

SPITBALL IS FALLING INTO DISUSE IN BIG LEAGUE GAMES NOW

Very Few of the Twirlers in Major Teams Are Using It Today, It Is Said.

WELCOME TO INFELDERS

Horrible Errors Were Result of Free Employment of This Kind of Ball in Former Days.

By Frank G. Menke.

The spitball is falling into disuse. Very few of the twirlers in the big leagues are using it today, and those who do are using it sparingly. The wise pitchers have cast it aside, knowing that even though the use of the most fling may add to their string of victories it will mean the shortening of their careers.

Jack Chesbro used it back in 1904 when he almost pitched the Yankees into the leadership of the league. But the use of the spitball practically ruined Chesbro as a star performer. Ed Walsh used the spitball for several years and his success was phenomenal. But the price was high, for Walsh's arm today is in such condition that he never knows whether it will serve him the full route or whether a kink will appear and force him to surrender the hurling job to a relief pitcher.

"Jeff" Tesreau used the spitball to a great extent when he first landed on major soil. But he isn't doing it with such reckless abandon as of yore. Jeff soon learned that the spitball "kinked" the arm, used freely, and now he throws it only in emergencies.

There are several other pitchers in the big leagues who still throw the spitball, but they are throwing it just about a half dozen times during the game. Some of the fans believe they throw it often because of the deception practice by the pitcher of putting the ball up near the mouth and seeming to spit it. Batters aren't fond of spitballs. They hate to see them coming. So the pitchers who have discarded the use of the dampened twister, very often bluff at pitching one.

The passing of the spitball comes as good news to the infielders. In the years when the spitball was generally used errors were frequent on account of the spitball. A pitcher would toss the ball freely with saliva and slippery elm or tobacco juice, a batter would hammer it to the infield, the infielder would grab it and start to throw, only to find that the slippery ball had glided from his fingers. Quite often when the infielder was able to get the ball away in the direction of the base the ball would take a wild slant and result in a horrible error.

Dode Parrott Kills Buck at Westport

Archie Parrott of the Honeyman Hardware company received a letter yesterday from his brother, Dode, who is hunting with Al Kaddler and Lang near Westport, to the effect that he had killed a buck last Saturday which weighed 123 pounds dressed.

Dode writes that he saw a number of does and some fawns, but only the one buck. He says the natives of the Westport district report that deer have been seen in large quantity up to August 1, when the hunters got busy.

OAKLAND NOSES ANGELS

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 5.—The Oaks defeated the Angels yesterday in an uninteresting game by the score of 3 to 2. Middleton pitched the ninth inning scored Gus Helling with the winning run. Love was on the mound for the visitors and although he allowed less hits than Geyer, he was charged with a defeat. The score: LOS ANGELES.

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Harper, cf.	4	0	1	0	4	0
Page, 2b.	4	0	1	0	4	0
Maggert, cf.	4	0	1	0	4	0
Adams, 1b.	3	1	2	15	2	0
Ellis, cf.	4	0	1	1	1	0
Johnson, 3b.	4	0	2	0	3	0
Melager, 3b.	4	0	2	0	3	0
Love, p.	3	0	0	1	6	0
Totals	34	2	9	26	34	0

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Middleton, if.	4	0	1	0	4	0
Gust, cf.	3	1	1	0	0	0
Kayler, cf.	3	1	1	0	0	0
Neu, 2b.	4	0	1	2	0	0
Gardner, 1b.	4	0	0	12	0	0
Zacher, cf.	4	0	0	0	0	0
Hetting, 3b.	3	1	0	0	3	0
Miles, 3b.	3	0	1	0	2	0
Geyer, p.	3	0	1	0	2	0
Totals	31	3	7	24	10	0

*Two out when winning run scored.

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Los Angeles	0	1	0	0	0	0
Hits	0	2	0	0	0	0
Errors	0	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	1	2	0	0	0

Three base hits—Harper, Maggert. Two base hits—Neu, Sacrifice hit—Ellis. First base on called balls—Love 4, Geyer 4. Struck out—By Love 7, Geyer 3. Hit by pitcher—Gust. Stolen bases—Geyer. Left on bases—Los Angeles 6, Oakland 5. Runners on—Love 3, Geyer 2. Time—2:05. Umpire—Hayes and Gaultie.

FEDERAL LEAGUE GAMES

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
At Buffalo:						
At Indianapolis:						
Batteries—Anderson and Allen; Lavigne, Falkenberg, Warren and Foster.						

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
At Brooklyn:						
At Kansas City:						
At Baltimore:						
At Chicago:						
Batteries—Quinn and Jacklitch; Fink, McGuire and Clemens.						

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
At Pittsburgh:						
At St. Louis:						
At Pittsburgh:						
Batteries—Willett and Simon; Barger and Kerr.						

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Ballard Team Wins On Errors by Holke

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 5.—Holke's costly errors in the eighth inning and two timely singles netted the Ballard team (Portland Colts) a 5 to 2 victory over the locals yesterday.

The visitors scored one run in the first inning and repeated in the second frame. Spokane tied the score in the second inning.

Fat Callahan allowed the Indians five hits. Pitcher McDerry, released by Spokane, has been signed by the Ballard team. The score:

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Callahan, cf.	5	1	2	4	1	0
McDerry, cf.	3	0	1	0	0	0
Levin, if.	3	0	1	1	0	0
McKane, 2b.	3	0	0	2	5	0
Henneman, 1b.	4	0	1	12	0	0
Murray, c.	4	0	2	5	1	0
Callahan, p.	4	0	1	0	1	0
McDerry, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	28	2	8	27	12	1

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Waffel, 2b.	4	0	1	2	0	0
Butler, 1b.	4	0	1	10	1	2
Holke, 1b.	4	0	1	10	1	2
Wagner, 3b.	3	1	1	1	0	0
Hogan, cf.	4	0	0	4	2	0
McDermott, 2b.	4	0	0	4	2	0
Shaw, c.	4	0	0	1	4	1
Noyes, p.	4	0	0	1	4	1
Totals	31	2	5	27	14	5

*Man for Lewis in eighth.

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Ballard	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spokane	0	2	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	2	0	0	0	0

Two base hits—Wagner. Three base hits—Frisk, Murray. Sacrifice hits—Butler, McKane. Double play—Callahan to Henneman. Sacrifice hit—Wagner. Sacrifice hit—Callahan. Left on bases—Spokane 5, Ballard 6. Time—1:50. Umpire—McDermott.

STANDING OF THE TEAMS

	W.	L.	Pct.
Portland	10	7	.588
Vancouver	9	8	.524
Seattle	8	9	.471
San Francisco	8	9	.471
Los Angeles	7	10	.412
Sacramento	6	11	.353
Oakland	5	12	.294

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