

= How Brown Saw the Baseball Game =

How Brown Saw the Baseball Game , also known as How Jones Saw the Baseball Game , is an American short comedy film produced in 1907 and distributed by the Lubin Manufacturing Company . The film follows a baseball fan , named Mr. Brown , who drinks large quantities of alcohol before a baseball game and becomes so intoxicated that the game appears to him in reverse motion . During production , trick photography was used to achieve this effect .

The film was released in November 1907 . It received positive reviews in a 1908 issue of The Moving Picture World , a film journal , that reported the film was successful and " truly funny . " As of 2015 it is unclear whether a print of the film has survived . The identities of the film 's cast and production crew are not known . Film historians have noted similarities between the plot of How Brown Saw the Baseball Game and the Edwin S. Porter @-@ directed comedy film How the Office Boy Saw the Ball Game released the previous year .

= = Plot = =

Before heading out to a baseball game at a nearby ballpark , sports fan Mr. Brown drinks several highball cocktails . He arrives at the ballpark to watch the game , but has become so inebriated that the game appears to him in reverse , with the players running the bases backwards and the baseball flying back into the pitcher 's hand . After the game is over , Mr. Brown is escorted home by one of his friends . When they arrive at Brown 's house , they encounter his wife who becomes furious with the friend and proceeds to physically assault him , believing he is responsible for her husband 's severe intoxication .

= = Production = =

How Brown Saw the Baseball Game was produced by Lubin Manufacturing Company , a company founded by German @-@ American film pioneer Siegmund Lubin . At the time How Brown Saw the Baseball Game was made , the company was creating and distributing up to three films a week . The identities of How Brown Saw the Baseball Game 's director and cast are not known .

It is a silent film shot in black and white , and the finished product comprised 350 feet (110 m) of film . For the scenes which took place at the ballpark , the filmmakers used a form of trick photography in order to show the baseball players running backwards . Siegmund Lubin filed a copyright for the film , under the alternate title How Jones Saw the Baseball Game , on October 26 , 1907 .

= = Release and reception = =

How Brown Saw the Baseball Game was released into theaters by Lubin Manufacturing Company on November 16 , 1907 , and was still being shown as late as August 1908 . During this time , the film sometimes was presented as part of a double feature with the 1907 film Neighbors Who Borrow , a short comedy film about a man who lends nearly everything he owns to his neighbors until his wife returns home and berates him for doing so .

Advertisements for the film touted it as " such fun " , and Lubin himself promoted the film as a " screamingly funny farce " . It received a positive review in the June 1908 issue of The Moving Picture World which described the film as " truly funny " and that it proved to be " a veritable success " .

Modern writings have often suggested that How Brown Saw the Baseball Game was produced as Lubin Manufacturing Company 's alternative to the Edwin S. Porter @-@ directed comedy How the Office Boy Saw the Ball Game , a film released by Edison Studios in 1906 about an office employee sneaking out of his workplace to watch a baseball game only to discover his employer in a nearby seat . Lubin Manufacturing Company was known for creating films similar to competing motion pictures made by other studios . Lubin had previously created films resembling Edison Studios '

releases Uncle Tom 's Cabin and The Great Train Robbery .

Author Jack Spears wrote in his book Hollywood : The Golden Era that How Brown Saw the Baseball Game and How the Office Boy Saw the Ball Game " used practically the same plot " ; Rob Elderman 's article " The Baseball Film : to 1920 " in the journal Base Ball likewise notes the similarities of their plotlines .

As of August 2015 , it was unclear whether there is a surviving print of How Brown Saw the Baseball Game ; it has likely become a lost film . If rediscovered , the film would be in the public domain .