CANADA'S NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Above is a new portrait of Field Marshal Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Canada's new Governor-General. With Viscountess Alexander he will arrive at Halifax on April 10. A special train will bring the new Governor direct to Ottawa where he will be sworn in on April 12.

SPOTS OF SPORTS

By FRANK MANN HARRIS
("A Six Bit Critic")

All this news about ball-players hopping down Mehico-way, lured—as somebody has probably already put it—by the charms of Senor Dollar rather than those of Senora Dolores, puts us in mind of the old one about the baseball magnate who had a well-earned reputation of being a very sluggish man with a buck. He could produce winning teams, and do so on about half what it cost his rivals. And his favorite method was to grab promising recruits and, by filling them full of visions of hon- and glory, sign them up for only a fraction of what they were really worth.

* * *

But one day he ran up against a young rookie who apeared to have everything. He was fast; his fielding was sensational; and he could wham the everlasting daylights out of the ball. And he was also a very tough young egg.

* * *

Mr. Magnate went to work on the kid, and talked himself hoarse about what a wonderful thing it was even to be asked to join The Team of Teams—how it would make him famous throughout the baseball world — in fact what a highly fortunate lad he was to have even the chance of signing up. The kid listened in silence. Then he stretched himself, spat, and spoke. "Mister," he said, "all dis bulloney you been spillin' simply adds up to dis—which would I sooner have, t'ree cheers or t'ree bucks?"

* * *

Perhaps the question most often asked of a sports writer—except, of course, 'Can you get me a couple of passes?'—is 'What's the greatest of all sports?' And it's mighty hard to answer because, each in its own particular place, season and hour, any one of several seems to top them all and yet, just a few weeks later, can have about as much thrill as the average Parliamentary oration.

* * *

Take hockey, for instance. From November to March nothing on earth appears to come close to it for excitement; and the thought of having to miss a single tangle between your own favorite team and its deadliest rival can loom as a painful calamity. Yet, if invited to watch exactly the same two outfits battle in July—something quite possible with modern ice-making equipment—which of us would walk halfway around the block to attend?

* * *

Smiilarly, football. We personally have watched that sport—even paid good money to do so—from unprotected bleachers in zero temperatures, in Arctic-like blizzards, in drenching, bone-shivering sleet, to mention just a few. And thoroughly enjoyed doing so, at that. Yet even top-notch football, played under much pleasanter April or May conditions, would exert little drawing-power on us, or on any football fan we know.

* * *

Horse-racing has long been bally-ed as "The King of Sports" and we've most likely wasted more of our personal time, and had more fun, attending the races than anything you could mention. And there are countless thousands more who would say the same. Yet, if we'd all break down and be strictly honest about it, just how much appeal has horse-racing to us, just as a sport and nothing else? Much as we hate to admit it, the answer is — surprisingly little.. And if you doubt it, just figure this one out. If the next Woodbine and Thorncliffe meetings were to be absolutely and strictly betless—if we had to go just to see the horses run, just to see The Sport of Kings in its purity and simplicity, how many of us would attend, and how often?

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ISSUE 15—1946

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Shortage of Farm Implements Serious

Surprisingly little space has been given in most newspapers to the farm implement shortage due to strikes, presumably because most editors believe their readers prefer news of radios, nylons and washing machines rather than of plows, says "Tide." But the situation appears extremely serious. Unless the farmers' difficulties are relieved, and soon, one of the largest industries, farm production, will suffer. The effects will be far-reaching. Canning, cereal packaging, all food processing, dairying and all live stock raising will seriously feel the pinch.

The Bahamas consist of about 20 inhabited islands and more than 3,000 islets, keys or rocks.