

under General Manager Larry MacPhail, red-haired banker's son, tried out a few night games. They were a success. Last year MacPhail, as vice president of the Brooklyn club, introduced the game at Ebbets Field, where a \$110,000 floodlight system was installed. Some clubowners are still against night baseball, but the sound of clicking turnstiles in parks where lights are turned on is tending to change their minds.

Night Ball

Seven hundred and eighty big arc lamps were turned on one night last week over the baseball diamond at Philadelphia's Shibe Park, transforming darkness into a sort of super-day. Somewhat uncertainly, the world champion New York Yankees trotted out upon the field to play their first game under artificial light. The largest crowd of the season for the City of Brotherly Love—33,074—was on hand to enjoy the spectacle of the New York team bowing in defeat to the hometown Athletics.

After the game the Yankees talked up their experience. They did not have much enthusiasm for the "synthetic sport." The ball seemed to travel faster under the lamps; it favored the pitcher; it had to be fielded more quickly and cautiously. Some didn't like the idea of having to wait for supper until after the game at 1 A. M.

From the box office standpoint the game was a decided success, confirming the argument of those who hold that night baseball has "glamour" and freshness, catches the interest and best leisure of the fans. The game was first played under electric light in 1930 by the minor leagues and is credited with having tided them over the depression.

The first major league club to break the century-old tradition of afternoon baseball was Cincinnati, which in 1935,