

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

FOR those who take an interest in amateur sport, the most interesting topic at the present time is the visit of Lord Hawke's team of cricketers. The visitors' progress through the States has been regarded closely by most Canadians (especially imported ones) with a feeling very much akin to homesickness. For, after all, it is the old game, the one we used to play at school even before we got hackled into something like submission or insensibility on the Rugby field. The form shown by the visitors since their arrival has dispelled all doubt as to their capability. There has been but one defeat put down to their credit and then it was in the American home of cricket, the Quaker City, that beat them. Since then the Englishmen have had things pretty much their own way. Their trip through the States has been, with one exception, a succession of victories. After a series of five games with the cricketers of the eastern district of the United States, the visitors took a turn in the wild and woolly west, where they do play some cricket, but where they would much prefer the more nervous and short-lived game of baseball. A summary of the work done in the east will be interesting to those who figure on cricket possibilities, the average, so to speak, being somewhat above the average, Lord Hawke and Mr. Hewett taking the foremost positions. Wreford-Brown, C. W. Wright and K. J. Key all get over 20, while all the bowling honours go pretty well to Woods, although Hornsby did great work at Boston and Baltimore. The following table shows the average for the eastern series:—

	Innings.	Times Not Out.	Most in an Innings.	Runs.	Average.
Lord Hawke.....	8	0	76	306	38.25
H. T. Hewett.....	9	0	113	310	34.44
C. Wreford-Brown...	9	1	72	324	28.00
C. W. Wright.....	9	0	69	227	25.22
K. J. Key.....	9	2	50*	159	22.71
S. M. J. Woods.....	9	0	92	156	17.33
Hon. H. Milles.....	8	0	44	82	10.25
G. W. Hillyard.....	7	2	21	51	10.20
Lord Throley.....	9	2	23	70	10.00
J. H. J. Hornsby.....	9	0	26	88	9.77
G. W. Ricketts.....	8	2	18	56	9.33
K. McAlpine.....	6	2	10	29	7.25

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
J. H. J. Hornsby....	335	30	90	16	5.62
S. M. J. Woods.....	826	66	353	53	6.66
G. W. Ricketts.....	60	2	34	2	17.00
C. Wreford-Brown...	640	50	261	15	17.40
G. W. Hillyard.....	240	17	105	5	21.00
Hon. H. Milles.....	176	5	131	3	43.66

In the Philadelphia game, the visitors' win was not such a remarkable performance, when it is considered that the Brotherly Love citizens won their first match by eight wickets and the return was only reversed by four wickets. But a great deal of this may be put down to the credit of a recent ocean trip and the differences in the ground. When they got their land legs on and tackled weaker teams, although outnumbered on the field they had a comparatively easy time. In the New York game the sixteen representing Gotham had a narrow shave, and it was one of the few times when a cricketer blesses the advent of rain, for it was just rain that saved the New Yorkers from defeat, and left them with the doubtful honour of a draw. Great things were expected from the old Longwood team in Boston, although no longer carrying that proud cricket name. The two Wrights, mainstays of cricket in the Hub, were on the team, but between both of them they only managed to make one run in two innings. The score was a lamentable one for the Bostonians. Both sides played their two innings and here is the result:—Lord Hawke's team, 297; Boston, 55. What a fall for the Beaneaters! It had been scheduled that an All Massachusetts match should have been played, but the result was discouraging and the visitors left immediately for the West. In Chicago the Englishmen had another pic-nic.

The Chicagoans were easily let down with a beating to the tune of an inning and 90 runs, and from thence they strayed to Niagara Falls.

The new rules adopted by the Quebec Rugby Union have now had a trial in three first class matches, between Bishops' College and McGill, Montreal and McGill, and Britannia and McGill. A good many of the players do not seem to have yet worked themselves into close acquaintance with some of the changes, but on the whole the result has been satisfactory, and as there are a couple of matches booked with Ontario clubs as soon as the regular Quebec season is over, the new method will relieve the referee of considerable trouble. From the way in which McGill began the season it looked very much as if they were going to retain the senior championship. The match with Lennoxville was an easy mark for them, and they still came out ahead in the closely fought struggle with Montreal; but when the Brits came along they suffered a most unmistakeable defeat. McGill has depended a good deal on the back division, which played like clockwork and somewhat outclassed the Montrealers, whose strength was in the rush line in that respect. But the Brits were equally strong behind. Arnton was a little more than a match for Goulet, while the forwards had some advantage. The Collegians seem to miss the presence of Hamilton, who, perhaps, did more to bring the McGills to the proud position of last year than any other man, and it was due in a great measure to his enthusiasm and hard work that the team held together so well and showed such excellent form on the field. There is still one more chance for the College men to retrieve their lost honours. On Saturday the Montrealers will play the Britannias, and on the following Saturday McGill will play the winners. From the form shown last Saturday, to my mind, it seems that the Britannia Club have a very good chance of holding on to the championship for the balance of the season.

After a lacrosse season that has been anything but brilliant, the end will come in the shape of a match between Montreal and Cornwall for the championship. At the beginning of the season it was generally understood that the winners in both series were to play off. When this proposition was made the Cornwalls would hear of nothing but a new series of three matches, which the Montrealers would not consider at all, and the matter was dropped, but when the Factory Town players saw they could not have everything their own way they came down a little from their high horse and condescended to have their chances rest on a single game. It is almost a pity that a club like Montreal should have considered the matter at all after the way it has been treated all through by the Cornwalls, and this is the more important when the lamentable fiasco of two weeks ago on the Shamrock Grounds is thought of. Another thing which is easily explained, but which explanation many people will be loth to receive, is the fact that although the match is to be played on the M.A.A.A. Grounds, members' tickets are not available. It will appear to show a greater anxiety for the flesh pot of big gate receipts than for the honour of being styled champions. The Montrealers challenge the Cornwalls, and the latter hire the M.A.A.A. Grounds. This is a piece of generosity on the part of Cornwall that was hardly to be expected. If it were a mere championship both sides were seeking after, why did not the challenged force the challenger to play on the home grounds in Cornwall? Still another point. Arranging this match will deprive both the Britannia and Montreal Football Clubs of a good player each on a day when they are struggling for a genuine championship. The Britannias will miss Paterson, and the Montrealers will be minus the services of Baird, and possibly Louson. This is hardly fair to the Rugby men, but lacrosse recently seems to have been run more in the spirit of selfishness than of fair play.

In the district championship series there is another stumbling block in the way, and one that is likely to prevent the provincial championship being played for this season. The Orients and St. Gabriels happen to be tie on games won, but the St. Gabriels have a drawn game to their credit against a lost one for the Orients. Now a drawn game is better than a lost one every day in the week, and the protest to the N.A.L.A. presented by the Orients is not in the best of taste. With the usual circumlocution of the N.A.L.A. it will be some time before the matter is decided, and no matter who is declared district champion, it will be too late in the year to play off for the provincial championship. It

is a fitting wind up to a season of lacrosse that has not been particularly creditable.

The past few weeks have been phenomenal ones in the history of horseflesh. Take the sensational price given for St. Blaise, the great race between Nelson and Allerton, and finally the wonderful performance of Sunol. These three things alone afford horsemen food for conversation and speculation for several weeks to come. But the greatest of these is Sunol. It was on July 30, 1885, at Cleveland, O., that Maud S. astonished the trotting world by going a mile in 2.08¾. It was on October 20, 1891, that Sunol wrested the crown from the queen of the turf and chipped half a second off the record. Senator Stanford bred Sunol. She is by Electricain, son of Rysdyk's Hambletonian and Green Mountain; her dam being Waxana, by Gen. Benton, and his grand-dam the thoroughbred mare Waxy. It was in 1888 that Sunol astonished the trotting world for the first time, and she has kept on astonishing it pretty well ever since. Previous to this time the two-year old record was held by Wildflower, 2.21, and was thought to be unbeatable, but Sunol lopped off three seconds, and horsemen were in turn surprised the other day when Arion, by Electioneer, a two-year old, went the mile in 2.15¾, while at Terra Haute Monbars, by Eagle Bird—Lady Maud, equalled Sunol's time of 2.18. As a three-year old the reigning queen of the turf started in three races and was beaten by Lilian Wilkes in one of them. At this time Astell held the three-year old record, 2.12, and on November 9th, at San Francisco, she was started against time to beat that mark. The old man with the scythe was beaten and the record lowered by a second and a half, where it stays to the present time, and is also the mark for four-year olds. When Mr. Robert Bonner purchased Sunol from Senator Stanford the mare was still left in charge of Charles Marvin at Palo Alto. Ever since her recent trial at Stockton, when she covered the mile in 2.10, and it was understood that she was shortly to be sent to beat Maud S.'s record, the eyes of the world have been upon her. She was subjected to the most careful course of preparation that ever fell to the lot of an animal, and on Tuesday she proved herself the greatest trotter in the world. Without a skip she went to the first quarter in 31¾, and to the half in 1.04; here she was joined by a running mate; at the three-quarter pole the time was 1.37, and when she reached the wire six watches stopped at 2.08¾, and Maud S.'s great record was wiped out.

There is another dangerous opponent in the field in the shape of Nancy Hauks (2.09), but it is not at all likely that the daughter of Happy Medium and Nancy Lee will attempt to better her mark this season. Nancy has had a phenomenal career. In her first race she lost the first heat and won the next two. That is the only heat she ever lost in her life. This was at Harrodsburg, in July, 1889. During this year she took part in seven races and won them all. As a four-year old, however, she started in six races and won them all in straight heats. The wonderful part of this performance was that in each of those races she did better than 2.20, and the last heat was always the fastest. The question now is:—Has the limit of her speed been reached? Doble says it has not. Previous to August last, the fastest heat ever trotted in a race was 2.13, by Palo Alto, but Nancy Hauks, racing against Margaret S. and Allerton, beat this figure in all three heats, and in September last at Richmond, Ind., she finished the mile in 2.09. With Allerton and Sunol and Nancy Hauks in the field it is a question where the mark will go to before long.

And so the Fifth Royal Scots are to be bonneted. Well, they deserve it, and the friends of the battalion hope the men will have their expensive head-dress before the kilted regiment in Toronto gets into its new uniform. It is with the idea of raising this fund that military steeplechases will be given at Blue Bonnets on Saturday. The programme consists of five races, and has been arranged with a view to give the affair a decidedly military aspect, and all friends of good racing and the gallant Highlanders will no doubt assist by their presence.

Dr. Wesley Mills has written a very interesting pamphlet on "How to Keep a Dog in the City." To all who are naturally fond of the dog and whose surroundings are somewhat limited, this pamphlet will be very valuable, and if the suggestions made are carried out the man who can't keep a dog in the city don't deserve to have one.