

lieve that to win at any cost is the only aim of sport. No matter what may be said to the contrary, it is abundantly evident that the people of Canada have not yet been educated to the highest ideals in matters of sport, and they are too content to be satisfied with the point of view from which the betting man regards matters. Defeat is rarely accepted gracefully, victory is heralded with the most violent demonstrations, and talked about in a spirit really far from complimentary to the heroes of the hour, who are, if we believe what we hear, not heroes at all, because the victory was so easily achieved that there could have been little glory in it.

Defeat is generally attributed to the dishonesty or incompetency of officials, and while such may be the case occasionally, surely the accusation is a sad reflection on the good name of citizens who ordinarily bear the respect of their neighbors. Rugby has suffered from sins of its own, but it has also had to pay the penalty of having drawn players from lacrosse and baseball leagues. The so-called semi-professional (whatever that is) has done more to corrupt sport than any other, and yet there is something to be said for him. In a sense he is not so much to blame as those who have forced him into a false position. Many of these players are drawn from the working classes, and it is a matter of some moment to them that they should not lose a day's wages, just in order to play a game. It is an apparent hardship, and yet experience has shown beyond dispute that true sport demands such sacrifice or an honest admission of professionalism. No one objects to the professional who boldly announces himself as such, but those

who know what are the true aims of manly sport, very properly have a dislike to the professional who masquerades as an amateur. He ruins every game he enters, he has ruined Rugby in Ontario, for the time being. His day has come, and though he may flourish for a time in baseball and perhaps lacrosse leagues, the good sense of the community will eventually insist on his removal from the Rugby field. It has been a matter of surprise that he has existed so long.

Fortunately there is an educational influence at work which will accomplish his downfall, even if the Ontario Rugby Union does not wake to the fact that its death is near if it does not tackle the problem seriously and without mercy or favoritism. I shall refer to this influence later on. Something has already been done, and yet in spite of hard swearing and dubious affidavits, how many clean teams played in the Senior series of the Ontario Union this year? Probably the Argonauts came most closely to the ideal, and yet they spoiled their record by the babyish spirit in which they received the decisions of the referee in the Canadian championship match. Unfortunately the O. R. F. U. finds it difficult to fight the evils complained of and in addition it is hampered by a system so fraught with danger that bad results are inevitable. It commences by tempting boys to be dishonest, and there are few footballers who will insist that the age limit rule of the junior series is not a mistake. It has corrupted no end of lads and brought unpleasant reflections on those who have had to manage them. Dishonesty in every department of the game has marked junior, intermediate, and senior series and the climax was