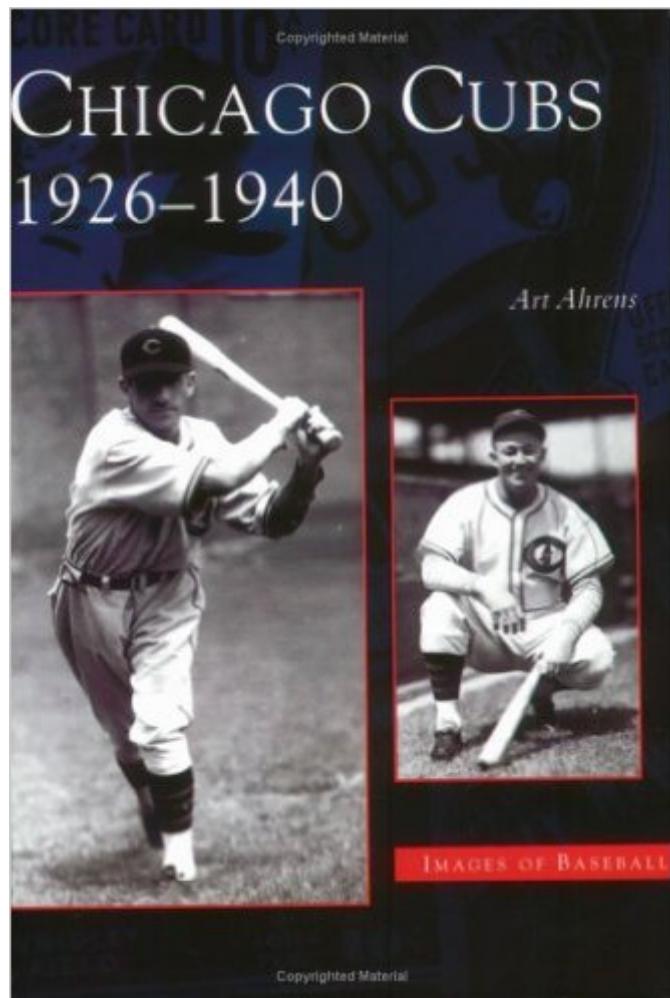


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# Chicago Cubs: 1926-1940 (IL) (Images Of Baseball)



## **Synopsis**

The Chicago Cubs of the mid-1920s through 1940 were one of the most talented and exciting ball clubs the city ever produced. The Northsiders enjoyed 14 consecutive winning seasons and claimed the National League pennant four times (1929, 1932, 1935, and 1938), but fell to a dominant American League club in each World Series appearance. Four legendary baseball names led these Cub teams during this amazing stretch. Three eventually landed in Cooperstown (McCarthy, Hornsby, Hartnett), and many believe the fourth (Grimm) should have joined them. This was also the era when Cubs Park was transformed into Wrigley Field, under the guidance of Bill Veeck Jr., with its trademark bricks and ivy, hand-operated scoreboard, and outfield bleachers.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is another great production from Ahrens who seems to have an unlimited store of knowledge and lore about not only the Cubs, but baseball in general. The pictures are quite touching and the narrative recalls an era of baseball which is lost forever. This is a "must have" for all those who love the Game and its history.

The book starts off with a picture of Cubs manager Fred Mitchell, captioned: "Fred Mitchell looks somber...in 1920, his final of four years as the team's manager. His 1918 team was a pennant winner, but the glory was fleeting". The problem is that this photo is from the Library of Congress and was in fact taken in 1918 (this is verifiable several different ways), when Mitchell was at his zenith

as the Cubs manager. On page 52 there is a nice picture of Bill Veeck Jr., labeled as Philip K. Wrigley. On page 82 is a picture of Bill Veeck Sr. as a young man, captioned "William Veeck Jr...in his later years"! Does anybody check this stuff? The pictures are great and cover an area of high interest to Cub's history fans. We do have some hits here, but also plenty of errors.

This is an entertaining and concise account of the Chicago Cubs during a more fortunate and prosperous period in franchise history. During the course of a single decade (1929-1938), the team won the National League pennant four times. Although failing to capture the World Series title, the Cubs of that era were ranked as an NL powerhouse. Art Ahrens also provides brief descriptions of Chicago's two war-time pennants (1918 and 1945). Needless to say, the team had quite a few Hall of Fame quality players in uniform during that era. There are a few errors in terms of the captions accompanying photographs. The most glaring and unintentionally funny example is that the names of Bill Veeck and Philip K. Wrigley are transposed in the photo captions. I really enjoyed the inclusion of vintage scorecard advertisements with the photos. The price lists instructed ballpark patrons to refuse to pay any more to the vendors than the published prices.

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