

Montrealers vs. Nationals—on Grounds of the latter Club in Montreal.

ebbs and flows, but there is always a fairly large amount of it to be found.

In Western Ontario the C. L. A. once boasted a senior series made up of Toronto, Tecumsehs, St. Catharines and Brantford, and junior and intermediate clubs to the number of a hundred. To-day things are changed a bit. Brantford and St. Kitts have dropped professional lacrosse, Tecumsehs and Torontos have gone to swell the ranks of the N. L. U., and the ebb of the tide has left about forty of the hundred clubs stranded for the present. Still there is many a smaller and deader sporting body than the C. L. A. It has sixty teams playing the game this year, running from an amateur senior series to juveniles, and will have a list of active players running well over a thousand. It is from this body that most of the Tecumsehs and all the Toronto players have been drawn and even now the Montreal and Ottawa clubs are casting envious eyes on the Toronto pro teams' source of supply.

Though the National Lacrosse Union has four clubs in Ontario—Tecumsehs, Toronto, Ottawa and Cornwall—and only three in Quebec—Shamrocks, Montrealers and Nationals, all of Montreal—it is always looked on as a Quebec organisation. This is probably because its annual meetings have up to the present time always been held in Montreal. It has been "the big league" ever since the white man wrested the lacrosse supremacy from the Indian. It is likely to remain so, too—if it only could get that Minto Cup back from the coast. Tecumsehs, last year's champions, tried to bring it back and failed. Montrealers, this year's champions, are going west after it in July. They have a strong team, too, a fast, wiry lot who can play the game and take their bumps. But outside of the Montreal club house, few are the folks who harbour a thought that they will bring back the strayed silverware. New Westminster on their own little hillside at the end of a three thousand mile journey are a hard problem for any team to solve. Still the N. L. U. champions will keep on trying year after year—and their time will come.

In the meantime the eastern lacrosse followers are talking more of the relative strength of the N. L. U. teams than of Minto Cup games and the opinion is freely expressed that some of the teams have suffered from the lacrosse ebb. Their old players are going back and the young material to replace them is not to hand. It is generally conceded that as things stand at present Montrealers and Torontos are the strong teams. The former have all the players with whom they won last year's championship, while Torontos have a young, strong and fast team which only for a bad start would have been in at the finish last year and which only needs a little more experience to make it one of the greatest teams Canada ever saw.

Shamrocks are gradually breaking away from old reputations and replacing them with young players, but it takes a year or two to finish the weeding-out process, and though the Montreal Irishmen will always be hard to beat at home or abroad, they do not loom up like champions at this date or distance. Tecumsehs, too, are looking for new men for old places and their speed is impaired a bit by the renovating process, while Nationals, the fast French-Canadian team, though playing in spots the most brilliant lacrosse any team can show, are too erratic to hear a championship calling them.

And those old warriors, the Capitals of Ottawa, and the Cornwall team who have been writing lacrosse history with their sticks as far back as memory carries, what of them? Truth to tell, their

outlook is a little uncertain. Cornwall has a new grounds and a bunch of new players and it remains to be seen how the combination will work out, while Capitals have also shifted their quarters and will try to put some promising juniors in the places



Made him throw it.

of men who have been in the harness so long that their necks are sore and their feet wearied. Their fondest admirers are calling on them for a championship, but lacrosse history shows that a team seldom changes players and wins a championship in the same season.

He's an unwise man who tries to forecast a lacrosse season, but on the material in sight you would naturally call the N. L. U. teams for 1910 as follows: Torontos 1, Montrealers 2, Nationals 3, Tecumsehs 4, Shamrocks 5, Cornwall 6 and Capitals 7.

But if you take care of the amateurs the professionals will take care of themselves. And the pleasing thing about the spring of 1910 is that the amateurs are being looked after. Not only is every boy's stick that manufacturers can provide being distributed gratis to school boys, but arrangements are being made to have the champion juvenile team

of Toronto meet the best school boys Montreal can produce and the upper grades are being spurred to fresh efforts. Mr. D. D. Mann, the railroad magnate, has donated a \$500 gold cup as a Canadian amateur championship trophy. It is in the hands of Messrs. P. J. Lally of Cornwall, and Fred Killer and John R. Robinson of Toronto as trustees, and they can be depended on to see that none but amateurs compete for it.

Sizing it all up, guess the undertaker needn't hang round the lacrosse game.

Twice Visited Canada

DURING the summer of 1901 the new King paid a memorable visit to Canada. Shortly after the accession of Edward VII. his late Majesty decided that the then Duke and Duchess of York should take a globe-girdling tour and visit the overseas dominions of the Empire. The occasion was opportune for such a tour as the commonwealth of Australia came into existence at the beginning of that year, and Prince George was sent to open the first parliament.

Prince George left Portsmouth early in the year on S.S. *Ophir*, and sailed in easy stages to Australia. On the return the *Ophir* headed for Quebec, arriving there on July 16th. After a brief stay the royal party started on an extended transcontinental tour, crossing the prairies when the grain was golden.

In 1908 King George journeyed to Quebec alone for the great tercentenary celebration of Champlain's settlement in 1608. It was a hurried journey, and it was notorious at the time that the Prince of Wales was averse to coming over, and in a desperate hurry to get back. It is altogether likely that his father's health was the cause of the worry he felt at being absent from England. But while he was in Quebec he gained the good will of all with whom he came in contact, and while some declare that he is less democratic than his late father, the direct reverse is affirmed of him by intimates. His early training in the navy is held to account for a freedom and ease of manner with all sorts of people which is most attractive when displayed by a king towards his subjects. As Prince of Wales he entered into all the arrangements at Quebec with hearty zest, and the magnificence of the pageant evidently impressed him. He remembered all who were then in any way concerned with his comfort, and several Toronto citizens bear tokens of his kindness.

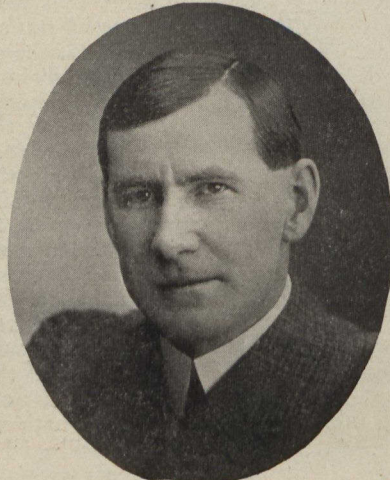
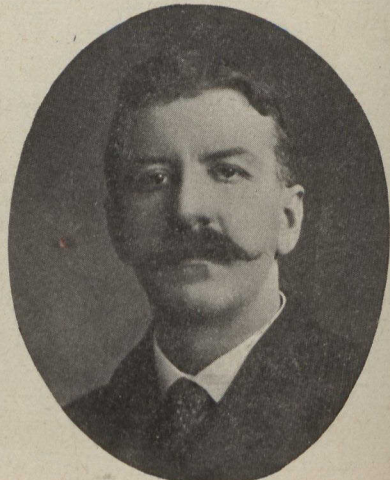
The record trip of the *Indomitable* to England with the Prince of Wales on board from Quebec in 1908 was a naval event of that year, and emphasised the desire of the Prince to return to England.

His visit as Duke of Cornwall with the Duchess to Toronto in 1901, will be remembered for the splendour of the illuminations and the pomp of the state entertainments. He was most affable with all who approached him on that occasion.

In addition to his two official visits, the King visited Canadian ports several times. He has also several close personal friends here who have kept him in touch with Canadian feeling. As his reign develops, his popularity here should grow.

It may be said that the present King knows Canada much better than did King Edward. He has seen the Canada of the twentieth century and the people of new Canada. The Canada of 1860 was less like the Canada of 1910 than the Canada of 1910 is like the United States. Fifty years of the most remarkable world-transformations ever known have given to King George V. a Canada which as his reign progresses will develop much more rapidly than any other country.

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Cornwall.Mr. Fred. Killer,
Toronto.