

U. has set itself to accomplish is indeed a very difficult one. If the first be accepted, is it not now too late to seek a remedy in drastic measures? Outside of the colleges, the major lacrosse, hockey and football leagues are professional, and will be professional. Participation in the games of these leagues is the dream of the young athlete. But this cannot be realized except by the sacrifice of his amateur standing. It is safe to say that when the opportunity comes he will be lost to the C. A. A. U., and that within its ranks will be found only those not qualified for the major leagues. Hockey, lacrosse, and football are our chief Canadian sports, adapted to our needs, and under proper control, an important factor for good in every community. What is true for the major, is, in a lesser degree, true for the minor leagues. With both beyond its control, the usefulness of the Canadian Union is minimized. And it is difficult to see how its present policy is going to regain this control.

If the second hypothesis be accepted, then no artificial barriers which the C. A. A. U. may erect can stem the tide of a natural tendency.

In either case disruption is inevitable. But is this not a matter for regret? That our athletes should be divided into two distinct, almost hostile classes, cannot work for the general good of athletics. The need for a central authority is apparent. But certainly this is now impossible without compromise. The men who, prompted by the best of motives, have set up as their ideal national amateurism, would call this a compromise with evil. But the consensus of opinion seems to be that this ideal is too high, and impossible of attainment. The trend of events goes to prove this view. If so, compromise is wisdom.

Why should a man lose his amateur standing for playing with or against a professional? Logically, a man becomes a professional only when he receives payment for his participation in sport. This constitutes the essential difference. The further distinction was originally intended to prevent individual competition. The legislators had not in view the present condition of sport in Canada. And we believe that the law will tend more towards increasing professionalism than towards accomplishing its object, since to participate in one of our three great sports is now to become a professional.

As we said before, the need for a central authority is evident. We think it is almost as evident that the C. A. A. U., by maintaining its present attitude, cannot hope to be that authority. The result is either conflict or annihilation. Neither is desirable. A com-