

team not good at all points. Take a serviceable scrimmage, a good quarter, and a centre-half who can catch a pass and kick, then about two fast wings who can dribble a little, and they may score, if the opposing team be poor enough. The rest of the team may be as good as you please, but are only used on defence.

The second style, on the other hand, requires fifteen men, good ones, in fact requires a team. Take that team trained to good physical condition and put it against a team which has a half-back who can kick a hundred yards. While your team runs with the ball, scrimmages, or bucks the line, it is safe to bet that that half-back doesn't kick: Occasionally he will get it to be sure, but the game won't score with a good defence, and out comes the ball again. Remember, this good defence is a kicking defence at need, for there is a time to kick as well as a time to run, but there is not time to kick all the time.

For this game unfortunately, or let us say fortunately, you must have fifteen well-trained men, no stars if possible, but all of equal ability in their respective positions, all playing to win, and playing thus till the whistle blows.

Again, the dribbling game is good on hard, slippery ground, as was shown on the M.A.A. field. Queen's nearly scored by kicking along the ground (Queen's never could dribble), from their own twenty-five, but failed to get more than a rouge by not knowing when to stop kicking and when to drop on the ball, just as she lost a try in Toronto by kicking when right on the 'Varsity line.

Montreal wisely kicked through our rather ragged scrimmage—good play on slippery ground, for our halves could not return, though they nearly always got the ball, thus losing the five yards or more that it came back. On good ground, however, this kick through, to a good half, is nearly as good as a pass from his quarter, and is seldom good play except in so far as it rattles the opposing scrimmage and quarter by altering their pre-arranged system of play. Queen's tried to meet this kicking policy of the Montreal scrimmage by sending her side scrimmage men as far forward as possible in order to let Baker put the ball down so far back that Montreal feet could not interfere. This was not quite successful, since there were two rather inexperienced men in the scrimmage who could not quickly adapt themselves to something not met in practice.

This is a fault Queen's always has, not perhaps so much in individual play, as in this case, but as a team. This inability to adapt themselves, to switch the team around to meet a new play, in fact to "handle" fifteen men, probably arises from the lack of a keen eye on the side of the field, an eye

present at every practice and at every match. We need, as it were, a Father Fallon (begging his pardon). No man can see everything and play at the same time, any more than Napoleon or Wellington could have handled a bayonet or driven an artillery horse and at the same time have directed whole regiments.

There is little use in trying to give a detailed account of the game. There were several men trying their "prentice hand" among those who had "served their time," but it was no day to judge their work. Enough was shown, however, to strengthen the writer in the belief that old players are good enough for him, the Toronto press to the contrary notwithstanding, and their remarks concerning "fossils," "has beens," "get new blood," etc.

Take these "fossils" of from twenty-five to thirty years of age, who have played from five to ten years, put them under a management and discipline which will get them into physical condition, and—well! it would be an honour to get on that team. The man who is a fossil at twenty-eight was not much good at twenty. Give him practice and he strikes his old gait, doing the right thing by instinct. The apprentice is afraid he won't play well enough, has too much thinking to do, and unless he is an exceptionally cool man, does not do the right thing at the right time and every time. For instance, the best play and the worst was made by the same man in this last game—a man who has been in perfect physical condition all fall (one of the few who were), but it was only his third game on any team, a fellow with a good head for the game, too, but it had not been soaked into him as into the old fossils of Queen's.

Behind the line, too, the old men were the steadiest (the quarter, by the way, may be considered fairly to be an "old un," though not with us).

The press, with their usual perspicacity in football reports, say Curtis had a day off, but evidently they did not observe that during the game the outside halves changed place, and so one or two rather junior class plays were ascribed to a man who, whatever he may do in practice, never yet played anything but a safe, hard game in a match.

This would not be mentioned but for the fact that last year in the final game with 'Varsity, because Curtis went on as left-half, but played really as centre, or rather as a second quarter-back, all the reporters credited the nominal centre half (who was back helping Charlie Wilson) with plays which "the old man" made in perhaps the hardest and best game of line bucking ever played in Canada.

To return to the immediate subject—and I may be pardoned for digression over the last game of