

Jacob Ridgway, "An Unexpected Ending"

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**"Ridgway seems to be a good twirler but that 'every little movement' stuff that he gets off in such fancy style does not help his ability more than one per cent."
- Charlotte News, August 2, 1911**

The story at the bottom of the page in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* was surprisingly nondescript with the headline reading simply:

"Dies in His Car."

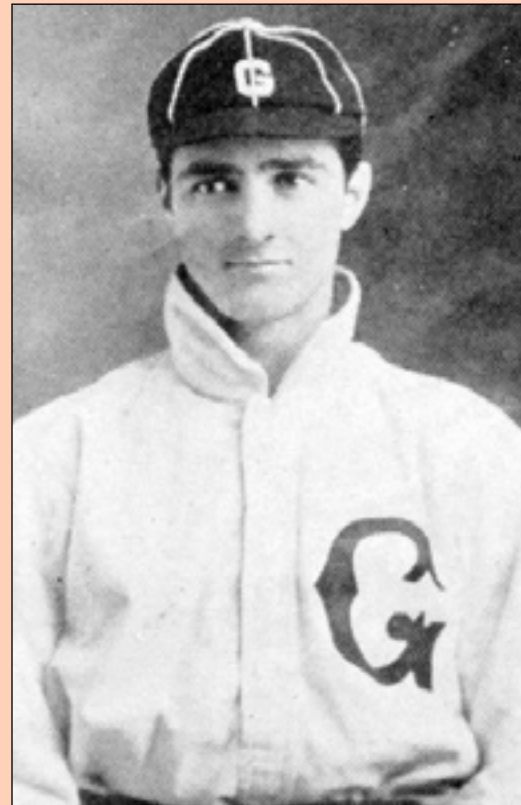
Philadelphia, Feb. 23, 1928. - Jacob A. Ridgway, Jr., 39, was found dead today, killed by carbon monoxide gas poison as he sat in the rear of his automobile in the garage beneath his home.

Something is missing. It's far too brief for a complicated man who achieved much in his short life - **found dead**. It failed to mention that in the vigor of his youth he was a star college pitcher in North Carolina and a highly-regarded minor leaguer who also jumped his contract five times - **carbon monoxide gas**. He played in the infant Federal League under an assumed name and would lead the team in wins - **rear of his automobile**. He was twice married and served our country honorably in France during World War I and like so many others returned home to start his life anew, this time assisting his father in the family business - **beneath his home**.

The police rule his death an accident - that a 39-year-old army veteran had simply turned on his car and then moved to the backseat where he fell asleep in a garage under his house, dying from asphyxiation.

An accident - maybe that's for the best.

[Jacob Augustus Ridgway, Jr.](#), is born on July 23, 1888, in Philadelphia to Jacob Augustus Ridgway, Sr., and Annie Marie Chapman. His first taste of professional baseball comes in 1905 as a 17-year-old reserve for Williamston of the four-team, five-games a week Williams Valley League. Later he is given a try-out with the Wilmington team in the Tri-State league, but fails to make the team.



SUFFOCATED IN GARAGE

Parents Find Son Dead in Auto From Carbon Monoxide Gas

Carbon monoxide gas suffocated Jacob A. Ridgway, Jr., 39, of 5601 North Thirteenth street, as he sat in the rear of his automobile in the garage under his home shortly after 3:30 A. M. yesterday.

Ridgway's body was found by his parents and a friend of the family when they returned from a function in a central hotel. Ridgway had arranged to drive to the hotel for his father and mother, and it is believed he fell asleep while seated in the back of the car, the engine of which he had started waiting until it should be time for him to leave for the hotel.

John Derlyshire, of Broad street and Sixty-fifth avenue, Oak Lane, who had driven Mr. and Mrs. Ridgway home, accompanied the parents to the garage when they heard the jurr of the motor, and found the son in the fume-filled, built-in structure. Ridgway was pronounced dead at the Jewish Hospital. He was married and was associated in business with his father, who formerly conducted a hotel and saloon at Broad street and Lehigh avenue, later operating several motion picture theatres.

Even though Ridgway is from Philadelphia, the genes of his professional baseball career are sown in the Carolinas.

Ridgway pitches for some less-than-stellar teams during his five years in the minors and his record is reflective of those teams. Between 1910 and 1912, he plays for three-straight last-place teams. The final two years (1913-1914) of his career are spent with teams that finish second-to-last, or fifth and seventh, respectively.

In the spring of 1909, a 20-year-old Ridgway makes his way south to the campus of tiny Guilford College just outside of Greensboro, North Carolina. Before Guilford's season gets underway, he signs a pro contract to play for the local minor league team, the Greensboro Patriots, after the college season ends in late April.

He draws opening day honors for the Quakers where he shuts out visiting Lafayette on seven hits. In eight college starts, Ridgway is 4-3-1, including three shutouts and a 14-inning 2-2 tie with North Carolina A&M (now N.C. State).

Joining [James McKeivitt's](#) Patriots in late April, the 5-foot-11 right-hander makes his pro debut on May 1, beating Anderson 2-1 on six hits. Ridgway quickly proves to be a rookie

Jacob Ridgway Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	Finish	W-L	GP	GS	CG	SHO	INN	H	BB	SO	ERA
1905	Williamston AC	Williams Valley	SPro	11-12	--	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1909	Guilford College Quakers	SIAA	College	11-6-1	--	4-3-1	8	8	7	2	72.0	-	-	-	--
1909	Greensboro Patriots	Carolina	D	65-44	1 of 6	19-7-1	32	28	22	6	233.1	172	82	111	--
1910	Two Teams	Carolina	D	--	--	3-2	5	5	5	1	46.0	41	17	19	--
	Greensboro Patriots	Carolina	D	46-64	6 of 6	3-1	4	4	4	1	37.0	35	16	15	--
	Winston-Salem Twins	Carolina	D	51-57	4 of 6	0-1	1	1	1	0	9.0	6	1	4	--
1911	Two Teams	New England/Carolina	B/D			10-13-1	31	29	22	3	218.2	215	86	98	--
	Worcester Busters	New England	B	73-47	2 of 8	0-2	7	6	2	0	36.1	41	20	17	--
	Greenville Spinners	Carolina	D	42-64	6 of 6	10-11-1	24	23	20	3	182.1	174	66	81	--
1912	Columbia Comers	South Atlantic	C	41-75	6 of 6	6-10	20	16	12	2	140.2	134	51	48	--
1913	Charleston Sea Gulls	South Atlantic	C	48-68	5 of 6	4-4	8	8	7	0	64.0	64	25	29	--
1913	St. Louis Terriers	Federal League	Ind.	59-60	3 of 6	15-9	26	23	20	3	199.2	160	68	109	--
1914	Baltimore Terrapins	FEDERAL	ML	84-70	3 of 8	0-1	4	0	0	0	9.0	20	3	2	11.00
1914	Topeka Jayhawks	Western	A	68-97	7 of 8	9-10	21	19	14	1	138.1	124	40	62	3.33
Major League Totals		1 Season				0-1	4	0	0	0	9.0	20	3	2	11.00
Minor League Totals		5 Seasons				51-46-2	117	105	82	13	841.0	750	301	367	--
Independent League Totals		1 Season				15-9	26	23	20	3	199.2	160	68	109	--



James McKeivitt
1909 Greensboro Champs

back to North Carolina five weeks later, he first attempts to sign with the Eastern Carolina (D) League's Raleigh Red Birds before being allowed by Greensboro to sign with the Winston-Salem Twins. He appears in one game for the Twins on August 9 before departing, without permission once again, for Philadelphia.

PITCHER JACK RIDGWAY SOLD TO RALEIGH TEAM.

Greensboro, June 25.—President M. W. Sterne of the Greensboro baseball team, has closed a deal with King Kelly, manager of the Raleigh baseball team, whereby he sells to the Raleigh team Pitcher Jack Ridgway. The purchase price was \$100 with the understanding that Ridgway will again become the property of Greensboro at the end of the present season.

Ridgway impresses Busters' manager [Jesse Burkett](#) during an abbreviated spring training, however its his one-month performance against B-level competition (0-2 with 26 runs allowed in 36 innings) sends him back to the Carolinas, this time with the Greenville (S.C.) Spinners. With a team that finishes 22 games under .500, Ridgway is a respectable 10-11-1 with 20 complete games and three shutouts.

Secured by the Columbia Comers in a trade with Greenville in time for the 1912 campaign, Ridgway is considered the "most promising" right-hander on the team's pitching staff. On May 28, he is 4-4 for a last-place team when for the third time in four years he jumps his contract and leaves the team for "parts unknown" without telling anyone.

sensation, winning his first seven decisions. He ends up working in 32 games for Greensboro that summer, with 28 starts and 22 complete games. He finishes 19-7-1 while working 233 1/3 innings for the Carolina (D) Association champion Patriots. His six shutouts lead the Association while his 19 wins rank second to teammate [Tony Walters](#). In mid-June Ridgway has three-straight shutouts and establishes a team-record with 32 consecutive scoreless innings.

Despite an optimistic outlook for 1910, his troubles begin early with a surprise marriage to a young woman from a prominent Greensboro family. Right before the open of the Patriots' pre-season camp, the Ridgways decide to leave on an extended honeymoon, returning to Greensboro in time to pitch in an April 2 exhibition game against John McGraw's New York Giants. Drawing the starting assignment against Hall of Famer [Christy Mathewson](#), he yields four runs on three hits and four walks. Opening the season where he left off the previous year, he shuts out Winston-Salem on two hits.

Ridgway is 3-1 when he receives a telegram on June 3 from his family in Philadelphia advising him to come home at once. He asks the Patriots for a leave of absence, but not able to give manager [Carlton Beusse](#) an acceptable reason, his request is denied. He decides to leave for home anyway, telling the team he will return within ten days. Eventually wandering

Pitcher Ridgway Has Been Suspended

Pitcher Ridgway, of the Greensboro baseball team, has been indefinitely suspended by President M. W. Sterne, of that club. The following reasons for the suspension are given by the Daily News, of Greensboro:

President M. W. Sterne announced the indefinite suspension of Pitcher Jack Ridgway. The dethroned twirler left on train No. 38 for his home in Philadelphia.

Yesterday afternoon Ridgway received a telegram from his father in Philadelphia advising him to come home at once. He applied to President Sterne for leave of absence, but giving no plausible reason for his departure at such a time the request was refused. With matters standing like this he took things in his own hands and boarded train No. 38 for Philadelphia. Ridgway stated that he would return within ten days, possibly the first of next week. Whether he will be reinstated upon his return is purely a matter of speculation, though in view of previous conflicts it is very unlikely that he will ever wear a local uniform again. He has pitched four games, won three and lost one since the season opened.

Jacob Ridgway [3 of 9]:

Suspended indefinitely, the Comers finally hear from their erstwhile mound artist on June 20. Back in Philadelphia, Ridgway tells the team that he wants to return or be released to pitch somewhere else. Two days later Columbia fines Ridgway "heavily" but, in dire need of pitching, allows him to rejoin the team. He finishes the season 6-10 with 12 complete games and a pair of shutouts, including a 15-inning whitewashing of Albany in June.

Ridgway begins 1913 making a good impression on newest team, the Charleston Sea Gulls, when he reports to the team's pre-season training camp ten days ahead of schedule. He is rewarded for a strong pre-season by being named an opening day starter for the third time in his five years.

**CHARLESTON
MEN THREATEN
TO JUMP TEAM**

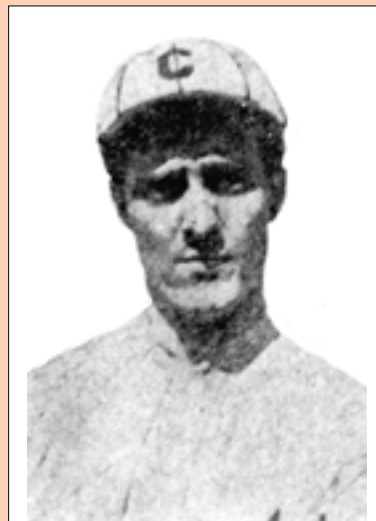
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Smith, Ridgway and Witter
Are Under Suspension.

— — — — —

PLAYERS WOULD GO
TO FEDERAL LEAGUE

Known now as "Jumping Jack" Ridgway, he is 4-4 for a struggling fifth-place team when he is suspended on May 15, for the fourth time in his career. Coming off a winless road trip at Jacksonville and Savannah, Sea Gull manager [George Needham](#) suspends Ridgway, outfielder [Leo Witterstaetter \(.316\)](#) and third baseman [Charles "Casey" Smith \(.172\)](#). Needham determines that the trio is playing poorly on purpose to draw their releases so they could join the Pittsburgh Filipinos of the newly-formed Federal League. Both Needham and team owner W.H. Walsh suspect that the trio is about to jump their contracts so their salaries are withheld when it is learned that all three players have tickets in their name at the Charleston train station. The next day Ridgway, Witterstaetter (playing under Leo Witter) and Smith meet with Needham and Walsh and admit that they would like to be "free" of their Charleston contracts but deny that they have "laid down" in their play. Ridgway says that he "lent" his name to the purchase of the tickets, but had done so for a friend. Ridgway ends the season with a 4-4 mark, seven complete games in eight starts and once again on organized baseball's suspended list.



Jack Ridgway
1913 Greenville Comers

Following his dismissal from the Sea Gulls, Ridgway migrates to the Midwest to play with the St. Louis Terriers of the newly-created and independent Federal League. Under suspension by organized baseball for his latest contract jumping, Ridgway plays for the Terriers under the alias "[James Mullin](#)." Making his first start on June 1, Mullin will lead the team in wins (15), complete games (20), shutouts (3), innings pitched (199 2/3), strikeouts (109) and walks (68).

In 1914, Ridgway takes a step up in competition signing with Baltimore of the Federal League. Appearing in four games for the Terrapins, including one start, the well-travelled 25-year-old is 0-1 with a 11.00 ERA when on the morning of May 20, the team initiates a 10-day process for his eventual release. That afternoon, after receiving an offer from the Topeka Jayhawks, Terrapin manager [Otto Knabe](#) gives him an immediate release so he can accept the Jayhawks' offer. Following a 4-1 start for the Jayhawks, Topeka manager [Dick Cooley](#) says his newly-acquired slabster has a "wise head" and will prove to be "the class" of the Western League, has "57 varieties" to his delivery and is "cool as a cucumber" when under pressure. The lanky Pennsylvanian finishes his final season of professional baseball with a 9-10 record, 12 complete games and one shutout.

**Rourke Makes Deal
For Jack Ridgway
From Topeka Club**

The Rourke has signed another pitcher. The new one is Jack Ridgway, who hurried for Topeka last year. Ridgway got a piece on the Topeka club this spring and refused to report. Magnate Savage told Rourke he could have Ridgway if that youth would report. Jack has written from Philadelphia to say that he is on his way here. He is a right-hander and, last year, worked twenty games for the Naws, winning eight and losing ten, with an average of three and one-third runs made off him per game.

Returning to the Topeka Jayhawks for the team's 1915 pre-season training camp, Ridgway has one final "jump" left in him and on April 25 he leaves the team and returns to his home in Philadelphia still harboring anger at the way he was treated the previous summer during his sister's illness and subsequent death. The team's management, hard up for cash, cut his salary during his absence and paid only part of his travel expenses.

Three weeks later he is traded to the Omaha Rourkes, a team shy on pitching behind lefty [Tom Blodgett](#). Ridgway writes manager [Marty Krug](#) from his home that he is leaving immediately to join the team.



Jack Ridgway
1914 Baltimore Terrapins

Predictably, he never arrives, his career now over.

Following his playing days Ridgway resides in Philadelphia and is employed running several movie houses owned by his father. With

Jacob Ridgway [4 of 9]:

America's entry into World War I, he enlists in the Army in 1918 and attains the ranks of sergeant. He serves nine months overseas in France with the 19th Machine Gun Battalion before mustering out on May 24, 1919. Returning to civilian life, the 1920 Federal Census has him living in Philadelphia with his second wife Florence and working as a saloon keeper.

RIDGWAY CHRONOLOGY

March 18, 1909

Ridgway's signed contract is received by Greensboro Champs' manager James McKeivitt ... Ridgway will pitch for Guilford College and then join the Patriots when the college season ends.

April 1, 1909

Ridgway limits Davidson to six hits in a 7-3 win ... [Chick Doak](#) homers for the Quakers.

April 3, 1909

Ridgway strikes out seven but drops a 3-1 decision to Davidson.

April 12, 1909

Ridgway allows only three hits and strikes out seven in a 6-0 win over Davidson.

April 16, 1909

Ridgway allows only five hits in a 2-2, 14 inning tie with North Carolina A&M (N.C. State).

Greensboro's Cone Field 1909



Final College Game

April 21, 1909

Guilford at North Carolina

CAROLINA BEAT QUAKERS AGAIN

Chapel Hill, April 21.—Carolina took her second game from Guilford here to-day in one of the fastest games of the season by the score of 4 to 1. Hedgepeth, the big south-paw, was in the box for Carolina and was a puzzle to the Quaker batsmen, fanning 5 men and allowing but three hits. Ridgway, for Guilford, pitched a good game but was wild at times. In the seventh "Red" Stewart sent two runners across the plate with a triple to deep right. Stewart also played first base and showed up well. Captain Hamilton was absent on account of sickness, but will be in condition when Carolina meets Davidson here on Friday. Doak C. saved the Quakers from a shutout by a beautiful steal home from third in the ninth inning. The score by innings:

	R.	H.	E.
Carolina...	0	1	0
Guilford...	0	0	0

Batteries: Hedgepeth and Moore; Ridgway and Stewart. Struck out, by Hedgepeth 8. By Ridgway 2. Base on balls, off Ridgway 4. Off Hedgepeth, 2. Time of game 1:20. Umpire Moore.

April 21, 1909

In a match-up of future major leaguers and the final collegiate appearances for Ridgway and Doak, Ridgway allows only three hits while North Carolina's [Harry Hedgepeth](#) yields only two safeties as UNC scores three runs late for a 4-1 win in Chapel Hill.

April 22, 1909

Ridgway reports to Greensboro Champs.

May 1, 1909

Ridgway pitches his first nine-inning complete game with a six-hit 2-1 complete game victory over the Anderson Electricians ... he strikes out three and walks two in picking up the win.

June 7, 1909

Ridgway runs his record to 7-0 with a 5-3 complete game win over Spartanburg.

June 12, 1909

Ridgway is beaten for the first time as a professional as Charlotte pushes across a run in the top of the 10th inning for a 4-3 win in the Gate City.

June 19, 1909

Ridgway extends his scoreless streak to 20 consecutive innings with a 12-inning scoreless effort in a 0-0 tie with Winston-Salem ... over his last 29 innings, Ridgway has allowed one run on 17 hits.

Professional Debut

May 1, 1909

Greensboro Patriots at Anderson Electricians

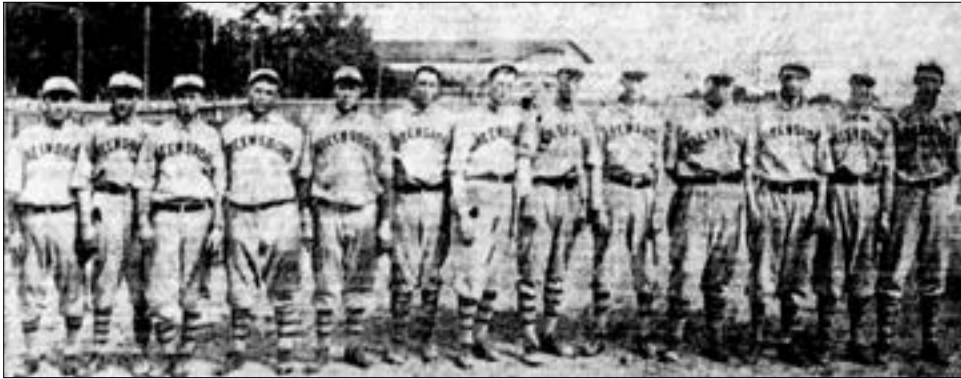
Anderson, S. C., May 1.—In an errorless game here yesterday, the Patriots defeated the Electricians by a score of 2 to 1. Anderson deserved to win but it was a case of close decisions and hard luck combined. McCarthy for the locals allowed Greensboro but three safe hits, and scored the only run by banging the sphere clear over the fence. Score and summary:

	R.	H.	E.
Greensboro	0	1	0
Anderson	0	0	0

Earned runs, Greensboro, 2; Anderson, 1. Home run, McCarthy. Total bases on hits, Greensboro, 3; Anderson, 9. Base on balls, off Ridgway, 2; McCarthy, 5. Left on bases, Greensboro, 6; Anderson, 5. Struck out, by Ridgway, 3; McCarthy, 8. Sacrifice hits, Sisson, Simmons, (2). Stolen bases, Anthony, Jackson (3). Passed balls, Ochs (2). Wild pitches, McCarthy. Time of game, 1:35. Umpire, Mahoney.

Jacob Ridgway [5 of 9]:

1909 Greensboro Patriots



(Left to Right): Tony Walters, p; Jacob Ridgway, p; Jack Anthony, lf; James McKeivitt, 1b/manager; Jack Mersman, p; Andy Jackson, 3b; Walter Hammersley, p; Chick Doak, 2b; William Bentley, c; Rowe Hicks, 1b; Ed Lynch, ss; Marty Walsh, c; Charles Sisson, cf.

June 23, 1909

Ridgway turns in his third consecutive shutout and extends his scoreless streak to 29 consecutive innings with a 4-0 shutout of visiting Charlotte ... over his last 38 innings, Ridgway has allowed one run on 21 hits.

June 25, 1909

In a 5-4 win over visiting Winston-Salem, Jacob Ridgway improves to 10-1-1 on the year and extends his scoreless streak to 32 consecutive innings before the Twins score three times in the fourth inning.

July 12, 1909

Ridgway snaps a personal three-game losing streak with a 3-1 complete game win over visiting Greenville.

3rd Consecutive Shutout

June 23, 1909

Charlotte Hornets at Greensboro Patriots

GREENSBORO.	AB	BH	PO	A	E
Sisson . cf.	3	0	2	0	0
Jackson, 3b.	4	1	1	1	0
Anthony, lf.	4	0	0	0	0
Doak, 2b.	4	2	3	3	0
Bentley, rf. c.	4	2	3	0	0
McKeivitt, lb.	1	0	4	1	0
Lynch, ss.	3	0	0	2	0
Hicks, lb, ss.	3	1	9	2	0
Walsh, c.	1	0	3	1	0
Mersman, rf.	1	0	0	0	0
Ridgway, p.	4	0	2	6	0
Totals	32	7	27	16	0

CHARLOTTE	AB	BH	PO	A	E
Linneborn, 3b.	3	1	0	2	0
Bauswine, lf.	4	0	3	0	0
Dobard, ss.	3	0	1	6	1
Wahl, rf.	4	1	0	0	0
Walsh, cf.	2	0	1	0	0
Brennen, 2b.	3	2	4	3	0
Cosmo, lb.	3	0	11	1	0
Warner, c.	3	0	6	2	1
Schultz, p.	2	0	1	3	1
Totals	27	4	27	17	3

Runs, Sisson, Doak, Bentley and Hicks. Two-base hit, Linneborn. Struck out, Schultz 5; Ridgway 5. Base on balls, Schultz 2; Ridgway 3. Left on bases, Charlotte 4; Greensboro 5. Base on errors, Greensboro 2. Double plays, Grennen, Dobard to Cosmo; Doak, Hicks to Jackson. Passed balls, Warner. Sacrifice hits, Welsh, Hicks and Walsh. Stolen bases, Dobard, Brennen and Jackson. Time, 1:40. Attendance, 800. Umpire, Larocque.

Greensboro's Jacob Ridgway turns in his third consecutive shutout, extending his scoreless streak to 29 consecutive innings and improves to 9-1-1 on the season with a "spongy" 4-0 shutout of visiting Charlotte. Over his last 38 innings, the rookie right-hander has allowed one run on 21 hits.

July 23, 1909

Before the game with the Charlotte Hornets, Jacob Ridgway is presented with a solid gold watch and chain by his teammates ... The watch is a gift from his father in Philadelphia for Jacob having attained his "majority" ... the newly-minted 21-year-old goes out and shuts out the visiting Hornets 5-0 on four hits.

August 26, 1909

Greensboro clinches the 1909 Carolina Association pennant with a 3-2 win over Winston-Salem ... the come-from-behind victory gives the Patriots (64-43) a four-game lead over second-place Anderson (62-47) in the loss column with three games to play ... Ridgway relieves starter Marty Walsh at the start of the third inning and pitches seven scoreless innings en route to picking up his 19th win of the season.

August 31, 1909

In the second game of the post-season championship series with Eastern Carolina League champion Wilmington, Ridgway allows four runs on nine hits and one walk in a 5-4 win over the visiting Sailors, giving the Patriots a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

January 13, 1910

Ridgway is one of 18 players listed on the Greensboro pre-season roster.

March 23, 1910

Ridgway and Mary Bradshaw are married in Salisbury and immediately leave by train for Philadelphia, New York, Buffalo and Northern cities for their honeymoon.

April 2, 1910

Ridgway returns to Greensboro in time to pitch against John McGraw's New York Giants ... Ridgway drew the starting assignment against Hall of Famer Christy Matthewson ... Ridgway yields four runs on three hits and four walks.

GREENSBORO HAS CINCHED PENNANT

After Pitching a Beautiful Game, Dent Threw Victory Away in the Ninth Inning When He Heaved Wild to First, a Runner Coming Home From That Bag—Martin Walsh Had to Call For the Rope and Ridgway Was Thereafter Very Effective.

FINE EXHIBITION BETWEEN GIANTS AND GREENSBORO

Special to The Journal.

Greensboro, April 2.—Three thousand enthusiastic fans thought they got their money's worth this afternoon when Manager Buesse's men went up against the New York Giants. The big leaguers did not exactly loaf on the job, but they did not play in mid-season form. They won, 9 to 2.

Matthewson, Klauvetter and Marquard each pitched three innings for the Nationals and Ridgway, Smith and Hammersley pitched three each for Greensboro. DeFore got three hits and pilfered three bases during the progress of the game. It was the opinion of the great crowd that the visitors played more with their heads than with their hands. Their team work was beautiful. The locals also showed up well.

Jacob Ridgway [6 of 9]:

May 1, 1910

Ridgway makes his 1910 debut with a two-hit shutout of Winston-Salem.

May 26, 1910

Starting his first career game at first base, Ridgway plays "terribly" going hitless in two at bats and making three errors that contributes in an 8-3 loss to Winston-Salem.

June 3, 1910

Ridgway receives a telegram from his family in Philadelphia advising him to come home at once ... he asks for a leave of absence, but not able to give an acceptable reason his request is denied ... Ridgway leaves for home anyway, saying he will return within ten days.

June 13, 1910

Ridgway signs with the Raleigh Red Birds.

June 22, 1910

Greensboro sells (or rents) Ridgway to the Raleigh Red Birds for \$100 with the understanding that he is to be returned to the Patriots at the end of the season.

July 30, 1910

It's reported that Ridgway is at his parent's home in Philadelphia.

August 4, 1910

Ridgway signs with the Winston-Salem Twins.

**JACK RIDGEWAY IS
RELEASED BY LOCALS**

April 10, 1911

Seventeen days prior to the start of the season, Ridgway secures a "partial release from the Winston-Salem Twins to play with the Worcester team in the New England League ... the Twins release Ridgway when it is learned he has been offered a salary of \$175 per month with Worcester.

May 19, 1911

After allowing 17 runs in his previous 19 innings, things get worse for Ridgway as he is knocked out of the game against Haverhill ... yields five runs on two hits and three walks in one inning in Worcester's 15-14 win over Haverhill.

June 8, 1911

Ridgway is 0-2 with Worcester with 26 runs allowed in 36 innings when he is recalled from the Busters to join the Greenville Spinners.

June 9, 1911

In his Greenville debut, Ridgway allows only five hits in a 10-1 win over Charlotte

June 13, 1911

Four days later, Ridgway is no longer a Spinner having jumped the team in Greensboro for his home in Philadelphia. Greenville manager [Dick Smith](#) says that this will be his last offense allowed.

June 22, 1911

Ridgway returns to Greenville and is reinstated to the team roster by manager Dick Smith ... Ridgway agreed to return if he is allowed to stay at his home in Greensboro when playing the Patriots.

June 27, 1911

Following a cancelled start because of rain, Ridgway returns to the Spinners with a solid 11-inning start in a 2-1 win over Charlotte.

July 20, 1911

In the debut of manager [Tommy Stouch](#), Ridgway strikes out a season-high 11 Spartanburg Spartans in a 1-1 tie.

MAYOR BOUSMAN KILLED BY BOMB

Mayor of Ridgeway Blown to
Pieces While Sitting in
Hammock

Ridgeway, Va., July 25.—One of the most dastardly crimes ever committed in the history of our town was perpetrated here last night from which our mayor, A. H. Bousman, this morning is cold in death.

Just at 9 o'clock last night the weather being all that could be desired the mayor went out on his beautiful lawn and lay down in a hammock, for a smoke and in an instant one of the most terrific reports was heard that fairly shook the remainder of the town and through these a scream from his wife told the assassin had put in his work by the use of dynamite. Mr. Bousman was awfully mangled. His feet were blown entirely off and all the flesh from his knees down. Drs. Mason and Dehazo were soon on the scene and did all in their power to make the dying man comfortable; they took off both legs, from which he never rallied, having passed away this morning at 2 o'clock.

This is the worst shock our town has suffered for years and is hoped the assassin may be brought to a speedy justice. It is now believed this was thrown from the street fronting the mayor's residence and for what reason any one wanted his life we are at a loss to understand. Mr. Bousman, as well as a good mayor, was a practical farmer and will be greatly missed. He was the largest and most expert cabbage raiser in this section.

Excitement was high. It is believed if the perpetrator of assassination is caught he will be summarily dealt with. Bousman presided over police court, trying petty cases. It is thought some person upon whom he had passed sentence of punishment held a grudge against him and awaited an opportunity to wreak violence on the mayor. The bomb's terrific report attracted many persons to the scene but excitement was so great apparently no one thought to search for the assassin, until he made his escape undetected.

The board of supervisors passed a resolution today offering two hundred and fifty dollars reward for the capture and conviction of the party who murdered Mr. Bousman.

Jacob Ridgway [7 of 9]:

July 25, 1911

Ridgway pitches both games of a doubleheader with Winston-Salem, winning the opener 1-0 before losing the second game 2-0 ... in 14 innings of work, he allows two runs on only eight hits.

August 1, 1911

Pitching both ends of a doubleheader for the second time in six days, and making his six start in as many days, Ridgway again earns a split, losing the first game 1-0 to Charlotte before rebounding with a 4-0 shutout the later contest.

August 4, 1911

In a 7-1 loss to Spartanburg, Ridgway is on the bench when he is one of two Spinners thrown out of the game by umpire Nugent ... refusing to leave the field, Ridgway is escorted by a policeman until he is outside the field.

August 22, 1911

Despite yielding 10 hits and three walks, Ridgway pitches his second shutout of the season with a 10-0 romp past visiting Spartanburg.

August 30, 1911

For the third time and second time with Greenville, Ridgway jumps his contract to parts unknown.

October 27, 1911

Maybe a reason for Ridgway leaving the Greenville Spinners becomes obvious when in a Guilford superior courtroom, Mrs. Mary Bradshaw Ridgeway is granted an "absolute divorce" from Jacob A. Ridgeway of Philadelphia after 18 months of marriage.

15 Inning Shutout

May 22, 1912

Albany Babies at Columbia Comers

ALBANY—	AB.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Keating, 2b.	7	0	0	6	1	0
Foxen, rf.	7	0	1	1	0	1
McCay, ss.	6	0	0	5	12	0
Reynolds, c.	6	0	2	8	4	0
Brooks, lb.	6	0	2	15	2	1
Holden, cf.	6	0	2	4	0	0
Herndon, 3b.	4	0	0	2	2	1
Burgess, lf.	6	0	2	1	0	0
Porray, p.	6	0	2	1	2	0

Totals54 0 11x44 23 3
xTwo out when winning run scored.

COLUMBIA—	AB.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Lohr, lf.	5	0	0	4	0	0
McGrew, 2b.	6	0	0	5	7	0
Hoey, lb.	6	0	0	14	1	0
Hurley, rf.	6	0	2	2	0	0
Maurer, ss.	6	0	1	4	6	0
Seigfried, 3b.	5	1	2	4	1	1
Langen, cf.	6	0	1	6	0	0
White, c.	6	0	3	4	2	0
Ridgway, p.	6	0	2	2	1	0

Totals52 1 11 45 18 1

Score by innings:	R.
Albany	000 000 000 000 000—0
Columbia	000 000 000 000 001—1

Summary: Two-base hit — Ridgway. Three-base hit—Hurley. Bases on balls—Off Ridgway, 1; off Porray, 7. Left on bases—Albany, 11; Columbia, 8. Sacrifice hit—Hendon. Stolen bases—Holden Porray. Double plays—McGrew to Maurer; Keating to McCay to Brooks; Reynolds to Keating; Seigfried to McGrew to Hoey. Time of game, 2:18. Umpire, Kelley.

Ridgway out-duels future major leaguer Ed Porray and turns in the best outing of his career in a record-setting 15 inning shutout of visiting Albany. It is Ridgway's second shutout of the season and 12th of his career.

May 22, 1912

Ridgway allows 11 hits in a 15-inning shutout of visiting Albany ... the win evens his season record and 4-4.

May 28, 1912

Ridgway is at it again as he leaves the team with telling anyone. Missing for three days, the Comers suspend him indefinitely and announce that he has left for "parts unknown."

June 20, 1912

The Columbia Comers finally hear from their erstwhile right-hander ... he is living in Philadelphia and wants to return to the team or be released to pitch somewhere else.

June 22, 1912

The Comers are in last place with a 16-26 record when they fine Ridgway "heavily" and allow him to rejoin the team immediately.

March 9, 1913

Ridgway reports to the Charleston Sea Gulls' training camp ten days ahead of schedule.

March 29, 1913

Ridgway hurls five scoreless innings against the Brooklyn Dodgers second team ... the Yannigans eventually win 3-0.

April 17, 1913

Making his third career start on opening day, Ridgway allows nine hits and four walks but still posts a 5-4 win over the visiting Albany Babies before 2,000 fans at Hampton Park.

RIDGWAY LEAVES COLUMBIA CLUB

Pitcher Departs Without Notifying Officials.

INDEFINITELY SUSPEND HIM

Action Was Taken by Local Club Yesterday—Was Not at Game Monday.

It was announced yesterday at headquarters of the Columbia baseball club that Jack Ridgway, member of the twirling staff, had left for parts unknown. The ex-Carry leaguer did not tell the team officials of his intended departure, and the first inkling of his absence was when he failed to report at Elmwood for Monday's game. At a late hour yesterday he had not been heard from.

Under the rules of organized baseball Ridgway is the property of the Columbia club of the South Atlantic league, and if he plays professional ball must do so either by the consent or with this club. The club yesterday suspended him indefinitely awaiting developments. It was rumored that Ridgway took a northbound train Monday afternoon.

Ridgway was secured by the local team from Greenville of the Carry association. His work during the present season has been good, only last Wednesday winning a 15-inning contest from Albany.

Jacob Ridgway [8 of 9]:

May 2, 1913

Ridgway strikes out a season-high eight in a 7-1 victory at Albany.

May 12, 1913

Ridgway allows four first inning runs in a 5-0 loss at Savannah ... over his last three starts has allowed nine run in the opening stanza ... the *Charleston Evening Post* opines that he should begin warming up 15-20 earlier at the "heating stove."

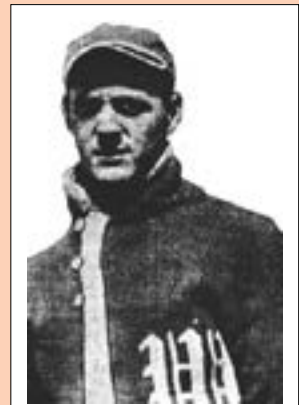
May 15, 1913

Expected to be the starter against the visiting Macon Peaches, instead Ridgway for the fourth time in his career is suspended ... manager George Needham suspends Ridgway (4-4), outfielder Leo Witterstaetter (.316) and third baseball Charles "Casey" Smith (.172) ... coming off a winless road trip at Jacksonville and Savannah, Needham determines that the trio is playing poorly in an effort to draw their releases so that they could join the Pittsburg Filipinos of the newly-formed Federal League ... both Needham and owner Walsh suspect that the trio was about to jump their contracts and their salaries were withheld when it is learned that all three players had tickets in their name at the Charleston train station.

**Witter, Ridgway and Smith
no Longer in Gull
Uniforms**

May 16, 1913

Ridgway, Witterstaetter (played under Leo Witter) and Smith meet with Needham and Walsh and admit that they would like to be "free" of their Charleston contracts but deny that they have "laid down" in their play ... Ridgway admits that he "lent" his name to the purchase of the tickets, but had done so for a friend ... one of the three says that he did not know he had transportation for him at the train station ... one of the players secured by the Sea Gulls to replace the suspended trio is [Horace Milan](#), younger brother of Washington Senator star [Clyde Milan](#) ... property of the Washington Senators, Milan is hitting .198 in 21 games for the Norfolk Tars before being released on May 12 and returns the nation's capital ... sent to Charleston on option by the Senators' Clark Griffith ... Milan will hit .194 (7-for-36) in 11 games for Charleston before being released on June 1 along with the team's manager George Needham.



Horace Milan

July 19, 1913

Ridgway/Mullin allows only three hits, but the Terriers commit four crucial errors in a 3-2 loss to the Indianapolis Hoosiers.

Federal League Win

August 4, 1913

Chicago Keeleys at St. Louis Terriers

ST. LOUIS	AB.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Robinson, ss.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Prout, 3b.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Meyers, 1b.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Jones, l. f.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Gaston, 2b.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Tobin, r. f.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Collins, c. f.	4	0	1	3	4	0
O'Neil, c.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Mullin, p.	4	0	1	3	4	0
Totals	34	0	7	24	34	0

CHICAGO	AB.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Stanley, 3b.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Farrell, ss.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Kading, 1b.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Gartenrich, c. f.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Fisk, p.	4	0	0	4	1	1
McGuire, 2b.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Pettigrew, l. f.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Dennis, c.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Ryan, r. f.	4	0	0	4	1	1
Totals	34	0	0	34	12	4

SCORE BY INNINGS.
 Club. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
 St. Louis 0 0 0 2 0 4 1 2 X-9
 Chicago 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3-1
 Two-base hits—Jones, McGuire, Dennis.
 Three-base hits—Robinson, Tobin, O'Neil.
 Sacrifice hit—Prout. Stolen bases—Meyers, Farrell, Stanley, Ryan, Tobin, Prout, Robinson.
 Jones, Balk—Mullin. First base on balls—O'Neil, Mullin, 4; off Fisk, 3. Struck out—By Mullin, 3; by Fisk, 6. Left on bases—St. Louis, 8; Chicago, 6. Time of game—1:56:00. Umpires—Zeliger and Wilson.

Mullin, aka Ridgway, out-duels future major leaguer Max Fiske in St. Louis' 9-5 win over the visiting Chicago Keeleys. Mullin strikes out three and allows six hits in picking up the win.

March 13, 1914

Having pitched for the St. Louis Terriers, in the "baby major league" last season, Ridgway is considered one of the more talented and veteran pitchers in the Federal League's Baltimore Terrapins' spring training camp ... playing under the name of Jack Mullin, he led [Jack O'Connor's](#) Terriers with 19 wins and three shutouts ... Ridgway opines that the Federal League in 1913 was about the caliber of that found in the Class A.

May 20, 1914

Ridgway makes his major league debut as the starting pitcher for the Baltimore Terrapins against the visiting Kansas City Packers ... making his lone major league start, he allows five earned runs on seven hits and one walk before giving way to [Snipe Conley](#) who pitches four scoreless innings.

June 18, 1914

Baltimore gives Ridgway an immediate release and within a few hours the Philadelphia native secures employment with the Western (A) League's Topeka Jayhawks.

**TOPEKA CLUB GETS
PITCHER RIDGWAY**
 Knabe Gives Twirler His Release
 And He Leaves To
 Join Club.

June 20, 1914

In his Topeka debut Ridgway relieves [Bugs Reisi](#) in the second inning and pitches eight innings en route to picking up his first win of the season in a 6-5 win over Denver.

RIDGEWAY IS GONE

Pitcher Called Home—Cooley Has Two Good Recruits.

The pitching staff of the Topeka baseball club may be crippled for a short time. Jack Ridgway, one of the best on the staff, has been called to his home in Philadelphia on account of the death of one of his sisters and will probably not rejoin the club for a week or ten days. Ridgway was called home a few weeks ago on account of the illness of the same girl.

However, Cooley has four other experienced pitchers in Reisigl, Grover, Sanford and Dashner. In addition to that, he has Weidaman, the pitcher who helped to beat the Drummers Monday. Manser, with Beatrice in the Nebraska State League, has been recalled and will report to the club at Omaha, which will be after the season in the state league closes next week.

Final Pro Appearance

September 14, 1914
Omaha Rourkes at Topeka Jayhawks
Western League Park, Topeka, Kansas

OMAHA.						
	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Farne, 3b	4	0	3	2	0	0
Strug, 2b	2	0	0	5	4	0
Bell, lf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Thompson, cf	4	1	2	2	0	0
Krueger, rf	3	0	0	2	0	0
Thomas, ss	3	1	1	2	1	0
Schubert, 1b	1	0	1	10	0	0
Seabough, c	3	0	0	4	1	0
Crabb, p	3	0	0	0	2	0
	27	2	7	27	9	0
TOPEKA.						
	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Whelan, lf	4	0	0	4	1	0
Talton, ss	4	0	1	5	5	0
Forsythe, cf	4	0	1	1	0	0
Koerner, 1b	5	0	0	2	2	0
Lattimore, 2b	3	0	0	4	1	0
LaPlumhouse, cf	2	0	0	1	0	0
Tomman, c	2	0	0	4	1	1
Cochran, 3b	2	0	1	1	2	0
Ridgway, p	1	0	0	1	0	0
Dashner, rf	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weidman, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
*Raps	1	0	0	0	0	0
	27	0	2	24	13	1

*Batted for Dashner in eighth.
Omaha.....000 000 20*-2
Topeka.....000 000 000 0
Summary: Two-base hit—Thompson. Sacrifice hits—Strug, Ridgway. Left on bases—Omaha, 5; Topeka, 3. Hit—off Ridgway, 2 in 5 1-3 innings; off Dashner, 0 in 2-3 innings; off Weidman, 1 in 1 inning. Double play—Whelan to Lattimore; Talton to Cochran. Struck out by Crabb, 2; off Ridgway, 2. Bases on balls—off Crabb, 2; off Ridgway, 2. Time—1:25. Umpires—McCafferty and Gannon.

Ridgway lasts 6 1/3 innings in his final pro appearance. Making the 105th start of his career, he allows visiting Omaha two run on six hits and three walks in a 2-0 loss. Eight days later, Ridgway will leave the team, complaining of a sore arm.

June 28, 1914
Topeka manager Dick Cooley says Ridgway has a "wise head" and will prove to be "the class" of the Western League ... Cooley says that Ridgway has "57 varieties" in his delivery and is "cool as a cucumber" when under pressure ... new Jayhawk pitcher Mike Reagon is an Oklahoma oil driller.

July 29, 1914
Ridgway allows only seven hits and overcomes a "temperamental" infield and snaps a career-long six-game losing streak with a 5-2 win over Omaha.

August 1, 1914
Ridgway leaves for Philadelphia because of his sister's illness .. it's not known how long he will be away.

August 8, 1914
Ridgway returns to Topeka.

August 21, 1914
Ridgway pitches a five-hit shutout of Des Moines.

August 24, 1914
For the second time in three weeks, Ridgway returns home to Philadelphia following the death of his sister.

September 22, 1914
With nine games left to play in the regular season, Ridgway, bothered by a sore arm, with permission leaves for his home in Philadelphia.

April 28, 1915
Ridgway does the final "jump" of his career and returns to his home in Philadelphia ... his departure is the result of an unfortunate series of circumstances which occurred last summer when Ridgway was called back to his home by the sickness of his sister ... after rejoining the team, he had to leave again following her death ... the Topeka management, hard up for cash, cut his salary during his absence and paid only part of his travel expenses

Major League Debut

May 20, 1914
Kansas City Packers at Baltimore Terrapins
Terrapin Park, Baltimore, Maryland

BALTIMORE.						KANSAS CITY.							
	AB	R	H	P	A	E		AB	R	H	P	A	E
Zinn, r...	6	2	2	2	0	0	Chad's, l.	3	0	2	4	0	0
Knabe, r.	5	1	0	3	2	0	McFarr, r.	5	0	0	0	0	0
Dun'n, r.	4	0	1	2	0	0	Ken'y, r.	4	1	1	2	0	0
Swan, l.	4	1	1	1	1	0	Stova, l.	5	2	2	13	1	0
Sim's, r.	4	0	3	0	1	0	Perring, r.	4	3	2	0	2	0
Walsh, l.	4	0	0	2	1	0	Coles, m.	5	0	2	2	0	0
Doolan, s	4	0	2	1	4	0	Good'n, s.	4	0	0	2	6	2
Jack'n, c	3	0	2	6	1	0	Brown, c.	4	0	1	4	0	0
Ridg'w, p	0	0	0	0	1	0	Sten'g, p.	3	1	1	2	6	0
*Russell, l.	1	1	1	0	0	0							
Conley, p	1	0	0	0	1	0							
Meyer, r	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Houcher, r	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Yount, p	0	0	0	0	1	1							
Wilm'm., l.	1	1	0	0	0	0							
							Totals	27	7	12	27	14	9

*Batted for Ridgway in third.
†Batted for Conley in seventh.
‡Bran for Meyer.
§Batted for Yount in ninth.
Kansas City.....0 14 000 0 11-4
Baltimore.....003 000 0 12-4
Two-base hits—Stimmons, 2; Zinn, Swackna, Doolan, Perring, Coes, Brown; Stovall. Three-base hit—Henning. Perring. Home runs—Zinn, Kenworthy. Sacrifice hit—Chadbourne. Stolen bases—Stovall, Jacklitsch. Triple play—Stovall to Goodwin. Bases on balls—Off Ridgway 1, off Conley 2, off Henning 1. First on errors—Kansas, City 2, Baltimore 1.

Ridgway makes his major league debut as the starting pitcher for the Baltimore Terrapins against the visiting Kansas City Packers. Making his lone major league start, he allows five earned runs on seven hits and one walk before giving way to Snipe Conley who pitches four scoreless innings.



Jack Ridgway
1914 Baltimore Terrapins

May 14, 1915
Topeka trades Ridgway to the Omaha Rourkes ... Ridgway writes from Philadelphia that he will leave immediately to join the team ... however, he never arrives, his career now over.

February 23, 1928
Ridgway passes away in Philadelphia at the age of 39.