

Saskatoon team that year, and, with Mike Gaetz pitching and Mike Abel catching, they won the game, a game that was told and retold many a time.

During the 1910 era, some of the players added were Herman Schmitz, Frank Primus, Johnny Kolling, Tommy Connor, Bill Gerwing and Ted Schmitz. They also hired a pitcher by the name of Lefty Hanson. Ted Schmitz, who played second base, had the fingers on his right (throwing) hand missing, yet he could throw with the best of them. It was also during this time that the first ball diamond was built in town.

During the 1920's, some of the players added to the team were Johnny Abel, Arnold Mehr and Joe and Channy Bushey. It seems that John Abel replaced Ted Schmitz at second base, and after watching John play, Ted Schmitz said to John, "You're good, but not better than me". Johnny Abel played baseball for 35 years and is one of Lake Lenore's all-time finest players. Johnny tells how throughout his whole career he wore only one uniform. Rather unlike today, isn't it?



Sportsday in Lake Lenore, about 1921

Later in the 1920's, Mike Abel Jr., Lorenz Mamer (an outstanding pitcher), Billy Reeve, Chris and Adolph Schmitz and Dan Hopfner were some of the players added to the team. In 1928, some members of the team decided to play in a tournament in Prince Albert. They hired a pitcher by the name of Lefty Rosenberg, picked up Adolph Amble from Daylesford as another pitcher and proceeded to win the tournament. John Abel remembers one catch he made in the outfield at this tournament. The ball was hit between himself and Joe Bushey. Both went after it and arrived at the ball at the same time. The next thing John remembers, as he lay on the ground, was seeing the ball in his glove and wondering, "How did it get there?" During these years, Mike Gaetz was the coach as well as a player on occasion.

During the 1930's, the depression kept games more confined to the immediate area. A league was formed and sportsdays were held on Wednesday afternoons. This corresponded with the half-day clos-

ing of most stores and so this time was considered a holiday.



Ballplayers in 1931—Mike Jr. and John Abel

In the early 1930's a local league was formed consisting of teams from Marysburg, Annaheim, St. James, Schuler School, Daylesford, and two teams from Lake Lenore known as the Seniors (the town team) and the Canucks (the country team). There was a cup as the league championship trophy. Both Lake Lenore teams had several good players and were very competitive. The Seniors played on the town diamond, and the Canucks played on a diamond located just east of the Vince Mamer farm.

Some of the players on the Seniors were Joe and Channy Bushey, John Abel, Albert Hergott, Arnold and Lawrence Mehr, Chris Schmitz, Alphonse Hopfner and Mike Gaetz who, along with Bruce Downey, were also the coaches. Some of the Canuck players were Adolph and Leonard Schmitz, Herman Prodahl, Tony and Lorenz Mamer, Tony and Clem Britz, Joe Skalicky, Ben Sigaty, Ted and Johnny Mamer and Bill and Matt Berscheid. Ben Sigaty and Lorenz Mamer also coached.

These two teams existed for three or four years until, in 1937, they merged into a single team. The league ended after the 1939 season due to the outbreak of the war. Games between Lake Lenore and Marysburg created some added interest, especially when one of Marysburg's ardent fans, Julius Herman, accompanied the team.

In the early 1940's, John and Mike Abel, Joe and Channy Bushey joined the Daylesford team. No team was formed in 1940 or '41. This was due to the war. In 1942 a team was again organized and coached by Pete Irwin. Some of the players were Art Doyscher, Sonny Gerwing, Louis and Alfred Wolsfeld, Barney Berscheid, Adolph Schmitz, Lorenz Mamer, Lawrence Mehr, Bob Hoenmans, Art Nieman, Lefty Meyer, Joe Skalicky and Gilbert Wourms. The team did not play in any league; it played only in sportsdays and the occasional game as a challenge for the cup. Again the team had several good players and did quite well. Since most of the players were also farming, they would stop