

SPORTS.

SUMMER, 1918.

It has long been marked that before any unit can be singularly great it must excel in more than one branch of service and training. Can we not claim a record in both?

Previous years did not give the battalion such an opportunity of training in athletics as the present summer. It was very early in the year when the command decided that each afternoon should be utilised for organised sport. Capt. Bert Taylor took over the duties of Sports Officer, ably assisted by Cpl. White, and in a day had platoon and company competitions in both playground baseball and football well organised.

Officers' games with other units of the brigade were started, with the result that all ranks were soon participating in a syllabus of well-organised sport. The 5th C.R.T.'s were the first to suffer under this organisation. This was expected because Coach "Deacon" White had the boys out practising "foot-work" long before other units thought the baseball season had opened. However, the railroaders decided that in return games, including football and officers' ball, they might show our venerable coach that players were as essential as training in valuating teams. They misjudged us; but our success did not dampen their hospitality, as many officers later remarked, "They entertained even too enthusiastically."

"OFFICERS' BASEBALL."

These victorious afternoons led to many more with more or less continued success. Games were arranged with other units of the brigade. We were defeated by the 42nd and R.C.R.'s in an early series, but in return games usually won. We won and lost to the P.P.C.L.I., and finished the series by twice defeating the Forty Two's and losing to the Patricias in the semi-finals. Who can believe that the following officers held places throughout almost the entire season:—

Lieut.-Col. Palmer, Major Weaver, Major Chattell, Capt. "Doc" Young, Lieuts. Nolan, Ames, Ramsay, Jarvis, Speers, Lumsden, and Walter.

FOOTBALL.

Football, although vigorously contested, did not meet with the same success as in former seasons. In the first place, the grounds were not exactly suitable for practice; and secondly, baseball was given pre-

ference on the fields, with the unfortunate result that the practice hours were hard to regulate. Moreover, when the battalion was playing so many games it often happened that a man who had ability to play two games found it difficult to practise both games, especially if the practices were held on the same day.

Despite this the boys fought every game to a finish, and completed the season by winning three out of six played.

The following are the games played:—

49th Battalion v. 5th C.R.T.	1—0
" v. 5th C.T.T.	2—0
" v. P.P.C.L.I.	1—3
" v. P.P.C.L.I.	1—0
" v. 42nd Battalion	0—2
" v. 42nd Battalion	0—4

The last was the semi-final in the Brigade Sports.

The following are the names of the players:—Goal, Presic; backs, Smith, Bouchier; half-backs, Foxall, Huntley, Allan; forwards, Gregory, Gadsby, Linning, Sutherland, Blair.

Sgt. McFarquhar, J. D. Smith.

It is well to note that in the inter-company football series "C" and "D" Companies were tied, and did not get a chance to play it off.

The following were the players:—

"C" Company.

Pte. Young, Sgt. McFarquhar, Pte. Bryant, Pte. Gibbons, Pte. Hurt, Pte. Huntley, Pte. Watson, Pte. Shaw, Cpl. Newnham, Pte. Cool, Pte. Sutherland.

"D" Company."

Pte. Fanner, Pte. Marrow, Pte. Black, Pte. Arnold, Pte. Crockett, Pte. Devaney, Pte. Blairland, Pte. Gray, Pte. Linning, Pte. Jerome, Pte. Blair.

FIELD AND TRACK.

Finally, it is necessary to give in detail the track and field records for the season, which possibly more than all other phases of sport brought the unit the highest honours. To begin with, it would be well to first mention what distinctions we won and then explain how we attained them.

At the Corps Sports we had no fewer than fifteen contestants, all of whom competed strongly, despite the fact that all but two were suffering from an influenza which forced them to cease training during the previous week. Although we had no winners we are assured that we have material to win on subsequent occasions.