

# Nebraska Women in a New Sport

By Ethel M. Arnold

Hockey, when first introduced in Nebraska this fall was considered a fad, but has rapidly developed in popularity until it is now an important feature in the athletically inclined girl's life and interests.

Hockey is as interesting to girls as football is to boys. Some spectators who are up-to-date on athletics affirm that it is even more exciting than the usual football games.

The field used for hockey is exactly the same as is used for football and the line-up is much the same. The teams stand out distinctly the plays are evident and the game easy to understand throughout. Each team consists of eleven players—five forwards, three halfbacks, two fullbacks, and one goal keeper. The



same goal posts are used as in football and the object of the game is to drive the puck over the goal. Some objections to the game have been raised because of its similarity to football, but most of these have been overruled by common-sense arguments.

"Some class to that," says the masculine fan. "It is the best game for girls of any now in vogue," says Miss Gittings, the physical director, while the girls who are in on the sport say, "It's the best game yet."

Miss Gittings, who has been most active in rousing interest in the game, says she is especially enthusiastic over the game of hockey because it gives the co-eds an opportunity for all around development. The girl who really gets into the game must necessarily become a good sportsman, learning all the lessons of sacrifice, fairness, loyalty, team work, unselfishness, and self-confidence. In the development of these qualities it is the opinion of Miss Gittings that character reaches its finest degree.

Intricate and co-operative plays make up the game and the Nebraska girls are rapidly making themselves master hands on those points.

Besides practice games, three match games have been played between upper and lower class girls. In the first two games each team claimed a victory, so the third one was the real contest for the championship honors. In a close and fast game the junior and senior girls won by a score of 3 to 1, thereby annexing the title for the season. Play will be resumed in the spring.

Those who played on the teams chosen for match games were:

#### UPPER CLASS.

Olivia Sturdevant, captain; Amy Armstrong, Freda Bishop, Mildred Butler, Carey Butler, Marie Clark, Isabel Coons, Celia Davis, Beulah Harris, Helen Randall, Vlasta Sterba, Frances Tuthill, Gertrude Van Driel, Ruth Lahr.

#### LOWER CLASS.

Mona Lacey, captain; Edith Brown, Edith Bryan, Mary Camp, Helen Carrol, Ruth Fitch, Jessie Downing, Eva Fish, Cornelia Frazier, Camille Leyda, Lucile Leyda, Edith Lumsden, Grace Metcalfe, Clara Reiland, Damie Rettig, Lulu Schild, Fay Tolles, Vivien Stetson, Lucile Roane.

Hockey is shelved for the remainder of this season, but "just wait till spring," say the girls, while Miss Gittings says,

"It's a game that won't die soon." Once the co-eds who do not care to play themselves learn to enjoy the game from the stands, the *status quo* of girls' athletics will be assured. The spectators at the exhibition game were mostly of the sterner sex, and a very meager sprinkling of co-eds was present. Nevertheless the applause was both terrific and timely, proving that the men, through their knowledge of the gridiron game and the old game of shinney, could comprehend and appreciate the game, play by play. When the stands are filled with co-eds as well as men, when the co-eds run the game, man the bandwagon, lead their own cheering, and wager their own boxes of candy on the results, the interest of the girls in their own branches of athletics will be evident and conclusive.

Hockey is one of the games which count one-third toward getting an "N," a practice which has but recently been put into effect in the girls' athletic department. According to the regulations governing girls' athletics, a girl must:

1. Make some team.
2. Win a medal (first, second, or third place) in a track event.
3. And maintain an average of

"E" in gym work.

After fulfilling these requirements the regulation minor sports "N" is granted. As yet there have been a great number of N girls. Hockey is a game which counts on the first requirement, that the girls make a team. Owing to the number which can take part in the game, the opportunities for getting the coveted letter are increased, as compared to basket ball, tennis, or track. So, it is settled, in the eyes of the athletic directors, and better yet, in the eyes of the girls themselves, that hockey will continue to thrive on Nebraska Field, once the spring months come and it is possible to play out-of-doors again.

The Nebraska co-eds have now invaded almost all fields of athletics and have proven themselves ready to "play the game" in every instance, as well as enthusiastic supporters of all university athletics.

The tennis tournament was pronounced a decided success by all those who took notice of its progress. Twenty first-matches were scheduled and every game on the list was a hard fought contest.



Class basket-ball teams are now being lined up, and the victorious team will later be challenged by a team composed of alumnae who played on the varsity team when in school.

Baseball, which proved a very popular game last spring with the co-eds, masculine fans and photo men, will be taken up with vigor as soon as the weather will permit outdoor practice.

In football, co-ed, booster spirit, interest, loyal support, and enthusiasm have been shown by attendance, rallies, displaying of colors and rooting of a distinctive quality.