

a careful examination of the physical condition of competitors before allowing them to begin; and second, the maintenance of a rigid standard of scholarship in all students who represent it in an intercollegiate contest. The number of men who have been prevented from exposing themselves to certain, and sometimes awful danger to health or life by a preliminary medical examination, makes this precaution necessary wherever the more violent forms of athletics are practised. Men continually present themselves as candidates who have marked organic disease of the heart, usually the result of an old attack of rheumatism or some other acute infection of childhood,—men who have no business to go into the exhausting struggle of a game of football, rowing, or foot racing, but whom regulated, judicious exercise would be of greatest value in building up those powers that are not strong enough to stand the extremity of fatigue. The Medical Examiner should, of course, have absolute power to decide as to the best course to pursue in each case, but I believe he will gradually find with experience that there are many conditions that are compatible with vigorous work, that the text-books would condemn to inactivity.

On the question of scholastic standing, and the rules of eligibility, I must confess that some years ago I shared the impression common in Montreal, that in Canada at least we had such a superiority in our ethical standard that we might well lift our eyes and thank God that we were not as those who live further south. It is quite possible that this feeling of self-righteousness may have spread to Kingston, or possibly as far as Toronto, but three years' residence in the United States has made me feel that what we really considered a positive virtue was, in reality, but indifference, and that many of our most cherished beliefs as to our neighbor's depravity, were formed on most inaccurate information.

In all of the great American Colleges and Universities the rules are much stricter than in Canada. At Pennsylvania, for example, a man must make a written declaration as to his amateur standing; he cannot represent his college and a city athletic club at the same time; he must be in good standing with his class, and he cannot represent or play on a University team until he has been at college for a full year and passed his examinations, and he cannot represent his college for more than three years. If he has represented another college for a year, that year is deducted. In some Universities, as Chicago for example, a standard of 60 percent. is required in class standing even during the time of competition.

These stringent rules are necessary because of an enthusiastic body of young graduates whose interests in the success of their alma mater extends, if, indeed it does not begin, on the field or the cinder path,—and who will try at times to get a fleet footed or strong armed *protégé* into the college as a student more on account of his athletic prowess than his intellectual culture.

The intense rivalry between colleges and the exploitations of athletic contests by the sensational newspapers, give the casual reader an exaggerated and false impression of their real place in college life, but these same problems, that have caused such drastic legislation, are beginning to come to the