

Cal McVey, old-time star, set all-time record with 12 hits in two consecutive games for Chicago N.L. in July, 1876.

1954 March 1954						
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SOUNDING OFF!

WITH
RUSS
HODGES

CHESTERFIELD'S
ACE SPORTS
BROADCASTER



Cap Anson's Great Record NEW YORK, N. Y.

I received an interesting letter from Carroll E. Cherry of Chicago, who brought to my attention an oversight in one of my recent columns. So, with apologies, I think it best that you read this information just as I received it. She wrote:

"Dear Russ Hodges:

"In your column in a recent issue of THE SPORTING NEWS I was an interested reader of your article, 'Player-Pilots a Vanishing Race.' Russ, how could you have overlooked the greatest of all player-managers from 1876 to the present day—that grand old man of baseball, Captain Adrian Constantine Anson?

"I am enclosing herein some pertinent facts concerning the Captain's career. The Cap passed on when the Great Umpire counted him out some 30 years ago. His 100th anniversary occurred on April 16, 1952. You, of course, are too young to have known the Cap personally, but you certainly must know of his great baseball prowess. After all of these years, the sports writers still write about him.

"I have several very nice letters from sports columnists of many of the metropolitan dailies. Among them are J. G. Taylor Spink of THE SPORTING NEWS, Grantland Rice and many others. A network devoted an entire broadcast to Captain Anson's career on his anniversary—quite a tribute to an old ball player who played his last game in 1897, after 22 years with the Chicago Cubs.

Five Flags as Player-Pilot

"As a player-manager, take a gander at this:

"1879 Chicago finished third, Anson batted .407 (led league).

"1880 Chicago finished first, Anson batted .338.

"1881 Chicago finished first, Anson batted .399 (led league).

"1882 Chicago finished first, Anson batted .367.

"1883 Chicago finished second, Anson batted .307.

"1884 Chicago finished fourth, Anson batted .337.

"1885 Chicago finished first, Anson batted .322.

"1886 Chicago finished first, Anson batted .371.

"1887 Chicago finished third, Anson batted .421 (led league).

"1888 Chicago finished second, Anson batted .344 (led league).

"1889 Chicago finished third, Anson batted .341.

"1890 Chicago finished second, Anson batted .311.

"1891 Chicago finished second, Anson batted .294.

"All in all, during 13 years as player-manager, he won five pennants, led the league in batting four times and had a lifetime batting average of .350 for those 13 years.

"Anson, during his 22 years of baseball, finished with a batting average of .339, certainly ranking him with the all-time greats.

"On a visit with Clark Griffith in Washington, Griff said that unquestionably Cap was the greatest batter of all time. He believes that if, in his prime, the Cap had batted against our rabbit ball, there would have been years when he would have hit .500.

"I enjoy your column and your broadcasts, and I also smoke Chesterfields.

"With kindest regards,
CARROLL E. CHERRY."

P. S.—Mrs. Cherry was Adele Anson, a daughter of the Captain.

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Yvonne De Carlo

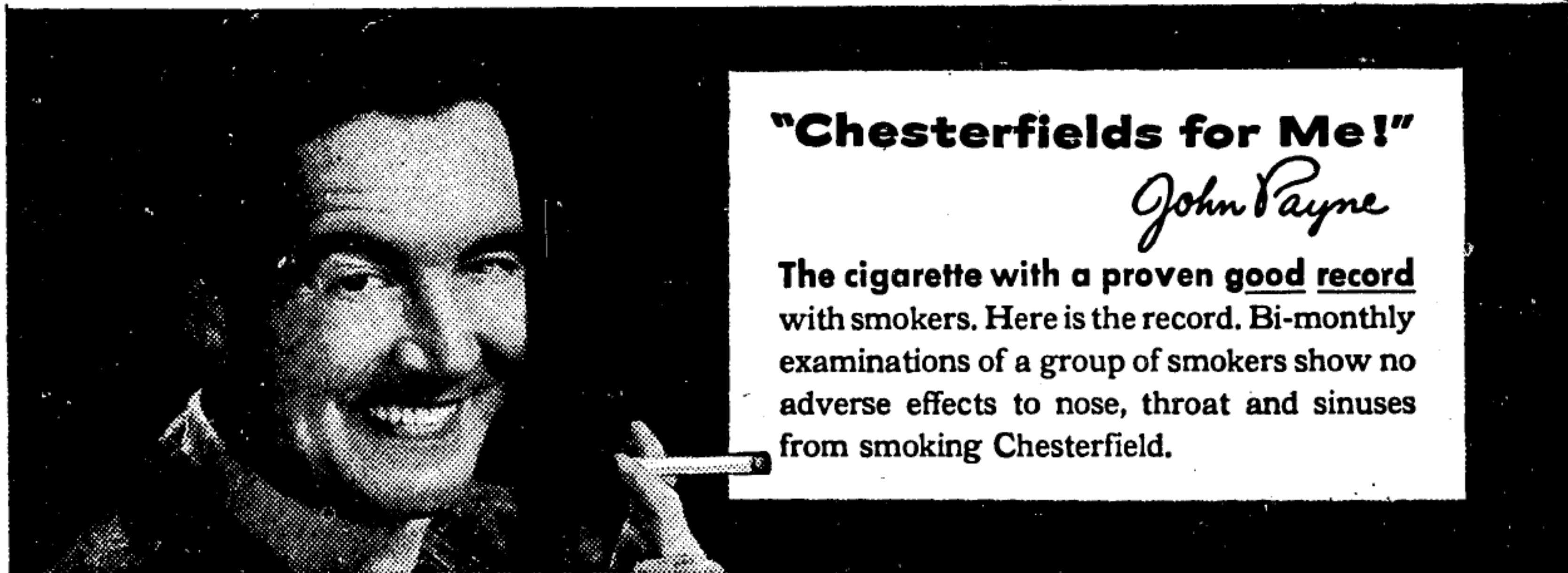
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