

North Shore, Meralomas Ready for Lid Lifter Offer at Athletic

Three more days to the start of what may be the most successful Canadian football season yet. Saturday at 2:30 at Athletic Park the pigskin parade starts with Meralomas growling at North Shore—and growling is probably the best word for it.

In the past Meralomas have been traditional rivals of V.A.C. gridders, and as you know some great grudge battles were chewed off out at the Fifth Avenue gridiron. Now there is no V.A.C. team, but the melody lingers on.

NO LOVE LOST

Most of the former Wolves are with North Shore so naturally the Lomas won't be hugs and kisses over the Hill Billies. But to add insult to injury the boys on this side are burnt up at the walk out of the ex-V.A.C. men and when they meet they say they will put their squawks in writhing.

So far coaches of both teams have favored the deepest secrecy. Meralomas, they say, should have the best team for many a fall football frolic. But coach Petersen says little about his chances. He has added a few new style plays and has been striving for good condition in his players, but outside of telling about that, well, they might all be Nagurskis for all we would know.

At North Shore they have been hitting the ball steadily for some time. For once in their young careers they have had plenty of material to start with over in them thar hills, and though they are not making any boasts it is generally accepted that the Lions fancy their chances very much to cop the cup and saucer this season.

USUAL ATMOSPHERE

For the opening Saturday there will be the usual ceremonies . . . the band playing . . . the official kick-off . . . high school kids out to do some cheering . . . new sweaters . . . new faces . . . new stars . . . new plays . . . all the usual atmosphere of an opener.

In the meantime the team that may make this the best league yet, will go right on plugging away at practise. Knights of Columbus, with Neil Watson as coach, are gradually rounding into fair shape. It is a young team with few familiar faces. But it is a team with plenty of "ambish," bundles of spirit and all that sort of thing.

The league thinks this team should help the league in this respect: Football is a game of spirit, club enthusiasm. V.A.C. teams have never really had the "die for Alma Mammy urge." Knights of Columbus will have it. Meralomas thrive on it. North Shore is a cinch to have patriotic bugs biting them and Varsity gridders, of course, come from the land where spirit runs freest.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS

"There is a possibility the league may be just ordinary again this season," said repeating president Sax Crossley this morning. "But I don't think so. The teams are crammed with fighting, football-loving youngsters. They have the advantage of good coaching now, too. I don't think we can miss."