TOUCHING SECOND: inside play of Bix Leaxue Base Ball

BATTING

ATTING is the aggressive part of the game: the true test of the

dent who looks back over the records of the mighty men of the ash, all have the idea that present-day batters are inferior to the old-time sluggers. They are misled by figures.

The batters of the modern game are better hitters, more scientific, and more effective than those of 20 or 10 years ago. A close analysis of batsmen, their hfts, and the results of their hits, will prove the point. If further proof is needed it is to be found in the strange acts of managers who, after scouring the country to find a .300 hitter, handleap him, restrain his batting, make a 250 bitter of him, and then consider him a better batter than when, perhaps, he

The fact is, the batters of today are more accentific and resourceful, know more about handling bats, and better how to attack the weak points, than their predecessors did. The difference is the same as that between the slugging fighter, who rushed and pounded down his man by sheer strength, and the skillful boxer who, with one well-directed blow, ends the battle.

directed blow, ends the bettle.

The reasons for the decline of the averages of safe hits and the number of long hits are varied. The pitching, it is known, has improved steadily and rapidly, the defensive work of teams has been perfected until only a combination of terrific hitting power, skill, and luck will make any batter a 300 hitter. There will make any batter a .300 hitter. There were great pitchers in the old days, Chrkson, keefe, Nat Hudson, Russie, Ramey, a host of them, but the general average of pitching was lower. Every team now has six or seven high-class pitchers, where the old clubs had one good, perhaps, and three weak twirters. But the pitching itself is not the chief cause of the general decrease of batting. Es will be shown.

Prequently hatters who slavelets the

equently batters who slaughter the ball in the minor league, and hit any kind of pitching, fail utterly when drafted kind of pitching, fail utterly when drafted into the major leagues. Many followers of the sport imagine that the reason for this failure is to be found in the superlocity of the major league pitchers, which is wrong. These men would hit in the major leagues, and hit hard, perhans as hard as in the minors, if allowed to hit with the same freedom. There are, in the major leagues, many batters who could not hit in the minor leagues at all. The reason for both is found in team work, which is the chief cause of the decline in batting. Some batters are adapted to the system, others are not. In the perfected teamwork of the major

In the perfected teamwork of the major league batters must hit to advance run-ners and score runs rather than to get base hits. They are compelled to permit, the kind of ball they can hit to cut the plate unmolested and then hit at one which, perhaps, they are lucky to touch. Besides, many ilmes they are ordered to wait and not to hit at all, in order to the pitcher to weary himself. A few years ago the Chicago club

purchased a player late in the season who was one of the great batters of the American Association. His hitting helped the team to win the pennant, yet Chance released him without even bringing him of Chicago to play the final research. to Chicago to play the final games. The set surprised the followers of the Cubs and someone asked Chance why the man mas released. "First ball hitter," expiained Chance loquaciously (for him).

Chance was right. The player was worthless as a team hitter, but if per-rigitted to hit the first ball pitched to him the batted heavily and if he could have been the first man up in every inning probably would have led the league in hitting. reason for the improvement is

The reason for the impractice, and the amount of batting practice indulged in during the season is astonishing. It is the one thing about the game of which the players never tire. Morning, afternoon and evening from March I until rating and evening from March I until rating the October players but as long as anyone will pitch to them, and on November I the but feels as good in their hands when it meets a ball squarely as it when it meets a ball squarely as it did the day spring training started. The first thing in the spring is the selection of bats and when the season closes the players still are sawing up disgraced and buying new ones. be a mania with some. Roger Connor used to oil, polish and rub down his substitute bats every night and hang them his window, while he took his

orite to bed with him There was a bat in the Boston club 1909 which became famous. It be-nged to Gessler, and a scorer one day stingly marked upon it the symbols meaning a two base hit and a single. Gessler happened to make a double and a single that afternoon, and the players awarmed upon the scorer pleading with him to mark hits into the bat. He marked it full of hits; the Red Sox began a wonderful bitting spurt, all hising the same bat, and before long the corer was claiming part of the credit or their winning streak. Before the eason ended Gessler hardly would have traded the bat for its weight in gold "Evelyn" the famous bat with which Isbell, of the Chicago White Sox, made four two base hits in one game and won the World's Championship for his team, "Big Betsy," Ed Delehanty's fa-

mous war club, "Nellie," used by Schulte, and a dozen other bats have become well known through being the favorites of good hitters and used by them during patting streaks.

There is a player on the Brooklyn practice the bat he intends to use in a game to "fill it up with base hits." He tries bat after bat during practice, If he happens to hit well with one, "two or three hits into it," he uses hits out again. during the game to get th

The eagerness with which the batting practice is indulged in often is laughable. One evening two members of the Cleveland club broke training and returned to the botel at 2 A. M., feeling jolly. They reached their own floor in the hotel without being caught by the manager and went to the room of a player who is a wonderful hitter Banging on his door they urged him to

What do you want?" growled the awakened slugger.
"Get up, we're going to have batting practice," replied one of the jokers who practice," replied one of the jokers who knew the weakness of the inmate of

There in a minute," responded the player, and as they heard him scram-ble from bed the jokers fled. Ten min-utes later the night clerk was startled ite bats, nor did he see the loke until

By John J. Evers, King of Second Basemen, and Hugh S. Fullerton, Famous Writer

Batting is the aggressive part of the game; the true test of the nerve, courage and eye-speed of the players, and the chief center of interest in every contest.

The importance of batting has, it is true, been largely overestimated, and few even of the managers and owners who have sought in every part of the country for that rarest of players the "300 hitter," realize the change that has come over batting in the last decade. The veterans who lament the passing of the sluggers of the "good old days," the old-timer who recalls times when alx .300 batters played on one team, and the statent who looks back over the records of the mighty men of the ash, all have

even the major league players have made intelligent efforts towards perfecting place hitting, and their successes in that line have been wonderful. Managers began to realize that the attacks could be directed at the vital spots of defending teams, and the attack has steadily become more resourceful, better calculated to bring results, and more adapted to cope with the improved pitching. Especially has it been made necessary in order to break up defensive team work.

Whether the modern game of "push, poke, shove and chop" is better than the old "swing and kill it" style may be judged by a comparison. The Philadelphia club from 1894 to 1898 always had from five to soven 200 hitters in the game. In one game in 1897 there were nine 200 batters. Yet the team never won a pennant. The games were spectacular, but even when hitting hardest it was a bad hitting ball club. The Chicago White Sox, "the Hitless Wonders," won the World's Championship in 1906 when ranking almost last in batting in the American League. The team excelled any team ever move toward making runs, one at a time, and The team excelled any team ever or-ganized in concentrating every move toward making runs, one at a time, and while nearly weakest in batting, scored the greatest average number of runs per hit of any club in the history of the game.

There is a wide difference of opinion among players themselves as to the placing of balls hit hard, but the fact remains that some players can do it by holding their bats at certain angles, and the increase in skill in the last five years has been great. None denies that balls can be poked, or pushed easily in a given direction. Many of the old timers were skilful in "pulling" the ball foul in order to wear down pitchers, and by hitting late in fouling off. The skill of batters in that direction increased through steady practice until McGraw. Keeler, Roy Thomas, Slagle and others could prolong the games indefinitely and tire out any pitcher. The rule makers tire out any pitcher. The rule makers promptly legislated against foul balls, and opened the new era of batting science. Their object was to hurry the game and avoid unnecessary delays, and they thought that batters penalized one strike for a foul, would hit harder, and oftener. The players discovered, however, that hard driving did not pay against improved infield work, and that the new rule aided both the pitchers and fielders when the ball was hit hard, as it went too straight ball was hit hard, as it went too straight towards second base, and allowed the in-field to concentrate their defense. One of the first results of the new rule was the increase in bunting, with variations tend-ing to upset the infield. The "force bunt" was brought into prominence by little Butler, of Columbus, who afterward blew one band off with a fire cracker and retired. He pushed the ball slowly down retired. He pushed the ball slowly down the infield, striving to make it roll fast enough to pass the pitcher either to his right or left, yet so slowly that the short stop or second baseman, playing deep, would have to take it while sprinting forward at top speed and make a perfect throw. The gain by the play was not to the batting averages. It did not produce many safe hits, but it was productive of wild throws, and fumbles, and it at once became popular as a method of at once became popular as a method of destroying infield team work and break-ing up games. The Chicago Cubs used the force bunt

during all their championship term, pushing the ball, instead of bunting it dead, a abort distance in front of the plate. Their success with the ball was marvelous. In he fourth game of the world's cham lonship series in 1907 at Detroit. Sheckard bushed a force bunt past Donovan in the ritical moment of the game, and before he panic in the Tiger ranks ended, Chiago had made three runs as a result f the bunt, and won easily thereafter, to 1. In one game at Philadelphia in on bases, pushing a slow roller toward shortstop. Doolan was running to cover second base and the ball rolled clear onto the grass behind shortstop, Tinker taking two bases.

aking two bases.

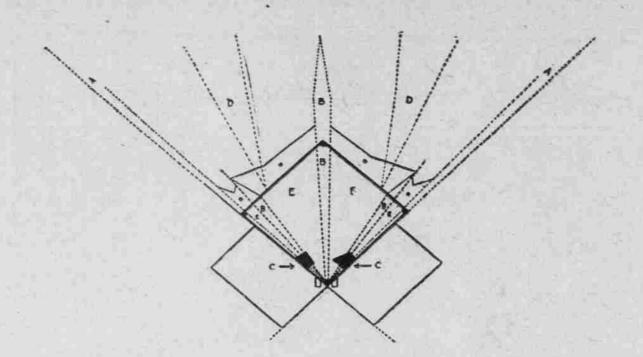
Men of the type of Speaker, Cobb.

Jarke, left-handed batters, and occasionally a right-hander, Leach for instance, ise the force bunt with great effect During the seasons of 1906 and 1907 Sheckard, of Chicago, used a bluff bunt which worked with great success. He bunted at the first ball pitched to him, and purposely missed it. Then he bluffed hat he intended bunting again and, as he third baseman tore forward, Sbeckard oked the ball over his head. Leach, it he world's series of 1909, beat Detroi games by the same play. Three expected bunts and then drove the bal ast him life a rifle shot. Beaumout, eteran of many teams, has for years ball hard or when pushing it on a short line fly over fielders coming forward. In the hit and run game his batting was re-markable, for whichever fielder the run-ners managed to draw away from position

was almost certain Beaumont would t through the described post. "Calling the turn" is a sayle of batting uployed by some batamen in trying to outguess the opposing pitcher. It means striving to guess what kind of a ball is about to be delivered. This style, while effective, is extremely dangerous for the batter, as to guess wrong is to court In one game at Cincin serious intury. nati a few years ago. Coakley pitching, McGann tried to outguess him. He guessed a curve was coming, and his wrist was broken by a fast inshoot. Two nings later Bresnahan guessed wrong nd was knocked senseless

There are times when a play comes up to a batsman which compels him to try o outguess the pitcher. One of these rdered. With a runner on first or sec-nd base, and the batter giving the signal e is compelled to attempt to guess when the pitcher will put the ball over the elate. He guesses, signals the runner, the is expected to start as if to steal he next base in order to draw one or nore infeliders out of position, and strives to hit through the deserted place. If the catter's guess is wrong, the runner

Selee, when manager of the Cubs, once secured a player from the Coast League who was reputed to be a wonderful batwho had hit over .400 in his leagu and could call the turn every time. Selectried him in right field against Boston and "Vic" Willis, one of the best "guess ers" in the business and a pitcher marvelous curve, both slow and fact, as on the slab. The recruit struck out was on the slab. The recruit struck out four times and when he returned to the



A-The first and third base "grooves." B-The infield "grooves." C-5pots in which bunts are normally safe. D-The home-run "grooves." E-Territory upon which grounders ought to be fielded.

players sympathized with him.
"Tough to start against Willis," re-

"Yes, and I'm calling the turn every time, too," mourned the recruit. "Well, old boy," said Chance, "I'd like to watch you when you weren't."

But not all of batting is hitting the ball. There is method in the jockeying of the batter. The moment a batter steps to the plate with the bases clear, the to the plate with the bases clear, the game becomes a duel between him and the pitcher, and although the crowd may be calling for him to hit, his intention may be not to hit until compelled so to do. His first effort is to "get the pitcher in the bole," that is, make him pitch enough balls so the batter can be ceptain the next one will be over the plate. For, if the batter knows the ball is coming straight the chances of making a base hit are doubled.

Then too, the batter may be under orders to follow

hit are doubled.

Then too, the batter may be under orders to follow out a manager's plan of battle. Frequently a manager, feeling certain the game will be close, orders his men to wait. The waiting may be either to discover whether the pitcher is likely to become wild, or to wear him out. Each batter then, instead of hitting, tries to make the pitcher throw as many balls as possible. If a batter can get three balls, foul off three, and then strike out, he may have accomplished far more toward the final result than he would have done had he made a base hit off the first ball pitched. The average number of balls pitched by one pitcher in a game of nine innings will run about 125, and every additional ball pitched wearies the pitcher. Many "ninth inning railies" by which spectacular games are won, are the results of the waiting of the batters who struck out during the early innings.

Chance is a great believer in the waiting same and inside upon

Chance is a great believer in the waiting game, and insists upon his men trying out pitchers during the early innings of games, especially new and unfamiliar pitchers, believing that what each man discovers, will help the succeeding batters.

The practice of getting to first base by allowing the pitched ball to hit them, is more general with batters than usually is supposed. It is not indulged in as ex-tensively as in former years, when "Red" Galvin used to allow the ball to carem off his head in order to reach first, but bidding umpires to allow batters to take first when porposely hit. There is scarcely an important game between con-tenders for pennant honors, in which a dozen hatters do not strive to make the all hit them.

Batters who "crowd the plate" usually are good bitters. They have the courage to risk injury, the nerve to allow the ball to bit them, and the advantage in getting decisions because, knowing the crowd the plate habitually, the umpire decide that they tried to escape. Beside oltchers will pitch outside to them steady through anxiety to avoid hitting them, they know the men will let the ball reak a rib in order to reach first. The actual gain through allowing the

player's team as the moral effect upo the defending club. Nothing in baseball is so calculated to discourage a team, or destroy its confidence in a pitcher as to have him hit a batter in a crisis in the

Scores of batters each season make th oall hit them, and take first in spite of the rules. The umpires must judge from he actions of the men whether the tried to avoid the ball, and in most cases any contortion of the arms is construed as such an effort, especially when there is a large home crowd on the field. In the season of 1908, during the fierce struggles of New York, Chicago and Pittsburg for the pennant, New York won three games from Chicago because players allowed themselves to be bit, and they came near winning the game in which they played off the tie by the same hey played off the tie by the sam nethod—the second batter up throwing its arms across the plate and making the ball hit him. McGraw's verbal orders to blayers to get hit were audible in the stands, and in one game Doyle made hree attempts to get hit before he suc-

receied and then was allowed to walk.

Umpire O'Day unmasked one trick on
the Polo grounds that same season which
was laughable. Bresnahan was batting and, while wiggling a la Salome he kept pushing his knees out toward the ball. O'Day stopped the game, ordered Bresna-han to adjust his clothing. Bresnahan argued, but O'Day made him obey, while the crowd roared at the umpire. Bresnahan had stuffed his shirt front out six nches and inflated his trouser legs three nches in order to give the ball more sur-

Such tricks, however, are outside the cal sphere of baseball and are the final esorts of desperate men in desperate sit-ations. Only a quick eye, long practice, ourage and accurate swinging of second

Base-Running

A LAYER who can run 50 yards in six feet off first base, run to second base, 82 feet away, in three and one-half seconds. A pitched ball will travel from the pitcher's slab 68 feet to the catcher's glove (fast ball with catcher standing nine feet

in one and a quarter seconds after it hits his hand and his throw from nine feet back of the plate, if perfect, ought to reach the second baseman in one second, and be caught and the ball be ready to apply to the runner in one-quarter of a second additional. Perfectly handled in that time the ball ought to beat the runner to second base by from one-eighth to one-quarter of a second, or by from \$1.5 to \$4 feet and result in an easy out.

The calculations are based on the pitcher holding the runner within eight feet of first base and preventing a flying start, upon perfect handling of the ball, and upon the throw being "on the runner" at second.

Hours spent in snapping split second watches have proved that every base runner, if properly held up at first base, ought to be caught stealing second base.

Tet the same timing proves that not one pitched ball in 10, during actual play, is pitched, relayed by the catcher and handled by a second baseman in three seconds; and, while figures based on a serfect has a second base. bench after the fourth effort some of the fin one and a quarter seconds after it hits | looks again for the signals. Pailing to

three seconds; and, while figures based on perfect play prove one thing, actual thing indicates that 62 (plus) out of 100 runners ought to reach second base

100 runners ought to reach second base if they can start and run 82 feet in 3½ seconds.

Shortening the catcher's throw to approximately 93 feet and figuring that the runner can gain 15 to 18 feet running start instead of eight feet as at first base, and calculating on perfect playing in average time, a man who can run 90 feet in 4 seconds (including start) ought to beat the ball to third start) ought to beat the ball to third base by nine inches in every attempt perfectly made.

These are mathematical facts. Now

These are mathematical facts. Now for actual conditions as proved by what has been done. In one season (1896) a complete record was kept of Lange's base running. He stole exactly 100 bases, stealing second base 68 times, third 21 and home once. Eliminating hit-and-run plays entirely, or steals spoiled by hits, he made 141 efforts to steal, and was successful in 100, or about 70.2 per cept of his trials.

show that, while the runners steal only about 64 out of every 100 times they try for second base, they succeed nearly eight of 10 (78 plus out of 100)

The conclusion is clear that the pitchers do not hold up runners closely that the ball is pitched wide a large percentage of times, and that the catcher, for various reasons, is lucky to handle the ball perfectly three imes in 10 in actual play

If further proof is needed, here it s: Lee Tannehill, one of the slowest unners in the American League, in 1903 stole 12 bases out of 13 attempts, two of which were palpable failures of batters to hit on hit-and-run signals. Even at that, he stole over 63 per cent of the bases for which he tried these facts in view, the insistent query of baseball lovers. "Why doesn't he of baseball lovers. "Why steal?" becomes pertinent.

The truth is that base-running is fast becoming one of the lost arts of baseball. There is no possible doub but that there are men today who could Lange. Mike Kelly or any of the oldtime star runners if they played the game the same way. There is not the slightest doubt but that Cobb today is as good a man as Hamilton, Lange, Keeler or Harry Stovey; that Chance Fred Clarke, Wagner, Bush or Collins could run bases with the best of the old-timers. Yet Stovey stole 156 bases one season. Hamilton 115 in one year 102 another and nearly 100 two othe seasons, while Cobb stole 76 durin; 1909 and was considered wonderful.

There are reasons for the elimination of base stealing from the run-getting tactics of modern teams; more reasons than one. In the old days the motto of every manager was "run and keep running; make the other fellow throw." It was a baseball adage in those times that any team that could keep the opposing team throwing the ball aroun-As a matter of fact, th manager recognizes the same He knows that if he can make thing. He knows that if he can make the other team throw, it is only a question of time until they throw away the Why, then, does he not carry

The first and greatest cause for the degeneration of the art of "sprinting and hitting the dirt" is that in modern naseball, more and more every year, ndividual effort is being sacrificed to eam work. Team work, in many re do anything on their own initiative or attempt a steal unless signaled so o do from the bench or by the batter. The modern ballplayer has been a trained to team work that only a few with brain and daring pull off the brilliant individual feats that are nocessary to win pennants, no matter how much team work there is.

A player reaches first base, looks at

batter for 'a the batter for a hit-and-run signal, looks toward the third-base coacher to back of the plate, timed from the start of the pitcher's motion; in seven-eighths of a second. The catcher, if he handles the bench, takes his lead, watches the pitch perfectly and gets the ball away fast, will start the ball lowerds second. The catcher, if he handles the batter, and anchors himself. Two his head and sprinting at top speed fast, will start the ball lowerds second. The catcher if he handles the batter, and anchors himself. Two his head and sprinting at top speed fast, will start the ball lowerds second. The catcher if he handles the lower has been flashed and who puts up three stock man who puts and then quits. In thirty-two games in 1803 scores the batter, and anchors himself. Two his head and sprinting at top speed. Gibson whirled to throw to third. Evers with reference to stealing and hitting

get them, he knows the batter is go-ing to take a strike, and anchors him-self again—afraid to risk the displeasare again—atraid to risk the displeas-ure of the manager by stealing. Even should the pitcher carelessly permit him to get a big running start, he trots back to first base, perhaps slides back as hard as he would have had to slide to second. He catches a bit-andrun signsi on the next ball, takes his
lead, gets his start. The pitcher and
catcher know as well as he does that
the stage of the game calls for an attempt to run and hit; the pitcher
pitches fast and out; the catcher takes
the ball perfectly, throws, and even if
the runner is a speedy man he is out
by at least three feet. The pitcher
and catcher did the thinking, the base
runner used stereotyped. "team ball"
and was caught.

Another cause for the decline in base slide to second. He catches a hit-and

Another cause for the decline in base running is the vast improvement of pitchers in watching bases. The average pitcher of today holds the runners to the bases much more carefully than did those of 15 years ago. There are exceptions on both sides. Kilroy, Griffith, O'Day, Red Ehret, Brietenstein and others of the old school held them close, while today there are some who allow a running start. The balk rule handings, caps the modern pitcher somewhat, but the chief improvement in watching run-ners is the result of constant training and practicing.

efforts to steal, and was successful in 100, or about 70.2 per cent of his trials. The returns (unofficial) for the season of 1909 show that Ty Cobb stole 76 bases out of 195 attempts, or 72.4 per cent. While Cobb's total attempts are unofficial, they are close enough to show that the first-class base-runners succeed in about seven out of 10 cf- forts to steal second. The figures of modern times. How often attempted hit-and-run plays, or third outs, pre- feally reveal more than that. They show that, while the runners steal only show that, while the runners steal only show that, while the runners steal only stole only 76 bases. He had 310 chances to steal second, perhaps 200 chances to steal second behaves to steal second for times. The netter theory of the Boston that the first-class base-runners of modern times and home three times. Yet high show often attempted hit-and-run plays, or third outs, pre- feally reveal more than that. They show that, while the runners steal only show that, while the runners steal only show that while the runners steal only show that while the runners steal only show that the first class base-runners of modern times. How often attempted hit-and-run plays, or third outs, pre- show that, while the runners steal only show that, while the runners steal only show that the first class base-runners of modern times. How often attempted hit-and-run plays, or third outs, pre- show that the first class base are not steal second to steal second to steal second 52 times. The entire theory of the Boston team was "run," and with the fleetest aggregation of runners in the classue fight to the finish to hold his "Speed Boya" out of pennant honors.

The entire theory of the Boston team was "run," and with the fleetest aggregation of runners in the circuit, by the steal the first that the first to the finish to the finish

Cobb is one of the rare players whi play "inside ball" and individual at the same time. He is brilliant, ball at the same time. He is brilliant, thinks for himself and is not much hampered by bench orders. He runs mainly on his own judgment (or lack of judgment), but still be RUNS and he wins pennants for Detroit by run-ning. The pitchers try harder to hold him to the bases than they do any him to the bases than they do are other player in the league; the catch ers give more pitch-out signs to catch him, but they do not stop him. He is a living proof of the fact that modern ballplayers could run bases with much effect as the old-timbers co -if it were not for their lack of individual thinking.

The more one studies the situation the more convinced he must become that, despite the vaunted advances of the game, there is less brain work exthe game, there is less brain work ex-hibited on the bases than there was 20 years ago. This is not to claim that the players of today are not as intoili-gent, but that they have subordinated heir intelligence, to the brains of the manager, and allow one man, or, rather, insist on one man doing the thinking for the entire team which is thinking in impossibility.

It is so seldom that one who watches a couple of hundred games of baseball very season sees anything new in the base-running line that when he does it is refreshing. That the baseballoving public sees it the same way, is proved by the wild applause that greets unexpected steals, and by the public admiration for Cobb, Wagner, Bush, Collins, Evers and Chance. Philadelphia went wild over Collins, who ran with execrable judgment. But got re-Billy Maloney set Chicago sults. talking by just such running, and led the National League one season in base stealing. He ran wild, ran at the wrong time, ran all the time-and the wrong time, ran an the time—and the showing that he and Collins made proves the wisdom of the old order to "keep the other fellows throwing." The other fellows tell "how lucky such runners are," and keep on making er-

A few years ago Frank Chance, always a base runner of rare judgment, coupled with great daring, started his team working the delayed steal. His runners started stopped, and when the catcher relaxed from his throwing attitude and the man covering second base started back to his position, the base runner made a dash for second.

Mathematically figured out, the runner
will beat the ball to second by over
two feet, on the basis of 3 1-2 seconds o run the distance. Really the runner gains more, as the baseman usually is slow getting up to cover the base, and slow getting up to cover the base, and a slide in front of him causes him to lose almost half a second diving for ward to touch the player, after catch-

One day in 1909 Chicago and Pitts. burg were playing, and a run meant victory for either side. Evers was on

son instantly made a perfect throw to second. and, like a flash, Evers dashed for third and slid safely. He scored on a fly ball and won the game. The play, magnificently executed as it was, set the crowd wild, and Evers deserved the tribute. The play had not been made in Chicago in five years, yet it was common in the old days, and the catcher had to watch every runner and calculate his distance between the bases before making a throw, else he would be trapped.

Figures prove positively that the cunner can go 32 feet up the line towards third, and, if he starts back quickly enough, can best the throw back to second. If he goes the other way he has 58 feet to run and slide only 23 feet farther, and the ball must travel almost twice as far and be re-layed perfectly to catch him. If he makes the play correctly the fastest possible handling of the ball will only catch him by three feet, unless he is blocked off the base. That calculation allows for the second baseman coming ten feet inside the base to meet the catcher's throw.

The play can be made every time by

a fast man if he can draw the throw to second, yet Evers was applauded as a hero because he thought it out. One of the eleverest bits of baseone of the cleverest bits of base-running Ty Cobb ever did was in one of the games of the first world's series between Chicago and Detroit. Cobb was on first base, when Crawford drove a single to short right center,

making Slagle cut in towards Shulte to reach the ball. When Cobb reached second base, Hofman had thrown and to reach the ball. When Cobb reached second base, Hefman had thrown and the ball was coming in to Evers, who had gone into the grass to meet it. Without hesitation, Cobb turned second and raced for third. He had figured the play in an instant. He knew that Slagle was a weak thrower, that Evers' back was to the diamond; that he would have to catch the ball and swing entirely around before he knew what was going on. He calculated that Evers would expect him to stop at second, and, therefore, look at second base first, and so lose enough time to allow him and so lose enough time to allow him (Cobb) to reach third. Evers looked at second, looked at third, saw Cobb already within ten feet of the base, and he made a wild, hurried throw that went into the crowd and almost gave Detroit the game. No manager could have told Cobb to do that, and because 39 out of every 100 base-runners would have stopped at second to await orders, they would not have made the play.

Baseball has been reduced to a science, and is in danger of becoming mechanical unless a few base-runners like Cobb, Collins, Evers and Clarke, exponents of the unexpected, convince managers that base-running pays, and that remaining anchored to bases is a more rolley. poor policy.

The two glaring examples of the different schools of baseball playing ap-peared in 1909, one in Boston on the caps the modern pitcher somewhat, but the chief improvement in watching runners is the result of constant training and practicing.

Still there are few pitchers who do not give the runner at least one good chance to steal. At least one in every five pitched balls, no matter how closely a pitcher may watch, his mind is diverted and he leaves an opening which a quick-thinking runner may use to gain a flying start.

The hit-and-run and the bunt-and-run games, of course, reduce the number of opportunities to steal. Ty Cobb was on first base about 310 times in 1909, and stole only 76 bases. He had 310 chances to steal second, perhaps 200 chances to Boys" out of pennant honors. American League grounds, and the

The Boston team went to the other extreme. Fred Lake, a minor league manager, exploited the old theory of making the other fellews throw, and without first-class pitchers he made the teams in the American League fight to the finish to hold his "Speed Boys" out of pennant honors.

The entire theory of the Boston team was "run," and with the fleetest aggregation of runners in the givent.

shut the gate on him. He could take wilder chances than any runner who ever landed on a base, and he kept running after his legs were out and running after his legs were out and his speed left him—and running with excellent success because the oppon-ents would be so surprised to see him going that they could throw wild. But Isbell, in his palmiest days, would have been a second rater for "crazy" base running in the Boston team of 1909. "Get on and run" was their motto and they ran wild through the league. All the other players said hey were "crazy," complained that they were not "playing the game," that they were ignoring all the science of the hit-and-run, sacrifice and bunt-and-run, but the "Speed Boys" kept on Evenually, running and winning. Evenually, of course, the pitchers and catchers let them run and eaught them by pitching out, but not until Boston had come near winning the pennant by persistent The kind of baseball played by the

Red Sox would not win consistently yet neither will the studied, systemyet neither will the studied, system-atic playing, exemplified by the Chi-cago Cubs, win always. That was proved by the way some of the Na-tional League clubs stopped Chance's team and kept them from winning their fourth straight pennant. Pitts-burg blocked Chicago's system of at-tack, because in three seasons they had studied it and knew every moye to expect. Gibson was chiefly responsiexpect. Gibson was chiefly responsi-ble, but the pitchers did their part The well developed plan of attack was becoming stereotyped, and this was proved by the fact that Chance was compelled to alter his campaign plans more frequently than ever before Pittsburg, during the middle of the season of 1909, had the most varied and resourceful attack of any team in the eague, and mixed up the base running style successfully, but before the finish the Pirates, too, became stereotyped.

Base running consists chiefly of dong the unexpected, and the team that hrowing catcher is pitted against it is beaten. The strong throwing catchers, paradoxical as it may seem, have the east throwing to do, proving some while the worse thrower a catcher is the more throws he has to make.

Myers, the Indian, with New York, pretending to have a sore arm. He complained that his arm was so bad he did not want to catch. The Chi-cago players heard his complaint and decided to run bases. They ran three innings, until four men had been caught, then changed the style of game. If they had persisted in running during the entire game, they probably would have won, as they needed only one run to get ahead in needed only one run to a the the eighth inning, and had chances to steal, either one of victory. The would have meant victory. The team that stops running because one or two men are thrown out is on a par with a

forts to steal were made and the were successful. Steals which were palpable efforts to make other plays, as well as failures of such ateals were not counted. The average of successful stealing was .621. In the same games 72 plain bit and successful stealing was .621. 72 plain hit-and-run signals were de-

Eleven of the attempts (15.3 per cent.) resulted in clean hits, eight of which (11.1 per cent.) enabled the runner to take extra bases. Twenty-seven of the attempts (nearly 40 per cent.) advanced runners at the expense of retiring the batter at first base. Saven (93.6 per cent.) resulted in the batter striking out, and three of these strike-outs (04.2 per cent.) resulted in the trunner being doubled with the batter, while two of the strike-outs (02.8 per cent.) resulted in the runner reaching second, anyhow. Seventeen runners (35.6 per cent.) were forced at second for no gain; three (04.2 per cent.) were doubled on line drives, nd seven (02.5 per cent.) of the batters flied out. The object of the hit-and-run being to advance runners, the result in these

The object of the hit-and-run being to advance runners, the result in these games shows that 't succeeded in 50 out of 72 times, or 69.4 per cent. Yet, while the percentage of success was will be the but-and run than in steallarger in the hit-and-run than in steallarger in the hit-and-run than in stealing, it is extremely doubtful if the figures do not show that plain stealing was more effective as a ground-gainer. These figures were made while watching a slow team and one which is supposed to play the hit-and-run game perfectly. It would be interesting to study the same way, say, fifty games played by Detroit or Fitisburg. Figures accumulated that way ought

games played by Detroit or Pittsburg. Figures accumulated that way ought to prove convincingly whether or not base-running should be neglected. The game needs more dash, less mechanical work, more brains by individuals, and fewer orders from the bench. John McClosky was the only manager who could signal runners whether to slide feet or head first while they were stealing second.

Just Tell Him So.

Charles Battell Loomis, in Smith's. Don't be afraid to praise people. It is all very well to say that it hurts a boy or a man or a woman to praise; there may be those who do their best work without encouragement, but let us re-member that nearly all of us who live on this earth are human beings, human beings work best when

It is a great mistake not to tell peo-ple when you are satisfied with them.
If the cook sets before you a dinner fit for a king, tell her so.
Don't be too lofty to praise the office boy if his work is commendable. Tell him so.

It is harder for some people to give praise than it is for them to give money. Many a generous man is a very niggard

Do you like to be praised yourself? Then depend upon it the other fellow will like it.

Will like it.

Pour the oil of encouragement on the wheels of progress and watch 'em whirl. I'm not advocating soft soap or flattery or gush. No one likes to be gushed at, and any fool can tell flattery from the real thing. But when a man has made a hit with you, tell him so. He may die before you set another charges or you

before you get another chance, or you may die yourself. may die yourself.

It takes quality to appreciate quality, so when you praise a thing you are really offering a compliment to yourself. Doesn't that appeal to you? Will nothing move you? Will you let all the good things in life pass you by, and you as mum as a dead ow!?

Wake up, man! Watch out for a chance to praise some one, admit to your own.

to praise some one, admit to your own self that you like what he has done, and

Tell him so!

Tribe Pocahontas Knew. Kansas City Journal.

Kansas City Journal.

The announcement that a monument costing \$500 will be constructed soon in memory of Pocahontas brings to light the fact that the descendants of the tribe of which the historic Indian girl was a member still remain on the banks of the Pamunkey River, in the wilds of Northern Virginia. There may be found prototypes of the girl who saved the life of John Smith and there is constructed as the control of t John Smith, and there is enacted each year a reproduction of that incident. The Indians array themselves in costumes and portray the accues of the early times with accuracy. These Indians take pride n living apart from other India preserving the traditions of their fore-fathers. The tepec has given way to the lumber-built house and the redskins have come to live much as the paleface do, but the legends of their ancestors are repeated with reverence, and the Indians cek to live up to them. The tribe has 110 members.

More German Paternalism.

London Daily News. The German government pays damages to those injured on the state owned and operated railroads. Last year these satisfactions amounted to ore than \$1,400,000, or 4 per cent on

The Tramp Printer.

Hore's a rhyme to the old tramp printer, who as long as he lives will roam.

Whose "card" is his principal treasure and where night overtakes him home; Whose shoes are run over and twisty, whose garments are shiny and thin.

And who takes a bunk in the basement when the pressman lets him in.

It is true there are some of the trampers that only the Angel of Death.

When he touches them with his sickie, can cure of the spirituous breath;

That some by their fellow-trampers are shunned as unwholesome scampe,

And that some are just aimless, homeless, restless typographical tramps.

But most of them surely are worthy of Sur most of them surely are worthy of something akin to praise.

And have drifted down to the present out of wholesome, happier days;

And when, though his looks be as seedy as ever a mortal wore,

Will you find the old tramp minus his marvelous fund of lore?

What paper hasn't he worked on? Whose minuscript hasn't he set?
What story worthy of remembrance was he ever known to forget?
What topics rise for discussion, in science, letters or art.
That the genuine old tramp printer cannot grapple and play his part?

It is true, you will sometimes see him when the hue that adorns his nose.

Outrivals the crimson flushes which the peony flaunts at the rose;

It is true that much grime he gathers in the course of each trip he takes.

Inasmuch as he boards all freight trains between the gulf and the lakes.

Yet his knowledge grows more abundant than many much-titled men's.

Who travel as scholarly tourists and are classed with the upper-tens;

And few are the contributions these scholarly ones have penned.

That the seedlest, shabblest tramper couldn't readily cut and mend.

He has little in life to bind him to one place more than the rest.
For his hopes in the past lie buried with the ones that he loved the best.
He has little to hope from Fortune and has little to fear from Fate.
And little his dreams are troubled over the public's love or hate.

So a rhyme to the old tramp printer—to the hopes he has cherished and wept— To the loves and the old home voices that