

CLEANLINESS OF LIFE

Walter Johnson's Only Vice Is That of Chewing Gum.

One of Explanations of Big Fellow's Remarkable Climb From Gem State Bushes to "Higher-Ups"—Developed in Idaho.

"And his worst habit is to chew gum."
The Idaho fans were wont to say this of Walter Johnson, the wizard pitcher of the American league, after he had gone from the Gem state "bush" to the "higher-ups." Briefly, it is one of the explanations of the big fellow's remarkable climb and is a strong argument for the "form player" in baseball.

Of course, hitting the peeps is not a bad habit, and, other than winning games, it was, in Johnson's day of baseball infancy, his only regular custom—perhaps still is—for we hear of the California youth doing things on the diamond that none save a man in perfect condition could accomplish, and it is no secret that mingling with the big boys changed Johnson not a bit. Egotism will never get him.

Walter Johnson is another achievement of the great West, where we do more than exist—we live, writes a Boise (Idaho) correspondent in the Detroit Free Press. What if the "phenom" was overlooked around Los Angeles—his own "diggin's"? He developed in Idaho, and that's some state, too, for developing, also for things that have their growth. It was there that Mr. Success brought out his ladder for Walter Johnson to climb. It was not of the ten or twelve-rung va-



Walter Johnson.

riety; it was of the extension sort, and it did not take long for the California lad to extend it to its limit.

Let us forget—it was Walter Johnson who broke the world's record for shutouts by pitching 72 innings without a score against him. In truth, it was in a sagebrush league, for if ever there was such it is in Idaho, where they make the native bush serve even to the length of growing hair on bald heads. But it mitigates from the record not one whit, for anyone familiar with baseball kinks knows it would be just as much a record if made in the big leagues.

It is a rare combination that figures in the success of Walter Johnson, and it offers a strong argument for cleanliness of mind and body in sports. Johnson keeps in perfect physical condition, and his mind is one of those open books that any might read with profit. Always fair, he never "crabs" nor "lays down," but gives his best at all times. Popular? Well, the word hardly is big enough to fit his case.

GRIFFITH HITS AT SPITBALL

Manager of Washington Team Says Delivery Is Not Natural and Is Cause of Errors.

Clark Griffith is against the spitball. He is hoping for and predicting the day when it will be legislated out of baseball. Says he: "If I had my choice of the two evils, I'd pick the emery ball. The spitball isn't any more of a natural delivery than the emery ball and it's more offensive. The spit on the ball causes a lot of errors when fielders make wild throws grabbing the ball at the slippery spot. It spoils clean fielding and therefore has a tendency to hurt the game."

PLAYER 'TURNED WRONG' WAY

Fred Snodgrass Declared Out After Making Safe Hit—Ambled Leisurely Toward Second.

It's been a long time since a player was called out for "turning wrong" after reaching first base, but that's what happened to Fred Snodgrass in a game in the recent Boston-Philadelphia series. Fred hit a single and ambled down to first, then leisurely walked off toward second without returning to touch the base. The ball, returned from the outfield, was put on him and the umpire said he was out, in spite of Boston protests.

FORMER NEW YORKERS ON PACIFIC COAST



FIGHTING FOR CHAMPIONSHIP IN CALIFORNIA.

Two former managers of the New York Americans are having a battle out on the Pacific coast. They are Harry Wolverton and Frank Chance. Wolverton is the manager of the San Francisco club, and Chance is the leader of Los Angeles. Their teams are having a fight for the leadership of the league. Both are of the aggressive type and there should be some lively times out on the coast if the battle should come down to a close finish between these teams.

GLEASON HAS SHARP TONGUE

Goals to Relief of White Sox Twirler When Manager Jennings Was Getting His Goat.

"Kid" Gleason, formerly assistant manager and general factotum of the White Sox, is noted for the sharpness of his repartee on the ball field. Manager Jennings of the Detroit Tigers had occasion to feel the sting of Gleason's tongue just before the veteran left the Chicago club. Huhle, it must be remembered, has been involved in two serious accidents, each of which nearly terminated his career. First he dived into the swimming pool at Cornell when there was no water in it, breaking bones innumerable and having to stay in bed for weeks while the doctors patched him up. Later he drove his automobile off a bridge near Scranton and hurt himself so badly that he was in a hospital for a couple of months. Gleason, of course, knew all about these two accidents and when the time came he reminded Jennings of them in a way more pointed than polite.

The Detroit manager was coaching one afternoon and had taken occasion to make a number of extremely personal remarks to the Chicago pitcher. He plainly was "getting the slabman's goat," and Gleason was quick to come to the rescue.

"Why, you freckle-faced ape," he yelled to Huhle. "You have a fine chance to be kidding anybody. You tried twice to commit suicide and your skull was so thick you couldn't go through with it!"—The American Boy.

WHITTED PLAYS STAR GAME

Outfielder Covers Much More Ground Than Last Season—Has Been Big Help to Moran.

George Whitted has played sterling ball for the Phils all season. He covers much more ground than he did last season because Moran does not shift him around. He has played first this year, but that was solely because Luderus was injured. Constant duty in



George Whitted.

left has given Whitted the hand of the shop and he is a much better guardian of the pasture as a result. Whitted's brilliant maneuvers have been a big help to Moran. He has won several games by his clever inside play. He has stolen home, worked the squeeze play at a critical juncture and belted out a home run just when it was needed. He won three games right in a row for Alexander by his brilliant performances.

BASEBALL NOTES

Bullet Joe Bush suddenly has lost his baffling curve.

Ball players will grab rifles and go to war if General Funston puts the umps in front of them.

Habit is a bad thing. Now the poor old Reds are making a runaway race of it for last place.

St. Louis umpires would be safe from Mound City mobs if they used insect powder shooters.

Willie Mitchell, recently of the Indians, has promised to show himself a winner with the Tigers.

Fred Toney's alleged crack about the Reds being an egg team may hatch out a brood of trouble.

Drugs have leaped from 100 to 600 per cent in value, yet you see a lot of players who are full of hop.

Wilbert Robinson believes he is one of the best utility outfielders in the major league in "Jimmy" Johnston.

Derrill Pratt, second baseman of the St. Louis Browns, has swung into his old stride, batting and fielding in top form.

Baseball fans in Philadelphia are thinking of getting up a ninth place in the American league for C. Mack's Athletics.

There are those people in Cleveland who opine that if Lee Fohl were in the boxing business he could make a champion out of Carl Morris.

John J. McGraw, manager of the Giants, must often be surprised at the views of John J. McGraw, journalist, on the great American pastime.

Evidently it doesn't matter who does the pitching or what class of players makes up the team, the Reds remain the same old pennant winners in the spring.

Outfielder Jimmy Murray, who dropped from the American league to Class AA, then A and then B, is now playing in the Class D Central Texas league.

Big league magnates have added the letter "E" to the scoreboards to signify errors, and "H" to indicate hits. If "B" meant a boner, it would be a busy "B."

"You can't have it," said the national commission to the Brooklyn club, referring to \$75,293.81 the Dodgers wanted from the Newark Internationals.

There is an eight-club baseball league in England now. It is made up of teams from Canadian regiments and Americans living in London. No stops for tea.

There are many things worse than sitting on a jury. Sitting through a ball game, for instance, when the visitors are getting all the breaks and the best of the umpiring.

If the other Cincinnati pitchers could win as regularly as "Fred" Toney, Herzog's aggregation would be a first division proposition.

Carroll, the Tufts college catcher taken on by Connie Mack, probably will play no more ball this season. He is suffering from an internal trouble that will require a surgical operation.

MOST ACCIDENTS IN HOMES

Majority of Injuries Can Be Traced to the Carelessness of Individuals.

The "safety first" movement is ordinarily understood to mean caution in public, in crossing streets or boarding cars, or carefulness in the factory in handling tools or machinery, but, according to the report of the coroner of Cook county, Illinois, there is more need for "safety first" methods in the home than in the street or factory. In 11 years of the Chicago coroner's incumbency the total number of deaths by accident investigated by his office was 29,864. Of these 15,241 were "accidents at home" and 14,623 "outside the home."

Most of the accidents at home are traceable to carelessness. Burns and scalds caused many deaths. Asphyxiation, poisoning, suffocation, falls, exposure and neglect, careless use of matches, firearms, gas and oil stoves, gasoline, liquid stove polish, defective stovepipes and flues, soot, etc., cost thousands of lives. In Cook county in 1915, 105 children under five years of age were killed by scalds and burns.

PORT OF MISSING WHEELS

Writer Throws Some New Light on the Eventual Fate of Bicycles.

Perhaps you have wondered what has become of all the old bicycles. Not so long ago everybody had one—father, mother, children and aunts from the country. And then, in the night, motor cars got cheaper and all the bicycles disappeared. Like the Palm Beach suits they are all here in Florida. There are bicycles everywhere, on the flat, hard beautiful roads, on the curbstones, lending against the piazzas, in the streets. If the motor car has swept them from the northern streets, it has not done that here. Men, women and children on bicycles whirl about the streets, tingling their little bells and the motor-car drivers look out for them. Just beyond the veranda at Palm Beach were hundreds of bicycles waiting to be hired. Out on the shaded roads were other hundreds bearing their gaily attired burdens.

In the lobby, where I was making my way to the desk, were dozens of women dressed for wheeling.—Margaret Tuttle, in Saturday Evening Post.

Cockroach a Troubler.

Recently while inspecting a large plant attention was called to a peculiar incident. On a branch circuit there was some peculiar trouble. Fuses would blow out at various intervals running from one-half to twenty-four hours, says the Popular Science Monthly. At first no attention was paid, but when the ground detector started to show signs of trouble, first on one side and then on the other, an investigation was made. Covers were removed from the outlet boxes and from one box a shower of live and dead cockroaches fell on the head of the examiner. On looking into the box, it was found that the insulation around the joints and especially at the points had been entirely eaten away, the vibration doing the rest toward creating the trouble.

Taking No Chance.

Mr. Robbins came home well pleased with his achievement at the employment agency.

"I engaged two cooks today," he said.

"Why two?" said the wife. "We need only one."

"I know," said Mr. Robbins, "but one comes tomorrow, the other a week from tomorrow."—Pall Mall Gazette.

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