

able methods being adopted. The one idea is to make a win, no matter at what cost. It were better under these circumstances had the competitor never entered the arena, for no prize, however costly, will compensate for the moral setback.

The jealousy displayed in sporting circles is rapidly sapping the life-blood of Canadian athletics. We see it shown in a more or less degree from the governing bodies down to the youngest athlete. Montreal can see no good come out of Toronto; Toronto, in turn, looks with disdain on the superior accomplishments of some competitor from another town, and so it is carried through, each jealous of the other's success, and so national pride is not encouraged.

Canada can never be more than provincial until she develops a healthy national spirit. Every city, town, village and individual should try to reach the top of the ladder; but it should be accomplished by fair and honorable methods. The next thing to being a winner is to be a good loser.

Sport should not be developed for the benefit of the professional, but for the benefit of the amateur. Nor should it be developed only as a means of winning prizes. A man who practices athletics in a moderate way, even if he does not win prizes is doing good. He is cultivating a healthy body, which is worth striving for. If you are going to enjoy sport and be successful, you must be able to look back upon your efforts with unsullied pleasure. Compete in all games with the highest standard of honor. "Be defeated a dozen times rather than win by a trick." If you follow this rule jealousy will be a thing unknown to you.

Develop a spirit of friendly rivalry in sport and it will soon spread to other phases of our life, creating a national feeling of pride in our country.

—MARCUS.

## Suggestions for the Improvement of the Permanent Force

The original idea, in organizing a permanent force in Canada, was to have a corps of instructors, and an order exists "that only men who are likely to make instructors are to be enlisted in the permanent units." This order has never been cancelled, but to what extent it is enforced anyone who has had anything to do with the militia force well knows.

At the present time, it would seem, the desire is to create a small standing army, on the plan of the overseas forces of the British Isles, which is a fighting force, not an instructional one. The only thing that prevents filling the ranks to the full establishment of the permanent units to-day is the lack of recruits. To overcome this difficulty the British Government has been petitioned several times to send out drafts of time-expired soldiers, and when these arrive, it is not long before they either desert or buy their discharge. Even if they did not leave the service, there is only about one in ten fit to become an instructor. The utter foolishness of the plan is palpable. Canada has no oversea dominions to protect, and she cannot afford to keep a regular army sufficiently large to be of any material advantage for defensive purposes, and if she could afford it, the recruits to fill the ranks could not be found. Therefore the permanent units must revolve back to the object for which they were first formed, to instruct and assist the militia.

Organized on the right basis, there should be no trouble in obtaining all the men required suitable for instructors, and right here in Canada. This could be done without increasing the present financial outlay; if anything, it would be reduced.

Here are some of the suggestions that, we think, would make a material improvement in the corps: Instead of medical fitness and age being the only qualifications required of a man joining the permanent force, the applicant would be required to pass an entrance examination in elementary subjects, such as reading, writing, arithmetic, etc. Then a three months' course in drills and lectures would be given him, and if he passed the prescribed examination at the end of that time, he would be placed on the strength, as a corporal instructor. He would then undergo a second course of instruction. This course, as well as the subjects now set forth for a sergeant's certificate, would also embrace those subjects prescribed for the civil service examinations. If successful here, he would be granted a second-class instructor's certificate. He would then be allowed to qualify for further examination, and, if successful in this, he would be granted a first-class sergeant instructor's certificate. His pay would then be \$1.25 per diem and allowances.

Having now our man thoroughly trained, what are we going to do with him—put him on fatigue

or watching that the hinges are not stolen off the barrack gate? No! We can employ laborers to do the fatigue work for less pay and do it better (as it is their trade). The instructor would be employed in instructional work with cadet corps and in assisting the officers of the militia regiments. No trouble would be found in getting him employment when the units, he was detailed to, knew that the Government was paying the bill.

Every squadron, battery and company should have its armoury. And these instructors could go, during the autumn and winter months, from unit to unit, whipping them into shape. In a short time the effect would be felt by a general improvement throughout the force.

For instance, the O.C. of a regiment is informed that an instructor has been placed at his disposal for eight months; that officer could send the instructor for one month to each squadron or company of the unit under his command. The advantage that would accrue from this would be, that regiments going into camp for annual training would be far in advance of what they are now, after having put in their allotted number of days' drill. After a couple of days spent at regimental drill, the corps assembled at camps of instruction would be ready to commence field training and rifle shooting, of which our militia force are so much in need.

Another point worthy of consideration is, that when the instructor had gone the rounds of the regiment as above, all officers and men wishing to qualify for promotion might assemble at regimental headquarters at such times as would be arranged, and be there instructed and examined. Consider the saving in transport and pay if this scheme was adopted. Instead of all the officers and non-commissioned officers going to the School of Instruction, one officer and one instructor would go to them.

Now let us sum up and see what we have arrived at. In the first place, we have a man with a fair education who is anxious to advance in the service. He is offered inducements for advancement which depend on his ability, not on the number of years he has been eating government rations. He grasps the opportunity to qualify himself, and in less than a year we have a man who is capable of imparting instruction to the officers and men of the militia. He remains in the service, as his work is congenial. He is not asked to do fatigue work, as he has fitted himself for something more important. He is on the same basis as a teacher. He feels that he is a useful member of society, and is doing his share towards building up his country's defensive force. We have no deserters, the tone of the force is improved, and the country is not at any more expense than under the present system. And when we take into consideration the money

now spent on deserters, undesirable men, transport, etc., and the improvement there would be in the militia generally, we would be ahead.

K. and C.

## Empire

*Catharine Nina Merritt, U.E.L.*

What ails the monarch of the wild?  
Why slumbers he? 'Tis past the  
noonday heat;  
The sun is sinking, and the night  
Enfolds the world in cool re-  
freshment sweet.

The jungle stirs and moves abroad  
With chatter, snarl and sound of  
deadly fight,

Gathering their offspring in their  
train,

And setting forth to seek their  
prey by night.

(The dark creeps on through vale  
and wood)

The monarch of the forest slum-  
bers still,

Long days and nights he has not  
stirred

To feed or water by the moun-  
tain rill.

The monkeys chatter ceaselessly,  
"Who will invade the mighty  
monarch's lair?"

Whining and snarling comes the  
word,

"We'll enter, he's asleep, there's  
nought to fear."

Foxes peer in, and turn aside,  
Hyenas, grinning, hover round  
the den,

Leopards spring down to take a  
part,

Jackals come near and vanish  
straight again;

The panther ventures further yet,  
Softly on velvet foot, where  
others fled,

He enters—then returns in haste—  
"Who says the lion's sleeping—  
he is dead!"

Then is the jungle all astir,  
With envy each is striving for the  
throne,

The tiger snarls, and stands erect—  
"Proclaim me king and ye shall  
have your own,

Come, follow me, and drag him  
forth,

And with a royal feast ye shall  
be fed,

I'm monarch of the jungle now,  
I reign supreme, the British lion's  
dead!"

Into the dark they leap and push,  
Eager to seize their prey with  
horrid fang,

When lo! the tiger droops his tail,  
And turning, flees with all his  
savage gang.

There, at the entrance of the den,  
Ready to spring and standing all  
alive—

In stern defiance, head erect—  
Not one strong British lion there,  
*but five!*