

for monetary backing. The occurrence of any disaster to the mother country would carry with it such a check to the material development of the Dominion as would amount to financial ruin so far as this generation is concerned. Surely for this reason alone it is imperative that we contribute adequately to the effective defence of the empire. The Laurier navy will not constitute such a contribution. At least we should build a complete naval unit, including one Dreadnought and an extra cruiser of the same class as a special reinforcement to the Royal navy.

The Naval Bill of Canada ignores the necessity. A flotilla of small cruisers and destroyers will be of no value either to give or receive the hard knocks of battle.

I. RICE, '12.

NATIONAL GAMES.

THE influence of national games on public life affords a wide field for discussion. The very word national has a grave impression on our feelings. While passing by a military camp, we may hear the sweet refrains of the National Anthem. How this melodious air appeals to our senses. At once our mettle is raised on high, and everything points to peace and harmony. The same effect is caused by the result of national games.

We now ask ourselves what are the national games. In studying the question, we find that each country has its own. We first hear of national sport taking place in the ancient countries of Greece and Rome. The history of those places gives us a very vivid description of how they were put into practice. We see that the Government had practically full control over all its citizens. When a male child was a few months old, he was viewed by an inspector of the State, and if strong and robust would at the age of seven years become a student for the defence of his country. Thus, in order to develop the youth, national games were resorted to, and they have maintained their custom ever since. We have read about those famous athletes of the old world. The only reason given for their success is evidently the remembrance of the old motto: "Practice makes Perfect." Championships of all sorts were obtained, the most noticeable