

The Sporting Page



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MAKE AMATEUR BALL A SUCCESS

'Deacon' White Urges That All Pull Together for Some Live Sport

(By 'Deacon' White)

Now that the idea of professional baseball in Edmonton for this season is quite knocked in the head because of Calgary's attitude, it is up to us to make the most of the amateur game. Personally, I am very glad that pro ball has been side-tracked for another year, as the weight of reasons seems to be all against it for this summer. Next September Sam Savage of Calgary has determined to build their fences. I have declared that he is ready with Edmonton to organize a circuit for 1920. That will give every member of the league, whatever its composition may be, plenty of In the meantime, amateur baseball must flourish here as never before. It has proved a great success in Winnipeg the past few seasons and also in Calgary. We must build up some teams here that will be able to go out and take the measure of these cities. We have just done it in basketball and now we must do it in baseball and football. The teams are daily bringing back some trusty athletes from the other side, and there were some Edmonton names to conjure with, "over there," Haliburton, Blades, Hay and Dancocks in the field of track athletics, and in baseball there was Bagley, Eddie Mars, Hall, Chief Kootenay, Chapman and Kinsely. This young Chapman played short for the first division team in 1917, and he was a revelation, as the last seen of him in Edmonton was 1915 before he was out of short pants. Bagley captained the second division

team and Kinsely taught for the first division third division team. Chief Kootenay was the great first division pitcher, who won fame in the neighborhood of Vimy Ridge by his wonderful feats of twirling. Eddie Marsell played a grand game at third for the second division. These are just a few names. There are many more. Sport was a great thing in the army, and this war has been the means of bringing our games into their proper sense of proportion. Men have been gathered into the different games both as players and spectators that never before took one solitary speck of interest in them. It would probably surprise, to say nothing of delight, the residents of this city to see men like Colonel Palmer, Major Weaver and Major Chatter of the 49th playing the good old game of in-



'DEACON' WHITE

door baseball. They earned regular places on the 49th officers indoor ball team that was as good as any like team in the Canadian corps.

This coming summer will see a four club amateur baseball league in Edmonton, composed of the following organizations: The Great War Veterans Association, Dekan Grotto, Knights of Columbus and the Rotary Club. A regular schedule of games will be played at Diamond Park, either 3 or 4 games a week, the season opening about the middle of May.

There are enough players in this city of sufficient class to produce four good baseball teams, and provide some rousing games for the summer. And with the development that regular playing will bring we will be able to select one team that will bring honor to the city in games with the common enemy, Calgary.

If amateur baseball can prosper in other cities in Western Canada, it surely can here. And the best method of conducting prosperity to the game is for everyone to lend their support by attending the contests and boosting.

And this goes for football as well. Get down to those football games. It is crowds that make it possible to secure better teams, and they stimulate the players to greater efforts. We want the best soccer team in Western Canada, and in order to get it we must have patronage.

SCHOOL TEACHERS TO MEET AT CALGARY

The Alberta Teachers Alliance now ranks among the strongest organizations of the province, comprising something like a thousand members. George D. Misener, principal of H. A. Gray school, Edmonton, is president, and J. A. Barnett, Strathcona High School, Edmonton, is secretary of the provincial organization.

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Operation of Government Act Strong Stimulus to Live Stock Industry

AID WHEN IN NEED

Cow Bill Has Resulted in Supplying Near Thirteen Thousand Head

The Government of the Province of Alberta makes it possible for settlers without means to get a good start in the live stock business. Two years ago the "Live Stock Encouragement Act" commonly called the Cow Bill was passed. It provides for the forming of co-operative associations of farmers in number from five up, who wish to secure money for the purpose of purchasing cattle stock. The money secured is actually limited to the purchase of cows. All it costs the members is a dollar each to help to defer the cost of organization. Members that are well established on their farms or that are making permanent homes and especially men with families can secure up to the limit of \$500. Others who have not made home-stead improvements or have accumulated any resources are not usually given so much. The Act is administered by the Provincial Live Stock Commissioner whose staff passes on the resources of the borrowers and on the stock purchased and should look after the interests of the Government in the stock, in its management and disposition during the time that the loan is in force. The Government does not furnish the money, it is secured through regular banking channels. The Merchants Bank of Canada so far has been furnishing the money for the demands of the Cow Bill. The rate is 6% payable yearly—the whole period of the loan is five years. The Government guarantees repayment. Since passing this Act over one million dollars has been loaned to farmers. The total number of borrowers is about twenty-five hundred. The average size of the loans is \$2150.00. The average amount procured by each borrower is \$407.00. The total number of cattle purchased so far is 12,875—the average price per head is \$65.50.

The affect of this provision is very beneficial to the new settlers. If a settler has cows he has a means of changing his rough feeds into beef which he can sell for a good price or into milk which furnishes a very necessary ration for the farmers' family and likewise furnishes a steady revenue from week to week for the purchase of necessary things not provided by the farm itself. It is commonly estimated that about 65% of the actual foods required by a family is furnished from the farm itself. This consists of such things as fruits, vegetables and meat products including milk, eggs, etc. The Government likewise has passed a Municipal Co-operative Credit Act which has not yet come into very active operation. It provides for the forming of municipal companies and for the establishment of a management; for the negotiation of loans which are furnished through the usual channels and the guaranteeing of repayment is divided equally between the Government and the Municipality. This Act has not made great progress yet but it is expected that it will, after having been amended in the present legislature, go into effect during the present season.

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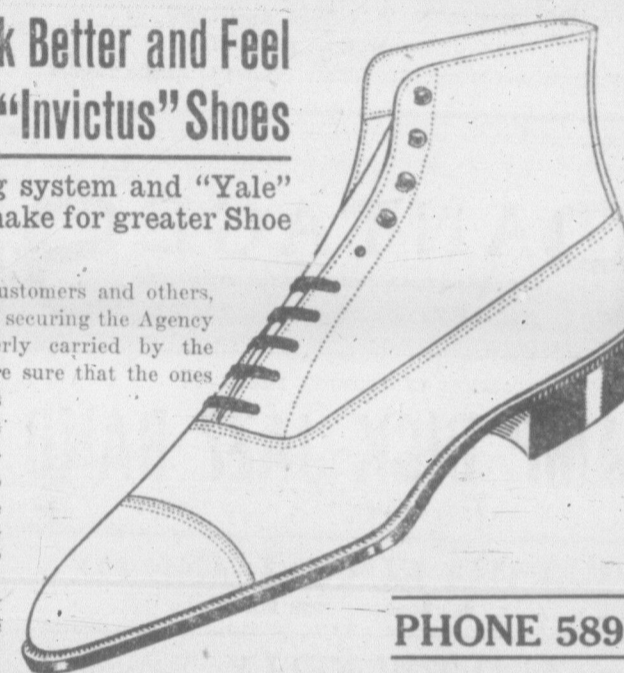
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