

# On This Date

# August 24, 1901

Frank Dupee, "a tall Sycamore from the Maine woods," makes his major league debut with the Chicago White Sox on August 24, 1901, when he is the starting pitcher in that afternoon's game against the homestanding Baltimore Orioles before 2,000 fans at the Ball Grounds. The first-place Pale Hose begin the day with a 1/2-game lead over the Boston Americans, so the game's importance can not be underestimated.

After walking the first three batters he faces, the Monkton, Vermont, native is pulled by Manager Clark Griffith in favor of veteran Jimmy Callahan. All three runners eventually come around to score, and when Dupee is sent back to the minor leagues on August 25, without getting another chance to pitch, his earned run average to remain at infinity for perpetuity.

A freshman at Westbrook Seminary in Portland, Maine, and coming off an arm injury, Dupee is 10-6 with a 2.47 ERA with Portland's New England League franchise when the 24-year-old (he had passed himself off as a 19-year-old) he is sold to the White Sox on August 21, for \$1,000.

Sold to the New York Giants on February 18, 1902, the "20-year-old" Dupee is so impressive in the pre-season that some media consider him a star in the making. However, his arm problems resurface and he leaves for home on May 21, suffering from "strain and lameness of arm." Dupee returns to pitch for five different teams during the 1902 season.

Dupee dies on August 14, 1901, in Falmouth, Maine at the age of 79.

