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To Messrs. Pope's Furniture & Mattress Factory, St. John's.

Gentlemen,—  
I have bought hundreds of Mattresses during my time for hotel business both in Canada and other places and I can honestly assure you that I have never used anything so good as the Mattresses you supplied us with some time ago.

(Signed), J. WALLACE WHITE,  
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News Of Sport At Home And Abroad.

### WHAT THE OLD FAN SAYS

"Well, boys," said the Old Fan, as he strolled into the tobacco store, pulling lustily at his 'jimmy' jammed with 'P.A.' It seems to me that with the approach of Spring, Spring, beautiful Spring, a young man's fancy besides turning fondly towards Dan Cupid, also has a leaning toward the god of sport, and way down in his heart he has the 'itch' in its embryonic state, which gradually ripens together with other natural things with the ever increasing rays of 'Old Sol.' Pretty well everybody by this time has swathed his 'hockeys' in flannel, consigned his stick to either the lumber-room or his younger brothers, and the bobsleigh has retired to the cellar with its irons generously vase-lined until further needed.

### CLEWING UP

In the League family—Baseball—has started the ball rolling by having its annual meeting a week or two ago and getting its 1913 transactions cleaned up. These people are really hustlers, and if its older brother—Football—would only strive to emulate the example of the 'baby' it may certainly tend to prevent the apparent slump in what might be termed as Newfoundland's National Game.

### FOOTBALL

Remember now, boys, I am not knocking footer, for I have played the game all my life and am a great supporter of it, and will be for all time; but when you come to consider concrete facts, and more particularly the fact that last year's trophies have not been presented to date, or anything done since July last year which would tend to stimulate interest, it is certainly time for all us fans to knock. Nothing threatens to put a game on the blink so quickly as apparent disinterestedness and unconcern on the part of those officials who control it. In a few weeks from now these same officials will undoubtedly

be refuting the idea that Football is on the wane, but if such is really the case (and things look to me very much that way at present) then I consider that the League have only themselves to blame. I am exceedingly glad to see The St. Andrew's Society are entering the arena this year, as the infusion of new blood will naturally mean extended interest. Oh! for the good old days when St. George's Field would be thronged to see the Stars and Saints play off for the championship—the intense excitement—now the crowd was breathless, the next moment giving vent to their feelings by a prolonged roar as a pretty run was made or a goal saved. But what's the use of being reminiscent? Football was played then and the League was very much alive. An antipathy or a reaction set in, the League officials made no effort to cope with it, the players acted similarly, and there was nothing left for the fans but to 'go thou and do likewise.' The whole crux of the position is inactivity. Then, why not let us all—League, Players, Press and Fans—"to go it" and re-instate this great old game.

### BASEBALL

Baseball certainly got in the thin edge of the wedge last summer, and apparently everybody is willing to drive it in still further. This game must of necessity be played in the afternoon when the light is at its best, so that therefore it should not ordinarily interfere with Football. It is understood this year that the games are to be played on St. George's, for which no doubt we are all truly thankful. Personally, I consider the bunch of enthusiasts who picked out Stancombe's last year were 'knutty' in the truest sense of the word. Neither spectators or players were evidently considered in the arrangement, as owing to its altitude no protection whatever was afforded. To geographically define it—it is situated somewhere in the country, near Freshwater Valley, and is bounded by a cool breeze on the West, a chilly breeze on the South, a biting gale on the North, and sometimes a snow-

storm but always a windstorm on the East. The players last year may have had some enjoyment as their activities on the diamond no doubt kept the blood stirred in them, but the spectators (especially the fair sex) deserve special mention to the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

### GENERAL

Well, brothers in Fandom, I've had my little say. Don't imagine please I'm a knocker. I only want to see things done to the satisfaction of all concerned, and primarily for the good of our Sports and Pastimes. Not one of us should ever lose sight of the fact that there can be no Leagues without clubs, no clubs without players, no players without fans, and no fans without knockers, so that it is plainly evident, for anything to be a success we must all, from the knockers to the league presidents, put our shoulders to the wheel for the weal of our games. To palliate somewhat the dope written above, just read the verses below:

### BOOSTING THE KNOCKER

We've knocked the knocker long enough,  
Let's boost him once in song;  
There are worse than he, for don't you see,  
He helps the game along.

Things aren't exactly perfect yet,  
And he who shows the ways  
Where we have strayed and errors made  
Is worthy of some praise.

Think of the knockers of old times  
Who knocked the iniquitous—  
The old bad kings and unjust things—  
And bettered the world for us.

### ORANGES BETTER THAN PHYSIC

Dr. Harvey Wiley, former chief of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture, and universally admitted to be one of the greatest authorities on pure foods and dietetics in the world, says: "Eat oranges, eat them in winter, eat them in summer; eat as many as you can afford to buy; they are better for you than physic. Oranges are excellent for people. It is good to eat oranges for breakfast, and also for dinner—not from a medical but an anti-medical standpoint. Both oranges and lemons ought to be used as freely as the financial ability of the consumer may permit. A laboring man may not be able always to eat oranges at break-

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