

reasons are hard to seek. However, the competitions are a source of much interest to the spectators and education of young players. Miss Harvey, also of Hamilton, was "runner-up" in the tournament.

The baseball season has been a most successful one in the United States and Canada. The attendance and standard of play have both been above the average. When one reverts to the ancient days of under-arm pitching, catchers without masks or gloves, and other pristine conditions the modern scientific game is really wonderful. The precision in fielding, batting and baserunning is truly phenomenal. While cricket—and we hope lacrosse—will always have their place in summer sports, baseball is without doubt in the first rank in popular favour.

With the juvenile element, there is no doubt that the comparatively cheap cost of paraphernalia combined with the simplicity of the game and rapid change of sides have much to do with its success.

However, from this date until the snow flies little else will be talked of but football. The papers are full of it. On every lot one sees the small boy (and some larger ones) kicking the pigskin. The college and city teams are all endeavoring to inveigle eligible players into their ranks.

Football is a fine, healthy, spectacular game which will always find favour with the public. If the professional element can only be excluded from it, its beneficial effects on the youth of our country will be great.

The friction which existed in the Ottawa club in the opening of the season has been eliminated and everything now points to a most successful season.

A new organization known as the Ottawa Valley Driving Club held a most successful week's meet of harness racing, concluding on Saturday last. The attendance was very good

and the races most keenly contested. Horses were entered from all over Ontario and Quebec. The Gentleman's Race brought the proceedings to a close; it had to be run off in the dark. However, the 5,000 spectators waited until the finish.

THE LATE ROBERT LAIDLAW.

On the 14th August, 1911, there died at Ottawa, Mr. Robert Laidlaw, of the Archives Branch of the Agriculture Department, after an illness of only half an hour.

Mr. Laidlaw was born in Western Ontario on the 20th November, 1848, and early adopted the profession of a newspaperman. In this capacity he covered a great deal of Canada, having been in Winnipeg in the days of Fort Garry, and having worked on papers in many of the chief towns of Ontario.

Gifted with an excellent memory, and a natural born student of history, he soon acquired a knowledge of his native province both accurate and extensive. Genial and kindly in disposition, he made many friends, and it was probably the possession of these faculties which led to his appointment in the fall of 1905 to the Archives, as a travelling agent in search of documents. In the six years of his connection with the civil service, he visited Kingston, Toronto and many other places, searching amongst family records, municipal and provincial collections, for documents of general interest to Canada. Often he came upon entirely unknown and unexpected sources of information and to his zeal and acumen the department and the country owe the possession of many valuable and hitherto unknown documents.

His sudden death was deeply regretted by every member of the Archives staff, who one and all extend their warmest and most sincere sympathy to the widow and orphan daughter and son.