

SPORTS.

THE DOMINION CHAMPIONSHIP.

OTTAWA COLLEGE, OUR OLD RIVALS, WIN AFTER A DESPERATE BATTLE, BY A SCORE OF 8 TO 7.

It was a great game! A magnificent struggle between the champions of Quebec and Ontario, for Dominion honors. Footballers who have followed the game for years say it was the hottest and most even contest ever witnessed on a football field in Canada. This was to be expected. There is not the slightest doubt about it, Ottawa College and Queen's have the two best teams playing to-day, and when they met it was "Greek meeting Greek." Each club has a record of which it may well be proud; each stood well to the front since beginning to play football. Ottawa College won the championship in '85, holding it for four years, when they went out of the Ontario union. In '88 and '89 we were close on their heels for first place, and especially in '89, when we lost by the small margin of two points. In '90 we were in the finals with Hamilton. In '91 and '92 we were in the semi-finals, and in '93 we won not only the Ontario cup, but also the Dominion championship, in a grand struggle with Montreal, the champions of Quebec. Ottawa College this year entered the Quebec union, winning from all comers and defeating the Montrealers in the finals on their own grounds, in a very close game. Queen's was unfortunate in not having matches till the finals were reached, but in the two games with Hamilton we showed our superiority by a lead of 21 points, and thus won the Ontario championship for the second time.

With two such teams in the field, each with a history of success to look back upon, and incite them to retain the glory of the past, the outcome could be nothing but a magnificent struggle for supremacy. That it was so the score indicates, and the victors bore off the palm by the narrowest possible majority. No description can adequately represent the game as it was played. The splendid blocking, the work of the scrimmage, the clean, hard tackling, and the splendid kicking of both teams must have been seen to be appreciated. In all these features the game surpassed any that has been played for years.

At the outset Queen's assumed the aggressive, and for half an hour the sphere never crossed Ottawa's 25 yard line. In all this time we were only able to cross their line three times for three rouges, which is a remarkably small score considering the length of time the ball remained in Ottawa territory. We have been blamed for not having scored higher and oftener at this time; but the fact is, Ottawa's defence was magnificent, and, by keeping possession of the ball, the work of our backs could not be

brought into play, and so the small score of 3 points was the result. Then the play moved toward our goal, and from a throw in near the goal line Ottawa scored a touch, failing, however, to kick the goal. Soon after, another rouge went to them, and the first half ended 5 to 3 in Ottawa's favor. The second half opened well for our opponents. The play was in Queen's territory for some time, but the result was only a rouge against us. Then the boys wakened up, and the most magnificent rushing of the day was done. With a dash and vigor seldom seen, and by a series of rushes on the part of the forwards, Queen's brought the leather right down to Ottawa's line. Curtis went around the end for a try, but was called back and the ball scrimmaged over again. Now the boys grew desperate, and Kennedy, with half a dozen Ottawas on his back, crosses the line for a touch down. Score, 7-6 in our favor. Time was now nearly up, and it was hoped Queen's would hold her own. But the play travelled to our goal, and a rouge made the score equal. Now came the tug of war. Only a few minutes to play; can we hold out? The ball is kicked far over our line, and Ottawa rushers are down on it; but Wilson is there. Dashing back, he passes three men and carries the ball out fifteen yards before he is tackled. Never was applause so loud and so well deserved as that given for this play. Again it is punted over our line, but, just as Wilson reaches it, the ball rolls in touch-in-goal, and Ottawa scores their winning point. The whistle blows, and brings to an end the keenest contest in which Queen's has ever engaged.

POINTS.

Referee Ballantyne and Umpire Senkler gave perfect satisfaction to both teams.

The Kingston *News* printed splendid photos of the boys in last Saturday's edition.

In justice to our men we are compelled to say that the team that met Ottawa College was not Queen's team in its best form, and this was admitted even by the Toronto papers when they saw the crippled condition of our team.

The teams were as follows: Ottawa—Back, Belanger; halves, Murphy, Gleason (Captain), Shea; quarter, Leveque; wings, Vincent, James, Prudhomme, Lee, McDougal, Foley, O'Brien; scrimmage, McCreddie, Clancy, Boucher. Queen's—Back, Wilson; halves, Curtis (Captain), Farrel, McRae; wings, Horsey, Elliot, Rayside, Ross, Moffat, Johnston, McCammon; quarter, Fox; scrimmage, Baker, Kennedy, Cranston.

We congratulate Ottawa College on their victory, and we are pleased to see them at the top once more after a period of retirement. Next year, however, we hope that we may hold the championships of our respective unions, and if so we shall do our best to give them a good game.