

## ATHLETICS

(By Corpl. J. HEWITT)

A well-earned draw was the result of the efforts last weekend of the Western Scots' soccer team in the league game with the Thistles, the unbeaten leaders in the series. The battalion rooters were out in force, but they did not get much opportunity of exercising their vocal apparatus in the first half, when, with a bright sun at their backs, the Thistles forced the play throughout and kept the Scots on the defensive nearly all the time. Two goals were registered by the Thistles, the first a rather fortunate one, when Riley let a high shot from Frakish slip over his hands, and the second a well-earned one, when a good drive from Lee gave Riley no chance. Changing over, the Scots showed their fighting spirit by attacking with renewed vigor. For a time it looked as though their efforts would be in vain, but after some twenty minutes of persistent work, Joe Dakers, who, curiously enough, manages to start the scoring for the Scots, located the Thistle goal. A few minutes after, while the rooters were still frantically cheering for the initial success, Shearman got his head on a pass from Plump and cleverly guided the ball into the net. Not content with evening up the score, the Scots kept up the good work, and it was a happy lot of Thistles when the whistle registered the finish and the league leaders secured the draw, for it surely looked as though their unblemished record was in for a stain of defeat.

An eleventh hour change in the team caused a lot of misgiving among the Western Scots' supporters, but Bob Christain, the bandsman from Vancouver, who was given a place on the half line while Shearman was moved to centre forward, amply justified the faith of the selection committee. Christain easily earned his place and added a lot of strength to the team. Lieut. Okell, as usual, was the star performer of the day for the battalion, and by his untiring efforts contributed largely to the satisfactory ending of a game that looked for a time a certain reverse for the battalion eleven. The halves and backs held up their end well, but the forwards, for the first half, were away off their game. They settled down in the second period, however, and more than made up for previous deficiencies. Drawing with the Thistles was, after all, some feat, considering the ease with which the leaders have taken the measure of all the other league teams, and it was most satisfactory, though naturally a win would have been doubly welcome.

Today the Western Scots have another away-from-home game. They have to travel to Beacon Hill to play the Victoria Wests. The latter have not been going very well this season, but they gave the Scots a stiff argument in their first game of the season, and the game should be interesting. At Royal Athletic Park the Thistles will meet the Sir John Jacksons, and it is just possible the leaders will have to acknowledge defeat. The Fifth Regiment retired from the league this week, but their withdrawal will not affect the standing of the leading teams.

The Battalion will undoubtedly be represented by several capable exponents of the hit and get away game at the patriotic boxing tournament which will be held under the auspices of the Vancouver Amateur Athletic Association at the old Victoria Theatre next Tuesday evening. Recent tournaments at the Horse Show Arena have demonstrated that the Battalion has some clever boxers, and they will likely participate on Tuesday. As the navy will be well represented, the tournament will largely be in the nature of a test between the army and the navy. It is for amateurs only.

The Battalion Rugby team was beaten in its first essay last Saturday by the Victoria team, largely because of lack of condition. The Scots had not had much practice beforehand, and they went down by a score of 14 to 5. They will do better in future.

Billy Weeks, the Vancouver middleweight boxer, has accepted the challenge hurled at him recently by Pte. McHugh (Cyclone Scott), and it is probable they will battle for the Canadian middleweight championship at the same arena in the near future. Weeks is both a hard hitter and a clever boxer, and Scott will have all he can handle if he takes him on.

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