

Miscellaneous Price Guide

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PR 3 Orbit Gum (unnumbered)	
Common	25.00
Common (not known as numbered)	30.00
Hall of Famer	40.00
PR 4 Drawings	
Set of 25	250.00
Common	8.00
Hall of Famer	15.00
Gehrig	40.00
PT-1 Blue Label	
Common	350.00
Hall of Famer	500.00
PR-2 Luxello	
Common	150.00
Hall of Famer	250.00

T206 Larry Doyle

Larry Doyle played major league baseball for fourteen years, mostly with the New York Giants. He amassed nearly 2,000 hits and had a lifetime .290 batting average. He was an excellent contact hitter and batted over .300 five times. He had 40 doubles one year, 25 triples in another and led the league in hitting in yet another. None of these achievements gave him much notoriety, but some eighty years later, a baseball card threatens to make Larry Doyle famous.

Slow Joe Doyle pitched across the river from Larry Doyle for the New York Yankees. He had one mediocre season in a less than mediocre career. He won 22 games lifetime and lost the same number. Baseball card collectors knew Joe Doyle because he had always been believed to be the fourth Doyle in the famous T206 set. The card that didn't have the league designation. Now, eighty years later, more knowledge about that card is taking away Joe Doyle's claim to fame.

Research had proven the first Doyle card, showing him in a throwing position, to be the most difficult. It was issued in the 150 Series and never repeated. Two Doyles were issued in the 350 Series, the batting pose and the pitching pose. The former was issued later in the next series. The latter, curiously, was issued without the league designation that was common to the other Doyles. The final Doyle, the portrait, was in the last ("460") series of T206. It was suspected by some collectors that the Doyle without the league designation was Joe Doyle. Just because it was different. The fact that the player illustrated on the "N.Y." only card, looked just like the other Doyles, carried little importance. Only one person knew with certainty that the Doyle was Larry of the National League Giants. That was Larry Fritsch of Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

In early 1987 Bill Huggins, a dealer from Maryland, purchased a group of T206's. Going through the cards he noticed something unusual about the Doyle, pitching pose card, it had a league designation. The caption read "DOYLE, N.Y. NAT'L" instead of the usual "DOYLE N.Y." Huggins had several advanced dealers confirm the find and he auctioned the card. While there was no doubt as to the authenticity of the card there was a lot of skepticism. After all, in all this time, Why hadn't one surfaced before? Others thought even if it were real it was only a printing freak. Jim Beckett of the Sport Americana Price Guide indicated he wouldn't list the card if there was only one copy known. The card was auctioned and brought what most felt was an exorbitant price - \$10,000! Time revealed that Larry Fritsch had purchased the card and that he had a remarkable advantage over every other bidder. He already had the card. He was the only one who knew that it wasn't a one-of-a-kind freak.



A private conversation with Fritsch indicated he had found one in a collection several years prior in a situation not unlike the way Huggins had uncovered his. He indicated he had advertised in the hobby press for years offering to buy all T206 Doyle cards, keeping the knowledge of what he was looking for to himself. He indicated he went through thousands of Doyle cards without finding another "DOYLE N.Y. NAT'L". He now had two after the Huggins auction. Only when Fritsch revealed that he had a second Doyle card did the hobby know that the card was a genuine rarity.

A third copy of Doyle "walked in" to the National Convention at Atlantic City. When auctioned again, this card, though in slightly lesser condition than the other two, brought \$19,000. This was thought to be highest price for a baseball card, other than the T206 Honus Wagner. There's little doubt the Doyle is a legitimate rarity. It's likely that some others will be found in the next few years. New finds of T206 are still commonplace. Some feel the publicity afforded the card will result in many being found, but the lack of success Fritsch had over the years when he had exclusive knowledge, make this optimistic.

R328 U.S. Caramel #16 Discovered!

One of the more important card discoveries of recent years was made by a midwest autograph collector. No one had ever completed the alleged 32 card U.S. Caramel set. The problem was number 16. Early hobby checklists carried the card as Joe Kuhel. The problem was, not only did any collector report having the card, no collector could even recall even seeing it. The only explanation for Kuhel, as illogical as it was, was that he was #16 in 1934 Goudey. Similar to R300 George Miller, the U.S. Caramel set made a premium offer for collectors completing the set. Send in all 32 cards and win a prize! In the George Miller issue, one card, Ivy Andrews, was extraordinarily difficult. Obviously, the company wasn't interested in getting many winners.

There are still several sets where specific cards are not known. The number 15 card in V117 Maple Crispette has never been seen, a card with an "H" on the rear of E285 Rittenhouse (as mentioned earlier), etc. Some collectors speculated that U.S. Caramel was even less interested - having completely ignored the moral responsibility to print a card with number 16.

The find was apparently 81 cards. All cancelled with two

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