

"The Seven Thorns" is apparently proving a thorn in the flesh to some.

We were glad to see Major Meredith Jones drop in the other day. We sincerely hope he will soon be back for good, as not only B Company but the whole Battalion can ill spare his loss.

We have been measured for our kilts, but we are not saying much more till we get them. There's many a slip 'twixt the kilt and the knee.

Incinerators may be very useful things, but when they are close to windward on a breezy day we don't care for them.

Sergeant Connon, on his return from a week-end, having been at the Gaiety on Saturday night and in Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon, reports that the latter "show" is much more fascinating and interesting. Postmaster Condy, we understand, knows of one more fascinating than either of these. [This is a libel, R.L.C.]

NEW IMPETUS TO SPORTS IN BATTALION.

The big feature of this week has been the re-organisation of the sports committee, and all will be glad to hear that athletics are to be still further encouraged and extended to embrace every branch of sport capable of being followed by the members of the Battalion. Even the old sports committee had to admit that since our arrival in England the regiment hasn't done very much in out-door recreations, but that was only because of the uncertain state we were in immediately after our arrival and the sending of officers and parties away to courses at different places all at once. But now we hope that with the musketry over in a few weeks and the Battalion all back and settled down in our own permanent quarters and officially installed in our position as Pioneer Battalion to the Fourth Division, we will get down to our regular training in Pioneer duties, and so in our spare hours carry on athletics and out-door games to the full extent.

Lieut.-Col. Ross, in addressing a meeting of the committee on Monday night, announced that it was his expressed wish that every man in the Battalion should take part in one game or other, and he assured the committee that every assistance would be given by the staff toward carrying out a regular service of games in the off-hours of the Battalion. His remarks were listened to with great interest and were heartily cheered.

One direct result of the re-organisation of sports is the offer of three handsome prizes already for competition in the Battalion. Colonel Ross has donated a cup for the champion tug-of-war team; Major Harbottle

donates a cup for shooting; and Major Armour a cup for soccer football. Each of these trophies is for inter-platoon competition so very soon we shall see the elimination games begin in earnest.

The sports committee has had its general meeting, and it is interesting to see the new blood that has been infused into its ranks. The new members are welcomed, and we appeal to all to show their appreciation of the interest they are taking in sports by "getting in" and doing something. All welcome the unanimous re-election of Captain Nicholson as president of the committee. Major Carey is the new vice-president; he has always been a good "booster" for sports and will be a hard worker in its interests. Signalling Officer H. Gary was elected secretary, he himself being one of the best all-round athletes in the 67th.

The meeting was held in the orderly room and presided over by Capt. Nicholson; other officers present being Lieut.-Col. Lorne Ross, Major Harbottle, Capt. Okell and Capt. Macdonell; all the members of the old committee and two representatives from each company and detail. The feature of the meeting was the marked interest manifested by all present evincing a keen determination to leave no stone unturned in bringing the Battalion to a still higher state of efficiency in athletics and general out-door recreation, such being recognised by the highest authorities as the best qualification for a fighting soldier to fit himself to take his place in the trenches.

The different branches of sport in which we are to participate are to be governed by separate sub-committees, each responsible to the general committee for the carrying out of the detail arrangements of its particular game. Members of the Battalion should familiarise themselves with the personnel of each sub-committee and take a personal interest in speaking to them on any matters in the interests of that particular game.

We realise that everyone cannot play in a game at one time, and the committee appeals to all to show our interest in sport by turning out in large numbers and "rooting" for our team or teams when playing inter-company or inter-battalion series. Let's have a "Rooters' Club" and make ourselves heard. Remember that the committee in providing healthy exercise and competition for the active players is just as much interested in providing healthy recreation and amusement for those who cannot take active part.

The personnel of the new sports committee is now as follows:—

PRESIDENT: Capt. G. S. W. Nicholson.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Major A. B. Carey.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Lieut. F. J. Gary.

GENERAL COMMITTEE: President, vice-president, secretary, and all chairmen of sub-committees.

The following are the sub-committees, first named in each case to be chairman:—

SOCCER: Major Meredith Jones, Sergt. Lister, Corpl. Ogilvie, Sergt. Price, Bandsman McAuley.

BASEBALL: Lieut. B. McDiarmid, Sergt. Young, Ptes. McGregor, Wallach, Traylor.

LACROSSE: Capt. S. H. Okell, Lieut. J. Falkner, Sergt. J. Dakers, Pte. Parsons, Pte. Kenney.

TUG-OF-WAR: Capt. Macdonell, C.S.M. Mirams, Sergt. Jones, Corpl. Gillies, Sergt. Allan.

FIELD AND TRACK: Lieut. J. Falkner, Lieut. J. Meredith, B.S.M. Haines, Sergt. Johnson, Pte. Scott.

BOXING: Major A. C. Sutton, Sergt. Fenton, Sergt. Gammond, L.-Corpl. Dunn, Pte. Parsons.

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