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Pitchers, Infield and Catchers Are Declared by Local Manager to Be Superior to Those of Hap Hogan's Aggregation.

BY W. H. M'CREDIE.

Manager Portland Coast League Ball Club. What do I think of the pennant race? I think Portland will win it because plish this, however, it will be necesweek, and I am confident that my club

we met them, so it is quite as natural for the Verson team to win from them

Portland Pitchers Best.

As for my reasons for believing Portland will win, I claim: Firstly, that the Portland pitchers are the superiors of the Vernon staff; secondly, Portland has a faster and speedler infield, and, lastly, Kuhn and La Longe are better catchers than can be boasted of by Vernon. As for the respective outfields, I rate them about even. In all other departments my club excels.

Portland's five pitchers will bring that flag here, and I look for them to do it decisively next week. Of course they will be compelled to face a big handicap in pitching against Vernon in Los Angeles, which is virtually the home town of that club, and they will have the crowds against them. Portland Pitchers Best.

However, Portland defeated Vernon decisively the last time we visited them on their own grounds, and would have done so on our first sashay there had I been able to use Ben Henderson. That the been able to use Ben Henderson. That was the second week of the season and Vernon managed to get an even break with us, each club winning three games that week with the Sunday morning game a tie. This tie game will be played off this coming series, making eight games to be played with Vernon, and I confidently figure on taking at least five of the eight, which ought to give my club a fair margin ought to give my club a fair margin of a leadership over that team to finish out the last two weeks of the

The last time Portland played Ver-non at Los Angeles we won the first four games. This was the series when Bill Bodgers was injured, and that injury handicapped the Beavers conwill do this.

To beat Vernon is our only possible chance, for the other clubs in this league are out of the race and will naturally not play as Bard as if they had something at stake. I do not charge any team with "laying down," but it is siderably, for it was over two months

WALTER M'CREDIE WRITES HIS OPINION OF THE COMING

PENNANT STRUGGLE FOR THE OREGONIAN READERS.

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Vernon is the

To the Poil land fans:

Outdoor Sport Among English Women Gains in Popularity in Schools.

LAWN TENNIS HOLDS PLACE

Change Since Staid Ways of Victorian Days Marked in Vivacity of Gentler Sex, Absent Until Few Years Ago.

LONDON, Sept. 30. - (Special)-Though the days of the broom-handle and left-handed play when gentlemen meet ladies at cricket are not yet over. the great national game is now receiving the serious attention of the soing the serious attention of the so-called weaker sex. Only a day or so ago a girls' eleven at Forest Hill beat a male eleven from the local club by seven runs. The men. It is true, were handicapped in the orthodox way, but though this minimizes the merit of the victory it still remains an astonishing performance.

Most of the girl players learned cricket at school, and have retained their early fondness for the game. The eleven have played matches almost

their early fondness for the game. The eleven have played matches almost weekly for some years, and have twice met the eleven of St. Dunetan's College—a boys' school—under M. C. C. rules, honors being drawn—a fact of which they are properly proud. They were beaten by seven runs on the first occasion. On the second they won with a comfortable margin.

a comfortable margin.

"Girls' cricket" is fast passing out of that stage in which it was a term of reproach for a weak male eleven. A mid-Victorian lady, with her crinoline and furbelows, would stand agnast at the sight of the playing field of a modern girls' college on a Summer afterneon, and would shake her head sadly over the exploits of the Forest Hill eleven.

Health Gain Marked

Health Gain Marked.

Health Gain Marked.

But a healthier tone prevails today, end what were once looked upon as exclusively "manly sports" are now actively engaged in by both sexes allies—to the infinite advantage of the girl of today. Cricket has almost an equal place with hockey and lawn tennis in the outdoor education of the modern miss, and all over the country the national game can be seen in full swing during the Summer in the playing of high schools and colleges for girls.

Clad in the regulation "gym" dress, the girls pursue this very healthy pastime with all the zest and seriousness they gave in earlier days to the dressing and care of their dolls.

Coach Instructs Girls.

Couch Instructs Girls.

In many cases a professional coach is engaged to teach them the skillful handling of the bat, the tricks of the bowler and the art of fielding. Hockey cannot, of course, he played during the heat of the Summer, and as cricket in the only "organized game" possible dur-ing this period of the year, it takes precedence. Cricket is a great leveler, and is valued by the schoolmistress for its lessons in discipline and "esprit de

yet found a ladies' eleven to beat them. simply the break of the luck in the race, and the winning team is always the favored club in such instances.

Some fans have approached me with an argument to the effect that Sacramento "laid down" before Vernon and base thefe argument on the decisive scores of that series. Personally, I do not believe that such was the case, though it is not improbable that O'Rourke and his players did not play as hard as they might. Any team in a rut like the Sacramento team has been in practically all season is likely to go to pieces before a leading team at the private any time. Excepting the last series Portland played at Sacramento, this club always went up in the air when season.

It last year in California and I think I have a good fielding side. The highest score made by any member of the eleven is any time I am not the least bit fearful of the outcome. If we don't fearful of the don't. An a good fielding side. The highest score made by any member of the eleven is 132, not out, by Mies P. Dorman, in a match last year against the Private Banks' Ladles; and Mrs. W. R. Will-

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