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P. A. VAILE

Spalding's Primer Series No. 1

THE TENNIS PRIMER

BY

P. A. VAILE

AUTHOR OF

"Modern Lawn Tennis," "Great Lawn Tennis Players,"
"The Strokes and Science of Lawn Tennis,"
"The Soul of Golf," "Modern Golf,"
Etc.

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Introduction

The wonderful popularity of The Strokes and Science of Lawn Tennis has induced the American Sports Publishing Company to commission the author, Mr. P. A. Vaile, to write a more rudimentary treatise. Mr. Vaile's fame as an authority on sport is world-wide. This is his fourth-book on Tennis, his other works on the game in addition to "The Strokes and Science of Lawn Tennis," being "Modern Lawn Tennis" and "Great Lawn Tennis Players." In addition to these, Mr. Vaile has also written (inter alia) "Modern Golf," "The Soul of Golf," and "Swerve or the Flight of the Ball."

Mr. Vaile's knowledge of tactics has brought him world-wide recognition and in his French translation of "Modern Lawn Tennis," Max Decugis, then champion of France, tells how he defeated A. W. Gore, then champion of England, for the championship of London, by following the tactics which Mr. Vaile had laid down for him.

The publishers are convinced that if the lessons taught by Mr. Vaile in this book and in "The Strokes and Science of Lawn Tennis" are properly learned, they will have a very great and beneficial effect on Tennis in America.

Foreword

Although this book is called "The Tennis Primer," I hope that it will prove of great use to the most expert tennis players, for few of them have a backhand drive. I have herein paid special attention to this branch of the game, for the execution of this stroke is almost a lost art, and there is no reason why it should be so if players will take the trouble to study carefully the photographs given in illustration of this very fine drive.

P. A. VAILE.

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Continuation, of Half Court Line for purpose of judging
Foot Faults over Centre Service Line.
(Always.shown on English Courts.)

Description of the Game

Tennis is played by two or four persons. When two persons play the game it is called a Single, when four, a Double. When the game is played by men it is called a Men's Single or Men's Double, as the case may be. When by ladies, or as they say in America, women, it is called, in England, a Ladies' Double, in America, a Women's Double. When a lady and a man play a similarly constituted pair, it is called a Mixed Double.

The size of the Court for the single game is 78 feet by 27 feet. The Double Court is 78 feet by 36 feet.

The game is played with rackets, or, as they are sometimes called bats, and balls, and it consists of a series of "rests," or "rallies." A "rest" signifies the number of times a ball has been played backwards and forwards consecutively over the net. That is to say, a rest consists of the play which ensues from the time a good service leaves the racket of the server until the ball is dead.

A net runs across the court in the middle, parallel with the base lines and dividing the court into two equal spaces. The ball is played from one side of this net to the other until one of the players fails to return it into the opponent's court. Either side scores a point when the opposing side fails to return the ball into the opponent's court. This point may be obtained by one's opponent failing to hit the ball, by hitting it into the net, or by the ball falling out of the opponent's court. The object of the game of Tennis is, therefore, to place or drive the ball into the

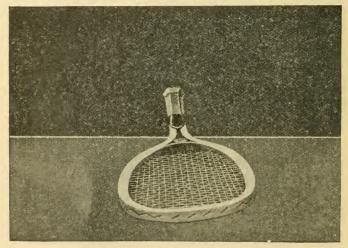


Plate 1.
THE GRIP OF THE RACKET.

The best way to learn the forehand grip is to lay the racket on the table as shown in Plate 1. Then proceed as shown in following plates.

opponent's court in such a manner as to prevent him from returning it into one's own court.

The person who puts the ball in play is called the Server. He throws the ball up as specified and hits it across the net into the service court diagonally opposite.

After the Server has done this each side must strike the ball alternately, hitting it before it touches the ground, in which case the stroke is called a "volley," or, if it has struck the ground, a "ground stroke."



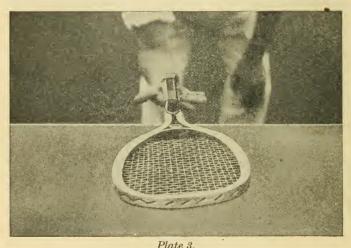
Plate 2.
FOREHAND GRIP.

Open the hand. Place it under the racket handle, as shown, so that the handle of the racket and the forearm are in the same line.

It must be remembered that one must not volley the service; that is to say, the service must not be struck before it touches the ground. The player who does this loses the stroke. All balls other than the service may be either volleyed or played off the ground.

The first point, or ace, won by either side is called 15-love and if each side wins one of the first two points it is called "15-all."

The server's score is always called first, so that the score



FOREHAND GRIP.

Now let the hand turn sufficiently to the side, as shown in Plate 3, to grip the racket.

would in the foregoing case be called "15-love" or "love-15" and "15-all," according to whether the server or his opponent wins the first stroke. "Love," in tennis scoring, means nothing.

If the server wins the first two strokes, the score is

"30-love." If his opponent wins the next one it is "30-15." If the server loses the next one the game is "30-all."

It will thus be seen that the first two strokes are given a value of 15 each. The third stroke is assessed at 10, so

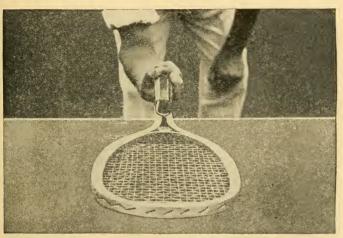


Plate 4.
FOREHAND GRIP.

Close the hand round the racket. This gives the proper forehand grip used by the greatest players of modern times, and also of those who made the history of the game before the present unsound English grip was introduced.

that if "30-all" has been called and the server wins the next point the score is called 40-30. Should the receiver, or striker-out, as he is generally called, win the next point after "30-all," the score would be called 30-40.

A game is won by either side when four aces or points have been scored, unless each side wins three points, which means "40-all," but is always called "Deuce."

At Deuce it is necessary for either side to win two consecutive strokes before the game is won, so that once the

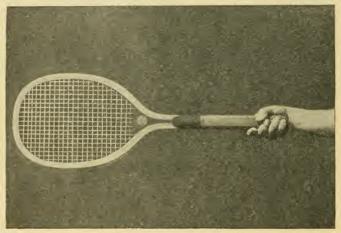


Plate 5.
FRONT VIEW OF FOREHAND GRIP.

Notice that the arm and handle are in the same line. This is most important. Notice also that the leather is in the hand, which is unusual now. It is, however, the old grip, and forehand or backhand, is still probably the best.

score has gone to deuce neither side can win by the result of one "rest."

If, when the score is deuce, the server wins the next ace, it is "'vantage in." Should he then win the next,

the game is his, but should he lose it the game goes back to deuce and both he and his opponent require to score two consecutive strokes before the game is won, so that if the score is "'vantage in," the receiver must score three successive strokes to win. He wants one to bring it back

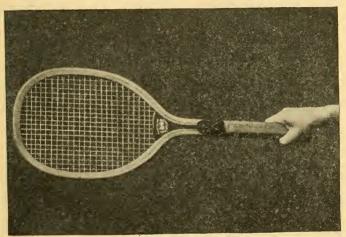


Plate 6.
THE BACKHAND GRIP.

The principle of the arm and racket handle being in the same line, or at least in the same plane of force is well exemplified here.

to deuce, a second to take it to a "'vantage out," and the third for "game."

After the first game is won the receiver becomes the server, and so on alternately. The score is always called with the server's score first. When the games are equal

they are called "1-all," "2-all," "3-all," and so on, but if it is "5-all," either side must win two games in succession before the set is won. The games in scoring are not called "deuce" or "'vantage"; "5-all," or "6-5," would be called, but the same rules apply as in the case of deuce or 'vantage



Plate 7.
ALTERNATIVE BACKHAND GRIP.

Many players put the thumb up the back of the handle for the backhand stroke. I always do when driving, but not so habitually when volleying. It is not necessary, but I believe it aids direction.

in the game; for instance, if the score is 5-6 in a set, the server would require to win one game to bring the score to 6-all, and then he would have to win two more games, consecutively, before the set would go to him.

There is no fixed rule as to what constitutes a match. Any club or tournament committee may settle the point for themselves. Matches are, however, usually the best two of three sets.

Men's championship matches are generally decided on

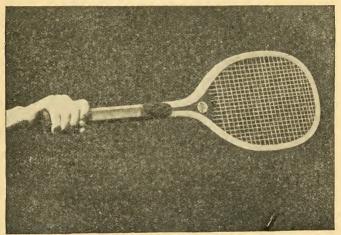


Plate 8.
FRONT VIEW OF BACKHAND GRIP.

This shows how the racket appears from the front. Notice the arm and handle in the same plane and the leather at the end of the handle in the hand. This allows much greater freedom of wrist action than if the end of the racket protrudes.

the best of five sets. The side which shows 3-2, 3-1 or 3-love, in sets, winning.

Matches in which women play are always decided by the best of three sets.

The ball in service must never be volleyed, that is, hit before it strikes the ground; but the receiver must wait until the ball has hit the ground before he can strike it.

The game is played on a variety of courts—grass, sand, dirt, asphalt, cement, wood and others—but there is no court so suitable for the game as grass.

Great care should be taken in laying out a court to allow plenty of room all around it.

I have designedly dropped the prefix "lawn" in dealing with the game. The time has come for it to take its proper place and leave the older game, which is comparatively unknown, to adopt some distinctive title.

How to Make and Keep a Court

I have laid out a considerable number of grass courts and my advice to any one who wants to do the same thing is to get some person who makes it his business to do it for him if he can afford it. If he cannot, or if he wants the work and "fun," I must try to help him. I have already given the plan and dimensions of the single and double courts, so I shall address myself here merely to the question of construction.

These are general instructions, and must, of course, in many cases, be subject to local conditions. See that the site which you select is protected from the prevailing winds, if you can conveniently arrange it so by taking advantage of any natural shelter, but on no account have any trees, particularly deciduous trees; near it.

Having selected your site, you must lay down your side line and measure out your court. Now comes the important matter of settling your levels, and I don't mind telling you that I generally employed a surveyor to do it for me. If you cannot get a surveyor you can manage it for yourself by driving in a stake or two with a straight-edge nailed on at a right angle, putting a spirit-level on that, and repeating the operation with the other stakes. You will have to level from stake to stake by another straight-edge and level, which I am afraid you will find rather tedious.

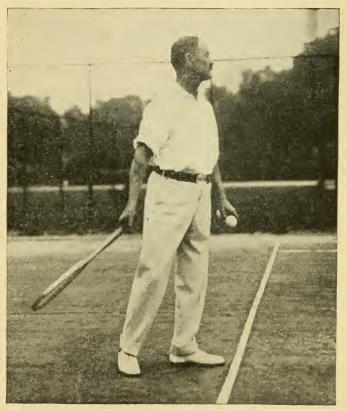


Plate 9.
THE SERVICE.

It is advisable to hold two balls in the hand when serving. Later one may hold more if desired. Practically, more than two tend to interfere with accuracy of placing the ball in the air for the delivery of the service. The racket starts low down so as to get momentum for the stroke.

You must endeavor to lay out your court so that the sun will pass as nearly as may be across it in the same line as the net.

Having got your levels, the next thing will be to reduce the ground. If you are adding the soil to make the lawn, you will simply have to straighten out the ground roughly and spread your soil on top. You must be careful to get good soil free from weeds.

If you are using the soil already there, you must, if your excavation would take you into poor soil, lay back the good soil on each side, level up the subsoil and spread the good soil again. You must then see that it is thoroughly pulverized and raked, and every sign of a weed must be taken out. When you have gone thoroughly over it, and raked it until there is not a nut or a weed in it, you may sow it. Here I must leave you to the tender mercies of your seedsman with the warning to avoid clover as you would sin, and to use nothing but fine lawn grasses suitable for your district and climate.

In sowing you must be careful to spread the seed well with a free circular sweep of the hand, which releases the seed equally at all portions of its passage; in fact, unless you know how to do it, again you had better get some one who does. Whatever you do, be generous with the seed. Put on 50 per cent more than the seedsman tells you to rather than 10 per cent less. You should sow when the



Plate 10. SERVING.

Note carefully weight mainly on right foot, now shifting to left; feet almost at right angle, right ankle and knee bent to give the snap; left arm and shoulder high up, right arm and shoulder low down (as in cricket or base ball when delivering the ball) while the body is bent back a little from the waist.

ground is dry, then roll well with an ordinary roller. You can run a brush or bough over the lawn so as to sweep all seeds into the soil, or rake lightly again. Then roll once more, and Nature will do the rest.

This is really a very general direction, but it is hard to be more specific, as the conditions in each case vary so much; but whatever you do take no notice of the local quidnunc who advises you to have clover because it is always so nice and green, like the balls will be and he is, or some other kind of grass because it is so soft, as he apparently thinks you are.

You may, of course, want to turf your lawn. Good turf is in many places quite impossible to get. We will assume, however, that you can get it and that you have levelled out your lawn and the surrounding ground. You must be careful to see that it is well drained. In some cases it will be right without anything further. In others you will have to tile-drain it. Here again I am afraid you will want the tradesman, as so few amateurs can do this properly.

You should have at least ten inches of good soil above the sub-soil before you think of putting down your turf, and it stands to reason that this must be perfectly and equally consolidated all over, otherwise you will have trouble with your turf. See that all your turf is of an even thickness. After the turf is laid it has to be well trodden or rammed and then lightly rolled. You must



FOREHAND DRIVE WITH LIFT.

This shows the swing back for this stroke. The weight is mainly on the right foot.

now leave it alone for a while to settle, and then in a few weeks, when it has "gripped" the soil, you may put a heavier roller on to it. During the first two or three weeks, if there is not much rain, you should have the sprayer going on the lawn.

Always keep the grass closely mown. If you allow it to grow long it becomes rank and thick at the roots, and this spoils a lawn. You can hardly cut a tennis lawn too close. I can remember nearly getting into trouble with a very worthy secretary of my club, who thought half an inch of grass made it "nice and soft for the feet," by making him an offer for the "grazing" on the lawns. He could not understand that you cannot cut a lawn too closely unless you scrape the earth up.

Shortly after the end of your season it is well to give the base lines some attention. Possibly they will want top-dressing and re-sowing, or they will perhaps, in the case of the turfed lawn, want re-turfing. In the case of a lawn where the seed has been grown on it, especially in its first year, it is a good plan to give it a top-dressing of an inch or so of good soil similar to that which was used in putting it down and to treat this with a liberal application of some of the superphosphate or bone manures so liberally advertised nowadays.

Water your court in the cool of the evening, never in the heat of the day. Keep the roller and the mower going.

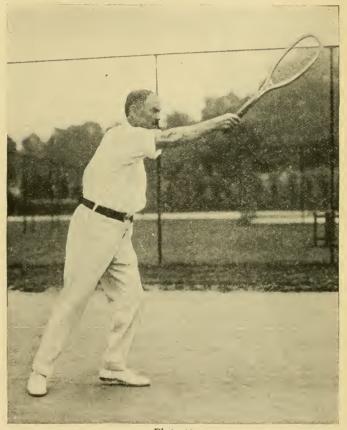


Plate 12.
FINISH OF FOREHAND DRIVE WITH LIFT.

Note carefully how the forearm and racket have turned over. This turn, however, does not take place until *after* the ball has been struck.

These are the three chief factors in obtaining and keeping a good surface after you have once got over the initial difficulties. Carefully remove all weeds as soon as they make their appearance.

Hard Courts.—There are so many different kinds of hard courts that I cannot attempt fully to describe each one. I shall therefore give general directions which are really applicable to nearly all hard courts except such as asphalt, cement, or concrete.

For practically all hard courts the following directions will be found to answer: Excavate the soil for a depth of eight inches over the area which you intend to put down. Level the surface. Lay down about five or six inches of large gravel, broken brick, or any other stone or cinder which you care to use as a foundation. Every stone in this should be of such a size that it will pass through a two-inch ring. Have this thoroughly raked and levelled. Then roll it with a heavy roller—the heavier the better. Two and a half tons is not too heavy if your sub-soil will stand it. Roll it thoroughly, and do not water it. This will put it down very considerably.

Now put down an inch and a half to two inches of gravel, cinder, burnt clay, or whatever you are using, that is about half the size of the foundation. Have this spread a shovelful at a time and sown with a good semi-circular sweep of the shovel, so as to distribute it evenly.



Plate 13. FOREHAND CUT DRIVE.

The racket in this case passes rapidly across the ball from right to left. It is the natural stroke to play on a low ball.

Sweep it well into the interstices between the large stones. Do this thoroughly. Then have it raked and smoothed and dry-roll it heavily and well.

Now you have a very solid bed, and you must start to put on your top. Let this consist of very small gravel, cinder, or stone chips. They must be small enough to readily sweep in between the interstices in the last layer and present a smooth surface. "Sow" this as before. Sweep it well in as it is put down. Give it a good dressing, and now put your water on. Don't flood it, but give it a good drenching all over, so as to wash the chips down between the larger stones. Now for the first time you wet-roll it, and you can hardly give it too much.

You ought now to have a good surface, but if you are not thoroughly satisfied with it you must, when it has dried and set, give it another dressing of smaller chips that are almost dust. Sweep these well in and water them copiously. Then roll again as heavily as you like. If you are making a sand court, your last layer would consist of, say, an inch and a half to two inches of sand, but it would then be well to have some lime or some similar substance to mix with it, otherwise it will probably not bind well unless it is fairly coarse.

You must not make the mistake of putting down too much dust on the court Your final dressing should be small chips in preference to dust, for if your last layer is



Plate 14.
FOREHAND CUT DRIVE.

A little later in the same stroke. Note the racket already beginning to turn, also the grip, which allows the greatest possible freedom for the wrist.

too fine it merely sinks between the larger stones or rubble and is in dry weather a cushion of dust and in wet a pad of mud, so that your court will not consolidate at all, and it will be as great a failure as a court as was the Thames Embankment as a road until it was paved.

In each layer you must see that you have your stones carefully graded. They should be as nearly as possible of uniform size. It is a good idea to have your court several inches higher down the centre than at the sides. This allows the water to run off freely.

Unless your site is naturally fairly well drained you should tile-drain it before you put down your foundations, or if you do not you can make your "floor" slope to some given point and put in a few pipes to carry off any spakage.

These are necessarily very general directions, but the principles are sound and will be found to answer here if intelligently carried out, even as they do in road-making, for that is what they amount to. They are practically the scientific method of road-making which is so generally neglected throughout England.



Plate 15.
FINISH OF FOREHAND CUT DRIVE.

Note here that the forearm and racket have not turned over as in the forehand lifting drive. The tendency is quite in the other direction. This return, especially from left back court to left back court produces a low swerving ball with an ugly break.

Implements and Dress

Do not get a cheap racket. Most cheap rackets are in the long run very expensive. If you do not understand how to choose a racket yourself, you should endeavor to get someone who does know. A man should use a racket from 14 to 14½ ounces. For ladies 13 ounces is right.

I am a great believer in knickerbockers for all athletic games and in the Southern hemisphere they are used by some players. The climatic conditions in the Northern hemisphere make it almost impossible to use them with comfort. No athletic game can be played to the best advantage in trousers, because they bind at the knee. Can we, for instance, imagine a base ball team playing base ball in trousers? But there can be little doubt that trousers are most convenient and comfortable, although by no means the most suitable for tennis.

It is of great importance that one should be lightly and tightly shod. One should not, of course, have one's shoes so tight as to cause inconvenience, but it is impossible to start quickly in loose shoes and it is a point of considerable importance to have the least possible weight to carry about on one's feet. A lady player should have the skirt so short and light that it does not impede her progress on the court. Hard courts require a heavier shoe than is needed for grass.



Plate 16.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

Plate 16 shows the beginning of the stroke, which is most important. It starts at the elbow. The following series of pictures is the most complete explanation of the backhand drive that has ever been given.

The Grip of the Racket

A proper grip of the racket is of the utmost importance to the game; in fact, it may be said to be the foundation of the game.

There is one outstanding principle which one must absolutely bear in mind in connection with the grip of the racket and that is, at the time of striking the ball, the forearm and the handle of the racket must be in one and the same straight line. That is to say, if the forearm were continued in a line, it would run straight on to the handle of the racket. In many cases, the whole of the arm, from the shoulder, and the racket are in the same line or plane. This is particularly so in the backhand stroke.

There are of course many cases where the racket and the forearm are not in the same line, but when this is so, as in some portions of the backhand stroke, the arm and the racket handle are moving in the same direction, or, to put it more accurately, in the same plane.

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this fundamental principle. In England it is customary to play with the hand much more toward the side of the handle than is usual in America. The moment this is done one sacrifices power and direction.

If one desires to push a person forward, one would



THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This plate shows very clearly the elbow movement which takes the racket back. Note that the weight is on the left leg.

naturally go behind him to do so. It is exactly the same with the racket. We desire to propel the ball with the racket, therefore we must be behind the racket to get the best result.

This is true of every stroke in the game and, when I say we must be behind the racket, it must be understood that I speak principally of the position of the hand on the racket handle, although as a matter of fact, in nearly every stroke in tennis the player is behind the ball, so far as regards the distance from the opponent.



Plate 18.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

A back view showing weight on left leg and the manner in which the racket swings back in the backhand drive.

The Game

It is important to remember that one must keep one's eye on the ball until one has hit it, and one should try to hit the ball absolutely in the centre of the racket—if one may use the term "centre" of the racket.

It is very important not to get too near to the ball, either in the line of its flight and bound or laterally.

A beginner should start by letting the ball bound so that it will fall to the second bound about two feet or two feet six inches to the right of the left foot; then he can hit it shortly before it would strike the ground the second time if he did not play it. This is the fundamental ground stroke in tennis. Of course the whole theory of modern tennis is to attack the ball at or before the top of the bound, but the fundamental ground stroke in tennis is to get the ball on the racket with the racket face upwards, so that the ball bounds off the racket as it would off a table, placed at an angle of say 40 degrees. This is the stroke which gives the player the lob and from it come the other strokes in the game.

One thing which is of the utmost importance to remember is, that at the time of making every stroke the racket should be held very firmly.

Playing with a loose wrist is one of the commonest



Plate 19.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This plate shows the racket coming forward on to the ball, also the weight being transferred to the right leg.

errors in tennis. There is no stroke in tennis which may be played with a loose wrist. All the delicacy and finesse which is shown in the game, although it is ascribed to the wrist, really comes from the turn of the forearm, the wrist being, in practically all cases, fairly rigid, and in many as firm as if cast in steel.

Between the strokes, the player will, of course, relax his hold of the racket, so as not unduly to strain his muscles, and he will when waiting for the service naturally carry the racket in both hands supporting it at the splice with his left hand.

It is important in tennis to swing well back before one hits the ball and also to follow well through after the ball, transferring one's weight, in the act of striking the ball, on the forehand from the right foot to the left in the case of the right-handed player and reversely in the case of the left-handed player.



Plate 20.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

A side view showing how far in front of the player the backhand stroke is played as compared with the forehand. This position in photographs always looks constrained. The stroke really is the most graceful in the game, and, as in the cinematograph pictures of a galloping horse, the individual positions are not discernible. Note carefully the position of elbow, wrist, feet, and the bend of the body which gives room for a full swing of the racket.

The Service

The service is used to put the ball into play, and nowadays it occupies a totally disproportionate place in the game, so much so indeed that I should not be surprised to see the service court shortened from six inches to a foot, or the service rule radically altered.

The player must get out of his mind any idea whatever that he can play tennis with one grip. There are many grips in tennis, each one to be used in its own particular place, but the same principle runs right through every grip.

The racket must be held in a straight line with the forearm or in the same plane of force with it at the moment the blow is being struck.

Nearly every beginner tries to hit the service down into the service court. This is a great mistake. There is no necessity to try to hit the service downward. It will come down of its own accord if it be hit straight away.

The beginner should make his fault over the service line. He should not put the ball into the net; there is no necessity to do so. He should send the ball a foot above the net sooner than put it into it.

In starting the service, the weight should be on the right leg. The ball is thrown up well over the right ear and struck the moment it comes within reach of the centre of the racket. As one is hitting it one's weight is shifted to the left foot and the racket is allowed to swing out after the ball until it finishes almost touching the ground.

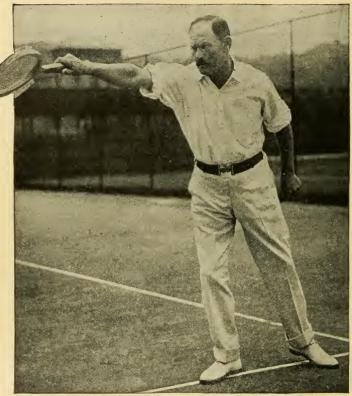


Plate 21.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This plate shows an important position. The forearm and racket are turning over and the thumb is beginning to show at the side of the racket as it will do if the stroke is played naturally and the arm is allowed to follow through without constraint. Unless the finish is made in this manner the ball will lack that invaluable quality top-spin, for the stroke will not have been properly played.

The Forehand Stroke

The forehand stroke is the foundation of the game. No one without a good forehand stroke can be really a great player. Many players have become famous with practically nothing else than a good forehand drive, therefore it is of great importance to a player to endeavor to cultivate a good forehand.

I have spoken already of the foundation stroke in tennis. Here one almost allows the ball to reach the ground on the second bound and then tosses it up, and it will not be long before the beginner will see that he wants something better than this stroke.

It is then that he comes to the real forehand drive. This stroke is played by bringing the racket up behind the ball and striking it an upward blow which can best be described as brushing the ball or brushing the racket up behind the ball.

Generally speaking, when the ball is from waist high up to the shoulder, the racket-face is at the moment of impact vertical, and thus engages the ball, hitting it a smart blow and sending it on its way with a large amount of top spin on it, which is an invaluable quality in a passing shot.

It is of importance to remember that in making this



Plate 22.

THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This is what happens if the thumb is left below the handle and the forearm is not allowed to turn naturally. The player becomes "locked on the shoulder" and the finish of the stroke is quite ruined. Players who finish thus never get "top" on their ball. This finish is a clear indication that the stroke was badly played.

stroke, or any other stroke in the game, it is advisable always when one can do so to take a short step with the foot at the moment one is hitting the ball. On the forehand the step will be taken with the left foot; on the backhand, with the right foot, and in all cases it should be the endeavor of the player so to judge the distance from the ball that this short step will put him into the correct position for striking it.

A player should always aim at acquiring certainty in playing balls without putting any spin on them. After he has done this he may begin to study the intricacies of the various spins, which now play such an important part in modern Tennis, although in 1904, when these things were fully explained, English players scoffed, because they did not understand them, and, on account of their faulty grip of the racket, could not do them. Their lack of initiative and their wrong principles have cost them their place in the game. They will never regain it until they return to the grips shown in this book.

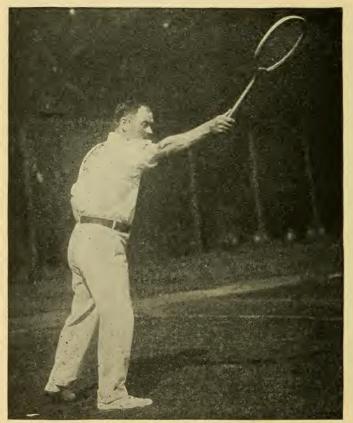


Plate 23.

THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This plate shows the finish of the backhand drive. Note carefully that the weight has gone on to the right foot, and that the arm has turned over until the thumb shows above the handle instead of below it.

The Backhand Stroke

This stroke is usually made in very bad form. The position of the feet is at all times a matter of very great importance, but it is especially so in the production of the backhand stroke.

The player, at the time of striking the ball, should have the right foot turned toward the net. This gives him the opportunity of bending his body sideways when he swings back with his racket, so that the racket swings underneath his body, and the player also has every opportunity to get to the back of the swing, whereas, if he were to face the net, his arm would come across his chest and his stroke would thus be interfered with.

The right foot is generally pointing almost where the ball is meant to be driven to, for in all drives in tennis the finish should be so that the weight of the player's body goes in a line down his front foot; in fact, the finish of any stroke in tennis should throw the player into the position in which he desires to be in order to start a run. This, of course, one would not be if one played across one's feet.

In the backhand stroke, the ball is taken farther from the player's body than is the case in the forehand drive.

The reason for this will be apparent from a study of



Plate 24.
THE BACKHAND DRIVE.

This shows a good finish of a backhand drive. The weight has gone on to the right foot and the follow-through is quite free and natural. Observe how the thumb has come up *above* the handle of the racket from its position at impact behind or below it. The wrist must be like steel at the finish, and it is indeed as firm as a rock throughout the stroke.

the photographs. It is very rare, indeed, to find a tennis player with a good backhand drive.

There is no reason whatever why players should not cultivate this stroke and I am certain that anyone carefully following out the instructions given, can acquire this most beautiful and effective shot.

There is only one man in America who can be said to really drive the ball on the backhand. The reason for this is that many of the players here have followed the English idea of holding the racket off the line of the arm. The moment this is done the racket becomes an excrescence on the side of the arm, instead of being, as it should, a continuation of the arm.

The Single Game

First, of all, cultivate accuracy. After that one may begin to improve one's pace. Length and accuracy are the two things which a singles player wants and after one has got these one has the right to begin practising for speed.

It is a great mistake to be too anxious to win off every stroke. One should endeavor always to play one's stroke so that if one cannot beat one's opponent outright, one at least makes him play his stroke so that he is at a disadvantage.

It is a great mistake to think that one's returns should just skim the net. If one plays for this, one will very quickly see a large number of them go into the net. One should keep firmly in one's mind that, especially with the forehand lifting drive, it is possible to drive two feet above the net and get a good length fast return.

The Return of the Service

The two returns which are generally used are a cross-court shot or a side-line drive. Especially in doubles, it is useful to understand the value of service down the centre of the court. This delivery cuts out the side-line shot down what is commonly called the alley and there is considerably less of the angle of the ordinary cross-court shot left to one's opponent.

The Double Game

There are four methods of returning the service in the double game, viz.: the Side-line Drive, the Cross-court Drive, the Centre Drive and the Lob.

The centre drive is perhaps the best return in doubles and it is most certainly the safest, because there is often some doubt as to who should volley the return of the service and frequently the ball is inadvertently left; off this return the ball is frequently volleyed when it would have gone out if not played.

The side-line drive is made so that the ball travels almost parallel with the side line.

It is a good idea to use this drive occasionally, as it prevents the man at the net from getting over too much to the centre of the court, and so cutting off the cross-court return or centre drive. A clean drive down the side line will tell him that he must remain at home.

Synopsis of the Laws of the Game

The balls which are played with are not to be less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, nor more than 2 9/16 inches in diameter and not less than 1 15/16 ounces nor more than 2 ounces in weight.

It is usual to toss to decide who shall serve first or who shall have the choice of the courts. Generally the racket is tossed and "rough" or "smooth" is called. The "rough" side of the racket is where the small colored cross strings at each end do not run across in a straight line, but are shown coiled around the gut. "Smooth" is the side of the racket where this stringing apparently runs in an unbroken line from side to side.

The player who wins the toss has the right to say whether he will take the choice of sides or the service. This is a matter which is sometimes of considerable importance in matches, having regard to sun or wind.

In serving the player must stand with both feet behind, that is, farther from the net than the base line, and within the limits of the imaginary continuation of the centre service and the side lines.

He must stand still before he begins to serve. That is, he may not walk up and serve without stopping, nor may he have both feet off the ground at or immediately before the moment of striking the ball, nor is he permitted to pass one foot over the line at or immediately before the moment of striking the ball, even if that foot is in the air and does not come down in the court.

He must not have one or both feet on the base line at the moment of serving. He must place both feet on the ground immediately before serving and must not take a running or walking start.

He must serve from the right and left courts alternately.

The ball must drop into the "Service Court," which is diagonally opposite to the half court from which it is

served.

It is a good service if the ball drops on any line bounding the service court.

It is a fault if the service is delivered from the wrong court or if the server does not stand as already indicated, or if the ball served drops in the net or outside the service court diagonally opposite as aforesaid.

If the server misses the ball altogether it does not count as a fault, but if the ball be touched, no matter how lightly, by the racket, the service is thereby delivered and the laws governing the service at once apply.

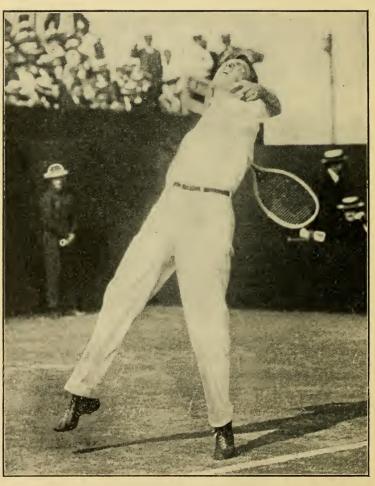
The receiver may not take a fault.

If the server has made a fault, he should serve again from the court from which he served the fault, unless it was a fault because it was served from the wrong court. It is not permitted to hit the service before it has struck the ground, but it must strike the ground in the service court for which it is intended before it can be played.

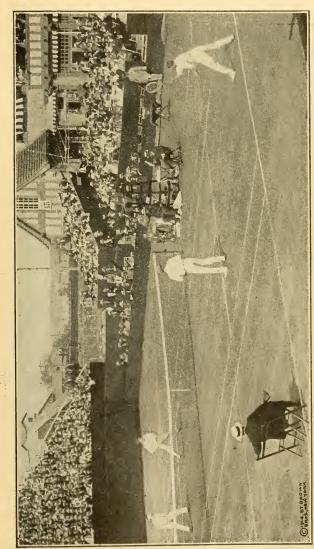
The ball is in play from the moment at which it is delivered in service (unless a fault), until it has been volleyed by the receiver in his first stroke, or has dropped in the net or out of the court, or has touched one of the players or anything that he wears or carries, except his racket in the act of striking, or has been struck by either of the players more than once consecutively, or has been volleyed before it has passed over the net, or has failed to pass over the net before its first bound, or has touched the ground twice consecutively on either side of the net, although the second time may be out of court.

It is a let if the ball in service touches the net, provided the service is otherwise good. In this case the stroke is played over again without loss to either player.

Either player loses a stroke if the ball touches him or anything that he wears or carries, except his racket in the act of striking, or if he volleys the ball, unless he thereby makes a good return, no matter whether he is standing within the limits of the court or outside; or if he touches or strikes the ball more than once consecutively, or if he or his racket (in his hand or otherwise) touches the net or any of its supports while the ball is in play, or if he volleys the ball before it has passed the net.



MAURICE E. McLOUGHLIN, Conqueror of Norman E. Brookes and Anthony F. Wilding in Davis Cup singles.



Bundy and McLoughlin vs. Brookes and Wilding. DAVIS CUP DOUBLES.

McLoughlin vs. brookes-davis cup singles.

Brown Bros., N. Y., Photo.

What is New in Tennis

Since the introduction some years ago of the Spalding Gold Medal rackets, originally made in two models, it has been our constant aim to improve and expand this special line of rackets to meet the demands and requirements of what we might call the composite experience of experts from all over the States, Europe and Australia,

Practically every reasonable requirement that can be looked for in a racket—stringing, distribution of weight, playing surface, grip, shape—is present in the one or the other of the Spalding Gold Medal models, and until now we felt sure we had the "last word" in racket manufacture,

We did not sit back and rest on our laurels, however, content with what we had accomplished, but, as has always been the Spalding custom, strove to excel ourselves, and, in the new Spalding "Autograph" racket we feel sure that we have succeeded in producing an implement that is unquestionably the finest ever made. Reinforced inside the depressed throat with selected rawhide, and outside from the shoulders down into the very handle itself, it minimizes to the smallest degree the possibility of a broken frame. The upper part of the frame is beautifully beveled, and the handle made entirely of cedar. The stringing is of the finest grade of lambs' gut, done by the most expert stringers in our shops. The racket is highly polished and finished in either brown or black. The brown style has brown throatpiece, brown rawhide reinforcement at shoulders and maroon trimming gut. All white stringing, in "expert" style, style has black throatpiece, black rawhide reinforcement at shoulders and black trimming gut. White vertical and black cross strings, in "expert" style. Handles are 5, 54 or 5% inches in circumference. Price, including a waterproof cover, \$10.00.

The "International" is the 1915 addition to our \$8.00 Gold Medal models and rounds out the greatest line of high grade rackets ever offered to the public. Graceful lines, lots of playing surface and raised throatpiece, it gives the player confidence in his strokes as soon as he grasps it.

In addition to the "International," the line of \$8.00 rackets includes such favorites as the Gold Medal No. GMB, All-Comers, Olympic, Model H, and the ever-popular "Hackett and Alexander," each with its own particular point of popularity. Excellent rackets, ones that were "championship" class only a few years ago, are Models GX, DH and EH, which sell at \$5.00, while the "Tournament," at \$4.00; the "Slocum," at \$3.50; the Nassau and Lakeside, at \$3.00; Oval, \$2.50; Greenwood, \$2.00; Geneva, \$1.50, and Favorite, \$1.25, are all representative of Spalding quality at their respective prices.

Speed on the court, ability to last, an all-around, well-balanced game are three qualities necessary to a good player. The Spalding Championship Ball has all these, and wherever it is used we are certain our judgment will be confirmed. Made in two weights of covers—No. OO for turf courts and No. OOH for hard courts. The latter ball has met with remarkable success on hard courts throughout the country, so much so that it is popularly known as the "Spalding Hard Court Ball," and was selected as the official ball of the Clay Court tournament of 1914, held at Cincinnati, and has been again officially adopted for the Clay Court championship of 1915, to be held this year on the courts of the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, June 26 and following days.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the challenge match of the Davis Cup tournament of 1914 was played over a Spalding No. 9-O championship net.

For clubs holding tournaments, many articles are now absolute necessities that were unknown a few years ago. While nets, posts, and all the direct paraphernalia of the game itself must be correct and in good shape, the umpire's chair and a scoring tree are just as much a part of the setting nowadays as seats for the spectators, and for clubs holding tournaments a "club" racket press is most essential.

To have a favorite racket put out of commission by some "chair caner" has more than once caused the loss of a match, as many players can testify. We make a specialty of restringing rackets, using the best of materials, and, what is even better, brains. Our stringers are men who are employed continually throughout the year, not for a few months in the season only—and coming in contact with the leading players, who naturally go to Spalding's for their requirements, these men are in an unequaled position to obtain at first hand all the little niceties of stringing that experience has shown to be most effective and which goes to make up that "just a bit better" that distinguishes the expert from the ordinary player. All of which is at the command of our patrons.

Several players who found the glare of a semi-tropic sun on Southern courts most trying during the past winter took a leaf out of the base ball player's notebook and used a form of sun-glass invented by Manager Fred Clarke of the Pittsburgh National League base ball club for the use of outfielders. The arrangement, which is fastened to the player's cap or hat, is substantial but not cumbersome, and has a hinged attachment which permits the glasses to be turned up out of the way when not needed. They cost \$10.

Another novelty is an improvement over the regulation sweatband. It consists of a sweatband and visor—or sunshade—combined and sells for 75 cents.

Probably next to the racket a player's shoes are the most important part of his equipment, and necessarily so, for an ill-fitting pair is a handicap right from the start. A style that has found favor with

many prominent players is the Spalding No. BBH, which is ideal for tournament play on turf courts, and fitted with officially approved blunt spikes in soles and heels. It is high cut, with finest quality kangaroo uppers, white oak soles and spring heels, and sells for \$6.09 per pair.

For clay court use, No. AB is the most desirable style. It laces all the way down to the toe, being just high enough to give support to the ankle and yet not bind too tightly. High cut, drab calf, Blucher style, with heavy red rubber suction soles. No. AB costs \$5.60 per pair.

A canvas shoe much favored by players who desire something stronger than the ordinary type of "sneaker" for clay courts is the Spalding No. HH, which is really a high "sneaker" with an extra heavy sole of best quality rubber. No. HH costs \$2.25 per pair, and low cut, of same quality—when it is known as No. H—costs \$2.00 per pair.

In this connection it is well to call attention to the fact that we also resole rubber soled shoes of our own make, the work being done in the Spalding shoe factory where the shoes are made. This is a convenience that is obvious, and one that other dealers are unable to offer.

Tennis players who contemplate being present—either as contestants or spectators—at the clay court championships at Pittsburgh in June, or the National Championships, to be held this year on the courts of the West Side Tennis Club, at Forest Hills, Long Island, in August, are invited to make use of the Spalding stores in both Pittsburgh and New York as their headquarters. A corps of specially selected stringers will be on hand and no effort will be spared to make Spalding service coequal with Spalding quality.

Spalding "Championship" Lawn Tennis Balls



Made with two different weights of covers—No.00H, for hard or clay courts, and No.00, for turf courts. Absolutely best in every particular of manufacture and made by people who have been in our employ, many of them, for twenty years and over, we place the Spalding Championship Tennis Balls before the most critical clientele in the athletic world with perfect confidence that they will give absolute satisfaction.

No. 00H. For hard courts. Dozen, \$4.00
Three balls only, \$1.00 One or two balls. Each, 35c

No. 00. For turf courts. Dozen, \$4.00
Three balls only, \$1.00 One or two balls. Each, 35c.

Association Lawn Tennis Balls

Fine quality rubber with fine grade of felt covering. Good tennis ball at medium price. . . Dozen, \$3.50

Tournament Lawn Tennis Balls

In the manufacture of the Spalding Championship Ball only those which are absolutely perfect in every particular are allowed to pass, and the "culls" or "throw-outs" are stamped simply Tournament and do not bear



the Spalding Trade-Mark. These balls will answer for practice or for children's use, but should not be used for match play.

No. 0. Dozen, \$3.00 Each, 25c.

PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US A. G. SPALDING & BROS.
STORES IN ALL LARGE CITIES

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THE Shaldaig & Bros

GOLD MEDAL AUTOGRAPH RACKETS

New for 1915

Special Gut Stringing, different and better than ever put before in any stock racket, and strung by the best men in our shops.

Each, \$10.00

Including Waterproof Cover.

All handles either 5, 51/4 or 53/8 inches in circumference

When ordering, specify which color throat and trim is desired.

Either

BROWN Throat and Trim
BLACK Throat and Trim

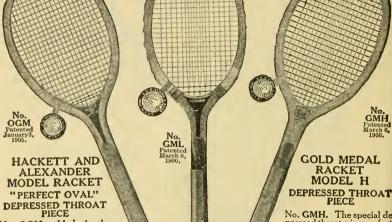
BROWN Style has Brown Throatpiece, Brown Rawhide Reinforcement at shoulders and Maroon Trimming Gut. All White strung in Expert style.

BLACK Style has Black Throatpiece, Black Rawhide Reinforcement at shoulders and Black Trimming Gut. White vertical and Black cross strings in Expert style.

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Spalding Lawn Tennis Rackets



No. OGM. Made in the Spalding "Perfect Oval" Model, with walnut throat piece, dogwood reinforce-ment and vellum wrapped shoulders. A scientifically perfect lawn tennis racket. Handles 5,5% and 5% inches in circumference. Stringing of clearest and absolutely best quality gut. Enclosed in a special quality mackintosh cover. Each, \$8.00 No. GMH. The special depressed throat piece, a feature which we introduced in

our No. OGM, we are using now also in the No. GMH. Stringing is double in central

style. Handles 5,5% and 5% inches in circum-ference. Stringing of clearest and absolutely best quality gut. Each racket is enclosed in a special quality mackintosh cover. Each, \$8.00

SPALDING "OLYMPIC" RACKET-DEPRESSED THROAT PIECE

No. GML. This racket exemplifies what may be done in racket manufacture with perfect factory facilities. No frills, but with every up-to-date feature that has stood the test. Double strung in central portion, yellum wrapped, and wound at shoulders; depressed walnut throat, with dogwood reinforcement. Handles 5, 5½ and 5½ inches in circumference. Stringing of clearest best quality gut. Special quality mackintosh cover with each racket.

Each, \$8.00

GUARANTEE—We guarantee Lawn Tennis Rackets for a period of 30 days from date of purchase by the user. The Guarantee Tag attached to each Spalding Lawn Tennis Racket reads as follows: If this Racket proves defective in workmanship or material within 30 days from date of purchase. please return, transportation charges prepaid, to any Spalding Store, and the defect will be rectified, Imperfectly strung Rackets will be restrung, and in the event of a broken frame due to workmanship or defective material, the racket will be replaced. NOTICE—This Guarantee does not apply to Rackets weighing less than 13 ounces.

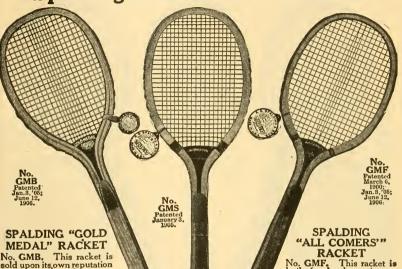
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G. SPALDING & BRO

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Spalding Lawn Tennis Rackets



sold upon its own reputation and the Spalding Guarantee is your assurance of satisfac-tion. Handles 5, 51/4 and 5% inches in circumference. Stringing of clearest and ab-solutely best quality gut. Tag attached to each racket, giv-ing particulars of special inspection. We use a

dogwood insertion in shoulders, after prooving that it is far superior to cane or other material for the purpose. Without case. Each, \$7.50 No. GMF. This racket is built for hard, continuous play. New model, large frame, Walnutthroat piece. Shoulders wrapped and with special side reinforce-ment of rawhide. Stringing is double in the central por-

tion in the latest expert style. Handles 5, 5% and 5% inches in circumference. Stringing of best quality gut. Each racket is enclosed in a special quality mackintosh cover. Each, \$8.00

SPALDING "INTERNATIONAL" RACKET (Patented Jan. 3, 1905)

No. GMS. Made after the suggestion of a player of international reputation. The few samples we put out for trial proved so satisfactory that we decided to add this model to our line for 1915. Straight bevel, large frame. Black throat piece; shoulders specially wrapped. Stringing is double in central portion, with black cross strings, all of best quality gut. Handles 5, 5% and 5% inches in circumference. Each racket enclosed in a special quality mackintosh cover. Each, \$8.00

GUARANTEE.—We guarantee Lawn Tennis Rackets for a period of 30 days from date of purchase by the user. The Guarantee Tag attached to each Spalding Lawn Tennis Racket reads as follows: If this Racket proves defective in workmanship or material within 30 days from date of purchase, please return, transportation charges prepaid, to any Spalding Store, and the defect will be rectified, Imperfectly strung Rackets will be restrung, and in the event of a broken frame due to workmanship or defective material, the Racket will be replaced.

NOTICE.—This Guarantee does not apply to Rackets weighing less than 13 ounces.

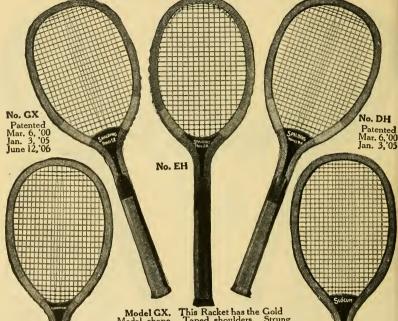
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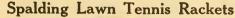
No. 11 Patented Mar. 6, '00 Jan. 3,'05 Model GX. This Racket has the Gold
Medal shape. Taped shoulders. Strung
with best gut. Stringing is double in the central
portion in the popular expert style. . Each, \$5.00
Model DH. Hand made; gut stringing. Modeled after
style used by two English players who were world's champions. Extra stringing in central portion. . Each, \$5.00
Model EH. Depressed walnut throat, with dogwood reinforcement. Selected gut stringing. Shoulders wrapped with
vellum.
No. 11. The Tournament. Taped shoulders; strung with
good quality gut. Has special depressed throat-piece which
we introduced originally in our No. OGM Hackett and
Alexander Model.
No. 8. The Slocum. Oval shape, good quality frame, strung
with special gut, double in central portion. Each, \$3.50
We urge that at the conclusion of play the Racket be rubbed dry, and when not in use to be covered with a Waterproof Cover, placed in a Racket Press, and the gut occasionally gone over with Spalding Tennis Gut Preservative.

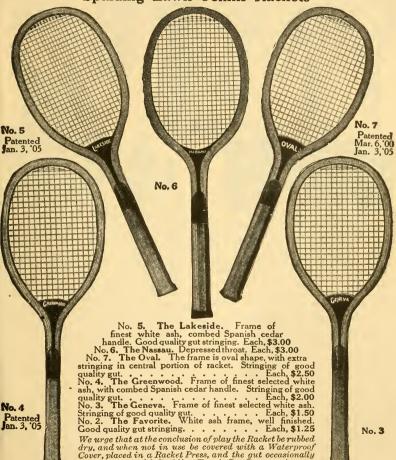
No. 8 Patented Mar. 6,'00 Jan. 3,'05

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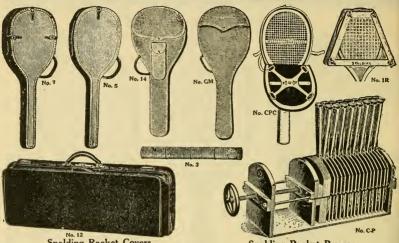
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ADDRESSED TO US

A. G. SPALDING & BROS.
STORES IN ALL LARGE CITIES

gone over with Spalding Tennis Gut Preservative.



. . Each, \$1.00

8.00

Spalding Racket Covers

No. O. Brown and mixed colored canvas cover, full size. Each, 35c. 50c. Soft felt cover, full size. . . . No. 1. No. GM. Good quality mackintosh material. Same exactly as we furnish with our Gold Medal Rackets. Each, \$1.00

No. 14. Canvas cover, neatly bound, with extra pocket to No. 16. Well finished sheepskin, neatly bound. A very attractive cover Each, 2.00 No. 5. Stiff leather, for one racket. . 6.00 Stiff leather, for two rackets, ...

English Leather Tennis Bag

No. 12. Made of special quality leather and with compartments to hold rackets, balls and suit. . . Each, \$10.00

Rackets Restrung We make a specialty of restringing rackets of every known

make. The work is done by our most scientific stringers, and none but first quality gut is used. When sending rackets to us to be restrung be sure to prepay charges on the package and mark with your name and address. Write us under separate cover full particulars regarding restringing. No. 1. Good quality Gut, White only. . . Each, \$1.00 No. 2. Superior quality Gut, White only. . . 1.75

No. 3. Best quality Gut, White only. . . 2.50 3.50 No. 4. Special Expert Stringing, White only.

Spalding Lawn Tennis Score Books Official Lawn Tennis Score Book, paper cover, 16 sets. 10c. Extra Tennis Score Cards, 4 sets. Dozen, 10c.

Seccomb Grip Winder No. S. Rubber fabric, to wind around racket handle. Ea., 15c. Spalding Racket Presses

The most effective style presses in use to-day. Rackets should be kept in press when not in use to prevent warping, especially when exposed to moisture or used at the seashore. For one racket. . Each, \$.75 No. 2R. For one racket. Nicely finished. No. 5R. For one or two rackets. Finely polished walnut, with brass fittings. Each, \$2.50

No. 15R. For six rackets. Brass fittings, heavy construction, special well finished walnut. Each, \$5.00 . . Each, \$2.50

"Combination" Racket Press and Case, Patent Applied For

No. CPC. This is as the name suggests, both a press and a case under one cover. Case is made of best sole leather, practically waterproof; press, which is fastened inside case holds racket frame in shape. . . Each, \$12.00

Spalding "Club" Racket Press Invaluable for Clubs Conducting Tournaments

No. C-P. This is a most substantial affair and is arranged for any number of rackets up to 24. The proper thing for clubs where it is necessary to keep a number of rackets in proper shape all the time. . . Each, \$25.00

Rubber Handle Cover

No. 3. For covering racket handles to secure a better grip.
Rubber, special surface. Each, 75c.

Rubber Adhesive Tape for Racket Handle Grip

No. AD. Made especially for this purpose, I inch wide Piece 4 feet long in individual box. . . . Each, 10c.

Spalding Tennis Gut Preservative (Apply immediately after playing, as it takes a little time to dry thoroughly. Two-ounce bottle of special quality preservative, complete with good brush in box. . . Bottle, 25c.

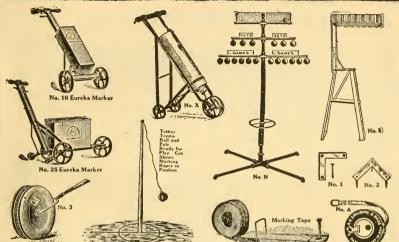
OMPT ATTENTION SIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US

hold balls.

No. 7.

IN ALL LARGE CITIES

ACCEPT NO THE SPALDING (TRADE-MARK QUARANTEES QUALITY



Spalding "Eureka" Wet Tennis Markers

Patented July 27, 1909

For grass or dirt courts. Uses liquid water slaked lime, Makes clear cut line. No brushes to clog and wear. Simple to operate. Flow of liquid under instant control. No. 10. Vertical; small tank. Each, \$10.00 No. 25. Horizontal; for club use; large tank. " 25.00

Spalding Improved "Wet Spray" Tennis Marker For Grass Courts Only

No. X. Simple, but effective. Flow of liquid under instant control from handle. Makes an even line of uniform width No ribbon; liquid flows directly on wheel. Each, \$6.00

Spalding Dry Tennis Markers For Dirt Courts Only

No. 3. No mixing of material. Uses marble dust and slaked lime, etc. Made substantially of iron, nicely japanned. The best dry tennis marker made. . Each, \$2.00 No. 2. Same as No. 3, but smaller size and lighter material.

Spalding Portable Marking Tapes

No. 3. For Single Court, 100 staples and pins. Set, \$3.50 No. 4. For Double Court, 200 staples and 14 pins. 4.00 No. 6. For Double Court, extra quality canvas, complete with 200 staples and 14 pins. Per set, \$6.00 No. 5. Extra Staples.

Spalding Marking Plates

For permanently marking the angles of a court. Made of malleable iron and painted white. A set consists of eight corner and two. T-pieces.

Spalding "Newport" Scoring Tree

A most useful scoring device and practically indispensable for any club conducting important tournaments. Substantially made and complete with everything necessary for announcing progress of games and sets.

No. N. "Newport" Scoring Tree. . . . Complete, \$25.00

Spalding "Umpire" Chair

No. 1. Same style as used at Newport and at all important tournaments. Complete with awning. Each, \$20.00

Spalding Tether Tennis Game

No. 1. Tether Tennis Ball and Cord (regular tennis ball with twine knitted cover).

No. 2. Tether Pole, 14 feet.

No. TP. Tether Pole, 12 feet above ground. Galvanized steel pole. Made specially for playground use. Ea., \$10.00

No. 5. Marking Ropes for circle and dividing line, with staples.

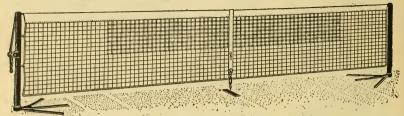
Per set, \$1.00

Spalding "Patent Angle" Steel Measuring Tapes

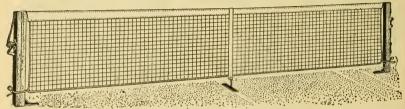
Especially adapted for laying out tennis courts and all kinds of athletic fields. With this tape one person can easily secure accurate right angles, yet the tape is equal to any other for straight measuring also. Enclosed in hard leather case, flush handles with patent automatic handle opener; all mountings nickel-plated. Accuracy guaranteed.

PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US A. G. SPALDING & BROS
STORES IN ALL LARGE CITIES

Spalding Tennis Nets



No. 3-D. Double Center Net. (Hand Made). Showing also No. A Posts and No. 3-0 Center Strap



No. 3-A. Machine Made Net. Showing also No. C Posts

Spalding "Championship" Tarred Nets—Hand Made For tournament play. Furnished with extra heavy galvanized wire cable. Extra heavy duck binding at top. No. 9-0. 42 ft. 6 in. x 3 ½ ft., 30 thread. Each, \$12.00 No. 8-0. 33 ft. x 3½ ft., 30 thread. "10.00

Spalding Tarred Nets-Hand Made

Bound with 10 oz. duck at top. With galvanized wire cable.

No. 7-0. 42 ft. 6 in. x 3½ ft., 21 thread. Each, \$10.00

No. 6-0. 33 ft. x 3½ ft., 21 thread. "9.00"

Spalding Double Center Nets-Hand Made Double twine knitted together from 20 to 26 feet.

White, 21 Thread, Double Court
No. 3D. 42 ft. x 3 ft., double center 26 feet.
No. 2D. 36 ft. x 3 ft., double center 20 feet.
" 6.00

White, 15 Thread, Double Court
No. 3C. 42 ft. x 3 ft., double center 26 feet. Each, \$5.50
No. 2C. 36 ft. x 3 ft., double center 20 feet. " 5.00

Spalding Canvas Bound Nets-Hand Made

NOT Double Center. Top bound with heavy 2-inch canvas strip No. 3B. Double Court, 42 ft. x 3 ft., 21 thread, white. Ea., \$5.00 No. 2B. Double Court, 36 ft. x 3 ft., 21 thread, white. 4.50 Spalding Black Twine Club Nets—Hand Made Dyed with fast coloring matter which adds to their durability.

Bound at top with a doubled band of 8 oz. white duck, 2 in. wide. Heavy tarred manila ropes top and bottom. No. 5-0. 42 ft. x 3½ ft. 30 thread, single center. \$8.00 No. 4-0. 36 ft. x 3½ ft. 30 thread, single center. \$7.50 No. 3-0. 42 ft. x 3½ ft., 21 thread, double center 26 ft. No. 2-0. 36 ft. x 3½ ft., 21 thread, double center 20 ft. 7.50

Galvanized Steel Cable for Top Cords

Full length ¼-inch galvanized steel cable, five strands of seven wires each, twisted tightly. With metal loop at each end and manila rope ends to fasten to post. Each, \$2.00

Snalding Machine Made Nets

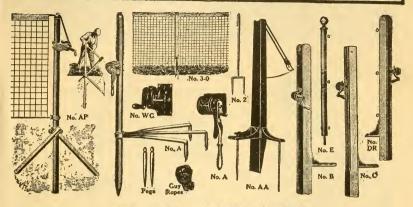
Top bound with heavy 2-inch canvas strip.	(White)
No. 4A. Double Court, 42 ft., 21 thread	Each, \$3.50
No. 21A. Double Court, 36 ft., 21 thread	" 3.25
No. 3A. Double Court, 42 ft., 15 thread	" 2.00
No. 2A. Double Court, 36 ft., 15 thread	" 1.75
Top and bottom bound with heavy cotton rope	(White)
No. 3. Double Court, 42 ft., 15 thread	Each, \$1.50
No. 2. Double Court, 36 ft., 15 thread	" 1.25
No. 1. Single Court, 27 ft., 12 thread	" 1.00

Spalding Twine Nets for Backstops-Machine Made

No. 4. White, 50 feet long, 7 feet high, 9 thread. Each, \$2.50 No. 5. White, 50 feet long, 8 feet high, 12 thread. " 3.50 No. 5X. Tarred, 50 feet long, 8 feet high, 12 thread. " 4.00

ROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US A. G. SPALDING & BROS.

THE SPALDING RADE-MARK GUARA



SPALDING TENNIS POSTS

Spalding "Championship" Tennis Posts Spalding "Tournament" Tennis Posts in use on the courts of the most prominent clubs in this country.

Uprights of heavy 2-inch japanned steel tubing, go 24 inches into ground and each equipped with wheel at top. Ratchet for tightening net has a particularly

strong leverage. Triple claw clutches, made of heavy wrought iron, hold posts firm with no shifting or shaking and the tighter the net se drawn the more rigid the posts become.

No. A. Pair, \$20.00

Spalding "Club" Tennis Posts Best quality 234-inch square ash, nicely polished and varnished. Equipped with japanned braces and extend 30 inches into the ground. Extra heavy brass ratchet is made after an English design, and is the same as supplied by our London House to some of the best clubs

in Great Britain. No. B. Pair. \$10.00

Spalding Tennis Posts

Square posts of wood, handsomely painted. Wheel at top of each post and reel extend 24 inches into the ground, No. DR. Pair, \$6.00

Canvas Center Straps

For Holding Center of Net at Regulation Height
No. 2-0. Does not chafe the net, and cannot possibly cause the ball to glance off and strike out of court. Each, \$1.00 o. 3-0. Tournament Pattern, same as No. 2-0, except fitted with a turn-buckle, with which

height of net can be adjusted to a hair. Ea., \$1.25

These posts are fitted with a tightening arrangement that is business-like and effective in the extreme; no doubt about the top rope being taut when the arm drops into the slot. A new principle has been utilized also in the cutting end and the angle brace to hold the posts absolutely rigid. Heavy black enamel finish throughout. No. AA. Pair, \$10.00

Spalding "Casino" Tennis Posts Heavy square wood posts, painted red and nicely varnished and striped. Wheel at top of each post and reel attached to one post. Extra heavy japanned iron brackets to steady posts, which extend 30 inches into the ground. No. C. Pair, \$7.50

Spalding Indoor Tennis Posts No. 1D. Heavy castings used for bases of these posts are sufficiently weighty to hold them secure without fastening to floor. For use particularly in armories and halls where the floors must be kept in perfect condition. . . Pair, \$10.00 Spalding "Side-Line" Tennis Posts fastened to one post; japanned iron Toput netat the proper height for a single bracket braces to steady posts, which court game without taking down net or removing regular double court posts.
No. SL. Pair, 75c.

> Iron Center Forks No. 2. Good quality iron fork. Each, \$1.00

Spalding

Wood Backstop Post No. BS. Backstop Post only; wooden, Each, \$1.25

Spalding"Anchored"Steel Tennis Posts Posts of galvanized steel tubing, 2½ inches in diameter, are held securely in place by anchor stakes driven through sockets on the sides of the posts. The most reliable and rigid method of fastening upright posts permanently that has ever been brought to our attention. One post fitted with tightening ratchet

No. AP. Pair, \$12.00

Spalding Tennis Poles

No. E. Finely polished, solid, spiked. Complete, guy ropes and pegs. Pair, \$2.00 No. FX. New design, nicely painted. Complete, with guy ropes and special Pair, \$1.50 iron pegs.

Reels for Tennis Posts

With this reel we furnish a ratchet tightening device of strongest possible construction and closest adjustment. Nothing better made for the pur-pose. This is the reel we furnish on our No. A tennis posts. Each, \$7.50 No. WG. Automatic locking reel, without ratchet. Turned in either direction reel is locked at moment of release. No slacking; extremely durable. When or-dering, mention whether to be used on . Each, \$5.00 wood or iron posts. No. R. Regulation style, japanned finish, wooden handle. . . . Each. \$1.50

Pulleys and Axles

No. O. Japanned pulleys, complete with axles, for top of tennis posts. Pair, 35c. Guy Ropes and Pegs for Tennis Nets No. 1. Cotton ropes, plain pegs. Set. 25c. No. 2. Cotton ropes, plain pegs. 50c. No. 3. Cotton ropes, fancy pegs. 85c.

(No. 3 will answer for Backstop New)

ROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US

G. SPALDING & BROS STORES IN ALL LARGE CITIES

COVERLEY CLOTHES

Linen Suits.

White Duck.



Women's "Coverley" Tennis Wear

.\$22.50

. 1.25

Linen	Skirts.					•			9.00
White	Cordu	roy	(v	vas	h)				10.00
White	Pique	Ski	rts						6.00
TENNIS SHIRTS.									
China	Silk.			•					\$8.00
Chevio	t	•							3.00
Linen					•				. 2.50
TENNIS HATS.									
White	Cordu	roy							\$3.00
White	Flann	el.							1.50

SPORT SUITS.

Custom-made, imported homespuns, tweeds and sport suitings, \$55 to \$80.

Sport Skirts, made to measure in above materials, \$22.50 up.

Sport Hats, in White Corduroy, Leghorn, Madagascar and Split straws, \$3 to \$6.

Sport Shoes, for Tennis, Golf, Yachting and the Out-of-Doors.

SPALDING · FIFTH AVENUE

BETWEEN FORTY-THIRD AND FORTY-FOURTH STREETS NEW YORK

COVERLEY CLOTHES

Men's "Coverley" Tennis W	ear
White Flannel Trousers	
White Flannel Trousers, imported	12.00
White Tennis Socks, pair 60 to	\$1.50
Solid color Tennis Socks, pair	1.00
Fancy Tennis Socks, pair \$1.75 to	2.50
Tennis Shirts, short or long sleeves \$1.50 to	3.00
Club Ties, imported Irish poplin	1.50
Club Ties, knitted silk	1.50
Belts, white calf	1.50
Belts, black or tan	1.25
Imported Sweaters, Shetland \$5.50 to	10.00
Imported Sweaters, Angora \$14 to	27.50
Blazers, solid colors	7.50
Sport Coats, Jersey cloth	12.50
Sport Coats, Connemara homespun \$12.50 to	25.00
Sport Coats, Harris tweeds and Shetlands .	27.50
White Blanket Tennis Coats, long	28.00
Cactus Hats	5.00
Caps \$1.50 to	3.50
Hats, white canvas, green lined brim or plain	50
Hats, pongee, soft finish	1.00
Hats, white flannel, very popular	1.50
Shoes, high, black leather, regulation spikes	6.00
Shoes, high, drab calf, best red rubber soles	5.00
Shoes, canvas, extra heavy rubber soles, pair	2.25
Q Classes emocial degion	10.00

SPALDING · FIFTH AVENUE

ACCEPT NO THE SPALDING TRADE-MARK GUARAN

Spalding Lawn Tennis Shoes



No. BBH. High cut black finest quality kangaroo uppers, special quality white oak soles and spring heels, with officially approved blunt spikes in soles and heels. Sewed welt. Ideal shoes for tennis on turf courts. Used by champion tennis players. Pair, \$6.00

No. CH. High cut, best white canvas, fine quality red rubber flat soles. Sewed welt. Pair, \$4.50

No. CS. Low cut, best white canvas, fine quality white oak soles, with blunt spikes. Good for either tennis or cricket. Pair, \$4.00

No. C. Low cut, best white canvas, fine quality red rubber flat soles. Excellent yachting shoes. . . . Pair, \$3.50

No. BC. High cut, best white canvas, laced very low.

Perforated red rubber soles. Also good for golf or Supplied in C, D and E widths only. No special orders, yachting.

Pair, \$3.50

We resole Spalding Rubber Soled Tennis, Golf and Squash Shoes. The work is done in the Spalding Shoe Factory, where the shoes are made. This is a convenience that other manufacturers are unable to offer. Send shoes to nearest A. G. Spalding & Bros.' store.



No. AH. High cut, tan calf, with best red rubber flat soles. Sewed welt and absolutely best grade material Pair, \$6.00 throughout. . . Our Sprinting Basket Ball Shoes, No. BBS, with extra heavy rubber soles, are excellent also for lawn tennis.

No. A. Low cut, tan calf, with best red rubber flat soles. Sewed welt. Quality same as No. AH. . . . Pair, \$5.50 No. D. Low cut, white canvas, red rubber flat soles, Supplied in C, D and E widths only. No special orders.

ROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US

G. SPALDING & BROS STORES IN ALL LARGE CITIES

SPALDING

NEW ATHLETIC GOODS CATALOGUE

The following selection of items from Spalding's latest Catalogue will give an idea of the great variety of ATHLETIC GOODS manufactured by A. G. SPALDING & BROS. ... SEND FOR A FREE COPY.

SEE COMPLETE LIST OF SPALDING STORE ADDRESSES ON INSIDE FRONT COVER OF THIS BOOK

Archery Ash Bars Athletic Library Attachm ts, Chest Weight Backstops, Tennis Bags-

Bags —
Bat
Bathing Suit
Caddy
Cricket
Striking
Tennis
Uniform
Balls—
Base

alls—
Base
Basket
Cricket
Field Hockey
Colf
Hand
Indoor
Medicine
Playground

Medicine
Playground
Squash
Tennis
Volley
Water Polo
Ball Cleaner, Golf
Bandages, Elastic
Bar Bells
Bars, Horizontal

Base Ball Indoor Bathing Suits atons

Bate—
Base Ball
Cricket
Indoor
Batting Cage, Base Ball
Belte—
Leather and Worsted

Bladders. Bladders— Basket Ball Striking Bag Blades, Fencing Blankets

Caddy Badges

Caddy Badges
Caps—
Base Ball
Knitted
University
Water Polo
Center Forks, Iron
Center Straps, Canvas
Chest Weights
Circle, Seven-Foot
Clock Golf
Corks, Rannag
Corks, Rancet
Circket Goods
Croquet Goods
Cross Bars

Marking, Golf Discus, Olympic Disks, Striking Bag Dumb Bells

Emblems Embroidery Equestrian Polo Exercisers, Elastic

Felt Letters Fencing Sticks Field Hockey Finger Protection lags— Colleg Marking Golf Foils, Fencing

Glasses, Base Ball Sun Gloves – Base Ball Boxing Cricket Fencing Golf Golf
Hand Ball
Glove Softener
Goals—
Basket Ball
Golf Ball Washer
Golf Counters
Golf Counters olfette

Grips—
Athletic
Golf
Gut Preservative, Tennis
Guy Ropes and Pegs
Gym'm Suits, Women's

Hammers, Athletic.
Handle Cover, Rubber
Hangers for Indian Clubs
Hats, University
Health Pull
Hob Nails Hob Nails Hole Cutter, Golf Hole Rim, Golf Home Gymnasium Hurdles, Safety Hurley Goods

Indian Clubs Inflaters-Striking Bag

Jackets, Fencing Javelins

Knee Protectors

Lacrosse Lanes for Sprints Lawn Bowls

Leg Guards— Base Ball Cricket Field Hockey

eotards Letters : Embroidered Felt Liniment

Mallets-Cricket Croquet Equestrian Polo Roque

Markers-Tennis Golf Masks-Base Ball Fencing Mattresses Megaphones Mega, Mitts— Base Ball Striking Bag

Monograms Mufflers, Knitted

Nets-Cricket Golf Driving Tennis Volley Ball ewcomb Numbers, Competitors

Pada-Pads— Chamois, Fencing Sliding, Base Ball Wrestling Paint, Golf Pants— Base Ball Bathing, Knee Boys' Knee

Running
Pennants, College
Plastrons, Fencing
Plates—
Base Ball Shoe Home Marking, Tennis Pitchers Box Pitchers Toe Teeing, Golf Platforms, Striking Bag Poles, Vaulting Polo, Equestrian Polo, Roller, Goods

Backstop, Tennis Lawn Tennis

Protectors— Abdomen Base Ball Body Base Ball Bruise Indoor Base Ball Thumb

Pulleys and Axle, Tennis Push Ball ushers-Chamosa Leather Puttees, Golf

Racket Covers
Racket Presses
Rackets, Lawn Tennis
Rackets Restrung
Racka, Golf Ball
Rapiers
Recis for Tennis Posts
Referees Whistle
Rings-

Rings— Exercising Swinging Roque Rowing Machines

Sacks, for Sack Racing Sandow Dumb Bells Score Books— Base Ball Basket Ball Cricket Golf

Colt Tennis Score Tablets, Base Ball Scoring Tree, Tennis Shirts— Athletic Base Balf

Traiming Shoes— Acrobatic Base Balf Basket Ball Bowling Clog Cricket Cross Country Field Hockey

Fencing Golf Gymnasium Jumping Outing Running Squash Street

Athletic Indoor Skate Rollers Skate Roller Skates, Roller Slippers, Bathing Squash Goods Standards— Vaulting Volley Ball

Volley Dani Straps— Base Ball For Three-Legged Race Spikes, Cricket Steel Cable, Tennis Net Sticks, Polo

Stockings Stockings Stop Boards Striking Bags Stumps and Bails Cymna'm, Women's Swimming Supporters— Ankle Wrist

uspensories Sweat Band weaters wivels, Striking Bag words-Duelling Fencing

Take-Off Board
Tape—
Adhesive
Cricket, Measuring
Marking, Tennis
Measuring Steel
Tees, Golf
Tether Tennis ights-Athletic

Full Full, Wrestling Knee Toe Boards Trapeze rousers, Y.M.C.A. Bathing Velvet Worsted Tug-of-War Belt

Umbrella, Golf Umpire'a Chair, Tennis Umpire Indicator Uniforms, Base Ball

Wands, Calisthenic Watches, Stop Water Wings Weights, 56-lb. Whistles, Referees' Wrestling Equipment Wrist Machines

PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ANY COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED TO US

ALL LARGE CITIES

Standard Policy

A Standard Quality must be inseparably linked to a Standard Policy. Without a definite and Standard Mercantile Policy, it is impossible for a

Manufacturer to long maintain a Standard Quality.

To market his goods through the jobber, a manufacturer must provide a profit for the jobber as well as for the retail dealer. To meet these conditions of Dual Profits, the manufacturer is obliged to set a proportionately high list

price on his goods to the consumer.

To enable the glib salesman, when booking his orders, to figure out attractive profits to both the jobber and retailer, these high list prices are absolutely essential; but their real purpose will have been served when the manufacturer has secured his order from the jobber, and the jobber has secured

his order from the retailer. However, these deceptive high list prices are not fair to the consumer, who does not, and, in reality, is not ever expected to pay these fancy list prices.

When the season opens for the sale of such goods, with their misleading but alluring high list prices, the retailer begins to realize his responsibilities, and grapples with the situation as best he can, by offering "special discounts," which vary with local trade conditions.

Under this system of merchandising, the profits to both the manufacturer and the jobber are assured; but as there is no stability maintained in the prices to the consumer, the keen competition amongst the local dealers invariably leads to a demoralized cutting of prices by which the profits of the retailer are practically eliminated.

This demoralization always reacts on the manufacturer. The jobber insists on lower, and still lower, prices. The manufacturer, in his turn, meets this demand for the lowering of prices by the only way open to him, viz.: the cheap-

ening and degrading of the quality of his product.

The foregoing conditions became so intolerable that 16 years ago, in 1899, G. Spalding & Bros. determined to rectify this demoralization in the Athletic Goods Trade, and inaugurated what has since become known as "The Spalding

Goods Trade, and manginates the problem of the Policy."

"The Spalding Policy" eliminates the jobber entirely, so far as Spalding Goods are concerned, and the retail dealer secures the supply of Spalding Athletic Goods direct from the manufacturer by which the retail dealer is assured a fair and legitimate profit on all Spalding Athletic Goods, and the consumer is assured a Standard Quality and is protected from imposition.

"The Spalding Policy" is decidedly for the interest and protection of the users of Athletic Goods, and acts in two ways:

First.-The user is assured of genuine Official Standard Athletic Goods. Second.-As manufacturers, we can proceed with confidence in purchasing at the proper time, the very best raw materials required in the manufacture of our various goods, well ahead of their respective seasons, and this enables us to provide the necessary quantity and absolutely maintain the Spalding Standard of Quality.

All retail dealers handling Spalding Athletic Goods are requested to supply consumers at our regular printed catalogue prices—neither more nor less—the same prices that similar goods are sold for in our New York, Chicago and other stores. All Spalding dealers, as well as users of Spalding Athletic Goods, are treated

exactly alike, and no special rebates or discriminations are allowed to anyone.

This briefly, is "The Spalding Policy," which has already been in successful operation for the past 16 years, and will be indefinitely continued.

In other words, "The Spalding Policy" is a "square deal for everybody,

A. G. SPALDING & BROS.

By al Spalding.

Standard Quality

An article that is universally given the appellation "Standard" is thereby conceded to be the criterion, to which are compared all other things of a similar nature. For instance, the Gold Dollar of the United States is the Standard unit of currency, because it must legally contain a specific proportion of pure gold, and the fact of its being Genuine is guaranteed by the Government Stamp thereon. As a protection to the users of this currency against counterfeiting and other tricks, considerable money is expended in maintaining a Secret Service Bureau of Experts. Under the law, citizen manufacturers must depend to a great extent upon Trade-Marks and similar devices to protect themselves against counterfeit products—without the aid of "Government Detectives" or "Public Opinion" to assist them.

Consequently the "Consumer's Protection" against misrepresentation and "inferior quality" rests entirely upon the integrity and responsibility of the "Manufacturer."

A. G. Spalding & Bros. have, by their rigorous attention to "Quality," for thirty-nine years, caused their Trade-Mark to become known throughout the world as a Guarantee of Quality as dependable in their field as the U. S. Currency is in its field.

The necessity of upholding the Guarantee of the Spalding Trade-Mark and maintaining the Standard Quality of their Athletic Goods, is, therefore, as obvious as is the necessity of the Government in maintaining a Standard Currency.

Thus each consumer is not only insuring himself but also protecting other consumers when he assists a Reliable Manufacturer in upholding his Trade-Mark and all that it stands for. Therefore, we urge all users of our Athletic Goods to assist us in maintaining the Spalding Standard of Excellence, by insisting that our Trade-Mark be plainly stamped on all athletic goods which they buy, because without this precaution our best efforts towards maintaining Standard Quality and preventing fraudulent substitution will be ineffectual.

Manufacturers of Standard Articles invariably suffer the reputation of being high-priced, and this sentiment is fostered and emphasized by makers of "inferior goods," with whom low prices are the main consideration.

A manufacturer of recognized Standard Goods, with a reputation to uphold and a guarantee to protect must necessarily have higher prices than a manufacturer of cheap goods, whose idea of and basis of a claim for Standard Quality depends principally upon the eloquence of the salesman.

We know from experience that there is no quicksand more unstable than poverty in quality—and we avoid this quicksand by Standard Quality.

A.G. Shalding & Bros



separate book covers every Athletic Sport and is Official and Standard Price 10 cents each

CRAND PRIZE



GRAND PRIX

SPALDING PARIS 1900 ST. LOUIS, 1904 HLETIC GOODS STANDARD OF THE WORLD

MAINTAIN WHOLESALE and RETAIL STORES in the FOLLOWING CITIES

NEW YORK BOSTON

MILWAUKEE

CHICAGO ST. LOUIS

PHILADELPHIA DETROIT NEWARK CINCINNATI

KANSAS CITY SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES

ALBANY

CLEVELAND SEATTLE

BUFFALO COLUMBUS SYRACUSE ROCHESTER

INDIANAPOLIS PORTLAND PITTSBURGH MINNEAPOLIS

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON LONDON ENGLAND LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

ATLANTA ST. PAUL LOUISVILLE DENVER NEW ORLEANS DALLAS

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND BRISTOL, ENGLAND) MONTREAL, CANADA TORONTO, CANADA

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

PARIS, FRANCE SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

SALT LAKE CITY

Factories owned and operated by A.G. Spalding & Bros. and where all of Spalding's Trade-Marked Athletic Goods are made are located in the following cities

NEW YORK BROOKLYN

CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO BOSTON

PHILADELPHIA

CHICOPEE, MASS. LONDON, ENG.