

clean and wholesome. One of the things to be deprecated is the persistence with which some men try to stir up feeling between players of the game and non-players. The inference is that the non-playing element have no interest in the game and should therefore keep quiet. Now as we understand it the rugby team is a university team and the fact that its annual meeting is a meeting of the A.M.S. should put all students on an equal footing as regards the right to discuss the affairs of the club. It very often happens that men along the touchline see things which men in the thick of the game do not see, and it will be an unfortunate day for football when the team cannot accept candid criticism from non-players whose interest is as keen and whose loyalty is as unquestionable as that of the men wearing yellow, red and blue on the campus. Certainly the JOURNAL shall continue its unquestioned right to express its own views, while at the same time we would like to state that so far there has never been a refusal to give publication to any criticism of those views.

But still more unfortunate was the address of the gentleman who seconded the motion to receive the report of the retiring Secretary-Treasurer. If his utterances were inspired, if he really expressed the policy to be followed during the coming season, we foresee trouble ahead for the new executive. If his utterances were not inspired the sooner they are repudiated the better. The only interpretation which we, and many others present, could put upon his remarks was that the first business of the team is to win games. True, he identifies the winning of games with the reputation and honor of the university. As we look at it there are quite conceivable circumstances under which the honor of the university would be better served by defeat than victory. The principle is a vicious one and has injuriously affected the morale of the team in former years. We repeat that the general body of students do not want a rugby team whose first business is to win games. The first requisite we require in the team that represents us is that the players be gentlemen and men of honor who will scorn to take advantage of any technicality or do any thing unbecoming the

very best spirit of the university. We firmly believe such a team managed on such principles will gain more victories than any other, but we also believe that such a team cannot be secured on the basis of "anything to win." We trust, therefore, that the new executive will not begin its work hampered by such a policy as was thus outlined.

Again, we were given to understand that the ideal kind of game is that which is hardest upon opponents. The acme of rugby strategy is, the maximum of injury and embarrassment to one's opponent with the minimum of penalties and accidents to oneself. This is good tactics for a prize fight, but it is rather beneath the dignity of gentlemen students in a Canadian university. In justice to the students who have called them to this important work, the new executive should take an early opportunity to repudiate all such ideals.

We believe we have been fair in our interpretation of the remarks of the speaker referred to, but if he did not mean what his words indicated we assure him that the columns of the JOURNAL are open to him for a clear statement of the case from his point of view.

The new executive was appointed without opposition and is thus assured at the outset of a unanimous support of the students. We take it, however, that that support is based on the belief that the executive will make an honest effort to lift this branch of our sports to the highest plane possible. Every effort in that direction will be seconded and strongly supported by the JOURNAL, irrespective of the personnel of the executive. On the other hand, every failure to meet the expectations we have a right to cherish will meet with candid criticism irrespective of all past services or present abilities of the culprits.

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Some fine day some of our literary aspirants may write a collection of essays "On Being Hard Up." It is a subject which lends itself very naturally to student effort by reason of the richness of student experience, which supplies matter and form alike. A symposium of students might advance the verdict of the oecumenical reason and conscience on the subject one stage. A university which is ever