

**Early Pioneers  
of the Negro Leagues:  
Walter “Slick” Schlichter**



**by**

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### Philadelphia Giants (1902)

Formed before the start of the 1902 season by Walter Schlichter, Harry Smith and Sol White, the Philadelphia Giants were a force to be reckoned with in black baseball in the East from their very first season. They ended the 1902 season with an impressive won-loss record of 81-43-1 (.653).



### Philadelphia Giants (1902)

(Back row left to right – Farrell, John Nelson, **Sol White**, Charles “Kid” Carter and William Warwick.  
Middle row left to right – W. Smith, **Frank Grant**, **Walter Schlichter**, William Bell, **Harry Smith**  
and **Andrew “Jap” Payne**. Front row left to right – Day and Peter Burns)

## Henry Walter “Slick” Schlichter



**Henry Walter Schlichter**  
(1866-1944)

Henry Walter “Slick” Schlichter (1866-1944) was the co-founder and owner of the “original” Philadelphia Giants baseball team that played from 1902-1911. From 1904 to 1909 the Philadelphia Giants were one of the best if not the best black baseball team in America. They won four straight “Colored World’s Championships” from 1904-1907.

Schlichter started his professional career in journalism. Eventually he became the sports editor and a featured sports writer for the Philadelphia Evening Item in Philadelphia, PA. Walter was not only a journalist but also an avid sportsman. He participated and excelled in swimming, running, boxing and rowing.

In his landmark book, Sol White’s History of Colored Baseball with Other Documents on the Early Black Game 1886-1936, White presented a copy of a newspaper article that he had written for the Amsterdam News (New York City) on December 18, 1930.

In the article Sol made the following assessment of Walter Schlichter

“Walter Schlichter, the man who was the instigator of the original Philadelphia Giants, was my ideal of an owner of a colored baseball team. Slick, as he was called, was a sportsman and business man. As the saying goes, he was a man after my own heart. A swimmer, boxer, boat puller, sprinter, a manager of boxing clubs and boxers, his attitude toward ball players was from the standpoint of athletics. In our association with him as manager of his baseball team, every player that joined the Philadelphia Giants, athletically speaking, was analyzed from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet. When it came to the business part of the game, Schlichter was “Slick.” He knew his manager.”

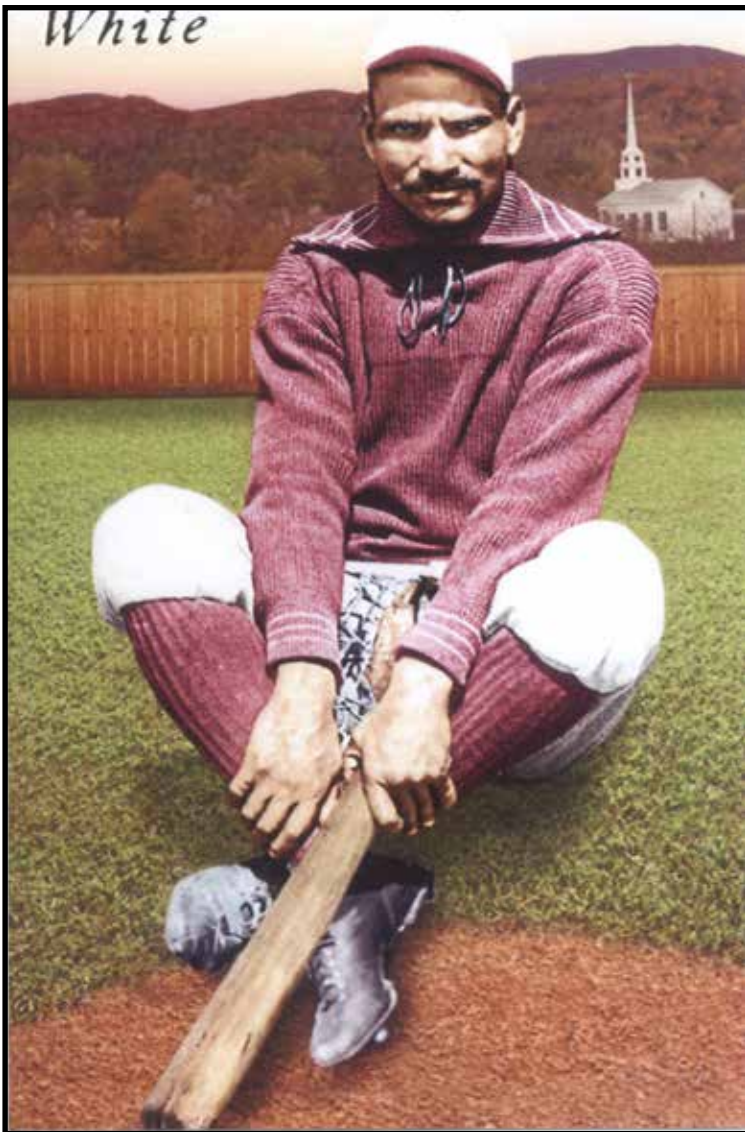
From 1893 to 1910 Walter Schlichter was also a highly respected boxing referee. As a boxing referee he presided over 21 fights. Some of his biggest fights were Charles “Kid” McCoy (American World Champion – record of 81-6-9) vs Joe Goddard (1898), Peter Maher (Heavyweight Champion of Ireland – record of 142-28-6) vs Yank Kenny (1898), Joe Gans (World Lightweight Champion – record of 158-12-20) vs Jack Ryan (1902) and Kid Williams (Bantam World Champion – record of 156-26-16) vs Tommy Buck (1910). An interesting side note to his career as a boxing referee is that Walter was the subject of Thomas Eakins’ famous painting “*Taking the Count*” which was painted in 1898 and currently hangs in the Yale University Art Gallery.

Walter Schlichter also managed both the Golden Gate Athletic Club and the Lancaster Athletic Club during his career. In addition he also had a very successful career as a boxing manager. Schlichter’s top fighter was “Philadelphia” Jack O’Brien who compiled a 145-16-28 record in the ring and was the Light Heavyweight Champion of the World in 1905.

In short Walter Schlichter was an all-around sportsman and achieved success in every area in which he got involved.

## Founding of the Philadelphia Giants

The Philadelphia Giants were founded before the start of the 1902 baseball season by Walter Schlichter and Harry A. Smith. Schlichter was the sports editor and a sports writer for the Philadelphia Evening Item. According to an article written by Sol White that appeared in the Cleveland Advocate on 06-14-19, Walter's first exposure to professional baseball from a management perspective came in 1901 when he organized and promoted an exhibition game between the Cuban X-Giants and the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League. Sol White also credits Harry Smith with coming up with the original idea for a black professional baseball team based out of Philadelphia and he contacted Walter Schlichter to gain his support and involvement in the project.



**Sol White**  
Philadelphia Giants  
Team Captain  
(1902)

Harry A. Smith was a sports writer for the Philadelphia Tribune and had been a former ball player. Besides being one of the co-founders of the Philadelphia Giants, Smith also played first base for the Philadelphia Giants during their inaugural season and served as the team's traveling secretary from 1902-1908. Before his career in journalism Smith had worked in the hotel industry and was the chief bellman for the famous Mercantile Club in Philadelphia.

The first thing that Schlichter and Smith did when they were organizing the club was to hire Solomon "Sol" White as the team's captain. White was also the team's starting shortstop during the 1902 season. The thirty-three year old Sol White was a perfect candidate for the job. Sol was a highly recognized name in black baseball and had a reputation as a first rate player who would draw fans to the ballpark. In addition over his 15 year career, he had made valuable baseball contacts all over the country. Sol White was the team captain/manager from 1902 through the 1908 season.

Walter "Slick" Schlichter was listed as the owner/manager of the team, Harry A. Smith was a player/assistant manager/traveling secretary and Sol White was the team captain/player. In reality Schlichter functioned more as a general manager and Sol White essentially performed the duties of the field/dugout manager. Regarding Walter Schlichter, Sol White categorized Schlichter as an "ideal owner of a colored baseball team."

During the season Walter Schlichter's role with the Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

- Financing the team
- Handling the administrative side of the business
- Managing payroll and book keeping
- Issuing press releases, generating publicity and marketing
- Developing relationships with newspapers which was critical to getting fans out to the ball games
- Developing relationships between team owners (especially "white" teams) and ball park owners

Sol White's areas of responsibility for the Giants included the following:

- Scouting, signing and developing players
- Scheduling games
- Putting together the starting line-up and batting order for each game
- Managing the team on a day-to-day basis
- Making decisions regarding game strategy

Harry A. Smith played first base, served as a resource to Sol White when the team was on the road and was the traveling secretary. As the traveling secretary, Smith arranged for and paid for transportation, paid the players and booked hotel accommodations.

Sol White's first job as the Philadelphia Giants' team captain was to field a roster. Working with a budget that would pay players between \$ 60 to \$ 90 per month, White quickly put together an impressive roster for a first year team. Some of the top players signed by White were Charles "Kid" Carter, Frank Grant, Andrew "Jap" Payne and Clarence Williams.

With a roster in place, the Philadelphia Giants were ready to start playing baseball.

### **Schlichter's Business Plan for the Philadelphia Giants**

Unlike many owners of semi-pro and professional baseball teams, Walter Schlichter had a very detailed plan for how to make his team successful from the very beginning. Schlichter's business plan for the Philadelphia Giants was based on the concept of mutual economic cooperation or, in laymen's terms, developing financial relationships that were mutually beneficial to both parties. Walter believed that in order to be financially successful especially in the black community, people had to work together. This was particularly important because it was not an option for black teams to obtain funding (bank loans, commercial loans, credit, etc.) from the "white" community.

Walter Schlichter's marketing plan for the Philadelphia Giants contained three key components. First, was to go to where the money was and that meant playing white teams. With Schlichter being "white" and the owner of the team it was significantly easier for him to book games with white semi-pro teams and secure leases from white ball park owners. The second key was to create a demand for the Philadelphia Giants not just in Philadelphia but in numerous markets in the East. The final key component for Schlichter was to be able to successfully function within what Negro League researcher and author Michael Lomax categorized as the ability "to work within the boundaries of a biracial institutional structure." This would not be an easy task because Schlichter had to bring the business worlds of both "white" and "black" America together to create a structure that was mutually beneficial to both parties.

In order to successfully implement his business and marketing plan, Walter had to address four critical issues.

1. He needed to put a high quality/talented team on the field that could not just compete but needed to dominate their competition. Hiring Sol White was the best thing Schlichter could have done. Star players that White was able to hire included Charles “Kid” Carter (P), Frank Grant (2B), Dan McClellan (P/OF), Andrew “Jap” Payne (OF), Ray Wilson (3B) and Clarence Williams (C). This group with Sol White at shortstop provided the nucleus of a powerful team. The signing of Clarence Williams was particularly important because he was an excellent catcher and also had experience in managing with the Cuban Giants.
2. The second key was acquiring a good home field ball park in Philadelphia. The team needed the consistency of a quality ball park to help build a strong fan base. Schlichter was able to obtain a lease from the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League to play their home games at Columbia Park when the Athletics were out of town. Columbia Park was located at 29<sup>th</sup> Street and Columbia Avenue. The park held approximately 9,500 fans. Columbia Park would be the home field of the Philadelphia Giants during the vast majority of their history as a team under the ownership of Walter Schlichter.



**Columbia Park**  
Home of the Philadelphia Giants  
(1902-1908)

3. The third key to Schlichter’s success was to master the art of establishing a strong barnstorming schedule with semi-pro and town teams. The ideal scenario was to focus on teams within a 100 mile radius of Philadelphia. This would cut down on travel costs. The Philadelphia Giants also needed to play 120 to 150 games per year to make the team profitable.
4. Lastly, Schlichter had to develop and maintain long term strategies to maximize his team’s revenues.

With games scheduled and ball parks in place to play them in, Slick’s next challenge was to get fans to come to the ball park.

Walter Schlichter, Harry Smith and Sol White not only wanted to build a successful baseball team that dominated their opponents, but they also wanted to transform the Philadelphia Giants into a very successful business enterprise.

### Philadelphia Plays Its Inaugural Season

The Philadelphia Giants called Columbia Park in Philadelphia their home field but spent most of their time on the road. They played baseball virtually seven days a week with no real off time. When they weren’t playing they were traveling. The Giants exclusively traveled by train during the team’s history. Generally their schedule called them to play a game and then head to the next city on their schedule, but when opportunities presented themselves they might spent three or more days in the same city and play every top level semi-pro team in the area.



**Philadelphia Giants (1902)**

(Back row left to right – Farrell, John Nelson, **Sol White**, Charles “Kid” Carter and William Warwick.  
 Middle row left to right – W. Smith, **Frank Grant**, **Walter Schlichter**, William Bell, **Harry Smith**  
 and **Andrew “Jap” Payne**. Front row left to right – Day and Peter Burns)

The starting line-up for the 1902 season for the Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

### Philadelphia Giants (1902)

<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>
1B	Harry A. Smith	OF	Andrew “Jap” Payne
2B	Frank Grant	OF	John Manning
SS	Sol White	OF	William Warrick
3B	John Nelson/John Hill/Ray Wilson		
C	Clarence Williams/Peter Burns	P	Charles “Kid” Carter
		P	Dan McClellan

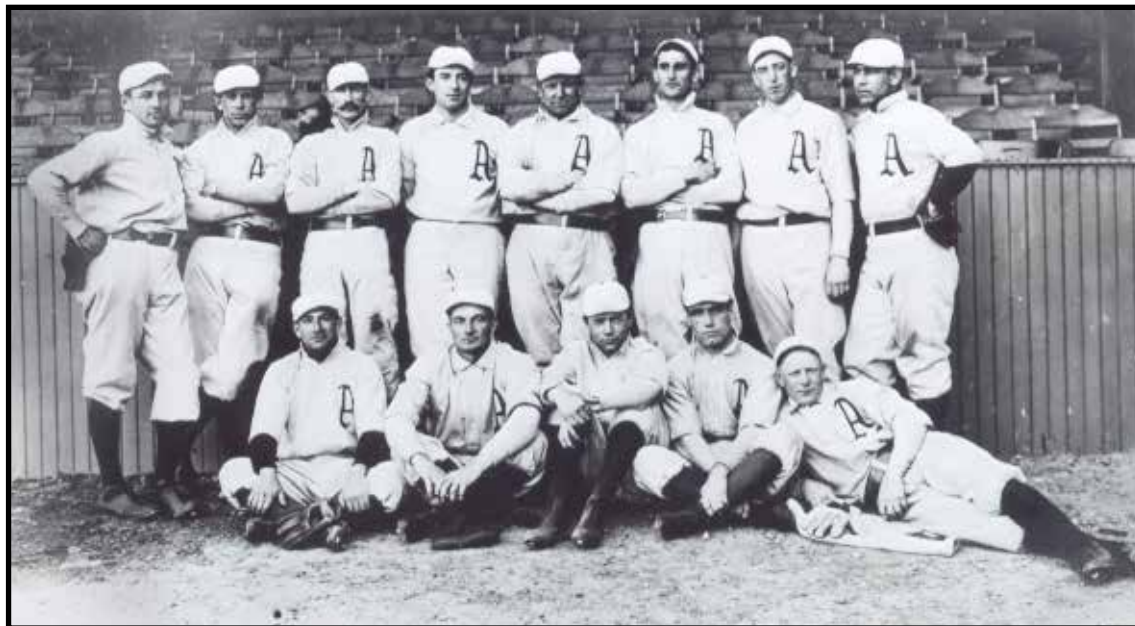
William “Bill” Bell, E. Griffin, (first name unknown) Martin, John Nelson and William Warrick also pitched for the Philadelphia Giants during the 1902 season. Several other players that appeared for the inaugural Giants team in 1902 were Day (RF), Farrell (1B) and W. Smith (CF).

The Philadelphia Giants officially opened their season with a game played at Columbia Park on April 22, 1902 against a team from Camden (NJ). The Giants won their inaugural outing by a score of 12-4. After their initial victory they continued their winning ways with a winning streak in which they took 15 of 19 games played.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> was an important date for the Philadelphia Giants because they played in one of the first night games ever played in baseball history. Their opponent for the game was John O’Rourke’s Cosmopolitans. Unfortunately only about 400 fans showed up for the game which was mired by 15 errors. In an error filled slugfest, the Philadelphia Giants came away with a 15-13 victory.

In August of 1902 there was an attempt by Walter Schlichter to schedule a “championship series” between his Philadelphia Giants team and E.B. Lamar’s Cuban X-Giants. Schlichter proposed a five game series to be played in New York City and Philadelphia. The major stipulation of Slick’s proposal was a winner take all pay out and this was a non-negotiable point for him. E.B. Lamar countered with an offer to play a nine or ten game series that was played on a 60/40 basis. This meant that the winning team got 60 percent of the gate and the losing team got 40 percent. The two sides could never reach an agreement and the series was never held.

After the conclusion of the 1902 regular season, Walter Schlichter booked a two game series with the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League. The Athletics were an incredibly strong opponent and were the reigning champions of the American League with a record of 83-53 (.610) for the 1902 regular season. The event was met with a tremendous amount of fanfare. A brass band and parade led the players to the ball park for the first game. Even though they lost both games by the scores of 8-3 and 12-9, the Giants showed that they could play with the best that the “white” Major League baseball had to offer.



**Philadelphia Athletics**  
American League  
(1902)

The Philadelphia Giants finished their first season with an impressive record of 81-43-1 (.653). After a very successful season with an outstanding won-loss record, the Philadelphia Giants established themselves as an elite team during their very first year in professional baseball.

## Philadelphia Starts to Build a Dynasty

One of the keys to Walter Schlichter and Sol White building a baseball dynasty in such a short period of time would be that before every season they would evaluate the team's roster from the previous season and make personnel changes that would improve the ball club. White and Schlichter would phase out older players and players who had not performed up to Schlichter and White's expectations during the previous season. Their roster spots would then be replaced by "new" players to improve the team's roster.

Before the start of the 1903 season, Schlichter and White strengthened their roster by signing William Binga (3B), Harry Buckner (P/OF), Robert Footes (C), Bill Monroe (1B) and John W. Patterson (OF).

Two key players from the 1902 season left the Giants before the start of the 1903 season and defected to the Cuban X-Giants. These two players were Andrew "Jap" Payne (OF) and Clarence Williams (C). Sol White replaced Payne and Williams with John W. Patterson and Robert Footes. Harry A. Smith gave up his playing time at first base when Bill Monroe was signed. This enabled Smith to concentrate full-time on being the club's traveling secretary. Also gone from the 1902 squad were John Hill (3B), W. Smith (OF), (no first name) Farrell and (first name unknown) Day (OF).

The starting line-up for the 1903 Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

### Philadelphia Giants (1903)

Position	Player	Position	Player
1B	Bill Monroe/Ray Wilson	OF	John W. Patterson
2B	Frank Grant	OF	John Nelson
SS	Sol White	OF	John Manning
3B	William Binga		
C	Robert Footes/Pete Booker	P	Charles "Kid" Carter
		P	William Bell
		P	Harry Buckner



**Philadelphia Giants (1903)**

(Back row left to right – John Nelson, Harry Smith, **Walter Schlichter**, Evans and Charles "Kid" Carter.  
 Middle row left to right – **Bill Monroe**, **William Binga**, William Bell, **Sol White** and Robert Footes.  
 Seated left to right – Harry Buckner, John W. "Pat" Patterson and **Frank Grant**)

Herm Evans (1B), E. Griffin (P/OF), Dan McClellan (P) and William Warrick (P/OF) also played briefly for the Philadelphia Giants in 1903.

During the season the Philadelphia Giants were led by the hitting of William Binga, Frank Grant, Bill Monroe and Sol White. The starting pitching rotation for the Giants included Charles “Kid” Carter, William Bell and Harry Buckner.

By 1903 the Philadelphia Giants were starting to form rivalries with both “white” and “black” semi-pro clubs in the East. Negro League author, Michael Lomax, reports that the Philadelphia Giants averaged 4,199 fans per game during the 1903 season and at an average of 25 cents a ticket the gate for each game pulled in \$ 1,049.75 in revenues. This gave the Philadelphia Giants a profit of \$ 524.88 per game. This was a sizeable sum back in 1903. It also meant that Walter Schlichter was starting to achieve his goal of maximizing his revenue potential. The Philadelphia Giants were now more than just a successful baseball team. They were also a successful business enterprise.

The Philadelphia Giants had an outstanding season in 1903 and challenged the Cuban X-Giants in a seven game championship series that was played in September of 1903. The Philadelphia Giants and Cuban X-Giants had squabbled back and forth for over two years as to who had the best team in “colored” baseball. To finally settle the score, an eight game series was scheduled in 1903 to determine which team would be considered the “Champions of Colored Baseball.” Each team fielded an extremely strong line-up during the season.



**Cuban X-Giants**

The Cuban X-Giants were led by the pitching of Andrew “Rube Foster who was coming off a season in which he reportedly had posted over 50 wins for the season. This is the same Foster who in later years owned the Chicago American Giants and founded the Negro National League. For his many contributions to Negro League baseball as a player, owner and baseball executive, Foster would be elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown in 1981. The

Cuban X-Giants team also included Captain Dan McClellan, Charlie Grant, Robert Jordan, Andrew “Jap” Payne, Clarence Williams and Grant “Homerun” Johnson. Foster led all pitchers in the series with four wins and a 1.50 ERA. Dan McClellan picked up the other win for the X-Giants. Robert Jordan was the leading hitter in the series with a .560 batting average.

Some of the key players for the Philadelphia Giants were Frank Grant (National Baseball Hall of Fame), Sol White (National Baseball Hall of Fame), William Monroe, William Binga, John Patterson, Robert Footes, William Bell and Charles “Kid” Carter. Sol White led Philadelphia in hitting with nine hits in twenty-five at bats for a .320 batting average. Both William Bell and Charles “Kid” Carter each had one win in the series.

Rube Foster took control of the “championship series” in game six. Besides pitching the X-Giants to a 12-3 victory he also led the team in hitting (triple, double and two singles). In game seven, Rube pitched a three hit 2-0 shutout of Philadelphia. Foster led the Cuban X-Giants in both pitching (won four games with no losses) and hitting (6 for 17 - .353 batting average) in the championship series.

A summary of the series is as follows:

Game	Location	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Losing Pitcher
1	Philadelphia	Sept 12 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	4-2	Rube Foster	William Bell
2	Ridgewood (NJ)	Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	8-1	Dan McClellan	Harry Buckner
3	Ridgewood (NJ)	Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	5-2	William Bell	Dan McClellan
4	Trenton (NJ)	Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	3-1	Rube Foster	Charles Carter
5	Camden (NJ)	Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	3-0	Charles Carter	Dan McClellan
6	Harrisburg (PA)	Sept 18 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	12-3	Rube Foster	Charles Carter
7	Camden (NJ)	Sept 26 <sup>th</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	2-0	Rube Foster	Charles Carter

The series ended in seven games when the Cuban X-Giants won five of the first seven games and were crowned “Colored Champions of the East” and “Colored World Champions.”

According to Gary Ashwill and his Seamheads research team the Philadelphia Giants were the second best team in the East during the 1903 season. They posted an outstanding won-loss record of 89-37-4 (.706) for the 1903 season.

### **Philadelphia Giants Win Their First “Colored World Championship”**

After being defeated by the Cuban X-Giants, Walter Schlichter was determined to field a championship team for the 1904 season. The first step in his plan was to sign Andrew “Rube” Foster (P), Pete Hill (OF) and Charlie Grant (2B). Both Foster and Grant came from his arch rival the Cuban X-Giants. Sol White also signed Dan McClellan (P/OF) and George “Chappie” Johnson (C) to strengthen his starting line-up.

Anticipating playing more games in Philadelphia during the 1904 season, Walter Schlichter leased a park that was located at Broad Street and Jackson Avenue. Schlichter, it appears, was afraid that he couldn’t get enough dates at Columbia Park to satisfy the schedule that he and Sol White were putting together. In addition this also meant that the Giants didn’t have to schedule games around the Philadelphia Athletics’ home schedule. The Philadelphia Giants also played a significant number of games on the road during the 1904 season.



(Back row left to right – George “Chappie” Johnson, **Andrew “Rube” Foster**, **Sol White**, William Horn and unknown. Seated left to right – Robert Footes, **Pete Hill**, Harry Smith, **Walter Schlichter**, William Bell and **Andrew “Jap” Payne**. Seated left to right – **Bill Monroe**, **Charlie Grant** and John Hill.)

The starting line-up for the 1904 Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

**Philadelphia Giants (1904)**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>
1B	Sol White/Charles Thomas	OF	Pete Hill
2B	Charlie Grant	OF	Andrew “Jap” Payne
SS	Bill Monroe	OF	Robert “Bob” Footes
3B	John Hill/Bill Francis		
C	George “Chappie” Johnson	P	Andrew “Rube” Foster
C	Tom Washington	P	Charles “Kid” Carter
		P	Will Horn
		P	William Bell

Pete Hill, Rube Foster, George “Chappie” Johnson and Sol White led the team in hitting for the 1904 season.

Andrew “Rube” Foster was the ace of the pitching staff. Rube Foster had an outstanding season for the Philadelphia Giants in 1904. Based on current research, box scores for thirty-one (31) games have been found for Rube Foster’s 1904 season. Rube Foster put up the following numbers in these thirty-one (31) games:

	<b>Complete Games</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Shutouts</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Innings</b>	<b>Strikeouts</b>	<b>Base on Balls</b>	<b>ERA</b>
	31	31	6	21	8	285	192	194	1.83

Some of the highlights of Rube Foster's 1904 season for the Philadelphia Giants were as follows:

- On July 7<sup>th</sup> Foster pitched a no-hitter against Mt. Carmel A.A. Score of game 4-0.
- On July 25<sup>th</sup> Foster pitched a no-hitter against Trenton YMCA. Score of game 1-0. Rube also struck out 17 and went 3 for 4 at the plate in the Trenton game.
- On September 4<sup>th</sup> Foster struck out 18 Cuban X-Giants' hitters in a game played in Atlantic City (NJ).



**Andrew "Rube" Foster**  
Philadelphia Giants  
1904

By 1904 the Philadelphia Giants were starting to develop rivalries in the New York City area and New Jersey. Their principle rivalries were Murray Hills, the Ridgewoods of Long Island and the All-Cubans. One of Philadelphia's best attended games of the season came on April 11<sup>th</sup> when they were part of a doubleheader that featured the New York Highlanders of the American League, the Ridgewoods and themselves. The Philadelphia Evening Item reported that 12,000 fans attended the game. The Highlanders destroyed the Ridgewoods team in the first game by a score of 14-2. In the second game the Philadelphia Giants beat the Ridgewoods by a score of 6-3. Rube Foster scattered six hits and struck out eleven (11) Ridgewood batters in picking up the win.

In addition to Rube Foster's two no-hitters, Charles "Kid" Carter and Will Horn also pitched no-hitters for the Philadelphia Giants during the 1904 season. Kid Carter no-hit Atlantic City (NJ) on July 9<sup>th</sup> and won the game by a score of 3-0. Three days after Carter's no-hitter, Will Horn pitched a no-hitter on July 12<sup>th</sup> against Oxford (PA). The Giants won the game Horn pitched by a score of 2-0.

A three game "Colored Championship" series between the Cuban X-Giants and Philadelphia Giants was held in Atlantic City (New Jersey) on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> to crown the "Colored Champions."

The championship series rosters for both teams were as follows:

<b>Cuban X-Giants</b>		<b>Philadelphia Giants</b>	
Robert Jordan	1B	Sol White	1B
John "Pat" Patterson	2B	Charles Grant	2B
Grant "Homerun" Johnson	SS	William Monroe	SS
James Smith	3B	John Hill	3B
Clarence Williams	C	Robert. Foots	C
Robert Jordan	C	George Johnson Jr.	C
William Jackson	OF	Pete Hill	OF
Harry "Mike" Moore	OF	Andrew "Jap" Payne	OF
William "Big Bill" Smith	OF	William Bell	OF
Dan McClellan	P	Charles "Kid" Carter	P
George "Walter" Ball	P	Andrew "Rube" Foster	P
James Robinson	P	William Bell	P
Harry Buckner	P	William Horn	P

Behind the pitching of Andrew "Rube" Foster the Philadelphia Giants took the series two games to one for the Cuban X-Giants. Game one was played at Inlet Park in Atlantic City with 4,000 fans in attendance. Foster struck out eighteen X-Giants in game one and limited the Giants to only two hits in game three. Foster picked up both pitching victories for Philadelphia and led the team in hitting by going 4 for 9 (.445 batting average). George Johnson (.352) and Sol White (.333) also had a good series at the plate for Philadelphia. Bill Jackson and Grant "Homerun" Johnson each went 3 for 12 (.333) for the Cuban X-Giants. John "Pat" Patterson had two homeruns and stole four bases in one game for the Cuban X-Giants. Unfortunately, none of the rest of the X-Giants hitters could deliver. The Cuban X-Giants were held to a .144 team batting average for the series. A summary of the series is as follows:

<b>Game</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Winning Team</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Winning Pitcher</b>	<b>Losing Pitcher</b>
1	Atlantic City	Sept 1 <sup>st</sup>	Philadelphia	8-4	Rube Foster	Dan McClellan
2	Atlantic City	Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cuban X-Giants	3-1	Harry Buckner	William Horn
3	Atlantic City	Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Philadelphia	4-2	Rube Foster	Dan McClellan



**Pete Hill**  
Philadelphia Giants

When all was said and done, the Philadelphia Giants had avenged their loss to the Cuban X-Giants in 1903 and were crowned "Colored World Champions" for the 1904 season.

According to Sol White in his book Sol White's History of Colored Baseball with other Documents on the Early Black Game, 1886-1936, the Philadelphia Giants played another "championship series" in 1904, this time against the All Cubans. Abel Linares managed the All Cubans. They are thought to be the first Cuban team with black players to tour the United States. Cuban Hall of Fame player, Luis Bustamante, was the top player for the All-Cubans.

The All-Cubans had demanded a shot at the colored world's championship because they had split four games with

the Philadelphia Giants earlier in the season. Game one of the series was played on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Columbus Park in Philadelphia with 1,200 fans in attendance. Some of the proceeds of the game went to benefit Douglas Hospital in Chicago (IL). Philadelphia dominated their Latin opponent and won the game by a score of 13-3. Rube Foster pitched for the Giants and struck out 14 Cubans while scattering just five hits. Pete Hill led the way offensively by going a perfect four for four at the plate. Then Philadelphia won three of the five games they played against the All Cubans and were crowned “Champions of Cuba” to go along with their “Colored World’s Championship” title.

After the Philadelphia Giants beat the Cuban X-Giants and then the All-Cubans in their “championship series,” Walter Schlichter issued challenges to the New York Highlanders of the American League and to the champions of the Tri-State League in a newspaper story that appeared in the Philadelphia Evening Item. To add an incentive to the challenge, Slick offered a \$ 500 side bet and a winner take all pay out for the distribution of the game receipts. Neither challenge was answered by the “white” clubs.

The Philadelphia Giants also played a two game series against the All-Philadelphia Independents for the title of “Championship of Philadelphia.” Rube Foster won the first game and the Giants also took the second game to give them a clean sweep of the series.

The Philadelphia Giants finished the 1904 season with a record of 95-41-6 (.699) and were considered the “Colored World’s Champions.”

### **Philadelphia Giants Win Their Second Straight World’s Championship**

The Philadelphia Giants entered the 1905 season with high expectations and the following starting line-up in place:

#### **Philadelphia Giants (1905)**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>
1B	Harry “Mike” Moore/Sol White	OF	Pete Hill
2B	Charlie Grant	OF	Emmett Bowman
SS	Grant “Homerun” Johnson	OF	Andrew “Rube” Foster
3B	Bill Monroe/Bill Francis	OF	Clarence Winston
C	Tom Washington/Pete Booker		
		P	Emmett Bowman
		P	Andrew “Rube” Foster
		P	Dan McClellan

The Philadelphia Giants carried only 12 to 14 players during the 1905 season. This required pitchers to play in the outfield on days that they weren’t pitching. This was not a problem for Philadelphia because all three of their starting pitchers (Emmett Bowman, Rube Foster and Dan McClellan) were excellent hitters.

The 1905 Philadelphia Giants had tremendous offensive production during the 1905 season. Over the course of the year they scored more than twice as many runs as their opponents. This is even more impressive when you take into consideration that the Giants played numerous Minor League teams in 1905. Grant “Homerun” Johnson, Pete Hill, Charlie Grant and Bill Monroe led the team in hitting during the 1905 season. Johnson and Hill led the team in homeruns with 10 each during the season. Pete Hill also collected over 200 hits, had 36 doubles, 12 triples and 30 stolen bases in 1905. Bill Monroe led the team with 34 stolen bases and triples with 15. Charlie Grant had 28 doubles and Bill Monroe contributed 25 doubles. According to research by Phil Dixon eight (8) Philadelphia Giants players had at least 100 hits for the season, six (6) players scored over 100 runs each and six (6) players had at least 20 stolen bases.



**Philadelphia Giants (1905)**

Back row left to right – Harry Smith, Mike Moore, **Emmett Bowman**, **Sol White**, Tom Washington and **Dan McClellan**. Middle row left to right – **Grant Johnson**, **Charlie Grant**, **Walter Schlichter**, **Andrew “Rube” Foster** and **Pete Hill**. Front row left to right – Bill Monroe and Pete Booker.)

Andrew “Rube” Foster was the ace of the pitching staff. From box scores that have been located he posted the following pitching statistics in 1905.

	Complete							
Games	Games	Shutouts	Won	Lost	Innings	Strikeouts	Base on Balls	ERA
32	32	4	28	4	301.7	133	67	1.43

Some of the pitching highlights of Rube Foster during the 1905 season were:

- Rube pitched a no-hitter against Camden (NJ). Giants won the game 3-0.
- He won two games in the “championship series” versus the Cuban X-Giants. Rube struck out 18 Cuban X-Giants batters in one of these games.
- According to Rube Foster he went 51-4 (.909) for the 1905 season.

Emmett Bowman and Dan McClellan rounded out the starting rotation for the Philadelphia Giants. According Negro League researcher Phil Dixon each of the starters (Foster, Bowman and McClellan) won over 30 games each. Dixon credits the trio with a won-loss record of 101-20 (.835), 20 shutouts and over 700 strikeouts in 1,035 innings pitched. The starting rotation of Rube Foster, Emmett Bowman and Dan McClellan was one of the most outstanding and productive pitching staffs in the history of black baseball.

The only down side of the Philadelphia Giants 1905 season was that Grant “Homerun” Johnson, Bill Monroe and Sol White suffered through an injury plagued season.

One of the most interesting games of the season for Walter Schlichter’s Philadelphia Giants occurred during their pre-season when they played a team by the name of “Johnson’s Pets.” The interesting part is that Heavyweight Champion of the World, Jack Johnson, owned and coached the team. His baseball team, however, did not have his knockout power and lost to the Giants by a score of 13-4.



**Philadelphia Giants (1905)**

(Back row left to right – **Grant “Home Run” Johnson**, **Andrew “Rube” Foster**, Emmett Bowman, Walter Schlitcher, **Sol White**, Pete Booker and **Charlie Grant**. Front row left to right - Unknown, **Pete Hill**, Unknown, Mike Moore and Bill Monroe)

The Philadelphia Giants opened their 1905 season on April 1<sup>st</sup> in New York City against the All-Independents. The Giants went down by a score of 6-4 against their highly rated “white” opponent. All three members (Emmett Bowman, Rube Foster and Dan McClellan) of the starting rotation saw action in the game. After losing their first game of the season, the Philadelphia Giants went on to win 18 of the first 20 games they played. Philadelphia came back the next day on April 2<sup>nd</sup> to defeat Nat Strong’s Murray Hill squad by a score of 5-1. Rube Foster limited the Murray Hill hitters to just five hits. After disposing of Murray Hills, the Giants left New York City and headed to Atlantic City (NJ) to play a three game series against the Newark Sailors of the Eastern League. The first game in the series was played at Inlet Park on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Emmett Bowman limited Newark to six hits and Grant “Homerun” Johnson hit two homeruns to lead Philadelphia to a 5-3 victory. In game two Dan McClellan scattered eight hits to pick up a 6-4 win. Grant Johnson hit his third homerun of the Newark series and Rube Foster went the distance on the mound for a 10-4 Giants’ win in game three. When they left Newark, the Philadelphia Giants had swept their powerful Eastern League opponent. On April 9<sup>th</sup> the Philadelphia Giants were beaten by the Manhattans by a score of 5-1. Red Waller who pitched for the New York Giants of the National League and was a three time twenty (20) game winner in the minor leagues picked up the win for the Manhattans. The Manhattans would be one of the toughest teams the Philadelphia Giants would play all season. The highlight of the month of April for Philadelphia and an extremely rare feat in professional baseball occurred on April 19<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. in the Giants’ game against Howard University. Grant “Homerun” Johnson who was the team’s starting shortstop took the mound for Philadelphia. Johnson limited the Howard University hitters to just 3 hits while collecting 4 hits himself to lead the Philadelphia Giants to a 13-0 shutout win.

The Philadelphia Giants did not lose a game the rest of the month of April of 1905. For the month of April Philadelphia went 17-2 (.895). Included in these 17 wins were victories over four different Minor League teams. The Giants beat Haverhill (3-1) of the New England League,



**Emmett Bowman**  
Philadelphia Giants

Manchester (5-4) also of the New England League, Norwich (13-8) of the Connecticut League and Bridgeport (5-1) also of the Connecticut League.

During the month of April Emmett Bowman won five (5) games, Rube Foster won four (4) games, Dan McClellan also had four (4) wins and Grant “Homerun” Johnson had one (1) victory. Grant “Homerun” Johnson led the team in hitting with five (5) homeruns. Pete Hill, Dan McClellan, Mike Moore and Bill Monroe also got off to a good start at the plate.

The Giants played a much tougher schedule in May than they had played in the previous month. The Philadelphia Giants played 25 games in June and came away with a won-loss record of 18-7 (.720). The starting rotation of Dan McClellan (6-2), Rube Foster (5-2) and Emmett Bowman (4-2) only had average outings during the month of May. Philadelphia did, however, beat several Minor League teams in May. These teams and the scores from the games included: Poughkeepsie Colts of the Hudson River League by a score of 15-9, Newark Sailors of the Eastern League by a score of 4-0 and two games against Wilmington Peaches of the Tri-State League by the scores of 4-3 and 5-2.

The biggest loss for the Philadelphia Giants in May did not come on the field, but on the roster when George “Chappie” Johnson left the team to go to Renville (MN). James “Pete” Booker replaced Johnson’s spot on the roster. Booker split the catching duties with Tom Washington for the remainder of the season. Tragedy struck the Philadelphia Giants on May 18<sup>th</sup> in a game at Chester (PA), when Grant “Homerun” Johnson separated a tendon in his leg. Grant attempted to stay in the game, but when his leg gave way he was taken to a local hospital. The injury was particularly hard for Philadelphia because Grant was their starting shortstop and one of the team’s leading hitters. Johnson’s injury would limit his play and effectiveness the rest of the season.

On May 30<sup>th</sup> the Wilmington Every Evening newspaper reported that the Philadelphia Giants and Cuban X-Giants would play a series for the “Colored World’s Championship.” The series was supposed to have been played from June 13-16. It does not appear that the series was ever played.

The Philadelphia Giants started the month of June off with nine (9) straight wins before going down to the Trenton YMCA ball club by a score of 3 to 2. On June 6<sup>th</sup> the Wilmington Every Evening announced that the championship series between the Philadelphia Giants and the Cuban X-Giants had been called off because of a dispute over a player. The controversy was over a pitcher by the name of Munoz who had reportedly been signed by Philadelphia and E.B. Lamar, manager of the Cuban X-Giants, convinced Munoz to play for his team. During the month of June, the Philadelphia Giants reportedly played twenty-one (21) games. Box scores have been found for nineteen (19) of those games. Philadelphia went 16-3 (.842) in these nineteen (19) games. Some of their top games played by Philadelphia in June were:

Date	Opponent	Score	Winning Pitcher
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Murray Hill	22-11	Emmett Bowman
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Ridgewood	5-0	Emmett Bowman
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Manhattans	13-0	Rube Foster
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	St. Peters	3-0	Grant Johnson

The Giants' most satisfying win of the month came on June 18<sup>th</sup> when they shutout the Manhattans by a score of 13-0. The Manhattans had been Philadelphia's toughest opponent of the season. They had beaten Philadelphia in two of the four games they played earlier in the season. The June 18<sup>th</sup> game was played at Olympic Field in New York City with 3,500 fans in attendance. Rube Foster picked up the win while scattering five hits and striking out seven Manhattan hitters.

The month of July was very busy for the Philadelphia Giants. They played 28 games and came away with a record of 23-4-1 (.857) for the month. Of their four losses, three were by only one run. From June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup> the Giants put together a 17 game winning streak.

Dan McClellan led the way on the mound for Philadelphia in June. He had a perfect 8-0 record and pitched two shutouts (Trenton YMCA 4-0 and Vineland 5-0). Not only did they get great pitching during the month of July but they also scored a lot of runs. Offensively Pete Hill, Grant "Homerun" Johnson and Charles Grant led the way for the Giants. According to Negro League researcher Phil Dixon, the Philadelphia Giants scored more than 200 runs and held their opponents to less than 60 runs in July of 1905.



**Grant Johnson**  
Philadelphia Giants

The only downside for Philadelphia in July was that Bill Monroe was out of the line-up with an injury for most of the month. Obviously his team mates picked up the slack during his absence.

The Philadelphia Giants picked up in August right where they left off in July. They dominated their opponents and won ball games. The Giants won eleven (11) straight games to start off the month of August. On August 4<sup>th</sup> the Philadelphia Evening Item published a formal challenge by Walter Schlichter to E.B. Lamar's Cuban X-Giants to play them in a "championship series." E.B. Lamar's response was published in the New York Press. Lamar offered to play Schlichter's team in a nine or ten game series on a 60/40 basis. Walter didn't like the 60/40 split terms and opted not to book the series with the X-Giants.

When the series between the Philadelphia Giants and Cuban X-Giants fell through, Abel Linares (manager of the All-Cubans) in an article that appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer on August 6<sup>th</sup> offered to play Schlichter's Philadelphia Giants on Schlichter's terms. The All-Cubans presumably would have been a worthy opponent. Linares billed his club as the "Champion of the National League of Cuba." Researchers are not sure what Linares meant by his "championship title" for the All-Cubans because there never was such a league or organization in Cuba. It does not appear that the Philadelphia Giants and All-Cubans played a championship series in 1905, but there are



**Pete Hill and Grant “Homerun” Johnson**  
Philadelphia Giants

several dates in August where no games have yet been found for the Philadelphia Giants.

One of the highlights of the season for the Philadelphia Giants came on August 22<sup>nd</sup> when Rube Foster pitched a no-hitter against Camden. Philadelphia won the game by a score of 3-0.

Besides getting excellent pitching, the Giants also got outstanding hitting during the month of August. As a team Philadelphia scored over 150 runs in the twenty-two (22) games for which box scores have been found for the month of August. Some of the top hitting performances in August were as follows:

- Rube Foster collected six (6) hits against Medford (NJ) on August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Mike Moore hit for the cycle against Pemberton on August 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Pete Hill and Grant “Homerun” Johnson both had five (5) hits in a game during the month of August.

The Philadelphia Giants reportedly played twenty-three (23) games in August and box scores have been found for twenty-one (21) of them. Philadelphia posted a won-loss record of 18-1-2 (.947) in August.

The Philadelphia Giants continued their winning streak that they started in August on into September. From August 19<sup>th</sup> to September 12<sup>th</sup>, Philadelphia put together a twenty-one (21) game winning streak. The Giants’ winning streak came to an end on September 13<sup>th</sup> when they were defeated by Pottstown (PA) by a score of 4-3. According to Negro League researcher Phil Dixon, the Giants outscored their opponents by a two to one margin in September. This was the fifth month in a row that the Philadelphia Giants accomplished this feat.

Besides getting outstanding hitting, the Philadelphia Giants also got great pitching from their starting rotation. The starting rotation of Emmett Bowman, Dan McClellan and Rube Foster pitched six shutouts (Bowman – three, McClellan – two and Foster – one) and reportedly all three pitchers each went over the thirty (30) win mark for the season by the end of September.

The month of September started off for the Philadelphia Giants with the New York American publishing an article on September 2<sup>nd</sup> that reported the Philadelphia Giants and All-Cubans had been preparing to play a three game “championship series.” It appears that this series never did take place.

When Walter Schlichter could not book a “championship series” with the Cuban X-Giants or All-Cubans, he turned his attention to booking a series with the Brooklyn Royal Giants who were owned by John Connor. A three game series was held from September 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of 1905.



**Brooklyn Royal Giants**

The rosters for the two championship contenders were as follows:

<b>Philadelphia Giants</b>		<b>Brooklyn Royal Giants</b>	
Sol White	1B	Al Robinson	1B
Charlie Grant	2B	Ingersol	2B
Grant "Homerun" Johnson	SS	George Wright	SS
Harry "Mike" Moore	3B	U. Johnson	3B
Pete Booker	C	Chappie Johnson	C
Pete Hill	OF	Andrew "Jap" Payne	OF
Emmett "Bill" Bowman	OF	W. Nux James	OF
Dan McClellan	OF	Brown	OF
Emmett Bowman	P	B. Merritt	P
Andrew "Rube" Foster	P	Pop Andrews	P
Dan McClellan	P	William Warwick	P

Game one of the series was played in Atlantic City (NJ) at Inlet Park with 1,200 fans in the stands. Emmett Bowman took the mound for the Philadelphia Giants and pitched a 2-0 shutout. Brooklyn played significantly better in game two but still lost. Philadelphia won the second game by a score of 7-6. The Philadelphia Giants completed a three game sweep of the Royal Giants backed by solid hitting and Dan McClellan scattering eight hits and only giving up two runs. Philadelphia won game three by a score of 7-2.

The Philadelphia Giants series win gave them the title of the "Colored Champions of the East." A summary of the series is as follows:

<b>Game</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Winning Team</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Winning Pitcher</b>	<b>Losing Pitcher</b>
1	Philadelphia	Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	2-0	Emmett Bowman	B. Merritt
2	Philadelphia	Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	7-6	Rube Foster	-
3	Philadelphia	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	7-2	Dan McClellan	B. Merritt

Preston “Pete” Hill (Philadelphia) was the hitting star of the series by collecting seven hits in eight plate appearances (the box score for one game has yet to be found) for a .875 batting average. Grant “Homerun” Johnson had two doubles and stole two bases in the third game to lead Philadelphia to a 7-2 victory for the series title.

Even though the Philadelphia-Brooklyn series was more like a “Playoff Series” between the two top teams in the East, the Philadelphia Giants used their victory to declare their second straight “Colored World’s Championship.”

The Philadelphia Giants followed up their “World Championship Series” by taking on the Harrisburg Senators of the Tri State League. The series was played on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Philadelphia defeated their Minor League opponent in both games by the scores of 2-1 and 2-0. Rube Foster pitched a one hitter and struck out eleven (11) batters in the first game. Dan McClelland followed Foster’s outstanding performance with a three hit shutout victory.

After shutting out Burnham by a score of 4-0 in Lewiston (PA), Philadelphia settled into a three game series starting on September 21<sup>st</sup> with the Johnstown Johnnies of the Tri State League. The series turned into a slugfest with both teams combining for 44 runs and 78 hits in the three game series. The highlight of the series was an 11-8 win for the Giants that featured four homeruns. Pete Hill hit two homeruns. Bill Monroe and Rube Foster hit the other two homeruns. The Philadelphia Giants won two of the three games.

Schlichter’s Giants traveled to New York City on September 24<sup>th</sup> to take on the Manhattans. The game drew an unbelievable crowd of 8,200 fans. This was one of Philadelphia’s biggest crowds of the 1905 season. Dan McClelland and Rube Foster combined for a 5-1 win. This victory gave the Giants five wins in seven outings against the always powerful Manhattans.

The Philadelphia Giants continued playing into October of 1905. They started the month with a game against the Brooklyn Royal Giants who they had just defeated less than a month ago for the “Colored World’s Championship.” This game was played on October 1<sup>st</sup> and was played at the Bronx Oval in New York City. With a crowd of approximately 5,000 fans in the stands, Philadelphia took an 11-4 victory. The Giants travelled to Camden (NJ) the next day and revenged their early season loss. Philadelphia beat Camden by a score of 7-3. Four days after defeating the Brooklyn Royal Giants the two teams met again, this time in Philadelphia. The result was the same; Philadelphia won. This time, however, Brooklyn was humiliated by a score of 17-2. Every player in the Philadelphia Giants’ starting line-up got at least one hit. Pete Hill led the way with five hits and Emmett Bowman got the win. The next day (October 6<sup>th</sup>) the two teams travelled to Reading (PA) and Philadelphia beat Brooklyn again. This time the score was 8-1 in favor of Philadelphia.

Early in the month of October, Pete Booker and Bill Monroe called it a season and returned home. Schlichter replaced his two starters with Harry Buckner and John Hill.

The last recorded game for the Philadelphia Giants 1905 season was played on October 22<sup>nd</sup> in New York City. Playing with a make-shift line-up the Philadelphia Giants lost to the Brightons by a score of 5-3. Newspaper records identify that the Philadelphia Giants played twenty-one (21) games during the month of September. Philadelphia had a record of 17-4 (.810) in these twenty-one (21) games.

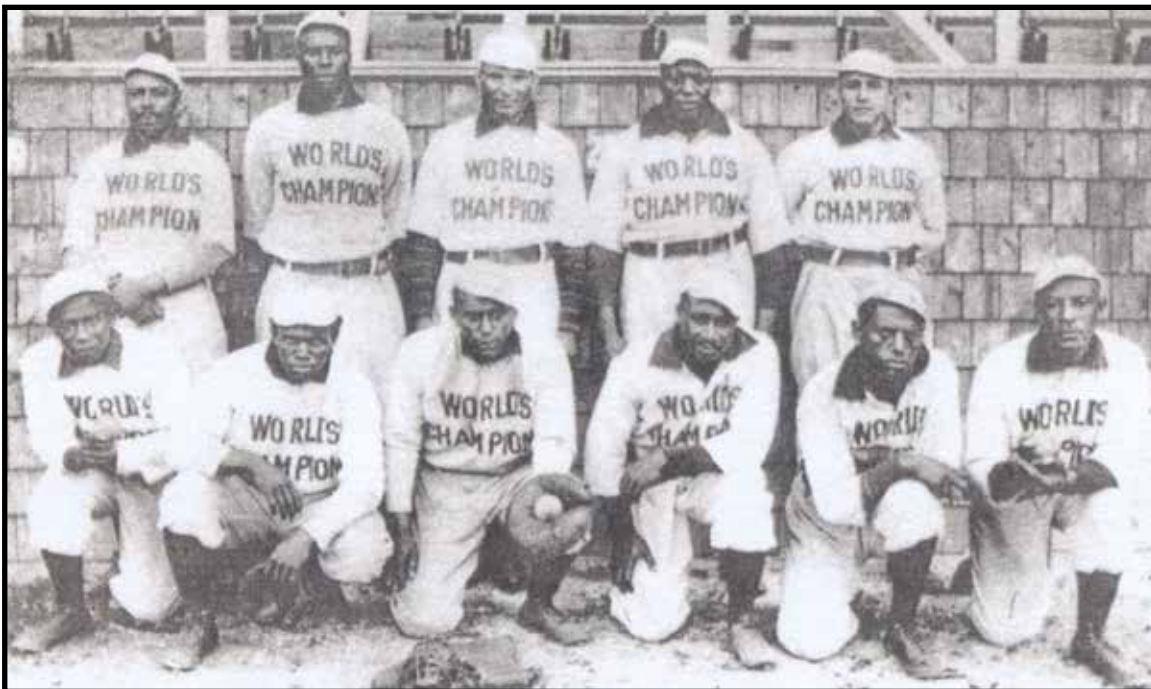
For the 1905 season, the Philadelphia Giants posted an unbelievable record of 134-24-3 (.865). This was the best season in the history of the Philadelphia Giants. One of the things that made the 1905 season even more special was that during their 1905 “championship” season they defeated nine (9) different Minor League teams. They also had winning streaks of 12, 19 and 22 games.

According to Negro League researcher Phil Dixon, the Philadelphia Giants scored over 1,000 runs during the season.

The 1905 Philadelphia Giants' season was not only a success on the field but was also a success financially. The team's attendance grew dramatically. This was in direct relationship to all the games they played in New Jersey and New York on Sundays. According to research by Michael Lomax, the Philadelphia Giants drew 77,027 fans for week end games which averaged out to about 3,500 fans a game. In New York the Philadelphia Giants drew 58,502 fans and in New Jersey they attracted a total of 16,025 fans for the season for weekend games. This averaged out to 4,875 fans per game in New York and 2,003 fans per game in New Jersey. In their New York weekend games, the Philadelphia Giants took in gross revenues of \$ 14,625.50 and made a net profit of \$ 7,312.75. For their games in New Jersey they took in \$ 4,006 with a net of \$ 2,003. Financially, Walter Schlichter more than doubled his revenue base from 1903. These financial numbers indicate that the Philadelphia Giants under the leadership of Walter Schlichter had become a very successful business enterprise. The team's financial success in 1905 proved that Schlichter could create a demand for his team outside the Philadelphia area and that his strategy of "go where the money is" was the correct approach to follow.

### Philadelphia Giants Produce another Successful Season

Before the start of the 1906 season, the Philadelphia Giants lost Grant "Homerun" Johnson to the Brooklyn Royal Giants. Johnson left Philadelphia to become the player/manager of Brooklyn. Even with the loss of Homerun Johnson, the Philadelphia Giants still fielded a formidable team. The Philadelphia Giants had developed a winning tradition and the loss of a player or two was not going to impact their ability to dominate the competition. They were the "Colored World's Champions."



Philadelphia Giants (1906)

(Back row left to right – William Binga, Unknown, Sol White, Andrew "Rube" Foster and Nate Harris. Kneeling left to right – Dan McClellan, Pete Hill, Pete Booker, Willis Jones, Emmett Bowman and unknown.)

The starting line-up for Philadelphia for the 1906 season was as follows:

### Philadelphia Giants (1906)

Position	Player	Position	Player
1B	Robert Jordan/Sol White	OF	Pete Hill
2B	Charlie Grant	OF	Harry "Mike" Moore
SS	Nate Harris	OF	Andrew "Rube" Foster
3B	Bill Francis		
C	Pete Booker	P	Emmett Bowman
		P	Andrew "Rube" Foster
		P	Dan McClellan

The Giants were led by the hitting of Pete Hill (.372), Robert Jordan (.323), Andrew "Rube" Foster (.319), Harry "Mike" Moore (.287) and Dan McClellan (.284).

The three man starting rotation of Emmett Bowman, Andrew "Rube" Foster and Dan McClellan dominated their opponents the entire 1906 season. According to newspaper reports, Dan McClellan won forty-four (44) straight games during the season. Ed Wilson and Harry "Mike" Moore also pitched for the Philadelphia Giants in 1906. Fourteen (14) box scores have been found for Rube Foster pitching for the Philadelphia Giants in 1906. His pitching statistics in these fourteen (14) games is as follows:

Complete		Games	Shutouts	Won	Lost	Innings	Strikeouts	Base on Balls	ERA
14	13	2	11	2	124.7	67	17	1.66	

In May of 1906 the Philadelphia Giants conducted an extensive barnstorming tour of Illinois, Ohio and western Pennsylvania. During the tour the Philadelphia Giants played the Chicago Union Giants and the Leland Giants who were considered the top two teams in the West. After returning from their western barnstorming tour, the Giants played a series of games against the Brooklyn Royal Giants. This continued to feed a rivalry that would last throughout the history of the Philadelphia Giants.

### Philadelphia Wins the International League Title

In July of 1906 the Philadelphia Giants joined the multiracial International League of Independent Professional Baseball Clubs which was also known as the International League of Colored Baseball Clubs in America and Cuba (ILBCAC). Often the association was referred to as simply the International League. The International League was founded before the start of the 1906 season by William Frehofer who owned a chain of bakeries in the Philadelphia area. The original five teams in the "league" were as follows:

### International League (1906)

Team	Owner/Manager
Cuban Stars of Havana	Manuel Camps
Cuban X-Giants	E.B. Lamar
Havana Stars	Alfredo Pastor
Philadelphia Professionals	William Frehofer (owner) John A. O'Rourke (manager)
Philadelphia Quaker Giants	Jess and Eddie McMahon



**Brooklyn Royal Giants (1906)**

Stability was a problem for the International League. In June of 1906 the Havana Stars dropped out. Havana was supposed to be replaced by the Wilmington Giants but a decision was made by John A. O'Rourke (manager of the Philadelphia Professionals and the International League secretary) to admit the Riverton-Palmyra Athletic Club instead. Next to go out in July were the Cuban Stars of Havana and the Philadelphia Quaker Giants who were removed from the "league" because they missed playing required schedule dates. They were replaced by the Philadelphia Giants and the Wilmington Giants. When the Philadelphia Giants entered the "league" they inherited the Philadelphia Quaker Giants 3-0 record which put them in first place in the International League before they had even played one game.

At the end of the regular International League season, the Philadelphia Giants and Cuban X-Giants were tied with identical records of 6-1. They faced off in a one game play-off series on September 2<sup>nd</sup> for the "league" championship and the Frehofer Cup that came with the title. The championship game was played in Philadelphia. With 16,000 fans in attendance at Columbia Park, Rube Foster scattered ten hits, struck out nine batters and led Philadelphia to a 3-2 victory and the "league" title.

The final International League standings as published in the Philadelphia Inquirer on September 10, 1906 were as follows:

**International League (1906)**

<b>Team</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Pct.</b>
Philadelphia Giants	7	1	.875
Cuban X-Giants	6	2	.750
Wilmington Giants	4	4	.500
Philadelphia Professionals	3	5	.375
Riverton-Palmyra A.C.	0	8	.000

Besides playing in the International League, the Philadelphia Giants also played an extensive independent schedule during the 1906 season. Booking games also became significantly more

competitive in 1906. This was primarily due to all of the “new” black teams that were being formed. Some of these new clubs were the Quaker Giants of New York, Wilmington Giants, New York Giants, Baltimore Giants of Newark, Keystone Giants of Philadelphia and several Cuban teams like the Cuban Stars of Santiago.

### **Philadelphia Wins Their Third Straight World’s Championship**

The top teams in the East during the 1906 baseball season were the Brooklyn Royal Giants, Cuban X-Giants, Philadelphia Giants and Wilmington Giants. In head to head competition among these four teams, the Philadelphia Giants had the best record. They were 25-11-1 (.694) against their three leading competitors in the East.

In September of 1906 they faced the Cuban X-Giants in a championship series. Philadelphia swept the series five games to none for the Cuban X-Giants. The starting lineups for the two teams were as follows:

<b>Philadelphia Giants</b>		<b>Cuban X Giants</b>	
Sol White	Mgr	Clarence Williams	Mgr
Robert Jordan	1B	Big Bill Gatewood	1B
Charlie Grant	2B	John Henry “Pop” Lloyd	2B
Nathan Harris	SS	John Hill	SS
Bill Francis	3B	W. Nux James	3B
James “Pete” Booker	C	Clarence Williams	C
Pete Hill	OF	Bobby Winston	OF
Dan McClellan	OF	Sherman Barton	OF
Harry “Mike” Moore	OF	Emilio Palomino	OF
Rube Foster	P	Harry Buckner	P
Bill Bowman	P	Bill Gatewood	P
Ray Wilson	P	Perez	P
Dan McClellan	P	Mayo	P

The Philadelphia Giants were led by the pitching of Rube Foster (3-0) and Bill Bowman (2-0). The leading hitters in the series for Philadelphia were Pete Hill .452 (28 for 62), Robert Jordan (.342 - 13 for 38) and Dan McClellan (.311 - 19 for 61).

The Cuban X-Giants got good hitting from Clarence Williams (.333) and Sherman Barton (.316). Unfortunately, the Cuban X-Giants pitching staff was bested by the Philadelphia hitters.

Rube Foster closed out the “championship series” on Labor Day with a 3-2 victory, giving the title to the Philadelphia Giants.

After taking the “Colored World’s Champions” title, Walter “Slick” Schlichter (sports editor for the Philadelphia Item newspaper and general manager/owner of the Philadelphia Giants) issued a challenge to the winner of the American League, National League or Major League World Series champion to play a three or five games series to see which team “white” or “black” was the best in the country. Schlichter got no response from either of the Major League teams. In his landmark book, Sol White’s History of Colored Baseball with Other Documents on the Early Black Game 1886-1936, Sol White indicates that Walter Schlichter’s challenge was not taken seriously and was only seen as a way for Schlichter to make more money. From White’s perspective the playing record of the Philadelphia Giants showed “that they had earned the right to play against the best white teams.” Sol White went on to surmise that the “white” Major League teams had nothing to gain. If the white team won, it was what was expected because they were a Major League team, but if they lost to a black team it would be as Sol put it “distasteful to many followers.”

Philadelphia won both the International League title and defeated the Cuban X-Giants for the “Colored World’s Championship” during the 1906 baseball season. Under the management of Sol White, the Philadelphia Giants finished the season with an excellent record of 108-31-6 (.777).

After the regular season, the Philadelphia Giants played a four game exhibition series against the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League. The Athletics were a good team that finished the regular American League season with a record of 78-67 (.538) and were in fourth place in the final American League standings. The strength of their team was their pitching staff that included Chief Bender, Eddie Plank and Rube Waddell. Each team won two games in the series. Breaking even with the Major Leaguers proved that the Philadelphia Giants could compete with the “white” Major League teams.

### **Schlichter and Strong form the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba**

In late 1906 Walter Schlichter and sports promoter Nat Strong met in Brooklyn (NY) along with representatives of the other major Eastern black teams and founded the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba (NACBC). The organization was formed on October 22, 1906 in the Bronx, New York. The original five teams that joined the “association” were the Brooklyn Royal Giants, Cuban Giants, Cuban Stars of Havana, Cuban X-Giants and Philadelphia Giants. Three of these five teams were also members of the International League of Professional Baseball Clubs of America and Cuba (ILBCAC). There was no apparent relationship between these two organizations.



The inaugural season for the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba was 1907. Walter Schlichter served as the president of the “association” from 1906 until 1909. The full listing of the officers of the organization was as follows:

#### **National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba - Officers**

	<b>Position</b>
H. Walter Schlichter	President
John Connor	Vice President
J. M. Bright	Treasurer
Nat Strong	Secretary and Business Manager
Manuel Camp	Board of Trustees
E.B. Lamar	Board of Trustees

In an article that appeared in The Trenton Evening Times on October 6, 1906 the stated goal of the “association” according to Schlichter and Strong was as follows:

“to place colored baseball on a solid business basis and to protect both players and managers and prevent jumping from one club to another, on the slightest pretext, as was done this last season. It is intended to protect the managers from unscrupulous and unreliable managers of independent clubs who engage the colored clubs and unceremoniously cancel the dates at the last moment if so inclined. It is intended to cut out all such clubs which treat any of the national agreement clubs in that manner.”

The newspaper article went on to say that the creation of the “association” became necessary for financial reasons when supposedly all of the colored clubs in the East lost money during the 1906 season. The reasons given for the financial problems of black team owners were high player salaries and a lack of cooperation among the clubs.

More specifically the goals of the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba (NACBC) were as follows:

1. Perpetuation of colored baseball.
2. Encourage a spirit of mutual cooperation between teams.
3. Foster public confidence in its integrity and methods while maintaining a high standard of skill and sportsmanship in its players.
4. Safeguard the property right of those engaged in colored baseball as a business without sacrificing the spirit of completion in the conduct of the game.
5. Promote welfare of the colored ball players as a class by perfecting them in their profession and enabling them to secure adequate compensation and expenses.
6. Hold teams accountable that engaged in unethical practices.

According to an article that appeared in The Item newspaper, the NACBC was organized and operated along the same guidelines that the American League and National League operated under.

The organization tried to place black baseball on solid economic footing, get owners working with each other for the betterment of the game of black baseball and prevent players from jumping from one team to another for higher salaries. The National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba proved to be only marginally successful at best.

The National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba (NACBC) lasted only three seasons (1907-1909) and ceased operation before the start of the 1910 season. The decline of the Philadelphia Giants and Nat Strong’s shift in interest to the teams he controlled playing more games against white semi-pro and town teams significantly impacted the demise of the NACBC.

### **Philadelphia Giants Win Their Fourth Consecutive “Colored World’s Championship”**

Prior to the start of the 1907 season, Rube Foster and several of his teammates left the Philadelphia Giants to sign with Frank Leland’s Chicago Leland Giants. The reasons cited for the mass defection was that Walter Schlichter had implemented several new policies that negatively impacted the players. These policies were as follows:

1. Lowered the salaries of several players.
2. Changed the meal money policy to two meals a day with 15 cents a day for meal money.
3. Implemented a policy that players needed to provide their own uniforms.
4. Changed the delivery of pay from bi-weekly to monthly.

Even though the Philadelphia Giants lost Rube Foster, Pete Hill, Pete Booker, Mike Moore and Nate Harris to the Leland Giants before the start of the season; they still field a strong team that was led by the hitting of John Henry “Pop” Lloyd.

The starting line-up for the 1907 Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

**Philadelphia Giants (1907)**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>
1B	Ray Wilson	OF	Pete Hill
2B	Charlie Grant	OF	Harry "Mike" Moore
SS	John Henry "Pop" Lloyd	OF	Andrew "Rube" Foster
3B	Bill Francis/Sam Mongin		
C	Bruce Petway/Clarence Williams	P	Emmett Bowman
		P	Dan McClellan



**Philadelphia Giants (1907)**

Ed Wilson, John Mickey and (unknown first name) Griffith also pitched for the Philadelphia Giants in 1907.

The Philadelphia Giants played their home games at both Columbia Parker and the Baker Bowl during the 1907 season.

Philadelphia spent most of their season playing an independent-barnstorming schedule. They also participated in the National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs "league". At the end of the regular season they claimed the "league" title. The final standings for the "league" were as follows:

**National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs (1907)**

<b>Team</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Tie</b>	<b>Pct.</b>
Philadelphia Giants	13	7	0	.650
Cuban Giants	5	5	1	.500
Brooklyn Royal Giants	10	14	1	.417
Cuban Stars	2	4	0	.333



Trenton Evening Times  
10-14-07

According to an article that appeared in the Trenton Evening Times on October 4, 1907, the Philadelphia Giants ended the 1907 baseball season with a won-loss record of 96-26-1 (.787).

Schlichter's Philadelphia Giants won their fourth consecutive "Colored World's Championship" at the end of the 1907 season. They were also the champions of the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba.

### Philadelphia Giants Travel to Cuba

After the conclusion of the 1907 season, the majority of the Philadelphia Giants team traveled to Cuba to play winter baseball in the first round of the American Series. The American Series pitted the best teams in Cuba against top level teams from the United States. Black teams participated in the American Series on a regular basis.

It appears that Walter Schlichter financed the venture. Oddly enough, neither Walter Schlichter or Sol Whit, accompanied the team to Cuba. Grant "Homerun" Johnson managed the team during the American Series. To supplement their roster, Philadelphia signed the following players from other teams to fill out the roster for the Cuban trip: John Davis (Leland Giants), Charles Earle, William "Bill" Holland (Brooklyn Royal Giants), Grant "Homerun" Johnson (Brooklyn Royal Giants) and Felix "Dick" Wallace (Cuban Giants). The roster for the Philadelphia Giants during the American Series was as follows:

#### Philadelphia Giants (Cuban Trip - 1907)

Position	Player	Position	Player
1B	Bruce Petway	OF	Pete Hill
2B	Felix "Dick" Wallace	OF	Charles Earle
SS	Grant "Homerun" Johnson/ Pop Lloyd	OF	Dan McClellan
3B	Emmett Bowman		
C	Clarence Williams	P	John Davis
		P	William Holland
		P	Dan McClellan

The Philadelphia Giants were considered the "Colored World Champions" and expectations were very high for them to play well against their Latin opponents. The first round of the American Series began on October 10<sup>th</sup> with the Philadelphia Giants taking on the Almendares Alacranes. The Philadelphia Giants got shutout in their first game in Cuba. Almendares won the game by a score of 6-0. The Philadelphia Giants struggled all through the American Series but did win their last game of the series. They played against Almendares and behind the pitching of John Davis won the game by a score of 8-2. This was the final game of the first round of the American Series and it was played on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Almendares Park. The top hitters for the Philadelphia Giants during the first round of the American Series were: Bill Holland (.321), Grant Johnson (.289), Pop Lloyd (.288), Pete Hill (.263) and Charles Earle (.261). The pitching won-loss records for the Giants staff were as follows: Dan McClellan (2-1), John Davis (2-3) and Bill Holland (0-4). The final standings for the first round of the 1907 American Series were Almendares (4-2-1), Habana (3-3) and in last place the Philadelphia Giants (5-7-1).

Even though the Philadelphia Giants did not perform up to their expectations on the field, the trip was financially profitable for Schlichter. Reportedly the Philadelphia Giants drew 49,050 fans for the first half of the American Series in 1907. The average game attendance was 2,336. According to research by Michael Lomax, the Philadelphia Giants netted \$ 6,131.25 in revenues for the thirteen (13) games they played in Cuba.

The second round of the American Series began on December 5<sup>th</sup> and ended on December 29<sup>th</sup>. The Detroit Tigers were supposed to replace the Philadelphia Giants for the second round but for some unknown reason Detroit cancelled their trip to Cuba. Not wanting to cancel the second round of the American Series, Cuban baseball officials asked several players from the first round Philadelphia Giants team to stay and play. With the exception of Emmett Bowman (3B), John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (SS), Bruce Petway (OF/1B) and Clarence Williams (C/1B) most of the other players returned home. They were replaced by Nate Harris, Bill Gatewood, Andrew “Jap” Payne and Clarence Winston who arrived in Cuba on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The team that played in the second round of the American Series was also called the “Philadelphia Giants,” but it does not appear that they were backed by Walter Schlichter. This version of the Philadelphia Giants didn’t fare any better than the Giants team that played in the first round of the American Series. They finished the second round of the American Series with a losing record of 4-6 (.400).

### Schlichter Enters “White” Baseball

On December 16, 1907 the Union League was formed. At the time the Union League was considered to be an “outlaw” league not under the control of “organized baseball.” Initially six teams joined the Union League. They represented the cities of Baltimore, Brooklyn, Newark, Paterson (NJ), Philadelphia and Reading (PA). The Union League quickly added teams representing Elizabeth (NJ) and Wilmington (DE) before the start of the season. With eight teams in place, the “league” felt it was entering their inaugural season with a strong presence.



**Honus Wagner**  
Pittsburg Pirates

The first major problem that the Union League faced was their inability to sign Major League players. Major League players felt if they joined the “outlaw league” and the Union League failed they could be black balled by “organized” baseball. No one was willing to put their career on the line for an unknown quantity like the Union League.

Seeking to increase his influence in professional baseball in the East, Walter “Slick” Schlichter became the manager of the franchise representing Philadelphia. Schlichter’s first order of business was to try to sign a “big name” player. Slick immediately went on an aggressive campaign to sign shortstop Honus Wagner of the Pittsburgh Pirates. He offered the Pirates’ star an unheard amount of \$ 10,000 to sign but Wagner refused the offer. Walter did sign one player who would go on to play in the Major Leagues. That player was left-handed pitcher Frank Covelski who was the brother of National Baseball Hall of Fame member, Stan Covelski. After the Union League folded, Frank Covelski signed with the Philadelphia Phillies and spent nine years in the Major Leagues where he compiled an 81-55 won-loss record with an impressive career 2.39 ERA.

While Walter Schlichter was devoting all of his time to his “white” Union League team, Sol White was running the entire operation of the Philadelphia Giants.

As soon as the Union League opened for play the Newark franchise folded and was replaced by a team representing Washington, D.C. The Union League had a very short lived career. It didn't even make it through its first season and folded in June of 1908. Walter Schlichter's Philadelphia team had a won-loss record of 10-24 (.294) and were in fifth place in the Union League standings when the "league" folded.

The reasons the Union League failed were as follows:

1. Most of the teams in the Union League already had a Major League or strong Minor League team in their city. These teams already had established a fan base and there simply weren't enough baseball fans to support two professional teams in the same market.
2. Several teams especially Baltimore, Paterson (NJ) and Washington, D.C. weren't financially stable when the season started.
3. Teams weren't able to sign Major League ball players which would have given them star power.
4. By May of 1908 the teams in Baltimore, Paterson (NJ) and Washington, D.C. had already ceased operation.

After the Union League folded, Walter Schlichter turned his attentions back to the Philadelphia Giants and black baseball.

### **Philadelphia Giants Return to the United States**

Prior to the start of the 1908 baseball season, Walter Schlichter attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Colored Professional Clubs. The meeting was held in March in New York City. The main topics of discussion were as follows:

- Teams would continue to make trips to Chicago to play local clubs under arrangements made by Jimmy Callahan of the Logan Squares and Nat Strong representing the organization.
- It was unanimously agreed that no association club would play the Leland Giants during the 1908 season.
- There was a reelection of officers. The officers and Board of Directors remained the same as the year before. Walter Schlichter was the president, John Connor the vice-president, John Bright remained the treasurer and Nat Strong was the secretary.
- Finally it was agreed upon that the season would open on May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Polo Grounds in New York City with a game between the Brooklyn Royal Giants and the Cuban Giants.

The Philadelphia Giants played both an independent schedule and National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs "league" schedule in 1908.

The starting line-up for the 1908 Philadelphia Giants was as follows:

#### **Philadelphia Giants (1908)**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Player</b>
1B	Ray Wilson/ William Weaver	OF	Frank Duncan
2B	W. Knux James	OF	Harvey Martin
SS	John Henry "Pop" Lloyd	OF	Dan McClellan
3B	Bill Francis		
C	Bruce Petway	P	Charles "Sy" Hayman
		P	Dan McClellan
		P	Harvey Martin
		P	Jerry "Lefty" Fisher

From the limited number of box scores that have been found, John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (.427), Frank Duncan (.299) and Harvey Martin (.283) led the team in hitting during the season. Charles “Sy” Hayman and Dan McClellan were the team’s top two pitchers. Harvey Martin and Jerry Fisher rounded out the starting rotation for the 1908 season. In addition, Emmett Bowman, George Washington and Jimmy Mayo also pitched for the Philadelphia Giants in 1908.

Philadelphia took a backseat to the Brooklyn Royal Giants in 1908. The final National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs “league” standings for 1908 were:

**National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs (1908)**

Team	Won	Lost	Tie	Pct.
Brooklyn Royal Giants	19	10	1	.655
Philadelphia Giants	16	15	0	.516
Cuban Giants	6	12	1	.333
Cuban Stars	3	7	0	.300

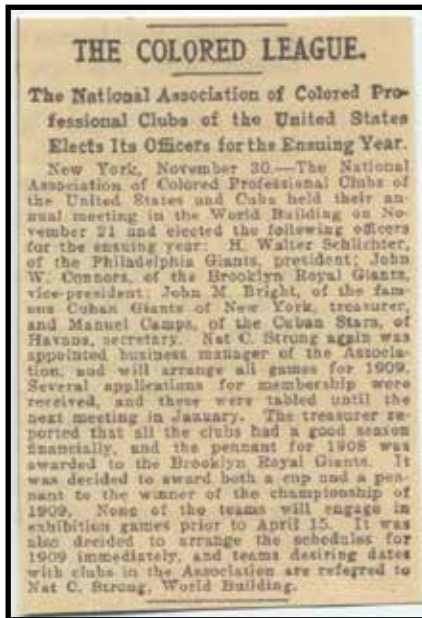
During the 1908 season two members of the National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs barnstormed through the Midwest. They were the Cuban Stars and Philadelphia Giants. The All-Cubans joined the Cuban Stars and Philadelphia Giants on their Midwestern barnstorming tour. The trio of Eastern teams played games against the best semi-professional teams everywhere they traveled.

In late July and early August of 1908, the Philadelphia Giants faced the Chicago Leland Giants in a championship series. The Leland Giants were a formidable opponent who played in the Chicago City League and also played an extensive independent schedule. During the 1908 season the Leland Giants had a reported record of 64-21 (.753). This series was the first time the best team from the East played the best team from the West in a championship series. During the series each team won three games. There does appear to have been an attempt to play a seventh and deciding game of the series. Leading the hitting attack for Philadelphia were John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (10 for 20), Frank Duncan (9 for 19) and Nux James (8 for 23). Harvey Martin was the pitching star for the Philadelphia Giants. He won games five and six to give Philadelphia a tie with Leland’s team. A summary of the series is as follows:

Game	Location	Date	Winning Team	Score	Winning Pitcher	Losing Pitcher
1	Chicago	July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	6-4	Emmett Bowman	Dan McClellan
2	Chicago	July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	5-4	Sy Hayman	Bob Garrison
3	Chicago	July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Leland	3-2	Walter Ball	Lefty Fisher
4	Chicago	Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Leland	11-1	Rube Foster	Dan McClellan
5	Chicago	Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	8-2	Harvey Martin	Rube Foster
6	Chicago	Aug 7 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	7-4	Harvey Martin	Walter Ball

During the 1908 baseball season Walter Schlichter and Sol White organized a baseball tournament to declare a “Colored Champion of the East.” The teams that were invited to play in the tournament were the Brooklyn Royal Giants, Cuban Giants, Cuban Stars and Philadelphia Giants. All the teams agreed to play five games against each other and the team that won the most games would be crowned the “Colored Champions of the East.” The Philadelphia Giants won the tournament and along with it came the bragging rights of being the “Colored Champions of the East.”

From the forty (40) box scores that have been found for the regular season, the Philadelphia Giants compiled what was for them a mediocre record of 21-18 (.538). They were considered one of the two best teams in the East for the 1908 season.



**Sporting Life**  
12-19-08

After the conclusion of the 1908 season, Harry A. Smith who functioned as the team's traveling secretary from its very beginning resigned. Smith moved to Pittsburg (PA) and formed the Pittsburg Giants in 1909.

On November 21, 1908, the National Association of Colored Professional Clubs of the United States and Cuba held their annual meeting. It took place in New York City at Nat Strong's World Building. Walter Schlichter was re-elected as the President. The most important decision of the meeting was that Nat Strong officially became the business manager for the "association." This meant that all game bookings had to come through his office. A newspaper article that appeared in the Sporting Life on December 19, 1908 also reported that the "association" had received several applications from teams wanting to join the organization. Discussion on bringing new teams into the "league" was evidently tabled until the organization's next meeting in January of 1909.

### **Sol White Leaves the Philadelphia Giants**

Walter Schlichter's dominance of black baseball in the East started fading dramatically in 1909 when Sol White left the Philadelphia Giants to take over the reigns of the Philadelphia Quaker Giants who were owned by Jess and Eddie McMahon. Prior to the start of the 1909 season, the conflict between Walter Schlichter and Sol White intensified dramatically. It culminated with Sol White leaving the team. The reasons for Sol White's break with the Philadelphia Giants were as follows:

- When Walter Schlichter's friend, Nat Strong, started booking games for the Philadelphia Giants, Sol White lost a lot of the administrative control that he had over the team.
- Sol White had built the Philadelphia Giants into a national powerhouse and perennial championship team. As time went on, Sol began to feel less and less appreciated. An excellent example of Sol's not feeling appreciated was that for some unknown reason, he was excluded from the Giants trip to Cuba over the winter of 1907.

The New York Age reported on April 8, 1909 that Sol White had officially left the Philadelphia Giants. When Sol White left the Philadelphia Giants, he and Walter Schlichter immediately became adversaries. The biggest point of contention was booking games. When the ILBCAC and NACBC refused to let their member teams book games with the Philadelphia Quaker Giants, White publicly accused Schlichter of trying to sabotage his business. Sol's response was to try to get his friend John Connor, who owned the Brooklyn Royal Giants, to have his team drop out of both the ILBCAC and the NACBC.

With the departure of Sol White, Ray Wilson became the manager of the Philadelphia Giants. Wilson managed the team in its last two full seasons (1909 and 1910).

The top hitters for Philadelphia in 1909 were John Henry "Pop" Lloyd (.449) and Dan McClellan (.348). The Giants had several other good players on their roster like Frank Duncan (OF), Bill Francis (3B), Nux James (2B), Bruce Petway (C), Spottswood Poles (OF) and Big Bill Smith (1B) but all of these players appeared to have subpar seasons. Sy Hyman was the ace of the pitching staff that also included Dan McClellan, Jerry "Lefty" Fisher, John Emory and James Patton.

During the entire 1909 season, there seemed to be a growing disunity among the black baseball teams in the East. By July this disunity resulted in a split between the NACBC and ILBCAC. When this occurred, Walter Schlichter called for the formation of a “new” league/organization. Schlichter proposed calling the “new” entity the “National League of Colored Baseball Clubs.” Nothing ever came of Schlichter’s plans.



**Philadelphia Giants (1909)**

(Back row left to right – **Spottswood Poles**, Lefty Fisher, Jack Emory, Charles Hayman, **John Henry “Pop” Lloyd** and **Dan McClellan**. Middle row left to right – Frank Duncan, Bruce Petway, **Walter Schlichter**, Ray Wilson and James Patton. Front Row left to right – Bill Francis and Nux James.)

The Philadelphia Giants finished in second place to the Brooklyn Royal Giants as the best team in the East in 1908. Schlichter’s team could not rebound for the 1909 National Association of Colored Professional Baseball Clubs (NACBC) “league” season. The Brooklyn Royal Giants continued to dominate black baseball in the East during the 1909 season. The final “league” standings for the 1909 NACBC season were as follows: Brooklyn Royal Giants (9-3), Cuban Stars (8-5), Philadelphia Giants (6-12) and Cuban Giants (0-3).

Even though the general consensus of opinion is that the Philadelphia Giants were not the best team in the East, they did travel west to play a “championship series” against the Leland Giants. The four game series against the Leland Giants started on August 9<sup>th</sup> and ended on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The first three games were played in Detroit. The Leland Giants won the first game and the Philadelphia Giants came back to take the next three.

In the West the St. Paul Gophers, Kansas City Giants and Leland Giants all vied for the top spot. The Leland Giants had a good season. They won the prestigious Chicago City League and had an excellent record for their independent schedule. The Leland Giants did, however, face tough competition from the St. Paul Gophers and Kansas City Giants. At the end of the season both the St. Paul Gophers and Kansas City Giants claimed to be the “Champions of the West” because they both had defeated the Leland Giants.

When the series to declare a “Colored Champion” began on August 9<sup>th</sup> in Detroit (MI), the Philadelphia Giants faced the Leland Giants. The Leland Giants started the series at a significant disadvantage because Rube Foster, their manager and ace pitcher, had suffered a broken leg in July. The rosters for both teams were as follows:

<b>Philadelphia Giants</b>		<b>Leland Giants</b>	
Dan McClellan	1B	Chappie Johnson	1B
W. Nux James	2B	Harry “Mike” Moore	2B
John Henry “Pop” Lloyd	SS	George Wright	SS
Bill Francis	3B	Nathan Harris	3B
Bruce Petway	C	James “Pete” Booker	C
Pete Duncan	OF	Charles “Joe” Green	OF
Spotswood Poles	OF	Andrew “Jap” Payne	OF
E. Patton	OF	Pete Hill	OF
Charles “Bugs” Hayman	P	Pat Dougherty	P
Dan McClellan	P	Andrew “Rube” Foster	P
R. Martin	P	George “Walter” Ball	P

Dan McClellan (6 for 12), John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (6 for 13) and Nux James (5 for 13) led the Philadelphia Giants in hitting. Charles “Bugs” Hayman won games two and three to lead the way toward Philadelphia claiming the very subjective “championship.”

A summary of the series is as follows:

<b>Game</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Winning Team</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Winning Pitcher</b>	<b>Losing Pitcher</b>
1	Detroit	Aug 9 <sup>th</sup>	Leland Giants	3-1	Pat Dougherty	Dan McClellan
2	Detroit	Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	6-1	Charles Hayman	Walter Ball
3	Detroit	Aug 11 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	9-1	Charles Hayman	Moran
4	Chicago	Aug 17 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia	12-2	R. Martin	Rube Foster



**Leland Giants (1909)**

(Standing left to right – **Pete Hill**, Andrew “Jap” Payne, George Wright, Walter Ball, Charles “Pat” Dougherty, Bill Gatewood and **Andrew “Rube” Foster**. Seated left to right – Dangerfield Talbert, Harry “Mike” Moore, **Frank C. Leland**, Bobby Winston, Sam Strothers and Nate Harris)

After the Philadelphia Giants victory over the Leland Giants who were the best team in the West, Philadelphia played a seven game series against the Cuban Stars. Ironically the two eastern teams played the series in Chicago. The Cuban Stars took the first three games of the series. Philadelphia took game four by a score of 9-5. The two teams split the next two games. The Philadelphia Giants collapsed in the seven games and lost by a humiliating score of 16-6. When all was said and done, the Cuban Stars won the series five games to two wins for Philadelphia.

From the twenty-four (24) box scores and line scores that have been found for the Giants' 1909 season, the Philadelphia Giants had a won-loss record of 10-14 (.417) and were generally considered the third best team in the East. When Sol White left the Philadelphia Giants the team suffered and would never regain the prominence they had once known. Other top teams in the East during the 1909 season were the Brooklyn Royal Giants, Cuban Stars, Cuban Giants and the Quaker Giants (Philadelphia).

### The Decline Continues

Walter Schlichter's Philadelphia Giants team was already coming off a disappointing 1909 season when before the start of the 1910 season Pop Lloyd left the team. The loss of Pop Lloyd was a devastating blow to the team.

It appears that Ray Wilson and Dan McClellan both managed the Philadelphia Giants during the 1910 season. During the season Jess Barber (OF), Joseph Parks (C), Bill Pierce (1B) and Spottwood Poles (OF) carried the team offensively. Lee Wade, Dan McClellan, Jerry "Lefty" Fisher and Sy Hayman handled most of the pitching assignments.

During the 1910 season the NACBC sent the Cuban Stars and Philadelphia Giants on a Midwest barnstorming tour. The Giants started the tour strong by winning six of their first eight games but from June 11<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup> the Giants lost eight of nine games.

Walter Schlichter was faced with major problems. First the Philadelphia Giants played poorly. In addition the NACBC which was extremely important to Schlichter was in a state of collapse for the following reasons:

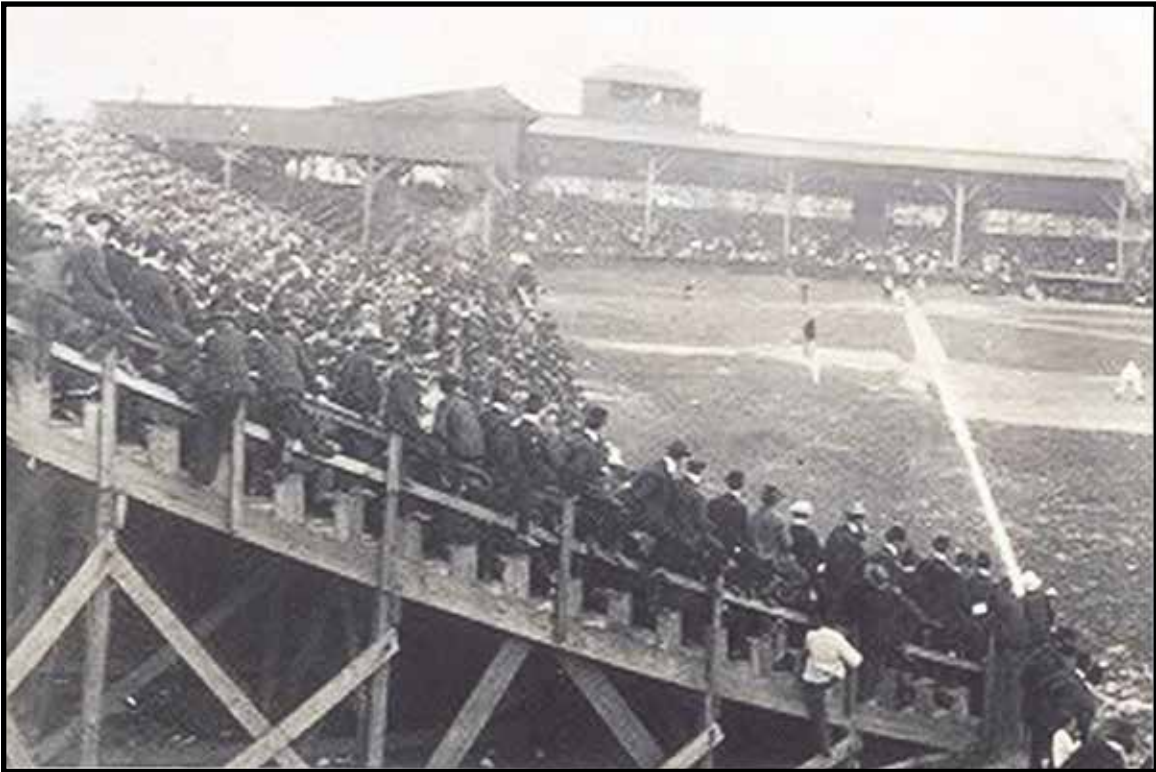
- Schlichter was spending more time trying to build his own empire in both black and white baseball than concentrating on the NACBC.
- John Connor considered pulling his Brooklyn Royal Giants from the association.
- J.M. Bright started booking his own games for the Cuban Stars.
- When Sol White and Walter Schlichter parted ways it caused a major division in the NACBC.



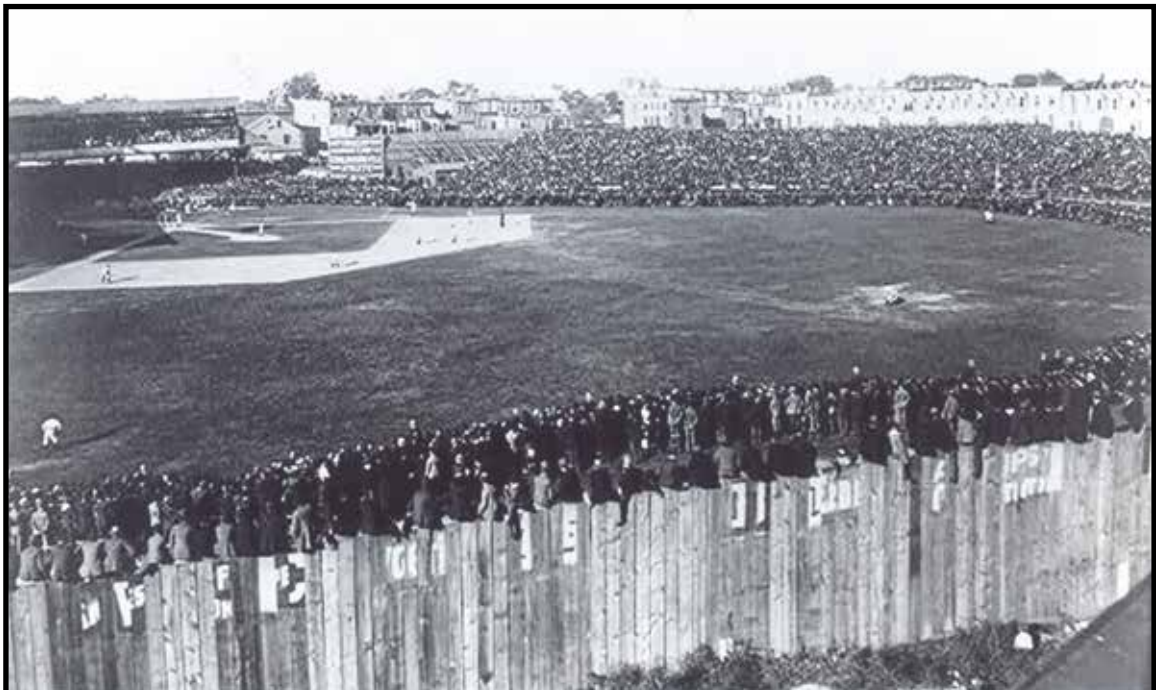
**John Henry "Pop" Lloyd**  
Philadelphia Giants

## Philadelphia Giants – Home Fields

Over the history of the Philadelphia Giants, they played home games at Columbia Park (1902-1908), Baker Bowl, American League Park (1908) and Union Park (1909-1910).



**American League Park**  
Washington, D.C.



**Union Park**  
Baltimore, MD

From the twenty-one (21) box scores and line scores that have been uncovered, the Philadelphia Giants had a losing record of 7-14 (.333). At best they were considered the third rated team in the East in 1910 behind the Brooklyn Royal Giants and Cuban Stars of Havana.

### **Walter Schlichter's Philadelphia Giants Come to an Unceremonious End**

The Philadelphia Giants started the 1911 season with thirty-eight year old Grant "Homerun" Johnson as their player/manager. During the season the Giants were led by the hitting of Grant Johnson (.323), Louis Santop (.317), Charles Thomas (.283) and Jesse Barber (.282). Grant Johnson's pitching staff seemed like a revolving door. During the 1911 season Dick "Cannonball" Redding, Morten Clark, Lorenzo Dow, Jerry Fisher, (first name unknown) Gorham, Charles. Thomas, Lee Wade and Frank "The Red Ant" Wickware all pitched for the Philadelphia Giants.

Twenty-two (22) box scores and line scores have been found so far for the Philadelphia Giants 1911 season. Their won-loss record in these games was a dismal 6-16 (.273). According to research by Gary Ashwill and his Seamheads research team, the once "Colored World's Champions" were now only the sixth best team in the East. The top teams in the East during the 1911 season were the Cuban Stars of Havana, New York Lincoln Giants, Brooklyn Royal Giants and the Cuban Giants

No longer one of the best teams in the East and forced to deal with player defections, Walter Schlichter disbanded the Philadelphia Giants according to an article that appeared in the New York Age on August 3, 1911. When the Philadelphia Giants ceased operation, they were playing with a make shift roster of lower level players (J. Addison, Tom Addison, Joe Forbes, Gorham, Holden, W. Johnson, Murphy, Shorts and Yancey) many for whom we don't even have a first name. Once the dominant team in the East, the Philadelphia Giants faded into obscurity without notice or any fan fare

### **Post Script to the Philadelphia Giants**

Another team by the name of the "Philadelphia Giants" appeared on the scene from 1913-1916. This team was reportedly owned by Nat Strong who was the leading sports promoter and controlled black baseball in the East. Strong's motivation for fielding a team in Philadelphia was very simple: he wanted to establish a market in the Philadelphia area to book baseball games. Philadelphia was a huge baseball market that was able to support two major black teams (Philadelphia Giants and Hilldale) and two Major League (Athletics and Phillies) teams. When Strong could not work out an agreement with Ed Bolden who owned and operated Hilldale, Nat decided to put his own team right in Bolden's back yard.

The 1913 Philadelphia Giants team included several quality players like Peter "Pop" Andrews (P/OF), Pete Booker (OF), Charlie Grant (2B) and Doc Sykes (P). For the most part, however, the 1913 Philadelphia Giants were only a mediocre team.

An interesting twist to Nat Strong's Philadelphia Giants team was that according to Michael Lomax's book Black Baseball Entrepreneurs: 1902-1931, Strong had Walter Schlichter manage the team. It is unclear how long Walter Schlichter managed the team for Nat Strong.

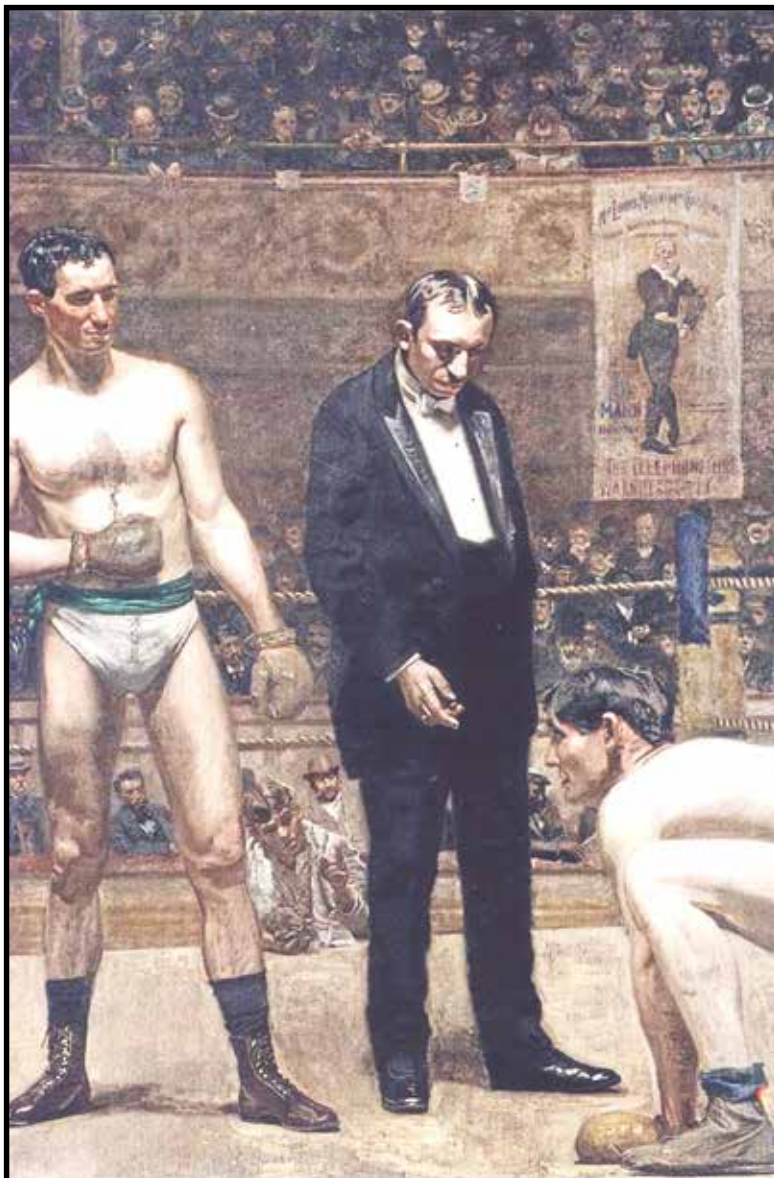
The presence of the regeneration of the Philadelphia Giants had nothing to do with building a quality baseball club. It was strictly about business, booking as many games as possible and making money. The Philadelphia Giants teams from 1913 through 1916 were definitely not a top level team. They existed for only one reason: to book and play games regardless of the outcome. To Nat Strong winning was inconsequential as long as he was making money.

## Walter Schlichter

### Career as a Boxing Referee

From 1893 to 1910 Walter Schlichter was a highly respected boxing referee. As a boxing referee he presided over 21 major fights.

Walter Schlichter's career in the boxing world was immortalized when in 1898 painter Thomas Eakins made Schlichter the focal point of his famous painting, "Taking the Count." The original of this masterpiece hangs in the Yale University Art Gallery.



**"Taking the Count"**  
by  
Thomas Eakins

## Assessing Walter Schlichter's Career

- Walter Schlichter was a **winner**. Even though his tenure in black baseball was relatively short, he was very successful. His Philadelphia Giants teams were considered one of the first dynasties in black baseball history. The Philadelphia Giants won four straight “Colored World Championship” titles from 1904-1907.

The Philadelphia Giants under the ownership and management of Walter Schlichter compiled the following won-loss records:

<b>Philadelphia Giants</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Tie</b>	<b>Pct.</b>	<b>Ranking in East</b>
1902	81	43	1	.653	-
1903	89	37	4	.706	2 <sup>nd</sup>
1904	95	41	6	.699	1 <sup>st</sup>
1905	134	24	3	.865	1 <sup>st</sup>
1906	108	31	6	.777	1 <sup>st</sup>
1907	96	26	1	.650	1 <sup>st</sup>
1908	21	18	0	.538	2 <sup>nd</sup>
1909	10	14	0	.417	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1910	7	14	0	.333	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1911	6	16	0	.273	6 <sup>th</sup>
Total	647	264	21	.710	-

(It is important to note that the won-loss records presented here from 1908-1911 are in no way considered to be complete. It is also important to consider that when Sol White left the team prior to the start of the 1909 season, the Philadelphia Giants went significantly down in stature and were only a mediocre team at best.)

During his baseball career, Walter Schlichter is credited with having won the following championships:

<b>Championships</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Championship</b>
1904	Philadelphia Giants	Colored World's Championship
1904	Philadelphia Giants	Championship of Philadelphia
1904	Philadelphia Giants	Champions of Cuba
1905	Philadelphia Giants	Colored Champions of the East
1905	Philadelphia Giants	Colored World's Championship
1906	Philadelphia Giants	International League of Independent Professional Baseball Clubs Title
1906	Philadelphia Giants	Colored World's Championship
1907	Philadelphia Giants	Colored World's Championship
1907	Philadelphia Giants	National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba Title
1908	Philadelphia Giants	Colored Champions of the East
1909	Philadelphia Giants	Colored Championship

(The 1909 championship is very questionable. It was in reality a self-proclaimed “championship” series between the Philadelphia Giants and the Leland Giants. Based on their won-loss record, Philadelphia wasn't even the best team in the East during the 1909 season and there is no way that the Leland Giants were the top team in the West.)

# H. Walter Schlichter

(Slick)

Sporting Editor *The ITEM.*

28 S. 7th St. Philadelphia

**PHONES**

BELL 1480, JAMES M. 6-26-18 W.

KEYSTONE 5-41 MAIN.

**MANAGER FOR**

**"Philadelphia" Jack O'Brien.**  
**Golden Gate Athletic Club.**  
**Lancaster Athletic Club.**  
(with H. H. Hensel)

**and**  
**Philadelphia Giants,**  
**Champion Colored Base Ball Team.**



H. Walter Schlichter  
(Slick)



"Philadelphia" Jack O'Brien

Philadelphia, September 2nd. 1902.

Mr. Nat C. Strong,  
New York,

N. Y.,

Dear Sir:-

The batting order for the Philadelphia Giants for next Sunday will be as follows: White, ss, Grant 3b, Smith cf, Day lf, Payne rf, Nelson 2b, Furns c, Farrell lb, Warrick p, Bell p, Carter p. I hope that we will have a good crowd and a good game.

Yours very truly,

*H. W. Schlichter*

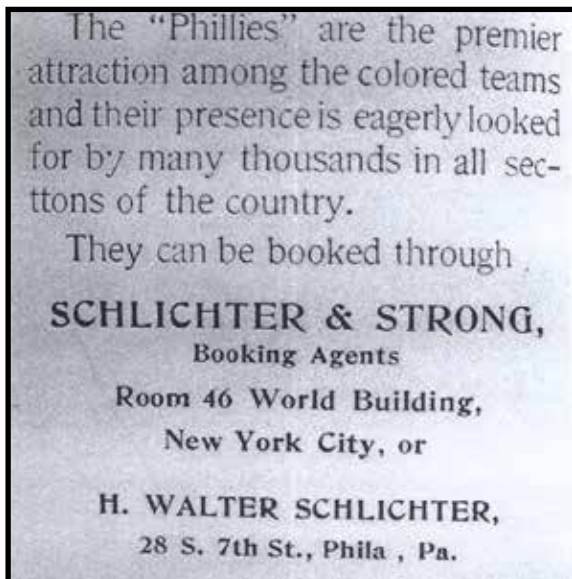
*Return this  
to me  
Nat*

**H. Walter Schlichter Letterhead**  
Featuring Walter Schlichter and "Philadelphia" Jack O'Brien

- Walter “Slick” Schlichter was considered an **outstanding baseball executive** during his career in professional baseball.
- Schlichter has always been credited as having the **ability to scout, identify and sign top quality ball players**. Some of the top players that played for the Philadelphia Giants during Walter Schlichter’s ownership of the team included: William Binga (3B/OF), Emmett Bowman (P/OF), Harry Buckner (P/OF), Charles “Kid” Carter (P), Andrew “Rube” Foster (P/OF), Charlie Grant (2B), Frank Grant (2B), Nate Harris (SS), Pete Hill (OF), George “Chappie” Johnson (C), Grant “Homerun” Johnson (SS), John Henry “Pop” Lloyd (SS), Dan McClellan (P), Bill Monroe (1B), Harry “Mike” Moore, Andrew “Jap” Payne, Bruce Petway (C), Spottswood Poles (OF), Dick “Cannonball Redding (P), Louis Santop (C), Frank “The Red Ant” Wickware (P), Sol White (1B/SS/OF) and Clarence Williams (C).

By far Slick’s best signing was Sol White in 1902 when he was first organizing the Philadelphia Giants. With Sol White as the team captain (from a practical standpoint he performed all of the duties of a team manager), the Philadelphia Giants won four straight “Colored World’s Championships” and compiled an impressive won-loss record of 350-103-11 (.773) over those four years. When Sol White left the Giants prior to the start of the 1909 season, the Philadelphia Giants were no longer a dominant force in black baseball. They became mediocre at best. From the limited number of box scores that have been found for the Philadelphia Giants for the 1909, 1910 and 1911 seasons the Giants had a losing record of 23-44 (.343). A very strong argument can be made that Sol White was the real driving force behind the success of the Philadelphia Giants. In defense of Walter Schlichter, he did hire Sol White and supported Sol’s decisions both on and off the field.

- Along with sports promoter Nat Strong, Walter Schlichter **founded the National Association of Colored Baseball Clubs of the United States and Cuba (NACBC)**. Schlichter served as the president of the “association” from 1906 through 1909.
- Schlichter was also considered an **all around sports man** who was accomplished in swimming, running, boxing and rowing. Walter also had a very successful career as a boxing referee.



- Walter Schlichter also had a very successful career as a boxing manager. His number one boxer was “Philadelphia” Jack O’Brien who compiled a record of 145-16-28 in the ring under Walter’s management. O’Brien was the Light Heavyweight Champion of the World in 1905 and has been ranked as the second best Light Heavyweight boxer of all-time. For his accomplishments in the ring, “Philadelphia” Jack O’Brien has been inducted into three different boxing halls of fame.
- Walter Schlichter was also a **very successful business man**. His relationship with sports promoter Nat Strong proved to be financially very beneficial to both parties.

## Philadelphia Giants (1910)

The Philadelphia Giants had been the “Colored Champions of the World” from 1904 through the 1907 season. By the start of the 1910 season, John Henry “Pop” Lloyd had left the team and the Philadelphia Giants were considered maybe the third best team in the East.



Philadelphia Giants (1910)

(Back row left to right – J. Addison, Bill Pierce, Jess Barbour, Lee Wade and Fisher. Middle row left to right – Unknown, Charles Thomas, **Walter Schlichter**, **Spottswood Poles** and **Dan McClellan**. Seated left to right – Bill Francis and Nux James)