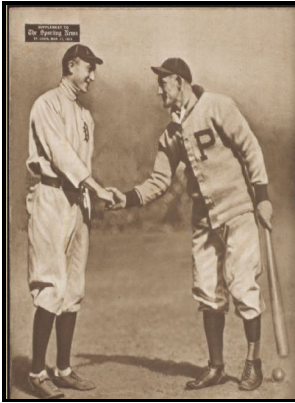


# Inside baseball - a half century of the national pastime.

Grosset & Dunlap - Baseball is the National Pastime



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## America's Favorite Pastime

Pittsfield can now lay claim as the birthplace of baseball, at least until the next discovery proves otherwise. White is also strong on the pervasiveness of gambling and game-throwing, and how baseball's barons responded by inventing the rhetoric of its pure, pastoral roots. Despite shrinking attendance and ratings, baseball is flush with cash.

### •the national pastime — BEN SAKOGUCHI

Bunting was very common, and doubles and triples were more heralded than home runs which during this era were almost exclusively of the inside-the-park variety. The court, led by Oliver Wendell Holmes, gave baseball anti-trust exemption because, in short, it provided services not goods. At times, though, it feels as if Florio and Shapiro couldn't quite decide whether to focus on baseball or social history.

## Baseball

Two of the greatest rivals in the history of sports competed in two games over the weekend, and it felt like much of the sports world barely noticed. On February 18, 1898, less than two months after the game, the Maine exploded and sank in Havana harbor, lighting the fuse for the Spanish-American War.

## Baseball History

Like a character actor who absorbs the identity of each role, DeLillo disappears in his writing by creating a credible voice in each book, whether writing about rock stars, football, or the Rev.

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