

The Varsity

TORONTO, November 4th, 1897.

Published weekly by the students of the University of Toronto. Annual subscription, One Dollar, payable strictly in advance. For advertising rates apply to the Business Manager. Address all communications for publication to the Editor-in-Chief, University College.

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INTER-COLLEGE RUGBY LEAGUE.

AT the complimentary banquet tendered by the Queen's Rugby Clubs to Varsity's Senior Fifteen last Saturday evening, the chief subject of discussion was the formation of an Inter-College Rugby League.

That such an organization would bind the colleges and students closer together is evident, and few would deny that such a consummation is devoutly to be wished. McGill and Queen's and Toronto have in the past stood apart as though they had nothing in common, as though they were not working towards the same great end and using much the same means.

For college students to do battle on the football field with the coal-heavers and policemen and foundry hands of city teams is as unfair as it is imprudent. It is no arrogant patrician feeling that makes it unpleasant for college boys to play against teams composed of such men—it is simply due to the desire of every man to associate with his kind.

Certainly the tone of the sport would be raised greatly by the formation of such a league. The manner in which city teams shift and amalgamate shows that their members are playing not for the pure love of the game but simply for personal glory. Their supreme desire is to get a winning team, and to reach that end they press into service men who, although not really professionals, are of the kind likely to become professionals at the slightest opportunity.

The immediate result of the formation of the college union would be to stamp out all professionalism in Rugby. The colleges have always been the real home of clean football, and the sport would be kept clean and above all reproach if it were made essentially a college and a gentlemen's game.

It may be said further, that the stand taken lately by the authorities of some of the colleges renders it imperative that some such plan be adopted immediately. Quite rightly the professors object to men of questionable repu-

tation playing on a team which bears the University's name, and the students appreciate the efforts of the authorities to foster a true sportsman-like spirit. Whenever the college teams have been offenders in this regard, they have been well-nigh forced to enlist outsiders in self-defence.

While student players have some great and manifest advantages, they are, without doubt, surrounded with many difficulties which make it unfair to match them against city teams. Students are, as a general rule, much younger and lighter than other players, and as the college captains cannot get their men together till October, their teams are seriously handicapped, especially in the early part of the season.

In view of these and many other minor considerations it is highly desirable that an Inter-College Football League be formed before another season opens. With McGill, Ottawa College, Queen's, Royal Military College, Osgoode Hall, Trinity and Toronto the contestants, the noble game of Rugby should prosper mightily.

The report of the Hallowe'en demonstration in this issue is from the pen of O. M. Biggar, '98, and Percy A. Carson, '01. The greater part of it was written by Mr. Biggar, but the credit for the report of the procession, before and after the play, should be given to the Naughty-One.

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That the study of Chemistry and Mineralogy is equal to Classics or Mathematics, as a means either to culture or mental discipline, few would have the hardihood to assert.

BE YOUNG.

Professor Hutton, in his lecture on Oxford Types before the Classical Association the other day told some interesting stories of the Late Master of Balliol. On one occasion, a hard-working student came to consult him on some serious question of conduct, and was astounded to hear from Mr. Jowett the simple reply "Be young, my young friend, be young."

There is around Toronto University a large number of morbid spirits, who would do well to read and inwardly digest the eminently sensible advice of the Regius Professor. There are the students who try to dampen the ardor of their fellows on Hallowe'en, and who say it is ungentlemanly to "hustle" freshmen. Varsity is strongly opposed to most forms of "hazing" and deprecates any plan of initiating which denies to the freshman fair-play or which brings out the bully in the older student. On the other hand it firmly believes that some function which will throw the freshmen together in the interests of self defence and at the same time allow the students of all the years an opportunity to work off their exuberance of animal spirits is not only valuable but necessary.

A recent correspondent to VARSITY pointed out very truly and clearly that the genus student is bound to break out into some sort of physical violence at periodic intervals.