

MAPLE STREET PRESS
ANALYSIS | INTERVIEWS | STATS | PROSPECTS | HISTORY | PHOTOS

YANKEES ANNUAL 2011

My Turn
Robinson Cano is poised to become the next Yankee great

PITCH-BY-PITCH SCOUTING

PHIL HUGHES Q&A

BIG STEIN'S LEGACY

Measuring the Mick's East

October 2011, May 21, 2011
\$12.95/US\$14.95
1-708-933-3411

THE GREATEST GAME EVER PLAYED

Seizing the 1921 pennant

by Lyle Spatz and Steve Steinberg

The year for the 1921 pennant was one of the most thrilling in New York Yankees history, and was the most captivating for the team since 1904. It all faded down to four games against the Cleveland Indians at the finish line of the season, divided into 100 innings from the last 1921. The Yankees, the Giants, and the Battle for Baseball Supremacy in New York by Lyle Spatz and Steve Steinberg. (Reprinted by permission of the University of Minnesota Press.)

The five-game showdown at the Polo Grounds would start with the Yankees leading by a winning percentage of 1.000. Unnecessary being in the air. "There is no sailing from one inning to the next year when a Yankee pitcher will do these days," wrote Harry Schomer on the eve of the series. He went on to predict that the team with the average—or the "less inferior"—pitching would win the series. The Cleveland Elmer Duder achieved it did not know who would win the American League pennant. But the player did know that the Indians would fight until the last out of the series. "The Indians are a team which never quits. They do not leave home."

They would have to know how to win without their leader on the playing field. The Yellie announced that The Spitzer probably would see play at New York. The Yankees would be without Frank Baker; his number had died on Thursday. This came on top of the death of Jim with a year before and his number (16) earlier in the year.

A World Series-like atmosphere permeated the series. The Yankee office was besieged for tickets, but the reserved seats were sold out early in the week. About 20,000 grandstand and lobbyist tickets would go on sale before each game on a first come, first served basis.

A crowd estimated at between 12,000 and 16,000 fans turned out for the first game on Friday, September 21.

Maple Street Press | 103