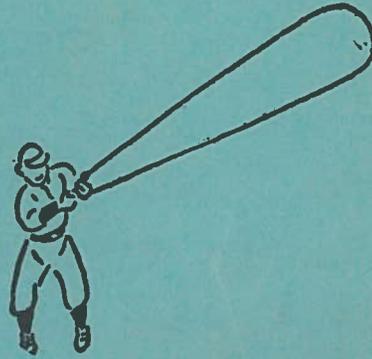


MAY, 1946

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# Souvenir

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## a MESSAGE from the President of the Halifax and District Senior Baseball League

It gives me great pleasure to write this Foreward for the Halifax and District Baseball League and to say a few words on behalf of the "Lions Club" which is doing so much to help others.

Today, Baseball fans will have an opportunity to help the "sick" by purchasing a ticket on the "Automobile" being sold for one dollar by the Lions Club at the conclusion of today's game. All proceeds will be used by the Lions Club to install radios in the Tuberculosis Hospital at Halifax and for welfare work. We ask your support for a very worthy cause.

It is the hope of our Executive that the teams this year will produce as good a brand of ball as that of last year, when an all-time record of over 120,000 people attended the games.

This year, Army and Air Force have withdrawn from the League due to unsettled conditions in the Services, but both hope to be back next year, having retained their franchise.

We believe the operation of the Halifax Defence League made a definite contribution to the entertainment of the Services during the war, as evidenced by the large numbers attending.

We wish to thank all players who performed in our League since its formation. Many have departed, and to each and every one, we say thanks, good health and success.

I, personally, wish to thank our League Executive, Press, Radio and Navy League, for their advice and support, all of which is is greatly appreciated and most helpful in conducting the affairs of the League.

HARRY BUTLER, *President.*  
Halifax and District Senior Baseball League.

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# The 1946 Season . . .

By ALEX NICKERSON  
Sports Editor, The Halifax Herald



Outstanding provincial athletes will be in action when United Services and Halifax Shipyards open the Halifax and District Senior Baseball League at Redland, May 24. Above, left to right: Stan Cann, Yarmouth, outfielder with Shipyards; Ralph Croucher, Halifax hockey star, United Services' outfielder; Frank McGibbon, Antigonish, Shipyards' outfielder.

A year can make many changes in baseball, especially if the year marks the change from wartime to peacetime standards. The season opening May 24 will be the first in postwar baseball. Though some of the color will be missing—many of the services' players of last year have gone back to civilian life and faster company—the league should offer a brand of ball equally as high as anything seen in Halifax during the war years.

Gone is the name Halifax Defence League. The circuit is now called the Halifax and District Senior Baseball League. In place of the Army, Navy and Air Force clubs we now have only one combined club — United Services. To bring the circuit up to full strength, Arrows and Truro Bearcats have been admitted.

## HOCKEY PLAYER COACHES TRURO

Bearcats are well known in Halifax. Frank Crabowski, star of last season's Truro hockey team, is coaching. Crabowski is not likely to get into the game himself but the men he sends in will be in perfect physical condition.

Bearcats will present many top-liners when they open against Arrows in Truro on May 24. Clyde Roy, the former Westville boy, will head

the pitching staff. Lou Medynski, twice named for the Manitoba All Star team, is slated for an infield berth. Sonny MacDonald, Ab Conick, Hum Joseph, are other likely infielders. Besides Roy, Frankie Hoare and Gordon Mont will take their signals from catcher Win Langille.

Shipyards, with granite-faced Jack Carrigan coaching, will send out a hand picked squad to defend the title they won last season.

The Yard will have a powerful pitching staff, headed by Lefty Mike Genthon. The accent will be on portsiders. In addition to Genthon, Carrigan can call upon Jim Mont, Ken Sweeney, and Fred Kenney. Orthodox throwers on the roster are Mick Burns, and lanky Stan Scallion.

Diminutive Chick Charlton is the people's choice as catcher. However, Carrigan can call upon Dick Bremner, a seasoned performer from the United States.

Seeking infield berths are Red Burchell, Garnet Wooden, Bill Hannon, Gus Vickers, Jimmy Gray. For several seasons one of the City's most feared hitters, Burchell was used as a handyman last year and produced few hits. This year he has returned to first base—his natural position—and expects to regain his batting eye.

(Continued on Page Nine)

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*Four*

Copy of VFE-231-E Halifax & District Baseball League 1946 souvenir program provided by Halifax Municipal Archives

# The HALIFAX LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club is the youngest Service Club in Halifax—as far as the local Club is concerned, but is a part of LIONS INTERNATIONAL—the second largest Service Club in existence, whose list of most distinguished members includes the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt; and the President of the United States, Harry Truman.

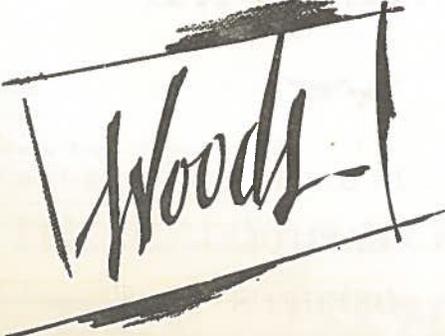
Through its connection with the International organization, the local Club's efficiency is tremendously enhanced, while in Halifax the field for welfare work provides many possibilities. No city can have too many Service Clubs. There is always room for one more. The Halifax Lions Club proposes to be one of the most active and energetic Service organizations in the City and has selected as its particular field of interest, the problem of Tuberculosis—a disease which is entirely too prevalent in this port City and which will only be cut to its lowest possible ebb by the combined and concerted efforts of a public—aroused to the need for service and spear-headed in its attack on the problem by an interested and active charitable society.

When you hear of undertakings by the Lions Club in support of any community welfare work—lend your support and moral and financial help. The Lions solicit your aid in making your city a better place in which to live.



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First efforts must go for those already victims of Tuberculosis. The Lions Club are trying to allay some of the boredom of lengthy convalescence for patients in this Hospital, by installing Radio and Telephone connections for each bed in the new wing now under construction. That's considerably more cheerful than lying in bed gazing at a white ceiling—day after day—for months on end.



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(Continued from Page Three)

Outfielders are Stan Cann, Leo Woods, Frank McGibbon and Ray Powell. All have had plenty of experience and hit a long ball.

### NAVY CLUB HAS NEW NAME

The United Services Club is really the old Navy Club under a new name. Long the sparkplug of championship Navy teams, Dev Vickers is back in civilian life, but he has been retained to coach United Services. Though the majority of the players will be from the Navy-Army and and Force players will also be used.

Vickers has a great array of players from which to pick his starting lineup. As many as 60 have turned out to a practice. Few of the players are known to Halifax fans, with the exception of Ralph Croucher and Vic Jackson of Navy hockey fame. Both are outfielders.

Paul Oleynik, Toronto left-handed, will head the mound corps. Oleynik a couple of seasons ago shared the Ontario Junior baseball strikeout record. Chuck Flemming of Saint John appears to be the No. 1 receiver. Infields are Johnny Noiseux, Dick Rudling, and Johnny Masse. Outfield prospects are Bruce Allison, Ed McSweeney—a Halifax boy — and Johnny Rowland. Rowland was a member of one of the Navy Maritime championship teams during the war years.

The new civilian entry, Halifax Arrows, will

keep the experts guessing. In prewar years the club was well known in intermediate baseball. This will be their first start in senior ball. Arrows were badly handicapped from the outset by the failure of a number of well known provincial stars to keep pre-season promises. Manager Bob Kaplan still expects to get a couple of experienced pitchers into the city before the June 1 deadline.

### BEAZLEY COACHES ARROWS

Well and favourably known throughout the Maritimes as a baseball umpire and hockey referee, Reg Beazley of Dartmouth, has been named to coach the squad. A topnotch competitor himself a few years ago, Beazley, like the other coaches in the circuit, believes physical condition to be of paramount importance in a ball player's training schedule. Night after night at practice, the former Maritime junior sprint champion runs his boys ragged between period of tossing and hitting the ball.

At least two veterans of Halifax baseball will appear with Arrows. Back from overseas, Tommy McGlone appears headed for an infield berth. Freddie Neate, a star pitcher in the old Twilight League, who could really powder a ball, is likely to be seen in the outfield.

These are the teams. All we need for the opener is fine weather, a pair of sun glasses and a good seat along the first base line.

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# Baseball its future in Halifax

by Ace Foley

While sparing a moment to look back on what has already been accomplished in the past few years, the Halifax City Baseball League has every reason to look into the future with the greatest of confidence.

Baseball has come a long way in Halifax of late years. There was a time when the spectators could be counted in the hundreds, and when the brand of ball merited little more than that.

Happily for baseball, "them days are gone forever", to use a commercial. Baseball in this city has become a reasonable facsimile of the big time. Complete uniforms are now a rule rather than the exception. A sweat shirt, not always immaculate, used to be the thing. Now we have the public address system and radio broadcasts. And, more important still, thousands of enthusiastic fans.

The League has been fortunate to have as its officials—men who have the interest of the game at heart. The city has been fortunate to have such a lovely park in which to play. And sports

fans in Halifax owe a debt of gratitude to the Navy League of Canada for the many improvements made in the last few seasons.

For with the improvements has come a rapid growth in interest. It's a healthy sign, a sign that augurs well for the future.

This season there will be two new entries—Truro Bearcats and Halifax Arrows. For many years Truro hockey and baseball teams have been warmly welcomed into athletic Halifax. And the Arrows, sponsored by city interests, will also play their part in furnishing competition for the composite service team and the champion Shipyards.

The Halifax City Baseball League faces the future with confidence. And why shouldn't it? It's built on a solid foundation. A solid structure will weather the ravages of time.

On behalf of the sports writing fraternity, may I wish the League continued success which it so richly deserves.

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