

In This Corner

By DICK AYRES

There's nothing like having a complete dossier on someone who's coming to work for you. That's the way it is with yours truly and the new Daily News reporter and sportswriter.

We've known this guy 35 years and are mighty proud to have done so. We've been connected with sports together for 27 of those years. We crossed the Atlantic together and learned about the great, heart-warming Canadian way of life together. We shared a love of the B.C. coast, climbed mountains in the Kootenays together, skied together, joined the army together, crouched in a slit trench together and fired the same artillery piece together. We went on leave together, pub-crawled together and while we both had a mutual admiration for the fare at "The Windmill" theatre in London, we differed on the "Whitehall Theatre" until they threw out the Ballet Russe and started a strip-tease. In other words, we practically think alike and have similar views.

The gent about whom we speak, of course, is our brother Geoff (pronounced Jeff), who arrived this week in Rupert from snow-bound Saskatchewan. In our book he's a good Joe, and we hope that this town will take him to its hearts as warmly as they did us.

We are bowing out of the sports page except for turning out this column. Eventually, when Geoff has got to know you all he'll take over the space and do a better job.

Brother Geoff is no longer athletic and for good reason. All his life, until he got away from us by going to university, he had to do everything we did. When Gene Tunney beat Jack Dempsey and we re-enacted it, he was always Dempsy. When we played cricket together yours truly was always George Hobbs and he was some minor player. In this country we subjected him to hours of a complicated game of catch, in which as pitcher and catcher we played full nine-inning games scoring with walks and only retiring players with strike-outs. He always lost. Whatever we did, he was always the villain. It was a rough life.

The result was, that although four years younger than us, he could play hockey, baseball or soccer, fight, ski, swim or run nearly as good as we, who loved every second of active participation. (At wrestling he could beat us so we always avoided that.)

However, about 1936 he sneaked off to college. We lost a good sparring partner and he attained his goal of being a spectator.

As a sports writer, he has both watched and chronicled athletic events on the coast from hockey in Victoria Memorial Arena where Lester Patrick's Cougars play to "wraslin'" in Bay Street Armories where Gorgeous George displayed his thespian ability.

Now Geoff's in Rupert ready to write your sports for you. Tell him your name and how you spell it if you're chatting. He's the lad to phone at 749 now. But remember there's only one of him to hundreds of you. Give him a couple of weeks and he'll know which side any of you part your hair and whether your big toe twitches just before you're about to steal second.

POST SCRIPTS — City Clerk Bill Long doesn't want any part of the Friendly Fishing plug chain letter deal. He's had four now, one of which was wished on him by our good chum Ed Garner. Bill figures it'll take 7,000 plugs before he starts getting his. Bob Armstrong, on the other hand, has already had three back. Larry Stanwood sent one plug to W. J. Yeo, Downsview, Ont., and today received a "glitterbug" from W. W. Heath, Smithers.

Vic Williams will be giving a short talk on the evolution of guns at the Rod and Gun club meeting Monday night. He's bringing along some of his collection of ancient firing pieces to the meeting which will also see the presentation of prizes to derby winners Ed Garner, Jack Lindsay and Dick Gilker. The Rod and Gunners also hope to set the opening date for youngsters fishing at the newly developed Oliver Lake fly-casting site. Members of the Gordon and Anderson senior baseball team recently took up a collection among themselves and went shopping at Bulger's. They've come up with a Jerry Ford Memorial trophy for the "most valuable player" to his team during league play. Gerry, who was killed last fall in an accident, turned in a stalwart job as second baseman for G & A. Herbert Hadland was doing a good job of refereeing last night at a pick up football game out at Port Edward school grounds. What the lads lacked in experience and polish they made up for with enthusiasm.

Power-Laden G & A's Appear Slated For Walk-Away in Senior Ball Loop

By DICK AYRES

A hurried glance over the senior baseball scene in Prince Rupert gives one the impression that Rusty Ford's power-laden Gordon and Anderson squad is a "shoo-in" for the league championship.

This of course is disputed immediately but somewhat unenthusiastically by Miner Simonsen, pilot for Commercial Hotel and Benny Windle, Esquire Men's Wear manager. What the Terrace baseball fraternity think is an unknown quantity, but neither of the last-mentioned local mentors have come up with any arguments as to what might prevent G&A from ending up with the league trophy.

It certainly doesn't appear that any sudden acquisition of top flight talent will solve the situation for Messrs Simonsen and Windle for the simple reason there's a remarkable dearth of it at the moment.

Rusty Ford plans his 1954 onslaught with practically the same line-up as last year plus former Esquire veteran Stan Petrow and a couple of newcomers.

Freddy Christensen, G&A's curveball artist, will assume the major pitching chores aided and abetted in his nefarious work by Bobby Squires and Ian Dunbar. Behind the plate will be Don Scherk with brother Sid at first. Rusty isn't sure who will hold down the keystone sack but it might be Dave Hill, broad-shouldered navy type. Bill Sunberg will be at short with Don Hartwig on third. Out in the pasture it's likely to be Mouse Morrison in right, Ralph Enridge in centre and Petrow will probably patrol the port side. Just by way of insurance Rusty has word that husky Darrow Young will join the G&A roster around May 16. Dennis Reed, a rookie is being included in the pitching staff.

There was great joy in the Commercial camp this week with

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the signing of ex-Esquires Jack Lindsay and Cliff Dahl. The two veterans of local ball here will be a great morale booster to the skinny lineup with which Simonsen finds himself this year. Left overs from the 1953 season include Gordy Cameron, the spreadball gent who practically carried the hotelmen as far as they went last year which was third place. Gordy, who lost the tip of his index finger in an accident, has been chucking regularly at practices and seems to be doing okay. Whether his healing hand will give as much, less or more control remains to be seen.

Back of course will be Miner and brother Bruce plus Bill Gunn and Nick Pavlikis. Herbie Morgan will be playing whenever he can as will Joe Davis, but summer activities will likely keep them both out of action and shape. Newcomer who might bolster the Commercial chances is Don Kidd. Former hotelman Maurice Scott may be too busy helping the minor leagues.

NOT TOO BADLY OFF
Esquires don't seem to be quite as badly off for talent as Commercial.

Back from last year is first sacker Danny Bill who may take over second. Ray Spring will be back in the hot spot at short if Joe Giordano isn't assigned there. Don Hawryluk will be out in the left field and the rest of the fielders are expected to come

from the ranks of the rookies. Dick Letourneau and Jack Sharpe will probably spit hurling assignments with newcomer Bill Donaldson. Coach Benny Windle will do the receiving unless one of the newcomers, Reynold McKay can prove he's up to the job. McKay is also being given the once over by Commercial and hasn't signed with either. Almost sure of a spot on the squad is Earl McPhee who was with G&A two years ago. Other ball chasers seeking berths are Jimmy Flewin, Carl Teichman, Barry Williamson and Paul Poirier.

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Vaulting Champ Enters Relays

VANCOUVER (CP)—Rev. Robert Richards, the Olympic pole vault champion and world record holder, has entered the sixth annual Vancouver relays here May 8.

Lloyd Swindells, president of the B.C. Track and Field Association, said today Richards' entry was received Friday.

Sound Fishing Open: June 15

SEATTLE (AP)—Commercial salmon net-fishing in Puget Sound will open June 15 and June 24 this year and extend through Nov. 30.

The regulations, little changed from 1953, were announced Thursday by the State Fisheries Department after public hearings.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
LEGION 27 CREDIT UNION
Wednesday, May 5
Legion Auditorium — 8: p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Issuing Shares
2. Signing Charter
3. Election of directors and committee

All members of Canadian Legion Branch No. 27 and Women's Auxiliary are invited to attend.

Prince Rupert Daily News
Saturday, May 1, 1954

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