HOW TO CURVE THE BALL!

A Few Good Pointers for Ambitious Young Pitchers.

From the American.

There are few boys who have not aspired at one time or another to be a curve pitcher. Nothing fills a boy's heart with greater pride than to be able to curve a ball, no matter how slight it may be. But the trouble is that they are satisfied to rest on their laurels after learning to curve, and not try to improve and get perfect control of the ball.

To make a successful pitcher good control, if not perfect, control of the ball must be acquired. And this can only be done by practice, and the right kind of practice at that. The next thing is speed; but the first and greatest thing is control. When the young twirler is able to toss the ball over the plate two out of three, he may then practice speed. There are several ways of acquiring it and increasing one's natural speed—first by using a natural full swing of the arm and putting the weight of the body against the ball in the act of delivery.

Under the new rule the pitcher is given the privilege of taking one step in delivering the ball. No matter how wide he steps, he is entitled to all the ground he is able to jump. This rule makes it very easy to put one's weight on the ball, if only a little study would be made of it. This method the writer used, and was able to increase his speed half again as much. It must be in this way: Stand squarely facing the batsman, with the feet at right angles and the ball level with the breast. The first thing after receiving the sign from the catcher is to swing the arm holding the ball in a circle in front of the body, completing it at the right shoulder. With that bring the arm over the shoulder behind the back as far as the arm will reach. With this same motion the body is bent back on the right leg, and the left one is extended in front at right angles. When this position has been obtained, the body and arm must be brought forward with a jump. The ball must leave the hand directly the left foot touches the ground. A good example of this style may be found in the methods of McMahon. Practice this motion until you get it almost perfect, increasing the speed and control all the time.

In the Olden Days.

In days gone by the twirling was done generally with an underhand throw; but this has generally been superseded by the side swing or overhand throw. More speed and more difficult ball to hit can be pitched with less strain to the arm by this method than with the underhand ball. Another thing a ball pitched underhand has but one motion—that is, it keeps generally the same distance from the ground, and can always, when hit, be batted squarely. Whereas with the overhand ball, it has a tendency to drop all the time. The consequence is that it must be hit under, and not squarely, as in the underhand one. The result is generally a fly ball to the fielders. Never start practice by speeding the ball at your limit; but commence slowly, and gradually increase it as you get warmed up. And above all, throw naturally. Nothing strains the arm more or has been the cause of more failures among pitchers, than a jerky, unnatural swing.

The first curve to learn and also the easiest to pitch, is the out shoot. This curve requires less speed than the others but, with all that it is a very effective curve, when used correctly. Since the rules have been made requiring the pitcher to hold the ball in front of his person, in view of the batsman, before delivering the ball, various ruses have been made to counteract its damaging effects. The latest and best is to hold all curves alike with the same fingers, and apparently with the same motions. But as this requires some previous skill to do it successfully, it is better for the learner to pitch the curves by the old methods.

Ways of the Outcurve.

To throw the outcurve by the old method, grasp the ball with the first two fingers, with the thumb at the side, at right angles with them. A firm hold must be taken, so as to put a good rotary motion to the ball. Then take the pitching position. When the ball is delivered the wrist must be turned and the ball allowed to roll over the thumb, instead of out straight. It is very doubtful if the ball curves; but you must preserve until it does, always using the correct motions and throwing over or near the plate. When you are able to curve the ball fairly well, practice must be made with the different phases of the shoot. There is the close out curve, which is generallyeffective against timid batters. This ball is started directly for the batter; but just as it reaches the plate it glides gently over, and a strike is the result, if the batter has forgotten what he has been standing up there for. It is very trying to the uninitiated batter. He sees a ball shooting swiftly for his ribs. His first thought is to jump out of the way; but as he jumps he sees the ball pass harmless by him. If he would only stand still, and as the ball comes across the plate would swing at it, he would nine times out of ten hit it. The curve which is pitched out from the plate is a very good ball to pitch to such eager hitters as Kelley and Jennings, and those who generally swing low at the ball. In this case the ball is started directly for the plate; but just as it reaches it curves out. In pitching to right hand batters, both of these curves should be thrown high.

There is still another thing which the young pitcher must guard against at the start, and that is not to pitch the curve too wide. When this is done, precious speed is lost, and its effectiveness is cut down. A short, quick shoot is much preferable and more effective than the graceful, gliding wide curve, so pretty to the eye. Try to make the break sharp and quick. McMahon is a shining star of this style. No one breaks his curves so quick and effectively as he. The way to do this is to curve a ball a certain width, and then practice to make it break quick and sharp. Always practice with speed.

The Incurve Easy, Too.

The next curve in order of simplicity is the in-curve. In fact, this is really the easiest curve of all to pitch, it requiring only some speed. But in its simplicity lies its danger. When not properly pitched, it is "pie" to the batters. But when it is handled correctly, then it becomes, indeed, a valuable adjunct to the pitcher's stock of curves. In the first place it should be pitched very high or low. In the case of a right-handed batsman, the high ball is simply unhitable when it is propelled with good speed. The low in ball is equally so with the left handed batters.

So throw the curve, grasp the ball with the whole hand, with the fingers extended on one side, with the thumb opposite. In delivering this ball it must leave the hand from the end of the fingers. It has been said by some that the palm of the hand must be toward the left side when it leaves the hand; but this is not compulsory. The palm may be turned downwards, and the curve will not be effected. The principal thing is that the ball shall leave the hand from the end of the fingers. Only under such conditions will the ball curve. This is a good curve to master, because it naturally goes over the plate when pitched correctly. It is valuable when several balls have been called on you. It has all the advantages of the straight ball, without its disadvantages.

The next curve is the down shoot. This is one of the most effective and beautiful curves of them all. To see a ball shooting swiftly for the plate, looking as if it would hit the batsman's bat, just as it reaches it, the ball takes a sudden swoop downwards; is a very mystifying thing, but to those who know it is very simple. But the disadvantage of this curve is to control it properly. A pitcher who depends principally upon this curve for his effectiveness is very easy meat for the opposing nine when he loses control of it. There are two kinds of drop balls — the slow and speedy. A good example of the first was the curve of Hawke and Pond in the case of the speedy ball. But the purpose of a young pitcher is to try to get a curve as speedy as possible.

To Throw the Drop.

To throw this curve grasp the ball with the whole hand, as in case with an inshoot, with the only difference that the thumb is turned on the side the same as with the outshoot. There are two ways to throw the curve. One way is to use the pure overhand throw, and as the ball leaves the hand give the wrist a sudden jerk downwards. This method is generally used with the slow ball. In pitching the speedy ball the arm should be swung straight out, the same as in the case of the inshoot. The arm is almost in a straight line when the ball leaves the hand. The wrist turns naturally in the case of this method, and the ball glides over the thumb with no trouble. This curve is difficult to learn, and the beginner must not be discouraged if he can't pitch the ball in a week's time. The only thing which will accomplish it is practice, and the right kind at that. Always bear in mind the way the ball is held and the arm swung. Sometimes it is difficult to make the arm describe the motions required; but with a little study and observation, it will be seen that the motions are perfectly natural. For a long time people have imagined that it requires a peculiar twist and knack to make a ball curve. In some cases this is true; but the most successful pitchers have always used natural, easy, swinging motions. The trouble is to know how to combine the motions. Whenever practicing always take your time, and be careful to improve. By doing this the young pitcher will be surprised at the improvement he has made, and the skill he has acquired. Never practice after your arm has become tired. This is true of all athletic exercise.

There are Others.

When you are in the box, remember that there are seven men back of you to assist in putting out the side. Keep cool and take your time. Study the batsmen as they come to the plate, and find out their weak points. When you don't know them, the high inshoot is a good ball to try with them. Always keep the ball close up on a nervous batter. With heavy and safe hitters the drop and high inshoot are the curves to use. Above all understand your catcher and keep on the good terms with him. Give him credit for knowing a little about the game as well as yourself. If he signs you, do as he says, and you wont cripple a catcher.

These are only every day methods of the art of pitching. In time and with practice the beginner can invent new and original methods of his own. But always bear in mind that you are not the only one in the game, or that you have to win the game by your own efforts. Always try to improve the control. No pitcher has yet arrived at that state of perfection when he can give it the "go-by." Common sense, a cool head, a good temper and a healthy set of muscles make up the ideal base-ball pitcher.

Nervous

People should realize that the **only** true and permanent cure for their condition is to be found in having

Pure Blood

Because the health of every organ and tissue of the body depends upon the purity of the blood. The whole world knows the standard blood purifier is

Hood's Sarsaparilla

And therefore it is the only true and reliable medicine for nervous people. It makes the blood pure and healthy, and thus cures nervousness, makes the nerves firm and strong, gives sweet sleep, mental vigor, a good appetite, perfect digestion. It does all this, and cures Scrofula, Eczema, or Salt Rheum and all other blood diseases, because it

Makes Pure Blood

Results prove every word we have said. Thousands of voluntary testimonials fully establish the fact that

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Be Sure to Get Hood's

"I was very nervous. I used Hood's Sarsaparilla and my nervousness is all gone." CATHARINE KECK, 1130 Maple St., Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache. 25c.

MERCURIAL POISON

Is the result of the usual treatment of blood disorders. The system is filled with Mercury and Potash remedies - more to be dreaded than the disease—and in a short while is in a far worse condition than before. The most common result is

RHEUMATISM

for which S. S. S. is the most reliable cure. A few bottles will afford relief where all else has failed.

I suffered from a severe attack of Mercurial Rheumatism, my arms and legs being swollen to more than twice their natural size, causing the most excruciating pains. I spent hundreds of dollars without relief, but after taking a few bottles of S.S.S. I improved rapidly, and am now a well man, completely cured. I can heartily recommend your wonderful medicine to anyone afflicted with this painful disease.
W. F. DALEY, Brooklyn Elevated R. R.

Our Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free to any address.
SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

A NEW FEATURE IN GALENA!

Flour and Feed!

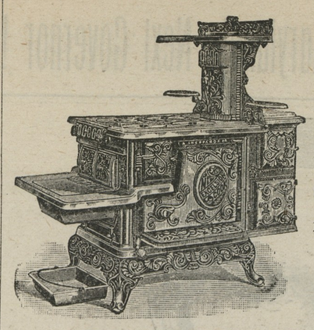
Farmers and others can save a long ride and wait by exchanging their Grain at the store. Mill rates and Mill features maintained.

Flour for Sale by Bbl. or Sack!

Meal and Feed in quantities to suit.

Damaged and Garlicy Wheat rejected. Complete stock always on hand. FULL ROLLER PROCESS.

E. W. SPEAR,
Proprietor of Millington Mills.
j8-6m.



SHEPPARD'S EXCELSIOR COOK STOVES

MADE FROM PURE PIG IRON.

Not one pound of Scrap Iron is ever used in these goods.

DURABLE, CONVENIENT and ECONOMICAL

All Modern Improvements to Lighten Housekeeping Cares.

Twenty different sizes and kinds.

Every Stove Warranted Against Defects.

Prices not much higher at this time than on commoner kinds of Stoves.

Call on or address

J.K.ALDRIDGE & CO., CHESTERTOWN, MD.

FRIEDMAN'S

The Fall Season is Right Upon Us, and the Question Now Arises With the Wearer of

READY-MADE CLOTHING!

Where Shall I Buy My Winter Suit?

WITH those who have previously dealt with us, of course WE get the benefit of their decision as a result of the Commanding Bargains that they have heretofore received. We are pleased to say that CLOTHING IS CHEAPER this season than last; this along with very careful buying enables us to put up a tolerable Good Suit for $3.50; another at $5.00; Good Cassimere Suits for $6.00 and $7.00; Imported Cheviots and Worsteds in Frocks and Sacks for $8.00 and $9.50; a Genuine Imported Clay Regent for only $10.00. We have an endless variety of SINGLE PANTS, consisting of Fine Pin Stripes, in both Cassimere and Worsted. PANTS TO ORDER a specialty. A large line of Piece Goods to select from. No pains have been spared in selecting something for the BOYS and CHILDREN, particularly the LITTLE TOT. We are always recognized as being the Headquarters for HATS, CAPS, UNDERWEAR, NECKWEAR, HOSIERY, &c., and these lines were never more complete than this season. We believe it to be the interest of everyone to give the above offerings due consideration, and when you get well posted on others' prices call upon us and we will show you what we are doing with the Clothing Trade.

Yours, respectfully,

A. FRIEDMAN & CO.,

Directly opp. Stam's Hall. Leading Clothiers.

Goldey WILMINGTON COMMERCIAL and SHORTHAND COLLEGE, Wilmington, Del. *College*

NEW DEPARTURE! BUSINESS PRACTICE FROM THE START! To be introduced September 1, 1895. LEARN MORE IN A WEEK than by the old text book method in a month. 700 to 400 students (both sexes) annually from 100 places and 6 states. 81 graduates last year. PRACTICAL BUSINESS and SHORTHAND COURSES Prepares for SELF-SUPPORT. Homes in private families for boarding students at $3.50 a week. Tuition reasonable. Standing references: ANY CITIZEN and ANY MINISTER OF ANY DENOMINATION IN WILMINGTON. Write for one of the finest (illustrated) catalogues issued in the world. It is FREE. Graduates aided to positions.
H. S. GOLDEY, Principal.

T. M. BRITTON. R. WESLEY MOFFETT

BRITTON & MOFFETT,

Millington, Maryland.

UNDERTAKERS & EMBALMERS

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

CHARGES MODERATE!

TERMS REASONABLE.

HEADQUARTERS FOR WINDOW SHADES.

PERCY T. McFEELY'S,

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Dr. School

PALMS BUSINESS COLLEGE, 1710 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. Tenth Year. Thorough, Individual Instruction. Situations Furnished. The maximum of knowledge at the minimum of cost.

Commercial Branches. *Write for circulars.* THEO. W. PALMS, Prest.

LUMBER.

GEO. F. SLOAN & BRO.

414 LIGHT STREET WHARF, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

We offer you, delivered to Wharf or Depot in Baltimore:

1 inch Yello[illegible] $12.50 per M.
1 inch Work[illegible]ing, 15.00 per M.
6x20 Sawed[illegible] 6.00 per M.

These goods are exc[illegible]e higher grades at higher prices. If you w[illegible]sh p[illegible] we will reply promptly.

SASH, DOORS, BLINDS, Etc.

SHINGLES.

BALTO. & DELAWARE BAY RAILROAD.

TIME-TABLE,

TO TAKE EFFECT NOVEMBER 27th, 1893.

Going East. Pass. No. 1 Daily ex. Sunday.	STATIONS.	Going West Pass. No. 2 Daily ex. Sunday.
Leave. A. M. 6.50	CHESTERTOWN	Arrive. P. M. 12.05
7.05	WORTON	A. M. 11.50
7.10	LYNCH'S	11.45
7.15	HEPBRON	11.40
7.28	KENNEDYVILLE	11.27
7.41	BLACK'S	11.14
7.54	LAMBSON'S	11.01
8.08	MASSEY'S	10.47
8.22	DELANEY'S	10.32
8.30	BINGHAM'S	10.25
Arrive. 8.40	CLAYTON	Leave. 10.15

E. P. STACEY, Sup't.

CHESTER RIVER STEAMBOAT CO.

STEAMER EMMA A. FORD will leave Chestertown at 8 o'clock A. M. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, stopping at Rolph's, Booker's, Quaker Neck, Bogle's, Queenstown and Kent Island. Returning, will leave Baltimore at 10.30 A. M. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, making the above stops.

The daily round trips on the Centreville route will be discontinued after Nov. 2. Beginning Nov. 4, the

STEAMER B. S. FORD, will leave Centreville at 8 A. M., Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, stopping at landings on Corsica River, Jackson Creek and Rock Hall. Returning, will leave Baltimore at 10.30 A. M., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, for same landings.

A Special Round Trip from Baltimore to Rock Hall and return will be run on SATURDAYS, leaving Baltimore at 3 P. M., and leaving Rock Hall at 5 P. M. This will give Rock Hall patrons an opportunity to leave home Saturday morning for Baltimore and return same day.

GEORGE WARFIELD, Pres't.
Nov. 2, 1895.

SASSAFRAS RIVER STEAMBOAT CO.

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.

FALL 1895.

On and after Monday, Sept 23d, 1895, the STEAMER SASSAFRAS will leave Georgetown Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.30 o'clock A. M., Shallcross', 7.45, Turner's Creek, 8.15, Betterton, 9, Buck Neck 10.15, and Gale's Wharf, 10.30.

Returning, will leave Baltimore, Pier 6, Light street, at 10.30 A. M., on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, for the above landings.

WM. CUNDIFF, Sup't.

FALL SCHEDULE.

STEAMER EMMA GILES,

for TOLCHESTER BEACH, leaving Baltimore 7 o'clock a. m., and 2.30 o'clock p. m.,

EVERY SATURDAY.

Returning, leave Tolchester 9 o'clock a. m., and 4.30 p. m.

Excursion Tickets 50 cents. Russell's Stage makes connections from Chestertown with Tolchester Boat.

TOLCHESTER COMPANY,
Main Office Pier 16 Light St., Balto.
Or G. E. NOLAND, Tolchester.

BALTO., CHESAPEAKE and ATLANTIC RAILWAY CO.

SCHEDULE IN EFFECT September 30th, 1895.

WATER AND RAIL ROUTES

to Ocean City and all points on the Chesapeake Bay.

FOR HEALTH, PLEASURE AND BUSINESS.

Unexcelled facilities for both passenger and freight traffic. Close connection with the trunk line railroads, insuring convenience to the traveller, and the quick dispatch of all freights. Fifteen commodious and handsomely fitted out steamers. Comfortable staterooms. Good cuisine. Polite attendance. Steamers from Piers 3, 4, and 4½ Light St. Wharf, Baltimore, as follows:

RAILWAY DIVISION—4.30 p. m. daily, except Saturday and Sunday. Saturday 3.00 p. m., for Claiborne and stations to Ocean City.

CHOPTANK RIVER LINE—8 p. m. daily, except Sunday, for Easton, Oxford, Cambridge, and landings to Denton. Returning, leave Denton at 12.30 p. m. daily, except Saturday, Cambridge 6 p. m., Oxford 7.30 p. m., Easton 9.30 p. m., arriving in Baltimore 5 a. m.

WICOMICO RIVER LINE—5 p. m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Wingate's Point, Deal's Island and landings to Salisbury. Returning, leave Salisbury at 2.30 p. m., every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, arrving in Baltimore at 6 a. m.

NANTICOKE RIVER LINE—5 p. m. every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for Deal's Island, and landings to Seaford, Del. Returning, leave Seaford at 12 o'clock noon Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, arriving in Baltimore at 5 a. m.

GREAT WICOMICO AND PIANKATANK RIVER LINE—5 p. m. every Tuesday and Friday for the Great Wicomico River, Dividing, Indian and Dymer's Creek's, Little Bay, Milford Haven and Piankatank River to Freeport. Returning, leave Freeport 6 p. m. every Monday and Thursday, arriving in Baltimore at 5 a. m.

ry Monday, Wednesday and Friday for Jackson's, Piankatank River and Milford Haven. Returning, leave Freeport at 12 o'clock noon every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, arriving in Baltimore at 5 a. m.

STEAMERS FROM SOUTH STREET PIER:

POCOMOKE RIVER LINE—5.30 p. m. every Tuesday and Friday for Crisfield, Tangier Island, Onancock, and landings to Pocomoke City and Snow Hill. Returning, leave Snow Hill at 6 a. m., Crisfield 6 p. m. every Monday, and Thursday, arriving in Baltimore at 6 a. m.

MESSONGO RIVER LINE—5.30 p. m. every Monday and Thursday for Fords, Crisfield, Finnrys, Onancock, Chesconnessex, Hunting Creek and Messongo. Returning, leave Messongo every Wednesday and Saturday at 6 a. m. Crisfield 6 p. m., arriving in Baltimore at 5 a. m.

OCCOHANNOCK RIVER LINE—5.30 p. m. every Wednesday and Sunday for Crisfield, Harborton, Evans, Boggs, Cedar View, Nandua, Concord, Read's, Davis', Shield's, Rues. Returning leave Rues every Tuesday and Friday at 8.30 a. m., Crisfield, 6 p. m., arriving in Baltimore at 5 a. m.

WILLIARD THOMSON, Gen'l Mgr.
B. L. FLEMING, Gen'l Pass. & Freight Agt.

LOOK!

WE DESIRE TO CALL ATTENTION TO OUR LINE OF MEN'S LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S

UNDERWEAR!

We have a Large Assortment at very LOW PRICES. Look for next week's Price List.

Chestertown Bargain Store,
Cross Street.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc6000_3_1-0287.jpg