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TO HAVE COLLEGE FOR THE PLAYERS

RECRUITS TO BE TAUGHT THE FINER POINTS OF GAME

Men To Be Fitted for the Major Leagues.—School Expected To Be Opened Early Next Winter

Faculty to Consist of Stars of Every Position Capable of Instructing Young Players—Would Save Clubs Thousands of Dollars Every Year.

A big league college for ball players will be realized next winter unless something goes radically wrong. The college is the idea of Charley Carr, the former first baseman of the Detroit Tigers and at present managing the Kansas City team in the American association. Frank J. Navin, owner of the Detroit club, is with Carr in the proposition. He not alone promised his support, but is particularly enthusiastic about it and will do all he can to swing other club owners into line.

The baseball college is intended to benefit the major league clubs, and it will unintentionally benefit many hard working humorists and cartoonists. There is an unlimited fund for sketches and stories in a faculty made up of such famous and well known persons as Herman Schaefer, Nick Altrock, Johnny Evers, Johnny Kling, Hal Chase, Christy Mathewson, Oscar Stange, Tris Speaker, Ty Cobb, Jack Coombs and others, each and every one carrying the title of professor.

The purpose of the new college is to train ball players for the major leagues. Much time is lost annually and money wasted finding out the value of recruits. Each spring sixteen major league clubs spend thousands of dollars trying to find out the worth of players for whom they have spent small fortunes. After they pick the best in the crowd of recruits they are forced to spend much more time and much more money in order to cultivate them into the ways of the major leagues and correct the many minor faults that all young players bring with them.

Players to Teach Them.

Recruits will be sent to this college and experienced players will be engaged to teach them. Nick Altrock, for instance, would be the best man obtainable to teach a pitcher how to field his position. Nick was the greatest fielding pitcher in the history of the game. Pitchers like Christy Mathewson and Jack Coombs are not alone great pitchers themselves, but they also have the ability to tell why they do things the way they do and can make others see the points clearly and teach themselves from the lessons provided by the experienced stars. There will be an expert for every position, and the youngsters will be given individual and collective instruction at every angle of the position they are expected to fill.

The college will be located somewhere in the south. As soon as Carr receives the proper backing he will get an option on a tract of ground and start operations. It is intended to establish a hotel near these winter quarters. Baseball enthusiasts and managers and owners will take an occasional visit and see how their students are progressing.

Could Save Money.

An institution of this kind would mean economy and service to the major leagues. Instead of devoting the spring training season to trying out new material and waiting till May to shape a team, the manager, under the new system, will know exactly whom he wants and whom he doesn't want, what each man can do, and here he could place every one of the recruits he desires to keep. The spring season would then be devoted to practice and team work. The club could open the season in shape and ready to play.

Few clubs have less than a dozen recruits in the spring. Some clubs have as many as forty and forty-five. Give each club an average of twenty men and that would mean 320 students for the college each winter.

BASEBALL POOL LATEST.

Keogh, Former Cue Champion, Introduces New Game.

Jerome R. Keogh, former pool champion, has introduced a new game in Rochester. It is called baseball pool and is played on a pool table with a regulation set of balls. In the game the players can make squeeze plays, home runs and other features which comprise the national pastime.

A player is allowed to try combinations, as in continuous pool, but the combinations must be called. Kiss shots do not have to be called. Pocketing in the same inning more than the ball called counts according to its number together with the called ball.

MOELLER IS REMARKABLE.

Washington Outfielder Has Bad Shoulder, but Plays Well.

Dan Moeller, the speed merchant of the Washington team, who has a shoulder that has a habit of falling out of place and has already performed the trick three times this season, has had a harness made which he will wear in the hope of keeping the slippery bones in place.

Considering the fact that Moeller has but one side working most of the time because of his patent collapsible shoulder he is a remarkable ball player.

SCHAEFER AND ALTROCK FUNNY COMBINATION.

"Germany" Schaefer and Nick Altrock are a great combination and are cutting considerable ice with their funny stuff on the road with the Washington club. Altrock joined the club in Cleveland and was met at the door of the hotel by Tom Hughes, the pitcher, who inquired: "Say, Nick, what was the matter with you in Kansas City? Was your arm sore?" "No, indeed," replied Nick. "My arm is all right, but the bats are getting too big." For several seasons Altrock has always had a lot of trick stuff with the first base mitt. His new stunt is stopping the thrown ball with the mitt, letting it roll up one arm and around his shoulders and back into the other hand.

COBB WANTS \$6,000 RAISE.

Will Demand \$45,000 For His Next Three Years' Work.

Taking into consideration his worth as a drawing card, as well as his ability as a ball player, Ty Cobb is going to demand \$45,000 for his next three years' work with the Detroit club. This is Cobb's last year under the \$27,000 contract which he signed three years ago, and he admits that he is going after a substantial increase, just how much he will not say.

Cobb is just as good a player as he was three years ago, and his value as



Photo by American Press Association. TY COBB IN HUMOROUS MOOD.

An attraction has increased considerably. Being with a losing team has handicapped his playing to some extent, but there is no doubt that as an individual Cobb puts at least \$30,000 into the coffers of the Detroit club during a season.

There are other players possessed of drawing ability, but none of them is equal to Ty Cobb, and this, he says, must be taken into consideration when the new contract is made.

SCHALK COSTLY BALL PLAYER

Chicago White Sox Paid \$15,000 For Milwaukee Boy.

The deal whereby Ray Schalk, the Milwaukee association team catcher, goes to the old Roman Comiskey, owner of the Chicago Americans, for approximately \$15,000 is the second largest in the history of baseball where an individual was concerned. Marty O'Toole cost the record sum of \$22,500, and he has so far proved a good investment. Schalk, competent critics say, is a wonderful player and will prove worth the sum paid for him. It is a wonderful price to pay for a player other than a pitcher.

Schalk is rather a little fellow, weighing 150 pounds and being five feet eight inches high. But he has a deadly aim and is hitting over 300. Being but twenty years of age he has a long period of usefulness in front of him, barring accidents.

RIVERS TO FIGHT MANDOT.

Mexican Lightweight to Tackle Southerner in Vernon, Cal., Labor Day.

Joe Rivers, the Mexican lightweight, will meet Joe Mandot in a twenty round bout at Vernon, Cal., on Labor Day. Rivers has decided to remain on the coast until late in the fall instead of paying a visit to New York. He owes his success to Tom McCarey and prefers to box under his auspices as long as profitable matches are in sight.

Rivers says he hopes Wolgast will consent to a return match at Vernon on Thanksgiving Day, but if the latter should decline the issue the Mexican then will accept an offer to box either Willie Ritchie or Packey McFarland in Madison Square Garden some time in December. Rivers has made nearly \$40,000 in the last two years.

BRAINY PLAYERS NOT NUMEROUS

HEADY COMBINATIONS IN BIG LEAGUES SMALL

Chicago Cubs Have Largest Number of Thinkers on the Diamond.—Johnny Evers Among Best.

Chance Has at Least Six Real Smart Pill Handlers—Athletics Also Have Some Quick Thinkers—Two or Three Brainy Men Will Keep Team Up.

The proportion of smart ball players, thinking players, heady players, or whatever adjective serves best as a descriptive, is not strikingly large on the brainiest of combinations. Three, four or at the most five serve to carry a team along to a pennant if the mechanical ability also is there. What would happen if a club could daily put out a team of nine men who were equipped with baseball acumen as well as mechanical ability is hard to conjecture unless it would finish first, with the rest nowhere. Then again it



Photo by American Press Association. JOHNNY EVERS OF THE CHICAGO CUBS.

is hard to draw the line between the real smart, the smart and the near smart.

Two or Three Enough.

Two or three smart players in the infield and one behind the bat are a pretty good asset for any team. A still better asset is a smart manager, as witness the success of McGraw. McGraw's Giants are not the headiest team that ever took the field, but in Mathewson, Merkle and Doyle he has lieutenants of gray matter. With Evers, Tinker, Archer, Sheppard and Leach the Cubs have more quick thinking players than most teams and also a good general in Chance to boss the whole shebang.

One must have a care in a discussion of this sort lest there be the invalid inference that players not mentioned are shy on baseball sense, but to obviate any such fallacious inference the old plea of want of space can be advanced. Be that as it may, the Cubs, with all their supply of diamond profundity, didn't outguess the Athletics so anybody could notice it two years ago. Mack, Collins, Barry and Davis and maybe one or two others quite held their own with the Cub phalanx of intelligence.

Pittsburgh Had Great Trio.

Wagner, Clarke and Leach were a trio whose brains helped to keep the Pirates in many a race, whereas a conspicuously smart team were the old Orioles, with such leading lights of baseball intuition as McGraw, Jennings, Robinson, Kelley and Keeler, all quick, cogent thinkers. Tenney, Love, Collins, Duffy and McCarthy of bygone Boston days were clear and quick thinkers. In fact, McCarthy has been compared to Mike Kelly as one of the foxiest players of all time.

Fleider Jones, Isbell, George Davis and Billy Sullivan, with their foresight and quick grasp of a situation, did a great deal toward winning first honors for the White Sox a few years back. Comiskey was as smart a man on the ball field as he has been since off; likewise John Ward. However, there have been not a few ball players who have shown ability to prosper who were just ordinary on the ball field, and also there have been smart ball players who haven't done so well since out of active participation in the game. The keenest manager needs some of the quality of keenness under him.

Club Has Woman For Official Scorer. The official scorer of the La Grande club in the Western Tri-state league is a woman. She is a real fan, knows the national pastime from the big gate to the flagpole and doesn't give a hang whether the suffragettes win or lose.



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S. A. Stid, of Mason, Mich., will never forget his terrible exposure to a merciless storm. "It gave me such a dreadful cold," he writes, "that caused severe pains in my chest, so it was hard for me to breathe. A neighbor gave me several doses of Dr. King's New Discovery which brought great relief. The doctor said I was on the verge of pneumonia, but to continue with the Discovery. I did so and in two bottles completely cured me." Use only this quick, safe, reliable medicine for coughs, colds, or any throat or lung trouble. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by all druggists.

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