

ADVICE TO AMATEURS--BY SILK O'LOUGHLIN

Noted Umpire Tells Young Players Some Things They Should Learn As Amateurs.

Many players come into the game only to be turned back because they did not keep their eyes and ears open and their heads at work as amateurs.

Take the pitchers. Most of them rely upon speed and curves and not enough on control, change of pace AND the eight men behind them.

They win on the lots, but do not when they become professionals, unless they use their heads as well as their hands and feet.

League players are usually good waiters. They will get the young pitcher "in a hole" and then he has to put the ball over.

Such things as knowing the batter's weakness, making him hit bad ones, pulling him off his balance with a clever change of pace, are as Greek to the average young pitcher breaking into the game.

Keeping runners close to the bases is another thing the amateur should learn. He should develop a motion that deceives the runner and catch him flat-footed.

The clever major league pitcher works with his infield all of the time. In a pinch, if he has good control, he delivers the ball so the batter will pop up an infield fly or hit a weak roller that is easily handled.

By pitching over the inside or the outside corner when a batter is trying to sacrifice, the pitcher can make him bunt in a desired direction and thus force the runner. These things are part of the education of the major leaguer, but there is no reason why the amateurs should not learn them.

How many amateurs or semi-professionals go to first base at full speed, head up and watching the ball? The majority duck their head and don't think of the ball. They tear across the base, and the pitcher, by turning to the left to gain 15 or 20 feet toward second in case the ball is fumbled, or loosely handled.

The batter should ALWAYS make the turn toward second, to be in a position to continue if opportunity offers. He should size up the situation quickly and act without hesitation. Often, when the chances are even, his speed causes a hurried throw and he is safe when he hesitated, he would have been an easy out for the pitcher.

The runner should ALWAYS watch the ball. Going toward second or third, the ball being returned from the outfield, he can judge upon which side the infielder will receive the sphere and by sliding for the opposite side of the base, may avoid being touched.

With a runner on, none being out, the batter is ordered to sacrifice. The pitcher endeavors to make him bunt along third, for instance. The instant the ball is pitched, he dashes in the direction he knows the ball will roll. If he has planned correctly he is upon the ball in time to field it to second or third to get the runner. Perfect play may result in a double play, instead of the runner being advanced.

Such playing requires thinking and is inside baseball. You don't see much of it outside the major leagues, but there is no reason why amateurs should not try to play the same game.

Take the outfield corner. He catches a fly ball, perhaps with a runner on third, and another on first. What does he do? If he isn't a thinker he slams the ball home, hoping to catch the runner scoring. He does it, per-



SILK O'LOUGHLIN. "Th' Batters Today Are--"

would enter the professional game well equipped in this respect. What is learned on the sand lots is hard to unlearn, just as it is hard to teach an old dog new tricks.

Many youngsters fall as batters after amateurs or semi-professionals. Once around the circuit of a league and their batting weakness is an open book.

By adopting a natural position at bat, paying attention to the position of the feet and body, and getting into the habit of "looking them over" before trying to hit the ball, the young player will equip himself as a batter. Every player should learn to bunt properly. The lack of good bunters in fast company is astonishing.

The batter who makes the pitcher work is feared. The average youngster likes to take a "long, healthy swing" at the ball instead of grasping his bat so he can swing quickly, no matter whether he is offered a fast ball, curve or floater. If he stands close to the plate he limits the pitcher to less space. If he refuses to swing on everything and makes the pitcher "attack them over," he is more apt to get hits than the player who "takes a toe hold" and swings himself off his feet after missing the ball.

Much advice is given batters, but the natural position is the best. The batter is enabled to get into his swing, instead of depending upon the strength of his arms. He is also less apt to pull the ball into one field, continuously, which enables the fielders to play him with certainty.

Summing up I should say to batters: Making them pitch; go to first with your head up and at full speed; the instant the ball is hit, make the turn to the left, with your eyes on the ball; gamble with the fielders every time the chance is offered to gain an extra base and slide without hesitation every time you are in the slightest danger of being tagged out.

To the fielders: Think out your play in advance; know the speed of the runners and handle the ball without loss of time; keep your eye open for signals and when in doubt make the play that is sure to get the man.

To the pitcher: Remember you have eight men with you; don't try for signals and when in doubt make the play that is sure to get the man.

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I. L. & B. MEN TOOK ALL FOUR FROM A. O. H.

In the intercollegiate bowling league last night the I. L. and B. and A. O. H. teams competed, the I. L. and B. team defeating the Hibernians in a closely contested game. The score was:

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score 1, Score 2. I. L. and B. 82 92 88 262-87 13. A. O. H. 80 100 87 267-89.

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score 1, Score 2. Kelley 81 73 70 224-73 23. McDermott 76 89 70 235-78 13.

BASEBALL MEN TALK AND PLAN

There was a meeting of the representatives of the local baseball teams held in the Y. M. C. A. rooms last night when they met Dr. D. Malcolm and David Donald, who represented the league.

The representatives present were: George Stubbs, for the St. Johns; H. Clawson and Bradbury for the Marshalls; T. Coughlan and F. McMahon, for St. Peter's.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the terms and the matter of imported players. Manager Coughlan stated that he would represent the St. Peter's team.

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EDDIE MOONEY BEATEN IN BOXING BOUTS IN BOSTON

St. John Man was Up Against Hard Game, and His Bout was Stopped after Four Minutes Fighting--Fenwick McKelvie ill, Didn't Compete

Special to The Standard. Mechanics Hall, Boston, Mass., April 10--Edward J. Mooney, of the St. John Physical Culture Club, lasted less than 4 minutes in his bout with Andrew Flanagan, of Boston, in the 135 pound class, at the national amateur boxing tournament here.

The bout was stopped a few seconds after the bell sounded for the second round and the award went to Flanagan.

Mooney blew up after the first minute of boxing. When the gong sent the boys at it, Mooney drove Flanagan around the ring, scoring left to face and right to jaw, driving Flanagan through the ropes. When Flanagan got straightened out he began stabbing his left to the face and Mooney was giving him a terrific mauling.

A fight swing sent the St. John boy to the mat as the bell sounded. Mooney came out very tired in the second. Flanagan rushed him, raking right and left swings to the jaw. A right swing sent Mooney to the mat, and when he got up Flanagan drove him to the ropes.

Mooney was giving him a terrific mauling when the referee stopped the bout and gave the Boston boy the decision. Gilbert Gallant, the New England champion 125 pounder found Frank Crawford at his mercy in the last round and ended the bout with a right swing to the jaw.

One of the prettiest bouts of the tournament came in the 165 pound class between Julius Lessor of New York and John Crowley of Pawtucket, R. I. The former won by a knock out in the last bout of the third session. Lessor was on the floor and out at the end of the first round. The second round was a furious one. Right swings sent Crowley twice to the mat, but he showed unlimited gameness and evened up with a knock out in the last round.

The New Yorker had Crawford at his mercy in the last round and ended the bout with a right swing to the jaw.

Mooney was giving him a terrific mauling when the referee stopped the bout and gave the Boston boy the decision. Gilbert Gallant, the New England champion 125 pounder found Frank Crawford at his mercy in the last round and ended the bout with a right swing to the jaw.

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