

From a billiard hall in his adopted hometown of Cincinnati, 35-year-old Cincinnati Reds' catcher **Heine Peitz** announces that he is retiring from baseball to own and manage a well-known billiard hall and saloon (2444 Gilbert Avenue) rather than report to the Louisville Colonels of the American (A) Association.



The "German Baron's" unexpected departure from the diamond comes in part from a low-key salary dispute between the Pirates, Peitz and Colonels. The Pirates tell Peitz that while in Louisville he will receive the same \$2,800 salary that he had while playing in Pittsburgh the past season.

When asked about his salary, Louisville's T.M. Chivington simply replies that Peitz, who is expected to be the team's player/manager, will be "well paid." When Louisville team owner George Tebeau sends Peitz his contract for the 1907 season it calls for Peitz to be paid only \$350 a month for a five-month period, amounting to only \$1,750 a year, or a 38 percent pay cut.

Unfortunately for the St. Louis native, the saloon business proves to be harder (or less profitable) than expected and he ends up playing minor league baseball for four more seasons, including three years (1907-1909) with the Colonels.

A 16-year major league veteran, Peitz toils for the St. Louis Browns/St. Louis Cardinals (1892-95 and 1913), Cincinnati Reds (1896-1904) and Pittsburgh Pirates (1905-06). In his 16 seasons, he hits .281 in 1,234 games with 1,117 hits, including 191 doubles, 66 triples, 16 home runs and 560 RBIs.