



LA84

Foundation

REAL BASEBALL AT HOME

Baseball fans the country over will be delighted to know that at last a mechanical baseball game has been perfected that permits the playing of a regular game of baseball with all the stirring action, all the strategy, and all the inside play that is seen in a hotly contested game in the big league ball park.

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It is very hard to convey in cold type, the enthusiasm and spirit of rivalry which is engendered, when two contestants who really understand baseball engage in a fight to the finish.

The mechanism of the game is wonderfully clever. The pitcher pitches the ball with terrific speed; the batter hits it or strikes out; the players field their position, run the bases. In fact, all the action and excitement of a big league game.

The scores average as low as a regular baseball game in the outdoors. Oftentimes a team is shut out, and it is very seldom indeed that over nine runs are scored on a side.

Every play known to outdoor baseball is faithfully duplicated in this miniature game. It's all a matter of skill and luck in the playing.

This unique game is made by the Edwards Manufacturing Co., of Cincinnati, who report that the game is making a "big hit" with everybody. It is a game you can play when the thermometer is far below zero, and thereby turn your long winter evenings into sweet summer memories. Two can play the game as well as 18 or even more.

In some communities where a number of games of "Edward's Big League Table Baseball" have already been sold, the owners have formed regular leagues, made up schedules, and are playing a regular series of championship games. We have letters from these enthusiastic "fans" saying that they have more fun than they could have with a barrel of monkeys. In one of the leagues the batting honors of the series are held by a six-year-old girlie. She is batting in the .400 class, and they say if her manager asked waivers on her, that every team in the league would grab at the chance to secure her services.

Little Billy Herschel is only eleven years old, but he has a record already in the five weeks of the league's existence of twenty-two pilfered bases. Erma Franklin, just past thirteen, has pitched for three-hit games and one no-hit game, and bids fair to hold the league's pitching record for some time to come.

The same rules that govern the regular game of baseball apply to "Edwards Big League Table Baseball"—except that two people may play it almost as satisfactorily as eighteen. In regard to the umpire, his presence is optional, though the game is generally so hotly contested that his services are almost a necessity, and he adds materially to the realism of the game. At the call of "play ball" the first runner moves from the "players' bench" into position at home plate. The ball is placed in the pitcher's hand, ready for delivery, and the batter stands ready to "lam 'er out." At the will of the fielding player the ball is pitched and the batting player may strike at it or not, as he pleases.

As in the regular game, it takes practice and a "batting eye" to put a safe one through the infield and out into the "garden" beyond the reach of the fielders, but it can be done by the five-year-old if he uses his wits.