

# Bud Weiser "King of Beers"

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**"It was the first time many of the fans ever saw Bud Weiser in uniform. Lots of them have admired it in a glass many a time, however. - May 31, 1917, The Wilkes-Barre Record on Weiser making his Wilkes-Barre debut**

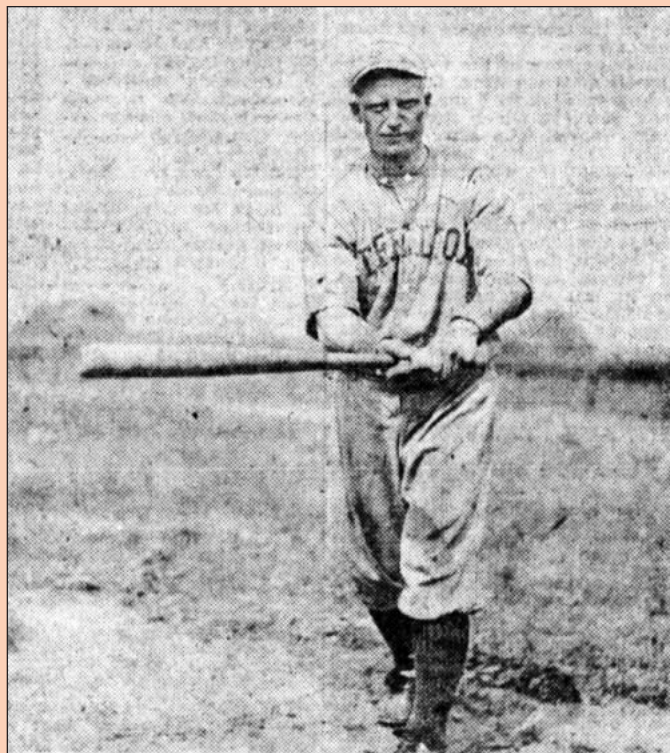
More than just The King of Beers, Harry Budson "Bud" Weiser is known as the "Ty Cobb of the North Carolina League," when he comes up to the National League's Philadelphia Phillies in 1915 straight from the Class D league in the Tar Heel State. Weiser will play a full season with the Phillies in 1915 and a partial one in 1916.

In 74 big league at bats, Weiser hits only .162 with 12 hits, including three doubles with nine RBIs and two stolen bases. Nine times in his 12 minor league seasons, the right-handed hitting outfielder will hit over .300, including a career-high .339 as a 32-year-old with the Binghamton Triplets in 1923. He finishes his minor league career with 1,231 hits and .307 batting average.

In 1916, he leads the Eastern League in steals, totaling a career-high 55 for the first-place New London Planters.

Twice he will capture individual batting titles, first in the North Carolina League (.333) in as a 23-year-old 1914 and then the New York State League (.375) in 1917.

On three occasions he will "jump" his contract leaving his teams in the lurch and his impressive minor league career is interrupted by stints in outlaw or semipro leagues.



## Major League Debut

Brooklyn Robins at Philadelphia Phillies  
Baker Bowl, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania  
April 29, 1915

BROOKLYN					PHILADELPHIA								
A.	B.	P.	A.	E.	A.	B.	P.	A.	E.				
O'M'ra.s	5	0	1	6	1	Byrne.3..	4	0	2	2	4	2	
Daub't.l	5	1	2	14	0	Ban't.s.	4	1	2	2	1	2	
Steng'l.r	5	1	1	0	0	Becker.l.	4	0	1	3	0	1	
Wheat.l	5	2	1	2	1	Crav'h.r.	3	0	0	1	0	0	
Cuts'w.2	4	0	2	2	5	Whit'd.m	4	0	0	2	0	0	
Myers.m	6	1	2	3	0	Dugey.2.	4	0	1	2	2	1	
Schitz.2	5	0	2	0	1	Luder's.l	2	1	0	10	1	0	
Miller.c.	4	1	2	5	2	Killifer.c	4	1	1	4	2	0	
Dell.p...	4	1	0	0	1	Dem'ee.p	2	0	1	1	4	0	
						Oesch'r.p	0	0	0	0	0	0	
						*Paskert.	1	1	1	0	0	0	
						†Weiser.	0	0	0	0	0	0	
						‡Stock...	1	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals..</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Totals..</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>

\*Batted for Demaree in the seventh.  
†Batted for Luderus in the ninth.  
‡Batted for Oeschger in the ninth.  
Brooklyn ..... 0 10 300 102-7  
Philadelphia ..... 120 000 100-4  
Two-base hits—Stengel, Byrne, Paskert. Three-base hit—Bancroft. Home run—Bancroft. Stolen bases—Cutshaw, Becker. Earned runs—Brooklyn 2, Philadelphia 3. Sacrifice fly—Cutshaw. Double play—O'Mara, Cutshaw and Dauvert. Left on bases—Brooklyn 9, Philadelphia 5. First base on errors—Brooklyn 5. Bases on balls—Off Dell 3. Hits—Off Demaree, 11 in innings; off Oeschger, 2 in 2 innings. Struck out—By Dell 5, by Demaree 2. Umpires Byron and Orth. Time—1:57.

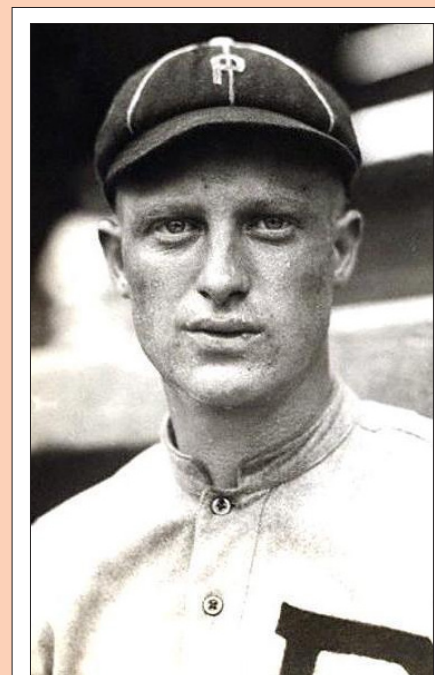
On the same day that the New York Giants release Olympic champion Jim Thorpe, Bud Weiser makes his major league debut as a ninth-inning pinch-runner for first baseman Fred Luderus. He is left stranded at first base in a 7-4 loss to the Brooklyn Robins. The loss is only the second in 13 outings to open the season for Pat Moran's Phillies. Weiser walks in his first plate appearance on May 5 as a pinch-hitter for Hall of Famer Pete Alexander against New York Giants right-hander Sailor Stroud.

Born on January 8, 1891, to George and Anna Weiser in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, he is educated in the city public school system through his high school years. During the summers, Weiser is a standout middle infielder for several area semipro teams - Bunker Hill in 1909 and Maysville in 1910 - prior to signing a contract with the Charlotte Hornets of the Carolina Association on January 11, 1911.

Weiser begins his professional career in 1911 as the starting shortstop for Charlotte and is 0-for-3 in his pro debut on April 27. He is hitting .256 in mid-May when he suffers a severe ankle sprain and misses most of the next two months. Returning to the lineup on July 4, he starts games at left field, center field, right field, third base and catcher. It is in his rookie season that the moniker "Bud" is first used in a game story in a loss to Greenville in late July. He ends his rookie campaign with a .269 batting average that includes 14 doubles and three home runs.

On April 8, 1912, Weiser is 3-for-4 with a home run off of Jack Coombs in an 11-2 loss to the Philadelphia Athletics in an exhibition game played before 1,600 fans at Charlotte's Latta Park.

After finishing second among league hitting leaders in 1912 with a .318 batting average, is sold to the Southern League's Atlanta Crackers on August 8



Bud Weiser  
1915 Philadelphia Phillies

## Bud Weiser [2 of 6]:

### Under Arrest

On August 7, 1912, Charlotte's Bud Weiser gets into a ninth-inning fight with Winston-Salem pitcher John Shessley and is carted off the field under arrest by the Winston-Salem police. Shessley is allowed to finish the game, a 3-2 complete game win. Twenty-four hours later, both Weiser and Shessley are fined \$20 by a city court judge. Carolina League President J.H. Wearn later suspends both Weiser and Shessley indefinitely, but the lifts the suspension at the request of both clubs. Later that night at a local hotel, Charlotte pitcher Doc High and Winston-Salem catcher Bull Powell "engage" in another scrap with High pulling a knife on the Twins backstop. Six days later, Wearn changes his mind for a second time and suspends both Weiser and Shessley for seven days.

for \$1,250, but Atlanta officials warn that the deal hasn't been "pulled off yet." Charlotte's management later confirms the sale of their most talented player to Atlanta. On November 17, Weiser is awarded to the Dallas Giants of the Texas (B) League, who had earlier had challenged the deal, claiming they had a prior agreement with Charlotte where they would have their choice of any player on the Hornets' roster. The National Commission upholds Dallas' claim.

After being snubbed, Atlanta offers Dallas several players in exchange for Weiser and then later a straight-cash deal for \$800. The *Dallas Morning News* is so enthused about Weiser that the paper notes that "Shoeless" Joe Jackson is also from the Carolina Association and that sportswriters say that Weiser is a better-looking hitter than Jackson. Sixteen games into the 1913 season, Weiser and his .125 batting average are removed from the Giants' starting lineup. On May

11, Weiser is hitting .189 with one extra base hit when he is sold back to Charlotte, where his struggles continue as he hits a modest .250 in 90 games with the Hornets.



Bud Weiser  
1913 Dallas Cowboys

### Bud Weiser Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	Finish	Age	AB	R	HT	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	SLUG	OPS	AVG	
1911	Charlotte Hornets	Carolina Assoc	D	62-58	3 of 6	20	271	33	73	14	0	3	-	-	.354	-	.269	
1912	Charlotte Hornets	Carolina Assoc	D	61-46	3 of 6	21	324	-	103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.318	
<b>1913</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>D-B</b>	-	-	<b>22</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	-	<b>12</b>	<b>.329</b>	-	<b>.241</b>	
1913	Dallas Giants	Texas	B	92-61	2 of 8	22	53	3	10	1	0	0	-	3	.208	.466	.189	
1913	Charlotte Hornets	North Carolina State	D	47-67	5 of 6	22	312	35	78	21	2	2	-	9	.349	-	.250	
1914	Charlotte Hornets	North Carolina State	D	72-49	2 of 6	23	445	*102	148	31	8	18	-	29	.560	-	*.333	
1915	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	MLB	90-62	1 of 8	24	64	6	9	2	0	0	8	2	.172	.408	.141	
1916	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	MLB	91-62	2 of 8	25	10	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	.400	.700	.300	
1916	New London Planters	Eastern	B	86-34	1 of 8	25	437	43	141	-	-	-	-	*55	-	-	.323	
<b>1917</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>B-A</b>	-	-	<b>26</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	-	<b>49</b>	<b>.406</b>	-	<b>.331</b>	
1917	Little Rock Travelers	Southern	A	64-86	7 of 8	26	171	22	43	4	2	0	-	8	.298	.598	.251	
1917	Wilkes-Barre Barons	New York State	B	81-37	1 of 8	26	309	63	116	18	2	2	-	41	.537	.932	*.375	
1918	Steelton Club	Bethlehem Steel	SPro	13-11	1 of 6	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.145	
1919	Reading Coal Barons	International	AA	51-93	8 of 8	28	453	79	137	25	10	2	-	22	.415	-	.302	
1920	Reading Coal Marines	International	AA	65-85	5 of 8	29	51	10	17	2	2	0	-	2	.451	-	.357	
1920	Steelton Club	Bethlehem Steel	SPro	13-11	2 of 4	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.273	
1921	Windbere	Steelton League	SPro	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1921	Fullerton AA	Allentown City	SPro	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1922	Harrisburg Motive Power	Allison Hill	SPro	-	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1923	Binghamton Triplets	New York-Penn	B	67-55	4 of 6	32	330	-	112	20	9	8	-	-	.527	-	.339	
1924	Binghamton Triplets	New York-Penn	B	62-65	5 of 8	33	487	-	140	24	9	8	-	-	.423	-	.287	
<b>1925</b>	<b>3 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>D-B</b>	-	-	<b>34</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-	<b>.451</b>	-	<b>.302</b>	
1925	Wilkes-Barre Barons	New York-Penn	B	60-71	7 of 8	34	194	32	68	16	5	2	-	-	.519	-	.350	
1925	Waynesboro Villagers	Blue Ridge	D	47-49	4 of 6	34	37	2	7	2	0	1	-	-	.324	-	.189	
1925	Harrisburg Senators	New York-Penn	B	61-69	6 of 8	34	17	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	.000	-	.000	
1926	Allentown Dukes	Central	SPro	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1927	Allentown Dukes	Central	SPro	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
<b>1928</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>Middle Atlantic</b>	<b>C</b>	-	-	<b>37</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	-	-	<b>.442</b>	-	<b>.311</b>	
1928	Scottdale Scotties	Middle Atlantic	C	51-61	5 of 8	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1928	Jeannette Jays	Middle Atlantic	C	45-64	6 of 8	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
<b>Major League Totals</b>							<b>2 Seasons</b>											
<b>Minor League Totals</b>							<b>12 Seasons</b>											
								<b>74</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>.244</b>	<b>.447</b>	<b>.162</b>
								<b>4013</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>1231</b>	<b>+184</b>	<b>+51</b>	<b>+48</b>	<b>-114</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>.307</b>

\*Denotes league leader; +Denotes incomplete career totals

**ML Debut: April 29, 1915, at Baker Bowl, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** pinch runs for first baseman Fred Luderus in the bottom of the ninth inning of a 7-4 loss to the Brooklyn Robins.

**ML Finale: October 5, 1916, at Baker Bowl, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** starts in leftfield and bats fourth, is 2-for-4 with his third career double against lefthander Art Neft in a 4-1 loss to the Boston Braves. The win is the 12th of 184 career wins in 15 seasons for the 5-foot-9 electrical engineer.



## Bud Weiser [3 of 6]:

1914 was a breakout year for the "idol of the diamond lovers" in Charlotte, when he hits a career-high 18 home runs, steals 29 bases and leads the North Carolina State League in both hitting (.333) and slugging (.560). In his four years in Charlotte, Weiser has been fined only one time by an umpire and that was for disputing a called third strike. Considered the best all-around player in the league, Weiser is scouted by several teams and has his contract purchased for \$750 on August 20 by the Philadelphia Phillies. When the Hornets' season ends in mid-September, the Phillies allow Weiser to return home to Shamokin.

### Steelton \$\$\$

Just as the Reading Coal Barons are boarding the train for a series across the border in Toronto, starting left fielder Bud Weiser jumps the team to join the Steelton outfit in the Bethlehem Steel League. Weiser falls victim to the cash dangled before his eyes by "Roxey" Roach (right), a former major leaguer and now a scout for Steelton manager George Cockill. It's understood that he will receive \$200 more a month than his name was entered for on the Reading payroll. Roach approaches several other Leaf stars without success. Weiser, for whom Roach has been angling for some time, was the only one to desert organized baseball.



Coming off a sixth-place finish with a 74-80 mark in 1914, the Phillies remove highly-popular Red Dooin (392-370 in 5 seasons) as manager and promote coach Pat Moran. One skeptical scribe writes, "That if the players make the manager, Pat Moran is a ruined manager." Despite the doom and gloom, Moran makes several trades and acquires Weiser in the team's only off-season minor league transaction.

Despite being the sensation of the Philadelphia spring training, it's likely that Weiser will be farmed out for further experience because of a new 21-man roster limitation and recently-acquired Possum Whitted, who will probably be retained as the fourth outfielder. During spring training Weiser writes a friend in Charlotte: "Started to work last Tuesday. Very pleasant and agreeable crowd of boys. Am greatly encouraged. Doing all in my power to hold job. Best wishes to Charlotte ball club."

In early April, with the team at 25 players, Moran says that Weiser will probably be farmed out to gain some experience. But on April 13, Weiser is on the team train to Boston where the Phillies will open the season against the Braves. Weiser sticks with the team for the entire season, as Philadelphia goes 90-62 and wins its first-ever pennant by seven games over Boston.

On May 31, Weiser is 2-for-4 in a doubleheader against Brooklyn, raising his season batting average to .241. However, over the remainder of the season, he hits a meager .057, collecting only two hits in his final 35 at bats and finishes his rookie campaign with a .141 mark. Weiser is World Series eligible, but does not see any action as the Boston Red Sox defeat the Phillies in five games. Weiser's World Series share is \$2,492.23.



**Bud Weiser**  
1914 Charlotte Hornets

On February 7, 1916, the Phillies sign outfielder Wilbur Good, who earlier had been waived by the Cubs. On April 9, Weiser is sent to New London of the Eastern League. Thirteen days later the Phillies acquire another outfielder, signing Federal League refugee Claude Cooper. Good will hit .250 for Philadelphia, Cooper .192, while the demoted Weiser finishes second in the Eastern League in hitting with a .323 mark as the Planters cop the league pennant.

Recalled back to Philadelphia after the Eastern League season ends, Weiser is 3-for-10 in limited action, including a 2-for-4 effort against the Boston Braves in his final major league game on October 5.

Weiser is on the move again, when on January 19, 1917, the Phillies trade him and pitcher Ben Tincup to Little Rock of the Southern Association for outfielder Ernie Walker. The Phillies get nothing out of the trade when Walker is suspended from the team on April 15 without pay for being out of shape and returns to his home in Birmingham, Alabama, where he plays semipro ball for rest of the summer with Ensley of the T.C.I. League.

Initially, Weiser refuses to report to Little Rock because of his dislike of the "Southern heat," and fear of yellow fever. He asks the Phillies to trade him to Harrisburg, but when he understands that he will play in Little Rock or nowhere at all, he changes his mind and reports to the Travellers, but becomes home sick and is hitting .251 when on May 27, "the man with liquid name," is purchased by Wilkes-Barre and leaves for his home in the North.

### Hitting for the Cycle

Charlotte Hornets at Spartanburg Spartans  
South Field, Spartanburg, South Carolina  
June 26, 1912

CHARLOTTE	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.E.
Agnew, 2b	6	2	3	2	0
Haddow, 3b	6	2	1	2	6
Osteen, ss	4	2	1	6	3
Wofford, rf	4	2	3	4	1
Weiser, lf	5	2	4	2	0
Hoey, 1b	5	2	1	0	0
McMillan, cf	3	4	1	1	0
Malcolmson, c	6	3	3	1	0
Van Pelt, p	5	2	3	1	4
Totals	44	21	21	27	12

SPARTANBURG	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.E.
Kipp, ss	4	0	1	3	5
Wagnon, lf	4	0	1	1	0
Laval, lb, p, and cf	4	0	0	3	0
Coveney, rf and c	4	0	0	6	1
Doak, cf and p	3	0	0	2	4
Corbett, 2b	1	0	0	4	3
Martin, 3b	3	0	1	2	1
Menefee, rf and c	3	0	1	1	0
Smith, p	0	0	0	0	1
Hipsel, p	0	0	0	0	0
Clark, lb	3	0	0	5	1
Totals	29	0	4	27	15

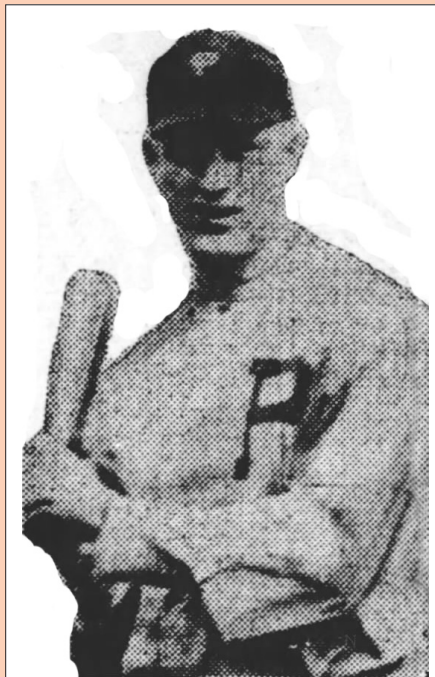
Score by innings: R. H. E.  
Charlotte . . . 1100 061 012—21 21 0  
Spartanburg . . 0 00 000 000—0 4 7  
Summary: Two base hit, Weiser; three-base hit, Weiser; home runs, Weiser, Wofford, Hoey, McMillan, Van Pelt; base on balls, off Doak 2, off Smith 3, off Hipsel 2, Laval 1; struck out by Van Pelt 1, by Smith 2, by Doak 2; hit by pitched ball, Osteen, Weiser; double plays, Kipp to Corbett to Clark, Coveney to Martin; hits off Smith 3, in 1-2-3 innings, Hipsel 2, in 1-3 inning, Laval 11, in 3 innings.

Weiser hits for the cycle as Charlotte beats Spartanburg 21-0, behind the four-hit pitching of L.W. Van Pelt.



## Bud Weiser [4 of 6]:

Three days later (May 30) Weiser makes his debut with the Barons. In addition to his time with Wilkes-Barre, he is allowed to make "a little coin on the side," by playing 10 games for Chester in the Upland semipro league for \$600. The Barons, who have lost quite a bit of money during the

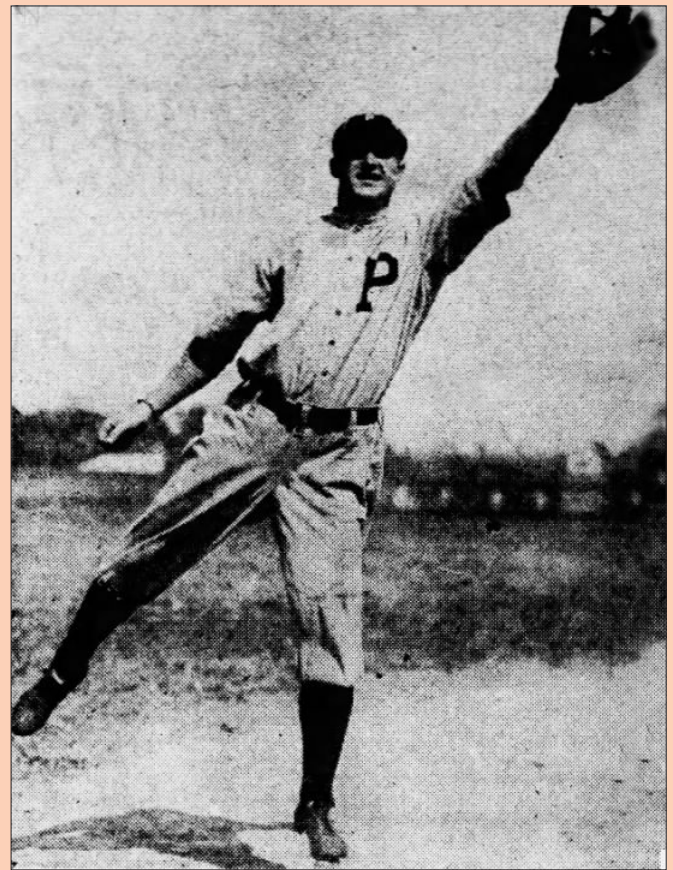


**Bud Weiser**  
1915 Philadelphia Phillies

season, are looking to make a profit by selling Weiser, among others, to another team in the annual minor league draft. Wilkes-Barre's plan comes apart when the Phillies ask the National Commission to void the trade of Weiser and Tincup to Little Rock because of Walker's inability to play in 1918. On September 10, the Commission grants Philadelphia clear title to both Weiser and Tincup.

In early January, 1918, Weiser is one of five players not offered a contract by the Phillies and who Manager Pat Moran is offering for "one perfectly good pitcher." Moran later changes his mind and on January 28, Weiser receives a 1918 contract, offering the same salary he received as a member of the Wilkes-Barre team the previous year. After leading the league in batting and stolen bases, Weiser was expect-

ing a salary increase and pending further negotiations, he will not sign the contract.



On February 3, 1919, Weiser informs the Phillies that unless he is traded to the St. Louis Cardinals, he will play independent ball rather than sign for such a low salary figure. A day later, Philadelphia lets it be known that Weiser and pitcher Stan Baumgartner have practically been traded to Los Angeles of the Pacific Coast League for pitcher Bradley Hoag. Weiser's much-publicized hold out comes to an end when he comes to terms with the Phillies on February 4 and his signed contract "reposes" in the club safe, in the Stock Exchange Building offices in Philadelphia.



**Eddie Plank**  
1918 Steelton

The Weiser saga continues on March 13 when the disgruntled one jumps his contract with Philadelphia and signs with a semipro team in the Bethlehem Steel League. Terms offered by Steelton manager George Cockill allow him to play one game a week with Upland of the Delaware County League and a higher monthly salary than what the Phillies had offered him. In addition, Weiser will be given a position at the Steelton Steel mill during the winter if he is not called for military duty.

A month later 42-year-old Hall of Famer Eddie Plank also signs with Steelton. Plank will go 4-2 with Steelton, pitching 52 innings. The Bethlehem Steel Company owns all six teams in the league, and offers Plank, Dutch Leonard, and Joe Jackson jobs and an opportunity to play baseball while avoiding the draft.



**Bud Weiser**  
1917 Little Rock Travelers



## Bud Weiser [5 of 6]:

One day after the start of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation League season, Weiser's Philadelphia contract is sold to the St. Louis Cardinals. In addition, the Cardinals' Branch Rickey is also after Steelton teammate Steve Yerkes. On June 17, Weiser enlists in the United States Naval Reserves at Williamsport, Pennsylvania and is told to report for service at Norfolk, Virginia, on August 1. Manager Cockrill secures ex-Cardinal Johnny Beall to replace him in left field. Steelton wins the league pennant and final statistics show Weiser finishing with a .145 batting average while Shoeless Joe Jackson wins the batting title with a .393 average.

### Just a Plain Slacker

In May 1918, St. Louis Cardinals' President Branch Rickey returns from a trip to Steelton, Pennsylvania, where he was unsuccessful in an attempt to sign Bud Weiser, now employed in the steel mills, to Cardinal contract. An angry Rickey says that Weiser is a "plain slacker." Rickey says Weiser will not quit his job in the mills because he figures as long as he stays in the mills, he would be exempted from the military draft, and if he returns to organized baseball he would be inducted into military. Rickey was in Steelton for three days talking it over with the reluctant Weiser. Another source says Weiser's real reason for refusing to join the Cardinals, "It is true enough that Weiser does not want to leave Steelton. But it is not because he is crazy about his job in the mills, nor because he fears the fortunes of war. No, it's because Bud is in love. He has been that way for some four years now. And no baseball man during that time has been able to persuade Weiser to stick with any ball club."



In October, Weiser, now in the Navy, is taken seriously ill with influenza and is placed in a military hospital in Puget Sound, Washington.

Following his release from the Navy, Weiser decides that he wants to continue to playing baseball, but he has to apply to the National Commission now for reinstatement. But as the *Reading Times* opines: "Bud has concluded he will play ball awhile, but there is no assurance he will stick on the job. It's not in his makeup to stay on the reservation long at a time."

Reinstated in time for the 1919 season by the National Commission, Weiser signs with the International League's Reading Coal Barons on April 27. Unable to shake a nagging cold in the early part of the season, Weiser, hitting .304, spends 10 days at his home in Shamokin. He plays in all but 22 games for the last-place Coal Barons and finishes fourth on the team in hitting with a .302 average, is second in triples (10), doubles (25) and in steals (22).

Returning to Reading for the 1920 campaign, Weiser gets off to another fast start, collecting at least one hit in 11 of his 12 games and is hitting .357 with two doubles and two triples when the 29-year-old once again gets happy feet and deserts the team after a May 4 win over Rochester. He chooses to return to the Steelton team of the Bethlehem Steel League. The Coal Barons, who were about to board a train for a two-week road trip when he departed, immediately file an injunction prohibiting their erstwhile left fielder from playing anywhere in Pennsylvania. It's rumored that scouts of the Steel League are trying to get other International League players to jump.

On May 16, a preliminary injunction was issued in the Dauphin County Court to restrain Harry Budson "Bud" Weiser from playing baseball with the Steelton team of the Bethlehem Steel Company League. Reading loses their court case when a judge declares the Coal Barons' contract with Weiser is illegal, as it requires the outfielder to play Sunday games, which was illegal in Pennsylvania at the time.

The next two seasons Weiser elects to continue playing independent ball in central Pennsylvania, with Windbere in 1921 and Harrisburg in 1922. In Spring of 1923, he signs with a strong Crane Ice Cream team from Reading while awaiting a decision from Judge Landis on his possible reinstatement to organized baseball. Reinstated in early July, Weiser is farmed out by Reading to the Binghamton Triplets of the Tri-State (B) League, where he will spend the next three seasons.

Weiser celebrates his return to organized baseball in 1923 by leading the Triplets in hitting with a .339 mark. The following March, the team management appoints him as manager of the team for 1924. He directs the team to a 62-65 mark while hitting .287 with 24 doubles and eight home runs. On March 25, 1925, Weiser becomes a free agent when he is granted his unconditional release from the Triplets.

Weiser becomes a man of many uniforms in 1925. It begins a day after being released by Binghamton when after a nine-year hiatus, a 34-year-old Weiser returns to the town of Wilkes-Barre when he is signed by the Barons. In early July, Weiser asks newly-appointed manager George Maisel for his release. Peeved because local fans have been "razzing" him, he claims that he is not able to give his

### GIANTS SIGN CLEVER OUTFIELDER.

Harry Weiser of Charlotte Will Play with Dallas—Has Splendid Batting Record.

Harry Weiser, who will play one of the outfields for the Dallas Giants this season, was secured from the Charlotte (N. C.) club of the Carolina Association. He led his league last season in hitting with a batting average of .318 and had a fielding average of .978, only making three errors in eighty-eight games. President Gardner of the Dallas Club had some difficulty in securing Weiser, as Charlotte sold him to Atlanta of the Southern League, but the Dallas club, under a previous agreement, had the pick of the Charlotte team at the close of the 1912 season, this concession being granted for the release of Champ Osteen from the locals. The claim put in for Weiser before the National Association was held to be binding and the player awarded to Dallas. Atlanta offered several good trades of Weiser and made a cash offer of \$800 for him, all of which were refused.

Joe Jackson, the star of the Cleveland team, came from the Carolina League, and sporting writers of that league say that Weiser is a better looking youngster than Jackson was when the latter left that company. Weiser's home is in Pennsylvania and last season was his first year out in organized baseball.

### WEISER, HOMESICK, LEAVES THE CLUB

"Bud" Couldn't Learn to Like the South—Walsh Back in Game.

Six weeks of playing with the Travelers did not alter the opinion of Harry "Bud" Weiser that the South is no place for him and he is on his way back home. "Bud" hit the trail for the Northland and Pennsylvania last night. And Little Rock lost another good ball player.

While the departure of Weiser may be a surprise to the fans those in touch with the club affairs have been expecting him to go for some time. In fact it required much persuasion on the part of President Allen and Boss Starr to keep "Bud" here until yesterday. When the club was in Atlanta on its recent trip he asked permission to go home. The Traveler bosses persuaded him to remain a while longer and give them a chance to fill his position. "Bud" told them Saturday that he could stay no longer and yesterday he packed up and left, after calling on President Allen to tell him good-bye.



## Bud Weiser [6 of 6]:

best service to the club. After refusing to play in a series in Shamokin, Maisel fines the veteran \$200 and then gives him his release on July 21 to make room for recently-signed Tommy Coleman.

On August 2, Weiser signs with the Waynesboro Villagers of the Class D Blue Ridge League, because of his friendship with manager John Breckenridge. Using the alias Weigold so the team could remain under the class player limit, he hits only .187 in 10 games before being released on August 11. The following day, he signs with the Williamsport Grays of the New York-Penn (B) League.

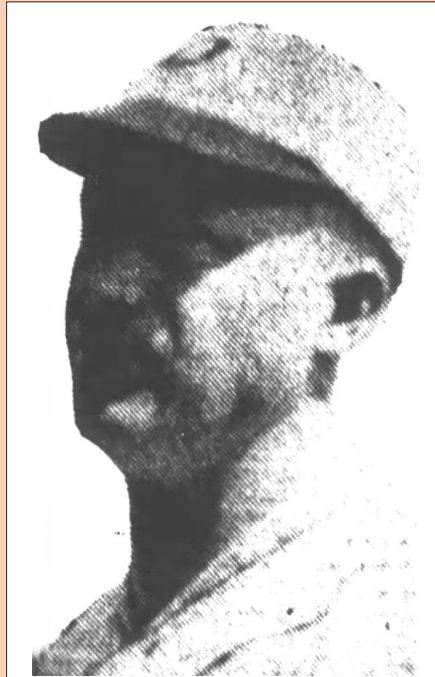
### Budweiser Real Hop Malt Syrup



He is with the Grays for five days, but does not get into a game and when outfielder Arnold Poole returns from an injury, Weiser is released on August 17. He isn't unemployed for long as that afternoon he signs with

the Harrisburg Giants, his fourth team of the season.

On August 23, after failing to get a hit in 15 at bats over five games, and making several errors for the Giants, Weiser requests that he be suspended until he gets into shape. The request is granted and he is ultimately released by the Senators on September 1. On a side note, Weiser continued to refuse to play in Shamokin, claiming that his hometown team owed him \$500 from a previous experience.



Bud Weiser  
1925 Wilkes-Barre Barons

**BALL PLAYER WINS SUIT.**  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 20.—A judgment of \$2,000 against the Western Union Telegraph company in favor of John P. Pfister, former pitcher of the Chicago Nationals, was sustained by the Illinois Supreme court today. Pfister alleged that a telegram sent by him addressed to the Milwaukee club of the American association never was delivered, and as a result he lost a place as pitcher on the latter team.

Over the next two years, Weiser plays with local semipro teams in and around Shamokin. On August 4, 1927, he is the manager of the Whitenight Company in Shamokin, when, his car careens down High Street in downtown, barely missing pedestrians and buildings before coming to a stop on Edgewood Street after hitting another car.

Weiser could not resist a comeback attempt in 1928, and plays briefly in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, before returning to Pennsylvania to play for Scottdale, then Jeanette, in the Middle Atlantic League. After the season he hangs up his spikes for good.

Following his playing days, Weiser was employed by Hack's Hardware Store for 16 years prior. At one time, he served as Shamokin's deputy tax collector. One hour after being admitted to the Shamokin Hospital, Harry Budson Weiser passes away on July 31, 1961,

## Harry (Bud) Weiser

# Former Phillies Baseball Player Dies in Hospital

Harry B. (Bud) Weiser, 70, of 802 North Shamokin Street, a widely known former professional baseball player who was affiliated with the Philadelphia Phillies and a number of minor league teams, died at 6:30 last evening in Shamokin Hospital.

Death of Mr. Weiser occurred approximately one hour after he was admitted to the local medical center. He had been in failing health for two years, during which time he was hospitalized periodically. His death was due to a complication.

An outstanding baseball player during his early life, Mr. Weiser was a member of the Philadelphia Phillies team of 1915. That year, the Phillies captured the National League pennant and represented the circuit in the World Series.

Mr. Weiser, who played left field, was one of several former members of the Philadelphia team who were honored in 1950 when the Phillies won their first league pennant in 35 years. He attended a World Series game in Philadelphia where all members of the championship team of 1915 held a reunion.

Born in Shamokin January 5, 1891, Harry Budson Weiser was a son of the late George and Anna (Cook) Weiser. He was educated in Shamokin public schools and was affiliated with a number of semi-professional baseball teams of the area prior to signing a contract with the Philadelphia baseball organization.

Known by the nickname "Bud" in baseball circles, he was sent to Charlotte, N. C., as a member of a farm team operated by the Phillies and later played outfield for a team at New London, Conn. Bud Weiser moved up to the major league ranks in 1915 and remained a member of the Phillies team during the 1916 season.

Following his two-year career in the majors, he was named a member of the Reading Internationals, a minor league team, then closed out his baseball career by serving as a player-manager for a team at Binghamton, N. Y. He relinquished baseball activity in 1925, but remained an ardent fan of the Phillies down through the years.

Mr. Weiser had been employed by the now defunct Hack's Hardware Store for 16 years prior to his retirement in 1957. At one time, he served as a deputy tax collector under the late Thomas Giles.

## 1918 Steelton Club



Front Row (L-R): "Buck" Ramsey, George Hunter, "Bud" Weiser, Dick Neild, "Kid" Stutz, Lew Ritter and Steve Verkes. Back Row: Clarke, "Slats" Peterson and "Shorty" Miller. Inset: Director W. W. Leok.