

# TIM MURKANE OF BASEBALL

## Thinks Washington a Great Ball Town.

### Erroneous Interpretation of Rules Given Umpires by League President.

#### National League Must Stop Freedman's Arbitrary Rule Regarding Harmony in Team Work.

For a real, lively, old-fashioned baseball town, I think at the present time Washington, D. C., has all the best of it. I saw the Senators drop two games to Boston on Decoration day, and the large crowds were fairly wild with disappointment. A squad followed the players' bus hurrying about at the victors.

It was the days of the Lord Baltimore over again, with the riotous population in evidence, with cheap talk and a stray stone thrown at the bus, when there was no friction between the men on the field. I can not quite appreciate the man at the ball park who considers it a duty to hurl abuse at the visiting players in hope that some one will approve of his efforts in rattling the pitcher. It's bad enough to see the players on the coaching lines going through monkey-bush and confessing that I enjoy good-natured coaching—but half the spectators howling continuously to rattle a lot of old-timers and waste of time and money just now as the noisiest crowd I ever heard at a ball game.

#### Senator Gorman Enjoys Games.

Among the crowds enjoying the games at Washington was Senator Gorman, just as fond of the game as he was of the White House lot. The Senator was the first man to be chosen as president of a national baseball organization, and did much for the sport up to 1871, when Nick Young came to the front as the man to lead the national organization.

Mr. Young, too, was at the game. Attorney-General Moody, with a party of friends, attended the New England league before coming to Washington as a Congressman. In fact, Washington is full of lovers of the game.

The departments employ many old-time ball players. "Doug" Allison and Paul Hines are the most celebrated of the lot. Allison was president of the boys at the hotel. He was the catcher of the Cincinnati Reds in 1883, and for a dozen years was the star catcher in the country. This was before mask, protector or big mitt was invented.

Allison was the first to use a glove while catching. He had two fingers made out of sole leather for the left hand, and by the use of laces managed to protect his hand. He was a famous single-handed triple play in 1875.

#### Harmony in Baseball.

Is perfect harmony essential to success in baseball? There seems to be a great difference of opinion on this subject. When a first-class ball team falls off in any about the time that the fans will hear the fans say: "Why, there can't be harmony in the team. It is the same crowd that was there last year, but for some reason they don't play so well, and sure there is discussion in the ranks."

Take the Boston champions this season, for example. I've heard a number of people say their poor standing was caused by several rows in the team. I mentioned this to "Cy" Young while in Washington this week and he had a good, hearty laugh at my expense.

"Why," he said, "the trouble with the Boston club this year is that we have too much harmony. Last year our players were scrapping all the time, and this kept every one keyed up to his best work. Now when I try to see the boys at a 'puff' day when we didn't have three or four drag-outs, and yet every man worked his head off to win."

"Take the St. Louis Browns club, or the Boston club when McCarthy and Duffy were there. The old Chicago club, the St. Louis Browns, or the New York club in the present time, and you will find that the players continually wrangled with each other, and the only effect it had was to make them a harder crowd to beat. I have always found where ball players are not hitting they lose their spunk and become altogether too harmonious for their team's good."

"Let a player get his two safe hits in a game and he is the happiest man in the village that night. But when he comes without a hit he commences at once to figure that his lamps are growing dim and his chances for a continuation of a magnificent salary are being frittered away."

There is no life in a team unless the boys are hitting the ball, and the more they hit the more they scrap and the more games go to their credit. I think "Cy" Young was right in his claim that you must be aggressive and call each other's dumb plays.

#### Dreyfuss and McGraw Mix Up.

The surprise of the season is the awful time that Boston and New York are having to keep out of last place in the American race. How have the mighty fallen! They told me that Washington that "Pat Dougherty was offered to them for \$300."

The little mix-up at the Polo grounds between Barney Dreyfuss and John McGraw was caused by the fact that Dreyfuss was making up a story that was floating about New York last March to the effect that "Mac" left for the Hot Springs without redeeming several markers with the bookmakers. "Mac" denied the story this spring.

#### Wrong Interpretation of Rules.

According to the umpires of the National league they have been given instructions by President Pulliam which completely change one of the important rules of the game, and this without notifying the players. The instructions to the players and without the consent of the American league, which, according to the national agreement, must be consulted if any playing rules are changed. It was not long ago that the American league desired to modify the rules so as not to "call fouls" in its games, but President Pulliam announced such action would be treated as a violation of the agreement and as a hostile act toward the National league. Now it transpires that Pulliam has ordered his umpires to call a batsman out on an infield fly when less than two out, if, in the umpire's opinion, the muff was intentional. The rule specifically states that there must be runners first and second bases or first, second and third bases, with less than two out, before an umpire can call a batsman out on a muffed infield fly. Pulliam's purpose is not apparent. It is not possible to make a double play by muffed an infield fly with only one runner on base, if the batsman does his duty and runs out the hit. He can beat any attempt at a double play easily. It is only when a batsman quits and does not run that the trick can be worked, un-

less there are two men on bases, and Pulliam seems to want to protect the thoughtless player from the penalty of not playing baseball all the time. He also removes the possibility of a quick witted player taking advantage of the carelessness of an opponent, and in baseball the prettiest kind of plays are those where headwork counts. Games often are won and lost by "quick thinking" alone, and Pulliam makes a mistake if he does not place every possible premium on brains. Fine the brains of the players for ones most sought for. Moreover, Pulliam gave these instructions without informing the players. Consequently he did them unjustly. A base runner, knowing that the rules require him to run when he is at first base and no one else on the bases, will not be deterred by not knowing of Pulliam's subversion of the rule, naturally will run on such a play and be put out unjustly. It was a mistake to change the rule, but worse one not to notify the players as well as the umpires, and when all the rest is said, Pulliam has degraded the letter and spirit of the national agreement according to his own interpretation of that agreement.

#### Freedman Should Be Lynched.

If the baseball league fails to call down the New York club officials for the attitude they have assumed in the McGraw-Dreyfuss-Pulliam case it will indicate the old baseball rule that is subservient to the club in the metropolis. It is easy enough to get an injunction of the kind sued out by Brush the other day, but to get so interfered with the government of baseball as to carry a fight into court, this New York club should be punished in some way—covertly if necessary—by the other clubs, so that it would not repeat tricks of this kind, for the offense of last week was not the first. Freedman drove from the head of the National league the noblest character that ever was connected with the game—N. L. Young—because he refused to do the bidding of the New York club. Brush is now following in Freedman's footsteps. Not content with having a walk-over in the race for the pennant the New York club proposes to show it is the whole thing in the big league in other ways. That is the only reason for the present controversy. President Pulliam has attempted to follow in the footsteps of President Johnson of the league in the present controversy, partially the rules of the game, punishing offenders regardless of their influence and importance in the league circuit. This is not the first time that the New York club has been punished in this way. The reason is that it won't—that's all. The only way to counteract that sort of stand is to take action which will make the New York club sorry. Freedman and Brush use their power to the fact that their club is a strong drawing card at home and on the road, and get along with the other teams. Therefore, the other clubs have it in their power to bring Brush and Freedman to time if they only will do so.

#### Harvard Player Turns Pro.

Rumors are current at Cambridge that W. C. Matthews, the negro shortstop of the Harvard baseball team, who played end on the football eleven, has signed a contract with the Boston Americans for the season ending last summer. Matthews with the Burlington, Vt., team this summer. The reports are to the effect that Matthews intends to join the Burlington team immediately after the last college game. Matthews, while absolutely denying this report, acknowledges that he will play summer baseball after the college year ends. Because of the Clarkson case of last season, the Harvard athletic authorities will probably trace the rumor carefully, and if it should prove to be true, Matthews will, in all probability, be debarred from the team. Last year, just before the Yale series, Clarkson, who was then captain of the team, signed with the New York Americans. He was immediately declared to have made himself a professional by this act. If Matthews has signed with the Burlington team, he is also a professional, though it is doubtful if his expression of intention to play summer baseball is sufficient to take him out of the amateur ranks.

#### COULDN'T TALK THE LANGUAGE.

First Caddie—Do you think he'll ever be able to play a game?  
Second Caddie—Now, he stutters.

#### BALK RULE NOT ENFORCED.

#### Umpires Altogether Too Easy With the Pitchers.

Before the championship seasons of the major leagues opened it was generally announced that instructions had been given American league umpires to enforce the balk rule against pitchers in that organization with the same severity shown in the National last year. During the preliminary training trips of the clubs of

these two organizations, great attention was paid to the pitchers by their managers to break them of all false motions that incur the penalty by the umpire. Since the season has opened, the umpires have taken practically no notice of infractions of the balk rule. Scarcely a game is played that protests are not made by one or the other captain against motions of a twirler calculated to deceive the base runner. Nearly 100 games have been played in the American league since the opening, April 11, and only very few balks have been called by the officials. Because umpires have not penalized the pitchers does not signify they have not violated the balk rule, according to the interpretation of the National league and the instructions given by President Johnson to his staff of arbitrators, according to reports. There is hardly a pitcher in the league who does not violate practically all of the old motions he used in former days for the purpose of holding a base runner close to the bag or slipping him off if should he not be wide awake at all moments.

#### Pitchers Getting Away With Balk.

They are all getting away with the old-time half-balk motion and nothing is said by the officiating umpires. The pitchers get in position to deliver the ball to the bat and then remove their hand or shrug their shoulders or lift their arms from

the ball—almost any of the former methods of deceiving.  
Reasons for the instructions to American league umpires to enforce the balk rule have been sought for by the league without it, even though the Nationals did do so. The theory advanced by one baseball manager is as follows:  
When the national commission settled on the interleague series between the American and National, the confusion incident to two kinds of pitching was discussed. For the National leaguers to be bound down all year to a strict interpretation of the balk rule while the Americans did anything they wanted to, was not fair to the National pitchers when playing the Americans in the post-season series, for the National box men would be used to these restrictions and not prepared for any change. It was decided, therefore, that the American pitchers should be allowed to hold the runners close to the base.  
Beside that, it would be tough on the National's base runners, who would be up in the air most of the time over the motions allowed the American leaguers. American and National, the confusion to the American players when playing on the latter's grounds. Consequently, when the rules were framed, it was decided that leagues should enforce them exactly alike, hence orders for the enforcement of the balk rule in the American league.

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You can talk to the people I've cured, but you need not pay me until I cure you.



You can talk with the men and women who have been cured by my treatment, and that's worth considering. I might preach for years in my efforts to gather converts to my way of curing disease, and nobody would pay any attention to my arguments; but when I tell you I have cured your neighbor, Mr. Walker, or your old friend, Mr. Williams, and you can go and ask them about me, and they tell you I have cured them, then I have given you proof, and you know that I do it all I claim.  
And I want you to give me credit for what I prove. There's nothing surer than the word of an honest man when such men as these admit that I cured them, you know that I can cure you.

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Dear Sir:—I have worn your Belt for the last month, and it has given entire satisfaction. I am seventy years of age. I can do a good day's work, walk from six to ten miles, and come home at night feeling well and fresh. I will gladly recommend your Belt. Your very truly,  
JESSE TYE, Fillmore City, Utah.

Dear Sir:—I wish to say that I feel like a new man since wearing your Belt. In every way I feel like a new man. My Belt is number seven, and is giving good satisfaction. Yours respectfully,  
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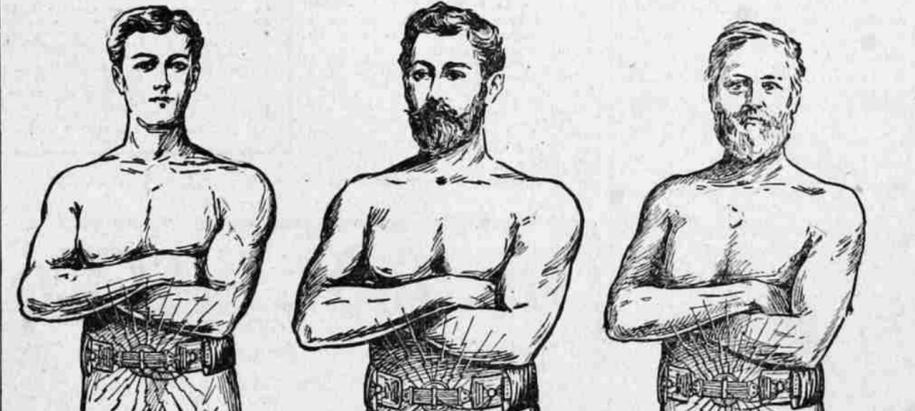
I don't think there is any case of weakness, failure of vitality or of any trouble resulting from the imperfect action of any organ of the body that I can't cure. Of course, I do not cure all cases, but I have such confidence in my treatment that I will pay \$100 for a case that comes in my line of treatment which I can't cure with my recently perfected appliance. I am now curing troubles which I would not touch before.

I take the chances, not you, so come and see me, and if I say I can cure you I will prove it to your satisfaction before you pay me a cent. That's fair.

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## DR. SANDEN ELECTRIC BELTS With Electric Suspensory, absolutely FREE UNTIL CURED

If you are well and strong in, say two months, pay me my price—most cases low as \$5. If not, return belt and the deal is closed. I will not ask one cent in advance or on deposit. Will I do it? Try me. Will only cost you a stamp or a call.

What would you not give to have your old vim back again? What would you not give to feel as you did a few years ago, to have the same snap and energy, the same gladness, joyous, light-hearted spirit, and the physical strength you used to have? You know you are not the same man, and you know you would like to be. You might as well, for my offer must convince you what I feel I can do for you. I will give you the use of the best Electric Belt the world knows, for as you probably know I am the father of the electric belt system. I will give you advice gathered from the experience of nearly forty years' successful practice in my line—not equalled by any specialist today. (Imitators imitate my goods, but my great knowledge from long, successful experience cannot be imitated.) But this does not mean that I am giving my belts away. I cure you and then get my pay. By this method I do ten-fold the good I could were I trying to sell the weak "pig in a bag." It pays me and it pays my patients.

This offer is especially to men who suffer from Debility, Varicose, Impotence, Urinary Losses, etc., but my belt also cures Rheumatism, Lamé Back, Stomach, Liver and Kidney Troubles, General Ill Health, etc., and I give it on same terms. It is simply worn around the body while you sleep. In the morning you wake up full of strength and vim, prepared to face the world however you find it.

at once arrange to give you my belt on terms mentioned, and also two best little books ever written upon electricity and its medical uses. Address,  
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Pelvic Diseases of Men are CURED BY DR. COOK after other failures are made by other specialists.

The success of Dr. Cook in curing all forms of Blood Poison, Skin Diseases, Varicocele, Hydrocele, Piles, Fistula, Rupture, Nervous and Sexual Decline, Loss of Manhood, and Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder and Prostate, has ranked his name as the Specialist on the American Continent.



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## Blood Poison, Stricture, Varicocele,

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**IMPORTANT**—I will cure you for less money than you can be treated by any other specialist in the West. I have come to me sooner or later in order to be properly cured; why not before you have lost your money in vain with cheap or dishonest, unskilled specialists? **ABSOLUTELY NO CHARGE UNLESS SATISFACTION IS GIVEN.** My written guarantee to refund every dollar for service if they do not receive a complete, life-long cure and satisfaction, and I have made a deposit of \$500.00 in the bank, to secure any contract that I do not fulfill.

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My treatment for Poisoned Blood is based on the principle of reorganization of the corpuscles by Specific Serum, introduced by subcutaneous injection and combined with an internal specific, which disorganizes, neutralizes and expels the poison from the system through the same ducts that carry off all the effete matter. In a few weeks after beginning the treatment the poison is cast out, the corpuscles are renewed with fresh, pure blood, which abundantly supplies the tissues that rebuild the flesh and bones, so that the patient becomes strong, fleshy, red-faced and enjoys the pride of health.

The treatment is introduced both subcutaneously and internally, and removes all manifestations of the disease soon after beginning.

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The reason why there are so many failures made in treating stricture is because 90 per cent of the physicians who claim to cure the disease employ some method of treating organic stricture when some other condition exists. No doctor can justly claim the ability to cure stricture unless he has devoted years of study and practice to the disease; neither can any one expect to be cured by cutting, dilating, syringing, or the use of soluble bougies, which give only temporary relief and aggravate the disease.

My treatment for stricture is by irrigation, which digests the formation in fibrous particles, after reducing all inflammation so that the passage of water is without pain or difficulty. Immediate relief is received from the course of treatment I administer, and I cure the most severe cases. When I have dismissed a case the canal is sound, healthy and perfectly natural. I will give \$1000 for a case of simple stricture that I cannot cure.

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About three-fourths of the male population from 20 to 60 years of age are troubled with an abnormally weak condition of the organs of procreation, invariably brought on by the youth in his teens or the many excesses to which man is apt to be addicted. Varicose, involuntary emissions, drains, premature discharge, small organs, weak back are all symptoms of rapid decline.

MY CURE is a thorough and scientific course of treatment which acts at once upon the nerve forces, stopping the drain and replacing the worn-out and run-down tissues. It increases the weight in sound, healthy flesh and muscles that give strength and fills the brain and nerves with fresh vitality, building up the entire system and transforming the sufferer into a type of complete manhood.

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By the modern method of illuminating the bladder I have no trouble in discovering the nature of the disease, and by directly and scientifically medicating the affected regions, I accomplish remarkably quick and permanent cures.

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