

## Canadian Rugby Is Discussed By Mr. Shaughnessy

Though the present offensive rules in Canadian rugby football are far from satisfactory, both from the players' and the spectators' standpoint, our game is no more injurious nor strenuous on the players than is the English game, in the opinion of Mr. Shaughnessy who was interviewed by the Daily yesterday.

This interview was prompted by the appearance of recent criticism in the city newspapers on the Canadian game and also by the character of the discussion which took place at the Football Banquet over the week-end.

Criticism has been levelled against the Canadian game to the effect that its present character tends towards many unnecessary casualties, that it is not open enough and therefore is of little interest to either player or spectator.

In commenting on the first criticism Mr. Shaughnessy stated emphatically that any casualties that do occur in our game are experienced just the same in the English game, that they all occur in open field running and not in our line of scrimmage, as is supposed, and, if our game is more prone the injuries, that is due to more aggressive and keener fight not seen to the same extent in the English Game.

He does not condemn the English game on its merits at all. He likes it better than the American game but does not think it would be adaptable here in the East of Canada.

Our game he said has grown out of English Rugby, a logical growth due to our short season and climatic conditions. We have practically only six weeks of playing time, whereas in British Columbia they have six months in which to play their game on good, soft turf. He cited British Columbia as an example where the standard of the English game is as high as ours is here. There would be just as many injuries if their game were played here.

Mr. Shaughnessy agreed with the criticism levelled against lack of open play in the Canadian game as it is to-day. This he said, is the fault of the offensive rules which are not strong enough to allow an end-run to get away. In other words the defense is too strong. This could easily be remedied by more interference on the scrimmage line, to take out or delay the secondary defense thus giving a fair chance for end-runs to get away.

"We do not need the forward-pass in our game, it takes too much training for one reason; all we need is stronger offensive play--what does it matter if the scores are greater, it's the same for both teams?," he said.

"This would immediately open up the game which would make Canadian Football a first class sport both to play and watch," Mr. Shaughnessy said in conclusion.