hunt died at the hospital, of which he had been an inmate for the past six weeks. For several years he had suffered from lung trouble.

He was born at Eufaula, Oklahoma, November 10, 1892 and spent the early part of his life there. He came to Greybull in the days when the Midwest Refinery maintained a baseball team and was one of the pitchers until compelled to give it up on account of hemorrhages of the lungs. The climate seemed to be best for him and he remained here.

He is survived by a wife, his father and mother, two brothers and one sister.

Hunt had drifted up into Wyoming to play for the Greybull team in the Midwest Refinery League, a strong semi-pro circuit that was made up of teams sponsored by the Midwest Oil Company. Wyoming was a big oil producer and most of the players held jobs in the oil fields or at the refineries. A number of players with professional experience were in the Midwest League at that time, including the Greybull manager, former Federal League and Cincinnati Reds pitcher Jim Bluejacket, who like Hunt was a native Oklahoman.

Research by Paul Jacques, one of SABR's four Wyoming members, revealed that Hunt pitched off and on in the Midwest League from 1919 through 1921. He spent the last few years of his life in the Greybull area where he ran a pool hall. He died in the county sanitorium from complications of alcoholism and tuberculosis, afflictions not unknown to ballplayers.

Was Hunt born in 1888 or 1892? While playing, he gave his age corresponding with the 1888 birth. If 1892 was correct then he was wandering the country as a 15 year-old and debuted with the Red Sox at 17, which may explain some of Hunt's immature behavior, especially the Edith Wolfe engagement story, which seems entirely fictitious. We'll never know for sure as it's doubtful that a true birth record exists. The only thing certain about Ben Hunt is that he led us on one hell of a chase.

November 20, 1995

Dear Hank,

We just got back from a great vacation in the state of Washington. In spite of raining most of the time, it really is a beautiful place and worth visiting any time of year. I dropped in at the libraries in both of the biggest cities in the Grays Harbor area and, surprise, didn't discover anything new. The Aberdeen Daily Bulletin had several stories during the week before the season opened and brief coverage of each regulation game, but not a word about the April 30 game other than the following brief note in the May 2 Bulletin:

"The San Francisco benefit game Monday afternoon netted \$68.80. All of the receipts were donated."

That game definitely wasn't counted in the standings, which appeared after each day's action. The Hoquiam Weekly Washingtonian had several pre-season articles, but no mention of the series at Tacoma. There was also a daily Hoquiam Washingtonian which the weekly referred to, but no issues survived on microfilm. To atone for my lack of discoveries I'll enclose an editorial from the Daily Bulletin which appeared on opening day, April 28, 1906. There was definitely a lot of enthusiasm for minor league baseball in that area in 1906. The folks in the Aberdeen area got together an excursion to Tacoma for Sunday's game and arranged with the railroad to have the return train pull out at 6:00 pm, instead of 4:30, so everybody could watch the whole game.

I'll also enclose park diagrams of two parks where Walter Johnson played -- Tacoma and Boise -- which I meant to give you while you were here but which I had misplaced. They appeared in the 1994 SABR Minor League History Journal. That Tacoma field looks like a real pitcher's nightmare!

And yet another enclosure -- Joe Wayman let me have his copy of "9" long enough for me to copy Frank Fortunato's article on Walter's debut. It's not all bad, although I'm not sure he's right about there being only a few fans in attendance. He does make some statements here and there that aren't supported by any references to his sources. I find his tale of Johnson getting lost in Philly at the 1940 Republican convention kind of offensive. According to his biographical sketch, he "is a bookseller and freelance writer currently working on a biography of Walter Johnson for the University of Nebraska Press. He developed an empathy for Walter Johnson and his predicament with the Senators as a result of following the New York Mets since their notorious inception." I would hope that by now Frank has heard of your book (and Kavanaugh's) and has decided not to waste his time on a third biography.

Getting together in Weiser sounds like a great idea but it's a little too far ahead for me to predict whether we'll be able to manage it. I'll mark it down on our calendar and will let you know later how things look. We'll see you for sure when you get to Anaheim; our offer of a place to stay while you're in town for the convention will definitely stay open.

Congratulations on your return to sports as a participant! Your body will let you know whether you've made a wise choice. My own athletic activities have been kind of on the back burner the past few months, mainly due to my own laziness. I'm just getting started running again, so maybe I'll be able to join you for a little jaunt through the oil fields when you come here.

I see in the latest SABR Bulletin that Diamond is now offering "A Life" in paperback, "newly revised". Does this mean they've given up on trying to sell it at the hardback price? Has Kavanaugh just corrected the obvious boo-boos (like the ones you mention in your three-page list) or has he done some serious rewriting? I think the release of your Second Edition would be a good time for you to place a new ad in the Bulletin. A lot of SABR people have either overlooked or forgotten the earlier ad.

I also noticed in the SABR Bulletin that there is a new "Seymour Award" for biographies published in 1995, in addition to the SABR/Macmillan award, for which you're still eligible. I would nominate you myself, but nobody knows me and if they did, they'd say I was too biased to know what I was talking about. You need to get some real "heavyweights", of the caliber of Bob Davids, to submit nominations. If you don't deserve an award, I don't know who does. But then I thought Albert Belle was a sure thing for AL MVP.

We wish you and your family a beautiful holiday season. I'll probably have a check in the mail to you some time after the 12/2 SABR meeting, where I hope to sell some books.

Chuck

Aberdeen Daily Bulletin

ABERDEEN, WASHINGTON

Entered at the postoffice at Aberdeen, Wash.,
matter of the second class.

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CITY OFFICIAL PAPER



THE BASEBALL SEASON.

Today the opening games of the 1906 baseball season will be played. Grays Harbor and Tacoma will try conclusions at Tacoma, while Spokane and Butte will meet at Spokane. Doubtless large crowds will be out to see the games, and in all four towns news of the outcome of the opening contests will be anxiously awaited. All loyal residents of the Harbor will wish the Grays the best of luck and join in the hope that the pennant may come this way.

The people of Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Cosmopolis should support the game. It is legitimate sport—the great American game—and is deserving of patronage. Every person living in this section of the state ought to feel an especial pride in the Grays, and if hearty support will assist them that support should be gladly proffered. The Bulletin hopes that the patronage will be good and that the men who have put the Harbor into the league will not be disappointed financially.

Western people, with the exception of those who lived at San Francisco, are prone to be too strenuous. They go in too much for business. The average Westerner seems to feel that he must work fourteen or fifteen hours a day, and that failure to pile up a fortune means failure of one's life. Indigestion results and life is scarcely worth living.

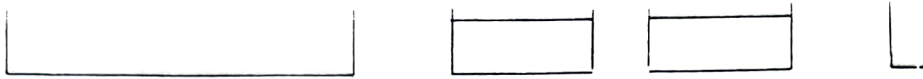
Baseball has a tendency to add to the pleasantness of life, and it should be encouraged for this if for no other reason. It ought to take the place of just a little of the commercial strife through which we struggle daily. Baseball will give us all the opportunity to vent our enthusiasm and relieve us at least for an hour of that business strain that brings the wrinkles to our faces. It will take us out of doors for a portion of the afternoon and compel us to breathe some real good, pure air. Those of us who have become accustomed to the worries of commercial life will find the fans shouting out their sentiment, and we will unconsciously fall into the habit. We will become brighter, more cheerful and better in every respect. Doubtless some of us, in our whole-souled outbursts, will curse the umpire, but this won't do any particular harm so long as our thoughts are diverted for the time being from our business woes. To be cursed is part of the umpire's business.

We would advise everyone to become a baseball fan; to get into the grandstand or the bleachers and shout with the vigor of youth; to read the "dope sheet" with great care each day; to form unshakable opinions regarding the players; to abuse the umpire with precision and enthusiasm; to quarrel with your neighbor as to the respective merits of the contesting hosts or the individuals comprising them. All of these idiosyncrasies are American; and if you are a good American you will always be happy, which is indeed a blessing.

Our advice to you, gentle reader, is to patronize baseball. You will be the better for it.

4/28/1906

TACOMA



SOUTH 11TH ST.

TACOMA BASE BALL PARK
 PREVIOUSLY 11TH STREET BALL GROUNDS

DISTANCES TO FENCE AS REPORTED IN SPORTING LIFE-ORIENTATION OF DIAMOND IS SPECULATIVE. BALLPARK WAS EXTENSIVELY REMODELED AND REALIGNED PRIOR TO THE 1904 PCL SEASON

PACIFIC NORTHWEST LEAGUE
 MAY 3, 1890 SEATTLE 7-TACOMA 6
 AUG. 7, 1892 TACOMA 4 SPOKANE 3

NEW PACIFIC LEAGUE
 MAY 2, 1896 SEATTLE 9-TACOMA 5
 JUN. 8, 1896 SEATTLE 11-TACOMA 8

NEW PACIFIC LEAGUE-PACIFIC N.W. LG.
 MAY 25, 1898 SPOKANE 6 TACOMA 4
 JUL. 31, 1898 SEATTLE 9 TACOMA 8

PACIFIC NORTHWEST LEAGUE
 MAY 1, 1901 TACOMA 7-SEATTLE 3
 OCT. 5, 1902 HELENA 3-TACOMA 2

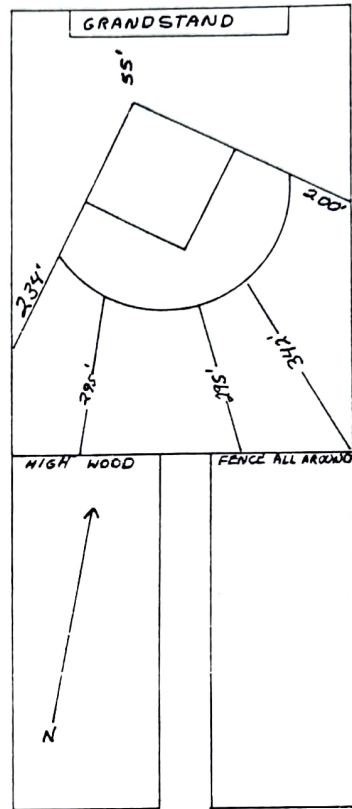
PACIFIC NATIONAL LEAGUE
 APR. 23, 1903 PORTLAND 10-TACOMA 6
 AUG. 16, 1903 TACOMA 7 SAN FRANCISCO 1 *

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE
 APR. 27, 1904 OAKLAND 10-TACOMA 9
 SEP. 16, 1905 SEATTLE 7-TACOMA 6

* CLUB DISBANDED AFTER GAME

S. "M" ST

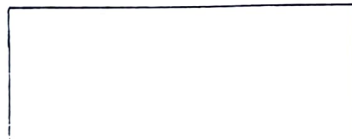
SOUTH "M" ST.



SOUTH "L" ST.

S. 12TH

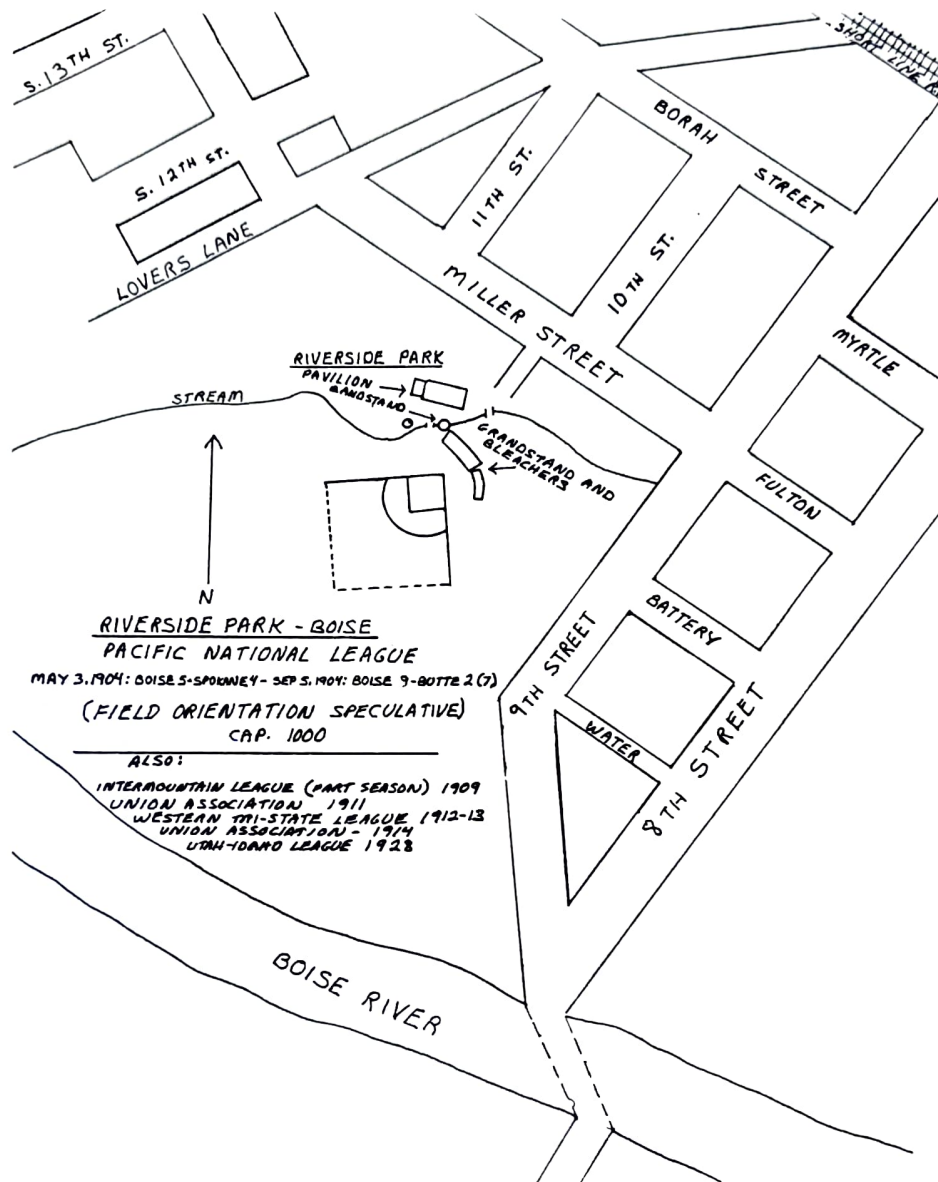
SOUTH 13TH ST



PRIOR TO THE 1904 REBUILD, ALL OF THE FENCE ON "M" STREET, AND MOST OF THE FENCE ALONG "L" STREET, WAS A GROUND RULE DOUBLE. AFTER THE REMODEL, THE DIMENSIONS WERE 232-326-242, THE LAYOUT WAS RECTANGULAR, AND ALL BALLS OVER THE FENCE WERE HOME RUNS.

The Tacoma Tigers were the only team in the eight-team Pacific National League that played in its original ballpark. The so-called 11th Street grounds, later called the Tacoma Baseball Park, were built in 1890 for the original Pacific Northwest League. Bounded by 11th and 13th streets on the north and south and L and M streets on the east and west, the park had a straight grandstand that ran parallel to 11th with the diamond crammed into a narrow, rectangular lot. The foul lines were only 200 and 234 feet from home plate. Tacoma, as well as Helena, dropped out of the PNL after the games of Aug. 16, 1903. The park was expanded and realigned for Tacoma's entry into the Pacific Coast League in 1904. When the PCL moved the franchise to Fresno in 1906, Tacoma entered the Northwestern League. The next year, the Tigers moved to the new Athletic Park. The old grounds became part of a residential neighborhood known today as The Hilltop, a crime-ridden slum.

BOISE



RIVERSIDE PARK - BOISE
PACIFIC NATIONAL LEAGUE

MAY 3, 1904: BOISE 5-SPORWNEY - SEP 5, 1904: BOISE 9-BUTTE 2 (7)
 (FIELD ORIENTATION SPECULATIVE)
 CAP. 1000

ALSO:

INTERMOUNTAIN LEAGUE (PART SEASON) 1909
 UNION ASSOCIATION 1911
 WESTERN TRI-STATE LEAGUE 1912-13
 UNION ASSOCIATION - 1914
 UTAH-IDAHO LEAGUE 1928

In 1904, the Pacific National League's second season, Boise replaced Seattle. They played their games at Riverside Park, an amusement park located between 9th and 11th streets on the banks of the Boise River. The diamond was built in 1902. The Fruit Pickers were headed for another pennant in 1905, when the PNL, which had dropped from the ranks of organized baseball, collapsed in mid-June. Pro ball returned to Riverside Park in 1909, when Boise was a member of the ill-fated Intermountain League in 1909. The Union Association teams of 1911 and 1914 also played there, as well as the Western Tri-State League franchises of 1912-13 and the Utah-Idaho League team of 1928. Orientation of the diamond, in relation to the stands, is speculative because no known photographs exist. It was succeeded by Airway Park, which was built for the coming of the new Pioneer League in 1939.

OLINDA:

The oil companies owned the land and the houses, and rented them to the employees. Single men lived in bunk houses, rent free, and they ate the large dining room just down the street. There was a never-ending poker game on the main street, Santa Fe Avenue, in the side-hill basement of Stein and Fassel's general store. ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

"People held cookouts and hunted local game, wildcats, rattlesnakes, rabbits and coyotes. All major supplies came from a day's trip to Anaheim. Carbon Canyon was a wonderful place for children to live. Often they could be found drinking water from hillside springs, especially two miles up the canyon from the park at La Vida Hot Springs. It was a treat to be able to wash one's hair with soft water at the oil pumping houses, poke around for 'trapdoor' spiders and their satin-like spun tunnels, and slide down the gravel pit hill on corrugated metal sheets. 'It was all kids and dogs... a happy place to play', reminisces Mrs. Ella Armstrong Post. 'A neighbor's dog was affectionately treated like a member of the family. At night the constant pumping of the wells would rock us all to sleep. Our parents told us that each creak of the pump whispered "five dollars", "five dollars", "five dollars", until we finally dozed off."

At age 14, family moves to Olinda, living about 100 yards north of the old store on Carbon Canyon Road, part of the CCMO (Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil) lease. Frank Johnson was a teamster and car loader for the Sante Fe Oil Co. (Historical Guide to Carbon Canyon Regional Park, 1975)

(w7)
Chester Johnson-- "He moved with the family to Olinda in 1901. The Olinda home of the Johnsons was about 100 yards up from the old grocery store on the right hand of the street." (Letter to George Key of Pacentia, Cal., 3/27/68)

The board-and-batten houses had only three or four rooms. Water was pumped into the kitchens, but there were no inside bathrooms. Gas was burned for heating. there was electricity. Laundry was done by washboard in large tin tubs, which also served for bathing. Living quarters were cramped, but the fenced yards were ample for cows, chickens, etc. Groceries, meats, ice, and vegetables were all delivered by horse-drawn cab. The big social event was the Saturday night dance, when a three-piece orchestra was hired to play until midnight, and would sometimes be paid extra to play until 2:00 A.M. (Bob Isbell, an accountant with the company and first baseman on the baseball team, played violin and led the orchestra.) Baseball was played on a diamond in the 'flat' just east off Santa Fe Avenue (the main street of Olinda). The railroad spur brought empty oil tanks in and filled ones out. The company would occasionally run passenger cars in to take residents out on day-long excursions to San Bernadino, Redondo Beach and other places along the line.

"...hard-working, happy people living on the southern slopes of those beautiful foothills in northern Orange County. Granted, our houses were small, our mechanical luxuries few, but we did not feel deprived. One could step outside and fill the lungs with bracing fresh air, look up into the blue sky through glorious sunshine, find solace in a view of vivid-green hills and, when the orange groves down in Placentia were in blossom, our hills were bathed in such and exquisite fragrance that one could close the eyes and breathe in Heaven! We youngsters found coy yellow violets nestled close under the sagebrush in the springtime, and mariposa lilies growing straight and tall out of the grass. even the clumps of cactus that dotted our hillsides were beautiful when the gorgeous yellow and red blossoms burst open--and at Christmastime there were armloads of holly berries to be carried home from the Toyon shrubs in Carbon Canyon. Life was good in Olinda!" ("Memories of early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, from Carbon Canyon Regional Park brochure, 1975)

8/10/05--All-day excursion by several hundred oil well residents to Oceanside, for which a train was chartered; Effie Johnson comes in third in the 75 yd. dash for young women, Earl Johnson first in 50 yard dash for boys 10-16; Joe Burke wins "ugliest man, 18-22". (Fullerton Tribune, 8/17/05)

Historians writing of the period frequently make reference to huge sunflowers once found in abundance throughout Orange County: 'The road from Fullerton to Anaheim was rutted and crooked and sunflowers beside the road touched your hat', wrote one. It was 1905 and that buckboard trip to Anaheim and back required half a working day. A trip to Santa Ana and back required a full day.

It was a time of slow progress in Orange County and much of it was painful. The land was being overworked. In 1906, a blight wiped out the celery crop. Beans, sugar beets and chili peppers quickly appeared in their place. You could buy an acre of citrus land for \$150 and the new cars were Fords, Maxwells, Overlands and Great Smiths. The population of Fullerton was 1,700. Envid oil workers in nearby Olinda were making \$2.50 for a 10-hour day. In the first decade of this century the town(Olinda) flourished. There was work for anyone who wanted it, and plenty of poker. ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"She (Minnie) says that the happiest days of her life were those spent in Olinda, when her family was complete and all about her each day". (Anaheim Bulletin, 9/6/57)

In July, 1905, Frank and Minnie Johnson and two children return to Kansas "where he will visit his former home". (Fullerton Tribune, 7/6/05)

OLINDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL -- Called the "little red school house" by residents; accommodated all eight grammar school grades. ("Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, from C.C. Reg. Park brochure, 1975)

WJ-- "I attended school in a little red building built upon a hill. ("My Pitching Years")

PERSONAL:

WJ-- "My father was employed by the Santa Fe oil wells and outside of school hours I spent my time driving a team of mules for him. I look back now and get great pleasure out of those recollections, with me perched up there on a seat that wobbled like a ship at sea, driving over the oil dirt roads on warm afternoons. More than once I fell asleep with the reins in my hand, as the team plugged along and kicked up clouds of yellow dust. In those days Olinda was situated in the heart of the oil well belt, close to a valley of oranges and walnuts. Derricks literally dotted the hillsides and ran all day and night. Nearby were bunk houses for the men, rough office buildings, company eating houses, stores, and always a livery stable. ("My Pitching Years")

"He enjoyed all of his neighbors and friends...and had time to saunter across the street to the lower deck of the old Steinfassel general store where he took his seat at the poker game which was always in session. That was Walter Johnson's indoor sport." (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown)

"Walt drove a team for his father most of the time when he was not going to school in the little red schoolhouse on the hill. Walt did most of his growing when he was about 13 years old, and a good half of him was feet and hands. He was the awkwardest kid I ever saw. Many a time I have seen him on a warm afternoon hunched upon the seat of a wagon, two-thirds asleep, moping along the road, kicking up shots of dust. That was Walter Johnson, the boy. ("How Walter Johnson Got His Start in Baseball, Joseph C. Burke, Phil(?) Enquirer, 9/20/13, from HOF clipping files)

WJ-- "I shall always remember California as the state where I pitched my first game of baseball and received my first lesson in hunting, and the two have gone hand in hand with me ever since. It was my good fortune, while living in California, to go on several extensive tours into the foothills of the neighboring mountains. The Sierras are the big range of Southern California, and there are many high peaks where the snow never melts. I did not get into the mountain district itself, but I did spend some time in the foothills, and these are rugged enough to satisfy the average person, being much cut up with deep ravines and steep cliffs. There is a pretty uniform growth of timber with many rock ledges and cleared spaces.

I never encountered any big game as I did not penetrate far enough into the heavy timber where deer and bears might be found. But I was not after them in any event, so I was not disappointed. There were large flocks of quail in these regions, and they furnished the bulk of the game, but of course there were numbers of rabbits, squirrels and the like, that might justify a chance shot. I found a great deal of excitement on these little jaunts and not a little good shooting as well. I never tried for any world's records and have never laid claim to being a crack shot. But I do know I never came back from a day's excursion empty handed. ("What I Think About Hunting", BB Mag, 1913)

SANTA FE RAILROAD:

Father and grandfather (John L. Perry) employees of the Santa Fe Drilling Co. (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown);

"A roustabout got from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a day, tool pushers \$2.00 to \$2.50, and the best drillers \$3.50; a single man could live like a king on \$10.00 a month, eating in the company boarding house and sleeping in the bunk houses." (Orange County Historical Volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

All supplies at first hauled by horse and buggy from Fullerton, six miles southwest of Stearn's lease (Olinda), later from Anaheim, also Southwest.

In 1897, "oil pioneer" E.L. Doheny drills wells for the Brea Canyon Oil Co. and makes a partnership with the Santa Fe railway to explore and drill for oil in the Olinda Ranch area. In 1899, the Santa Fe ran a spur to the fields of Olinda; The lower Santa Fe lease, where Carbon Canyon Regional park now stands, became the Olinda Crude Oil Co, also known as the Olinda Land Company Lease. (Historical Guide to Carbon Canyon Regional

Park, 1975)

BASEBALL:

WJ-- "As a boy I followed the fortunes of the players and read of the exploits of Jim (ED?) Delehanty, Willie Keeler, Jimmy Collins, Honus Wagner, Larry Lajoie and, of course, Christy Mathewson and Cy Young. How we followed the news of our favorites, learned the lingo of the baseball lot! ("A Quarter Million Strong", American Legion Magazine, date unknown)

WJ-- "Just at that time there was a great baseball boom in the oil fields. The drillers and workers organized teams and the big event each week was the Sunday game between our favorites and some nearby club. When Sunday came around, I was always one of the first to find a place along the foul line, where I could watch the 'stars' perform. And there were some stars in the lineup, although the bulk of the players worked in the oil fields or in one of the village stores. One of the first 'big leaguers' I ever laid eyes on was Ted Easterly of the Chicago White Sox. Also Doc Crandall, then a star in the National League. 'Rube' Ellis lived at Rivera, not far away, and he always played in the outfield. The rivalry between the town teams was always at a high pitch, and the importing of Eastern players, wintering in Southern California, added a touch of class to the contests. My father was even more of a fan than I was. The ball team had been losing for a long time, but when it finally hit a winning streak the kids caught the fever and the entire community was baseball mad. ("My Pitching Years")

WJ-- "We (Olinda Elementary kids) made no pretense at having a regular team but spent many hours down on what was called 'the flat' playing 'numbers' or 'one o'cat'. Every afternoon, rain or shine, we made for the flat ground down below the livery stable and played until the sun had disappeared behind the hills. ("My Pitching Years")

Minnie Johnson-- "I don't believe Walter ever saw a game of baseball until he was 14 or 15 years old. (WJ scrapbook VIII, 1924, source unknown)

"Walter Johnson believes that another reason for his continued success is the fact that he did not start playing ball until he was 16 years of age. He was born on a farm in Kansas, and until his family moved to California, he had never been in a ball game. 'I never had a chance to play ball until I was 16', says the Speed King, 'and by that time I had attained sufficient strength so that I could not hurt myself.' (WJ Scrapbook XVIII, 1927, source unknown)

"Speaking of his career on the diamond, Johnson said: 'I never played a game of ball until three years ago, when I started as a catcher on an amateur team (boys team?) in my home town near Los Angeles. After catching a few games, I tried my hand at twirling, and have been pitching ever since. (Wash Herald, 7/27/07)

WJ-- "Strangely enough, I took to catching and seemed to like it better than any other position. Back in Humboldt, when a youngster, I had pitched, but as my arm began to develop strength, the job behind the bat was most attractive. What I liked was that long throw to second base. I discovered that I could get a ball from home plate to second base with considerable speed, and it afforded me more opportunities for long throwing than any other position. At the time I didn't realize it, but that desire for long and speedy throwing, which catching seemed to satisfy, was the first definite indication of an arm that was built for nothing else in the world but pitching.

My father noticed my increasing speed, and I remember hearing him remark, 'If the boy can put that ball down to second base with so much speed he ought to be a pitcher; throwing half the distance should double his speed.' In the beginning, I disagreed with him because what I enjoyed was not so much the use of speed but the long, straight throw, combined with speed. My argument used to be: The throw from third to first is just as far and the throw in from the outfield is farther, but those players don't get as many opportunities to throw as the catcher. A catcher is always throwing to some base, and the throw to second base is the nicest throw in baseball. 'And Papa', I used to point out with considerable pride, 'they don't ever steal when I'm behind the bat.' ("My Pitching Years")

WJ-- "Here (boys games on the flats) I played my first real game of baseball, breaking in as a catcher. This position was not an enviable one for I was required to go behind the bat without a mask. My limited experience in baseball, coupled with the natural awkwardness of a country boy, made my debut as a catcher a complete failure. However, I was able to whip the ball to the bases with such speed that I was allowed to pitch the next game against the boys from the orange groves. ("Some of my early experiences", manuscript in the Johnson archives, C. 1918)

"When I was a youngster I didn't know that I was pitcher. I played ball, but my position was catcher. The manager of our team had a funny idea of testing pitchers. He always put them at a mark and had them go through a long-distance throwing course. The lad who made the longest throw was assigned to that game. Just for the sport of it, one day I asked the manager to let me throw. It was far enough to send me to the hill that afternoon and I won, 1 to 0, striking out 18 batters. That's how I started as a pitcher." (WJ scrapbook V, 1923-24, source unknown)

WJ-- "As I recall, there were exactly 15 kids at Olinda--of baseball age. We didn't quit by innings, but waited for the gas lights that spouted from the surrounding derricks to warn us that any further playing meant the loss of our baseball as well as the loss of our suppers at home.

One afternoon, two surrey loads of youngsters drove up with a noisy challenge. A game was soon underway and I was behind the plate, as usual. The visitors, absolute strangers, were a smart crowd and pretty good players for their ages. After using three different pitchers, I went into the box in the fourth inning. It was my first taste of real competition. I soon found there was just as much pleasure in whipping the ball to the catcher as in shooting it to second base. And, as one after another retired on strikes, I found the pleasure even greater. I pitched the remaining 5 innings and a dozen of the boys struck out. Anyway, we won the game and I was through with catching.

I had the speed, but what I lacked was control. I used to gather up all the empty tomato cans in the district. I always carried a supply under the seat of my wagon and just as soon as the noon whistle blew, target practice started. Placing a can on the edge of the wagon, I would stand back about 90 feet and begin pitching. Baseballs were too expensive, so rocks were used. Not speed, but the development of control was the object of my throwing. Practice would last as long as the tomato cans lasted and then I'd climb up to the driver's seat and eat my lunch. ("My pitching Years")

1/22/05--The "Olinda school team" beat a "picked team 8-5 on the local diamond(Fullerton)..."--is this the game WJ refers to above? (Fullerton Tribune, 1/24/05)

1905

PERSONAL

Guy Meats-- "He didn't drink or smoke, but how the son-of-a-gun liked to play poker! Any time there were four or more in a room, Walter would start a poker game and he could draw to anything. He was such a soft touch for any amount. I could have retired on what he gave away." (Orange County Historical Volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

"After school and on holidays, Johnson spent all of his time working for Maurice Ray, proprietor of a general store in the oil fields. Ray took a fatherly interest in the big, overgrown kid and he was to be a lasting influence in Johnson's life." (Flaherty, TSN Baseball Register, 1947) (A Maurice Rey was the manager of the Stern and Goodman Grocery and Dry Goods store on Santa Fe Ave. in Olinda--later to be Stein and Fassel's, after WJ leaves California. From "Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown McMillan, 1975)

"Bob's(Isbell) favorite story about Walter was the time Olinda was playing a Ventura team, the only hit against him was a homer, by another guy named Johnson. Walter just stood there and grinned as he watched the ball gain momentum as it disappeared from sight. this was in the days when baseball was fun to play and to watch. another Johnson fan was his catcher, Guy Meats of Orange, who later became a very successful citrus grower: 'He(WJ) never complained or noted an error behind him.'" ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

OLINDA OIL WELLS TEAM

"Life was especially sweet in Olinda if you could play baseball. It was the age of the town team throughout America and the Olinda aggregation had a particularly rabid following. Nothing was said when the oil field players knocked off work at noon and worked out behind a hill the rest of the day before an important game, the team made exhausting trips to places like Riverside and Pomona." ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Any potential ballplayer was invited to join...the result was a first-class team that often wandered far afield in search of new worlds to conquer. They often took on the boys at Rivera where Rube Ellis and Ted Easterly(Easterly would catch Cy Young and Addie Joss at Cleveland) played, or up to San Bernadino to play against the Santa Fe Railroad team where the great Indian Player, Jack 'Chief' Meyers, played. If they went to Rivera they took the day and went by horse and carriage and if to Riverside, the Santa Fe rolled out a special car for them which they boarded down at what is now Atwood." (Mildred Yorba MacArthur, paper and date unknown)

CHECK ON THIS (NAME)

(7/9/05?) - NO TRIPLE BY JOHNSON

"Duke" LeBrandt would play at Omaha(W.L.) 1908-09; Anson Mott at Vernon(P.C.L.); Jack Burnett at St. Louis(N.L. 1907); Art Crips had a try-out with Chicago White Sox;(Anaheim Bulletin, 3/4/39)

"There were a lot of men out looking for competition, and the Santa Fe Oil Company was determined to do its share to see that proper competition was provided. some of its regulars were Bob Isbell, Jack Burnett, Joe Wagner, Joe Burke, John Tuffree, Guy Meats, Fayette Lewis, Art Crips, Clair Head, Art Ferris, and Bill Rayburn. Practice was the order of the day and all of the officials of the oil company were unofficial ball scouts. All of those hired for jobs were given plenty of time to train for their Sunday games. Training was accomplished by means of a 'weed gang'. Its members were given hoes, rakes and shovels and told to go out and abate the fire hazards. They disappeared into the nearby terrain and practiced their pitching, catching, and fielding, and when they felt exhausted they sought out the shade of a nearby tree. The result of this happy state of affairs was that Olinda was the mecca of all aspiring ballplayers."

The late Guy Meats of Orange was Walter's favorite catcher and the man who probably knew him better than anyone. He said, 'He was the easiest man I ever caught. Despite his great speed he threw a light ball and his control was so perfect that you always got what you asked for. I could have caught him in a rocking chair and that was before anyone had come up with the idea of a jointed glove. Nowadays mitts have a pocket in them like and oriole's nest. I don't see how these guys ever miss one.

If an umpire called a close one, Walter never took issue with him because he believed that the umpires make mistakes the same as players do and the next one might be in his favor. He just tossed the next one over the plate in such a fashion that it left no doubt in anyone's mind.' Another of Walter's contemporaries of his Olinda days was his first baseman, Bob Isbell, who never ceased to marvel at Johnson's game. Isbell said, 'He was a magnificent athlete, weighing about 175 pounds, with long arms and powerful shoulders. He had the perfect delivery. His back muscles did all the work. He was a three-quarter sidearm when he started, but somewhat under that as he grew older. What a change a few months in the big league made in his throw to the bases! When he played with us as a kid, he made a few false motions before he got the ball to a base. But when he returned at the end of the season he got his throws there faster and straighter than anyone before or since. It was suicide to try to steal a base on him.' (Orange County Historical volume III, M.Y. MacArthur, 1963)

Olinda has the best team in Orange County, and faced the teams from the surrounding counties, many sponsored by large Companies. Los Angeles had the Hoegge Flags, Tufts-Lyons, and two black teams, the Trilbys and the Giants. San Diego and San Bernadino counties had plenty of talent. And neighboring oil companies, like CCMO, Graham and Loftus, Union Oil.

"Road trips to neighboring cities meant that you hitched your horse to a buggy or a cart and drove to the game, usually dressed in your uniform, for there were no dressing rooms under the old see-through wooden stands. If the game was in Anaheim, which was a wide open town, they dressed in the back room of a saloon, while their fans up front placed their bets. Games at Anaheim Landing, a beach city about 30 miles south of Olinda, were an outstanding event that required an overnight stay. Longer trips were negotiated by trains, courtesy of the Santa Fe railroad. They picked up the boys at a nearby siding called Atwood.

The Olinda team had a couple of memorable managers. The first was Joe Burke, who devoted much time and talent to his boys. One Sunday he sent in a 5-man team against a Coast League nine, with Walter on the mound.(?) Olinda won and Burke beamed. He ended his career as U.S. District Attorney at Los Angeles. The second manager was Tom Young, the village barber who received 10 cents for a shave and 20 cents for a haircut. Business permitting, he often acted as a catcher when the boys practiced on the main street in front of his shop. ("Long Arm From Olinda", M.Y. MacArthur, Westways, Oct 1978)

. 9-5 GAME, 1/22 ?

WJ-- "After finishing school at Olinda, I entered high school at Fullerton. Following the 5-inning game, in which I struck out 12 boys, the news spread around that Frank Johnson's kid was showing signs of being quite some pitcher. The older heads naturally considered the talk as so much sandlot gossip. Enthused by my newly discovered ability, I continued to strike out the youngsters that played on the flat, and before long my work caused talk in the stores and around the derricks. One afternoon we were hard at it down by the stable, when two of our best local players appeared on the flat. The two stood behind the catcher for a while, watching my pitching with an air of amusement. One was Joe Burke, a bookkeeper for the Santa Fe Railroad. His companion was Jack Burnett. They wanted to find out just what I had on the ball, if anything.

Burke asked if I would throw him a few, and, winking at Burnett, he stepped to the plate. Burke was a good bunter, and that's what he tried when I started pitching. He missed three in a row and then, a little embarrassed, remarked, 'Now I'll really try', and removed his coat. But the best he got was a foul and after missing three more he stepped aside for Jack Burnett. Jack was the slugger type and could hit the best of pitchers with little trouble. I was just going good and let them sail up to the plate with plenty of speed. I used an underhand delivery, my natural style, and it seemed to puzzle both batters Burnett did no better than

his partner and they soon departed in the direction of the store where baseball was always the topic of discussion. ("My pitching Years")

Joe Burke:

"I discovered Walter Johnson as a pitcher when he was about 14(?) years old, a big, overgrown, awkward, lazy boy. I discovered him one day when Jack Burnett, afterward a centerfielder for the St. Louis Cardinals, and I stood up to bat a few of the kid's balls. We expected to take the lad down a notch or two. Instead, he threw us a dozen or so balls apiece and we couldn't touch him. Right then is when I discovered Walter Johnson. From that day to this I have never been surprised at anything he has done in organized baseball. I have watched him through all his career. After he got to pitching on my team, I saw some big men in Pacific Coast baseball turn him down, but never once has any of his old teammates lost faith in Walter. We knew him from the days he played numbers on the flat at Olinda, with other boys using our cast-off bats, balls and mitts, and when he was with us, a green youngster, we saw him strike out the best men who batted for the Coast League teams. We had Walt discovered long before he went to Weiser--long before he went to Washington, D.C.

There were 15 kids at Olinda--no more, no less--and Walt Johnson was one of them. He squatted on the sidelines on Sunday afternoons regularly. His dad was a great fan then, as now. When our team got to winning the Olinda kids went baseball crazy. Every evening they got together on the flat below the old livery stable and played numbers. Some of the boys got to talking in the office about the enthusiasm in the flat, and Jack Burnett and I decided to go down and have some fun with the lads. Somebody told us that they had a notion that Frank Johnson's kid, Walt, was some heaver. Jack and I sauntered down and found Walt idly throwing to another kid alongside the store. I gave Jack a wink and asked Walt to throw us a few. He blushed, but was willing. I stepped to the imaginary home plate, posed a bit, and told Walt to let 'em come. They came. I made an attempt to bunt, missed, thought it an accident, tried another, missed it, got another and missed it.

I gave way to the slugger. Jack squared away to put a crimp in the young bloods, and the way he fanned the air has never been equalled in front of Walter Johnson from that day to this. Jack Burnett was the most surprised man in California, except myself and maybe Walt. He took it all as a huge joke. He was never anything else than good-natured, easy-going and smiling.

Right then is when I discovered Walter Johnson. We walked back up the hill, and Jack and I confided to each other that we were all-fired glad we had not invited the bunch down to watch us make monkeys of the kids. Walt had pitched us balls of his own fast, under-hand style. That under-hand throw was his natural sling. Many a time during the time that Walt was growing into his baseball manhood I have heard old experienced baseball players tell him to change his style, cut out the under-throw. They said it would hurt his arm, and was an out-of-date delivery. but it was the throw that was born in Walt, and as long as I have known him it has always been his best.

The oil wells bunch has no mercy on its friends, and boring into some fellow is a favorite pastime. Their joshing was rough-shod stuff, and Walt had a lot to take. Tall and angular, his feet and hands were abnormally big, out of proportion to the rest of him. He afterwards grew up to his extremities. He was the awkwardest fellow on the team. He knew it and took his joshing like a man. While he handled himself like a barnyard animal in fielding and baserunning, he was always a good batter, and he had that graceful swing of the shoulders and free action with his arm that fans in the east have grown to know so well. How the old grown-up pitchers used to try to persuade him to quit using that delivery. Time and again they told him it would never do in fast company.

Many a time I have seen Walt pitch a superb game, and along toward the last a little bunt would come rolling down to him gently, like a zephyr from the western sea. Walt would start to get it, his feet were sure to tangle and Walt was sure to fall down on the ground. But he could pitch." Burke says that WJ's favorite pitch was a "high ball close to the batter's head" (?) and that "he never had any other nickname--just Walt." ("How Walter Johnson got his start in baseball", Joseph C. Burke, Phil(?) Enquirer, 9/20/13, from HOF clipping files)

WJ-- "The boom spirit of the west seemed to strike baseball at this time, and practically everybody in our part of the country was either a player or a fan. In the oil fields the rivalry was intense and the managers did not hesitate to import the best amateurs or professional players they could secure. On account of my father's connection with the oil fields, I became a frequent spectator at these games, and finally asked manager Tom Young to allow me to pitch for his team(?). He put me in to finish a game(?), shortly after which I became a regular. The best players received a salary while the lesser lights were never sure of their pay. My share was often 50 or 75 cents, and frequently nothing. this, however, did not worry me as the keen enjoyment of the game was compensation enough." ("Some of my early experiences", manuscript in Johnson archives, c.1918)

Olinda 'home' games played at Anaheim, promoted by saloons serving liquor on Sundays, only place legal

in Orange County, (Santa Ana Register, 2/12/38)

FULLERTON HS:

A four-year high school, opened in 1893. 13 seniors graduated 6/16/05:

"In November (1904), we organized our baseball team. The school board gave us 25 dollars and two-thirds of the walnut crop, which we used to buy baseball goods. Then, by the liberal givings of the town merchants and friends, we secured enough money to buy our suits (School colors are red and white). The lineup of the team was soon made and was as follows: Walter Johnson, pitcher... We had a team that would have made the Fullerton school famous, but in February, just when the baseball season opened, two of our best players left school (Hartung, catcher, and Knowlton, CF). Then during the latter part of February the baseball spirit slackened until we secured a new catcher, a young fellow by the name of Grover Collins. With this lineup we have put up many a stiff game.

The baseball team for the next season will be much stronger. There is no reason it could not be, because you will still have that little (?) Freshman Johnson, the swiftest amateur pitcher in Orange County." "The Lucky Thirteen", Fullerton Union HS yearbook, 1905 (the school's first YB)

Minnie Johnson-- "I don't believe Walter ever saw a game of baseball until he was 14 or 15 years old. He began to play with the high school team when we lived in Fullerton, California. I used to see him play there sometimes, when the Fullerton team played the Santa Ana High School. When he started out he was a catcher. Then I used to hear some of the boys say they thought Walter would make a better pitcher than a catcher. So he began to pitch." (Scrapbook VIII)

WJ-- "When our manager lined all of us up and had us throw to second base, he said my throws were the hardest. 'Walter, you'll be my catcher, and he picked out the other boys for their positions according to their arms. The boy who couldn't shoot 'em a mile lost his uniform, didn't make any difference how far he hit--he had to throw.

The two pitchers we had were beaten in two games, and we were called together for another throwing contest. Each boy had three throws from the plate to second base with the manager there to catch them. I won, and was picked to pitch the next game. I did, or rather I pitched against the bats of the batters. I was slugged, 21-0 (?--the score of this game probably 3-0). Another throwing contest for a new pitcher. I insisted on participating, and when the manager caught my three throws, he said: 'I'll give you another chance. With that speed you ought to throw 'em past the batters. I was on the bill in the second game, and it was quite a contrast. I won, 1-0, in 15 innings.' (0-0 tie) (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 8/17/19)

"He was a relatively unknown player when he enrolled at Fullerton High School as a freshman in the fall of 1904. When he turned out for the baseball team the following spring, Hollis Knowlton, the leftfielder, was the only player at Fullerton High who had seen Johnson play with the Olinda team. 'I had played against him when I was playing for the Fullerton town (boys?) team the year before, in 1904', says Knowlton, 84, who still lives in Fullerton. 'I can remember he played catcher with no mask and played about 10 feet behind the plate. I got on first and tried to steal once. He threw me out by 30 feet. So when ol' Walter enrolled at Fullerton the following year, I was the only one around who was aware of how hard he could throw a ball.

Well, Downey was beating us 6-0 one day and I said to our captain, Bob McFadden--we had no coaches in those days--'Why not let Walter pitch some?' Well, he said to me, 'I'm the captain here. If you don't like how I'm running things it's too bad.' Later, I talked to our school principal, Prof. W.R. Carpenter. He said that after school one day he'd come down by the school barn and let Walter pitch some to him. Walter threw a half-dozen balls at him at normal speed and then he threw a hard one and it knocked Prof. Carpenter's glove off. He said to Bob McFadden, who was standing there, 'better let this boy pitch, Bob.

McFadden, 83, the captain and shortstop, is another who still lives in Fullerton. 'Walter was a real tall, raw-boned kid with long arms and he threw a terrific fastball. We knew in those days long ago that Walter was a great pitcher but as far as thinking sometime he'd be in the big leagues, we didn't think about that at all. The big leagues were another world away from us. It was a make-believe world.

The first baseman of the '05 Fullerton nine was Rufus Porter, 81, also living in Fullerton. 'He threw that fast ball like a bullet', recalled Porter. 'He had long arms and long fingers. He weighed about 180 pounds. There were about 60 students at Fullerton High then. We were in no league and we had no coach. We played teams like Anaheim, Orange, Santa Ana, Pomona, and some school in Long Beach.'

The student manager of the club was C. Stanley Chapman, now 81. 'Johnson was a big, tall, curly-headed and tow-headed kid. And he had that great fastball. He was a very easy-going boy. It was one of the reasons, I think, why he became what he was--he was always comfortable and never got excited. He was, of course, by all odds the best player we had.' ("When the Big Train ran on rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

WJ writes that 0-0 game is his fourth for Fullerton, the first one pitching. No mention of "21-0" game. ("My Life So Far", BB Mag, Aug 1912)

WJ-- "I never pitched but two games in High school." (N.Y. Sun, 8/24/42)

The high school students from Olinda were bussed (horse-drawn) the nine miles to Fullerton Union H.S. ("Memories of Early Olinda", Nora Brown Mcmillan, 1975)

Fullerton alumni include Richard Nixon ('27), Arky Vaughn (HOF, '30), 8 major league players.

"He dropped out of school soon after that Santa Ana game--he was only a freshman--and enrolled for a term at a Santa Ana business college." He continued to live in Olinda with his family, play for the town team, work in the oilfields and play a skilled game of poker at the Stein and Fassel general store. Transportation was a black mare, a horse all four of his high school teammates remember distinctly. ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Johnson quit high school after his freshman year and enrolled in a Santa Ana business college." (S.A. Register, 2/12/78)

ANAHEIM--Only town in Orange Co. that served alcohol on Sundays (S.A. Register, 2/12/78);

ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS COLLEGE

WJ(1923)-- "After leaving high school I went to work in the oil fields and attended business college in Santa Ana." (Dearborn Independent, 10/6/23)

"Walter, who wanted to be a bookkeeper..." (Corpus Christi Times, 4/13/53, Interview with Chester Johnson)

"He quit Fullerton High in order to move over to Orange County Business College in nearby Santa Ana. Walter wanted to learn bookkeeping, for skilled office help was being paid well in the oil field offices, and there was a chance for a young fellow to move right along in the business end of the oil game. Storekeeper Ray encouraged Johnson in his schooling. At the store, Walter made \$4 a week." (Influence of Joe Burke, a bookkeeper with the Santa Fe Oil Co.?) (Flaherty, TSN Baseball Register, 1947)

--Attended briefly (S.A. Register, 8/11/57)

"Learn bookkeeping and shorthand at the Orange County Business College" (advertisement, Santa Ana Evening Blade, 12/20/09)

Founded 1896 (celebrating 9th anniversary in 1905). (Fullerton Tribune, 7/6/05)

OLIVE TEAM--"At the time (attending business school), Johnson was pitching and Meats catching for Olive's town team every Sunday. He drove down by horse and buggy from his parent's place at Olinda." (Eddie West, S.A. Register, 8/11/57) - 1966? 10/21/06 GAME, OLIVE @ S. MONICA

GAMES-1905

Date	Team	Vs	SCORE	IP	R	ER	H	BB	K	WP	HBP	AB	I(XBH)	R	PO	A	E	OP/C
1/29	Olinda	@Rivera	4-5	11	5		9	?	8									Meats Collin
2/18	Ful HS	Norwalk	3-7	?	?													
2/26	OLINDA	Downey	7-5				WJ	RF-CripsP										
3/5	"	LA Hoeg	4-5	9	5		4	1	5			4	0	1	1	4		Meats ?
4/1	Ful HS	S.A. HS	0-3	9	3		9	?	?			?			?			?
4/2	Olinda	LA Hoeg	7-6				WJ	RF-Crips P				4	0		3			Meats
4/9	"	LA Owls	2-5	9	5		9	2	11			4	1					Collin
4/15	Ful HS	@S.A. HS	0-0	15	0	0	7	3	27			6	1			2		
4/16	Olinda	Tufts-Ly	7-6				WJ	CF-Morrison P				4	1	1	1			
5/14	"	Tufts-Ly	7-9				WJ	1B-Crips P				4	1		10			
5/28	"	LA Hoeg	2-4	9	4	0	6	2	12		3	3	0			5		Waters
6/4	"	LA Hamb	6-6				WJ	1B-Crips P				3	0			8	0	2
6/11	"	LA Hoeg	9-4	9	4		5	2	7			4	1	1	2			"
6/25	"	Tufts-Ly	9-13	7	4		11	?	6			5	0		2	3		?
7/9	"	@Ventura	2-1	13	1		6	0	13			5	0		1	2		Meats
7/16	"	LA Chris	12-2				WJ	RF-Morrison P				4	0		1			
7/23	"	@Rivera	5-10	8	10			2	7									Meats
7/30	"	Sioux Ind	9-5	9	5		9	0	10		1	3	0	(1 HSP)		2		"
8/13	Rivera	Leonardt	12-4	9	4		9	1	12			4	2		3			"
9/10	"	LA Hamb	4-7	9	7		?	?	?			?			?			?
9/17	"	LA Christ	7-9				WJ	LF-Lucero P				5	0		2			
9/24	"	Tufts-Ly.	6-3	9	3		?	?	?			?			?			Meats
10/15	Olinda	LA Hoeg	4-3	9	3		6	1	4			4	0		1	2		Leahy
10/22	"	Tufts-Ly.	3-7	9	7		10	2	9			4	0		1			Meats
10/29	"	Dyas-Clin	7-5				WJ	1B				4	0		9			
11/12	"	Tufts-Ly	1-0	9	0		1	3	13			3	2		1		1	LeBran
11/19	"	LA Hamb	8-5	9	5		8	1	8			3	0			4		"
11/22	"	Tufts-Ly	6-0 (1?)				WJ P2	--@	Santa Ana									
11/26	"	LA Examin	7-0	9	0		2	4	9			4	0	1	1			"
12/3	"	LA Leonar	6-2	9	2		7	0	10			3	0		2			"
12/17	"	LA Hoeg	6-2	9	2		6	3	11			2	0	1	1	2		"
12/31	"	LA Christ	5-0	9	?		?	?	?			?			?			?

CRIPS P, WJ PLAY?

Notes on Games:OLINDA/RIVERA

1/1 Olinda 6, Tufts-Lyon 4. Cripps P, Meats C.

In Santa Ana, Clifford Cravath plays 3b for the Santa Ana Elks in 25-5 win over the Riverside Elks. (Fullerton Tribune)

1/8--Olinda 5, Pomona 4. Crips(sic?) & Meats. (Fullerton Tribune)

1/15 Olinda 6, L.A. Owls 3. Cripps and Meats

1/22--"The professional Olinda team is expected to play the once famous O.O.W. (Olinda Oil Wells?) team that has an unprecedented record, on the local diamond Sunday. This game will depend on whether the players of the latter nine can be gotten together, and if so a warm game is promised. For particulars consult Tom Young or Joe Burke." (Fullerton Tribune, 1/19/05) ?

1/29--Probable first game WJ playing for Olinda; Fred Snodgrass C for Rivera--17 years old, student at Los Angeles HS;

"Pico-Rivera was incorporated in the 50's from the former rural communities of Pico and Rivera, and is about 4 miles west of downtown Whittier, or 12-15 miles from the Olinda oil fields. Los Nietos is one of the oldest settlements in California, going back to a 1771 land grant to the Nieto family. It's just south of the road from Whittier to Rivera. Walter probably caught a trolley in either Fullerton or La Habra to get to his games." (Letter from Chuck Carey, 1/27/93)

"The new grandstand (at Los Nietos) is a great improvement, and the admission price, 10 cents, very reasonable." (Whittier News, 11/27/04)

"Walter Johnson and Grover Collins have been added to the list of professional players for the famous Olinda team." (Fullerton Tribune, 2/2/05)

"The contest was a close one all the way... a fair-sized crowd watched the play." Broadbent and Suttles Pⁿ for Rivera, Waters said to catch for Olinda (Meats?). (L.A. Times, 1/30/05)

"The baseball lovers of this vicinity had a real treat Sunday afternoon in a hard fought contest of 11 innings between the Rivera nine and the so far invincible Olindas of the Oil Wells. After 29 successful games(?), Rivera turned them down in the 13th (11th), five to four. It was a great game... Then (11th inning), with two men out for Rivera, Billy Anderson grabbed the bat and you could see he meant business. Two strikes; Billy, look out. He did, and found it for a two-bagger, which he made amid the wild cheers of the crowd. Then Ellis picked up the stick and smashed one over towards the railroad track, bringing Billy in and scoring a home run for himself. This gave Rivera the game, 5 to 4.

Johnson, the young twirler for the Olindas, was presented as a High School kid, but he is certainly a graduate in the science of delivering the ball and fanned eight of the Rivera men, but allowed nine hits." Andy Pallett and Settle pitched for Rivera. Game played at the "Los Nietos grounds". (Whittier News, 2/4/05)

"John Tuffree recalled Walter's first outside appearance with the Olinda team. There was no uniform for him to wear so they gathered some odds and ends. Always a husky youth, the shirt he wore was too short, so his shirttail was out after every pitch and his pants hit him well above the knees. They were too tight to buckle and his cap bobbed on his head. He took an awful ribbing, which he ignored, fanned every batter, and before he was through he had the entire crowd cheering for him." (Orange County Historical Volume III, Mildred Yorba MacArthur, 1963)

2/5--Downey to play Olinda at Athletic Park; Johnston(sic) listed as right fielder, Crips P. Mention of defeat at Rivera 1/29, no detail. (Anaheim Gazette, 2/2/05)

2/18--"In a ball game here Saturday between the high school teams of Norwalk and this place the former were victorious by a score of 7 to 3. The battery for the home team was Hanson, Johnson and Collins..." (Fullerton Tribune, 2/18/05)

3/5--L.A. Hoegees 5, Olinda 4--"Far and away the most pleasant feature of the game was 'Kid' Johnson's pitching for the Olinda team, this being his debut in fast company. (No-1/29 game; this is first on home grounds) He remained cool headed throughout the game... Johnson is a good 'find' and he had a host of admirers upon his first appearance." Olinda makes 5 errors. (Anaheim Gazette, 3/9/05)

(over)
4/1--Santa Ana HS at Fullerton, wins 3-0 on 3-hitter by George Coleman. Unnamed Fullerton pitcher gives up 9

3/5 - "THE BALL GAME SUNDAY WAS ONE OF THE BEST EVER
WITNESSED IN THE COUNTY. A BIG ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD
WAS PRESENT." OLINDA HAS 13 HITS. (FULLERTON TRIBUNE, 9/9/05)

hits, including a triple--presumed to be WJ. (Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/3/05)

4/2--"Kid Johnson's left fielding (box has him in RF) was way up and he gathered in the sky-scrapers with neatness and dispatch. The collection was not as good as it should have been, considering the large crowd." (Anaheim Gazette, 4/6/05)

4/8--Santa Ana HS loses their "first defeat of the season" to Occidental College, 5-2; will play the Fullerton HS team next Sunday. (Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/10/05)

4/9--L.A. Owls 5, Olinda 2. Six bunts in a row bring in 3 runs and Olinda's defeat--"...The locals in their bewilderment made some fearful fumbles and throws...Johnson pitched a wonderful game for a youngster and the way he clipped the Owls wings at the plate was a distinct feature of the game...Manager Tom Young stepped out onto the diamond between curtains and, motioning the crowd for silence, made a businesslike speech upon the financial question that proved a winner. The boys are 50 dollars to the bad, he said, and the contributions have been light, very light, and it is a question of more money or no more baseball in the future. Young's forceful oratory moved the assemblage to loosen, and a better contribution than usual was taken up when the lid went around. The boys really ought to be better patronized as they are under quite an expense. Personally they get nothing." (Anaheim Gazette, 4/13/05)

4/15--Fullerton HS 0, Santa Ana 0--"A Series Of Goose Eggs": "This tells the story of scoring that was done in Saturday's game on the local diamond. If the game had not been called they would probably have played several more. In all respects it was probably the best and closest game ever seen on the local grounds, the visitors' battery (WJ and Grover Collins) was the whole team in itself, being responsible for thirty-two of the forty-five putouts for Santa Ana, Coleman (George--Los Angeles P.C.L. 1908) pitched a great game, allowing but three scattered hits, and one base on balls, while Johnson of Fullerton was touched up for seven safe ones, including two-baggers by Wilkinson and Hillyard, and walked four. Rooters were out in force for both sides and the grandstand was kept in a constant uproar applauding the brilliant work of the players, the local boys showed decided superiority in fielding and teamwork but could not connect safely at critical times. Probably another game will be played later to play off the tie, although Santa Ana won the first game of the series (3-0, 4/1/05). (Santa Ana Evening Blade, 4/17/05)

"Warren 'Cap' Hillyard (S.A. HS), one of the survivors of the marathon contest, says 'the game wasn't called because of darkness but because the officials decided it was too tough on the players, especially the pitchers...furthermore, the rooters had long since lost their voices so it seemed useless to carry on any longer.'" (Orange County Historical Volume III, Mildred Yorba MacArthur, 1963)

"Walter Johnson's legacy to Orange County sports legends is the 1905 game between Fullerton and Santa Ana, a confrontation which was to have decided the Orange County championship that year. According to McFadden, it was a game that almost never was: 'We didn't have a catcher who could catch Walter's fastball. So we found a grammar school boy, Roy (Grover?) Collins, who could catch it--most of the time. Well, Santa Ana got wind of the fact before the game that we had a grammar school boy on our team and at first threatened not to play us. But we talked them into it and we played the game.' ("When the Big Train ran on a rural track", L.A. Times, 6/2/70)

"Garland Ross of Santa Ana, who was captain of the Saints' team (3b, cleanup hitter, 2 for 7), recalls this about Johnson: 'For the most part, we just went up to the plate, took our three swings, and walked back to the bench. I remember we all kept saying to the next batter, 'he ain't got a thing but a fast ball' and that was true. But what a fast ball! It came up to the plate like a pea shot out of a cannon.'" (Walter Johnson, One of Nation's Top Ball Players, From Fullerton", paper and date unknown, Fullerton Library Clipping file)

Minnie Johnson at this game?--"I used to see him play there (Fullerton HS) sometimes, when the Fullerton team played the Santa Ana High School. When he started out he was a catcher. Then I used to hear some of the boys say they thought Walter would make a better pitcher than a catcher. So he began to pitch." (WJ Scrapbook VIII, 1924, source unknown)

4/15 game played at Santa Ana's Athletic Park on Fruit Street; for the "Orange County championship". (1924 scrapbook, retrospective article, probably the S.A. Register)

"...the second of a series of games to be played for the championship of Orange County. Brilliant work in the field and box were features of the game. Batteries: Fullerton, Johnson and Williams(?)." (Fullerton Tribune, 4/2/05)

Fullerton Tribune of 5/21 says SAHS to play Poly High of L.A. on 5/27 and then LAHS 6/3 "for the state championship". (SAHS beats Poly, 1-0, Coleman pitches 1-hitter with 15 K's. (Fullerton Tribune, 5/21/05)

Last game of the season. (Fullerton HS yearbook)

3 P.O.

(LONE BY WJ)

3?

PROBABLY 3-0 GAME, 4/1/05.

4/16--Attendance 1,000, "the largest crowd of the season".

5/7--L.A. Owls 14(15?--L.A. Herald), Olinda 5, called for rain after 7; Cripps & Burnett P, unknown if WJ plays.(Fullerton Tribune) *5/11/05*)

5/14--Game interrupted in the fifth inning--"...The expenses for each game amount to about \$24, and only \$15 was thrown in the hat on this occasion. Young addressed the large gathering, stating that in all fairness a more liberal contribution had been expected to defray expenses. He and his team freely give their time and money to bring the games here and his appeal for financial assistance struck a responsive chord. Upon a second passing of the hat enough was secured for all purposes, and the game was again proceeded with. It is hoped that better results will be had in the future. Baseball is the national game and the ball put up here is the best of amateur playing on the coast."(Anaheim Gazette, 5/18/05)

5/28--"...The feature of this game was the pitching of Kid Johnson. He should have won his game hands down but for an error and a lucky two-bagger...Johnson must have had 'em buffaloed for a couple of the seraphs, failing to find them with the bat, turned their anatomy toward the ball, getting it amidships(3 HBP)...The money question still bothers some. Jack Burnett, the amiable captain, gave a forceful dissertation on the cumulative effect of frenzied finance, with the result that the second offering sufficed to play even with the expense account."(Young writes note to the paper about the trouble meeting expenses, listing railroad fare for visiting teams, meals for same, livery hire, baseballs, etc., says that 10 or 15 cents per fan would take care of it.)(Anaheim Gazette, 6/1/85)

(OVER)

*IN 8TH GAME PITCHING--
(5 LOSSES - 4 OLINDA, 1 FUNN; 1 TIP; 1 RELIEF)*

6/11--Olinda 9, Hoegge Flags 4. First WJ win; "Kid Johnson is going to have a tryout in the box with a Los Angeles team at Chutes Park this week."(Anaheim Gazette, 6/15/05)

6/25--WJ and Crips P, unknown who starts and who relieves--box score lists WJ as "P-1b" and Crips as "1b-P", but the pitching summary lists Crips first; Crips' higher PO total(8) indicates longer time at 1b, he is credited with 8 H & 2 K as pitcher; Tufts-Lyons scores 4 R in first inning, 5 in second(8 H in these two innings according to game account, same as Crips H total--probable that WJ relieves to start the third inning and pitches remainder of game.(Fullerton Tribune, 6/?/05)

(OVER)

7/2--Olinda 8, Rivera 8; WJ not in game--Morrison P.(Fullerton Tribune) *FRANK & MINNIE JOHNSON TO KANSAS WITH 2 CHILDREN - WJ TAKE TO STATION OR BABYSITTING THE OTHER KIDS?*

7/9--"The features of the game were the fine pitching of Walter Johnson and all round good playing of the boys behind him. Meats caught a splendid game, nipping every runner that tried to steal on him. The Ventras should have had only three hits off Johnson, three of their six being of the kind classed as 'lucky' hits."(Fullerton Tribune, 7/?/05)

7/23--Rivera steals 9 bases off Meats in 10-5 loss; 5 R in 7th inning, 2 in 8th--"It was a very interesting game throughout. The gentlemen from the oil wells loomed up like giants in their scarlet suits, and led off in their first inning with two runs..."(Whittier Daily News, 7/24/05)

"The (Olinda) team will now disband for at least several months."(Fullerton Tribune, 7/?/05)

7/30--Day game of day/night doubleheader(3 & 8 p.m.) vs. Sioux Indian team of South Dakota; ad reads "50 arc lamps will illuminate the grounds for the evening game. A guaranteed attraction--the Indians have been secured for these two games under a heavy guarantee. They travel in their own private cars, use their canvas fence for enclosure and erect their own portable grand stand, which is protected by a mammoth canvas covering and netting to protect spectators from foul balls. Note the special prices: admission to grounds 25c, grand stand 25c extra."(Fullerton Tribune, 7/23/05)

1,000 at game; Indians get 14 runs in first inning of night game "before the Olindas could get them subdued"(no score given); "The oil well team has disbanded. Johnson, Meats and Isbell will be seen in Rivera uniforms."(Fullerton Tribune, 8/3/05)

Olinda team disbands due to "lack of financial interest in games played here (Anaheim)". The Rivera team said to be after WJ, Burnett to have a tryout with L.A.." The Olindas hold the amateur championship of Southern California(?), and that the club should be permitted to disband is a reproach to local fandom."(Anaheim Gazette, 7/20/05)

WJ gives up first home run. "The Oil Well team has disbanded. Johnson, Meats and Isbell will be seen in Rivera uniforms."(Anaheim Gazette, 8/3/05)

"The local(Olinda) team has dissolved for several months until several of the star players return from the eastern ball fields."(?)(Fullerton Tribune, 8/10/05)

6/4 - "THE OIL WELLS WILL PLAY THE HOEGEE FLAGS
NEXT SUNDAY AND KID JOHNSON WILL HAVE
ANOTHER CRACK AT THEM" (FULLERTON TRIBUNE, 6/8/05)
(BOTH FULLERTON TRIBUNE + ANAHEIM GAZETTE
CALLING HIM "KID JOHNSON")

6/25 - TOM YOUNG RESIGNS AS MANAGER "AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF
EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND LOYALTY". THE DUTIES HAVE DEVOLVED
UPON WALTER WOODRUFF, THE WELL KNOWN AND ENTHUSIASTIC
SCORER. TEAM CALLED "THE OLINDA REDS" (UNIFORMS?)
(FULLERTON TRIBUNE, 6/29/05)

(ALSO HEATS)

"Robert Isbell and Walter Johnson are playing ball with the Rivera team. Mott and Head, the one-time amateur ball players on the Olinda team, are expected from the East(?) next month and the Olinda team will probably blossom once more into fame." (Fullerton Tribune, 9/7/05)

Rivera team said to belong to the "Southern California League" (Whittier News, 4/16/05).

8/13--Leonardt's pitcher is Phil Knell, 40 year-old ex major leaguer (1888-1895) and longtime (1887-1908) California Leaguer. **KNELL GOES DISTANCE FOR "C. LEONARDT" TEAM.**

~~(SEE BELOW)~~ (SEE BELOW)
9/10--Hamburgers's said to be an L.A. department store. (Whittier News, 5/14/05) Rivera said to be 2-2 for the year before this game. (Whittier News, 9/14/05)

9/28--"The Anaheim people are overly anxious for the oil well ball team to appear again but manager Young says 'nothing doing' unless the team has a more satisfactory guarantee of expenses than at previous engagements. Amateur ball is generally played for pleasure, and enjoyed by pleasure seekers, but heretofore the contributions have been so shy and small that it has practically been relieved of its enjoyable features." (Fullerton Tribune, 9/28/05)

10/12--"The Olinda ball team will probably be seen on the diamond again before long as manager Young has secured more favorable concessions this year than last(?), and meeting the expenses seems assured." (Fullerton Tribune, 10/12/05)

10/15--Mott elected captain of the reorganized Olinda. Fred Snodgrass C for Hamburgers. (Anaheim Gazette, 10/19/05)

11/9--"The Olinda team so far this season has won two-thirds of the games played. Head will soon return from the south(?)..." (Fullerton Tribune, 11/9/05)

11/12--"The best game of ball ever witnessed here...with Kid Johnson as the star performer...the way he struck them out was wonderful. Johnson is no doubt one of the best amateurs in the state and has the stuff in him to send him up the line. Le Brandt is the best catcher the Oil Wells ever had." (Anaheim Gazette, 11/16/05)
"Head has returned from the southern states and played left field but will go into the infield next Sunday." (Fullerton Tribune, 11/16/05)

12/17--"This is the last game of the year and the boys have made a record they are proud of, having won 9 out of 10(?) games." (Fullerton Tribune, 12/21/05)

Conclusion of a 9-game post-season (PCL) series between L.A. and Tacoma (PCL or NW League?). Possible that Tacoma personnel see or hear of WJ, now pitching for Olinda? Does WJ go to L.A. 12/10 to see one of these games?: From Whittier News--"There was no ballgame at Los Nietos last Sunday, so our local (Rivera) players and fans all went in to witness the Los Angeles game, and incidentally to give George Ellis a 'send-off'." (Ellis, LF for Rivera, signs with L.A. "for the balance of this season and the next." (Whittier News, 12/21/05)

8/13 - LEONARDT'S SAID TO DESIRE TO AVENGE A 7/30 4-3 LOSS TO RIVERA, WHEN THEY ALLEGEDLY DIDN'T HAVE ALL THEIR GOOD PLAYERS (8/31 TT SAYS THEY CAME FROM L.A. WITH A "LARGE GROUP OF FANS", + THAT THEY HAD "NEVER LOST A GAME." KNELL, CALLED "THE CELEBRATED LEAGUE SOUTHPAW" SEEMS TO HAVE MOUTHED OFF A LOT AND IS RIDICULED THROUGHOUT THE GAME ACCOUNT. (WHITTIER NEWS)