

APPENDIX No. 6

and I am chairman of the Registration Committee of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada, which is the governing body in amateur sport.

Q. Have you had anything to do with rowing?—A. I rowed, I was captain of a racing club, and was secretary of the Regatta Committee of the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen.

Q. Have you had anything to do with baseball?—A. Yes, I was secretary of the Canadian Baseball League.

Q. You are a man with a large experience in every branch of sport. How do you regard sport?—A. Well, I possibly may be magnifying my own office, but I regard it as one of the most important factors in national life.

Q. Why do you so regard it?—A. Because of the extent and the power of its influence on the national character; I consider it in that regard next to religion itself and I would almost even place it ahead of politics.

Q. Then in speaking of all these branches of sport do you include horse racing among them?—A. Yes.

Q. And do you put it on the same plane as the others?—A. Well, in some respects I put it on a little higher plane. The turf has an interest, a history and a romance of its own, and has attained an importance as the substantial foundation of an industry that does not attach to any form of sport, and the betting on the horse racing has less of sordidness and more of sentiment in it than the betting on any other form of contest that I know of.

Q. Has it been your experience that there has been betting on all forms of sport as well as on horse races?—A. Most men want to back their opinion.

Q. That has been so in all the branches of sport in your experience?—A. Oh yes.

Q. Now as to the honesty of the motive of horsemen in the conduct of horse races, what have you to say as to that?—A. Well, I feel that I do not exaggerate when I say it is my sincere conviction that if we had the same high average of earnest effort in everything in life that, to my knowledge, prevails on the turf—I speak of organized racing—the world would be vastly better off. On the other hand, there may be improper practices which I am not questioning, but I believe honestly that there is more of what represents a lower moral tone and a greater degree of fraud and impropriety on the doorsteps of the city of Toronto every day in the year in the shape of watered milk and light-weight bread than there is in all the race courses in America.

Q. What have you to say as to the endeavour of those who control race tracks to keep them honest and free from fraud?—A. The penalty for improper practices on the race-course is the most severe that can be imposed.

Q. What is that?—A. A man convicted of improper practices—he may be convicted without the evidence that would be required in a court of law, because it is a voluntary institution, and a man who participates in it subjects himself to its authority—the penalty for improper practices in the case of the man means expulsion and exclusion from that business, exclusion from any recognized race track at any place in the world. The National Trotting Association of America recognizes all rulings for fraud by the running branch of the sport and the same reciprocity prevails on the other side, and the same in all countries, and the man who is convicted of improper practices on the turf is outlawed, the value of his property is destroyed, his reputation is ruined, his horses cannot run on any race course nor can they be sold to any other person to run.

Q. Are these regulations and rules vigorously enforced?—A. They are, and I have never known a case of either prejudice or partiality in their enforcement. Quite possibly the reason for that is that the officials are absolutely independent. I am presiding judge at Fort Erie and in Windsor. It is within my authority to say to any man there, any owner, any rider, any trainer, any person holding a license or enjoying any privilege, that he must take his horses away from the track, that he must leave the track himself. That is subject to no revision or supervision with the exception of the committee of the Canadian Racing Association.