

ATHLETICS

(By Corpl. J. HEWITT)

Christmas holidays, inoculation and the "weather man" have played havoc with the sports of the Battalion for the past few weeks; however, field days and long route marches are keeping the men fit, so that when the weather improves they will be able to carry on with their outdoor games at once. It must not be taken from the above that we have been idle altogether, for this is not the case, as our hockey team has been playing regularly, besides which our relay teams made splendid showings in the New Year's race held under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. for the military units of the city. Each relay team consisted of eight men, and the race started at the Willows, terminating at the Y.M.C.A., Blanshard Street. Our first team, consisting of Privates Levy, Howse, Arbutnot, Kenny, Duggan, Sgt. Johnstone, Lieuts. Meredith and Wilmot were the winners, while our second team came in third. On Tuesday evening last the victors were presented with gold medals, when a social evening was spent at the "Y" in honor of the occasion. Certainly they are to be congratulated on their fine showing.

Our hockey team under the able management of Lieut. McDiarmid, has been playing regular games with the Victoria amateur team, but has suffered a great deal of hard luck in all its games. The team was rounding up nicely when casualties began to come thick and fast. The following are a few of the more serious accidents:

- Sgt. Young—Broken collar-bone.
- Lieut. Marsden—Broken finger.
- Lieut. Falkner—Broken nose.

Well, we suppose accidents will happen, but we do hope that "Dame Fortune" will look upon us more kindly in the future.

As stated above, the weather has been strictly against outdoor games, as the ground has been frozen and covered with snow, so that our soccer and rugby teams have been idle during the past two weeks. Many games, are, however, in sight, so that when the conditions improve followers of these games will be given plenty of opportunity of watching their favorites in action. It is the intention to renew the Battalion soccer league as soon as possible, while the senior team has entered in the new city league competition for the Peden cup. Their prospects for victory look bright, as with the addition of Privates Nichol and Nixen the team is considerably strengthened. Their first game is slated to be played on Saturday, January 15, against the 103rd Battalion.

Return games with the 72nd Battalion of Vancouver were arranged to be played in the Terminal City on the 8th, but owing to adverse weather conditions had to be postponed indefinitely. It was the intention to take over soccer, rugby, basketball, tug-of-war, and relay teams, also bayonet fighters. Splendid teams had been chosen and no doubt would have given a good account of themselves. It was a great disappointment that the trip had to be postponed, but all look forward with keen anticipation to the coming event.

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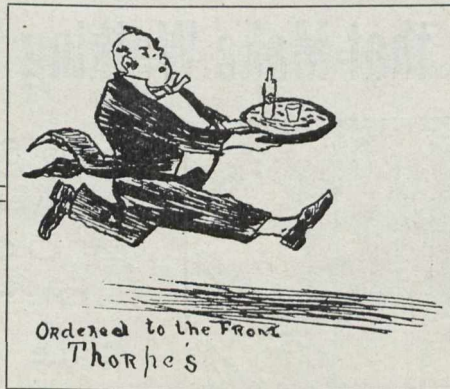
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