Black portions in the above baseball field indicate territory where line hits ought to go safe. Calculations are made on the basis of the velocity of the ball being one and a half seconds per hundred feet and on the speed of the players being six seconds for every fifty yards. Dotted white line indicates boundary of neutral territory in the infield.

The Inside Game: By Hugh S. Fullerton

The second baseman and short stop see the catcher's signal and verify it by signaling to each other, deciding which is to cover second base. Also the intention of the pitcher is signaled to every member of the team.

One would think that the batter would notice the shifting of position and know what was to be pitched. He is, however, too intent on watching the pitcher to see anything else and, besides, the full motion of the defensive team is not noticeable until the pitcher starts to pitch, and then it is too late for the batter to realize anything except that the ball is coming. The couched see the movement and half the time call out to the batter “Fast” or “Curve,” but he does not hear until the ball is past him.

If you doubt this, try some day to see what becomes of the bat when a batter hits the ball and you will realize how hard it is to watch anything except the ball.

In addition, the second baseman and short stop have a code of their own, consisting of two signals, given with hands, feet, arms or eyes.—