SPORTS & by A SIXBIT CRITIC

Whenever we happen to think of sport in connection with the Canadian National Exhibition, our memory invariably drifts back to the early days of the Marathon Swims—the days when "George Young is now being taken out of the water" was almost as familiar a phrase as "Greenberg is still on third" became at a later date.

* * *

Poor George! He and another long-distance water-crawler, Channel Swimmer Gertrude Ederle, found out—the hard way—that while victory processions, civic receptions and the cheers of adoring multitudes may be very nice things in themselves, they don't go very far toward paying for T-bone steaks, groceries or stalling off the importunities of the rent collector. If we had our way, **"Which would you rather have—three cheers or three bucks?"** would be tattooed some place on the hide of every young and aspiring athlete—some place where said athlete could read it readily and often, at that!

* * *

But enough of such musings. Marathon swimming was always a sport which we could either take or let alone—preferably the latter; although we don't suppose we'll ever forget the spectacle of "the Black Shark" slashing down toward the finishing line in the first Exhibition affair, looking as though he could go another 25 miles at top speed. Considerable of a swimmer, that day, was Mr. George Vierkoetter, and don't let anybody ever try and tell you different.

* * *

"But that's all past and done with, long ago and far away," as Mr. Kipling's love-sick Tommy used to put it. Let's take a look at what the sports fan has in store at this year's edition of "The Ex"—and it would appear as though the countless thousands of fastball lovers would get, for once, an elegant sufficiency of their favorite pastime, both from the standpoint of quantity and that of quality. But the Exhibition sports director can tell you all about it far better than we're able to, so take it away, Mr. Duthie.

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First Canadian men's softball championship series will be played this year for The Toronto Telegram Trophy at the Canadian National Exhibition from Aug. 25 to Sept. 9.

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The three-ring tournaments, sponsored jointly by the CNE and The Telegram, also will decide two other titles—the Canadian National Exhibition championship for men's teams and the Toronto championship for women's teams. All winners will receive trophies presented by The Telegram and a set of Bulova watches.

* * *

In addition to the three championship series, the tournament will present the most unique attraction in softball history—"The King and His Court," a sensational four-man team from the United States. This team is built around the prowess of famed pitched Eddie Feigner, whose bag of tricks includes throwing blindfolded to defeat the top teams in America.

* * *

"The King and His Court" will open the CNE-Telegram tournaments with a series of two games Friday and Saturday, Aug. 25 and 26, against Toronto Tip Top Tailors, current world's champions, and Toronto People's Credit Jewellers, also of the Beaches Fastball League.

* * *

Winners from six provinces will compete in the first Canadian men's softball championship series. Prior to the CNE a series will be held in Winnipeg to declare a winner to represent British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba and another series will be held in Montreal to declare a Quebec winner.

Privileged Parker—Ninety-nine-year-old John Griffeth can park any place he wants to now—even in no parking zones. The city fathers of Red Cloud passed an edict recognizing an established fact for the oldster has been parking his 21-year-old car in taboo zones ever since he can remember.

The Ontario representative will be declared at a CNE series for the western and eastern winners.

* * *

More than ten Ontario men's teams will compete for the CNE championship. These will include teams from Hamilton, Ottawa, Windsor, Peterborough, North Bay, St. Catharines, Oshawa and New the Toronto Dentonia, Dovercourt, Toronto and representatives from High Park, Bellwoods and Wanless Park leagues. This title was won last year by Crothers of Toronto.

Teams from the Sunnyside and Danforth leagues have entered the special series for the Toronto women's championship.

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Labor Day also will feature the annual Beaches Major Fastball League series for the Bulova trophy.

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This schedule, it is expected, will provide for a tripleheader every night of the CNE—one women's game and two men's games in the greatest parade of softball stars in the history of the game in Canada.

Mechanized Philatelist—In Paris, an imaginative stamp dealer, P. Charriand, sets up his mobile stamp mart at the Carre Marigny where French collectors gather daily. Mr. Charriand's vehicle enables him to carry a much larger stock than his pedestrian competitors besides offering convenient transportation.

THE FARM FRONT by John Russell

Back in my school days, the Readers used to be full of tales of the struggles of our pioneer forefathers, and about how they toiled to clear themselves farms out of the tree-covered Canadian wilderness Now it seems as if there might come a day—and sooner than we think—when we'll be wishing that those pioneers hadn't been so handy with the axe and saw, and that those of us who followed them hadn't followed along the same lines without any thought of the future.

* * *

For nowadays those who should know about such things are taking that ancient admonition "Woodman Spare That Tree" with real seriousness. In fact they're saying that the constant whining of the lumberman's saw in all parts of the world may eventually spell destruction of the human race. So when you've a few minutes free from worrying about the A-bomb and its successors, maybe what an Old Country writer has to say about forest destruction will help put you back in the mood of gloom which seems appropriate to this day and age.

* * *

Before Man set to work with saw and axe to tear down the world's forests for his own use, three-quarters of the earth's land surface was tree-covered. But wood has always been an integral part of our way of life.

* * *

Before the widespread use of metals, wood was the world's most widely used raw material. Houses, furniture, ships, fuel were all provided by the woodmen who began the irrevocable slaughter of the forests.

* * *

Even after the Iron Age, wood still has its million uses in our daily lives and the giant forests are slowly being destroyed.

* * *

The result of this may finally spell tragedy for the human race. For trees do much more than merely look ornamental and provide us with our daily needs. Trees are the great protectors of the soil. They shield crops from the winds, arrest soil erosion and prevent many a landslide by binding loose soil.

* * *

Already some two-thirds of the world's woodlands have been felled and today only one tree is being planted for every two which are destroyed.

* * *

No one would deny that much of the forest clearance has been necessary. Towns had to be built, and large areas turned into agricultural land to feed the rapidly increasing world population.

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But the clearance has been irresponsibly executed. Much of the land once covered with forest has now become desert. And this desert is spreading.

* * *

The famous "American dust-bowl" is just one example of Man's wanton destruction.

In this region all the trees were cut down to make way for agricultural land. But the wind, with no trees to break its progress and shield the soil, took control and has now swept away the fertile top-soil, and laid instead a carpet of useless dust.

* * *

The same thing is happening in many other parts of the world, where sand and dust have been deposited by the wind and so turned fertile land into desolate waste.

* * *

The vast, dusty plains of Palestine are a supreme example. Much of the country is now barren and the reason is that only some seven per cent of her original forests still exist.

* * *

It is calculated that Nature takes anything up to 1,000 years to make an inch of fertile soil. But the rate of wastage is now far higher than this.

* * *

And now with a world population which is still on the increase there seems little hope of survival for mankind unless something is done immediately to counteract the tremendous destruction of the forests.

* * *

More than a hundred years ago there was a British admiral who, whenever he found himself ashore, used to spend much of his time planting acorns to ensure that there would always be a plentiful supply of British oak for British ships.

* * *

Many laughed at him then, and many still laugh at the memory of an admiral digging small holes and burying acorns. But the time may come, and perhaps not in the too distant future, when people may wish that the entire British Navy had spent its service in planting acorns for British oaks. And we Canadians have been, and still are, far more wasteful in this regard than the British ever thought of being.

How to FIX-IT by HAROLD ARNETT

HANDY CLOTHESPINS

• A GLASS JAR ON CLOTHESLINE POST KEEPS PINS WHERE YOU CAN ALWAYS HAVE THEM HANDY.

"Ex" Fashion Shows Draw Big Crowds

Twenty-five thousand visitors visitors daily, on the basis of last year's attendance, are expected to view the fashion shows at the CNE. Every fifteen minutes, from noon on, a fresh show of Canadian fashions will go on the runway, all under the supervision of the women's director, Mrs. Kate Aitken.

Important new fashion trends for the Fall season will be given particular attention in this large-scale style line-up. Highlighted will be the new sloping shoulders, the neatly moulded hipline, union of fabrics, such as crepe and flat fur, and the reds, blues and greens flattering to the older woman.

Entire shows devoted completely to children's clothing will be seen for the first time in the Fashion Court of the Women's Building and in the new Coliseum Theatre. In this spacious and attractive new theatre, seating 800 and especially designed for the showing of fashions, will also be seen Fall costumes for the business girl, the career woman and the campus crowd.

Commentators will suggest means of achieving maximum variety at minimum cost, giving both price of the garments and where they are available. Hourly shows of budget-priced coats, suits and rainwear, casual sports and business clothes and after-five wear, will again be modelled, every hour on the hour, in the Fashion Court of the women's building.

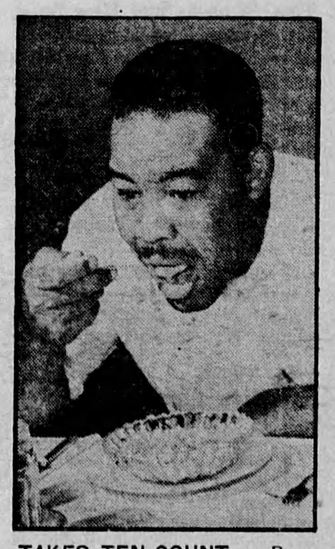
Upstairs in the Balcony Restaurant, same building, high-style clothes rushed for the Exhibition by some of the country's top people, will be presented during luncheon, tea and dinner hours. And in the Tea Court, models will promenade afternoon and evening in clothes from the shows in the Coliseum Theatre.

And this year, also for the first time, fashion will parade on the ground floor of the Coliseum. Out from the doors of the 26 model rooms of the huge Design for Living show, at regular intervals, will walk even more models wearing more suits, more coats, jewellery and dresses. Hourly nearby, will be the Duval showmobile show of suits, coats and rainwear.

Then, just to add a touch of variety to this deluge of fashion, one of the home-sewn type is being added for good measure. Every afternoon in the Coliseum's special competition theatre, Mrs. Gene Dawe will be back to repeat her last year's successful showing of smocked costumes.

No man is worth his salt who is not ready at all times to risk his body, to risk his well-being, to risk his life, in a great cause.

—Theodore Roosevelt.



TAKES TEN-COUNT — Preparing for his title fight with Ezzard Charles in September, Joe Louis has been getting up at the count of ten—A. M., that is—for a hearty breakfast before gruelling roadwork. Weighing 222 pounds, the retired champ is preparing for his come-back fight with training at West Baden Springs, Ind.

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