

SPORTS LETTER BOX

(Continued from Page 6)

these same players are awarded a foul against an opponent they are very pleased. Of course, this childish, but it is spoiling the game. And it is mostly by the older, experienced players that this poor sportsmanship is shown. On the other hand, I can think of many players such as Mel Thompson, who when he is charged with a foul—and he does not commit many—hold up his hand to indicate that he is the guilty one, and takes the decision without question. What a happy situation it would be if all did likewise!

The second group is the referees. They have their share of responsibility. They can only call fouls as they see them and on the whole they do a good job. I sat beside two spectators at a recent game, one of whom had a son playing. They were con-

stantly criticising the officials and often at the top of their voices but, when I suggested that the association could use them as officials, they declined view. The decision should be given and play resumed at once.

The third group is the executive and the executive should back up their officials. It was in connection with this point that I read with amazement Art Murray's statement that "definitely Ted Arney or Jim Forman will not be suspended for any period." I should think that the officials in that game would have written a report to the association, that the association would have considered it carefully and then have given their decision. But the president of the association states that it will be considered as "routine business" and has already given his decision. This certainly will not assist the officials in controlling the game. And who are con-

to offer their services. We should support the officials, but the referees themselves are at fault when they stop to discuss some ruling they have given. In a game recently play was held up for some minutes while the officials entered into debate with different players. This spoils a game from everyone's point of troling the game if a player walks off the floor because he does not like a decision and then apparently returns to the floor in a later game without any penalty?

I am one of the fourth group, the spectators. It is up to us to insist on good games, good sportsmanship, good refereeing and good control. We can do so by confining our criticism to encouragement of these essentials and frowning on poor sportsmanship.

I am not going to refer to the point where players had to be "cragged from their firesides" or those who need a letter from your correspondent to "protect" them. If all play clean ball they will need no protection.

Yours, for clean sport
J. S. Wilson.

"ATTACKS" RESENTED

Sports Editor, Daily News:
We the undersigned solicit space in your paper to voice our strong disapproval of the type of criticism on the Arney-Forman case which appeared in the Daily News December 8, 11, 12.

In our opinion this criticism borders on a planned persecution. What the individuals (who hide behind anonymity) expect to accomplish by such unsportsmanlike tactics is hard to figure out.

We can assure the players mentioned that all fair-minded fans are 100% behind them and this goes for every player in all leagues. As for "Hoon Talk", "Spectator" and "Fan" the least said about such contemptibles the better. It however passes our comprehension how any newspaper would encourage such venomous attacks on respectable players and citizens of Prince Rupert by publishing this type of journalistic criticism. Even if the correspondents had the cour-

BARBARA GETS MEDAL
Ottawa—First presentation of what is expected to become one of the most highly prized amateur awards in Canada was made Saturday evening, December 13, in Ottawa when Barbara Ann Scott received the National Amateur Athletic Achievement Award shown above. Hon. Paul Martin made the presentation on behalf of the National Council on Physical Fitness. The medal was designed and struck by the Royal Canadian Mint, Ottawa.



age to allow their names to be published, we would still think it poor policy for any newspaper to print such tripe.

As for "Spectator" whining about paying to watch a "clean game" when for 70c per week "Spectator" can see seven games which amounts to 10c per game. What cheaper or more thrilling entertainment can one wish for? Perhaps "Spectator" cast around looking for something cheaper before deciding to "Bless?" basketball with a very questionable support. Surely every fan knows that the players give their time and service gratis, and no part of "Spectator's" miserable dime finds its way into their pockets; furthermore, all players are paid up members of the Civic Centre.

Considering the high competitive nature of basketball, we go on record as saying that on the average basketball in Prince Rupert is just as clean and as well conducted as it is anywhere else, and in our opinion the refereeing is on an equal par. The Basketball Association in their handling of the sport in Prince Rupert are to be congratulated. Incidents will happen, mistakes will be made, post mortems on games will be held. Such matters can be rectified, but who

amongst us will kick and whine at a dime a game. Let all this vicious criticism stop. Let's play ball.

D. MacPHEE,
GEO. HOWE,
NEIL MacDONALD,
DICK CAMERON.

(The above correspondents can be assured that the contributions referred to were not "encouraged." Unless an official statement is forthcoming from the Association, we would suggest that the argument now be dropped. —Ed.)

CONSCIENCE MONEY?

CRAIK, Sask. — Although the council of Craik rural municipality in central Saskatchewan has no record of the debt, it received \$480 by registered mail from an unidentified person who said it was payment of an old account.

TRUCK BREAKS DOWN WHILE ON WAY TO FIRE

City firemen succeeded in putting out a chimney fire late Saturday afternoon despite the fact that the big LaFrance truck broke an axle more than a block away from the blaze.

The fire occurred at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Myers, 1325 Overlook Street, at 5:30 when the chimney became ignited, sending flames and sparks skywards. The fire truck broke down at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Overlook.

Assistant Fire Chief Earl Becker ran more than a block carrying a fire extinguisher to put out the blaze. He was followed by other firemen with a hose line. The blaze was extinguished without damage to the building.

Fire Chief Lock said that he expected to get the truck back from the repair garage today or tomorrow.

CHURCH OF CHAPLAINS

WINNIPEG — Canon William Askey of All Saints' Anglican Church here, himself a chaplain overseas in the Second World War, had six former curates serve in the conflict as chaplains. One was killed, a second captured at Hong Kong and a third decorated with the Military Cross.

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FLOWERS ONE OF FAIR HIGHLIGHTS—Doreen Plumb is pictured above with a pony made of 'mums' at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, Ont. Over a million blooms, valued at \$50,000, featured the fair this year, making it one of the biggest flower shows ever held in history of the fair.

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