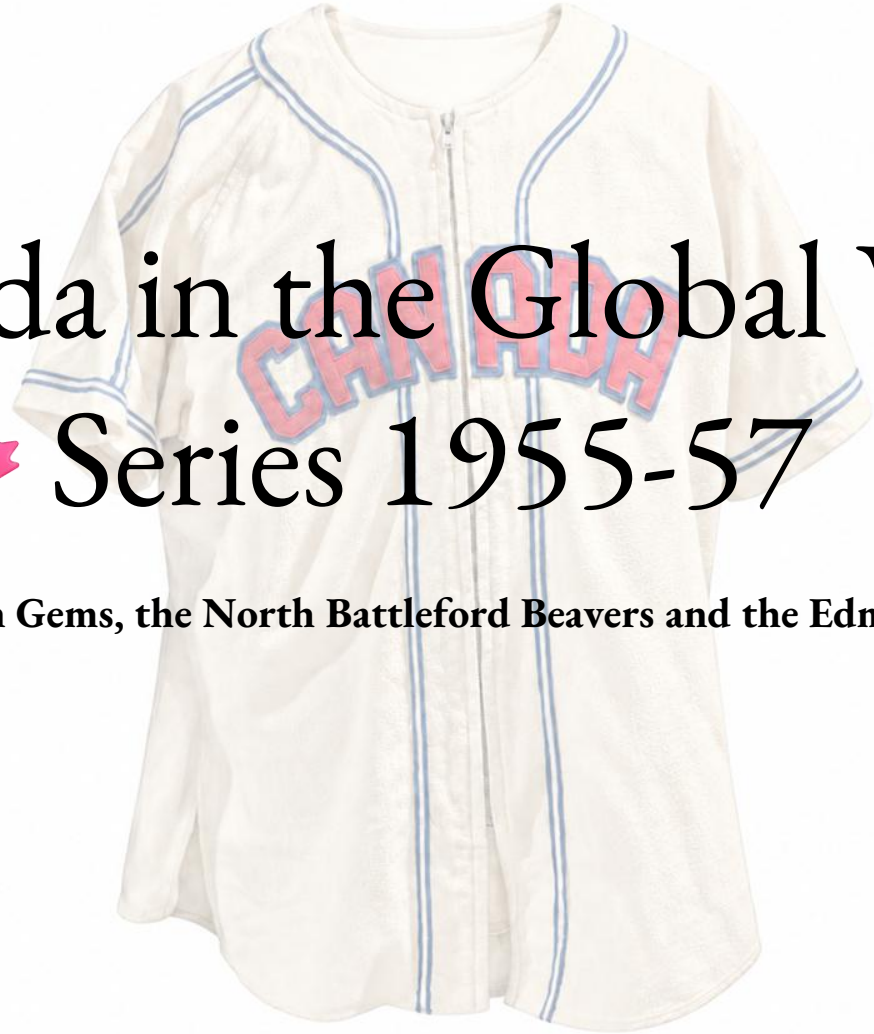


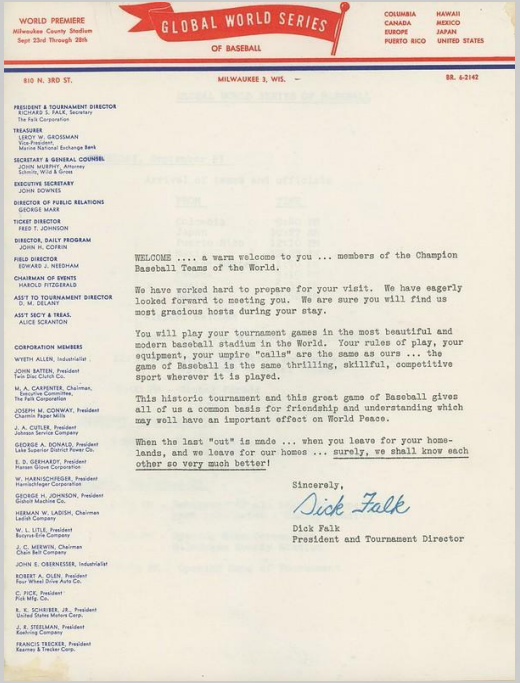
Canada in the Global World

Series 1955-57

The Saskatoon Gems, the North Battleford Beavers and the Edmonton Eskimos

Canada in the Global World Series 1955-57

- The **Global World Series** was an ambitious international baseball tournament organized by the **National Baseball Congress** and promoted by former MLB Commissioner Happy Chandler and NBC founder Ray Dumont.
  - Does anyone remember it now?
  - It was an attempt to stage a worldwide baseball championship in North America with no restrictions to amateurs



WORLD PREMIERE
Milwaukee County Stadium
Sept 23rd Through 28th

GLOBAL WORLD SERIES
OF BASEBALL

COLUMBIA · HAWAII
CANADA · MEXICO
EUROPE · JAPAN
PUERTO RICO · UNITED STATES

610 N. 3RD ST. MILWAUKEE 3, WIS. BR. 6-2142

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WELCOME .... a warm welcome to you ... members of the Champion Baseball Teams of the World.

We have worked hard to prepare for your visit. We have eagerly looked forward to meeting you. We are sure you will find us most gracious hosts during your stay.

You will play your tournament games in the most beautiful and modern baseball stadium in the World. Your rules of play, your equipment, your umpire "calls" are the same as ours ... the game of Baseball is the same thrilling, skillful, competitive sport wherever it is played.

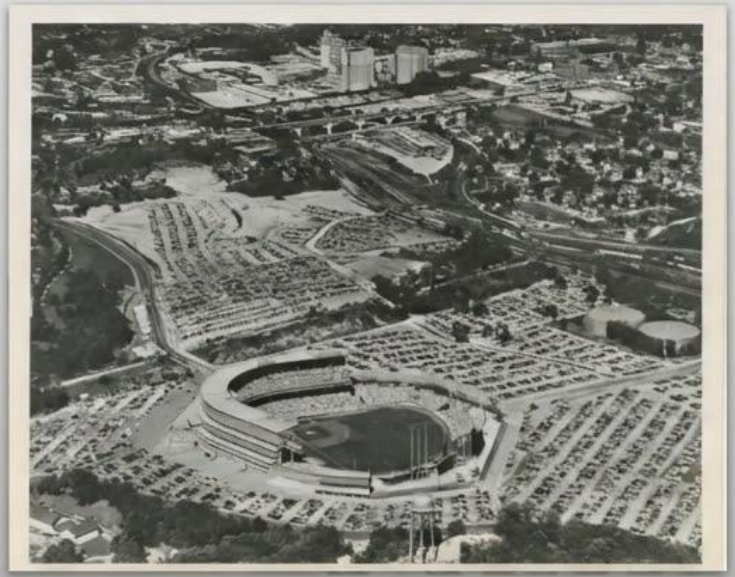
This historic tournament and this great game of Baseball gives all of us a common basis for friendship and understanding which may well have an important effect on World Peace.

When the last "out" is made ... when you leave for your home-lands, and we leave for our homes ... surely, we shall know each other so very much better!

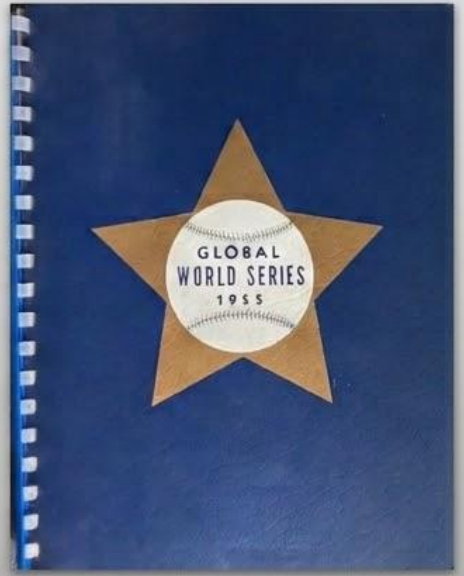
Sincerely,
Dick Falk
Dick Falk
President and Tournament Director

Canada in the Global World Series 1955

Milwaukee: September 23 to 28, 1955: eight countries invited

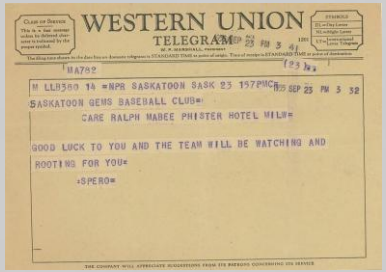






Canada in the Global World Series 1955

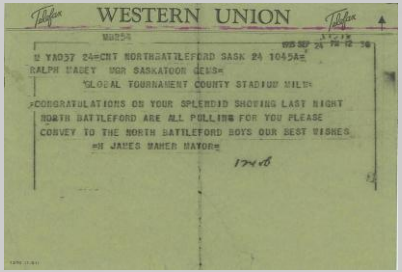
- The Saskatoon Gems represented Canada
- The Edmonton Eskimos refused to go as they didn't want to add players



WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

M LLB580 14 =NPR SASKATOON SASK 23 157PMC
SASKATOON GEMS BASEBALL CLUB=
CARE RALPH MABEE PHISTER HOTEL MILW=

GOOD LUCK TO YOU AND THE TEAM WILL BE WATCHING AND
ROOTING FOR YOU=
=SPERO=



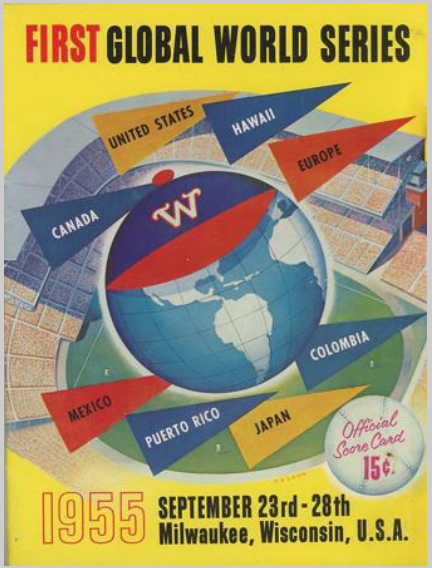
WESTERN UNION

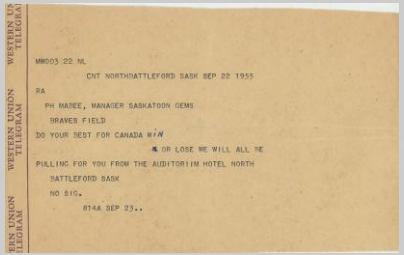
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W YA037 24=CNT NORTHBATTLEFORD SASK 24 1045A=
RALPH MABEY MGR SASKATOON GEMS=
GLOBAL TOURNAMENT COUNTY STADIUM MILW=

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SPLENDID SHOWING LAST NIGHT
NORTH BATTLEFORD ARE ALL PULLING FOR YOU PLEASE
CONVEY TO THE NORTH BATTLEFORD BOYS OUR BEST WISHES
=H JAMES WAHER MAYOR=

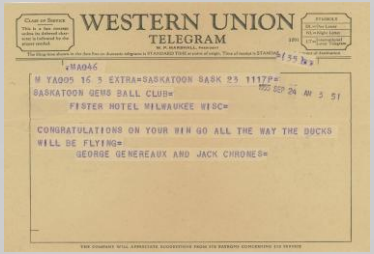
1946





WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

MW003 22 NL
CNT NORTHBATTLEFORD SASK SEP 22 1955
RA
PH MABEE, MANAGER SASKATOON GEMS
BRAVES FIELD
DO YOUR BEST FOR CANADA WIN
& OR LOSE WE WILL ALL BE
PULLING FOR YOU FROM THE AUDITORIUM HOTEL NORTH
BATTLEFORD SASK
NO SIG.
814A SEP 23..



WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

W YA005 16 5 EXTRA=SASKATOON SASK 23 1117P=
SASKATOON GEMS BALL CLUB=
PFISTER HOTEL MILWAUKEE WISC=

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR WIN GO ALL THE WAY THE BUCKS
WILL BE FLYING=
GEORGE GENEREAUX AND JACK CHRONES=

Canada in the Global World Series 1955

Canadians Dump Japan in Series as Global Opens

MILWAUKEE (AP)—With 20 big league scouts watching, the Saskatoon Gems of Canada pulled off a triple play as they turned back Japan 5-2 Friday night to get the Global World Series of Baseball off to a flying start.

But the Canadians were forced to share the spotlight with a tiny southpaw relief pitcher, Sadao Kawai, of the losing Osaka Kanebos.

The Canadians, trailing 2-0 at the end of the first half inning, roared back with a mighty four-run outburst in their half of the frame. There were two outs and two men on base when Kawai came in to retire the side.

Saskatoon Gems Beat Japan In Opener Of Global Series

- Canada wins its first game in international competition, beating Japan 5-2, highlighted by a triple play made by Canada.

Score by Innings

Japan	200	000	000—2	6	1
Canada	400	000	010—5	6	2

Yamamoto, Kawai (1) and Taneda; Bogan and Garay. Hr—Canada: Ryan.

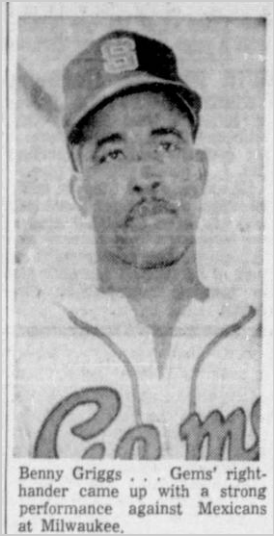
Canada in the Global World Series 1955

SASKATOON STAR-PHOENIX, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1955

GEMS STAY ALIVE; BEAT MEXICO

★ ★ (GLOBAL WORLD SERIES) ★ ★

Benny Griggs Hurls Four-Hitter



Benny Griggs . . . Gems' right-hander came up with a strong performance against Mexicans at Milwaukee.

- After losing to Hawaii 5-2, Canada came back to beat Mexico by the same score
- The newspapers as always misspelled Bennie as Benny
- Attendance was 3500 for the Hawaii game and 5000 for the Mexico game
- Hawaii squeaked by Spain 23-0, eliminating them

Canada in the Global World Series 1955



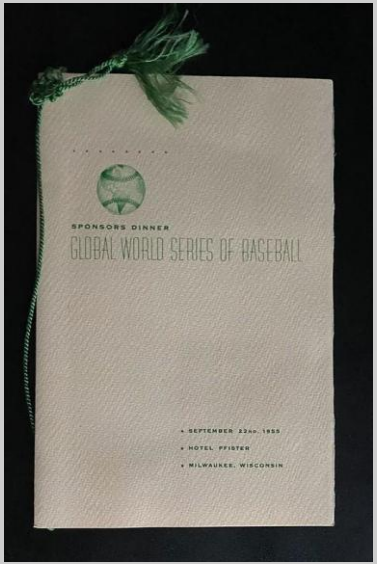
Shop and Dine. . .

Global Series Teams Occupy Spare Time

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Shopping, shop - talk about the Global World Series of Baseball and dining occupy the attention of the foreign baseball players when they aren't competing at County Stadium.

The Hawaiians, who meet the Boeing Bombers of Wichita, Kan., for the world championship tonight, spent a lot of time buying shoes. They say footwear here is as cheap as $5 a pair less than in the Islands. However they say women's clothing is cheaper in Hawaii.

The Canadians, who play Colombia for third place tonight, bought underwear. They were attracted by lower prices of cotton goods in the U.S.



- Unfortunately the United States team, the Wichita Boeing Bombers, eliminated Canada 8-2
- Former New York Giants shortstop **Daryl Spencer** played for Wichita

Canada in the Global World Series 1955

- **However, Canada beat Columbia 4-3 in the third place game, perhaps motivated by the lower prices of cotton goods in the U.S.**
- **The Wichita Boeing Bombers defeated the Hawaii Red Sox 7–4 in 11 innings to win the championship**



Gems Capture Third Prize; Hawaii, U.S. Still Alive

Milwaukee (CP)—A clutch single by pinch-hitter Jim Shirley and fine relief pitching by Jack McLeod sparked Saskatoon Gems to a 4-3 victory over Colombia's Barinquilla City nine Wednesday night in a third-place playoff in the global semi-pro baseball world series.

Shirley's hit drove in Joe Kretschmar with the winning run in the seventh inning, climaxing a four-run rally. A moment earlier, Kretschmar had doubled to send in the tying run.

The Colombia team had taken a 3-0 lead in the second inning as they shelled Benny Griggs from the mound. Les Dean of North Battleford relieved Griggs and turned up the winner when the Gems went on a four-run splurge in the seventh inning.

In the big inning, besides Shirley's single and Kretschmar's double the Gems also had doubles from Don Stewart and Jim Ryan and a single by the ever-reliable Cliff Pemberton.

A crowd of 7,000 watched the Gems win third place in the eight-team tournament, worth $1,000 added money to them.

Pitchers Charlie Bogan and John Doucette were the only Gem players who didn't get into the game against Colombia.

All told, the Gems hit four doubles with Johnny Ford getting a two-bagger prior to the big inning. They made two double plays.

McLeod, who took over in the seventh inning, set the Colombians down without a hit over the last three frames, striking out three batters and walking only one.

The Gems, a Western Canada Baseball League squad, suffered their only losses in the tournament at the hands of the United States and Hawaiian entries.

In the second game Wednesday night the United States representatives, the Boeing Bombers from Wichita, Kansas, suffered their first defeat in the tournament, bowing to the Hawaii Red Sox 8-6 in 10 innings. The Bombers and Hawaii will meet again tonight for the title.

Score by innings

Canada	000 000 400—4	8	1
Colombia	030 000 000—3	7	3

Griggs, Dean (2) McLeod (7) and Garay; Hernandez and Redondo.

Canada in the Global World Series 🍁 1955 🍁

- Box scores from the games are seemingly impossible to find in the U.S. papers
  - A few linescores in the Canadian papers
  - No coverage in The Sporting News–only one ad in September for the event
  - No major Milwaukee papers online for 1955

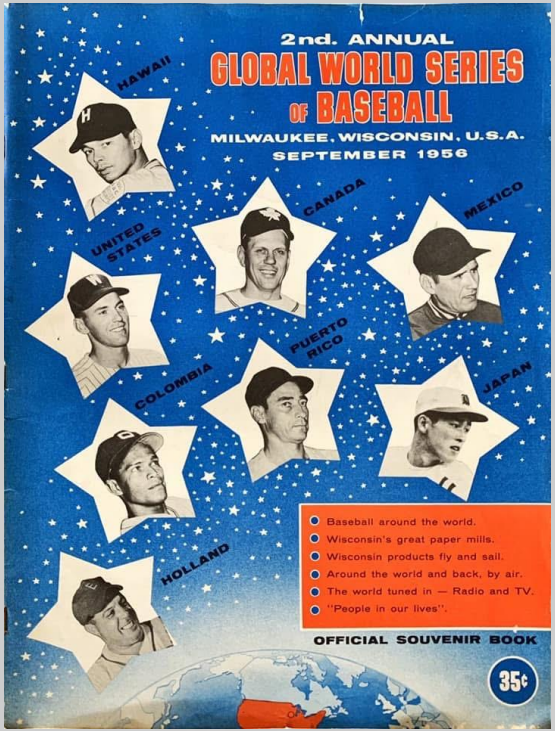


Canada in the Global World Series 1956

- North Battleford represented Canada
- Emile Francis coaching
- Notice the integrated team, somewhat surprising to the U.S. media
- September 7 - 13, 1956



Canada in the Global World Series 1956



- Canada loses its opener 5-4 to Japan

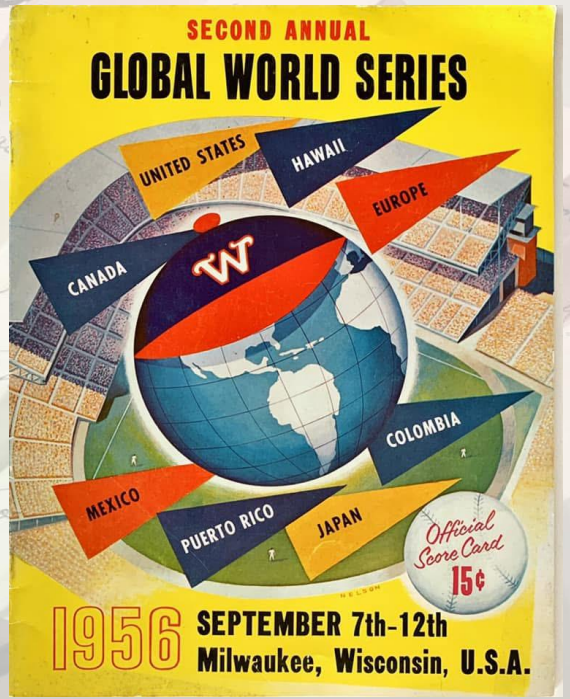
Japan	000	100	022	5	10	1
Canada	000	100	120	4	3	1

Motoji Fujita, Sadao Kawai (8), Yoshio Kitagawa (9) and Minoru Miyahara, Yoshitomi Taneda (4); Mike Dayne, Tom Garcia (9) and Louis Green, Art Stone (8). W—Kawai. L—Garcia.

Canada in the Global World Series 1956

- **Canada was eliminated by losing its second game 10-1 to Hawaitt**
- **Fort Wayne Allen Dairymen won the championship defeating the Honolulu Red Sox. John Kennedy and Don Pavletich played for the Dairymen**
- **A crowd of only 2,637 attended the final game.**

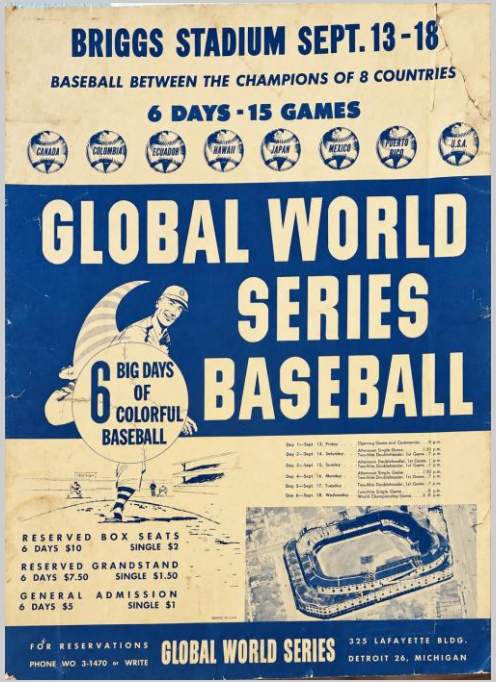




Canada in the Global World Series 1957

- **With sparse crowds in Milwaukee, the 1957 tournament shifted to Detroit**

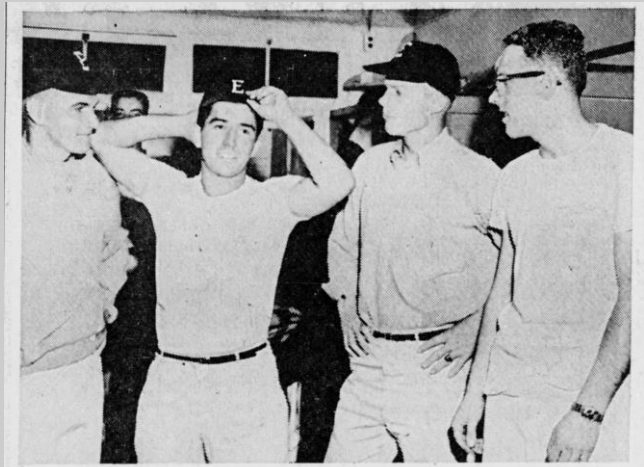




Canada in the Global World Series 1957

- **The Edmonton Eskimos defeated the Moose Jaw Mallards to win entry**
- **Despite refusing to add players in 1955, the Eskimos this time added players from the Mallards, including ace and five year minor leaguer Nansen Ralph Ravensborg Vold and Ernie Nevers** (no, not that Ernie Nevers, but his nephew)
- **Ron Fairly played center field for the Eskimos**

Eskimos Represent Canada In Global Series



TRYING ON NEW HATS—Three Moose Jaw Mallards, runners-up in the WCBL finals, joined the Edmonton Eskimos for the jaunt to the World Global Series at Detroit as reinforcements for the Canadian entry in the eight-nation tourney starting Friday. Pitcher Ernie Nevers, left, centerfielder Ernie Rodriguez, WCBL batting king, and first-baseman Bo Toft, right, try on the Edmonton headgear under the watchful eye of Eskimo trainer Dick Bielous, who was added to the Detroit-bound party at the last moment when the players dug down and made up his fare.

Canada in the Global World Series 1957

A crowd of **10,457** saw **Japan win** the championship, defeating **Edmonton 4-2** in **11 innings**.



Box Scores

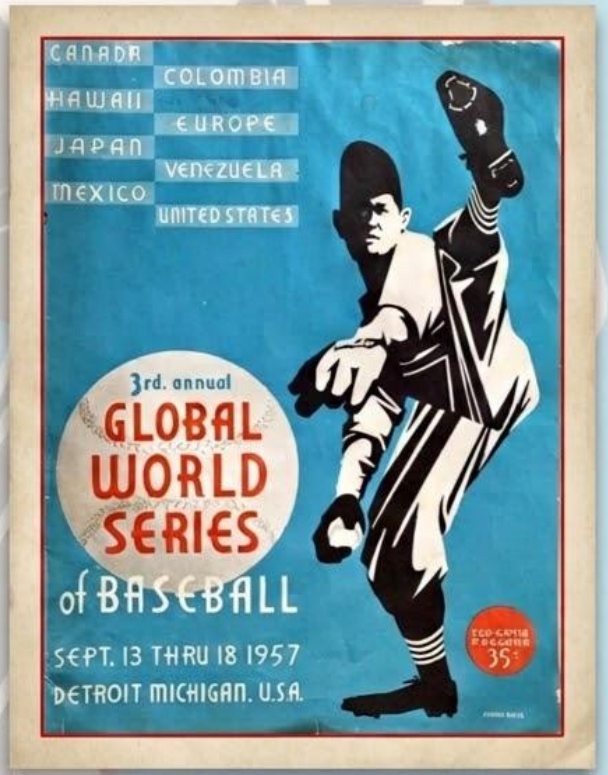
Japan

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Furuta, 2b	6	0	2	2	4	1
Takeno'chi, 1b 3b	6	0	2	8	0	0
Taneda, c, 1b	3	0	1	10	0	0
Morinaga, rf	3	1	1	1	0	0
Sakakibura, 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0
xxxMatsumoto	0	0	0	0	0	0
O. Tamamoto, cf	1	0	0	2	0	0
Iwanaka, cf	3	0	0	4	0	0
xxNakano, c	2	0	0	2	0	0
M. Yamamoto, lf	1	0	0	2	0	0
Osawa, lf	3	2	3	2	0	0
Horimoto, p	2	0	0	0	1	0
xYokoyama	1	0	0	0	1	0
Sazuke, p	1	0	0	1	1	0
Aso, ss	4	1	0	1	0	0
Totals	39	4	9	33	6	1

Canada

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Rodriguez, lf	3	1	0	0	0	0
Guffey, 1b	4	0	1	9	0	0
Sada, ss	5	0	2	4	3	0
Fairly, cf	5	1	1	3	0	0
Shollin, c	5	0	0	9	1	0
Raney, rf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Munatones, 3b	3	0	0	0	2	0
Castanon, 2b	4	0	0	6	2	0
Yeld, p	3	0	0	0	4	1
Nevers, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
a—Toft	1	0	0	0	0	0
Blewett, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zeigler, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	37	2	4	33	12	1

Japan	000	000	101	02—4
Canada	001	001	000	00—2



Death of the Global World Series 1957

- **Why did it fail?**
  - **Finances, as always**
  - **Unpaid hotels and airlines**
  - **Huge expenses and low attendance**

AS OF TODAY

Is City's Sports Pride Worth This $75,000?



BY LYALL SMITH

A SMALL GROUP OF prominent businessmen quietly . . . and a bit gingerly . . . is attempting to erase a black smudge from the civic pride of Detroit.

It hasn't been made public until right now. But the Global World Series, staged here for a week last August, went into the red ink bin to the staggering sum of $75,000.

Unpaid are local hotels which housed and fed athletes from the United States and seven foreign countries. Waiting for their money are airlines which transported the teams from Japan, Holland, Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, Canada and Hawaii.

In the same leaky boat are Detroiters who signed their personal notes to support this city's claim that it was one of the sports' capitals of the world.

The Global World Series was originated three years ago by a young Milwaukee industrialist named Richard Falk. It was his concept that international good will would be advanced by selecting amateur baseball champions in foreign nations and then bringing them to the United States for a tournament to select a titlist.

The first two tourneys were held in Milwaukee. Incorporated as a non-profit organization, it proved to be just that. But because Milwaukee businessmen, civic leaders and sportsmen unclipped their check books, it broke even.

Death of the Global World Series

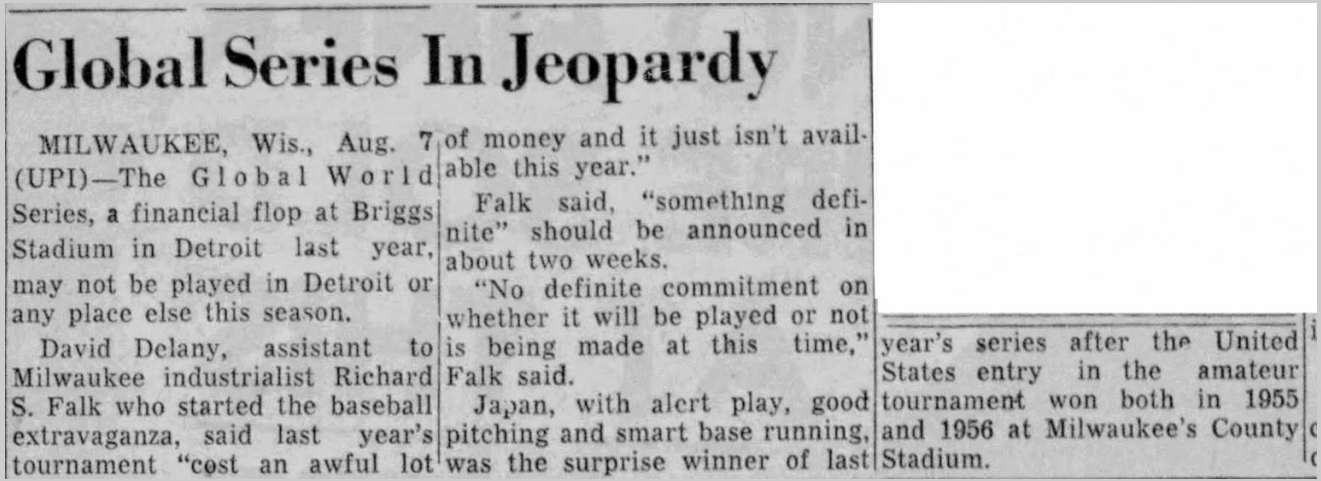
- Even as late as September 5, 1958, tournament was said to be a go
- No tournament in 1958, tournament was to be postponed to 1959
- It was postponed again in 1959, but “a go for next summer”


Majority Of Eskimos Want
1958 Global Series Chance


Global World Series Cancelled
Until Midsummer Of Next Year

Death of the Global World Series

- **Financial disaster lead to no tournament in 1958**



Global Series In Jeopardy

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Aug. 7 (UPI)—The Global World Series, a financial flop at Briggs Stadium in Detroit last year, may not be played in Detroit or any place else this season.

David Delany, assistant to Milwaukee industrialist Richard S. Falk who started the baseball extravaganza, said last year's tournament "cost an awful lot of money and it just isn't available this year."

Falk said, "something definite" should be announced in about two weeks.

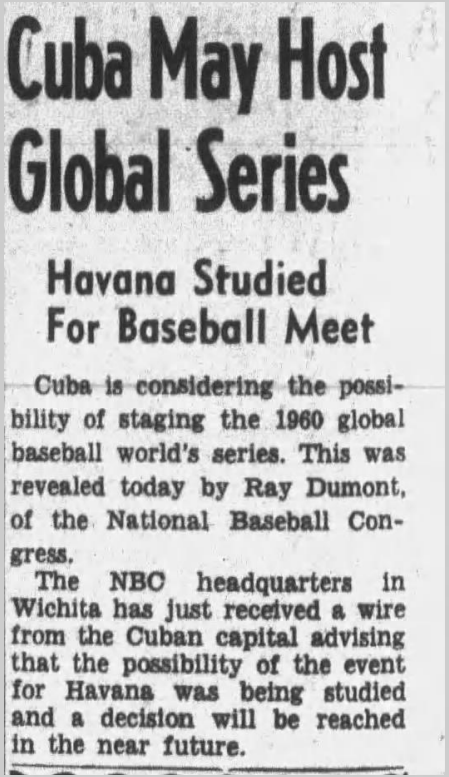
"No definite commitment on whether it will be played or not is being made at this time," Falk said.

Japan, with alert play, good pitching and smart base running, was the surprise winner of last year's series after the United States entry in the amateur tournament won both in 1955 and 1956 at Milwaukee's County Stadium.

🍁 Attempts to revive the Global World Series Failed 🍁

- Attempts were made to have the tournament in Chicago, Cuba and Canada in 1961
- By May 1961, the tournament was slated for Wichita in 1962


'Global Series' Scheduled for Wichita Diamond


Cuba May Host Global Series

Havana Studied For Baseball Meet

Cuba is considering the possibility of staging the 1960 global baseball world's series. This was revealed today by Ray Dumont, of the National Baseball Congress.

The NBC headquarters in Wichita has just received a wire from the Cuban capital advising that the possibility of the event for Havana was being studied and a decision will be reached in the near future.


NBC plans Canadian tournament

Plans for tournaments to declare a Canadian baseball champion in 1961 were announced here Thursday by Benny Taylor of Wichita, Kans., supervisor and tournament director of the National Baseball Congress.

The tournaments, which are to be sponsored by the NBC, will start on a district level. Provincial champions will then be declared, with the provincial winners meeting in a double-knockout tourney for the Canadian title.

Plans are under way for the Canadian champions to meet the United States representatives in a continental final. Eventual plans call for the Canadian winner to compete in the global world series, which is also being revived.

OPEN EVENTS

While the tournaments are primarily intended for semi-professional teams, which are in most cases affiliated with the NBC, any team would be allowed to enter on the district level.

"Our main objectives are to create baseball interest and encourage Canadian boys to play the game," said Taylor. "We are primarily concerned with semi-pro leagues, but we try to promote and help other leagues and teams wherever we can.

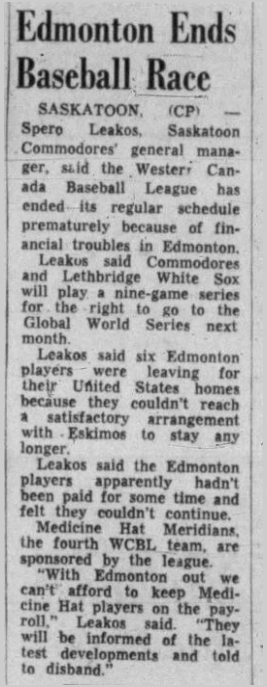
"Present plans call for the continental final to be played in Canada in 1961," he added.

Under the NBC plan, district playoffs would start approximately July 1, with the provincial final 10 days later and the national tournament Aug. 1.

Taylor also stated that there is a possibility that the global world series will be held in Canada in 1961

Attempts to revive the Global World Series Failed

- **Despite the May announcement of a 1962 tournament, Saskatoon still believed the 1961 tournament was a go**
  - ***August 16, 1961***
- **It's not clear why Saskatoon thought the 1961 tournament was still on, or where it would be**



Edmonton Ends Baseball Race

SASKATOON, (CP) — Spero Leakos, Saskatoon Commodores' general manager, said the Western Canada Baseball League has ended its regular schedule prematurely because of financial troubles in Edmonton.

Leakos said Commodores and Lethbridge White Sox will play a nine-game series for the right to go to the Global World Series next month.

Leakos said six Edmonton players were leaving for their United States homes because they couldn't reach a satisfactory arrangement with Eskimos to stay any longer.

Leakos said the Edmonton players apparently hadn't been paid for some time and felt they couldn't continue.

Medicine Hat Meridians, the fourth WCBL team, are sponsored by the league.

"With Edmonton out we can't afford to keep Medicine Hat players on the payroll," Leakos said. "They will be informed of the latest developments and told to disband."

Canada in the Global World Series 1957

- Global World Series, 1955-57 by Bob Buege, Spring 2012 SABR Baseball Research Journal
  - https://sabr.org/journal/article/global-world-series-1955-57/
- Art Stone, 1956 Canada jersey

