

the game like a sportsman. But if, as I have said, some prejudice does exist, the amateur in such circumstances can hardly be blamed for taking advantage of his unique opportunity.

I always regard a sporting picture—and sporting pictures constitute an enormous majority of press illustrations—from one or two standpoints. It may, on the one hand, be a representation of a very famous event in the world of sport—an international match, an attempt on a record, a famous rowing eight, and so on, acceptable for its personal interest alone, however tame the picture is, photographically considered.

The other class of picture scores on account of its intrinsic merit. "A line-out" in the match between Sunbridge Hairdressers A Team and Bridlington Juniors will not appeal to an editor of a topical paper in the slightest degree. But should the photograph show some intensely interesting point in football, it is reserved for another market, where its lack of general interest will be no bar to its success. So it is, of course, in every branch of sport. If you are photographing at the Amateur Championships, you aim at a simple result. If the event is a boys' race, you may just as well throw a plate away as photograph, unless you are going to obtain a picture of exceptional merit. The illustration of the runners facing page 17 is a case in point. It is only a boys' race, but it scores on account of the exceptional grouping and the appearance, as yet comparatively uncommon, of a large number of figures all rendered sharply. Many years ago, in particularly beautiful weather, I took some photographs of a friend golfing—a very ordinary player with a handicap of 12. The photographs were really exceptional, and I was surprised and disappointed to find that