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The Cornhusker Record for Three Years

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By Coach

One of the most difficult things to deal with in western football is the distances to be covered before games can be played. Many of the Universities are so far apart that three or four or five hundred miles must be covered before the teams can meet. This is a serious handicap to the visiting team, both in physical condition and usually in finances.

Everyone is looking forward to a meeting between eastern and western teams, and the occasional games so played make a foundation for the prediction that the west would not go down in an inglorious defeat by any means. Chicago played West Point a close game this season, almost defeating them. West Point had he ... Harvard and Yale to close scores, while Chicago is rated as one of the lesser lights in the west this year." Of course, tuis is comparing scores, a process which often brings one very wide of the mark, but at present it is our only basis of comparison. Certainly a game between the two leaders of the eastern and western football world is a thing much to be desired and which few of us would wish to miss.

The growth of the great college game of football in the western states during the last five years is remarkable. The game has gained in interest as the teams have advanced in proficiency, and now a Thanksgiving Day game between any of the leading Universities is an assured success. Some thirty thousand people saw the Michigan-Minnesota game this year. Certainly



THE WEST.

W. C. Booth

this bespeaks an interest in the game never before equalled.

The standard of football has also risen rapidly and the west is traveling the same grond as the east in faster time. There is no reason why it should not do so. The material is as good and the quality of the coaching equal to that in the east. The only difference is that eastern Universities have more coaches. The lack of good football in the high schools is the most serious handicap to western teams. The men have not enough experience when they enter and become discouraged at the prospect of learning football on the second team.

"Consistency is a jewell because of its rarity," remarked an old-time Lincoln business man at one of the games on Nebraska field. "Over there in the grandstand sits a man who doesn't believe that football should be played. But I notice he never misses an opportunity to attend a game. I don't think, either, that he comes merely to discern repulsive features in order to have material for future arguments, although he may use it as such. I'm pretty sure he comes simply because he can't stay away. He has just enough blamed curiosity to make him act natural and show his true color. I don't blame him for it either. Humanity is weak, and there are some things that it can't resist."

It is strikingly pecunar and yet in keeping with his character that the nend who smokes in the grandstand uses a cheap brand of cigars.