

1926-1936: Fourth Decade

Mr. Thompson stepped up to become the club's president and **Dr. Poyntz** became the team's manager in 1927. The well-known Esquimalt dentist put an undetermined amount of effort into rebuilding the Wests and keeping them near the top through this decade. Some of his first signings included "**Scotty**" **Robinson**, "**Red**" **Hawkes**, **Edgar Borde** and **Goodwin** to join holdovers like **Whyte**, **Peden**, **Mulcahy**, **Thomas**, **Popham** and **Connerton**. Over the next couple of seasons, the doctor inked **Davie Stewart**, **Harry Youson** and **Will Milligan**, an up-islander who had toured New Zealand with the Canadian Rep Team in 1924. Although his biggest prize was signing **Terry Peers**, an outstanding Old-Country goal-scorer.

By 1929-30, the Wests were back collecting a share of the silverware. One of the first was the Alex Peden Injured Players Cup that was introduced in 1927 and won by Vic West in 1929-30 and 1930-31. They also laid claim to the Whitney Combination Cup in the 1927-28 and 1928-29 seasons. Competition was tough as the four teams City League was well balanced between Saanich Thistles, Victoria City, Esquimalt and Victoria West with a good many games being won or lost by a single goal.

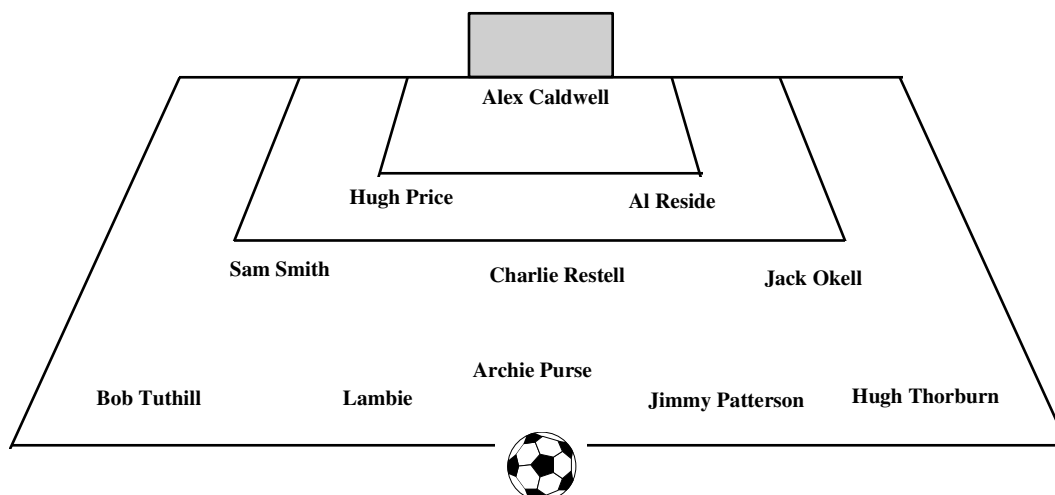


VIC WEST 1928-29

Back Row, L-R: Alex Hutchinson, Dr. Poyntz, Davie Stewart, Bill Lloyd, Jim Hetherington, Pat Mulcahy, Pat Thompson, Syd Sherratt, Bill Allan.

Front Row, L-R: Sam Smith, Johnny Peden, Jim Sherratt, "Scotty" Stewart, Bill Passmore, "Scotty" Robinson, Ed Popham, Ted Dunn.

Manager, **Jack Maxwell's** strong 2nd Division side had shown plenty of promise for the Wests future with a youthful line-up of;



Alternates: Roy Okell, Doug Gent, Alex Dallimore, Tuck Embrey
 Many of these boys' names would soon be appearing on first team's roster.

There was not much in the way of club activities during these tough times as the depression was setting in. **Dr. Poyntz** did encourage an annual Old-timers game and Smoker during the Christmas holidays along with a family picnic to wind-up the season. As well as his work with the Wests, the busy dentist was the long time president of the Hillcrest Tennis Club in Esquimalt and on the BC Softball board.

Some of his patients claimed their visits would have been a great deal less painful if they had not had to listen to him talk sports!

In June 1930, Glasgow Rangers played in Victoria. Scottish F.A. regulations required they play against a club side and Vic West, being the oldest club in town, were given the honour. When the Green & White trotted onto the pitch, only **Peers, Peden, Robinson** and **Mulcahy** were true Wests. Even with the help of the impostors they went down 8-1 to the Scottish pros.

Vic West didn't have much to celebrate during the late 20s, except for their 35th Anniversary. At it, they honoured **Stan Creed**, their long-time secretary, along with veterans **Bob Whyte** and **Johnny Peden** whose names appeared on the Wests line-up for the last time in 1932. Between the duo they amassed 45 years of first class service with Bob joining the club in 1909 and Johnny a year later. Only age had beaten the two stalwarts!

The West's spirit lived on and it was evident in a New Years Day Old-timers game when 18 of the oldsters showed up to give the newcomers some tips.

The Peden family, of five boys, was very prominent in Victoria sports. Three of them played City League football. **Johnny Peden** started playing with the Wests in 1910 and was still playing in 1932, a first rate career of 22 years. He was centre-forward and a great goal scorer who was often picked on the Victoria Select teams. **Tommy** and **Bob** owned Pedens Sporting Goods and played for other teams until the First World War began. When many clubs were disbanding, both boys joined the Wests. **Alex**, a city businessman, worked with the league executive and donated the Peden Cup to the Soccer Association. **Bill**, a part owner of Scott & Peden Feed Store, had played some soccer for the 5th Regiment squad.

Some good players from the Vic West Cubs junior team and the 2nd Division squad were stepping up. The future began to look brighter with players like **Tommy Restell, Roy Barnes, Ernie Lorandini, Henry Calkins, Ernie Betteridge, "Shorty" Collins** and **Jack Okell** on the 30s' roster.

More changes were made and in 1934-35, a side of **Restell, Roper, Laird, Lorandini, Barnes, Okell, Collins, Peers, Robinson, Harry Storey Al Reside, Gordie Bell, "Scotty" Stewart, Jimmy Patterson** and **Sam Smith** collected the Peden Cup. Then, in 1935-36, they added **Roy Okell** and **Bob Bell** from their second squad along with **Noel Morgan** who helped them wind-up the decade in second place and also gather the Milton Cup.

At the same time the strong Wests 2nd Division side, directed by **Hugh Thorburn** and **Sam White**, won that league's Combination and Peden silverware.



WESTS 2nd DIVISION 1935-36

Back Row L-R: Roy Okell, Bob Bell, Alex Caldwell, Charlie Restell, Jim Patterson, Jack Price.
Front Row L-R: Hugh Thorburn, Alex Dallimore, Tom Embrey, Bob Tuthill, Jack Okell, Doug Gent,
Sam White.

During this time, many notables had toiled for the Wests and, although it wasn't their most fruitful period, they were always a team to be respected. Two of their earlier stalwarts had been **Charlie Thomas** and **Ed Popham** with a dozen years of solid work between them. They both went on to foster the game of box lacrosse in Victoria.

Pat Mulcahy first signed with the Wests seniors in 1920 and finished playing in 1934. He was an outstanding forward, a tower of strength with good speed and a hard accurate shot. Pat was appointed BC Soccer Lower-Island Commissioner and along with his secretary, **Sam Smith**, another West, they did good service to the game for many years. **Will Passmore**, **Cyril Baker**, **Ernie Betteridge**, **Guy Waddington**, **Cec Connerton** and the **Sherratt** brothers were other worthy Wests of this decade.

The **Sherratt's** played good football over a long period. **Jim**, joining the Wests in 1910, was sound on right wing until 1930 with 20 seasons of first class service. Younger brother **Sid**, played on the 2nd Div team and later joined the 1st side to play in different positions as needed as well as working on the executive.