

to the views and wishes of the club they represent.

This is not right! and the sooner the practice is changed, the better for the future of the Branch.

Every club that joins the Branch has a duty to perform not only to itself, but to every other club in connection with the Branch, and neglect to perform such duty injures not only the delinquent club, but every other club in the association, inasmuch as a display of indifference on the part of one or two, cannot but have a depressing influence on others.

It has been asserted that clubs outside of Montreal and Ottawa, and the Quebec club has been particularly named in this connection, entertain a feeling that these competitions favour the clubs in the two cities named to the disadvantage of outsiders.

If this statement is correct, it is manifestly the duty of the clubs to depute someone thoroughly possessed of their views upon the subject to bring them before the Branch, rather than by their silent indifference to allow it to appear that they entertain no particular views on the matter.

There are so few clubs composing the Canadian Branch that it would be a very simple matter to arrange to play all primary competitions in both series of games, by drawing in pairs instead of at bonspiels, if such a system would be preferred by a majority of the clubs.

At any rate, it would be valuable to obtain the reasons for the absence of the two Quebec clubs, of Three Rivers and Sherbrooke from the Montreal group competition, and of Pembroke, Arnprior, Renfrew, Almonte, Perth, and Kingston from the Ottawa group.

### FOOTBALL.

The following from the *Vancouver News Advertiser* of the 16th inst., will not be uninteresting to Eastern footballers at this season of the year.

Several of the names are familiar on this side of the continent, and none more so than Sid. Saunders, the captain of the Canadian team, whose handsome face and winsome manner will not soon be forgotten in Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph and other neighbouring towns where he was well known:—

"The game this afternoon between football teams representing the World and Canada is likely to prove a hotly contested one and will be well worth watching. The following teams have been chosen:

World—Laurenson (Captain), Camp-

bell, Lloyd, Woodward, Roselli, Rounsfell, Reid, Bland, Chaldecott, Creery, Welsh, Johnson, C. Campbell, Horne, Fisher, Cummins, Tucker.

Canada—Saunders (Captain), George McL. Brown, Swift, Draper, Palmer, Keating, Alexander, R. G. Harvey, Watson, Webster, Mowat, H. Quigley, E. A. Quigley, H. McGregor, Suckling, Miller, Rankin."

A match game (Rugby) between Vancouver and Victoria is arranged, to take place on the 6th February.

### YACHTING.

Work is in active progress on the new cutter building for Mr Norman B. Dick, the well known owner of the *Verve*, which is being broken up, the lead and some of the fittings being utilized in the new boat. Captain Stanton, of Picton, has charge of the work, his reputation as a careful builder having become known to Toronto yachtsmen through *Kelpie* and *Erma*. The lead keel is being cast, and as soon as this is completed and in position the wooden keel and frames will be set up on top of it. These are all ready, having been sent out with the plans from the shop of the designer, Wm. Fife jr., of Fairlie, so that in a week or so a very fair idea of the general features of the new flyer will be obtained. This is the largest and best designed racer that has been in Toronto since the *Oriole*, and as the intention is to beat *Yama* a great deal of interest in her is felt among the keen racing men of the R. C. Y. C.—*Toronto Mail*.

### CANOEING.

The first of a series of articles written by Poultney Bigelow, descriptive of a canoe trip on the Danube from Donaueschingen in the Black Forest to the Black Sea, appears in the February number of *Harper's Magazine*.

The trip in the first number carried the reader as far as Ulm, and the impression left on my mind after a perusal of the account of the journey, is castle-dam-chateau-dam-castle-dam-fortress-dam. These dams are spelt without an n, although if a canoeist is this country encountered as many as twenty-five dams in a journey of three days, I think the affix would be considered almost essential to the retention of his peace of mind.

I paddled once from the source of the south west branch of the Miramichi to Boyestown, a distance of 100 miles or more. There was nearly always a bend

in the river ahead of us, and at first it was quite exciting to speculate upon the view which would be opened to our gaze upon rounding the bend. After the first day, however, all the charm of anticipation was destroyed, and I could tell with absolute certainty that when the bend ahead of us was rounded, there would be a hill, almost worthy of being termed a mountain, on our left, and a low lying stretch of country on our right, with another bend in the river ahead. The regularity with which this scene was presented again and again to my eyes, did much to destroy the interest with which I would otherwise have regarded a very interesting country.

This trip was vividly called to my memory by Mr. Bigelow's description of his first three or four days' journey on the Danube.

There always appeared to be a headland in view, with invariably the attendant ruins, of castle, fortress or chateau, occasionally a small village was passed, only to be followed by a repetition of the inevitable headland, castle, etc.

The article is an interesting one, and will doubtless become more so, as more open water is reached.

### PROFESSIONAL vs. AMATEUR.

The line which should be drawn to distinguish the professional from the amateur appears to be as difficult to define as the mathematical definition of a line itself is to grasp.

The decision of the Amateur Athletic Union of New York, that a prize in kind of any description except the traditional "medal," constituted an infringement of the rules governing amateurs appears hypercritical, and evinces an inclination to consider the question from a narrow-minded point of view, probably with some selfish local object to serve.

The rule on the other hand which permits Dr. W. G. Grace to pocket £3,000 stg. for a trip to Australia, with the expenses of the journey for his wife and child paid in addition, without forfeiting his amateur standing, appears to be rather straining the point in the other direction.

Undoubtedly what properly constitutes a professional, is, using the knowledge and ability obtained in any sport for the purpose of earning a livelihood out of it.

Social lines are hardly drawn with sufficient distinctness in this democratic country, to enable us to determine with certainty when a man is playing a game for pleasure and when for profit. That is to say, if the game participated in is one that draws a large gate.