Decoteau Won The Herald Road Race on Christmas Day, 1910

Fifteen Started in the Race but Only Nine Finished--Race Was the Biggest Athletic Event Ever Held in Alberta

Decoteau was the winner of the race yesterday, and made the run in the remarkably fast time of 34.19, which broke all previous records in this race. Decoteau was running under the colors of the Edmonton Athletic Association, and he is a runner that both the northern city and the Association should be proud of. He started off by taking the lead in the first mile and held that position all around the course, widening the margin between himself and the second man at certain points, and in fact tactically carrying out his intentions with comparative ease, and finishing nearly a block ahead of Smith, who was a favorite for first place before the race. He kept a steady gait throughout, running with an even action and never seemed to be troubled a particle from the time he started. At no point on the road did he need assistance or refreshments, and he kept well ahead of the vehicles to avoid any dust that was caused to fly. At points on the course he would turn to see where the others were, and at times would tell the drivers of the rigs and autos to get off the road and give the boys behind him a chance. Decoteau was a clean sport and proved himself to be undoubtedly the best man in Alberta over that distance. He wins the cup for the first time this year, and it is necessary for him to win it twice more before the silverware belongs to him, but he is the kind of runner whom it is hard to beat, and young bloods must train some to do so.

Smith, of Vancouver, was second. He started out strong and appeared to be in prime condition, but after reaching the second mile he began to feel the heat and when the Mission hills was reached he was in a condition which was very detrimental to speed or stamina. However, he showed the right sort of stuff and kept the pace to the finish. All the way around the course he was closely pressed by Wilson, of the local Y. M. C. A., for the second position, but Wilson at no point was allowed to pass him. Smith is the champion 11-mile runner of British Columbia, and intends to return to the coast and enter a race in Vancouver on New Year's Day. The high altitude affected Smith, for he has been used to running at the coast.

Wilson, the local boy who won third place, is a new man in The Herald race, but has the marks of a winner in the future. Wilson made excellent time, covering the course in about the time which McKay made for first place last year. Wilson clung close to the heels of Smith all the way around, and at the finish looked in good condition, although it was plain that he pushed himself to the limit and desired to gain a position to take second place, but Smith would not at any attempt made by Wilson to carry out his intentions, and he was compelled to be satisfied with the third prize.

Perry won the fourth prize, which was valued at $20. The little runner showed great stuff for a starter in the sport and carries earmarks of a future cup-winner. Perry was somewhat behind the third man, but notwithstanding this fact he had the others behind him beaten by a wide margin. Perry ran under the colors of the Y. M. C. A., and was one of the boys who trained on the track of the gymnasium of that association. He ran a steady race from start to finish, and in the last three miles he came up from seventh place to fourth place, passing McKay, who took the second prize last year in this race.