

and often no special knowledge of the game which is being played. I have sometimes had good luck and sometimes very bad luck in being allotted a seat at a big game. Sometimes I have sat with quiet orderly people who watched with interest and who obviously understood what was going on. On another occasion when two of the biggest teams in the country participated I had very bad luck. On this occasion I persuaded my wife who enjoys neither vast crowds nor football to come along with me, as two of the leading teams in America were competing. Everyone in our section seemed to be drunk; the men in the front row hardly watched the game at all, but stood up throughout the contest with their backs to the game, and acted as cheer leaders for their maudlin comrades, while at the same time they completely obscured both for me and everybody else the players on the field. Three times men came to me and asked me to hold large sums of money which they had bet with one another. To cap the afternoon the man immediately in front of us was sick, and eventually fell over and went to sleep. There were cries of "Robber!" and "Kill the umpire!" on the occasion of penalties. This I am not adducing as a picture of a typical audience. It was the picture of the worst audience in which I have ever sat, but it was none the less a real and actual audience, and for such as these our college boys were presenting a Roman holiday.

The other night I had to listen to an announcer describing some game in California, and these are some of the phrases I caught. "Smith broke through, but Jones got him and got him good; looks to me as if he socked him in the neck." "That boy Jones is a good one, he is a phenomena." "Jones broke through and smeared Smith. I guess that boy must be a shot-putter. He threw Smith about fifteen feet, and tore the shirt right off him." When I protested to the very polite man in charge of the radio at my end against the vulgarity and degradation of such announcements, he said me very politely, but firmly, "This announcing is not being made for college presidents, and professors of literature, but for the great American public that loves such detail."

Now I cannot help but think that there is a great American public that detests such detail, and that was moved to the same disgust that I was, at the degrading influence of such sport announcement. It in no way differed from the stock description of a prize fight. I believe, therefore, that we should make an effort, difficult and hopeless as it may seem, to prevent our college