MAY, 1914



ED. WALSH of the Chicago WHITE SOX will teach you the detail of his Spit Ball

World Champions will teach you his great secret of breaking over his world JOE WOOD famous Smoke Ball.

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BOYS We are able to offer you the most complete and fascinating course of baseball ever compiled. In this course CHRISTY MA-THEWSON of the N. Y. Giants; ED. WALSH of the White Sox; WALTER JOHNSON of the Washingtons; JOE WOOD of the Boston World Champions; "NAP"

The Commoner

Learn

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WALTER JOHNSON of the Washingtonians will teach you how to acquire and maintain Speed

RUCKER of the Brooklyns and "DOC" WHITE formerly of the Chicago Americans, will through personal and direct lessons teach you the secret of Professional Pitching.

Every boy should have this course. It will make a man of him mentally, morally and physically.

will teach you the mastery of CHRISTY MATHEWSON NAP RUCKER his famous of the N. Y. GIANTS will explain fully his Fadeaway Ball Knuckler. Every mother should urge her son TO SECURE IT and EVERY father should insist that his son follow its

"Nap"

Rucker

of the Brooklyns

teachings to the letter. We give here small portions of Doc White's lesson which deals in part with proper methods of training and living. We also give part of the introductory paragraph of Ed. Walsh's instructions.

Our First Lesson

Our first lesson will be by "DOC" WHITE, Our first lesson will be by "DOC" WHITE, prefaced by some timely advice on physical condition—how to get it and how to keep it. No one is better qualified to give you advice on this most important matter than is "Doc" White. He is a college bred man, who by using his brains, devised a secret, self-teach-ing system that enabled him to blossom out over night with that rifle-shot control of the ball that has ever since been a terror to the best and surest batters. Read carefully and follow faithfully his advice on getting into condition and conserving your health, wind, sight and energy—then follow and practice his system of gaining control of the ball.

Lesson Number 1

By G. HARRIS WHITE "DOC" WHITE

In this lesson I will talk "right off the bat" in plain, short English. Let's begin by admitting that Baseball is the Great Ameri-can Game. Why? You will say-because it is the most popular-everybody plays it or is interested in it. A good reason, but here is a better one: Listen: It is the best builder of health (mental and physical), and a tre-mendous moral force. It is a game that will mendous moral force. It is a game that will mendous moral force. It is a game that with not stand for whisky, cigarettes, profanity, vulgarity, cowardice, dishonesty, anger, dis-courtesy and lack of respect for superiors-mot to mention a long list of minor faults and frailties. Exceptional playing talent sometimes gets a man of questionable habits or character into a club, but he must "clean and" from the moment he dons and reform from the moment he dons the uniform. Unless he does so, he is simply

Some of "Doc" White's Instructions for Shadow Pitching



a "flash and a sputter" and goes back where he belongs, and is out of baseball for keeps. he belongs, and is out of baseball for keeps. To be a good ball player you must be a good man or boy physically. This is simply a matter of right living and faithful practice. Good pitchers are not often men of excep-tional strength, but they are always good and fit men physically. Pitchers must have the pliable, sinewy, resilient muscles that en-dure, rather than the bulky masses that are capable of tremendous excrtion that cannot be sustained or quickly repeated. Below I will note a few simple rules to be followed which if faithfully undertaken will bring about your physical fitness in the very shortest time in which it can be done. As many of my readers have not attained their full maturity, I will particularly keep them in mind in my advice, so that any boy or youth as well as men can easily follow it. SHADOW PITCHING. There is a name SHADOW PITCHING. There is a name

SHADOW PITCHING. There is a name I have carried under my vest for a long time. It made a pitcher of me and gave me that control of the ball that has turned the scale many a time against the best batters and players in the big leagues. Not every man can be a "SPEED KING," but any man who has "CONTROL" can be a suc-cessful pitcher. A slow ball and control are a far better combination than fast balls and passed balls and a few walks to first base. A base on balls is practically a hit—it gives the batsman just as good a title to "first sack" as if he had knocked the stitches out of the first ball pitched. "When I joined fast company I was a raw recruit—just a good prospect. On the first trip of the club around the circuit I was not considered worth a ticket, and was left at home with the cripples and with instructions to practice with anyone who wanted exercise.

This gave me something of a jolt and time to think. It also gave me a realization that some day, in a ono-sided game, the "Boss" would send me to the mound, and that my fate depended upon my showing him some-thing when that day came. Control of the ball and how to get it was my problem, and after heavy drafts on my gray matter and much experimenting, this is how I solved it:

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Complete details of shadow pitching are given in the complete course of instructions

Introductory to Ed. Walsh's Contributions to This Course of Lessons

By ED. WALSH

By ED. WALSH For eight long years the spitter has been my stock in trade. With its aid I have won more games in one season than any pitcher of modern times. It helped me to do my share in one American League Championship, one World's Championship and in two series of games for the Championship of Chicago. Having thorough., mastered control of this style of twirling, I have, for many years, been able to go in and finish (and sometimes save) games for my team with little or no time devoted to "warming up," and I count this one of the very valuable features of the spit ball. The change from a fast ball, a curve or a cross fire (left-handed), is so radi-cal that it is an easy matter to baffle the most dangerous opponents if one has con-trol. That last word is the secret of my suc-

The full instructions of Ed. Walsh are in cluded in the course and are marvelous in the extreme.



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