

June 5, 1954

Canada's First "Bonus Baby" Tossed

Bill Slack may have been Canada's first "Bonus Baby," but on a warm Saturday evening in Schenectady, New York, the 21-year-old right-hander just needed to walk just a little bit faster.

Pitching (or attempting to pitch) for the Albany Senators in an Eastern (A) League contest against the Schenectady Blue Jays, Slack is not permitted to enter the game by home plate umpire Walter Doyle when he takes "too long" to walk in from the bullpen.

The following day League President Thomas H. Richardson suspends Slack for three days and fines him \$25. Richardson also reprimands Blue Jays manager Jack Burns for "lack of control over his players".

Albany eventually wins the five-hour, 8-minute 10-8 marathon that ends just before the 12:59 a.m. curfew, when 18-year-old and future major leaguer Albie Pearson drives home the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly in the top of the 17th inning.

A total of eight pitchers see action in the game, including Albany's Duane Wilson pitches the last 11 innings and earns a much-deserved victory. Angelo LiPetri will pitch the final inning for the Blue Jays and is charged with the loss.

Richardson Suspends, Fines Albany's Slack

Eastern League President Thomas H. Richardson last night announced action has been taken against Albany Pitcher Bill Slack for his Saturday night antics at Schenectady. Slack drew a three-day suspension, effective Tuesday, and a \$25 fine.

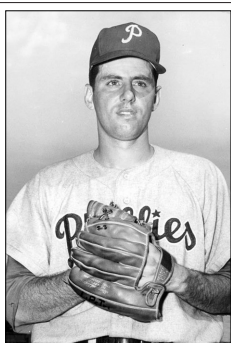
At the same time, Richardson issued a stern reprimand to Albany Manager Jack Burns for lack of control over his players.

Slack was ejected from Saturday's game with the Blue Jays for refusal to enter the game from the bullpen as a relief pitcher when summoned by Umpire Walter Doyle. A rhabarb started after his heave-ho.



Bill Slack
1966 Winston-Salem Red Sox

A native of Petrolia, Ontario and the ace hurler for the London Majors of the Intercounty League, Slack signs with the Boston Red Sox in 1951 for \$18,000. In 15 minor league seasons, he compiles a 79-63 record with a 3.45 ERA.



Angelo LiPetri
1956 Philadelphia Phillies

The Brooklyn-born LiPetri appears in 10 games with the Philadelphia Phillies in 1956 and 1958. In his major league debut against the Pittsburgh Pirates on April 25, 1956, the 6-1, 180-pounder pitches the top of ninth inning striking out Roberto Clemente, Dick Groat and Dale Long in order.

NEWS & NOTES

The Chicago Cubs sign University of Minnesota catcher Gene Steiger and assign him to the Magic Valley Cowboys of the Pioneer (C) League ... the Big Ten Conference's leading hitter this past spring with a .462 average, Steiger will hit only .219 for the Cowboys with seven hits in 32 at bats ... Steiger compiles a .222 career batting average with five teams in four minor league seasons.

The New York Giants sign 17-year-old Phoenix, Arizona, high school catcher Charlie Pearson to a maximum bonus of \$4,000 and assign him to the Olean Giants of the PONY (D) League where he hits .179 in 49 games.