

COLLEGE TOPICS

Devoted to the interests of the Students in the Universities and Colleges of Toronto.



Vol. III.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 8, 1899.

No. 4.

THE IRISH TEAM DEFEAT VARSITY.

The Game Played Wholly Under English Rules

A HARD FOUGHT CONTEST

In Which Varsity Men Showed Themselves Well Able to Play English Football.

The gentlemen of Ireland who have been touring Canada for the past two or three weeks, finally reached Varsity. Last Monday afternoon the two teams lined up to show to 1,000 spectators how the game of Rugby is played in the "Old Land." There was great enthusiasm shown by the onlookers, who were evidently much pleased with the game. And they certainly had every reason to be, for a prettier, cleaner game of football has not been seen on the Varsity athletic field for many a day. Our men, though at first somewhat confused by the sudden change from Canadian to English rules, soon grasped the main ideas of the English game, and played their opponents to a finish.

The game was to Toronto people, and to all who saw it, spectators or players, a revelation. In the first place the spectators were delighted with the openness of the play, with the swift running, accurate passing, and good kicking of both teams; but above all, with the true sportsmanlike spirit that prevailed throughout the hotly-contested game. The decisions of the referee were accepted without a murmur, and there was not the least suggestion of dirty play, which, by the way, is the bugaboo of Canadian football to-day.

Through our men were ignorant of the rules of their game to a great extent, the Irish footballers acted with great forbearance, and were never guilty of taking the least advantage of that ignorance, even when we seemed to be getting the best of them. The playing of our visitors was remarkable for one thing above all—their splendid passing and running, which was a revelation to us. Then their kicking into touch, and goal kicking were both excellent. Not less worthy of commendation, however, was the work of our men. They picked up the game with wonderful rapidity, and almost defeated their opponents at their own game—though it is so essentially different. Beal, at full back, played his usual steady game, but the halves were not up to their usual form, and caught rather poorly at times, and their kicks were not well placed. They, however, made some excellent combined runs, and Brown and Darling each did some splendid individual running. We seemed to a little more than hold our own in "scrum," and Biggs and McCollum picked up the game at quarter very quickly. The former was in particularly good form, and repeatedly ran and dodged his way past the visitors' defence. Our forward division followed up and tackled better than at any time this season.

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The essential difference between the Canadian and the English game is, that in the former, possession of the ball—with the great advantage thereof to the team having it—is the all in all, while in the latter equal chance for possession of the ball is given at every "scrum," and quick, open play facilitated. The spirit of the former is "to him that hath shall be given," while that of the latter "give your opponents equal chances and beat them." Unquestionably, the latter is the better spirit.

There is one rule, however, that to many does not appear to be a good one, namely: that a rouge does not count. We interpret our rule in the light that if the opposing team is strong enough to place the ball on the other side of their opponents' goal-line, they should be credited with it. The English, or rather British, interpret it from a different standpoint, namely: that the not counting of a rouge demands greater skill, in that it forces the teams to so place the ball in touch, that the possibility of a try being obtained may be secured. There are strong reasons on both sides, but the fact that at one time a rouge did count in England, and that this rule was finally abolished, would incline to the latter view.

The scrum, too, appeals to us strongly in that it gives each side equal chances, that it does away with the dirty work in scrumming, that it obviates the hacking and scrapping on the wings and that it facilitates open play. That these are all strong recommendations, no one will gainsay. Finally, the English game is more open and more pleasant to watch than our game. It also gives greater credit to alertness, rather than brute strength.

Altogether, the game on Monday was delightful, and thoroughly enjoyed by spectators and players alike.

The Varsity team was: Full back, Beal; three-quarter backs, Brown (Capt.), Darling, Aylesworth, G. Biggs; quarter backs, P. Biggs; scrum, Malloch, Mullin, Isbester, Meredith, Telford, Russell, Harrison, Gibson.

Referee, R. Boyd.

TORONTO MEDICAL TIE DENTAL

A Good Association Game Tuesday Afternoon—Other Medical News

The Toronto Meds. played the hardest game of the season with the Dentals last Tuesday night. The two teams were very evenly matched, and the final score, 1-1, fairly represents the work of the teams. The game, too, brought out some pretty playing on both sides, and the combination work was of a high order.

As the season wears on, a great improvement is shown in the work of the many teams of the Inter-College League, and Toronto Meds. and Dentals are both playing excellent association. Some other teams did not consider the Meds. as a very difficult proposition, earlier in the year, but now they have been forced to change this opinion. The Meds. have a very strong team, and will likely have to be reckoned with in the finals.

The game on Tuesday was watched by a large crowd of the supporters of both teams, who yelled and cheered their favorites with all their energy. Such an enthusiastic match has not occurred this season. The two backs, Wilson and Cook, played an especially strong defence game for the Meds., and checked and kicked excellently. Turnbull, of the half-back line, was in very good form, and did his work well, while "Danny" Sinclair, "Rusty" Gordon and Murdock, played a most effective game on the forward line. The other men also played their usual good game, and in fact the whole team showed up well.

The following team upheld the football honor of the Meds.: Goal, Hooper; Backs, Wilson, Cook; Half Backs, Blanchard, Turnbull, Knipfel; Forwards, Davey, Kelly, Murdock, Gordon, Sinclair.

The first year, at an enthusiastic meeting, elected the following four men to look after their capacious interests at the Annual Dinner: Messrs. Walker, McLaughlin, Scarlet, and Woolner.

A NEW SERIES OF JOINT LECTURES

Interesting Plan Arranged by the Various Departmental Societies.

LIST OF THE LECTURERS

Program of the Regular and Joint Monday Addresses for December and January.

The Executive of the various departmental societies of University College have arranged a new and very interesting scheme of lectures to be given during the Michaelmas and Easter terms. A glance at the list is quite sufficient to prove that the effort to make these departmental meetings popular will be successful, and that they will receive the support that they deserve. Each of the societies have prepared a comprehensive programme, representative of their different lines of study for their regular meetings, and in addition to this, several joint meetings will be held on Monday afternoons during the winter.

A great deal of care and work has been exercised in preparing this series, and the committee in charge has issued a very attractive programme, explanatory of the scheme. The aim of plan is set forth in a brief prefatory note of the programme. It is as follows:

For the first time the Executive Committees of the six Departmental Societies have united to carry on under their joint auspices the following brief series of lectures, which in the usual course of affairs would probably have been delivered before the several societies.

The object in view is to give these lectures the publicity necessary to enable all interested in the subjects treated to be present, whether they be members of the Faculty, university graduates, or others. Such a series, it is believed, may also offer a convenient opportunity for lectures from time to time on aspects of contemporary thought. For the time being, each Departmental Society is represented by one lecturer.

The committee in charge of the present series is composed of President Loudon, Mr. D. R. Keys, Mr. G. H. Needler, and Mr. S. M. Wickett.

The Executives of the several societies hope that the joint programmes herewith issued will be found more convenient than the independent ones formerly distributed, and will, at the same time, increase the general interest taken in the work of these societies, to whose meetings all are invited.

On behalf of the Executive Committees. The joint Monday afternoon lectures will be held during December and January at 4.10 p.m., in Room 9, unless specially indicated. The following is the programme:

AUTUMN TERM.

December 4th—Russia (illustrated with limelight views). This lecture will be given in the Chemical amphitheatre.

December 11th—The Nerve Cell and the Race. Professor A. B. Macallum.

December 18th—The American and Roman Republics—a Parallel and Contrast, Mr. W. S. Milner.

EASTER TERM.

January 15th—How to Think, Professor J. G. Hume.

January 22nd—Astrology, Professor Alfred Baker.

January 29th—Zola, Mr. J. Hume Cameron.

The officers of the Classical Association, and the programme for the rest of the year, will be as follows: Officers—President, H. R. Truempour, '00; Second Vice-President, Miss A. May, '02; Secretary, E. J. Kylie, '01; Treasurer, J. A. Martin, '02; Fourth Year Councillor, Miss E. Creighton.

THE PROGRAMME:

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Class Room No. 2, Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

November 14th—Open Meeting. Socrates, Mr. Percy Robinson, B.A., St. Andrew's College.

German Student Life, Professor A. J. Bell, Ph.D., Victoria College.

November 21st—Sophocles and the Greek Drama, J. A. Martin, '02.

An Estimate of Roman Philosophy, before the Empire, Miss E. Creighton, '00.

November 28th—Hellenic Culture in Plato's Time, Miss F. M. Wicher, '01.

If Plato came to Toronto, N. L. Wilson, '00.

December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

December 5th—Ethical Motives of the Greek Dramatists, Miss A. May, '02.

Alexander the Great, P. C. Dobson, '00.

SPRING TERM.

January 16—An Election Day in Rome, W. Morrison, '00.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programme see above.

January 30th—The Political Odes of Horace and Tennyson, S. A. Cudmore, '03.

Virgil in the Middle Ages, C. E. Rowland, '01.

February 13th—Roman Education, Mr. W. S. Milner, M.A.

February 27th—The Greek Autonomy, H. R. Truempour, '00.

Nomination of Officers.

March 6th—Election of Officers.

The Mathematical and Physical Society: Officers—President, C. A. Chant, B.A.; First Vice-President, R. W. Hedley, '00; Second Vice-President, Miss M. I. Fleming, '00; Secretary-Treasurer, A. G. McPhedran, '01; Corresponding Secretary, A. C. Campbell, '00; Fourth Year Councillor, J. W. Fisher; Third Year Councillor, Miss H. E. Wigg; Second Year Councillor, R. M. Stewart; Rep. of Phys. and Chem. Dept., W. C. Wood, '00.

PROGRAMME:

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Class Room No. 16, Fridays, 4 p.m.

November 17th—Voltaire and the Centenary of the Voltaic Pile, R. M. Stewart, '02.

Substitutions and Groups, Mr. A. T. DeLury, B.A.

December 1st—Kelvin and his Achievements, E. F. Burton, '01.

Mathematics in the Mechanical Trades, Mr. J. S. Plaskett, B.A.

Report on Current Science.

December 4th, 11th, 18th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

December 15th—The Development of the Present Calendar, A. C. Campbell, '00.

The Work of Sir G. G. Stokes, J. W. Fisher, '00.

Physical Experiments, Messrs. Hedley and Spark, '00.

EASTER TERM.

January 12—Oscillatory Electrical Discharges, Mr. J. C. McLennan, B.A.

History of the Philosophical Magazine, P. A. Carson, '01.

Report of Current Science.

January 15th, 22nd, 29th (Mondays)—Joint Lectures. For programmes, see above.

February 2nd—Mathematics Applied to Chemistry, Mr. F. B. Kenrick, B.A., Ph.D.

Tesla and His Work, F. Armstrong, '01.

February 16th—The Liquefaction of Gases, J. W. McBean, '00.

Aerial Navigation, W. C. Good, '00.

Physical Experiments, Messrs. Davidson and Gibson, '00.

March 2nd—Hertz and His Discoveries, Miss M. I. Fleming, '00.

An Acetylene Gas Projecting Lantern, R. W. Hedley, '00.

Report on Current Science.

March 16th—Annual meeting.

The Modern Language Club: Officers—Hon. President, D. R. Keys, M.A.; President, R. M. Millman, '00; First Vice-President, A. Baker, '01; Second Vice-President, Miss A. Gall, '00; Corresponding Secretary, W. Elmslie, '00; Recording Secretary, N. F. Shenstone, '01; Treasurer, A. E. Hamilton, '02; Assistant Treasurer, Miss Ward, '01; Second Year Representative, Miss Robinson.

PROGRAMME:

AUTUMN TERM.

Place of meeting, Class Room No. 4, Mondays, 4 p.m.

November 13th—The Rossetts, Miss Conlin, '01.

Charles G. Roberts, J. J. W. Simpson, '00.

November 20th—Comparison of Chateaubriand and Loti, with reference to their Descriptions of Palestine, Miss E. M. Fleming, '00.

Comparison of 18th Century French Poets with those of the 19th Century, W. Elmslie, '00.

November 27th—Heine, Miss Francis, '01.

(Continued on page 2).

RUGBY PLAYERS HOLD A SMOKER

Varsity Team Entertains Irish Players on Monday Evening.

AN ENJOYABLE PROGRAM

A Large Number of Students Present—And A Pleasant Time Spent By All.

A large crowd gathered in the "Students' Union" Monday evening to give a reception to the gentlemen of the Irish Rugby team. The reception took the form of a smoker. A long and excellent vaudeville programme was provided, and an all-round good time was enjoyed.

The Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin Club furnished a number of excellent selections. Mr. Davidson, of the Irish team, and "Billy" White, both did good work in the vocal solo department, while Mr. Bert. Harvey, as usual, brought down the house with his comic selections. "Thiske," Frank Brophy, of fame, scored fresh successes in a number of burlesques. His imitation of the University student's rendering of "Lord Ullin's Daughter," was especially laugh-provoking. But without a doubt "Tommy" Kerr and "Billy" O'Brien took the cake in their famous "turns." Tommy, as a ballet dancer, is a pronounced success. Those blushing cheeks, those waxen locks, not to mention those delicately-moulded limbs, were enough to overcome the hardest heart.

But when the ballet's dilapidated husband, "Billy," came on in his famous Tramp-turn, the climax was complete. Billy should make his fortune on the vaudeville stage. Shea's has not put a better thing on the boards than those imitations of famous pianists, while the shooting-scene and cake walk would grace any variety show.

During the evening, some very interesting fencing-bouts took place between Messrs. Millman and Smith, and between "Prof." Williams and Mr. Falconbridge. Mr. Musgrove acted throughout as accompanist, while Jack Meredith led the boys in the rousing chorus, "Soldiers of the Queen."

After this excellent programme had been digested, the boys took their visitors down-stairs, where light refreshments were provided. For a couple of hours more the fun continued, even more than had in the regions above. When the "wee sma'" boys approached, the affair came to a conclusion with hearty cheers for the visitors, and all went home satisfied that the Irishmen were a very delightful party of gentlemen.

SENIOR YEAR BOOK

Report of the Committee Very Encouraging—Another Meeting this Week.

YEAR BOOK HEAD.

The report of the committee of Class '00, appointed recently to investigate the feeling of the Class in regard to a Year Book, is about ready, and from all indications it is quite likely that the Class will decide to issue the publication. President Kay stated yesterday that a generous amount has been guaranteed by the members of the Class, and he felt assured that when all the reports were in, the Executive would be warranted in undertaking the task. The committee will meet again some day this week.

The publication of a Year Book is a matter which should be of interest to every member in the Class, and it is hoped that '00 will succeed in publishing a volume worthy of the Class and the College.

A meeting of the Chess Club will be held at the Athenaeum Wednesday evening of this week for the purpose of forming a chess league.

Mr. Norman R. Wilson, '99, has been appointed to an assistant professorship in mathematics in the Royal Military College, Kingston. Mr. Wilson won first-class honors in classics during two years of his course, and first-class in mathematics and physics at every examination throughout his course. He won the Fulton, the William Mulock, and the A.A.A.S. scholarships in mathematics and physics. He is, therefore, a scientist of unusual accomplishments and brilliancy, and will be a most valuable addition to the staff of the Military College. The appointment was made on the recommendation of the R.M.C. authorities. Mr. Wilson is a native of Cobourg.

Robert Barr

The third of a series of articles on Famous Canadians in England, by A. L. McCredie, '01.

ROBERT BARR.

It commonly happens that men stumble, as it were, upon their success. It oftener happens that they never find the sphere in which they might be successful. Those who find it late in life are perhaps more fortunate, because of the rarer chance. But the man who makes a hit in several enterprises is both rare and fortunate.

Mr. Robert Barr, novelist, author, among other things, of "In a Steamer Chair," and more recently, "Jennie Baxte," "Journalist," and "Tekla," is one of these exceptions, for he was successively a good carpenter, a good school-master, a good journalist, and a good literary writer.



ROBERT BARR

When I was in Harrogate, Yorkshire, last summer, I wrote to Mr. Barr for an interview for "College Topics." He had just returned from a flying tour through Italy, the Riviera, and the Engadine, with S. S. McClure, of New York. He had chatted with the great Dewey at Nice, but he could come back to England and talk to an unknown Canadian as freely and willingly—and that is why he is great. Busy as he was, he extended a cordial invitation to meet him in London, at the "Cheshire Cheese," where, as he said: "Boswell and Johnson and Goldsmith, literary lights lesser than ourselves, used to foregather."

A night train, a new hat, at Hope's, for the occasion, and an early arrival at the narrow alley leading to the "street entrance" of the old tavern, prepared me for the man with whom I so desired to talk.

Tom Greenwood and I, who were jointly honored, debated whether we should be able to pick him out of the Fleet St. throng, which jostled us even in the alley. We noticed a short man, in a tweed suit, with whiskers slightly gray, carrying a bundle under his arm. Greenwood said: "That is not him," but the man with the bundle stopped to ask us why we didn't wait inside, and offered his hand in the customary shake of a country fair. As we went inside, our host shouted up the stairway for game pies, which, with the subsequent relay of toasted cheese, has, since Johnson's day, formed the notable menu of the tavern.

Then we sat down beneath an oil-painting of the old crank aforesaid, and opposite a bevy of American ladies, who wished when they returned to the States, to relate how they had dined at the "Cheshire Cheese." I think Greenwood enacted Goldsmith to a creditable degree of perfection, and I know I felt like Boswell. Mr. Barr, however, didn't do any roaring except at the waiter.

While waiting for the game-pasty, Mr. Barr recalled old days in Toronto, and spoke with reminiscent zest of the way Normal School used to "lick the Varsity" in football. He recalled incident after incident of life in the city, especially referring to his half-worshipful association with the Normal teachers of that time.

I asked him what led him to go to Toronto Normal School. He then spoke of his early life in Elgin county, of his learning the trade of carpenter, of how he made his fortune by falling off a drilled roof upon a pile of bricks. Being

turned into a meditative, and therefore an educational direction by this mishap, he came ultimately to Toronto University, which he attended for one day. He said: "Luckily for me, they didn't teach civil engineering, so to-day I am not sloshing through swamps with a theodolite over my shoulder." There was no denying that the "Cheshire Cheese," "Americans" and all, was more comfortable, but one could hardly help wondering what stories Robert Barr would have written with that theodolite.

He had come to Toronto for education, however, so he was going to get it. He accordingly entered the Normal School. Then followed a period of school teaching, before he went on the Detroit Free Press. His success of over twenty years on that journal, as "Luke Sharp," is too universally known to need more than reference. He is appreciated in the United States to-day, as the most strikingly successful journalist who ever struck a "scoop." He said, however, as he regarded the toasted cheese with a puzzled air, "I nearly missed my calling. If I hadn't come to London to found the 'Idler Magazine,' my life work would have never found its aim." He has found it at last, however, despite the length of time during which it waited his coming. Speaking further, he deprecated journalistic or pedagogical work, except, perhaps (with an emphasis), as a training, and but little of it. He drew a clear line of demarcation between newspaper work and journalism, and between journalism and literary work—so clear that the qualifications are not common, nor is the experience of the lower grades valuable in the higher except as any other experience might be.

I asked him why he neglected Canadian material in his novels, reminding him that the familiar localities of his youth were rich in color and character. He hinted that he was going to amend that neglect very soon. Referring to this material, in association with the possibility of young College men of Canada utilizing it in literary work, I asked: "Can the average man do justice to it or record it successfully?" He replied, shortly: "We are not talking of average men. The average man is a bricklayer or blacksmith"—which opinion is encouraging to most ambitious young men. It certainly reflects his sentiments in such cases, which are a combination of fatalism and optimism. He said: "You cannot have or develop too much ambition. Load yourself up with it. Be ashamed of yourself if you haven't got more than you can stand."

Perhaps the most amusing incident at luncheon was when our conversation turned on contemporary writers.

We had been addressing him as "Mr. Barr," and the ladies opposite grew gradually attentive as we talked. They nudged each other, when Mr. Barr expressed his regret that Rudyard Kipling was out of London, and that my brief stay in town had rendered it impossible for him to bring down "his friend, Anthony Hope," to luncheon that day. When Mr. Barr coolly replied to some criticism of Augusta Wilson, by asking who she was, and confessing, indifferently, he had never read any of her works, they were plainly horrified. Their delight was restored when he characterized Hall Caine as somewhat agreeable to himself, and called another Englishman of letters an ass, because he ventured one evening to discuss "style" in the presence of Thomas Hardy and Anthony Hope, the two acknowledged masters of English style.

Quitting the tavern, we walked down Fleet St., where he showed us the sign of the "Cock" Tavern, also an historic resort of literary men. He related, while walking through Lincoln's Inn, how he and a clergyman planned to steal the celebrated golden cock, whose eloquent silence had charmed Fleet St. for centuries; and how, on the dark night selected, they found that someone had forestalled them an hour before.

He pointed out the rooms of many famous people—friends with whom he had spent pleasant evenings, as we walked down to Whitehall Court. There Greenwood left us, and we entered the National Liberal Club. He interrupted a quiet talk; he introduced me to Fisher Unwin, the great publisher, who, though a very agreeable man, was evidently embarrassed at being obliged to meet a nonentity, when so much of his time was devoted to great men in the world of letters.

Mr. Robert Barr, who should know the peculiarities of Canadian, American and English literature better, perhaps, than anyone else, gave the following opinion: "I do not believe the Canadian literature will be biased by either American or English influence. Some day the Canadian author will arise and blaze out for himself a track in the forest of letters. And then we will all wonder why we didn't do it ourselves; and some of us will begin imitating him." There is much in this for thought; and everyone must think for themselves.

The Canadian young man, who goes to London with ambition and good purpose, can count upon the practical friendship of Mr. Robert Barr, a man whose success has not spoiled him. That is saying a great deal. He will prove an inspiration to the young man who has been ashamed of his aspirations.

The first Inter-College Debate will be between Varsity and Osgoode on the 24th inst., at the hall. Messrs. A. H. McLeod and G. A. Cornish will uphold Varsity.

..FASHION..



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WYCLIFFE COLLEGE NOTES.

The programme of the Literary and Theological Society on Friday night was an interesting one. Mr. Fox gave an appreciated instrumental selection, and Mr. Ainslie Greene read a convulsing extract from David Harum. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Cotton and Masters on the South African question, that, as the worthy president remarked, "saved us the trouble of thinking about it." Mr. Woodruff talked briefly on the "St. Andrew's Brotherhood," and Rev. Professor Hague gave a bright address on Athletics in his critical remarks.

Mr. Haslam, B.A., went on Friday to the Oberlin Students' Convention as the Wycliffe representative.

Sampson, who has been confined to his room with tonsillitis, is about again.

On Wednesday last the Athletic Association of Wycliffe College elected its officers for the year. They are: Hon. President, Rev. G. A. Rix; President, R. B. Paterson; Vice-Pres., "Biddy" Barr; Secretary, W. Woodruff; Treasurer, Gauder; Curator, Perry.

The team has been practising daily at 6.30 a.m., so we are informed. The team which beats them will have to get up very early.

"Corky" Shannon has returned to College from Haliburton county, where he has been working since the spring of 1898. He has already made his presence felt at No. 2 table.

We beg to correct an error which appeared in last week's notes as to the secretaryship of the Literary Society. It was announced that Mr. Kinder was elected, instead of Mr. G. Armstrong. Mr. Kinder had been acting pro tem. only.

A question we are asked to answer is, "Who is the young lady who asked for 'Mr. —'?" and who wouldn't go

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away till she had seen him. The porter's professional secrecy alone prevents a clearing up of the mystery, but "Mr. —" has been heard asking over the phone, "Is that you, Sarah?" Farther than this we know nothing.

It is reported from the police station that Fawcett lost his bicycle while hunting bargains in ties last week. A policeman found that some wanton person had moved the bicycle around from the Yonge street to the Queen street entrance. Or did the building turn a quarter circle? Or was Fawcett 'muddled'?

A new institution was installed at the old Medical School early Monday morning. Several of the third year men overslept themselves, came too late for the lecture, and, as usual, started a game of handball. As a result, each holds a position of importance in the new Rogues' Gallery. Two fortunate spectators, after a great deal of persuasion, were admitted at the same time. The present members wish it to be understood that theirs is not an exclusive set. Those seeking admission, have only to practice handball, according to the new rules, from 8.30 to 8.33 next Monday morning. There is no fee.

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