

believe on the continent. Invitations were extended to all to come and see the new game and the result was that the association game spread. The rules were at first written entirely from memory and some absurd mistakes were made. A Scottish Annual was sent for, a meeting of clubs was summoned and the result was that a Dominion Football Association was formed and the rules of the Scottish Association adopted entirely. Only one amendment that the parent institution has seen fit to make has not been adopted here—that prohibiting 'jumping at' a player—the reason for its rejection here being that we Canadian players have not yet developed any such needless practice. Since the formation of the Dominion Association the game has progressed with great strides. A spirit of forbearance has ruled in the meetings of the association and the players have sought to avoid any conflict with Rugby players, trusting to the merits of their game to procure them recruits rather than to polemical discussion. The result is that the utmost good feeling prevails between the exponents of the two systems of playing football. If Rugby have made any advance in popular esteem association players do not regret it, for they hold that better any kind of football than no football. At the same time they feel the liveliest satisfaction with their own progress, and I think it will be admitted with good reason, for now there must be at least over twenty clubs in Canada alone, and of late every week has brought word of new clubs organizing. This record far excels that of the Scottish Association, as it is to be hoped the Canadian teams will excel the Scottish when an opportunity offers for a test of skill. At present it must be confessed our clubs play with more vigour than judgment and with more dash than skill, though it must in justice be said that the tendency is to a better appreciation of the fine points of the game. To abridge as much as possible this learning by experience is the object I have in view in proceeding to make a few remarks upon playing the game.

FORMING A CLUB.

Of first importance it is that a club should be properly formed; on the strength of its constitution will depend the duration of its existence. On this head I may as well transcribe from the 'Scottish Annual' the regulations which experience has taught them to be of prime importance:

No Club will prosper which is not regulated by a proper code of rules, energetically enforced by duly appointed officials, and it will certainly tend to their better observation if the laws are few in number and comprehensive. Rule 1st will determine the name of the Club and the colours; 2nd, the Committee of Management (six, eight, ten, or more), consisting of President, Secretary, Treasurer and members, so many to form a quorum, to be elected annually, and be eligible (or not) for re-election; this Committee to appoint the players in the matches, to enforce subscriptions, to call general meetings, to settle disputes occurring in the field, and to regulate the manner in which matches shall be conducted. Rule 3rd may say when general meetings are to be held, and how called; care being taken to name the number of members necessary to form a quorum. It may be desirable to give right of appeal from the Committee to a special general meeting—the Secretary being held bound to summon such meeting on receipt of a requisition signed by so many members. Rule 4th will deal with the admission of members—application to be made through a member to the Secretary, who shall give intimation to the other members a week before the general meeting. This rule should fix the entry-money and subscription, stating when these must be paid, and giving power to the Committee to sue for the sum when a certain time has elapsed. It may also detail the procedure to be observed when it is desired to exclude a member—intimation to be given to the Secretary by requisition, signed by six or eight members, a special general meeting (if necessary), to be summoned within a week, the complaint heard, and a majority of votes to decide. Expelled members to forfeit all right to property, and not to be eligible for re-election, if one or more members object. New members should receive intimation of their admission in writing from the Secretary; a copy of the rules being also forwarded. Other rules may be added, naming the sum to be paid by honorary members, and declaring the rules unalterable, except by the decided majority of a full general meeting. An excellent method when forming a Club, however, is to secure the co-operation of an influential member of some neighbouring Association; his experience will always be found valuable, and it will seldom happen that a district is so much isolated as to be unable to command such aid.

THE DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE.

These are two-fold and relate to the club and to its attitude towards the public. They