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## When Players Think

IT seems to me," says the veteran Jake Stenzel, "that there will soon be a complete return to the days when players did at least a portion of their thinking for themselves. This idea of a manager's thinking exclusively for nine men has been played to the uttermost, and is about due for the junkpile.

"Of course, the manager must plan out the general ideas of play, and direct the work of the team. That's all right, and it's necessary that some one should do it.

"Too many players have become wooden men, unable to look ahead or take any action in a crisis. Too many managers think they can handle every emergency and that they will be equal to facing any situation. That's all foolishness. Baseball is a game where things change suddenly, where the scenes are shifted every minute, and where the actors should improvise as well as follow their rehearsals.

"In the days of the old Boston and Baltimore champions, the manager told each man what to do, and the man did it —when it was possible; when the game continued in such fashion that he could do it. But if there was an abrupt alteration of affairs, and entirely new tactics had to be used in lightning time, the player rose to the emergency, changed his plans to match and went ahead. That made faster baseball, more brilliant baseball, more intelligent players.