

# DETOURS THROUGH THE SPORT MAZE

By BERT PERRY

## A LITTLE GOSSIP ABOUT WARREN STEVENS.

Warren Stevens admits modestly that he is surprised that Canadian papers have played him up so strongly for the success achieved by the Montreal "Big Four" team this fall.

Stevens claims that tossing forward passes is not nearly so difficult as receiving them, and he holds to the opinion that the passer's part of the combination is the least praiseworthy. He says that all he has been doing is no more than any one of a number of players on most United States college teams can do, and he believes it will be only a short time when there will be in Canadian football any number of players who can toss passes as well as or better than he can, and play just as prominent a part as he does on the gridiron.

He states that in the United States it is the player who leaps into the air and catches the pass and runs for a touchdown who gets all the credit for the play. And he says that is as it should be.

Stevens likes the Canadian game, and he states that he has been given more protection by the Montreal wingline than he ever got from any team he ever played on. He never worries about the opposing players breaking through to prevent him making a forward pass. He always has plenty of time to see which receiver has the best chance to make the catch, and, under the Montreal system, the passer has four players to pick from before he makes the throw. That's why he claims it is so simple, from the passer's point of view.

Stevens, although born in the United States, does not like to be called a Yankee. His parents are Canadians. He has a number of relatives in Canada, and Stevens Hill, near Athens, Ont., in Leeds County, was named after his grandfather. Coach Bill Hughes of the Hamilton Tigers, who also hails from Athens, Ont., was considerably surprised to hear that Stevens knew all about that part of the country. Hughes thought that Stevens had never been in Canada until he went to work in Montreal some months ago, but when the Winged Wheel star began to name some of his relatives in the Athens district, Hughes knew most of them well, and the two had quite a chat about mutual friends.

## SUCCESS OF STEVENS MAY LEAD TO IMPORTATIONS.

The success of Warren Stevens with the Montreal Winged Wheelers may lead to the appearance of several other former United States college gridiron stars in Canadian football next season. Perhaps Bob Isbister of the Hamilton club had this in mind when he declared, at a banquet in Hamilton on Monday night, that the Interprovincial and other unions should have made a ruling barring U.S. players from the Canadian game for a period of two years after the introduction of the forward pass.

There are, no doubt, any number of football stars in the United States who, having graduated from college, would welcome the opportunity to come to Canada for a season or two and play, providing jobs could be found for them. Stevens's success with Montreal is bound to attract other U.S. players, and it would not be surprising if the Big Four teams next season all featured some former U.S. players on their roster. And it may so happen that one or two U.S. coaches will find their way across to this side of the border before next fall rolls around.