

ENGLISH CUP SOCCER SOON

Play For Coveted Old Country
Trophy Starts on Saturday

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(By Canadian Press).—January 12 inaugurates the commencement proper of the annual tournaments for the coveted English Association Football Cup, the trophy which represents to its winners nothing less than the laurels bestowed on triumphant contestants of the ancient Olympiads. For over half a century the yearly battles for the blue riband of association football have taken precedence in public interest over all other sporting activities for the period in which the engagements are fought out, and this is true not only of England but of all countries where the association game is played. The spread of the game throughout Anglo-Saxon countries and the increasing popularity of football among peoples who are not Anglo-Saxon serve to make these annual contests features of world-wide interest.

The year 1871 saw the inauguration of the trophy; with the exception of the war years, play for it has been as regular as the seasons. Originally an amateur feature, it passed into the hands of the professionals when the game in the United Kingdom became professionalized. Notwithstanding this, however, amateur clubs can still contend for cup honors, nor by doing so do they lose their amateur status. It is in order to eliminate the weaker aspirants among the "unpaid" that the Football Association in their wisdom conduct the lengthy and more or less uninteresting series of qualifying rounds, the last of which was played December 45. The result this year sees sixty-four teams lined up for the first round.

Bolton and Hull
The present cup-holders, Bolton Wanderers, are drawn against a mediocre Second Division club, Hull City. That the title-holders will battle hard to retain their

honors goes without saying, nor on their league showing is it beyond probability that they may again go to Wembley this year. The runners-up, West Ham, whose league play can only be classed as indifferent, confront Aberdare, a Third Division team. The Hammers have not been impressive during the season and at times have succumbed rather easily to teams of lesser pretensions. But cup football is as different from league play as chalk from cheese. The finesse of "soccer" is singularly absent from these contests; the "kick and rush" is usually the order of the day.

Cardiff City, the league leaders, play Gillingham, also in the Third Division. The Welshmen's game this season has been characterized by dazzling victories and since they have yet to win their spurs as cup-holders there can be no doubt that they will go out hot-foot after the trophy. Should Cardiff capture both the league and the cup they will rank with the only two other teams in England who have this performance to their credit. Preston North End in 1888-89 and Aston Villa in 1896-97 carried off these dual honors.

Aston Villa's Opponents
Aston Villa, the sternest of Cup fighters, have acquired the "pot" six times, theirs being the record in the Football Association. On January 12 they meet Ashington, a Third Division club. Blackburn Rovers run Aston Villa close in this regard, having secured the trophy five times, but their last title was won in 1891 and since then they have not reached even the final round. Their first game this year will be with the Corinthians, an amateur aggregation who made their first appearance in cup football last year.

Huddersfield Town, who for long have threatened Cardiff City in the race for league leadership and who were the title-holders in the cup contests in 1921-22, confront Birmingham, whose place in the league is sufficiently lowly to justify predictions of victory for the Yorkshiresmen. It is noteworthy that in the draw for the first round only three games will see senior division teams lined up against each other, Huddersfield vs. Birmingham; Everton vs. Preston North End; and Manchester City vs. Notts Forest.



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will be the Intermediate League match between the Colts and High School. In point of standing, it should prove very interesting. The Colts have yet to lose a game this season but their scholastic opponents are the runners-up and have already given them a couple of good runs for their money. There is every possibility that the High School boys may just show enough speed on this occasion to bring home the bacon. The Ladies' League game will be between the Maple Leafs, league leaders, and the Teachers who performed well enough before the holidays to justify them having something better than the lowly cellar position they now occupy. A turn of the tables would not be surprising here. In the Senior League, the Colts and Teachers will battle. The Teachers in the first half gained a victory at the expense of the Colts and they are now hoping to repeat. High School and Colts are scheduled to meet in the Junior League.

Complete Draw.
Here is the complete draw for the First Round:
Blackpool vs. Sheffield United.
Derby vs. Bury.
Fulham vs. Llanelli.
Exeter vs. Chesterfield or Grimsby.
Millwall vs. West Bromwich.
Accrington vs. Charlton.
Manchester U. vs. Plymouth.
Swansea vs. Clapton Orient.
Norwich City vs. Bristol City.
Liverpool vs. Bradford.
Sheffield Wednesday vs. Leicester Northampton vs. Halifax.
Oldham vs. Sunderland.
Leeds vs. Stoke.
West Ham vs. Aberdare.
Huddersfield vs. Birmingham.
Swinson vs. Bradford.
Brentford or Portsmouth vs. Newcastle.
Arsenal vs. Luton.
Middlesboro vs. Watford.
Ashington vs. Aston Villa.
Barnsley vs. Brighton.
Everton vs. Preston.
Hull vs. Bolton W.
Chelsea vs. Southampton.
Manchester City vs. Notts Forest.
Cardiff vs. Gillingham.
Wolverhampton vs. Darlington.
Queen's Park R. vs. Notts County.
Burnley vs. South Shields.
Crystal Palace vs. Tottenham H.
Corinthians vs. Blackburn Rovers.

Curling, that manly and clean winter sport, with its long chain of clubs throughout Canada which helps to link the east and the west, has entered upon another season which gives promise of glorious and interesting play on the slippery ice surface. Curling is a game that affords pleasure and wonderful exercise for men and women of all ages. It is a game that brings together on an equal footing people of all classes and a game that provides more social feeling and true sportsmanship than perhaps any other pastime.

Western Canada probably reigns supreme in curling owing to the longer seasons and the splendid organization that has helped to popularize the game to such an extent that there is hardly a town of any size in Manitoba and Saskatchewan that does not boast of a curling club, while Alberta is also well supplied with curling clubs. British Columbia has its quota. Fernie and Nelson being the most prominent. Curling has become so popular in towns of 1,000 inhabitants or more that nearly every club which can boast of at least five sheets of ice, has planned a Bonspiel in which entries vary from 20 to 75 rinks. The game has reached such a high standard that competition is very keen and different winners are turning up at nearly every spiel. The curling club is the meeting place in winter time in many of these small prairie towns and it is suspected that many of the business men during the quiet winter months spend their time trying to figure out the mysteries of the curling game.

Curling finds many devotees in Eastern Canada and though hardly as popular as in the west there are hundreds of well organized clubs. The Ontario Curling Association in particular is a very powerful organization. Ontario is handicapped by a fairly short season and mild spells during the middle of the winter hinder good play. The result is that the old style draw game is most popular in Ontario while in the west the players resort to the running style of game, and have become very proficient in this. Ottawa still sticks to the iron, while Montreal uses both the irons and granites. In the west it would be considered a joke for one to appear with a pair of irons for a game.

The Winnipeg Bonspiel, now entering on its 36th year, is the greatest curling event in the

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Sport Chat

The second half of the Prince Rupert Basketball Association's winter program opens in the Elks' Home tonight with four matches offered for the attraction of fans. New Year resolutions of teams already leading in the leagues to maintain their position coupled with the resolves of those who have not been so fortunate but who are now out to cop the honors from this on should have their effect on the play. The various aggregations, after their experiences of the first half, are now well warmed up for the home stretch and while there were many fine games staged before the holidays, the play from now on may be expected to be even better. The increased interest that was manifested in the game during the first half was well rewarded in the quality of contests put up and there is no doubt that it will be sustained.

The first game this evening



TIMBER SALE X 5347

Sealed Tenders will be received by the District Forester, not later than noon on the 10th day of January, 1924, for the purchase of Licence X 5347, near Lot 2194, north shore of Kootenay Lake, C.R. 4, to cut 60,000 feet B.M. of Hemlock, Spruce and Hemlock sawlogs.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.



TIMBER SALE X 5852.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands, at Victoria, not later than noon on the 12th day of January, 1924, for the purchase of Licence X 5852, to cut 585,000 feet of Cedar, Spruce, Hemlock, Fir and Balsam, on an area situated on the south shore of Omineca Lake, Range 2, Coast Land District.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.



TIMBER SALE X 5466.

There will be offered for sale at Public Auction, at noon on the 10th day of January, 1924, in the office of the District Forester, Prince Rupert, the Licence X 5466, to cut 200,000 feet B.M. of Hemlock, Spruce and Cedar, and 80,000 ft. of Cedar Poles, on an area situated between Hanall and Uke, on opposite side of Skeena River, Range 5, Coast District.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

universe, and there are many reasons why the big curling carnival promoted by the Manitoba Curling Association is the grandest in the world. It is one of the best organized, has nearly every citizen of any account behind it, and offers the best sport that can be found any place in America. The growth of the Winnipeg Bonspiel has been so marvellous that despite the fact that the city has twelve clubs with over 60 sheets of ice between them it is most difficult to wind up the competition in less than two weeks, so numerous are the entries. The Winnipeg Bonspiel, which is set to open on Tuesday, February 5, is the magnet that draws curlers of high repute from the east, the west and the south, into social and championship competition in which the best exponents of the art in the world take part. Winnipeg for many years has been supreme in curling. The city has developed some super-curlers, but of recent years outsiders have been showing the way and it takes a lot of grand curling to win a prize in the great western curling classic.

The climate conditions make Winnipeg an ideal place for the staging of such a mammoth affair, but the tricky ice tests the skill of every skip. There are hardly two sheets of ice alike and it is seldom that a rink has an opportunity of playing on the same sheet of ice twice. This means that skip has to be quick to pick up the peculiarities of certain sheets and the one that "gets wise" to the "run" the quickest is the one who is liable to win. The games afford plenty of thrills to spectators and are just about as attractive to watch as hockey, though no admission is ever charged to

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watch the play. Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Calgary will this year stage their usual bonspiels, which are the most attractive west of Winnipeg.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Brown and family of Woodcock, who have been holiday in Vancouver, returned to the city on the Caradana yesterday afternoon.

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