

# Erv Kantlehner, "The Teuton of Speed"

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"A star on the Pacific and a bench warmer on the Atlantic, the big fellow has been fretting a lot and his dad out in San Jose also has fumed considerably, and once ordered his big boy to come home and chop wood if Clarke had no other use for him than let him go fishing with that fellow (Honus) Wagner."

In addition to being a close friend and roommate of Hall of Famer [Honus Wagner](#), Erv Kantlehner's claim to fame in his brief three-year major league career is that he is the only Pittsburgh Pirate to pitch a shutout in his major league debut. On April 17, 1914, the "The Teuton of Speed," walks seven but allows only four hits en route to a 2-0 win over the St. Louis Cardinals before 2,000 at Robison Park.

## Major League Debut

Pittsburgh Pirates at St. Louis Cardinals  
Robison Park, St. Louis, Missouri  
April 17, 1914

## Kantlehner Proves Cardinals' Master

PITTSBURGH.					ST. LOUIS.				
r.	h.	e.	a.	e.	r.	h.	e.	a.	e.
Carey,lf.	0	1	4	0	Huggins,2b	0	1	3	5
J.Kelly,cf.	0	2	1	0	Magee, cf	0	0	1	0
Mowrey,3b	0	0	1	3	Butler, ss	0	0	1	4
Wagner,ss.	0	1	1	6	J.Miller,1b	0	2	15	1
Kon'eb,1b	0	0	16	0	Wilson,rf.	0	1	1	0
Viox,2b,	0	1	1	1	Whit'd, 3b	0	0	0	2
Mitchell,rf	0	0	2	0	Orulse, lf.	0	0	3	0
Gibson,c.	1	1	1	2	Cathers, lf	0	0	0	0
Kant'ner,p	1	0	0	5	Snyder, c.	0	0	3	1
					Perritt, c.	0	0	0	1
					Dolan, x	0	0	0	0

Totals 2 0 27 17 2 Totals 0 4 27 14 1  
x Batted for Perritt in ninth.  
Pittsburgh 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0-2  
St. Louis 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0  
Two-base hits—Viox, Huggins. Three-base hit—Kelly. Sacrifice hits—Carey, Whitted. Stolen base—Mowrey. Double plays—Miller to Snyder, Whitted, Huggins and Miller; Kon'eb, unassisted. Left on bases—St. Louis, 11; Pittsburgh 4. First base on balls—Off Perritt, 2; off Kantlehner, 7. Struck out—By Kantlehner, 1; by Perritt, 1. Time—1.49. Umpires—Rigler and Emslie.

In his major league debut, Kantlehner does not allow a hit in the first four innings en route to shutting out the homestanding St. Louis Cardinals 2-0 on four hits in front of a crowd estimated at 2,000. The left-hander also walks seven and strikes out one as the Redbirds strand 11 as the Pirates win for the third time in four outings.

"no bad habits" and is known as Victoria's "massive left-hander with an artful overhand delivery." During his career he is referred to by several first names such as Erving, Ervin, Erbin, Erbine, Erven, Irving and Irvie, among others. In the off-season, Kantlehner is employed as a stenographer in Santa Clara.

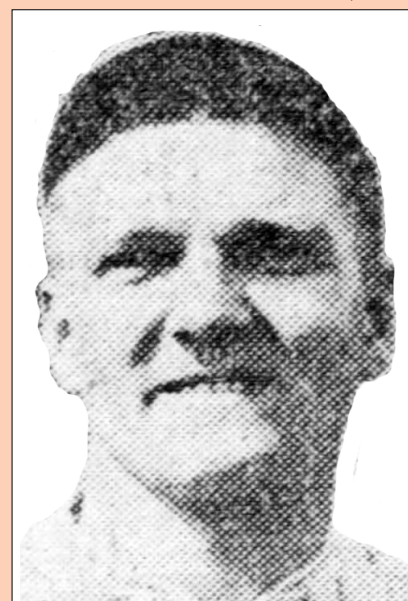
Born [Erving Leslie Kantlehner](#) on July 31, 1892, in San Jose, California, to George and Christina Kantlehner. He graduates from Santa Clara High School in 1909, the same year when he begins to play baseball for the first time. In 1910, he matriculates to local [Santa Clara College](#) where he plays rugby and baseball for two years.

After his sophomore year, Kantlehner joins a Santa Clara semipro team where he impresses the Pacific Coast League's Los Angeles Angels so much that they make him an offer. He also captures the attention of Chicago White Sox scout [Elmer Emerson](#), who signs him to his first pro contract on July 13, 1911. Said to be an "exceptional find," Kantlehner works out with the team 12 days later in the Windy City, before returning to his home in Santa Clara citing homesickness.

Eighty-one years later, on August 30, 2005, [Paul Maholm](#), another Pirate lefty making his major league debut, falls one inning shy of shutting out the Milwaukee Brewers before exiting the contest. On April 29, 2018, right-hander [Nick Kingham](#) yields only one single to the St. Louis Cardinals in seven innings of work before retiring to the clubhouse.

In 1914, three months prior to the start of World War I, Kantlehner is the sensation of the Pirates' spring training camp with his fastball causing "much favorable comment." Forty-year-old Honus Wagner, 19 years Kantlehner's senior and one of the game's greatest players, takes the 21-year-old Californian under his arm and teaches him the finer points of major league pitching. On an early-season road trip that the "Flying Dutchman," asks Kantlehner to be his roommate. The two remain close friends over the years.

Noted for smiling while pitching, Kantlehner is considered a notably poor fielder, especially in fielding bunts. He is given the nickname of "Peanuts," because all southpaws are considered a little bit nuts. At 6-foot-1, 190-pounds, he has



Erv Kantlehner  
1914 Pittsburgh Pirates

**Erv Kantlehner Year by Year:**

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	Finish	W-L	GP	INN	HIT	BB	SO	ERA
1909	Santa Clara High School	Coastal	HS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1910	Santa Clara College	California Collegiate	College	21-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1911	Santa Clara College	California Collegiate	College	9-9-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1912	San Mateo	Alameda	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1912	Victoria Bees	Northwestern	B	72-93	5 of 6	2-5	14	70.0	54	35	46	--
1913	Victoria Bees	Northwestern	B	81-90	4 of 6	23-16-1	49	337.0	329	96	253	--
1914	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	ML	69-85	7 of 8	3-2	21	67.0	51	39	26	3.09
1914	El Centro Reds	Imperial Valley	SPro	-	1 of 4	11-1	12	-	-	-	-	--
1915	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	ML	73-81	5 of 8	5-12	29	163.0	135	58	64	2.26
1915	El Centro Reds	Imperial Valley	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
<b>1916</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>ML</b>			<b>5-15</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>169.0</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>3.30</b>
	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	ML	65-89	6 of 8	5-15	34	165.0	151	57	49	3.16
	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	ML	91-62	2 of 8	0-0	3	4.0	7	3	2	9.00
1917	Indianapolis Indians	American Association	AA	90-63	1 of 8	14-14	37	257.0	243	88	97	3.08
1918	San Francisco Seals	Pacific Coast	AA	51-52	5 of 6	10-11	-	-	-	-	-	--
1918	Union Iron Works	Bay Shipyard	SPro	-	-	6-1	-	-	-	-	-	--
1919	San Francisco Seals	Pacific Coast	AA	84-94	6 of 8	2-4	10	66.2	61	29	18	4.09
1919	Lenmore Cubs	San Joaquin Valley	SPro	-	1 of 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1921	Esparto	San Joaquin Valley	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1924	Woodland Legionaires	Sacramento Valley	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1925	Woodland Legionaires	Sacramento Valley	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
<b>Major League Totals</b>			<b>3 Seasons</b>			<b>13-29</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>399.0</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>2.84</b>
<b>Minor League Totals</b>			<b>5 Seasons</b>			<b>51-50-1</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>730.0</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>--</b>

Minor league statistics incomplete

**ML Debut: April 17, 1914 at Robison Park, St. Louis:** Pitching for the Pittsburgh Pirates - started and pitched a complete game shutout in a 2-0 win over the St. Louis Cardinals, allowed no runs on four hits, seven walks and one strikeout.

**ML Finale: October 4, 1916 at Baker Bowl, Philadelphia:** Pitching for the Philadelphia Phillies - relieved Al Demaree at the start of the fifth inning in a 7-5 win over the Boston Braves, allowed one earned run on two hits, two walks and one strikeout.

**Agnews State Hospital**

Completed in 1888 at a cost of \$750,000, Agnews State Hospital is originally known as the "Great Asylum for the Insane." The hospital was the premier institution in California for assisting and treating the mentally ill. The hospital is also known as the site of the greatest loss of life in Santa Clara County during the 1906 earthquake as 11 officials and over 100 patients were killed when the main treatment building collapsed. Hundreds of "insane persons" who survived the quake fled the grounds and roamed the countryside, the *Daily Palo Alto* reported at the time. For weeks and even months, the *San Francisco Chronicle* and other papers ran stories of "lunatic" escapees being recaptured.



and lead the Northwestern League, as does his 253 strikeouts, another career-best.

Named on seven of the 10 ballots, Kantlehner earns a spot on the 1913 Northwestern League All-Star team [right]. The honors team is voted on by 10 of the leading sports writers of the Northwest. After the season, *The Victoria Daily Times* opines, "The Teuton has all of the speed in the world if given six days rest, he was overworked at Victoria in 1913."

That December he signs with the Northwestern (B) League's Victoria Bees. A couple of days after pitching a three-hit shutout against Agnews State Hospital [left] in a pre-season game, Kantlehner elects to resume his college studies at Santa Clara College and will not report to the Bees until after graduation. On May 28, he signs with San Mateo of the semipro Imperial League and pitches a five-hit shutout win over the previously undefeated Watsonville Giants. He receives word that he is to report back to Victoria by July 1. He returns to the Bees saddled with a lame arm and finishes his first pro season with a 2-5 mark fashioned over 14 appearances for a second-to-last place team.

Despite a lackluster record the previous season, Kantlehner is surprised when the his Victoria contract for 1913 contains a "flattering" pay raise. He starts the season 8-1 with two shutouts. Victoria team president Wattelet says that Kantlehner will not be made available to any major league team until next spring. The Cincinnati Reds have shown the most interest and are considered the front-runners for his services. Several scouts say that Kantlehner is ready for the majors. In late June it's reported that he has signed with the Reds, a day later with the Detroit Tigers.

Finally on August 4, on the advice of [Chick Fraser](#), Kantlehner is sold to the Pittsburgh Pirates for \$3,000 (later reported to be \$4,000) and he is instructed to report to the Corsairs next spring. The 20-year-old finishes 23-16 for a team that is nine games under .500 on the year. His 23 wins are a career-high

**1913 Northwestern League All-Star Team**

- Pitchers—Kantlehner, Victoria; Douglass, Spokane; McGinnity, Tacoma; Mays, Portland; Schmutz, Vancouver; Ingersoll, Vancouver, and Hall, Vancouver.
- Catchers—Konnick, Vancouver and Cadman, Seattle.
- First base—Hellmann, Portland.
- Second base—Rawlings, Victoria.
- Third base—James, Seattle.
- Shortstop — Bancroft, Portland.
- Left field—Powell, Spokane .
- Center field—Klippert, Vancouver.
- Right field—Swain, Victoria.
- Utility—Guigni, Portland; Fullerton, Seattle.

## Erv Kantlehner [3 of 7]:

Now a member of the Pirates, Kantlehner is 3-2 with a 3.09 ERA for the seventh-place team in 1914. He has three complete games in five starts, including two shutouts, strikes out 26 in 67 innings, but yields 39 walks and his 5.2 walks per nine innings is the highest among the team's regular pitchers. On July 29, team owner [Barney Dreyfuss](#) says that an agent has approached Kantlehner about joining the Federal League. The following afternoon manager [Fred Clarke](#) asks for waivers on 11 players, including Kantlehner. However, Kantlehner remains with team until the end of the season. In December, he turns down the Federal League's Kansas City Packers offer of \$13,000 for three years.

At the close of the 1914 season, Kantlehner plans to visit Victoria to go on a hunting trip with friends. But war had broken out in July and he concludes that it would not be safe for a man with his last name to visit a British possession. There are numerous rumors in circulation across the border of the rough treatment German citizens are receiving at the hands of Canadians, so he elects to spend the winter in California and ends up pitching for the El Centro Tigers of the Imperial Valley League.

### CORSAIR PITCHER TO QUIT BASEBALL?

Reported That Erving Kantlehner Swore Off Ball in Order to Win Bride.

In early January, Kantlehner quits El Centro and local newspapers report that he has been "ruled off the diamond, chased to the clubhouse, sentenced to life imprisonment," or in other words, he is getting married and done with baseball forever. Kantlehner then departs the team for Santa Clara, where he will marry Maybelle Shields, who reportedly tells him that she will marry him on the condition that he quits baseball for good.

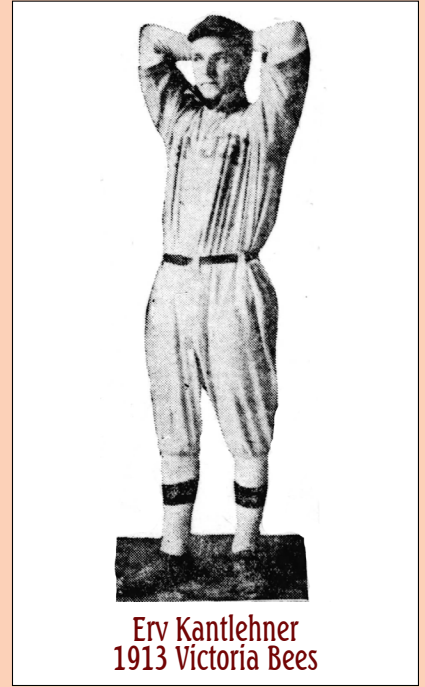
Kantlehner later denies that (1) he has signed with Kansas City and (2) that he is quitting baseball.

In 1915, Kantlehner is 5-12 with two saves for a Pirates' team that finishes in sixth place with a 65-89 record. Despite his record, his 2.26 ERA ranks sixth in the National League. The Bucs score three-or-fewer runs in 13 of his 18 starts, including three losses by shutout. He twirls a pair of two-hit wins and a 1-0 nine-hit shutout of Philadelphia on September 15. After hitting an anemic .067 (1-for-15) in 1914, Kantlehner rebounds to hit a solid .288 (15-for-52) with five RBIs. On July 13, he has a no-hitter for seven innings before settling for a two-hitter in a 3-1 win over the Boston Braves. Over a six-day (August 25-31) period, he appears in four games, including three starts and completes two games.

### Kantlehner Fails to Stop the Dodgers, But Daubert's Red-Hot Drive Puts Big Southpaw Upon Hospital List.

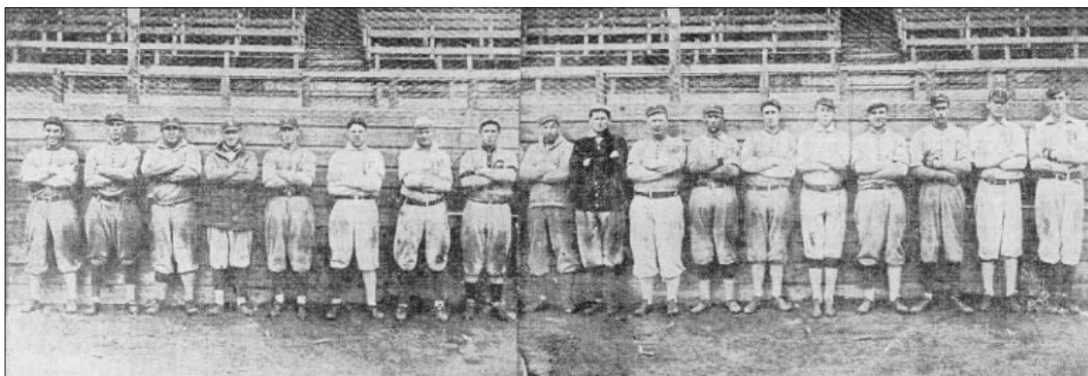
In 1916, his final major league season, Kantlehner is a disappointing 5-15 with two saves and a 3.16 ERA for the Pirates when on September 16, he is waived to the Philadelphia Phillies for \$1,500. On May 23, Kantlehner attempts to deflect a line drive off the bat of Brooklyn first baseman [Jake Daubert](#) and splits his thumb and partially dislocates the knuckle joint. Prior to the injury, he had a 1.77 ERA over his previous six appearances. With the injury he will not pitch again for three weeks. Overall, in 37 appearances with the Pirates (34 games) and the Phillies (3) he is 5-15, with seven complete games in 21 starts, including the fourth and fifth shutouts of his career. Kantlehner allows three-or-fewer runs in 13 of his 15 losses, including eight by shutouts.

**KANTLEHNER MAY  
GO TO FEDERALS.**  
PITTSBURGH PITCHER WAITS ON  
WAGNER'S ADVICE AND  
DEFINITE OFFER



Erv Kantlehner  
1913 Victoria Bees

### 1913 Victoria Bees



Len Burrell, 3b; William Grindle, c; James Hauser, c; Ken Lambe, ut; Johnny Rawlings, ss.; Alfred Narveson, p.; Harry Morse, lf; Del Delmas, 2b.; Bill Steele, p; Fred Weed, rf; p; Danny Shea, Kaufman, Mike Lynch, Charles Brooks, cf; Erv Kantlehner, p.; Michael Wilson, p.; Hank Schultz, p.

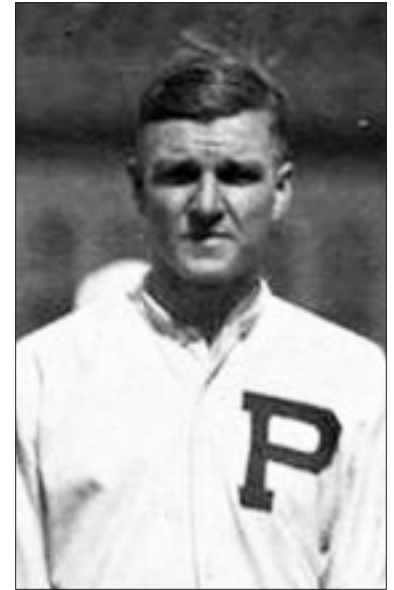
The Phillies, citing the war scare and "the high cost of doughnuts," reduce his 1917 salary. Failing to come to terms, Kantlehner is released to the Indianapolis Indians of the American Association. He starts the season 3-0 with before finishing 14-14 toiling for the league champion

## Erv Kantelehner [4 of 7]:

Indians. Kantelehner leads the team in appearances (37) and is second in innings pitched with 257.

Slated to return to Indianapolis in 1918, negotiations with the team are stalled when Kantelehner informs the team that because of an illness to his wife, he will remain on the West Coast and will not be reporting to the Indians. On March 25, San Francisco and Indianapolis agree to a financial deal that sends the much-coveted lefty to San Francisco.

Kantelehner wins his last four decisions for manager [Charlie Graham](#) and finishes the war-shortened season with a 10-11 mark before the league disbands on July 14. Within days, the American League's Boston Red Sox express an interest in obtaining Kantelehner, but he elects to remain in the Bay area and is employed by the Union Iron Works as a drillers' helper. A group of five ex-Seals will form the nucleus of the new Union Iron Works ball club, to be entered in San Francisco's Shipyards League.



**Erv Kantelehner**  
1916 Philadelphia Phillies



**Erv Kantelehner**  
1917 Indianapolis Indians

In February, a 26-year-old Kantelehner signs what will be his final pro contract with San Francisco. In a less-than-enthusiastic endorsement, Seals' manager Charlie Graham says of his veteran portsider, "he hasn't much stuff but he is a mighty hard man to beat for he has control nerve and pitching sense and they carry him over the tough spots."

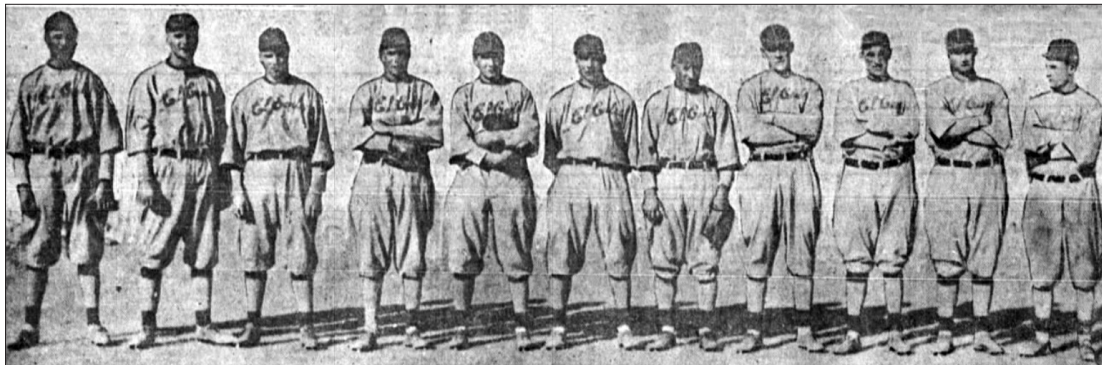
Once in camp, Kantelehner recommends 23-year-old [Ed Anfinson](#), his former battery mate with the Union Iron Works team, to the Seals' management. The San Francisco native will eventually play seven minor league seasons, including five in the Pacific Coast League. Off to a slow start, Kantelehner attempts to explain his lack of success by saying, "The reason I'm not winning more games is lack of work. If they would send me in oftener, my control would be better." On June 10, Kantelehner is 2-4 with a 4.09 ERA in 10 appearances when the Seals give him his release, ending his professional career at the age of 26.

Following his release, Kantelehner signs with the semipro Lenmore (Calif.) Cubs, where he wins six games for the eventual champions of the San Joaquin Valley League. In May 1920, Kantelehner says that he is considering a

return to the Seals as his first venture at farming in Esparto, California, has not been as successful as anticipated. He says a lack of water is hindering his chances to become a "Rice Baron."

In three major league seasons, he is a 13-29 with a 2.84 ERA. In 399 innings pitched, he totals 141 strikeouts and walks 157. He finishes

## 1914-15 El Centro Tigers



Bill Cornett, manager; Erv Kantelehner, pitcher; Jimmy Concannon, pitcher; Walter Alexander, catcher; Johnny Bassler, centerfield; Carl Flick, second base; Rudy Baerwald, rightfield; Irish Meusel, Leftfield; Rube Gardner, first base; Fred McMullen, third base; Dave Bancroft, shortstop.

## QUEER MIXTURE OF MEN ON THE PIRATES

A bizarre collection of occupations is found to take up the off season time of the Pirates, according to a list just made up. Gibson, Cooper, Harmon and Duffy are the farmers on the team. Manager Clarke also can be ranked as a farmer. Joe Congelman, Ollie McArthur and Joe Leonard are students. There are three salesmen, two plumbers and five clerks. Hyatt is so used to butchering stock that he butchers the horsehide ball on the diamond. Bob Coleman is a stage mechanic and George McQuillan an electrician, Kantelehner is a stenographer.

with 20 complete games, including five shutouts and allows only three home runs in 399 career innings. In his 13 career wins, he allows only 12 extra base hits and limits opposing batters to a .177 batting average. In 1923, he takes a course in coaching at the University of California and two years later he is named an assistant football coach and head coach of the school's first-ever girl's baseball

## Erv Kantlehner [5 of 7]:

team. On February 3, 1990, a 97-year-old Kantlehner passes away in the Valley Verde Convalescent Home in Santa Barbara, California.

## KANTLEHNER CHRONOLOGY

May 14, 1911

In a Three C League game, Kantlehner allows only four hits and strikes out eight but drops a 2-0 decision to San Jose ... "Mysterious" Holmes, who true name and identity are concealed, starts for San Jose and does not allow a hit in five innings before his "arm tires" and is replaced by Cyril McGraw.

### Pro Debut

Victoria Bees at Seattle Giants  
Band Box Park, Seattle, Washington  
July 5, 1912

Seattle—	AB.	R.	BH.	PO.	A.	E.
Shaw, 2b.	3	0	0	2	5	0
Raymond, ss.	5	1	1	4	5	0
Strait, lf.	4	3	2	1	0	0
Mann, cf.	3	2	1	2	0	0
Moran, rf.	4	2	2	1	0	0
McMullin, 8b.	3	0	0	0	2	0
Jackson, 1b.	4	2	2	13	0	0
Whaling, c.	4	1	1	4	2	0
Thompson, p.	4	0	1	0	3	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>

Victoria—	AB.	R.	BH.	PO.	A.	E.
Yohe, 3b.	4	0	1	2	0	1
Rawlings, ss.	4	0	0	8	2	2
Kennedy, cf.	3	0	0	1	0	0
Meek, c.	4	1	2	7	3	1
Weed, 1b.	4	0	0	4	0	0
Kellar, 2b.	3	0	2	2	1	0
Stadille, lf.	4	0	1	2	0	0
Friene, rf.	3	1	1	2	0	0
Kantlehner, p.	3	0	1	1	2	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

Two-base hits—Strait, Friene, Meek. Home runs—Whaling, Jackson, Strait, Meek. Stolen bases—Shaw, Raymond, Jackson, Struck out—By Thompson 5, by Kantlehner 7. Bases on balls—Off Thompson 2, off Kantlehner 5. Hit by pitched ball—Shaw 2, by Kantlehner. Double plays—Raymond to Jackson, Raymond to Jackson. Time—1:40. Umpire—Toman.

Making his professional debut against the first-place Seattle Giants, Kantlehner allows 11 runs on 10 hits, including home runs by Bert Whaling, Bill Jackson and Lee Strait. Kantlehner walks five and strikes out seven in losing to eventual 23-game winner Cecil Thompson.

July 13, 1911

Kantlehner, of the semipro Santa Clara teams signs with the Chicago White Sox ... signed by White Sox scout Elmer Emerson ... he is taken East by the team, but gets homesick and returns home.

December 6, 1911

Kantlehner signs with the Victoria Bees of the Northwestern League.

March 28, 1912

In a pre-season game, Kantlehner pitches a three-hit 11-0 shutout of the Agnews State Hospital team in a game played in San Jose.

March 30, 1912

Kantlehner returns to Santa Clara College to complete his studies and will not report to the Victoria until after graduation.

May 28, 1912

Released by Victoria earlier in the month, Kantlehner signs with San Mateo and pitches a five-hit shutout win over the previously undefeated Watsonville Giants.

June 26, 1912

Kantlehner receives word that he is to report to the Victoria Bees by July 1.

### Portland and Tacoma Played Sensational Ball in Series Last Week

A new record for fast playing in the Northwestern League was established by the Portland and Tacoma teams at the Rose City last week when all of the seven games played were finished in less than ten hours. All credit is due to Umpire Perle Casey and the members of both clubs for the manner in which the contests were played off. The entire seven games were played on an average of 1 hour, 22 6-7 minutes, something practically unheard of in as long a series. Here is the time for each contest:

Monday game	1.20
Tuesday game	1.30
Wednesday game	1.25
Thursday game	1.15
Friday game	1.25
Saturday game	1.30
Sunday game	1.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.40</b>

## 1917 Indianapolis Indians



**Top Row, L-R:** Claude Derrick, shortstop; Dick Gossett, catcher; Dana Fillingim, pitcher; James C. McGill, owner; John Hendricks, manager; Steve Yerkes, second base; Erv Kantlehner, pitcher; Gene Dale, pitcher; Jake Northup, pitcher. **Middle Row:** Dutch Zwilling, centerfield; Cozy Dolan, utility; Rex Dawson, pitcher; Cy Falkenberg, pitcher; Al Wickland, right fielder; Herman Bronkie, third base; Windy Lotshaw, outfielder. **Front:** Alex Reilly, left fielder and Bobby Schang, catcher; Jack Leary, first baseman.

July 5, 1912

Making his professional debut against the first-place Seattle Giants, Kantlehner allows 11 runs on 10 hits, including home runs by Bert Whaling, Bill Jackson and Lee Strait. Kantlehner walks five and strikes out seven in losing to eventual 23-game winner Cecil Thompson.

August 4, 1912

After losing his first four decisions, Kantlehner picks up his first career win with a 6-0 six-hit shutout of fourth-place Portland ... he strikes out one and walks one.

## Erv Kantelehner [6 of 7]:

September 4, 1912

Kantelehner is left behind in Victoria when the team travels to Spokane ... the *Victoria Daily Times* opines that he will not gain the needed experience by being left behind.

February 8, 1913

Kantelehner contract for 1913 contains a "flattering" pay raise.

May 4, 1913

Despite being bothered by a sore arm, Kantelehner pitches a five-hit shutout of Vancouver ... he strikes out two and walks two.

May 9, 1913

Victoria President [L.A. Wattelet](#) [right] says that Kantelehner will not be available to any major league team until next spring ... the Cincinnati Reds have shown the most interest and are considered the front-runners for his services ... scouts have pronounced "the massive left-hander" ready for the majors.



### IRVE KANTLEHNER SIGNS

**Slowball Southpaw With Not  
Enough Stuff to Hit Should  
Have Big Year**

May 25, 1913

No less than six major league teams have inquired about the availability of Kantelehner ... Kantelehner is 8-1 on the season, including two wins in three days against Spokane.

June 25, 1913

Kantelehner is expected to sign with the Detroit Tigers ... Wattelet expects to "dispose" of the big lefty in the next couple of days.

June 26, 1913

It is reported that Kantelehner has signed with the Cincinnati Reds.

June 27, 1913

It is reported that Kantelehner has signed with the Detroit Tigers.

### Kantelehner Sold to Pittsburgh for \$3,000

SEATTLE, Aug. 4.—Erwin Kantelehner, the left-handed pitcher of the Victoria Northwestern league team, was sold to the Pittsburgh club of the National league for \$3,000 today. Kantelehner will report to Pittsburgh next spring.

August 4, 1913

After weeks of consideration, Kantelehner is sold to Pittsburgh on the advice of Chick Fraser for \$3,000 (later reported to be \$4,000) and is instructed to report next spring.

September 27, 1913

Kantelehner is named on seven of the 10 ballots and earns a spot on the 1913 Northwestern League All-Star team ... the honors team is voted on 10 of the leading sports writers of the Northwest.

#### All-Star Northwestern League Team.

Pitchers—Kantelehner, Victoria; Douglass, Spokane; McGinnity, Tacoma; Mays, Portland; Schmutz, Vancouver; Ingersoll, Vancouver, and Hall, Vancouver.

Catchers—Konnick, Vancouver and Cadman, Seattle.

First base—Hellmann, Portland.

Second base—Rawlings, Victoria.

Third base—James, Seattle.  
Shortstop — Bancroft, Portland.

Left field—Powell, Spokane .  
Center field—Kippert, Vancouver.

Right field—Swain, Victoria.  
Utility—Guigni, Portland; Fullerton, Seattle.

### *Kantelehner Proves Cardinals' Master*

Louis Cardinals 2-0 on four hits in front of a crowd estimated at 2,000 ... the left-hander also walks seven and strikes out one as the Redbirds strand 11 as the Pirates win for the third time in four outings.

July 29, 1914

An appeals court judge issues an injunction against Federal League from signing major league players to contracts ... Pittsburgh's Barney Dreyfuss says that a Federal League agent has approached Kantelehner about joining the Federal League.

April 17, 1914

In his major league debut, Kantelehner does not allow a hit in the first four innings en route to shutting out the homestanding St.

## Erv Kantlehner [7 of 7]:

July 30, 1914

Pittsburgh manager Fred Clarke asks for waivers on 11 players including Kantlehner and [Eddie Mensor](#).

September 12, 1914

Still with the Pirates, Kantlehner pitches a 3-hit shutout of the Chicago Cubs ... in the 4-0 white-washing of the visiting Cubs, he strikes out two and walks four.

December 1914

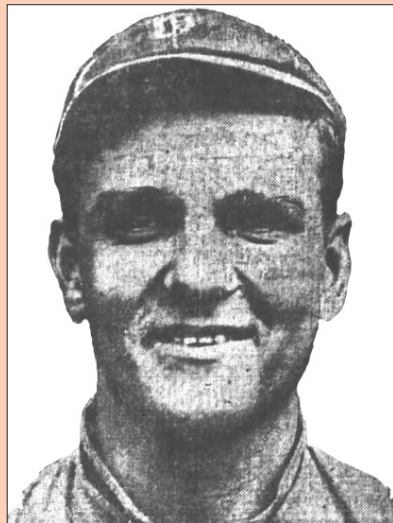
The [Kansas City Packers](#) offer Kantlehner \$13,000 over three years to join the Federal League.

August 26, 1915

One day after picking up his second save of the season, Kantlehner turns in his fifth complete game with a 2-1, seven-hit win over the New York Giants in the Polo Grounds ... the win gives the Buccaneers their eleventh victory of the season over the Giants, marking the largest number of wins over the team from Gotham since 1909.

May 23, 1916

Kantlehner attempts to deflect a line drive off the bat of Brooklyn Dodger first baseman Jake Daubert and splits his thumb and partially dislocates the knuckle joint ... prior to the injury, Kantlehner had a 1.77 ERA over his last six appearances and he will not pitch again for three weeks.



March 2, 1917

One day after it's reported that he has verbally come to terms with the Phillies, Kantlehner is released to the Indianapolis Indians of the American Association after failing to come to terms ... it is also reported that Philadelphia has signed a pair of Cuban pitchers - Joaquin Rodis and Raymond Gonzales.

April 14, 1918

In his debut for the San Francisco Seals, Kantlehner doesn't last two innings in a 6-0 loss to the Sacramento Salons, allowing three runs on five hits in 1 1/3 innings.

April 27, 1918

Kantlehner allows three unearned runs on five hits in a 3-2 loss to the Los Angeles Angels at Recreation Park ... the loss drops the Seals to 10-14 on the year.

August 4, 1918

In his Union Iron Works debut, Kantlehner drops a 5-2 decision to Moore Shipyard and [Buzz Arlett](#).

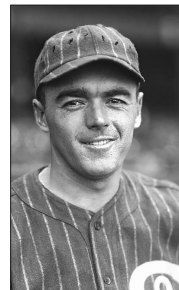
June 10, 1919

Kantlehner is 2-4 with a 4.09 ERA in 10 appearances when the Seals give him his release, ending his professional career at the age of 26.

February 3, 1990

A 97-year-old Kantlehner passes away at the Valley Verde Convalescent Home in Santa Barbara, California.

## Willie Kamm



Managing a San Francisco-area semipro club during the winter of 1919, Kantlehner recommends his 19-year-old third baseman Willie Kamm to San Francisco manager Charley Graham,

"Kamm is just as certain to make good as any old-timer on your ball club. I have had the opportunity of watching him play in more games than almost anybody else around here, and I think he is a real Class AA player right now. He is a good hitter, a swell fielder, fast as a bullet on the bases, and has the fighting spirit that is one of the big essentials." Following a four-year stint with the Seals, Kamm will hit .281 with 126 stolen bases in 13 major league seasons.

**Erv Kantlehner, 97, who pitched 399 innings for the Pittsburgh Pirates and Philadelphia Phillies between 1914 and 1916, died Saturday at Valley Verde Convalescent Home in Santa Barbara.**