

for the love of the games themselves and their bracing influence on character, and not for the mere sake of winning.

In this, the desire to win at any cost, lies the curse of present competitive sport. This is the passion which makes men forget all feeling of self-respect and descend to all the low forms of trickery on the one hand and coarse brutality on the other.

This is the cause of that detestable professionalism, either actual or virtual, which has so insidiously crept into and pretty well corrupted almost every branch of sport. It is a lamentable fact that teams bearing the names of Universities or other institutions of learning should so lower themselves as to import outsiders, to help them to win a game. Policemen and expressmen are most useful and honorable members of society, but they are sadly out of place on a University football team. A University should establish a standard of excellence in all that pertains to education of young men, both in practice and theory; hence, it should teach, not only undergraduates, but the public generally, that the very excellence of athletics depends upon their proper valuation, as something which makes men in the best sense of the word, something which breeds quiet, self-control and modesty, and not as a mere series of contests where the sole object is victory, and the atmosphere one of loudness, contentiousness and aggressive swagger.

While the good name of the University is primarily in the hands of the various teams, a great responsibility rests with the spectators of the matches. On their conduct the tone of the game must very largely depend. Nothing causes bad feeling and stirs up strife among players more surely than coarse or insulting language from onlookers. Surroundings of such a character have fostered that despicable doctrine of "laying out" the man whose only offence is his brilliant play. Herein we see a striking instance of that over development of "*θυμὸς*" and its deterioration into low brutality. "A fair field and no favor!" must be the guiding principle, and unless a club's officials can guarantee that a visiting team be treated fairly and honorably, they had better retire to some other sphere of action. Home grounds must of course have a distinct advantage, as every nook and corner is familiar, and the strong backing of friends is a wonderful stimulus; but, as soon as applause is mixed with abuse and derision for opponents, a legitimate advantage is converted into a shameful breach of good taste and feeling.

In many cases the authorities have been much to blame in tolerating a false spirit and standard in competitive sport. A Western University magazine contained, not long ago, an earnest appeal to the students to help the football team to "boom their Alma Mater."

What a pathetic inversion of Plato's idea! If an "Alma Mater" desires to be "boomed" in this way, and cannot make herself attractive and popular through her ministrations to the intellectual needs of young men, she can hope for little success with the material charmed into her halls by a series of football victories. It is only right and natural that those in power should heartily sympathize with students in all their sports; they should not, however, look for any reward in the shape of "advertising." The desire to win is in itself an entirely healthy impulse, and only becomes objectionable when unduly exaggerated. Ambition, the desire to successfully match one's self against another, was one of the

strong features in Plato's "*θυμὸς*." The world worships success and the winner. The "spiritless" man is the one who has no desire to win. Then, gentlemen, keep this idea before you:—Play to win—honorably! If you cannot do that, lose like men, frankly and fairly, scorning all insinuation or excuse.

Thus far we have dealt with the ethical side of University athletics. Now, to derive full benefit from sports they must be managed and directed on a fixed basis of system and precision, with proper distribution of responsibility and authority. First and of prime importance is the captain, who must win his place, not by election but by merit, as the former system is almost certain to introduce a spirit of favoritism, both in the voting and as a natural result, in the captain's management of his team.

But he who is to be the leader in the field must owe his place to no one but himself, and having won it, he must rule supreme and "can do no wrong." He must select his players, show them where and how he wants them to play, demanding from each unquestioning obedience and unswerving loyalty. Without a firm, skilful leader no team, however good individually, can ever win high rank. He must be willing to do all and a little more than he demands of his men, and they in turn must be quick and zealous to respond. The player who thinks he knows better than the captain how the game should be played, and refuses to accept from him his playing orders, is the weak spot of many a capital team. A well-trained and handled team has always an impressive and business-like demeanor. Each man knows exactly his special work, and therefore it is unnecessary for the captain to be shouting orders and directions; he has taught the players that talking wastes good wind, an article highly prized in football, for example, when there are two minutes left to play. There is no noisy appealing and protesting to the referee, for, if appeal must be made, it is the captain's place to do it. Take the maxim of "The Maltese Cat"—"Play the game—don't talk!" And, depend upon it, when you find this quiet conduct in a team, there is a lot of hard work being done.

Further, the captain must be responsible for the appearance of his men upon the field. Small matter as it may seem, yet the question of athletic dress is of great importance, as tending to produce uniformity, smartness and becoming pride of appearance. Each organization should have its own distinctive colors, which it is the exclusive right and privilege of its chosen representatives to wear. Nothing stimulates the true sporting spirit more than the "color" system. The captain who holds office as being the "color" of longest experience, must decide who prove themselves worthy to wear the badge of honor and receive permanent places on the team. This system will cause a most healthy rivalry in competition for positions on the different teams, and give each sport a special standing and dignity of its own. It will further establish and perpetuate those precious associations which hang upon such trifles as cap, coat or crest, those little links of memory which knit men so closely together that strangers wearing them become guest-friends one of another wherever they may meet.

While each sport is independent in itself there must be an Athletic Board of some sort, which shall rule the whole. And here, again, let places be won as much as possible through merit. For example, the captains of