



THE OLD JUDGE



A Newsletter for the Encyclopedia of Baseball Cards
and for Baseball and Sports Memorabilia

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Opening Comments

This is the first supplement to the Old Judge. In it you will find an important story regarding restored cards and as promised, a price list of tobacco cards. The price list correlates to the nearly finished third volume of the Encyclopedia of Baseball Cards which covers pre-World War II 20th Century Tobacco Cards. The Encyclopedia will expand on the prices that are in this supplement.

As previously indicated it is TOJ's intention to price all aspects of pre-World War II cards in the Old Judge over a year's time. The Spring Issue updated 19th Century Cards and the Summer Issue will update "E" cards. A second supplement will price Bakery, Food and Periodical issues and Postcards. The Fall Issue will price miscellaneous issues and the Winter issue will update the pricing of 1930's cards that started in the last Winter issue.

National Registration News

The registration procedure designed by the steering committee last year will be in use this July at Arlington. It seems to be in the best interest for all interested parties, to register and vote. So if you're planning on going to Arlington, or even thinking about it, take a few minutes to Register. If you're at least 16 years of age (as of July 24th) it's all you have to do is send your name, address, telephone number and date of birth to Bruce Paynter at 96 Marina Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Bruce indicated he must have the information by July 1st and that if a registrant wanted verification of the registration he should include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

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THE OLD JUDGE

The Restoration of Cards

In the winter issue of TOJ I made mention of a collector I was introduced to who had the ability to take a T206 card with rounded corners and make it into a "mint" card. The process of layering paper is a known one and accepted by paper conservators. As I mentioned at that time the collector was doing it for his personal satisfaction with cards in his collection.

In early 1986, I received a letter from the collector, Tom Faith, asking me to send him a Goudey and a T206 with rounded corners and he would "restore" them. He suggested I photograph and measure the cards before sending them so I could refer back to them. He indicated a limitation on the restoration of T206's, i.e. the inability to match the cards' gloss on the rebuilt corners. I also found out that there were certain cards that were more difficult for him than others, Goudey's weren't all the same, '34 Goudey high numbers were not the same paper composition as low numbers. I also learned that Tom could remove superficial creases from cards (creases which did not break the fibers of the card). He indicated that he knew this practice had been going on for awhile in the hobby.

I indicated that TOJ's interest was in the story itself so that the hobby would be aware of, not so much what HE could do, but WHAT could be done. Some people in the hobby were spending large additional amounts of money to get mint cards and they might have a special interest in the restoration process. I also expressed concern that while he may have enhanced cards for his personal satisfaction, others would not hesitate to use such a service to bilk the public. There was no question that what he can do is immoral or illegal, because it isn't. Any serious collector, especially those with large display items, knows paper conservators who can repair, clean, enhance or remove foreign particles from items in their collection. Tom said "I'm proud of what I can do. I have a talent and don't think there's anything wrong with it." I agreed in theory, but was still concerned with whether his talent would wind up in wrong hands and I decided to ask others their opinions.

Richie Neighbor, an "E" card collector from Long Island expressed concern over what the collector could do. Ron Oser, from Philadelphia and Wayne Miller from Maryland, both reputable dealers used the same word, "scary" to describe the prospects. Most collectors and dealers I spoke to thought nothing was wrong with a dealer removing a crease from a card and selling it without saying so. Almost everyone agreed that a repaired or enhanced corner had to be noted by the seller. The distinction would have to be in the addition of a "foreign substance" to the original card. The removal of a crease or the cleaning of a card would not fall, most feel, in that category.

(Continued on Page Four)

20th Century Tobacco Price Guide

The following should serve as a guide to 20th Century (pre-World War II) Tobacco Cards. Prices should be associated with excellent to mint condition cards.

B18 BLANKETS			
Set of 181		\$3000.00	Johnson
Common		6.00	Mathewson, Lajoie, Young
HOF'er		15.00	T3 Coupon
Cobb (White Bkgd)		100.00	T4 OBAK PREMIUMS
Cobb (Brown Bkgd)		175.00	Common Card
Detroit, Boston Brown Infields	ea.	35.00	T4 Coupon
Cleveland, St. L NL Yellow Paths	ea.	30.00	
St. Louis AL, Pittsburgh, Cleveland (purple)	ea.	20.00	T5 PINKERTON
rest		6-10.00	Common Card with cardboard mount
Red Infields		100.00	Common with paper mount
			Pinkerton Picture
C46 CANADIAN TOBACCO			HOF - double above prices
Set of 90		1750.00	Cobb with Cardboard mount
Common		20.00	Wagner
McGinnity, Kelley		40.00	T 5 ad sheet
			T200 FATIMA
H801-7 OLD MILL CABINETS			Set of 16
Common Card		150.00	New York A.L.
			St. Louis A.L.
L 1 LEATHER			Detroit
Set of 25		7,500.00	Boston N.L., St. Louis N.L.
Common		250.00	Common
HOF'er		400-500.00	T201 MECCA DOUBLEFOLDERS
Cobb		1,000.00	Set of 50
P 2 SWEET CAPORAL PINS			Common Card
Set of 20 ⁴		2500.00	HOF
Common Pin		6.00	Dougherty/Lord
Common - large letters		9.00	Cobb/Crawford
HOF'er		15.00	Street/Johnson
HOF'er - large letters		25.00	
"Ty" Cobb		100.00	T202 HASSAN TRIPLEFOLDER
Cobb (large letters)		175.00	Set of 132
Warhop, Turner, Cree, Scanlon, Needham,			Common Card
Overall, Donovan, Killian, Tom Jones, Grant,			HOF on one end panel
Bransfield, Wilson (NY), Hauser, Rowan	ea.	\$15-20.00	HOF'ers on both end panels
Johnson (large letters)		60.00	Birmingham's Home Run
Mathewson - large letters		50.00	Devlin/Mathewson/Cobb on end panel
Bresnahan - large letters		50.00	Cobb Center/Cobb End
Eddie Collins - large letters		45.00	
PX 7 DOMINO DISCS			T203 COMIC CARDS
Common		10.00	Set of 25
HOF'er		20.00	Common Card
Cobb		125.00	
Mathewson, Johnson		50.00	T204 RAMLY
			Set of 121
S74 SILKS			Common Card
White silk with Paper back		15.00	HOF
Same - HOF'er		25.00	Johnson
Colored Silk		13.00	Plank
Same - HOF'er		25.00	Keeler
Smith, Rustlers		50.00	T.T.T. Back
Cobb		125.00	Rectangular Style
Mathewson, Johnson	ea.	50.00	T205 GOLD BORDERS
			Set of 208
S81 LARGE SILK			Common Card
Set of 25		7,500.00	HOF
Common		250.00	Minor Leaguer
HOF'er		400-550.00	Collins, Providence
Cobb		1,000.00	Cobb
Johnson		700.00	Johnson, Mathewson
Mathewson		275.00	Turner
			Chase
T3 TURKEY REDS			Shean, Cubs; Graham, Cubs
Set of 100		10,000.00	Joss, Bresnahan (Open Mouth)
Common (1-76)		70.00	Collins (Open Mouth)
Common (77-125)		80.00	Broadleaf Back
Rhoades (114)		125.00	Drum Back
HOF'er		125-175.00	Hindu Back
Cobb		1,200.00	Hoblitzell (no stats)

T206 WHITE BORDERS

Set of 520	6000.00
Wagner, Pitts.	2200.00
Plank	4500.00
Magie	2000.00
O'Hara, St. L NL	500.00
Demmitt, St. L AL	500.00
Elberfeld, Washington Port.	225.00
Brown, Washington	120.00
Smith, Chi & Boston	110.00
Kleinow, Bos; Lundgren, Chi	ea. 60.00
Dahlen, Brooklyn	40.00
Common	12.00
HOF	25.00
Cobb, Red Background	200.00
Cobb, Green Background	300.00
Cobb, Btg. black cap	225.00
Cobb, Btg. gray cap	250.00
Johnson	100.00
Mathewson (Portrait)	110.00
Mathewson (Black cap)	90.00
Mathewson (White cap)	100.00
Ty Cobb with Ty Cobb back	2000.00
Drum back	+ 75.00
Uzit or Lenox back	+ 35.00
Carolina Bright, Broadleaf	ea. + 15.00

T207 BROWN BACKGROUND

Set of 205	6500.00
Common	15.00
HOF	35.00
Lewis, Bos NL	650.00
Lowdermilk	650.00
Miller, Chicago NL	650.00
Ragan	150.00
Rasmussen	100.00
Speaker, Tyler, Saier	ea. 175.00
Hooper, Johnson	ea. 100.00
Red Cross Back	+ 100.00

T208 FIRESIDE

Set of 18	3500.00
Common	150.00
Mack	400.00
Plank	600.00
Bender, Baker, Collins	ea. 300.00

T209 CONTENTNEA

<u>Type One - Color Cards</u>	
Set of 16	1500.00
Common Card	100.00
<u>Type Two - Black & White Cards</u>	
Common Card	10.00

T210 OLD MILL

Common Card - Series 1, 3, 4, 5	5.00
Common Card - Series 2	4.00
Common Card - Series 7	7.50
Common Card - Series 6, 8	6.00
Stengel	50.00

T211 RED SUN CIGARETTES

Set of 75	1750.00
Common Card	25.00

T212 OBAKS

<u>1909</u>	
Set of 76	1500.00
Common Card	15.00
<u>1910</u>	
Set of 175	850.00
Common Card	5.00
150 Series Variations	+ 1.00
"Mundorf"	20.00
<u>1911</u>	
Set of 175	850.00
Common Card	5.00

T213 COUPON

<u>Type 1 - Brown Caption</u>	
Common Card	30.00
HOF'er	50.00
Cobb	225.00
<u>Type 2 - 20 for 5c</u>	
Common Card	12.00
HOF'er	30.00
Cobb (either)	175.00
Mathewson, Johnson	ea. 75.00
<u>Type 3 - 16 for 10c</u>	
Common Card	25.00
HOF'er	45.00
Cobb (either)	200.00

T214 VICTORY

Common Card	125.00
HOF'er	200.00
Cobb	325.00

T215 RED CROSS

<u>Type 1 - Brown Caption</u>	
Common Card	25.00
HOF'er	45.00
Cobb	225.00
<u>Type 2 - Blue Caption</u>	
Common Card	20.00
HOF'er	35.00
Cobb	200.00

T216 KOTTON, MINO, VA. EXTRA

Common Card - Kotton	25.00
Common Card - Kotton (thin paper)	30.00
HOF	40-50.00
Wagner	125.00
Cobb	200.00
Mino -	Add 50%
Virginia Extra	Double Above

T217 MONO

Set of 25	2500.00
Common Card	100.00

T222 FATIMA PLAYERS

Set of 52	2750.00
Common Player	50.00
Austin, Lelivelt	75.00
Alexander	125.00
Johnson	225.00
Other HOF'ers	100.00

T227 CHAMPIONS

Set of 4 Baseball	850.00
Cobb	500.00
Others	150.00

T231 FAN

One known	Est. \$1000.00
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T330-2 PIEDMONT STAMPS

Common	20.00
HOF	35.00
Cobb	175.00

T332 HASSAN STAMPS

Common	10.00
HOF	20.00
Cobb	125.00

PLOWBOYS

Common	75.00
HOF	150.00

DIAZ CIGARETTES

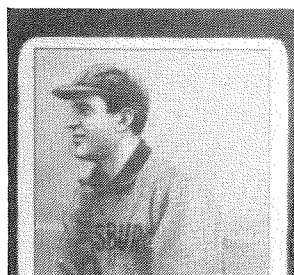
Common	150.00
HOF	250.00

CHARLES DENBY CIGARS

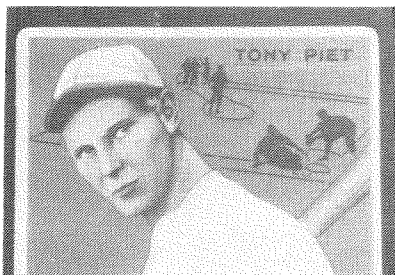
Common	40.00
HOF	60.00

The Restoration of Cards

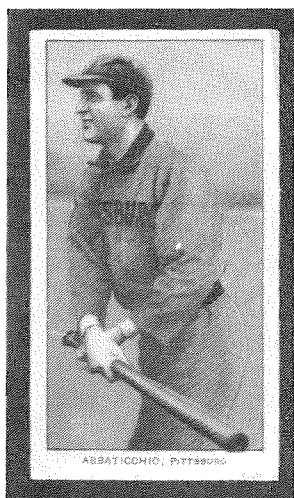
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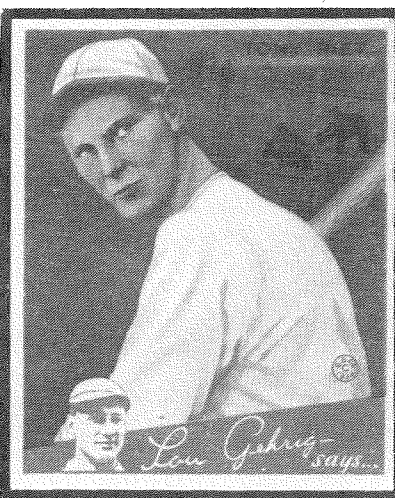
BEFORE



BEFORE



AFTER



AFTER

About two weeks after I sent the T206 and R320, I received them back. The illustrations show both cards before and after the work was done. Tom described the T206 as "very difficult" because of the severe rounded corners. He said it took over 3 hours and indicated he wasn't fully satisfied with the job he did. There were very subtle tone differences on both the front and back corners of the card. The difference would be perceptible to a collector who was looking for it. On the other hand, the only thing perceptible on the Goudey was a slight difference on the back corners. It was simply impossible to tell it from a Mint card. That is, aside from the underlining of Tony Piet's name.

I decided to seek other opinions on Tom's work and I contacted a woman I've known for several years, who's a sought after specialist in 19th century paper conservation. I described Tom's work and she suggested I bring the cards over and wondered if they would hold up under an ultra violet light. I thought this would be an excellent test as I remembered that ultra violet light was used in Philately to detect reparations.

The conservator, whose name was Collette, was amazed when she first saw the two cards. "Whoever did this is a miracle worker." We put the cards under the ultra violet light and it was evident that the restored corners would not show up. I arranged for a conference call between Collette, Tom and myself. After an hour's discussion, most of which was too technical for me to understand, Collette conceded that what Tom used was "legitimate restoration procedure" that would be accepted by any museum, library or historical society. Tom and I quibbled on the concept of adding foreign particles. He said he wasn't because his repara-

tion used only paper from a similar card. He also said he was restricted to working with T206's, Goudeys, Diamond Stars, Playballs and early Bowmans.

In later conversations Tom told me that there were other people doing this. That he had been offered cards by dealers that were restored without the acknowledgment that they were. That he had recently sold several cards he restored to a dealer, informing the dealer of the restoration. At this point it would be naive to think that:

- He is the only one doing this.
- They aren't being sold as mint cards.
- It won't become more widespread, especially if the disparity between mint and ex-mt card prices continues to grow.

As I originally indicated the main purpose here is to make TOJ readers aware of this possibility. As always, reader reaction is invited and we will follow up on it.

The Jurors Write

Dear Lew,

Having just got the back issue for Fall, 1985, I have a couple of things to say about altering cards.

- Any foreign substance removed from any card is an improvement and need not be mentioned to buyer.
- Anything added to (like color) a card is fraudulent. Or building up corners. Horrors!
- Nobody should trim cards. It's not the same card.
- If ironing out creases is successful, fine.

Interesting about those creases. Why, almost every card in existence could be "ex". As for building corners, I'd certainly like to know if I had an original, or part original, part "rebuilt" card. History is important to me. It's part of my interest in baseball cards. I don't want to be cheated of it by a decorator. I have, by the way, stopped "cardick" (the little mold spots that sometimes grow on very old cards) by ironing the card with a warm iron under a dry towel. It doesn't remove the "cardick" but stops it from spreading further.

Julie Vognar, Berkeley, CA.

ED. By coincidence we received the above letter while we were writing this story. It is our assumption that Julie's feelings would mirror the great majority of the card collecting hobby.

— — In the Summer TOJ — —

- * - First HOF Postcards
- * - Is the National really a National
- * - "E" Card Update
- * - Encyclopedia Price Update
- * - 19th Century Team Trade Card Update by Walter Handelman
- * - R301 Overland Candy
- * - Statistical Analysis
- * - Commentary on "Mint" Cards
- * - Much More!