

# WESTERN STANDARD SPORT PAGE

REVIEW OF THE WEEK ON ALL SPORTS

J. K. MATHESON, Sport Editor



## Alberta and Affiliation with the A.A.U.

By Field

Since the Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Football Association League at Edmonton on Easter Monday, there have been considerable changes in the aspect of association football so far as the question of professionalism is concerned, throughout the Dominion of Canada. In the East where the trouble between the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada and the Ontario Football Association first started the footballers of the Dominion are thinking, steps have already been taken by several men interested in the game, to form a professional association, with the result that nearly 80 per cent. of the best men playing football have gone over to that side, and left the remaining 20 per cent. in the position of fence-sitters—with the two alternatives—remaining in an organization avowedly amateur in every sense, or going over to the new body under which it is stated that football is only bound to flourish.

### The Beginning

The beginning of the passing from amateurism to professionalism in Canada dates back to the time when Fred Barter, then the President of the Quebec Football Association, resigned his position in order, as he stated, to go on a trip to the Old Country with the intention of having the Dominion Football Association, which had been formed just prior to that time, affiliated to the parent body. This Mr. Barter succeeded in doing, and immediately on his return acquainted the members of the Ontario Association that he had done so. His action was opposed, and then the question of inviting Old

Country professional teams to come to Canada to play, with the view of raising the standard of play and increasing the number of spectators, was taken up. The Amateur Athletic Union intervened here and said that if the Old Country professional teams were invited to play then every team that played against them would become professionalized, and consequently open to expulsion. This would naturally affect every league in the Dominion, and the matter was immediately taken up by the Ontario Football Executive presumably sitting as a federal body, with the result that they counselled separation from the A.A.U. That is how the matter stands at present.

### Alberta's Position

Until there is a meeting of the Dominion Football Association held to determine the question, there can be no decision taken by the Association Football Authorities in Alberta. If, however, the remarks made by some of the members of the Alberta Executive on Easter Monday are to be taken as a criterion of the feeling in their respective districts, there can be little doubt as to the attitude which will be taken. Red Deer will probably remain Amateur, and Edmonton, Calgary, and Lethbridge will go professional. That is to say they will go professional only under certain conditions. The trouble which started the discussion in Toronto will do the same in Alberta. Nearly every person connected with the sport in the province to-day, wishes to see some of the Old Country professional teams playing here. There are now no amateur teams, excluding the Corinthians and Queen's Park worthy of the name in the Old Country,

and any attempt to bring out amateur teams would simply result in failure so far as the raising the standard of the game is concerned. In the Old Country it is permissible for the amateur teams to play against professional teams, and it is also permissible for an amateur to play in a professional team himself, without impairing his amateur status, if he receives no monetary recompense. This is the phase of the question that appeals to the footballers in Canada. Mr. Meirs, the new President of the Alberta League, in a statement at the Annual Meeting said that the young men of the country were getting on at the game and they did not want professionals to come out and play. It will perhaps be well here to remind Mr. Meirs that football would not be existent in Alberta to-day if it had not been for professionals, who coming to this country years ago, started the grand old game, which is now making such great headway. There are only two really Canadian teams in Canada to-day, and the remarks of Mr. Meirs are therefore not to be seriously considered.

### THE MEWATA PARK CONTROVERSY

The result of the meeting held in the Y.M.C.A. last week was eminently satisfactory to the objectors to the granting of the park for armory purposes. Up to a certain point speeches had been made denunciating of the City Council's attitude, and arrangements were being made to carry on the opposition to the furthest limit, when Mr. Clifford Jones, who has been retained by the Committee appointed by the Athletic Organizations in the city made his appearance in the hall. He told the meeting that he had prepared an injunction to serve on the city restraining them from using the Park as a site for an armory, but before it could be served the City Clerk had told him that the Council had admitted that everything they had done up to that point in connection with the matter had been illegal. Mr. Jones said that before the park could be given away now, the people would have to be consulted by a law, and that further than that, even if the people approved

of the action of the Council, it was possible that the matter would have to go to the Legislature at Edmonton. The statement was received with cheers and the Committee were empowered to confer with Mr. Jones and take any steps they might think necessary in the matter. It is up to the Athletic Associations to see that they make their case plain to every ratepayer in the City of Calgary, because, even although the Council may decide to abandon the proposal for the present, there is no doubt that they will take it up again. Many people there are in Calgary who would vote for the armory site without consideration of the other side of the matter at all, simply because they are entirely ignorant of the athletic claim, or its justness. Every person interested in keeping Mewata Park for the use of the young men of the City, should make it his business to see that the people they come in contact with are put right on the matter. Mr. J. R. McEwan's proposal to go with the petition irrespective of the victory up to the present is a good one, and would give an idea of the wish of the people of the City on the matter.

## Soccer

### GENERAL LOCAL SOCCER PARS

The City held a confined smoking concert on Saturday evening. Several prospective players were present at the meeting, and the general tenor of affairs goes to show that the City are going to be a big power in the soccer doing this year.

James Coutts, the veteran City left half has been in strict training for some weeks past and is in splendid shape. Coutts put up some fine games last year, and the form he is in just now warrants the statement that he will be a difficult man to pass during season 1913.

W. Jewell, who played last season for the Calgary Callies at outside left and who was one of the best wingers in the city is at present in the mountains, and is likely to remain there for the football season. Billy is in splendid shape, and intends going to the Old Country at the end of this season for a trip. He may be seen in Calgary before the season opens.

George Broughton, of the Waverley Pool Room, and an old shining light of the Hillhurst F.C., is reaping the fruits of his labor in providing place of amusement for the footballers of the city. Although the Pool Room is one of spacious dimensions, it is sometimes difficult to accommodate all the people who assemble there. Every Saturday the results of the big games in the Old Country are received and read with gusto by the many enthusiasts. The Pool Room is now recognized as rendezvous of the footballers, and many arguments and contentions are settled there.

### TRADES AND LABOR LEAGUE

The Trades and Labor League held a meeting on Saturday, and the whole question of the organization of the games for this season was under discussion. Exception was taken by one or two of the members to the playing of the senior league games on Saturdays, the argument used being that the Trades and Labor League originated the idea of Saturday games, and consequently they should have been consulted in the matter. Some dubiety also exists as to the proposal to confine the league to non-seniors. This has not yet been dealt with by the City League Committee.

### JUVENILE LEAGUE

The Juvenile League has been set going. There was a large attendance of the Committee at the Y.M.C.A. on Friday evening, over which Mr. Durand Scott presided. Mr. James H. Haig was appointed Secretary of the League, and it was intimated that a trophy had been donated by Mr. Alex. Martin. Application has been made to have the games played on the grounds of Western Canada College, and if Dr. Macrae grants that, the youngsters will have one of the best playing pitches in Canada. The schedule will be drawn up and arranged before the next meeting on April seventeenth.

### CANADIAN SOCCER TEAMS WILL GO TO PANAMA PACIFIC EXPOSITION

Secretary of the American Amateur Football Association announced last night that at the request of a committee representing the Association headed by Dr. C. R. Manning, President, Commissioner J. C. Sullivan had agreed to recommend that a trophy for an international series of soccer football games be offered by the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Mr. Sullivan's consent to be the referee was given when the A.F.A. Officials were able to assure him that not only teams from New York and several other American cities would be sent to San Francisco, but also the best Canadian and probably England also would send representative teams.

### H. HALES

Captain Tynesiders, Soccer F.C., one of the most enthusiastic sportsmen in the city, has done a lot toward raising the Club to the Senior Ranks and has great hopes of putting a first-class aggregation on the field this year.

### REFEREES

The question of referees will trouble the League Executive this year. Messrs. Sheldon and Dalgety were the only two first-class referees last year, and although their services may be retained this year, it is not wise to confine the selection to two. In the Intermediate section last year there were some referees tried out, and although in many instances the result was a rank failure, yet there were others who with a little more confidence, would make very good controllers. Mr. Sheldon made a suggestion the other day which I think would be very helpful. It was that all the intending referees should attend a meeting to be convened and discuss the matter carefully. Suggestions and arguments on the points of the game could be brought up and illustrated and the general knowledge of the rules would be considerably increased if this method were adopted. Many of the players would no doubt take advantage of the meetings to renew their own knowledge and there would be a general uplifting all round. The suggestion from Mr. Sheldon is very good indeed, and it is to be hoped that he will go further and have it brought into effect.

### OPENING OF THE SEASON

April 10th is named as the opening date for Soccer football. The forms were delivered to each club on Tuesday at the meeting of the City League, and already each club has got several players signed up. There seems to be the severest competition between the clubs for players this year, and the result of that should be a general equaling up on the playing field.

Mr. Fred Jones has been appointed President of the City F.C.

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Fred Jones, President of the Calgary City Football Club.  
Mr. Jones, the senior partner of the firm of Jones and Little, Builders, has all along taken a deep practical interest in the Calgary City Football. The election of Mr. Jones was enthusiastically unanimous, and the general optimism prevailing in the City ranks argues well for a successful season.

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"Miss 318" is a brilliant department store life, Huzar, and serves to fill of legitimate stage far prominent in the ranks of actresses for some remembered as the star "Carriage," she having "Nance Olden" of that Busley was also a valuable famous New Theatre, 318" was originally, and Miss Busley person to dramatize it for her

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Big Crowd

After all what is the ideal in dramatic art into the clouds with an expectation that is following? You yourself all the worry is as fickle when it comes theatre going as they pursuit of life. This to a dissertation on the occupied the heads Grand the first half of "Mutt and Jeff," actors made famous continent by the carte have enlarged their repertoire from the race track South American rebellion, and in all usual musical comedy



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