

Athletics.

The hockey excitement still keeps up in Central Canada, although the result in the principal league series is now a foregone conclusion. Ottawa has come to the fore again and shown a degree of excellence in this grand winter game probably unprecedented in Canada. Nothing but the acme of condition has enabled the Capital team to reach the proud position of ten victories and no defeats. It is extremely doubtful if a single reverse will be recorded against the club this season. In addition to this the Ottawa team have two men at the top of the list of goal scorers. In fact it is "Ottawa redivivus" all the way through.

With the winter activities of the youth of Ottawa it seems somewhat remarkable that the typhoid bacillus should be able to obtain such a hold upon the community. Everywhere one sees young men and maidens hurrying to the rinks for skating and to the suburbs for skiing and tobogganing. Nothing seems to daunt them,—not even 10 below weather, accompanied by high winds. Snowshoeing is also much in vogue, and is a delightful exercise,—and one also very useful, as some of our suburbanites have found of late, when the trolley car has been temporarily out of commission.

Curling is an ancient and honourable pastime for the male sex, but it is only of late years that the ladies have taken it up seriously. Now we find 'bonspiels' composed entirely of ladies being held. A most successful meet of this kind was concluded recently in Montreal. It must be admitted this form of athletic energy is much preferable to novel reading, pink teas and endless 'bridge,' albeit it is probably the only 'sweeping' indulged in by many of our pampered matrons and misses. More power to their little elbows, which are much better bent in this healthful sport than with the seductive cocktail and high ball.

Speaking of curling, it is most interesting to note that our next Governor-General, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, took part in the opening games at the inauguration of the Thistle Curling Club in Montreal some 40 years ago. An historic photograph group of the leading citizens of the Metropolis of Canada of that date may be seen in many halls, depicting Prince Arthur sending down the first stone on this occasion. *The Civilian* hopes that His Royal Highness may be able to "scoop 'em up" many

times on the vice-regal rinks during his residence at Rideau Hall.

The carnival of the Minto Skating Club on Monday evening last was one of the most successful events of the season. Our Canadian youths and maidens seem almost as much at home on the ice as on a ball room floor; indeed, some of them even more so. Not only is skating a graceful pastime, but one most beneficial to all ages and both sexes. With the advent of artificial rinks in many of the capitals of Europe and the United States this art is no longer monopolized by "Our Lady of the Snows," but is becoming universal. Soon we shall have instructors coming from London to teach us some of the newer intricacies of the 'game,' while our own Rhodes scholars are touring Europe and showing the fine points of hockey. This would be a species of reciprocity at which none could cavil.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS.

By R. E. S.

If you work for an institution, in Heaven's name *work* for it. If it pays you wages that supply you with bread and butter, work for it; speak well of it; stand by it think well of it; an ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness. The following from the "Canadian Industrial Review" is in point:

"If you must vilify, condemn and eternally disparage, resign your position, and when you are outside, damn to your heart's content; but I pray you so long as you are a part of an institution, do not condemn it. Not that you will injure the institution — not that — but when you disparage the concern of which you are a part, *you disparage yourself*. More than that, you are loosening the tendrils that hold you to the institution, and the first high wind that comes along you will be rooted up and blown away in the blizzard's track—and, probably, you will never know why. The letter only says, 'Times are dull and we regret there is not enough work,' etc."