

must exercise constant supervision over the affairs of the club; see that its finances are kept straight and all engagements promptly met. Laxity in this respect is the first step towards the demise of the club. The playing material must be kept up to the mark. The executive must work to keep the members in the best of temper towards each other. A football player is not different from the rest of humanity and is often unable to see why another should be preferred for a match. It is the duty of the Executive, while maintaining its dignity to see that this feeling in a player is removed. Candour and openness will generally effect this, but under any circumstances the Executive must respect its own decisions if it would have them respected. The discharge of this duty to the club is most trying, but it must be discharged. There are different ways of doing it and the best is that of candour and openness. There are beings who find their way into clubs whom it is impossible to please, and the Executive after having exhausted every dignified means of retaining such beings within the fold will do well to let them seek other pastures rather than submit to their egotistical dictation. To the Executive of clubs I say be firm but not dictatorial, accommodating where you can but never servile to any of those who may have contributed to your being entrusted with the club's management. In conducting your business you will find that the management of the club is like running an office. Success will attend energy and systematic work on a good common sense basis; the pursuit of whims, indulgence in fancy ideas, or negligence will result in bankruptcy. Another branch of the duties of the executive towards the club is its reception of a visiting club; and here I cannot improve upon Mr. Dick's remarks, which I find in the *Scottish Annual*:—"The arrangements in any match should be made so as to promote the utmost good feeling on the part of the players. The officials of the Home Club should always have one or two of the members waiting the arrival of the visiting club. It is very uncourteous to allow visitors to arrive in a place where they may be total—or at best comparative—strangers, and to find their way as best they can to the playing ground. A little attention in this respect would, I am sure, often cause a very pleasant game to take the place of a very rough one—and I know some rough ones that had no other cause for their roughness. In seriously endeavouring to make visitors happy and comfortable before and after a match, lies the secret of pleasant games and friendly intercourse between club and club.

One evil, however, to be carefully guarded against, is that of allowing your entertainments to degenerate into debauchery. Nothing can be more antagonistic to the success of football, the welfare of football players, and the prosperity of our country, than such a finale to a match." I come now to consider the responsibility of the executive of a club to the public. I take it as already as good as accomplished that the association game will spread all over Canada. It is unfortunately the case that when popular attention is arrested by an impending contest, speculation is indulged in regarding the result. Were this confined to canvassing the merits of the opponents, one could not help rejoicing, as thereby the game would be benefited, but unfortunately speculation too frequently takes the form of betting. I will not inflict on those who read these lines a diatribe upon this evil, for that it is an evil I cannot think any one who can take pleasure in out-door sports will deny. Admitting that money easily come by easily goes, and thus the winner is only a trifle less a loser than the direct loser, I would call attention to its effect upon the playing of the game. The man who has money depending on the result is unable to appreciate good play which may put his money in jeopardy; and what is worse, he shows partizanship to such an extent that essentially bad play is applauded by him when good play calls forth only expressions of contempt. This discrimination is calculated to produce discord among the players themselves, and introduces among bunglers a self satisfaction that is fatal to progress. The effect of betting on a field is demoralizing alike to spectators and players, and I would earnestly impress upon the executive of a club that their duty is to use force if necessary to keep away such elements from their matches. I am not one of those who are afraid of censure doing harm on a field, so long as that censure is an expression of unbiased feeling. I am more afraid of indiscriminating applause, so I would advise executives, so far as lies in their power, to imbue their club with a feeling of appreciation for good play, and a just estimate of bad play. In conclusion I would say that if an executive in its attitude towards the club and the public try to preserve the game from all low associations, from everything that savours of brutality, viciousness or meanness, and endeavour to render the game attractive, that executive will deserve and enjoy the good opinion of every one whose opinion is worthy of esteem.