

November 1941

Minor Musings

INTER-STATE LEAGUE APPROVES HELMETS

November 24

At a meeting in the Rittenhouse Hotel in Philadelphia, the Inter-State League becomes the first circuit in organized baseball to mandate the use of batting helmets to help prevent head injuries ... spurred by a pair of serious injuries caused by beanballs, league directors unanimously approve a recommendation by Lee McPhail, business manager of the Reading Chicks.

November 25

The Johnson City Cardinals sell catcher Harry Michel and first baseman Dick Connell to the Asheville Tourists ... Michel, a 27-year-old player/manager, led the team in hitting (.390), home runs (16) and RBIs (119), while the 21-year-old Connell hit .382 with a team-high 184 hits, including 35 doubles and 20 triples and 107 RBIs for the fourth-place Cardinals ... Michel will never play for the Tourists, or in organized baseball again, choosing to enlist in the Army instead ... Connell will hit .238 in 22 games for Asheville before being traded to the Allentown Wings in mid-May where he hits .314 in 108 contests ... Connell will serve in the military from 1943 to 1945 before returning to play three more seasons ending his career at the age of 28 with a broken bone in his right ankle while playing for the Anderson (S.C.) Rebels in 1948.

November 26

Eight of the 20 players that ended the season with the Greensboro Red Sox are expected to return ... 10 of the players on the 1941 roster will be "performing in higher company" this coming season while two have been released.

November 29

Ten University of Wyoming students arrested for playing a game of "pickup" football on the street in front of their fraternity house are taken to a police judge and given suspended fines.