

ATHLETICS

(By Corpl. J. HEWITT)

The Western Scots opened the soccer season a week ago in auspicious fashion when they took the measure of the crack Victoria West team by the narrow margin of a goal. The result was unquestionably a surprise to the critics who had looked for a West victory. The 67th Battalion was admitted to comprise within its ranks many clever soccer players, but the short period the team had been together was figured as fatal to its chances in the opening games of the schedule. Under the circumstances the victory was all the more acceptable, and undoubtedly portends many more to follow. The team showed great strength in defence and succeeded in holding the Wests without a score, a feat that many other teams will have difficulty in accomplishing during the season. Goaltender Riley, late of Port Alberni, was a potent factor in this respect, saving several goals by clever stops. The backs, Ord and Cunningham, did noble work, and so did the half-backs, Okell, McDiarmid and Sherman. The forwards apparently could not get along, and showed the lack of acquaintance. Dagg shaped up well, and accounted for the only goal of the game by cleverly heading in a centre from Pater-son. The Wests, so far as play went, had a shade the better of the argument, but their shooting was very inaccurate, so much so that the spectators could not refrain from suggesting that they join the army and learn the mysteries of deflection. The closing moments of the game, when the Wests were attacking fiercely in an effort to equalize, while the Scots were fading away from lack of condition, were quite exciting, and the tackling was quite strenuous, several minor casualties being reported. But the stretcher-bearers were not called into action, fortunately, the game ending without any serious injury, and everybody present, except a few folks from Victoria West who have not yet signed on for King and Country, was happy.

The draft provided a pleasant entertainment last Tuesday evening in the Horse Show Building, when they gave a fare-well smoker. Besides a fine musical programme there was a splendid list of boxing events, quite the most ambitious card of the kind yet attempted by the Sixty-seventh. A lot of new performers appeared, and though in some instances the contestants were a trifle shy on technique, they were always willing, and the bouts were most keenly contested. The feature event was between Pte. McHugh (better known to ring followers as Cyclone Scott) and Seaman Russ Leighton, from Esquimalt. The latter was thirty pounds heavier than McHugh, but the latter was in the better condition and the contest was very even. The pair boxed skilfully and hard throughout and the affair was easily the best display of boxing yet seen in the Arena at the Battalion smokers. The spectators were so enthused at the conclusion that they with one accord demanded more. It is likely the two will be brought together again. In this connection it would not be a bad idea if some arrangement was made whereby the Battalion could be provided with a real fistic contest. McHugh is just spoiling for a chance to show his ability over a long route—say, ten or fifteen rounds—and there are a lot of others in the camp who would also like to get into the lime-light under similar conditions.

The Sixty-seventh was to the fore in the B.C. Horse sports held Thanksgiving Day, mainly owing to the clever sprinting ability of Pte. Allan James William Duggan, of No. 4 Company, who won the 100 yards dash in the remarkably fast time of eleven seconds flat on a bad course, finished second in the half-mile after being overcome by a severe cramp, and carried the red and white of the Battalion to victory in the relay, when he made up ten yards in the stretch run, to get the verdict by a yard. Duggan was trained for the events by Pte. William Carlisle, of No. 4 Company, the pride of the regiment, and the latter was naturally immensely pleased with the result of his unique training methods. The Battalion tug-of-war team was undoubtedly overtrained from its strenuous pulling against the old oak tree, and failed in the pinch after being within a few yards of victory early in the fray. Trainer Carlisle will take them in hand for the next event of the kind.

A Battalion Rugby team is to be organized in the near future to compete against teams from the other units in the

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vicinity of Victoria. There is a wealth of material in the Sixty-seventh, and the Battalion will undoubtedly be well represented in this line of sport.

Brains alone may qualify a man for a home guard Battalion, but it takes brawn as well as brains to make advances through the trench-lined fields of Europe. That is why the "Athletes' Battalion," as the Sixty-seventh has been termed, will be heard from when the trip overseas is made. A successful athlete must have brains as well as sinew, and if the measure of success sometimes achieved in this world is a criterion of brain power, then commend us to "brawn."

WEDDED IN THE LINES

A ceremony of great and pleasing interest took place on the 7th inst. in the lines of the 67th Battalion Overseas Draft, when the marriage of Corpl. H. Bogatin took place, the bride being Miss Coral Fey Thomas, of Tacoma, who was given away by Lieut. Meredith Jones, the bridegroom's best man being Sergt.-Major Duke. The Rev. Dr. Campbell officiated, and addressed a few felicitious remarks to the happy couple, who were heartily congratulated by everyone present and received three rousing cheers as they made their departure.

SOME SPEED

We learn on excellent authority that the Scout Section is considering the advisability of revising the existing drill to suit the extraordinary conditions under which it works. No longer will such commonplaces as "quick march" and "halt" be used in moving or stopping the Boy Scouts, the order to move off being "Follow me, men," upon which the Scouts will break into a fast gallop without regard to the band, staff, or other encumbrances of a battalion. Double time will be used upon all occasions, and when the men show signs of the least fatigue, short rests, such as scaling a twenty-foot fence or negotiating Mount Tolmie at a steady trot, will be indulged in.

CARD OF THANKS

The officers and men of the Battalion desire to record their thanks to the undermentioned firms and individual gentlemen, who have so generously assisted in the solution of some of the more or less difficult financial problems incidental to the organization and mobilization of the Western Scots:

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