

This is, perhaps, only to be expected. But the gentlemen (or ladies), of the first year should make an exception with regard to THE "VARSITY." It wants their good wishes, as well as those of the older years. It is no more the property of the fourth year than of the first. They have representatives on the Editorial and Business Boards, and are really as much interested in the success of THE VARSITY, as the classes of '99, '00, or '01. In the inevitable movement of time, they, too, must eventually edit and manage that journal which they are now asked to subscribe for and write for.

INTER-COLLEGIATE SPORTS DAY.

THE VARSITY notices with pleasure in the McGill Outlook, a reference to the subject of an Inter-Collegiate Sports Day. Such a proposal has been already discussed informally to some extent at Toronto, and nothing, we believe, would do more to build up the good feeling already existing among McGill, Queen's, and Varsity. Like our esteemed contemporary, THE VARSITY submits the question to the Athletic Association. We feel sure that any advances made by McGill will be most warmly welcomed in Toronto.

EDITORIAL BOARD.

At a meeting of the Editorial Board, held on Tuesday afternoon, the resignations were received and accepted of Messrs. Birmingham, '99, and Little, '00. To fill these vacancies the Board unanimously elected Messrs. W. H. McNairn and A. N. W. Clare.

BACK THE RUGBY CLUB!

We are told that the students of the university never display any "combined enthusiasm" in these degenerate days. If this be true, it should be sincerely regretted, and what is more, promptly remedied; but even supposing it is only partially the case, we should remember that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and check the progress of decay ere it be too late.

There are several occasions when we may all fittingly combine to give proof of our college spirit, but none of these can ever afford more opportunity for genuine enthusiasm than a good old game of Rugby. There is something fascinating in the thunderous shock of man with man—something seen elsewhere only on the field of battle—and when you are personally interested in one-half of the competitors, the excitement is really tremendous.

When you can get all this enthusiasm and excitement at auction prices, your duty is clear. Let everyone, Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, and especially Freshmen, "win the approval of their conscience, and back the best team in the College League," by purchasing membership tickets for the Rugby Club. These tickets cost but \$1, and admit the bearer to all home games, 5 in number, giving him grand-stand privileges at each and all. Purchase from the Secretary-Treasurer, W. H. Alexander, '99, or any member of the Executive. Verb. sap. sat.



This year, a feature of THE VARSITY is to be a page devoted entirely to the interests of athletics. The Referee who has been put in charge of this department hopes to make this page extremely interesting to the subscribers of the paper, and to encourage and help our athletes and athletics at the university. One trouble in the past with this department was that lengthy accounts of matches were given, which were interesting to only a few. This year a mere summary of the scoring will be given, with short notes on the more brilliant parts of the play, the most effective players, and the reasons for success or failure. In this undertaking the Referee has had promises of assistance from some of the sporting men of the university. A secondary, though a very important aim of the Referee's, will be to encourage as many men as possible to take an active part in athletics. Far too many of our students devote themselves so assiduously to their books that they neglect to take the fresh air and exercise they need.

A great many of our athletes in Canada play not for exercise and sport, but to get on championship teams, etc. This tendency ought not to be encouraged to too great an extent, as it leads to a great deal of jealousy and ill-feeling. Every man is apt to value himself more highly than he ought to do, and is in consequence, disappointed if he fails to get the promotion that he thinks he deserves. The Referee has been, during the whole of his undergraduate course, in close touch with athletics at the university, and in his opinion, there is almost no favoritism shown in the choice of teams; but very few cases have come under his own personal observation. The most obvious case, which might be cited against this statement, is, that men have played with the third Rugby team who were fit for the second; but this is really not a case in point at all, for it has always been considered that the Junior team is not really below the second in the same way as the latter is below the first. Let us aim at this important crisis in university athletics, at purity of sport, in the fullest and best sense of the term.

RUGBY.

The attendance at Rugby practices has been absolutely unprecedented. Since practice began on the 13th of September, there have never been less than 20 men at practice. As early as the 28th, 50 men appeared on the field in uniform. Comparatively few candidates for the first team were on hand till about the 28th; since then Captain Burnside has had large working practices.

From the first the choice of the spectators fell on Boyd, Hills and Mackenzie, for the half-back line. Bcyd, who is now playing for his third season with the first, will play centre. Hills, who played last year with Upper Canada College, is a sure catch and good punt and tackle. "Alec" Mackenzie was in the university last year, but was unable to play; he got his training at Bishop Ridley College. He is quite as proficient as either of the others at kicking and tackling, and is at times quite brilliant. There are two strong candidates for the position of quarter, Valade, of Ottawa College, and Biggs. At present Biggs is the favorite for the position, as his passing seems to be more sure and ac-