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GOLF HELPS BATTING

Tris Speaker Declares It Great Aid to Ball Player.

Keeps Chap on Keen Edge and Gives Just the Mild Exercise Needed—Ty Cobb Was Golf Bug Until Last Summer.

Tris Speaker says that golf playing is the best game in the world for a ball player. It helps his batting eye, keeps a chap on edge and gives just the mild exercise a player needs, in the opinion of the famous batsman. Tris played golf every time he could get a chance last season. He often motored to one of the many Cleveland courses just as soon as he had finished his breakfast, negotiated the 18 holes and returned for lunch, feeling just as fit as a fiddle and ready for a strenuous afternoon at League park.

Ty Cobb, another mighty club swinger, was a golf bug until last year, when he was on the links but very little. Ty feared too much playing would affect his hitting. Speaker led the American league in batting last season. He believes that playing golf helped him do it, and proposes to mix golf with baseball this year.

Few managers object to their players taking a shot at golf—some of them advise it. Bowling, too, is a sport ball players have taken up with a vengeance, and there are a number of high-class pin-smashers among the big leaguers.

Fred Falkenberg, formerly of the Cleveland club, was better than the average bowler. Ray Morgan of the Washington Senators is a star. Southpaw Eddie Plank of the St. Louis Browns is also a good man and holds the record at duck pins for the only



Tris Speaker.

alleys in Gettysburg, Pa., his home town. Many players do not care for the big pins—they would rather shoot at the ducks because the size and weight of the ball is nearer the weight of a baseball.

Basketball and football are positively under the ban for the professional ball players. There is too much danger of injury in both of these games, especially basketball as played by some of the semipro teams in the East.

Ball players themselves have come to realize that they owe it to themselves to sidestep all dangerous sports during the off season. There are few who are willing to take such chances these days, for competition is always keen, and unless a player reports in fit shape to start the season there is usually somebody else to step right into his shoes.

INVITE SWEDES TO AMERICA

Bohlén and Zanders, Two Fast Runners, Asked to Compete in National Indoor A. A. U.

With the idea of encouraging international competition, the Amateur Athletic union has invited A. Bohlén and J. Zanders, two of Sweden's best runners, to compete in the national indoor A. A. U. championship games in New York on March 17.

George F. Pawling of Philadelphia, who sailed on the steamer Kristinafjord for Stockholm, carried the invitation of the A. A. U. officials.

PROFESSOR SIGNS AS SCOUT

Charles Kelchner, in Charge of Athletics at Albright College, to Work for St. Louis.

Prof. Charles S. Kelchner of Albright college, has signed a contract to again act as scout for the St. Louis club of the American league. Professor Kelchner is in charge of athletics at Albright and will take up his scouting duties with the close of the college baseball season early in June.

Cullop Leads Southpaws. Nick Cullop was one of the leading southpaw pitchers in the American league last season.

There is certainly a lot of punch to things around here—even the typewriters.

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