

Getting away from the page fundamentals and taking to a subject that should be discussed no end—'til a favorable decision is reached—let's talk about the possibilities of adding a new activity, a true athletic event, to the program of this year's Coastal Festival.

We're told by Charles Hassel of the Beaufort Tidewater League horsehide outfit that athletic interest locally was sky-high during the pre-war days. But Charles says when the warring days intervened, enthusiasm in sports circles dropped to almost rock bottom.

### Revival A Must

To revive the pre-war interest is a must unless Carteret and Craven' countains select to be bystanders in the ensuing golden era of sports. Sports readers and habitues of press boxes at nearly every big-time contest say such a period is in the making and, in some cases, has already made its showing.

Somehow it doesn't seem possible that the boys came back from the wars with other interests overshadowing their once all out desire to participate in sports, whether it be from the stands or on the playing grounds.

Then again, maybe the dimming light is being brightened by this year's reorganization of the Tidewater League and continuous talk about the forthcoming fall and winter athletic functions.

With the forming of the Tidewater League last season, this territory saw its first organized baseball since the war ended. This season, that same circuit added two new teams, Straits and Havelock which never before played organized ball, to its competitive list. That, most assuredly, is the beginning of the local sports revival job—but to call it sufficient would be belittle everything that athletics stand for.

### Annual Classic A Necessity

A sure method of creating greater interest is to promote an annual classic locally. It could be baseball, football, softball, tennis, golf, or basketball. It could be fishing, swimming or boating. The latter two are already playing a major part in local sports and fishing has always been here and is, undoubtedly, here to stay.

The festival this year is scheduled for Aug. 28, 29, and 30 and what—we ask you—would be better to round-out the large scale program than a Saturday, Aug. 30, All-Star diamond fray? An all-Star aggregation from the Tidewater loop would give any Coastal Plains League club trouble aplenty and would attract spectators from up and down this section of the state. Then too, a Tidewater-League East-West game could be staged during the festival. This, likewise, would bring spectators galore—at least from the eight communities represented in the circuit.

Players, chosen for outstanding performance, from Beaufort, Marshallberg, Straits and Davis, all east of Newport River, could make up the East's line-up. Baseballers who stood out during the season for Havelock, Newport, Swansboro, and Morehead City, all west of Newport River, could represent the West.

Unless the rumors we've been hearing via the sports grapevine prove false, such a contest will be considered as a portion of the Coastal Festival program this year. In fact, it's possible that tentative plans have already been made—that is, if the individuals we approached on the subject presented it for discussion at last evening's Tidewater League meeting.

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