

While the history of athletics, at the Ontario Agricultural College, during the past year has been one of progress, yet the minds of all those, who have the interest of College sport at heart, have been impressed with one need. This is the lack of an athletic trainer or director. In every branch of our sports this need is felt. Most of our students are boys from the farm, whose knowledge of athletics is necessarily somewhat limited. In rugby, for instance, we are greatly handicapped. Many of the boys never saw a rugby ball before coming here, much less have they played the game. And while those few who have a knowledge of the game try to show the learners, yet the results are not as satisfactory as they would be were there a regular trainer who knew the game, and knew how to teach others to play it. Great credit is due to the football manager, Mr. Milligan, for what he has done in this matter; but his duties prevent his presence at practice, and what he does is simply the outcome of his kindness, and is

unpaid for. Similarly an athletic director could teach the students in other outdoor sports. But it is in the gymnasium that the trainer is most needed. While other branches of athletics have shown great progress in spite of obstacles, unfortunately our indoor sports are not as good as formerly. This is a state of affairs that we fain would deny, but it is nevertheless true, and the reason is not far away. The students come here without any knowledge of a gymnasium, and there is no one to teach them. It is one thing to tell a person what to do, and quite another to show him how to do it. Boys cannot learn the different movements on the bar, rings, etc., without first being helped and guided through them. We have men here with as good physique as ever we had, or as good as any other college has; and all that is necessary to make gymnasts of them is training. and until the necessary gymnasium instruction is provided we cannot hope to have first class indoor sports.