

Notre Dame Football, 1918.

A thing is considered a success if the results are commensurate with the time and energy expended. This fall the Notre Dame football team had but little time for practice, but used up myriads of units of energy. What have the men of the team to show for this? First of all they have played a man's game well. In addition they have learned to think; they have formed friendships which will last throughout their lives; and they have developed loyalty, a loyalty to a mother University which can come only from fighting for her. To the football squad for their successful work of the season the University gives homage.



COACH ROCKNE.

After spending the summer at Fort Sheridan Coach Rockne returned for the opening practice in the middle of September. The prospect was only fair. Vohs, Powers, Bader, Hoar, Kennedy, Dooley, and Brandy, men on whom he had been depending, were all commissioned at Fort Sheridan. The loss of these experienced players was a severe one, but the coach went ahead cheerfully to build a team from almost entirely new timber. Gipp, Bahan, Stine, and Smith were the old men back and their work was later the salvation of the team. The rescinding of the freshman rule made every college student in the University eligible, and with this as an impetus the squad began to grow by leaps and bounds. Before the inauguration of the S. A. T. C. there were more than eighty men out in uniform. Most of these were boys just out of high school.

Practicing twice a day until the formation

of the Army units, the squad improved rapidly. Daily scrimmages began to bring out good men, and left the team for the Case game at Cleveland in good condition. Case was defeated 26 to 6. This game showed the coach just where the defects in team play were and also who was who in the personnel. Gipp and Bahan were the stars in the backfield, but what was most pleasing to the coach was the stonewall defence of the line. While the play, as a whole, was more or less crude, it was a team of possibilities. Their "come-back" in the second half showed that they had the make-up of a typical Notre Dame eleven.

With the mobilization of the S. A. T. C. practice was greatly restricted, but the boys worked with a will and showed steady improvement. Then began that series of disappointments which for a while threatened to overwhelm athletics in general. The Educational Committee of the War Department forbade long trips and the dreaded influenza began to make its presence felt. The West Point and the Washington and Jefferson games were cancelled and the Nebraska game moved back to the 2nd of November. With the scheduling of the great Pier game of Chicago and Camp Custer things began to readjust themselves. On Saturday, October 19, the Pier team made their appearance in South Bend, but there was no game. The influenza epidemic was at its height, and as the medical authorities thought it best to prohibit gatherings of any sort, the game was cancelled. The game with Camp Custer was also called off. Football practice itself was even prohibited for a few days. Some days later the situation was so much better that the epidemic ban was lifted.

Work was begun for the Nebraska game. Coach McNamara's freshmen scrimmaged the Varsity daily using Nebraska formations. The team was worked up to a high state of physical and mental perfection and even the coach was optimistic. As the boys were about to leave for Lincoln a message was received stating that the ban was on in Nebraska. Seeing that the team must have some game or they would lose heart, Coach Rockne worked all day and finally late that evening scheduled a contest with Wabash at Crawfordsville.

The Little Giants had an off day, and though they fought with all their traditional courage Notre Dame romped away with the game. The final score was 66 to 7. Stine was injured rather

severely, and it was this injury which was to prove so costly to Notre Dame the following Saturday. Miles, Miller, Dunn and Connor had left for training camps and as a result there was a shortage of linemen. The two understudies to Stine, Owens and Nadolny, were also injured, and it was this shortage in tackles which opened the way for the Great Lakes touchdown late in the game on Saturday, the 11th of November. The Great Lakes with a most formidable line-up, including Bachman, Jones, Keefe and Driscoll, seemed to be an easy winner on paper, but they were due for a surprise. Notre Dame outplayed them for three-quarters of the game and only the greenness of the team prevented them from scoring again on the sailors a few minutes before the final whistle blew. The score, 7 to 7, was a virtual victory for Notre Dame.

On the following Saturday the Gold and Blue, out of her element in the mud, was defeated by the Michigan Aggies 13 to 7. The light Irish team found their speed neutralized on the heavy field and the heavier Farmers were able to hold them. Gipp and Bahan were both injured, and though the rest of the men played the Aggies to a standstill, the Michigan boys got the breaks and the game. Notre Dame made 16 first downs to the home team's 12.

On a dry field a week later Notre Dame won the State Championship by walloping Purdue 26 to 6. Barry took Bahan's place at half and played a remarkable game. The heavy Purdue team was outplayed in every point of the game, and there was no questioning the superiority of the Irish. Purdue made three first downs by the aerial route and that was the extent of their ground gaining for the day. Gipp ran their ends at will and Lambeau tore their line to shreds. Notre Dame gained over 400 yards on straight football. The only lamentable incident of the game occurred within the last minutes of play when Mohn, the flashy N. D. quarterback, hurt a rib. While the injury was not serious, yet it was enough to keep him out of the big game on Thanksgiving day.

Bahan tried to take Mohn's place at Nebraska but lasted only a few minutes. Lockard then played until he was hurt late in the third period. Notre Dame played the whole last quarter without a quarterback, but came within a few yards of winning in the last few minutes of the game. Heavy mud again prevented the Notre Dame team from winning a game which cer-

tainly would have been hers on a dry field. She made twelve first downs to the Cornhuskers' none. As it was only the excellent punting by Dobson that saved Nebraska again and again. They were fortunate to hold Notre Dame to a scoreless tie.

The Notre Dame team of this year was the lightest in the history of the institution, but they made up for this in fight, brains, and determination. Despite almost insurmountable obstacles they played their season and leave a splendid record behind them. Faculty, alumni and students can well be proud of them. They upheld every honorable tradition of an institution where they develop men.

The Men of the Team.

The 1918 football season at Notre Dame is history, but before the page is turned some brief comment on the men who made the team is in order:

KIRK AND ANDERSON.

Notre Dame teams have in general been characterized by good ends, and the eleven of 1918 has been no exception. In Anderson and Kirk the Gold and Blue possessed two wing guardians of the first water. If there were any better in the West we have not seen them. In going down under punts, catching passes, and breaking up interference, briefly, in all that ends should do, these two men excelled. They each have two more years of eligibility in college athletics.

BAHAN, ACTING CAPTAIN.

Pete Bahan played his usual game, the kind of football of which very few are capable, and in these few words all has been said. As a contender for all-Western honors Pete should in justice be recognized as among the best in college and service elevens. In the course of the season Lieut. McReavy of the Great Lakes spoke of Bahan and his running mate, Gipp, as "wonderful." A torn cartilage sustained in the Michigan Aggies game kept him out of the Purdue and the Nebraska game, and had much to do with the scoring of Rockne's men. He is captain-elect for next season.

GIPP.

Notre Dame in the past few years has been fortunate in possessing one or more stars of the first magnitude, and the 1918 team had no less

a star than George Gipp. George never failed to gain when called upon. His prowess can be



BAHAN, ACTING CAPTAIN.

understood when one considers the fact that he went into every game a "marked man"—which fact availed opposing teams nothing in their attempts to stop him. Next to running the ball, his forward passing was a feature in all the games. Because of his accuracy he dared to pass in his own territory, setting a precedent which few care to follow. Gipp has two more years in which to continue his wonders.

STINE.

Up to the time when Coach Rockne learned that Rolly Stine would be back he had lost not a few hours of sleep over his left tackle. But once certain that the "red-head" from Oregon was returning, his worries were ended. Rolly was one of the elements in the wall that stopped every attack. An injured knee, which would have kept most men out of the game, only made this quiet lad from the far West grit his teeth and play the harder. A Notre Dame man and a fighter is Rolly, with one more year to play.

H. ANDERSON.

One H. Anderson was the boy who "crashed 'em" game after game. He was one of those immovables known as a good guard. Plays designed to gain ground through Notre Dame's left center were smashed regularly by the lad from Michigan. He was equally good at moving an opponent out of the way to permit a Gold-and-Blue back to go through. Anderson also is good for two more years.

LARSEN.

Larsen, the center, came to Notre Dame as a tackle, but he soon became a worthy successor of Feeney, Fitzgerald and "Big Frank." Seldom did his snap backs go awry. A power on offense, he was a hard man to go through when on the defensive. Steadiness was his big asset. He never had much to say, but his work in every game spoke for itself. He has two more years.

CROWLEY.

It is fitting that the East and the West should have divided the tackle positions, and Crowley from Boston played his part with honor. A shifty man on defense, he was hard to put out of a play, and when called upon to clear the way for the backfield the men carrying the ball never failed to find an opening. In the two years he has yet to play under Rockne, he should become one of the best tackles in the game.

SMITH.

There were those who doubted Rockne's wisdom in using "Smitty" at guard, but the first game of the season proved that the Coach was right, as he usually is. Notre Dame has had some wonderful guards in her history, but none better than "Pitch." Because of his ability to cover ground, he was used on defense as a "floating center." In this position he was invaluable, so invaluable that in a certain game an opposing coach told his boys "to get



GIFF, LEFT HALF.

Smith," but the game ended with "Smitty" still knocking them down. Several teams spent

a very unpleasant hour on a Saturday because of this stellar guard's ability to clip. He has two more years to play.

MOHN.

Another of the many boys from the South Bend "High" who have made good at Notre Dame is Willie Mohn. His lack of experience at the beginning of the year was made up by his ability in absorbing football principles, and the close of the season found him one of

made the loss of Bahan less keenly felt. He is a Notre Dame man with plenty of the "ole fight," and he will help Rockne for two more years.

LAMBEAU.

To fill the shoes of such men as Eichenlaub and John Miller is no easy task, but in Lambeau Coach Rockne made no mistake. A line-plunger of terrific power, he was also wonderful in off-tackle drives. He backed up the line



THE TEAM OF 1918.

FRONT ROW: Lockard, quarterback; Barry, halfback; Mohn, quarterback. MIDDLE ROW: E. Anderson, right end; Smith, right guard; Bahan, right half; Kirk, left end; H. Anderson, left guard. BACK ROW: Coach Rockne; Crowley, right tackle; Lambeau, fullback; Gipp, left half; Stine, left tackle; Larsen, center.

the most dependable quarter-backs in the West. His run of seventy-three yards at Purdue was one of the features of the 1918 season. With his two more years of opportunity he should write his name large in football history.

BARRY.

Some day "Chris" Barry is not coming back to Notre Dame in September and then the old school will have closed its career. From the Minim Specials in St. Edward's Hall to the Varsity is the career of this speedy little man from Chicago. As a defensive man Barry ranks with the best, and his ability to gain ground

unfailingly and was one of the chief reasons why opponents failed to gain. With Rockne as a teacher, "Curly" has a bright future in his two remaining years of competition.

LOCKARD.

Lockard weighs but 134 pounds, but he made up for this deficiency in weight by craftiness and quick thinking. He always out-guessed the opposing team, and his own team always felt confident that he would choose the right play. Although handicapped by an injured knee, "Abie" played through most of the season. With one more year to play, he should prove a

valuable asset to the team no matter how good they may prove to be.

THE SQUAD.

Upon every football squad there are several players known as the second string. The men who this year played that rôle at Notre Dame would have gladdened the heart of any coach. Donovan and Shanahan were a set of ends who could hold their own in any company, and in their remaining two years will undoubtedly win berths for themselves. Owens, better known as the "Sergeant," failed to make his monogram because of an injured ankle. "Dog" White, the understudy for center, always delivered when called upon. The lad from Tennessee will undoubtedly be a regular before his two remaining years of competition are finished. "Peaches Nadolny from de Nort" was a tackle of no small ability. Cahill and Saunders as guards will, with a little more experience, be top-notchers. Lombardo, Mohardt, Wynn and Phillips in the backfield relieved the coach of any worries he might have had when the regulars were injured or taken out. Dorgan, Grabner, Devine and Prokop. were men who with a little more work will be among the best. Taken as a whole, the second string would bring honor to any school. Their share in the team's success, which is after all the whole aim of any right-minded football squad, may not have been duly observed by spectators, but the coach and those who can appreciate their work can be glad that they had such a select set from which to draw in the pinches.

COACH ROCKNE

In every football season there is one man who, amidst a number of luminaries, will stand out most prominently. Such a one this year in Western football was our own Coach Rockne. Never in the history of football at Notre Dame has a coach opened his season under such discouraging difficulties as "Rock" encountered in this first year of his as athletic director of the Gold and Blue. Men upon whom he had planned to build his team failed to return, and when the time came to issue the football togs he had but three veterans on the staff.

Unabashed by the prospects, however, he set to work and evolved from his scant material a team that compares favorably with any of the great "Irish" elevens. He instilled into the men as if by magic that spirit of fight for which he himself is famous. From Case to

Nebraska the men, filled with the do-or-die spirit of their coach, battled against heavier teams to victory. Only once did "Rock's" machine suffer defeat,—at the hands of the Michigan Aggies; upon a field where the men from Notre Dame could not do justice to themselves. Even in the mud, where the heavy Aggie team was in its element, the opponents could not gain through the Notre Dame line. Such is the spirit Rockne puts into his men.

Notre Dame is peculiarly fortunate in having such a man to conduct her athletics. Under him victories will come, and the very occasional defeats will be mitigated by the knowledge that "Rock's" men have never been outfought. Coach Rockne is a true Notre Dame man to whom the teams can always look for inspiration. If there is any praise due the Notre Dame football team of 1918, it must go first of all to Coach Rockne.

Thoughts.

Success is born of sacrifice.

A labor of love is never tiresome.

A failing need not result in failure.

Only the low-bred live the "high life."

Experience is often a high-salaried tutor.

A half-hearted beginning is an omen of a poor finish.

Money talks in foreign language to many people.

Be a voluntary student and not an intellectual slacker.

Many students should be arrested for intellectual vagrancy.

Although the truth hurts, not everything that hurts is truth.

"Do as I say, but not as I do," is very poor advice from a minister.

Love is an ocean in which there are both gold fish and deep-sea dragons.

It is in the very course of nature that we have a few thorns among our flowers.

Only those who have borne the burdens of war can duly appreciate the blessing of peace.

The darkest hour of the night is when the husband comes home and can't find the key-hole.

Many people distract attention from their faults by talking about those of their neighbor.

—T. J. HANIFIN.