

chance with him. But every time he pitches he seems to have the needful stuff. His speed is good, he has a nice hooker and better control than nine-tenths of the southpaws. In addition, he has a world of confidence in his own ability to trim any team in the league, and this is a big asset. From now until the finish of the season Pierce is liable to get all the work he wants, and should be ready to take his regular turn in the pit next spring.

Something is wrong in the defensive work of the Cubs. Too many bases are being stolen. This is not aimed at Bresnahan, Archer or Needham, as the receivers seem to be doing their share of the work. The fault seems to lie with the way the throws are handled around the keystone sack. Evers and Bridwell, who play almost like well-oiled machines in most cases, frequently appear to cross each other when a base runner attempts to steal. It is possible they start to cover too late. Of course, a fielder who can wait until the ball lights in the catcher's glove and then get to the base in time for the throw is a valuable man, as he remains in position long enough to break up the hit-and-run play. But there is such a thing as overdoing the waiting stuff.

Evers does most of the covering. He is one of the best men in the business at tagging runners and should bear the brunt of the work. Bridwell is as fast as Evers in getting to the bag, but comes from the wrong side to make quick tags. The catcher tries to throw a foot or so on the first base side of second when he attempts to murder a would-be stealer and this makes it more difficult for the shortstop than for the second baseman. Bridwell should start to cover just a mite sooner than Evers has to.

The pitchers, too, are responsible for some of these stolen bases, as they don't hold the batters on as they should. Cheney, for all his effectiveness, is not a whale at keeping run-

ners glued to the sacks. Pierce is inexperienced at that angle, and Humphries, with his peculiar side-arm motion, is also at a disadvantage. The best of the locals at fixing a man to the bag is Charley Smith.

Five men stole on Archer in the double bill yesterday.

Humphries held Boston to three hits in eight innings. Then they got to him for nine bingles in the ninth with only two men out. Two were on bases and the Cubs were two ahead when Cheney came on and wound up the slaughter. Conolly got two singles in the inning.

Eddie Plank took his fourth straight beating yesterday, Cleveland thumping him soundly. The Mackmen batted Blanding hard, but wonderful fielding held down the score. Baker hit one of the longest home runs ever made on the Cleveland field. Joe Birmingham lifted his team along with a pair of doubles and one single.

Allison of the Browns stopped the Red Sox for ten innings, but went to pieces in the eleventh after Balenti had missed a chance to make the third out. Then Boston scored four times. Balenti had previously handled ten chances, cutting off several hits. Bedient halted the Browns with hal fa dozen wallops.

Ty Cobb and Veach superintended the putting away of Joe Boehling yesterday. Veach prodding a couple of doubles that scored four runs and Cobb running wild on the bases. Dubuc held Washington except in the third, when Foster whaled a home run with two on.

Half of the hits made in the Giant-St. Louis double-header were for extra bases and large scores resulted. Konetchy poled two doubles and two homers. Doyle and Herzog also knocked four basers. The first game was a regular affair until the eighth, when Sallee was chased for kicking. New York then rolled up six runs. Huggins used six pitchers in the two games. Marquard and Tesreau won for the Giants.