

On Friday, May 6, 1921, Claude Jonnard (below) out-duels Jesse Sigmon as Little Rock edges Mobile 3-2, giving the Travelers their third victory in a four-game



Southern Association series. Jonnard, a future major leaguer, allows only five hits while striking out six.

Two days later, several baseballs with nails driven into them are discovered at Mobile's Monroe Park. The nails are small and barely discernable to the

human eye. It's thought that the added weight on one side of the ball will allow the pitcher to "do all sorts of funny things."

Several hard hits during the game with Little Rock cause the nails to protrude.

Mobile players claim to know nothing about the balls or how they got put into play, but team President John D. Logan promises a "full investigation"

Two months later, Sigmon, now the prime suspect in the ball tampering incident, is suspended and fined \$250 when he "jumps" his contract to join an independent club in Sallisaw, Oklahoma. Considered one of the top southpaws in the Southern Association, Sigmon is 13-10 at the time of his departure.

## Spiked Baseballs In Mobile, Logan Reports to Martin

MOBILE, Ala., May 7.—Spiked baseballs have been discovered at the Mobile Southern association park, according to President John D. Logan, who has taken the matter up with President John D. Martin, at Memphis, and National Commissioner K. M. Landis, at Chicago. The balls were found after the Mobile-Little Rock game on Friday, but the discovery of nails being driven into them was not made until today. The nail is a small, long wire one, and was driven into the stitches of the ball, and it had to be examined closely to find it. It is claimed that the added weight of the nail on one side of the ball enables a pitcher to make it do all sorts of funny things. The Mobile players claim that they did not put the balls into play, and how they got into the game is something else to be determined. President Logan stated tonight that he would demand a full investigation of the spiked balls. The "spit ball," the "shine ball" are not new, but this is the first time a "spiked ball" has been discovered.