



C. N. HENDERSON

## "CLIFF" HENDERSON-

## Mr. Senior Hockey of Moose Jaw

By Jack Meikle

One of the greatest sports leaders and executives in Moose Jaw's history, C. N. "Cliff" Henderson, perhaps more than any other single man, has been responsible for establishing Moose Jaw as one of the "hottest" hockey centres in Canada.

Cliff has resided in Moose Jaw since 1910 and his association with hockey dates back to that year, when he was appointed secretary-treasurer of the old "Moose" senior hockey club.

Older hockey fans still talk about the time in 1919 when, following the war, Cliff was sent to Winnipeg to sign two or three players. He returned with an entire team and the following years were some of the greatest that Moose Jaw has ever experienced.

In 1936 everything, including hockey, was in the doldrums, and it was in this era that Cliff rose to the occasion under tremendous odds, and as president of the newly-organized Millers, put together one of the best senior

teams this City has ever seen. Names like Doug Bentley, Elmer Lach, Vic Myles, Tommy Cooper and "Lollopin' Lou" Labovitch, were household words and the customers packed the old Arena to the rafters. Fans even left turkeys in the oven until the big game — played Christmas Day — was over. If any seats were left, they were filled with a howling mob from Weyburn, complete with milking stools and cow-bells, as the now-famous Moose Jaw - Weyburn "Cow Barn - Duck Pond" feud reached its climax.

In 1938, Millers advanced to the Allan Cup semi-finals, losing out to Port Arthur, who had a couple of brothers named La Parade leading their attack.

In addition to his hockey activities, Cliff was active in baseball and played centre-field for Moose Jaw in 1918 and 1919 when the team was managed by the well-known Hank O' Day.

Cliff's executive ability has brought esteem to himself and to Moose Jaw for many years, as he has served on both the S.A.H.A. and C.A.H.A. He served as president of both the Southern Sask. Baseball League and the Western Canada Baseball League. He was on the executive of the Southern Sask. Field Trials and a director of the Moose Jaw Curling Club.

The K. J. Henderson trophy, emblematic of intermediate hockey supremacy, was named after Cliff's brother Ken, killed in a rail mishap years ago. The trophy was won last year by Pla-Mors — much to Cliff's satisfaction.

Although he has curtailed his activities in sporting circles for health reasons, Cliff is still keenly interested in aiding younger executives in promoting good sport in Moose Jaw.

His son, Art, is one of Canada's best-known sport commentators and is currently engaged as sport director of CFQC radio and TV in Saskatoon.



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