

The Rockwood Review.

HOCKEYANA.

Rockwood has occupied no insignificant position in Hockey circles this season, and if it had entered the Ontario League, it is almost certain that Junior championship honors would have been secured, as it is the record is very flattering indeed.

On January 1st the players met Napanee in the City Rink, and although the ice was heavy, gave a good exhibition of Hockey, winning by a score of 3 to 2. On January 9th the Gentlemen Cadets from the R. M. C., a team in the Senior League, were defeated by a score of 21 to 4. On the 11th, the Queen's University—minus the immortal Jock Harty—were defeated in a close game by 11 to 10. This was a grand victory indeed, as Queen's hold the Championship of Ontario, and have since won the Intercollegiate Championship of America. It must be said though that the champions were not familiar with our Rink, and this made a difference in their game. On January 12th, the celebrated Frontenacs were defeated, 14 to 13; but on the 21st the Champions defeated our boys in the City Rink, 7 to 1, in a beautiful game, much closer than the score would indicate. Here the large rink was an important factor, and although our boys had excellent combination and effective team play, they did not seem to know how to score. The defeat was an honorable one though, and when the Local League Matches are played, Rockwood should give an excellent account of itself. Our players are a sturdy lot of fellows, fast skaters and clever stick handlers. Those who have played in the different matches are:—J. Shea, W. Hamilton (Capt.), H. Tandy, Stanley Wilson, C. M. Clarke, G. Coxworthy, E. Gilmour, Marshall P. Reid.

The most friendly feeling has existed among the different City Clubs, and the one idea seems to be to work in the best interests of Hockey, rather than foster petty local jealousies which have so often in the past done harm to championship prospects.

Among the juveniles our Beechgroves still remain monarchs of all they survey, and seem to be invincible, although of late they have been making ventures likely to prove fatal to their record. Tired of beating boys of their own size and age, they have ventured into large company, and have managed to win, but must not expect to do so every time. So far they have played six matches, and have won all by very comfortable margins. This Beechgrove Club furnishes a capital illustration of the success of team play. These boys are accustomed to play as a team, are always together and practice as a whole; the result is that they defeat bigger boys, who are much stronger physically and even faster skaters. The lesson is one to be taken note of even by seniors.

In the city, Hockey has reached a greater state of perfection than ever before, and although we have fewer great hockey players than in some years in the past, still the general average is far above the standard. It is only occasionally we find a Jock Harty, a Geo. McKay or a Randy McLennan, but now it is not impossible to pick out at least a dozen stars of the second magnitude, players good enough for any team in Canada, the great eastern cities not excluded. Possibly Jock Harty deserves credit more than anyone else for the improvement, for he has always been an ideal to work up to, and boys have admired him and taken him for their model, not only on account of his beautiful play, but also because of his clean ideas in regard to the game.