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Editorial.

THE term "Athletics in the University" is not often seen in the university calendars. It certainly does not appear in that of McGill—yet there is no subject more closely allied to the heart of the great ungraduate body—nor does interest in the matter cease with them. It is a specially note worthy fact that when the student in England becomes the graduate and then the professor, the memory of the healthy stimulus of university sport, of the fields pluckily fought and won, impel him to continue in the sport so long as he may be physically capable. Conscious of the power and vigour for the battle of life which he has attained from the cricket and football fields and from the river, he sympathizes with the student in their sport, joins them in it and gives them such opportunity of indulging in it as may be consistent with his duties. In England, at the great public schools, at least, athletics are compulsory. While in both school and college the captain of the eleven is the idol of his schoolfellows and has the respect and admiration of his masters. Defeat on the cricket and football fields and on the river is felt as keenly by the teaching staff as by the students. Success in sport is an honor-

able distinction of an institution; and in England, at least, it is not unfrequently the deciding motive for both boys and parents in the selection of a university or school, other considerations being of course fairly equal.

One cannot but feel that the healthy, manly spirit of English educational life is largely due to the patronage and sympathy which the elder men give to the athletic institutions of their juniors. In no university can athletic games flourish without the kindly and friendly support of those who may control the daily routine of its men. No university will ever be worthy of the name, in which professors and students are not bound together in one desire for her honour and success on the athletic fields as well as in the class room, without this union her sports will ever remain sluggish, half-hearted, and unsuccessful. At McGill athletics do not run as smoothly as they should. There is a want of sympathy, not only amongst many of the professors but also amongst a large number of the students. Besides lack of funds, there is a want of time. There are few men in the University who can afford to slope lectures as they have to, when they want to play football. This lack of