

## College Topics

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TORONTO, NOVEMBER 8TH, 1899.

### A CRISIS IN CANADIAN FOOTBALL.

For a number of years past, there has been great dissatisfaction among both the sympathizers with, and players of Rugby football. Of this there is not the slightest question. There are at least two standpoints from which football can, and indeed must be viewed, in order to obtain the right conception of the game, as it is, and as it should be played. One is that of the spectator, and the other that of the player. It is true they are often opposed. The spectators, on whom, by the way, the financial outcome of the season is dependent, wish one game, while the players often either seem to or really do wish another kind.

The influences that have been, for the past few years, and still are at work today, in Canadian Rugby football, are numerous, and we will but touch on the more important. Professionalism undoubtedly has crept in, and of all that, is the most blasting, especially in such a game as Rugby. When a brute's strength is converted into dollars, and is at the command of an unscrupulous leader, some one or two of his opponents, who may be the trust of sports, are bound to suffer. Business of this kind is on a par with other business transactions, in that a man must give sufficient returns for his remuneration.

Professionalism, moreover, is probably the outcome of a widespread evil in most Canadian sports, namely: that eternal cry of "win fairly, if you can, but win at any cost." This has proved a great curse to true sports. Teams are led thus to import players, get them jobs, with extra inducements, on the consideration that their best services are at the disposal of a football, lacrosse, or hockey team. Lamentable as this really is, and especially so as it shows a mean spirit in athletics and a weak appreciation of true sport, we will all reluctantly admit that this is perfectly true.

"Dirty work," too, has resulted from semi-professionalism and the unscrupulous "win at any cost" spirit, so that many Rugby matches now find a very great interest from the spectators' standpoint in the amount of "scrapping" which takes place during a game; and also in the so-called cleverness with which one team will endeavor to outwit another, be this done in a straightforward manner or not.

Last year the Inter-College League was formed, with the avowed purpose of combating and eradicating these influences; and while we do not pose as immaculate, we do believe that the Canadian Inter-College League has removed most, if not all, of the above evils from its contests.

There is one influence, however, that is common to all Rugby games in Canada, and that is the increasing tendency towards close, hard play. Possession of the ball is half of the game to-day, and consequently every artifice is used to attain this. "You must get that ball," every Rugby captain shouts, fully appreciating the advantage of this. Then bucking is oftener used more than the open game. This tendency of close playing approaches the American game.

The above ideas were most strongly emphasized by the exhibition of English football, as given by the touring Irish players last Monday. By it, we saw the possibilities of the game, and its advantages. As College men are seldom guilty of dirty play or professionalism, we need not dwell on these matters. Regarding the eternal scrapping on the wing and the underhand work that characterizes many scrimmages, it would appear that these were entirely removed by the eight-men "scrum." This, in itself, is a great recommendation. Moreover, instead of this large scrimmage causing close play, and allowing the men in it few opportunities, the exact opposite is the case. The play is far more open and the scrimmage break quicker than a forward line (including the wings) in our game. The quarters have plenty to do, and the three-quarter backs have every opportunity to show their abilities as catchers, kickers, runners, passers, and

tacklers, and so, in fact, has every member of the team.

The whole game is much more open, and allows more for alertness than brute strength. Consequently it appeals more to the spectators.

From a player's standpoint, judging from the opinion our men had after the game on Monday, it is the equal, if not the superior of our game. They were delighted with the open play, with the chances for running, passing and kicking, with the opportunities for dribbling and with the quick, hard playing. Above all, perhaps, were they pleased with the spirit that prevailed, that all were playing for the love of the sport and playing fairly and honestly, but not roughly.

The crisis then in Canadian football is that we have either to choose the American game, or its nearest brother, or take up the English game. We are midway between the two, and our game has not been as great a success as we would all like. We are, too, not far removed from either. Drop our scrimmage and substitute the snapping out, and we have practically made American rules necessary, while by adopting the large scrimmage, we approach closely the English game, with several changes in rules rendered necessary by the new scrimmage.

What the outcome will be no one can prophesy, but we feel sure that the annual meeting of the Inter-College League, next Friday evening, will be fraught with important changes.

### Heard in the Halls.

Who's Proctor?

W. J. Elder, '97, is teaching in the Arthur High School.

Miss M. M. Stovel, '98, is on the staff of the Detroit Journal.

The classes of '00, Varsity and Victoria, may hold a joint reception this year.

The Varsity Rugby dance will be held this year on the evening of Nov. 29th.

Cecil E. Race, '97, is second assistant in mathematics at the Arthur High School.

Proctor is after the freshmen.

There is some talk in the senior and junior years of holding a joint reception this month.

"Biddy" Barr's hand has improved a great deal in the past week and will be well again soon.

"Alec" McKenzie's injury to his shoulder is getting better, and he will likely be in the game again before the season is over.

A meeting of representatives of the various fraternities is to be held this week to discuss their attitude toward the new residence question.

Proctor repairs watches.

Allan McGee, '03, who had his collar bone broken in the game with U.C.C., is coming around slowly. The doctor gives him a week yet.

We regret very much that through an error it was stated last week that Prof. Hutton was ill with typhoid fever. We are glad to learn that this is not the case, and take much pleasure in making this correction.

Mr. Ernest F. Langley, '04, has recently been awarded one of the Austin scholarships in the Graduate School of Harvard University. Mr. Langley was fellow in German at the University here, in 1894-95; since then he has studied in Leipzig, Heidelberg, and Paris; and for the last three years has been instructor in French at Dartmouth College, N.H. Mr. Langley is enabled to continue his graduate studies at Harvard for the coming year owing to special leave of absence from Dartmouth.

### NEW SERIES OF JOINT LECTURES

(Continued from page 1).

Schiller's Ballads, Miss Amos, '02.  
December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

EASTER TERM.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

February 5th—An Evening with Goethe.  
(To commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth.)

February 12th—George Eliot, Miss G. McDonald, '00.  
Mrs. Browning, Miss Yemen, '00.

February 19th—La Fontaine and His Treatment of the Lawyers, Miss A. Gall, '00.

Moliere and the Medical Profession, A. E. Hamilton, '02.

February 26th—Sophomore English; a Study in Words, Mr. D. R. Keys, M.A.

March 5th—Business Meeting.

The Natural Science Association: Officers—President, A. B. Macallum, M.A., Ph.D.; First Vice-President, Geo. F. Kay, '00; Second Vice-President, H. H. Smith, '00; Recording Secretary, H. G. Willson, '00; Corresponding Secretary, H. A. Grainger, '01; Treasurer, E. A. McCulloch, '01; Curator, W. O. Walker, '02; Fourth Year Representative, G. G. Nasmith; Third Year Representative, W. P. Hening; Second Year Representative, Frank West.

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Lecture Room, Biological Building, Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

November 15th—Mines of Hastings Co., E. A. McCulloch, '01.

Recent Arctic Explorations, W. O. Walker, '02.

November 29th—Natural Science and Scripture, Professor Kirschmann, Ph.D.

December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

December 13th—Economic Products of Huronian Rocks, G. G. Nasmith, '00.

Clouds, E. M. Ashworth, '01.

EASTER TERM.

January 10th—A Discussion of Biological Evolution, N. F. Coleman, '00; H. G. Willson, '00; W. C. Good, '00; G. A. Cornish, '00.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

January 24th—Aquatic Insects, E. M. Walker, '00. Color in Insects, G. M. Stewart, '00.

February 7th—Open Meeting.

February 21st—Alternating Current Machinery, J. W. McBean, '00.

Poisons, A. Henderson, '01.

March 7th—Essays for competition for Cawthorne Medal.

March 21st—Annual Meeting.

The Philosophical Society: Officers—Hon. President, J. G. Hume, M.A., Ph.D.; Hon. Vice-President, E. I. Badgley, LL.D.; President, R. S. Laidlaw, '00; First Vice-President, G. E. Porter, '01; Second Vice-President (to be elected from '02); Secretary, A. N. St. John, '00; Treasurer, A. S. Wilson, '00; Fourth Year Representative, Miss C. C. Grant; Third Year Representative, G. C. F. Atkinson; Second Year Representative, (to be elected).

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Class Room No. 3, Fridays, 4 p.m.

November 10th—Ethical Views of David Hartley, A. I. Fisher, '01.

Glimpses of Student-Life in Germany, Mr. A. H. Abbott, B.A.

November 24th—Motive and Intention in Relation to the Theory of Ethics, W. H. Woods, '01.

December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

December 8th—Memory Images, R. J. Wilson, '00.

EASTER TERM.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

January 26th—Pessimism, S. T. Martin, '00.

February 9th—Address, Professor Kirschmann, Ph.D.

February 23rd—Spinoza, W. K. Allen, '00.

March 9th—Ethical Aspects of Pantheism, Mr. Hugh Munro, B.A.

Nomination of Officers.

March 23rd—Locke's Simple Idea, J. R. VanWyck, '02.

David Hume, W. H. Hamilton, '02.

Election of Officers.

The Political Science Club: Officers—Hon. President, S. Morley Wickett, B.A., Ph.D.; President, J. F. M. Stewart, '00; First Vice-President, F. M. Chapman, '01; Second Vice-President, J. A. Wright, '02; Secretary, W. J. Donovan, '00; Treasurer, H. L. Lazier, '01; Librarian, J. R. Bell, '02; Fourth Year Councillor, F. L. Farewell; Third Year Councillor, G. M. Clark; Second Year Councillor, S. P. Biggs.

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Class Room No. 5, Thursdays, 4 p.m.

November 9th—City Government in Canada, Mr. S. Morley Wickett, B.A., Ph.D.

November 16th—Debate—Resolved, "That Trusts are Beneficial to the Permanent Interests of the Community." Affirmative—1. A. N. W. Clare, '00; 2. E. H. Cooper, '00; 3. W. W. McLaren, '01. Negative—1. F. L. Farewell, '00; 2. F. E. Brown, '00; 3. R. A. Cassidy, '01.

November 23rd—Journalism, Mr. J. S. Willson, (Editor Toronto Globe).

November 30th—The Importance of the Study of Political Science to the—1. Business Man, J. W. Mitchell, '00; 2. Professional Man, D. J. Thom, '00; 3. Citizen, F. M. Chapman, '01.

December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

EASTER TERM.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

February 1st—The Taxation of Departmental Stores in various Countries, Mr. T. A. Russell, B.A.

Discussion as to the best methods of taxing the same.

February 8th—The Trend of Recent Economic Changes.

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

Dec. 5.—Practical examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin.

11.—County Model Schools examinations begin.

13.—Written examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin.

15.—County Model School term ends.

15.—Provincial Normal Schools close.

22.—High Schools first term, and Public and Separate Schools close.

Rev. Morgan Wood, D.D., (Pastor of Bond Street Congregational Church). February 15th—

Origin and Growth of Municipal Government in Ontario, Mr. C. C. James, M.A., (Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario).

February 22nd—Some Aspects of the Transportation Problem in Canada, Mr. A. E. Kemp, (President Toronto Board of Trade).

March 1st—Business Meeting.

Election of Officers for 1900-1901.

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