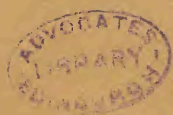


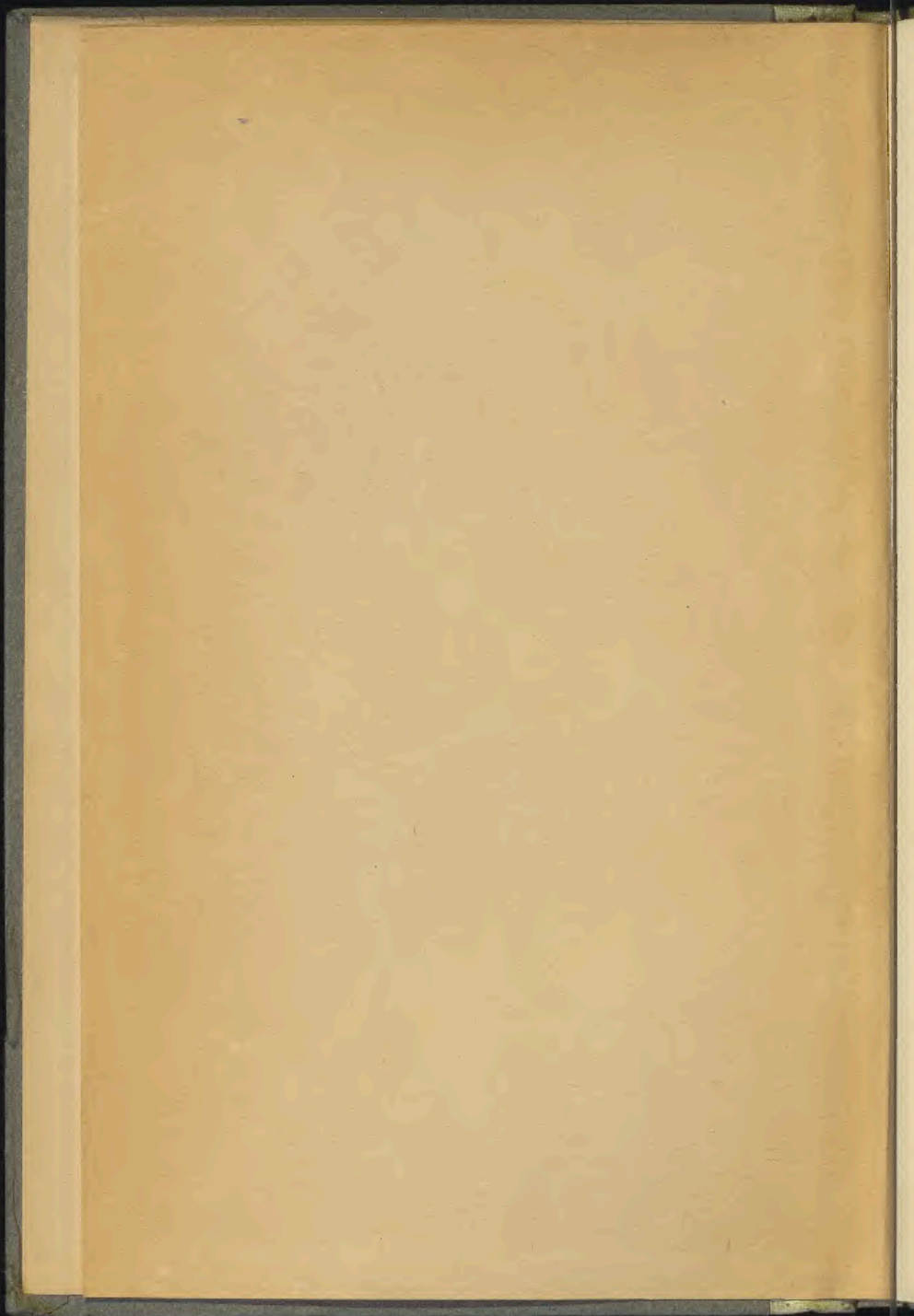
HOW TO PLAY
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

P. WALKER M.A.

BLACKIE AND SON LIMITED

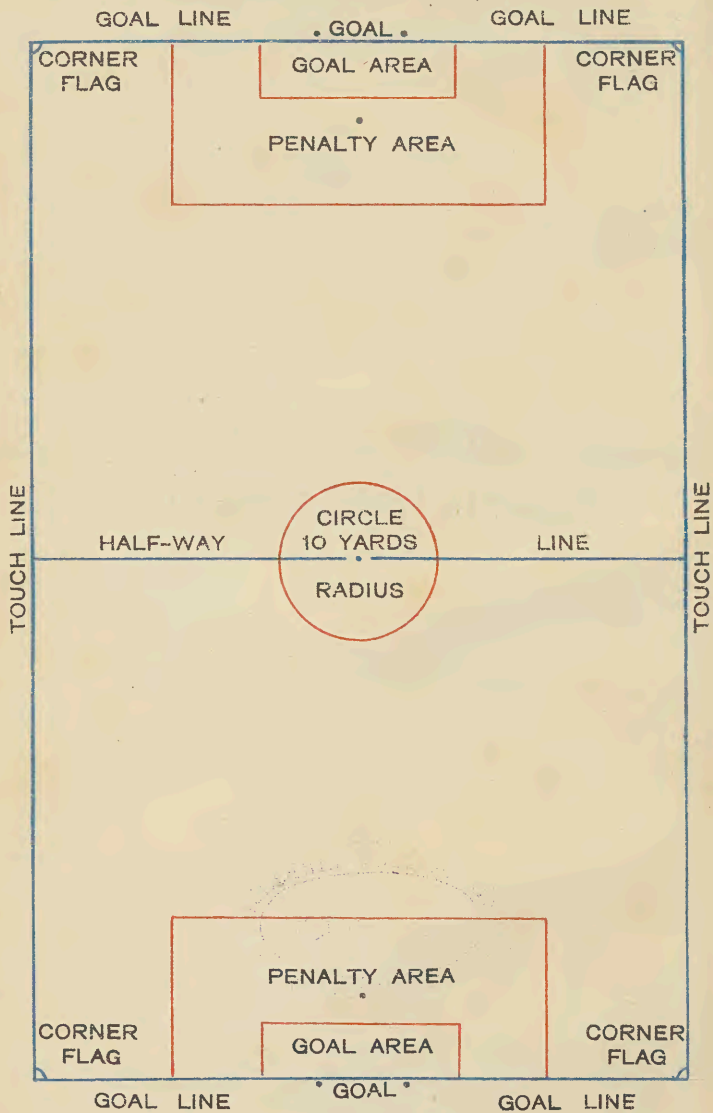
T 120 c





HOW TO PLAY
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

PLAN OF FOOTBALL FIELD



HOW TO PLAY ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

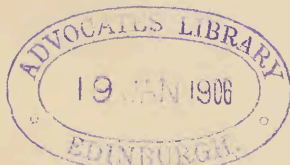
A SHORT PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE LAWS
PRINCIPLES, AND PRACTICE OF THE GAME
WITH A FULL SET OF DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRAT-
ING POINTS IN ATTACK, DEFENCE, AND THE
OFF-SIDE RULE

BY

P. WALKER, M.A. (St. Andrews)

ASSISTANT MASTER AT ALLAN GLEN'S SCHOOL, GLASGOW

"Foreign nations envy us the moral discipline
of the cricket or football field."—*Royal Com-
mission Report on Physical Training, 1903*



LONDON

BLACKIE & SON, LIMITED, 50 OLD BAILEY, E.C.

GLASGOW AND DUBLIN

1905



DEDICATED TO

SIR JOHN URE PRIMROSE, BART., LL.D.

THE HONOURABLE
THE LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW

HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE GLASGOW AND DISTRICT SECONDARY
SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE

"Non nobis solum nati sumus"—Cicero, *De Officiis*



AUTHOR'S PREFACE

This book is primarily intended for the use of schools, and therefore it should prove of service to all who are desirous of learning to play Association Football.

While the author has endeavoured to set forth and illustrate the principles and practice of the game with simplicity and clearness, it has been his aim to treat the subject rigorously and exhaustively, and he ventures to believe that even adult players, who necessarily have considerable familiarity with the theory and the rules, may find some suggestions worth thinking about.

School-boys, for whom the explanations and diagrams of "play" were prepared, should have little difficulty in mastering the principles and following the illustrations. But they must give their minds earnestly to the study of the game, and it may safely be promised that both pleasure and profit will attend their efforts.

To non-playing spectators also this book should appeal, inasmuch as full and intelligent appreciation of "play", with, as a consequence, genuinely keen pleasure in the game, comes most readily to those who have an intimate knowledge of the functions of the players and the lines on which "play" should proceed.

A sketch of the history of Association Football, bringing in the great names and institutions connected with the movement of 1863, and tracing the momentous changes which, during the past forty years, have taken place in the laws of the game, the organization of teams, and the command of public favour,

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

would have been an interesting addition to this book. It would have given special pleasure to deal with the stand which the Queen's Park, the Corinthians, and other notable teams have taken in support of amateurism. But space forbade. The reader, however, is directed to the "Badminton" story of the game, and, among others, to that attractive book, *The Real Football*, by "Tityrus" of the *Athletic News*.

Again, such important matters as physical fitness for the exercise, methods of preliminary training, precautions regarding food, clothing, and baths, might well have had attention. Yet on such subjects there is no end of reliable information, and Mr. C. B. Fry's pamphlet on *Training for Football* may be taken as at once the cheapest and best. The author has therefore thought it well to restrict his consideration to the game itself. He is deeply indebted to many football colleagues with whom he has conferred on points of play, and, in particular, he thanks Dr. John G. Kerr, President of the Scottish Amateur Athletic Association, for his advice as to the kind of treatment that would give most efficient help to those who are anxious to learn.

P. W.

ALLAN GLEN'S SCHOOL
September, 1905

CONTENTS

	Page
AUTHOR'S PREFACE - - - - -	7
LAWS OF THE GAME - - - - -	11
GENERAL ADVICE TO PLAYERS - - - - -	19
HINTS FOR PLAYERS IN THE VARIOUS POSITIONS - - - - -	27
DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING PIECES OF PLAY - - - - -	42-73
DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING OFF-SIDE RULE - - - - -	74-79



ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

THE LAWS OF THE GAME

1.—The game should be played by eleven players on each side. The field of play shall be as shown in the plan, *vide* frontispiece, subject to the following provisions:—The dimensions of the field of play shall be—Maximum length, 130 yards; minimum length, 100 yards; maximum breadth, 100 yards; minimum breadth, 50 yards. The field of play shall be marked by boundary lines. The lines at each end are the goal-lines, and the lines at the sides are the touch-lines. The touch-lines shall be drawn at right angles with the goal-lines.¹ A flag with a staff not less than 5 feet high shall be placed at each corner. A half-way line shall be marked out across the field of play. The centre of the field of play shall be indicated by a suitable mark, and a circle with a ten yards radius shall be made round it. The goals shall be upright posts fixed on the goal-lines, equidistant from the corner flag-staffs, 8 yards apart, with a bar across them 8 feet from the ground. The maximum width of the goal-posts and the maximum depth of the cross-bar shall be 5 inches. Lines shall be marked 6 yards from each goal-post at right angles to the goal-lines for a distance of 6 yards, and these shall be connected with

Number of players.

Dimensions of field of play, and how marked out. See frontispiece.

The goals.

The goal area.

¹ Decision of the International Board:—The touch and goal lines must not be marked by a V-shaped rut.

[The alterations in the Laws of the Game made at the Meeting of the International Board at Killarney, on 17th June, 1905, are printed in italics.]

each other by a line parallel to the goal-lines; the space within these lines shall be the goal area. Lines shall be marked 18 yards from each goal-post at right angles to the goal-lines for a distance of 18 yards, and these shall be connected with each other by a line parallel to the goal-lines; the space within these lines shall be the penalty area. A suitable mark shall be made opposite the centre of each goal, 12 yards from the goal-line; this shall be the penalty-kick mark. The circumference of the ball shall not be less than 27 inches nor more than 28 inches. *The outer casing of the ball must be of leather, and no material shall be used in the construction of the ball which would constitute a danger to the players.* In International matches, the dimensions of the field of play shall be—Maximum length, 120 yards; minimum length, 110 yards; maximum breadth, 80 yards; minimum breadth, 70 yards; and at the commencement of the game the weight of the ball shall be from 13 to 15 ounces.

The penalty area.

The ball.

Dimensions of field of play, and weight of ball in International matches.

Duration of game.
Choice of goals.
The kick-off.

2.—The duration of the game shall be 90 minutes, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon. The winners of the toss shall have the option of kick-off or choice of goals. The game shall be commenced by a place kick from the centre of the field of play in the direction of the opponents' goal-line; the opponents shall not approach within 10 yards of the ball until it is kicked off, nor shall any player on either side pass the centre of the ground in the direction of his opponents' goal until the ball is kicked off.¹

Ends to be changed at half-time.
The interval.
Re-starting game.

3.—Ends shall only be changed at half-time. The interval at half-time shall not exceed five minutes, except by consent of the Referee. After a goal is scored the losing side shall kick off, and after the change of ends at half-time the ball shall be kicked off by the opposite side from that which originally did so; and always as provided in Law 2.

¹ Decision of the International Board:—If this Law is not complied with the kick-off must be taken over again.

4.—Except as otherwise provided by these Laws, a goal shall be scored when the ball has passed between the goal-posts under the bar, not being thrown, knocked on, nor carried by any player of the attacking side. If from any cause during the progress of the game the bar is displaced, the Referee shall have power to award a goal if in his opinion the ball would have passed under the bar if it had not been displaced. The ball is in play if it rebounds from a goal-post, cross-bar, or a corner flag-staff into the field of play. The ball is in play if it touches the Referee or a Linesman when in the field of play. The ball is out of play when it has crossed the goal-line or touch-line, either on the ground or in the air.¹

How a goal is scored.

If bar displaced.

If ball rebounds from goal-posts, &c.

Ball crossing lines, out of play.

5.—When the ball is in touch, a player of the opposite side to that which played it out shall throw it in from the point on the touch-line where it left the field of play. The player throwing the ball must stand on the touch-line facing the field of play, and shall throw the ball in over his head with both hands in any direction, and it shall be in play when thrown in. A goal shall not be scored from a throw-in, and the thrower shall not again play until the ball has been played by another player. This Law is complied with if the player has any part of both feet on the line when he throws the ball in.

The throw-in.

6.—When a player plays the ball, or throws it in from touch, any player of the same side who at such moment of playing or throwing-in is nearer to his opponents' goal-line is out of play, and may not touch the ball himself, nor in any way whatever interfere with an opponent, or with the play, until the ball has been again played, unless there are at such moment of playing or throwing-in at least three of his opponents nearer their own goal-line. A player is not out of play in the case of a corner kick, or when the ball is kicked off from goal, or when it has been last played by an opponent.

Off side.

¹ Decision of the International Board:—The whole of the ball must have passed over the goal-line, or touch-line, before it is out of play.

- 7.—When the ball is played behind the goal-line by a player of the opposite side, it shall be kicked off by any one of the players behind whose goal-line it went, within that half of the goal area nearest the point where the ball left the field of play; but, if played behind by any one of the side whose goal-line it is, a player of the opposite side shall kick it from within 1 yard of the nearest corner flag-staff¹ In either case an opponent shall not be allowed within 6 yards of the ball until it is kicked off.

- 8.—The goal-keeper may, within his own half of the field of play, use his hands, but shall not carry the ball. The goal-keeper shall not be charged except when he is holding the ball, or obstructing an opponent, or when he has passed outside the goal area. The goal-keeper may be changed during the game, but notice of such change must first be given to the Referee.²

- 9.—Neither tripping, kicking, nor jumping at a player shall be allowed. A player (the goal-keeper excepted) shall not intentionally handle the ball. A player shall not use his hands to hold or push an opponent. *Charging is permissible, but it must not be violent or dangerous.* A player shall not be charged from behind unless he is intentionally *obstructing* an opponent.³

- 10.—*When a free-kick has been awarded, the kicker's opponents shall not approach within six yards of the ball unless they are standing on their own goal-line. The ball must at least be rolled over before it shall be considered played—i.e. it must make a complete circuit, or travel the distance of its circumference. The kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it*

¹ Decision of the International Board:—The corner-flag must not be removed when a corner-kick is taken.

² Decision of the International Board:—If a goal-keeper has been changed without the Referee being notified, and the new goal-keeper handles the ball within the penalty area, a penalty-kick must be awarded.

³ Decision of the International Board:—Cases of handling the ball and tripping, pushing, kicking, or holding an opponent, and charging an opponent from behind, may so happen as to be considered unintentional, and when this is so, no penalty must be awarded.

has been played by another player. The kick-off (except as provided by Law 2), corner-kick, and goal-kick shall be free-kicks within the meaning of this Law.

11.—A goal may be scored from a free-kick which is awarded because of any infringement of Law 9, but not from any other free-kick. Goal scored from free-kick.

12.—A player shall not wear any nails, except such as have their heads driven in flush with the leather, or metal plates or projections, or gutta-percha, on his boots, or on his shin-guards. If bars or studs on the soles or heels Bars, studs, &c. of the boots are used, they shall not project more than half an inch, and shall have all their fastenings driven in flush with the leather. Bars shall be transverse and flat, not less than half an inch in width, and shall extend from side to side of the boot. Studs shall be round in plan, not less than half an inch in diameter, and in no case conical or pointed.¹ Any player discovered infringing this Law shall be prohibited from taking further part in the match. The Referee shall, if required, examine the players' boots before the commencement of a match.

13.—A Referee shall be appointed, whose duties shall be to enforce the Laws and decide all disputed points; and his decision on points of fact connected with the play shall be final. He shall also keep a record of the game, and act as timekeeper. In the event of any ungentlemanly behaviour on the part of any of the players, the offender or offenders shall be cautioned, and if the offence is repeated, or in case of violent conduct without any previous caution, the Referee shall have power to order the offending player or players off the field of play, and shall transmit the name or names of such player or players to his or their National Association, who shall deal with the matter.^{2 3} Duties and powers of Referee. The Referee

¹ Decision of the International Board:—Wearing soft india-rubber on the soles of boots is not a violation of this Law.

² Decision of the International Board:—All reports by Referees to be made within three days after the occurrence.

³ Referees may in certain circumstances send their reports to the affiliated Association concerned. See Agreement dated June 17, 1895.

shall have power to allow for time wasted, to suspend the game when he thinks fit, and to terminate the game whenever, by reason of darkness, interference by spectators, or other cause, he may deem necessary; but in all cases in which a game is so terminated he shall report the same to the Association under whose jurisdiction the game was played, who shall have full power to deal with the matter. The Referee shall have power to award a free-kick in any case in which he thinks the conduct of a player dangerous, or likely to prove dangerous, but not sufficiently so as to justify him in putting in force the greater powers vested in him. The power of the Referee extends to offences committed when the play has been temporarily suspended, and when the ball is out of play.

14.—Two Linesmen shall be appointed, whose duty (subject to the decision of the Referee) shall be to decide when the ball is out of play, and which side is entitled to the corner-kick, goal-kick, or throw-in; and to assist the Referee in carrying out the game in accordance with the Laws.¹ In the event of any undue interference or improper conduct by a Linesman, the Referee shall have power to order him off the field of play and appoint a substitute, and report the circumstances to the National Association having jurisdiction over him, who shall deal with the matter.

15.—In the event of a supposed infringement of the Laws, the ball shall be in play until a decision has been given.

16.—In the event of any temporary suspension of play from any cause, the ball not having gone into touch or behind the goal-line, the Referee shall throw the ball *down* where it was when play was suspended, and the ball shall be in play when it has touched the ground. If the ball goes into touch or behind the goal-line before it is played by a player, the Referee shall again throw

¹ Decision of the International Board:—Linesmen, where neutral, should call the attention of the Referee to rough play or ungentlemanly conduct, and generally assist him to carry out the game in a proper manner.

it *down*. The players on either side shall not play the ball until it has touched the ground.

17.—In the event of any infringement of Laws 5, 6, 8, 10, or 16, a free-kick shall be awarded to the opposite side, from the place where the infringement occurred. In the event of any intentional infringement of Law 9 outside the ^{Free-kick.} penalty area, or by the attacking side within the penalty area, a free-kick shall be awarded to the opposite side from the place where the infringement occurred. In the event of any intentional infringement of Law 9 by the defending side within the penalty area, the Referee shall award the opponents a penalty-kick,¹ which shall be taken from the ^{Penalty-kick.} penalty-kick mark under the following conditions:—

All players, with the exception of the player taking the penalty-kick and the opponents' goal-keeper, shall be outside the penalty area. The opponents' goal-keeper *shall not advance beyond his goal-line*. The ball must be kicked forward. The ball shall be in play when the kick is taken, and a goal may be scored from a penalty-kick; but the ball shall not be again played by the kicker until it has been played by another player. If necessary, time of play shall be extended to admit of the penalty-kick being taken. A free-kick shall also be awarded to the opposite side if the ball is not kicked forward, or is played a second time by the penalty-kicker before it has been played by another player. The Referee may refrain from putting the provisions of this Law into effect in cases where he is satisfied that by enforcing them he would be giving an advantage to the offending side. *If when a penalty kick is taken the ball passes between the goal-posts, under the bar, the goal shall not be nullified by reason of any infringement by the defending side.*

¹ Decision of the International Board:—A penalty-kick can be awarded irrespective of the position of the ball at the time the offence is committed. In the event of the ball touching the goal-keeper before passing between the posts, when a penalty-kick is being taken at the expiry of time, a goal is scored.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Place-kick.** A PLACE-KICK is a kick at the ball while it is on the ground in the centre of the field of play.
- Free-kick.** A FREE-KICK is a kick at the ball in any direction the player pleases, when it is lying on the ground.
- Referee to signal.** A Place-kick, a Free-kick, or a *Penalty-kick* must not be taken until the Referee has given a signal for the same.
- Carrying.** CARRYING by the goal-keeper is taking more than two steps while holding the ball, or bouncing it on the hand.
- Knocking-on.** KNOCKING-ON is when a player strikes or propels the ball with his hands or arms.
- Handling.** HANDLING AND TRIPPING.—Handling is intentionally playing the ball with the hand or arm, and Tripping is intentionally throwing, or attempting to throw, an opponent by the use of the legs, or by stooping in front of or behind him.
- Tripping.**
- Holding.** HOLDING includes the obstruction of a player by the hand or any part of the arm extended from the body.
- Touch.** TOUCH is that part of the ground on either side of the field of play.

GENERAL ADVICE TO PLAYERS

Association Football, like all other games, is governed by laws, and the learner should begin by mastering these laws. Once he knows and understands the Laws of the Game, he may proceed to learn to play football. Study the Laws of the Game.

The Laws will guide him, but experience alone can teach him to play well; and excellence should be the ambition of every one who takes an active part in the game. As an example of the way in which a player learns by experience, take the case of the forward against whose back an opponent throws in the ball from touch. The opponent catches the ball again on the rebound and is at liberty to play it. The forward has unsuspectingly placed the ball to his opponent, and—well, the proverb says “Once bitten, twice shy”. The dodge is not likely to meet with success a second time; the forward has learned something. In the same way every other aspect of the game has to be learned, although one may receive instruction from the fortunate or unfortunate experiences of others as well as from his own. Learn from Experience.

The player who wishes to excel must ever be “all eyes” during his football games. Very few boys read the Laws of the Game. Nevertheless, although entirely ignorant of some, they are thoroughly acquainted with others of these Laws, and moreover they understand what is meant by good play. All their instruction has been derived from observation, from intelligently watching the play of others, and from their own experiences during the processes of imitation. Therefore the Association Football player should, either as spectator or as player, keep his eyes open. He will always find something to add to his store of knowledge, well filled though that may already be. Experience teaches fools; it also teaches the wise, and so does observation. and by Observation.

Instinct is responsible for many actions on the football field, because numerous situations occur which have to be met before the player can have time for deliberation.

Instinct.

For example, it is under the guidance of instinct that a player instantaneously makes up his mind whether or not to rush forward to intercept a pass.

After a player understands his position and his own particular duties on the field, he must stick to them. Otherwise

Understand
your position
on the field,
and keep it.

he deranges his team by making it necessary for other members to leave their proper positions, and thus he weakens his side. Other things being equal, the team, each of whose members keeps his proper position and confines his attention to the work that rightly falls to him, will have a considerable advantage over another team, whose units do not perform each his own share of the play. Enthusiasm, of course, is useful and commendable; but if misapplied, it is more a hindrance than a help. A player must not imagine that, because he works hard on the field, he is necessarily valuable to his side. His value lies in doing his own share and in doing it well. If, in his eagerness to assist others or to benefit his team, he neglects his particular duties, he of necessity leaves a weak spot, of which his opponents will not be slow to take advantage. Moreover, if a player attempts to do more than his own share of the play, he may lose effectiveness by exhausting his strength and thus rendering himself unfit to fully fulfil even his own proper duties. Only in emergencies (which will be but occasional) may a player leave his post without probable disadvantage to his team. Judgment must be exercised in almost everything that is done on the football field.

A common, not to say dangerous, result arising from a player's departure from his proper post, is a collision between two members of the same side. It is an invariable rule that a player should not attempt to approach or play the ball or to tackle an opponent when a team-fellow is in a better position for doing so. A forward, who gets in the way of his half-back, not only is an obstacle to and spoils the effectiveness of

that player, but also is unable to lend the other forwards the assistance required for successful attack.

A player, then, need not work like a Trojan if his partners are judiciously acting their parts. All that is required of him is that he do his own little share to the best of his ability.

Coolness and self-possession are indispensable to the player who would command success. The player, who loses his head at a critical moment, is of little real service to his side, because by a few displays of such weakness he may neutralize all the good work of the other members of his team.

The value of coolness and self-possession.

Intelligence also must be shown by the ambitious footballer. He must have all his wits about him and use his thinking faculties in the endeavour to anticipate probable movements. The question of success or non-success is largely determined by a player's ability to play the game with intelligent and logical mind.

The value of intelligence.

Possessed of coolness and collectedness, of intelligence and judgment, and of a sound physique, one may look forward with confidence to a successful career as an Association Football player. Difficulties and possibly disappointments will arise, but with caution and perseverance these can be overcome.

A player with the above-mentioned qualities will soon learn to display tact in his play. If one method of play is fruitless, he will have recourse to another. He will change his tactics to meet the various situations that crop up. For instance, if an outside forward has been baulked in the attempt to beat an opposing back by one means, he must employ other means in his subsequent attempts. Even although successful at the first attempt, the forward should vary his tactics, as the back will probably prepare to meet the ruse that previously succeeded. Again, a centre-forward, who meets with little or no success in originating one plan of attack, must alter his methods of wooing success.

The advisability of varying one's tactics.

Tact is in evidence when a player jockeyes for position, so to

Be ever on the move, in search of the best position for you to occupy.

As forwards in particular have to be on the look-out for opportunities, they must be specially circum-spect. So long as a forward is marked he is unable to give his side active assistance. Of course he keeps an opponent engaged, and thus for the time diminishes the active opposition to the rest of his team, but the advantage accruing from that is seldom sufficient to justify his remaining in a marked position. Let him then immediately seek a position where he will be favourably placed for receiving the ball and assisting his side to achieve good results. Always be on the look-out for the best possible position to occupy.

The advantages of combination,

Combination is, generally speaking, the most effective way of overcoming a defence. Nothing is more disconcerting to a defending team than a series of quick passes, by means of which play is carried into dangerous proximity to their goal; and once a player loses his head, he is beaten. On heavy and treacherous ground, however, where it is exceedingly difficult if not impossible to combine with accuracy, a long-passing game has more chance of success. This latter style of play, though not so attractive as the other, makes more rapid progress when the ball cannot be easily controlled.

and the disadvantages of selfishness.

Selfishness is disastrous. A player must bear in mind that he is a member of a team the units of which should strive to assist one another to produce good results. The other members rely on his judicious co-operation. When a player encounters opposition, which he is not certain he can overcome, he must part with the ball, giving it if possible to the member of his side who is in the best position. The player in the best position is he who is likely to utilize the pass to the best advantage. If a neighbour is in a better position than oneself, one must lose no time in passing him the ball.

Combination begets mutual confidence, which is a necessary factor in the success of a team. Therefore study combination and eschew selfishness.

In passing and shooting, a player should kick the ball, not with the toe of his boot, but with the instep. Thus and thus only can accuracy be ensured. Almost invariably kick with the instep

To pass the ball accurately is not so easy as it may seem. It has to be learned by experience. Accurate passing means placing the ball to a player in such a way that he will have no difficulty in securing it, and that he need lose no time in making progress with it. How to pass the ball to a partner. Generally, a good pass is directed to a point some distance ahead of the intended receiver, who gets possession as he runs; but sometimes, if an opponent is in position to intercept such a pass, the ball has to be directed more in the direction of the recipient himself. If possible and expedient, a pass should be made in such a way that the ball need not be stopped by the recipient before he himself begins to carry it up the field.

Low passing is to be preferred to high passing, as by means of the former the ball takes less time to reach the point to which it is propelled. Of course, if an opponent is in the way of such a pass, it may be possible and almost as effective to send the ball over his head to the objective point.

As has been said, shooting, to be accurate, must be executed with the instep. One must not aim for the goal-keeper. The objective should be some point between the goal-posts where the keeper is *not*; preferably, of course, the point which the custodian would have the greatest difficulty in reaching. Shooting for goal. If the goal-keeper is placed about midway between the posts, a low shot into either corner of the net has more chance of success than a high one, which the defender has less difficulty in reaching with his hands. Hard shots rashly directed are less often successful than well-judged shots, which cannot and need not have sufficient force to burst the net. Especially in shooting from short range is judgment of service. The position of the goal-keeper should decide the direction and also to a large extent the nature of a shot. The shooter should smartly decide upon his plan of action, and without hesitation put it into operation.

It is a most difficult matter to head a ball accurately in the

desired direction. Judgment is essential and can be cultivated only by practice. Backs and inside forwards (including the centre) should specially strive after proficiency in heading, which renders the former safer in defence and the latter more effective in goal-getting.

There is risk of bodily injury when two or more players make to head a ball simultaneously; but if the heading is done shoulder to shoulder, the risk is almost nil. The reasons are obvious. The shoulder-to-shoulder position renders it less easy for the heads of opponents to come into violent contact, and also makes it impossible for the players to meet in such a way that the organs of the body may sustain serious injury.

Penalty-kicks and corner-kicks should, as well as the other parts of the game, form a subject of study and regular practice.

There is no objection to regarding a practice game as a joke or a diversion, but an important game has to be taken seriously. Such a match must be entered upon in earnest and carried through in that spirit right on till the final blow of the referee's whistle. Carelessness at the start of a game may lead to consequences which will make all the difference between winning and losing the match.

All players should acquire the habit of patient perseverance, even amid circumstances that seem hopeless. Possible defeat should never be thought of except as a stimulus to renewed efforts. Many an important match is won and lost during the closing minutes of play. Therefore never consider yourself beaten. The match does not finish till the last blow of the referee's whistle.

The selection of the captain of a team is a matter of no little importance. An able captain can be of great service to his side, not only by his active playing assistance, but also by his sound advice and kind encouragement. The captain need not be the most brilliant player in a team. His most essential qualifications are experience and amiability. The former attribute, combined with a thorough understand-

ing of the Laws of the Game, enables him to discover and remedy weaknesses and to generally coach his team with success. An amiable disposition ensures respect, without which there will be little willing obedience or hearty co-operation. The amiable captain might with advantage be one who is among the oldest members of the team, or at least older than the majority of the members.

Among the captain's duties, then, are included, besides good work from a playing point of view, general coaching and the exemplification of thoughtfulness and earnestness. The general coaching will consist of such acts as devising plans of attack and defence, changing the positions of players on the field with a view to greater effectiveness, advising and encouraging when necessary any individual player, and seeing that each member of the team plays his part and plays it well. The captain should always, and in every possible way, set his fellow-players an example worthy of imitation.

The captain who plays in the centre-half-back position can most easily communicate with any or all of the members of his team.

Reference must be made to the spirit in which Association Football, and all other games, should be played. All too frequently we read or hear of cases of misconduct occurring on the football field; and these breaches of the Laws of the Game are often quoted as arguments against the advisability of anyone's taking part in it. Well, if anyone cannot play a game without violating the rules of gentlemanly conduct, let him be prohibited, if possible, from giving exhibitions which tend only to degrade the game and also himself as a man. Football games must be firmly controlled, and anyone guilty of serious misconduct should be dealt with in a manner that would tend to make him mend his ways and deter others from similar misdemeanour. Referees and associations have it in their power to eliminate much of the evil that affords arguments for decrying the game, and let them boldly and firmly make use of that power. The game of Association Football is probably second to none as a means of physical,

mental, and moral training, and therefore should be safe guarded in the interests of the nation.

But the individual player has his part to perform. Each has to be impressed with the fact that it is his duty never to lose his temper. A player, who loses his temper when fairly and squarely beaten by an opponent, will probably stoop to foul tactics, thus violating the unwritten rules of gentlemanly behaviour as well as the Laws of the Game. Besides, a person, who loses his temper when playing any game, simply plays into the hands of the opposition. His effectiveness is very much diminished.

Another cause of foul play may be the player's listening to the advice gratuitously offered by ungentlemanly spectators. A deaf ear should be turned to all such remarks. If heeded by a player, they enhance neither his play nor his reputation.

Due consideration must be shown towards the referee. He is not infallible any more than other mortals; but his work is only rendered more difficult by players who are not content without expressing disapproval of his decisions. The less he is interrupted in carrying out his duties, the fewer mistakes is he likely to make. His duty on the field is to mete out justice to both sides to the best of his ability; and if he gives a wrong decision, remember that in his opinion that decision is impartial, and endure it with a good grace.

Accept the referee's decisions without a grumble. Always behave as a gentleman.

HINTS FOR PLAYERS IN THE VARIOUS POSITIONS

GOAL-KEEPER

A goal-keeper should never leave his position between the posts unless his backs are well beaten, or unless he has informed them of his intention to do so.

Clearing should, as far as possible, be effected to either side, and not straight out into the field, whence an effective return by an opponent is more possible and probable. Remember also that it is better to grant a corner-kick than to risk losing a goal.

Every goal-keeper should acquire the habit of using his hands in clearing, especially when the ball is travelling in the direction of his goal. Mistakes are sometimes so simply made that they can hardly be accounted for. When the ball is not in dangerous proximity to the goal, a keeper may kick without handling, because he incurs no serious risk, provided he directs the ball to a place of safety. But the safest plan is always the best from a defender's point of view, and "always handle" is a more reliable method than "sometimes handle and sometimes kick".

Perhaps the only occasions when play with the foot is preferable to play with the hands are those on which serious bodily injury might be sustained by a goal-keeper stooping for the ball with an aggressive forward or two in close attendance.

A goal-keeper should punch the ball only when he has not the time or the ability to catch it before dealing with it.

Bouncing the ball on the ground before clearing is risky when opponents are at hand, and as habits, especially bad

ones, are easily formed, a keeper should always clear smartly and decisively.

Another habit which often leads to disaster is that of parting the legs when stooping to pick up a low ball driven straight towards the custodian. Such a ball has a knack of surprising the defender by slipping through between his legs. Therefore a goal-keeper should, when possible, place himself directly in front of an approaching low ball, and meet it with his legs close enough together to make sure of preventing it from effecting a passage between.

When the ground is wet and heavy, gloves assist one in securely gripping the slippery ball. Many goal-keepers never play without gloves.

By throwing himself at full length along the ground a goal-keeper may be able to stop a ball which he could not otherwise reach. It is a dangerous proceeding, but it is done regularly by the best custodians.

A goal-keeper must learn to decide in what portion of his goal-area he should be stationed to meet shots from various directions and distances. For instance, take the following diagram:—

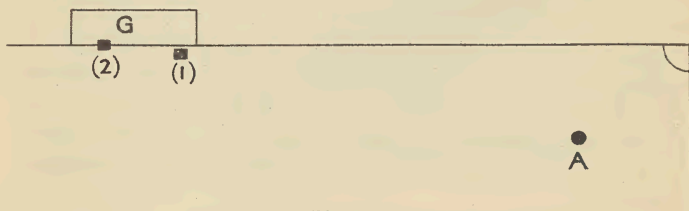


Diagram 1

If a player shoots into goal (G) from position A, the goal-keeper only courts defeat in taking up position (1). If he assumes position (2), the shot from A cannot easily pass over his head into the net, as is possible enough in position (1). Moreover he will find that he can run forward to meet an approaching ball more quickly and easily than he can run backwards to overtake a passing ball. Again, for saving most

low shots a goal-keeper should be stationed a yard or more in front of his goal-line. If he, when standing on his goal-line, just manages to reach a low ball with the tips of his fingers, he may be unable to prevent the ball from passing into the net, or he may jam the ball against the inside of the post; whereas if he were some little distance in advance of his goal-line, the ball, after being partially held, would probably be deflected past the outside of the post, or the custodian might have time to recover and to overtake the ball before it could cross the goal-line. Moreover, a goal is sometimes given away by a keeper drawing the ball behind his goal-line before throwing it out. Similarly, other positions should be carefully studied by the budding goal-keeper who is ambitious.

Before a custodian can become first-class, he must learn to anticipate the probable direction of an expected shot, by watching the foot of the shooter.

When play is in the vicinity of his goal, the keeper should direct to some extent the movements of the backs in front of him. These should be kept at a distance from him, so as not to hamper his movements or interfere with his view of the play. High shots should, *by oral command of the goal-keeper*, be left to be dealt with by him, as a back, by a misjudged header, might score against his own side. While the goal-keeper is attending to these high shots or any others, his backs ought to protect him from the on-rushes of the opposing forwards. An agreement could be made between keeper and backs to the effect that the latter play the ball on every possible occasion, unless distinctly instructed otherwise by the former.

In the case of a corner-kick against his team, the goal-keeper should take up position at the goal-post further from the corner from which the kick is taken. Thus he has a larger, and therefore better, view of the field; and he occupies a favourable position for meeting the ball, if he is called upon.

He should see also that each individual of the attacking force is marked by one of his own men. The following

scheme is simple and effective:—The defending centre-half marks the attacking centre-forward; the defending backs look after the opposing inside-forwards; and the defending wing-half-backs attend to the outside-forwards of the attacking team. Other attackers can be marked by the inside-forwards of the defending team, whose centre and outside forwards, while incidentally marking members of the defence of the aggressive team, maintain their relative positions in the out-field, holding themselves in readiness for attack.

When hard pressed a goal-keeper should not hesitate to allow the ball to go behind his goal-line outside of the posts, if the ball has been last played by an opponent.

BACKS

Backs should diligently practise kicking in all positions and with either foot, proficiency with both feet being indispensable to successful back play. Any weakness should be remedied by excessive, *i.e.* more than necessary, use of the weak factor in practice games. For instance, a right-back who plays weakly with the left foot, should use it in practising as often as an opportunity presents itself, even in cases where in an important match the special piece of play would be rightly executed with the right foot. Similar practice should be had by any back who has a weakness in the use of either foot.

Overhead kicking is useful if well done.

Free kicks can be placed more accurately by kicking with the instep than by kicking with the toe.

The relative positions of the two backs on the field of play should *not* be thus:—

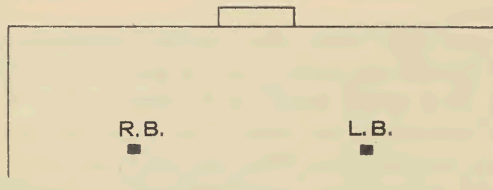


Diagram 2

but thus:—



Diagram 3

or thus:—



Diagram 4

Which of the two backs should be in advance is determined by the scene of play. If play is on the right-hand side of the field (from the defenders' point of view), the right-back should be further forward, as he is more likely to be called into action; and *vice versa*. The other back should draw a little nearer to the centre of the field to "cover up" his partner, besides keeping an eye on the wing opposing himself.

Passing from one back to the other is often a serviceable means of extricating one's self from a difficulty. It also begets mutual confidence between the two backs.

Although the work of a back is almost entirely defensive, yet there are occasions when he has the opportunity of assisting in attack by judiciously placing on the ball to a half-back or a forward. For example, supposing that a half-back, throwing in from touch, takes advantage of the fact that his

back on the same side of the field is unmarked, and sends the ball in his direction. Probably with an ordinary strong kick the latter could send the ball past his own forwards to the feet of the opposing backs, thus throwing away the advantage of possession. What he should do in most such cases is to place the ball to another member of his team—the one who is in the best position for receiving and utilizing the pass.

In taking free-kicks a back has opportunities of placing to advantage. He must not forget, however, that from a free-kick awarded because of any infringement of Law 9 (see Laws of the Game), a goal may be scored directly, *i.e.* without a second player's touching the ball. When such free-kick is awarded within reasonable distance of the opponents' goal, the kicker should, with a strong shot, attempt to score himself.

A back should refrain from dribbling, and when his goal is in danger he must have no hesitation in clearing strongly.

Backs should be careful to give their goal-keeper plenty of space for his work. Crowding in on a keeper not only hampers his movements, but also obstructs his view of the play, and in both respects diminishes his chances of effective defence. Of course, the goal-keeper himself knows best when his backs are placed to his disadvantage, and in such cases he should give the necessary directions for improvement. Study the advice to goal-keeper on *co-operation with backs* (page 29).

By passing the ball backwards to the goal-keeper a back may occasionally get himself out of a tight place. Such passing, however, is extremely risky. Unless very accurately done, it may either take the custodian unawares, or afford the attacking forwards a good chance of scoring. It should be resorted to only in cases of exceptional difficulty, *i.e.* when the back is absolutely certain that he cannot himself clear, and has no one out of goal to assist him.

If the goal-keeper has occasion to leave his position between the posts, one of the backs—the one whose services in the field are less urgently demanded—should fill the breach until the return of the custodian. When a goal-keeper has rushed out to clear and has not done so decisively, it is quite a common

occurrence for a goal to be registered against his side before he has time to regain his post. The player, who falls back into goal for the moment, must remember that the Laws of the Game do not allow him to handle the ball.

Judgment is necessary to enable a back to decide whether to rush in to intercept a pass, or, if not likely to be successful, to wait and tackle the opponent who receives the pass. Rushing, when one is unable to intercept a pass, is worse than useless, as the rusher puts himself out of a position where his presence may immediately be required, or at any rate where he may be of service. Of course, backs and other players should remember that the person who is running to meet an approaching ball is moving, relatively to the ball, much faster than the person following up the ball. Every player should learn to calculate on the spur of the moment whether or not he can reach the ball before his opponent can overtake it.

It is bad policy to attempt to rush a smart, tricky forward. Probably the best method of playing him is to approach cautiously, maintaining if possible a position between him and the player supporting or most likely to combine with him, and then from close quarters to make a sudden attack. Such procedure is instanced when a back or half-back, unable to otherwise cope with a smart winger, races alongside for a short distance, and then deftly kicks the ball from his opponent's toes.

Wilful kicking out of play, although at present not forbidden by the Laws, is a practice to be deprecated. It ought to be made subject to a penalty. It is excusable for a player to kick out for safety when he has no alternative means of thwarting an opponent; but making a wilful practice of it is simply one means a player has of indicating either that he is hopelessly outclassed and does not dare to face the enemy fairly and squarely, or that he is determined to waste time with a view to keeping any advantage his side has previously gained.

HALF-BACKS

The work of a half-back includes both offensive and defensive play, in about equal proportions. Play of a defensive nature monopolizes the attention of many half-backs, although the offensive part of their game is every whit as important. A brilliant piece of defensive work is simply spoiled or even entirely neutralized by its ending in an injudicious parting with the ball to the wrong place or the wrong man. The half-back line is generally the mainstay of a team, simply because its members share in almost every division of the game.

Half-backs should diligently study the art of combining with their forwards by means of intelligent and accurate placing. Following up in support of forwards gives a half-back many opportunities of shooting for goal himself, and he should be always ready to seize the chances offered him.

It is advisable in placing, if there is no opponent in the way, to keep the ball low, as time is thus gained and the receiver of the pass has immediate control over the ball. Passing the ball over the head of an obstructing opponent is an easy matter when the ball is raised a little from the ground.

A timely pass to a back is sometimes a useful means of removing a difficulty. A half-back can also co-operate with the back behind him by leaving the ball to be played by him, while he himself legally impedes the progress of an advancing opponent. The important point is to be able to decide when such play will be advantageous.

Dribbling may be indulged in until opposition is met, provided that the half-back, in so doing, is making progress—better progress than any other member of the team is in a position to make at the time. Dribbling can easily be overdone, *i.e.* continued when not likely to be justified by results.

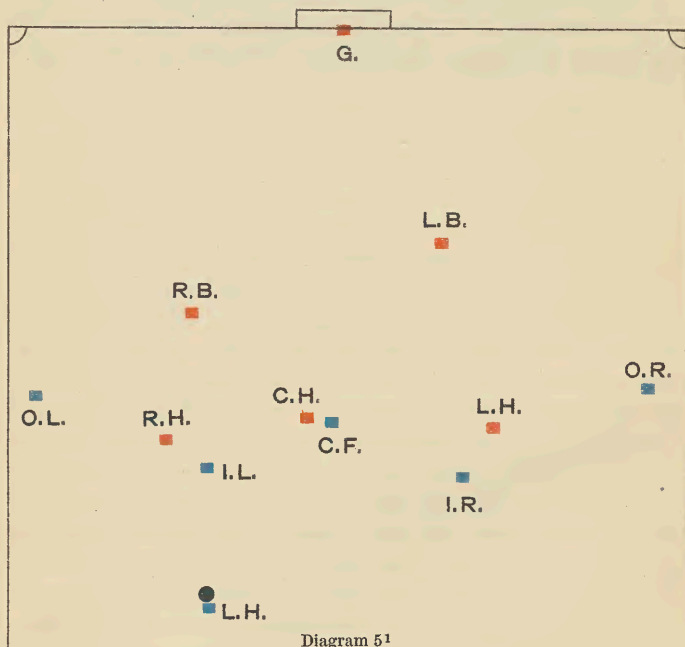
When the ball is being thrown in from touch by an opponent, the right-half-back should mark the opposing outside-left; or, on the other side of the field, the left-half pays attention to the opposing outside-right. In the former case, play is on the right-hand side of the field from the defenders'

point of view; in the latter, the scene of play is on the defenders' left-hand side of the field. In either case, the defending centre-half marks the attacking centre-forward; in fact, the centre-half should never for any length of time lose sight of the opposing centre-forward.

To mark a player stand either immediately behind or alongside of him, and endeavour to anticipate his movements by watching closely the actions of the half-back throwing in the ball.

The following diagrams will serve to illustrate the general positions of defenders for (a) defensive, and (b) offensive purposes.

(a) Diagram of Positions for Defence

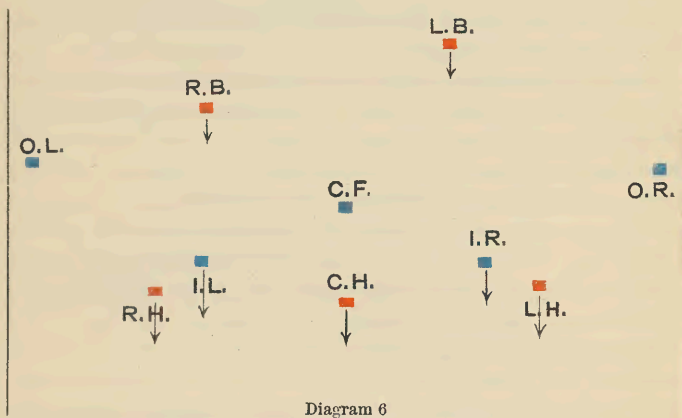


Defending side marked ■, attacking side ■.

Observe that the defending wing halves are in readiness to tackle either the inside or the outside opposing forwards. The attacking left-half has possession; consequently the right back is in advance of his partner.

¹ In this and following diagrams G., R.B., L.B., R.H., C.H., L.H., O.R., I.R., C.F., I.L., and O.L. represent respectively goal-keeper, right-back, left-back, right-half, centre-half, left-half, outside-right, inside-right, centre-forward, inside-left, and outside-left.

(b) Diagram of Positions in Attack



Attacking side marked ■ , defending side ■ .

Here the half-backs are shown in the act of following up in support of their forwards. They will continue to do so until compelled to return for purposes of defence. The backs also are advancing, but more slowly and circumspectly than the halves in front of them. The inside-forwards of the blue team, which is at the moment defending, are falling back in expectation of being required.

After the attack of the red team ends and their turn of defence comes, the half-backs hasten to get back into positions similar to those shown in diagram 5.

When the ball is played into touch, the wing half, whose duty it is to throw in, should as soon as possible get into position on the line, especially if by so doing he is enabled to deliver the ball before the opposing defenders have time to place themselves in the best defensive positions. If a member of his own side is unmarked, the procedure of the half-back is obviously to lose no time in giving that player possession.

FORWARDS

The chief attributes of successful forward play are combination and shooting ability.

Combination among forwards is most desirable, for not only is it productive of good results in play, but it is also pleasing to spectators. Forwards should also study combination with their half-backs, as well as *vice versa*. Many a difficult position can thus be simplified to advantage.

All players, and forwards in particular, should eschew selfishness. No selfish player contributes to the success of his team, but rather to its non-success; nor is he likely to gain the esteem of his fellow-players.

Whenever a forward finds himself favourably placed for shooting, he should not hesitate to do so, unless another attacker is in a much more favourable position still. The player in the best position should always receive possession of the ball.

Learn to shoot with the instep.

CENTRE-FORWARD

A centre-forward should be able to shoot equally well with either foot. His effectiveness lies mainly in his ability to distribute the play amongst the other forwards and to shoot well from all sorts of positions. His duties are the most difficult to execute successfully, as he is surrounded by opponents and must be continually looking about him devising plans of attack.

If he is in his correct position the centre-forward will generally be somewhere nearly in a straight line between his two outside-forwards. He must ever be on the look-out for passes from his wing men, especially in the vicinity of the opponents' goal, and he must be ready to shoot on the shortest of notice.

INSIDE-FORWARDS

Inside-forwards lie in general somewhat nearer their own goal-line than the outside men and the centre-forward. They have to share in defensive play occasionally, even when their team is much the stronger. In cases of throws-in by their opponents they should mark the opposing inside players. Thus if the throw-in takes place on the defenders' right-hand side of the field, their inside-right falls back to mark the opposing inside-left; and if play from touch occurs on the other side of the field, the defending inside-left marks the opposing inside-right.

Besides, part of an inside-forward's work consists in falling back to receive the ball from his defenders, and then carrying it forward with a view to supplying his outside man or his centre-forward.

It is on the inside-forwards that the outside wingers mostly depend for opportunities of carrying play into the opponents' territory; and therefore an inside player must constantly bear in mind the importance of his "feeding" the outside man.

He must not forget, however, to try for goal on his own account, whenever a suitable opportunity presents itself. He will receive lots of opportunities, and is expected to make something of them.

OUTSIDE-FORWARDS

The outside-forwards are relied upon chiefly for (1) carrying play into the opponents' territory, and (2) swinging the ball, when near the opponents' goal-line, over to their centre-forward or inside player on the opposite wing, these being most likely to be in a position to profit by the pass.

An outside player should not shoot for goal on his own account unless he has taken up a position favourable to an attempt at goal-getting. The following diagram will serve to illustrate this point:—

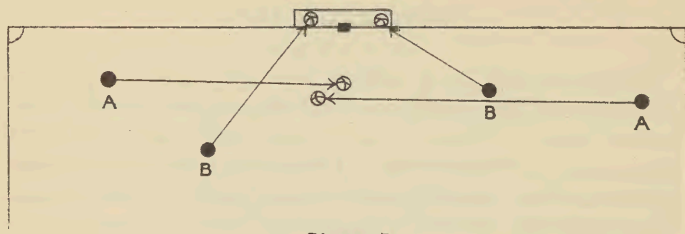


Diagram 7

It is almost impossible for a player to score from positions A, but from positions B an outside-forward has quite a reasonable chance of success. From positions A the ball should be directed to a point in front of goal and about ten yards from it. Thus the ball is kept out of the goal-keeper's reach, and another attacking player (centre or inside-forward probably), if he succeeds in picking up the pass, has every chance of scoring.

The corner-kick is similar to the cross-pass from position A in the above diagram. Skilful corner-kicking gives likely opportunities of scoring and should receive some attention in practice. The ideal corner-kicker is he who drops the ball nicely in front of goal, several yards out of the goal-keeper's reach.

Cutting into goal on the part of an outside-forward is hardly advisable. It brings an outside player into collision with the other attacking players, and, by concentrating play in the centre of the field, draws all the defenders together into a body which must be difficult to penetrate. Generally speaking, there is no objection to a winger's carrying the ball well up towards his opponents' goal-line before centring. It possesses these advantages:—(1) the other forwards have less chance of being found in an off-side position, when the ball is sent across to them; (2) by withdrawing at least one defender and making play more open in front of goal, it leaves room for a possible shot to get through without the certainty almost of being blocked *en route*.

Of course, if at any time an outside-forward should get the heels of the opposing defence, he would make a bee-line for

goal, just as an inside-forward would do in similar circumstances.

All outside wingers should practise dribbling along close to the touch-line and centring the ball on the run.

PIECES OF PLAY

The following diagrams illustrate typical pieces of play, which are worthy of imitation, and which will give the learner some idea of what should generally be done under certain circumstances. Of course, individual cleverness and characteristics cannot be taken into consideration here. For instance, a specially clever forward need not part with the ball every time he meets opposition, but, as a rule, unless even such a player is certain of success single-handed, he should enlist the assistance of a partner. The diagrams show movements that will generally be found profitable and at the same time attractive.

It will be observed that the actions of one team depend almost entirely on the positions of their opponents. Changes of position by members of one side have to be met by changes of procedure on the part of the opposing team. The man in possession of the ball may be compared to the batsman in cricket, who surveys the field just before preparing to receive the bowler's delivery. Thus, knowing the positions of the fielders, he knows where the ball can safely and advantageously be placed. To some extent, also, the procedure of a player should be determined by the positions of other members of his own side.

● represents first position of ball, ⊗ position after first pass,
○ position after second pass.

Broken lines indicate alternative movements.

CENTRE-FORWARD IN POSSESSION

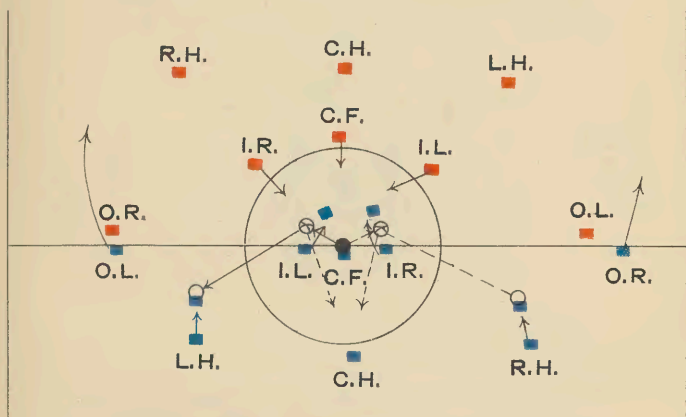


Diagram 8

Attack.—The centre-forward, in kicking off, passes to either inside man, not out to wing men who are well marked. The inside man, probably about to be tackled by the opposing inside forward, calls in the help of one of his half-backs, and then he will get into position for succeeding movements.

Defence.—In the first instance the three inside players on the defending (*i.e.* the red) side must tackle the opposing inside players; then they will probably take up position near the opposing halves, until their team gets possession of the ball and begins to attack. They will then look out for position for themselves, it being now their turn to attack. The red half-backs will soon find themselves in attendance on the opposing forwards, as in diagram 5.

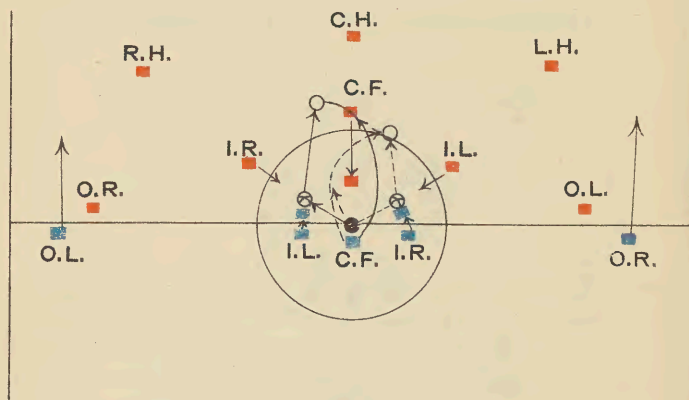


Diagram 9

Attack.—First movement similar to that in the previous diagram. After giving his inside-right or inside-left possession of the ball, the blue centre-forward runs past the opposing centre-forward and receives the ball from his inside player. The red centre-forward is sure to advance as indicated in the diagram, thus leaving the blue centre-forward plenty of room without coming into contact with the red centre-half. The other blue forwards will immediately get in line with their centre-forward so as to co-operate with him in furthering the attack.

Defence.—The movements of the defenders will be much the same as for diagram 8. The red centre-half, however, must at once tackle the opposing centre-forward (who has possession), thus giving him as little time as possible for deliberation, and perhaps overtaking him before the other blue forwards can come up to his support.

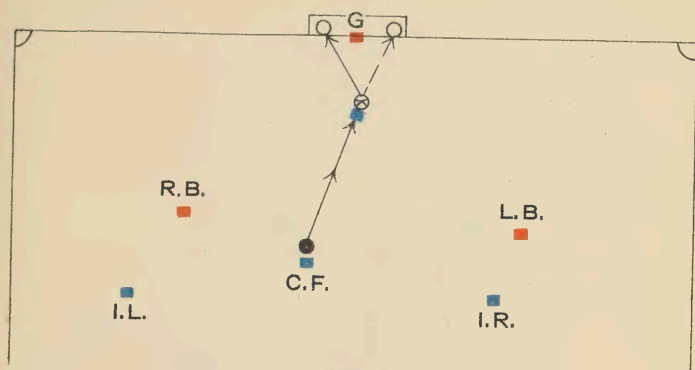


Diagram 10

Attack.—The attacking centre-forward, being in reality nearer his opponents' goal than the defending backs, sees his opportunity of dashing through, and seizes it. Observe the direction of his parting shot.

If the goal-keeper advances to meet him, the blue centre-forward may (1) shoot the ball over the custodian's head into the net, or (2) trick the goal-keeper to get him out of his obstructing position and then shoot, or (3) utilize the assistance of a supporting forward, if there is one at hand.

Defence.—The defending backs at once give chase in the endeavour to overtake the blue centre-forward before he shoots, or in the hope of being able to assist their goal-keeper, should he be successful in preventing the centre-forward from scoring at a first attempt.

The custodian might, with a greater chance of success, leave his goal and advance a few yards to meet the attacking forward, who is going at full speed, and therefore will be easily compelled to lose command over the ball. The following diagram will serve to illustrate the point:—

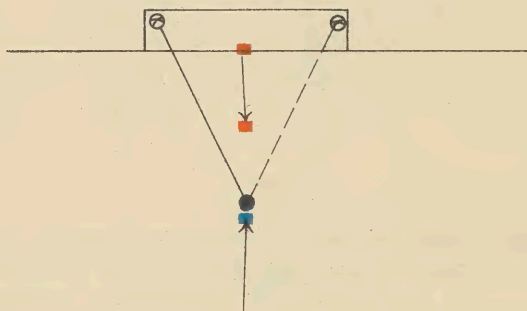


Diagram 11

The nearer the goal-keeper gets to the blue forward the less space he leaves for the latter to slip the ball past him into the net. There is more chance of the shot striking the keeper or being driven past either post on the outside. This procedure on the part of the goal-keeper used to be followed in the case of a penalty-kick, where the positions were practically the same as in the above diagram. The rule, as recently worded, prevents the keeper from advancing beyond his goal-line.

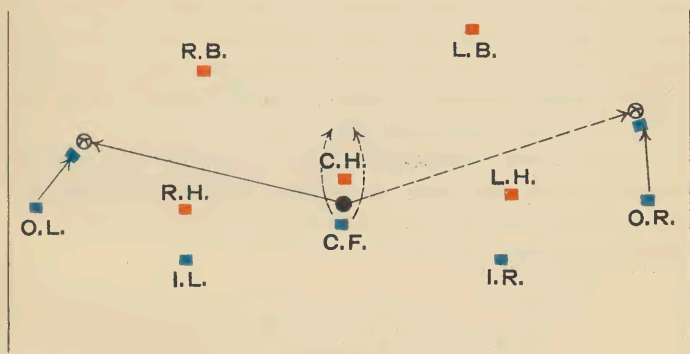


Diagram 12

Attack.—The two outside-forwards of the blue team are unmarked, so that either is in position to receive the centre-forward's pass. The centre-forward, while providing against giving the opposing back the chance of intercepting his pass, places to a point some distance in advance of the intended receiver of the ball. Thus the latter loses no time in making progress. Observe the position which the centre-forward makes for after passing out to the wing. He obviously expects a return pass.

Defence.—If the ball is passed out to the outside-left, he must be tackled by either the right-back or the right-half (by the one who is nearer the ball), but never by both simultaneously. The other of those two defenders would mark the opposing inside-forward. Similar procedure would be carried out on the other side of the field.

The defending centre-half would mark the blue centre-forward, taking up a position between him and his own goal, and a little nearer the ball to intercept a possible pass. See following diagram:—

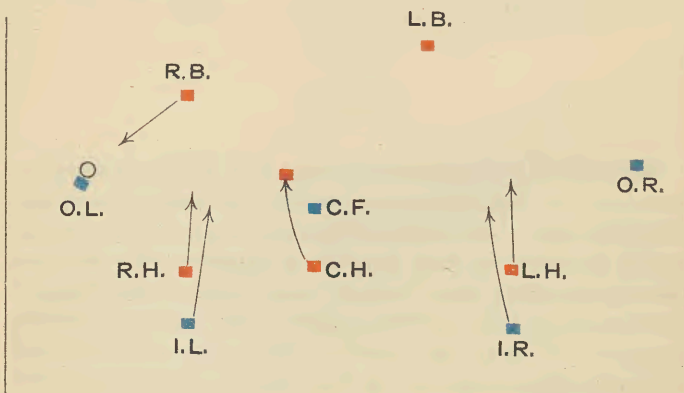


Diagram 13

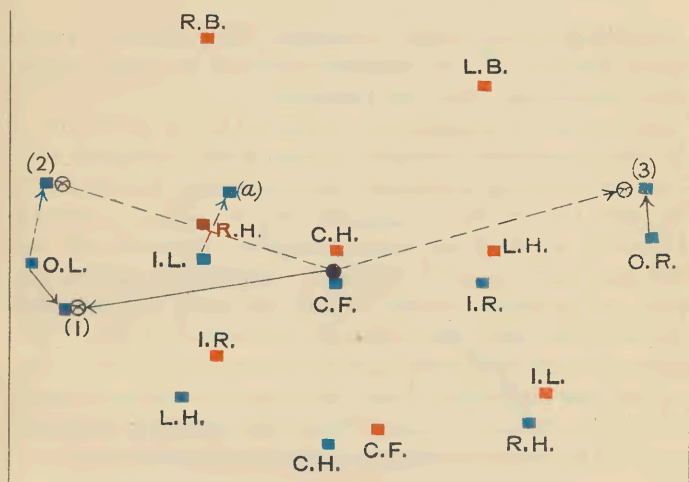


Diagram 14

Attack.—It is to be observed that all the blue half-backs are marked. The attacking outside-left gets his centre-forward out of the difficulty by running back towards his own goal for a few yards, thus placing himself in a position to receive the pass.

There is the alternative pass from the centre-forward to the outside-right, or a pass to the outside-left (in advance) is likely to be effective if the ball is sent clear over the head of the obstructing half-back.

If the blue inside-left were to run forward to position (a) he would secure an unmarked position either for himself or for the outside-left in his original position.

Defence.—In the case of situation (3) (diagram 14) it is clearly the duty of the defending left-back to attend to the blue outside-right, who has possession.

In the case of situation (2) (diagram 14) the procedure of the defenders should be similar to that shown in diagram 13.

If the attacking outside-left gets possession in position (1) (diagram 14), the red inside-right may be able to assist his defence by tackling the blue outside-left. Otherwise the red right-half must make to tackle the outside-left, approaching from such a direction that he will be partly between that opponent and the blue inside player supporting him. The red inside-right would then perhaps be able to assist by marking the blue inside-left. Thus the defending centre-half would not require to leave his post beside the attacking centre-forward. The following diagram illustrates these movements:—

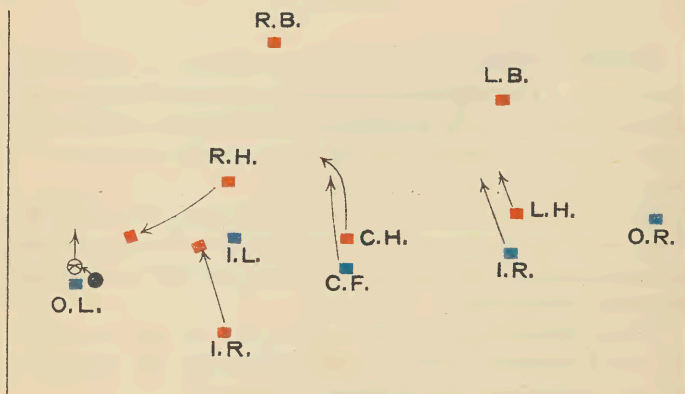


Diagram 15

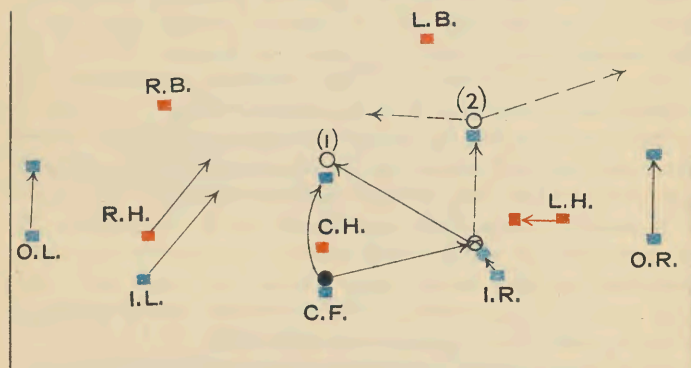


Diagram 16

Attack.—The centre-forward passes to the inside right, who is unmarked, and the latter when tackled re-places into centre past the opposing centre-half. In the meantime the blue centre-forward has run past the red centre-half, and is lying clear for the return pass from his inside player.

If, after receiving the centre-forward's initial pass, the inside-right were not immediately tackled, he would make progress himself until he met opposition.



Defence.—If the attacking centre-forward gets possession in position (1) (diagram 16), and if the red centre-half is unable to overtake him, then one of the two backs must lose no time in tackling him. The other back will place himself behind his partner, reserving himself for any contingency. For instance, if the blue centre-forward passes the ball out to either of his outside wingers, which is probable, the second back is ready to make for the receiver of the pass; or, if the centre-forward beats the back who has run forward to tackle him, then, unless one of the defending half-backs is at hand to assist, the other back may have to do so.

Half-backs running back to defend their goal should, unless otherwise required, mark those of the attacking forwards who are most likely to have the ball passed to them.

If the blue inside-right carried play as far as position (2) (diagram 16), the red left-back would have to tackle him. The defending left-half would hasten to get in touch with the blue outside-right, while the red centre-half would strive to come up with the opposing centre-forward.

From the following diagram it will also be observed that the defending right-back has not changed his position from that in diagram 16. He may have to tackle the blue centre-forward, if the red centre-half fails to overtake him, or he may have to tackle the blue outside-left, who is quite likely to get possession.

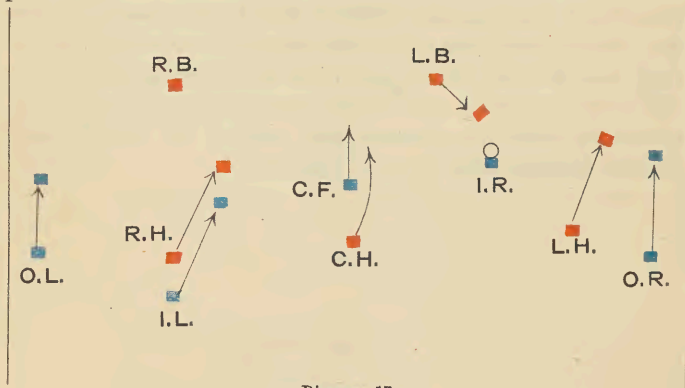
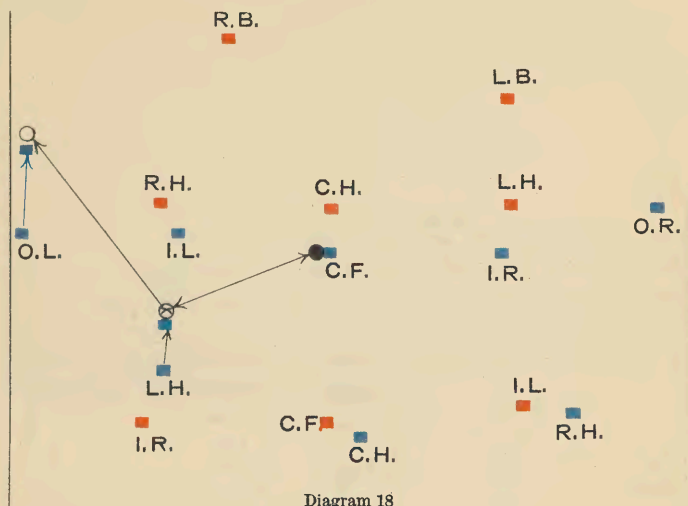


Diagram 17



Attack.—The blue centre-forward, not seeing a passage clear for a pass to another forward, sends the ball back to an unmarked half-back, who has no difficulty in placing on to his outside-forward.

Defence.—The red inside-right might attempt to tackle the blue left-half, who receives the ball from the centre-forward. Even after the pass from the attacking left-half to his outside-forward, the former should be attended to by the red inside-right.

The attacking outside-left must be tackled by either the right-half or the right-back of the defending side. If it falls to the back to tackle, the other back will retire some distance nearer the centre of the field to “cover up”.

If the defending right-half leaves his position to tackle the blue outside-left, the red right-back should be prepared to mark the blue inside-left when he advances, or to render his right-half assistance if required.

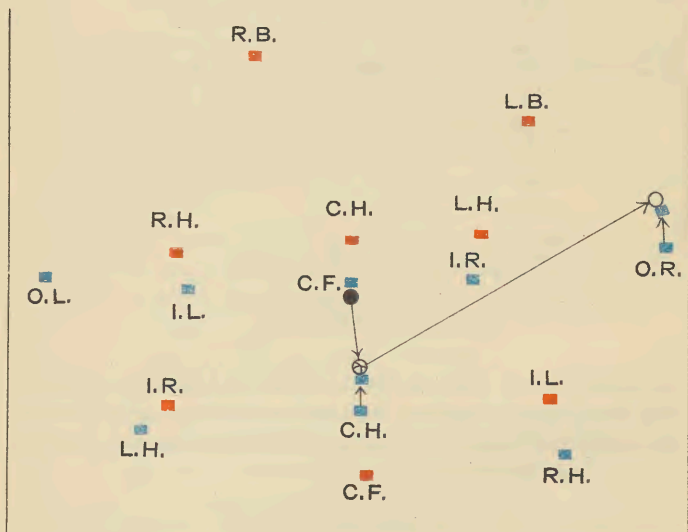


Diagram 19

Attack.—The method of attack here is similar to that shown in the previous diagram. On this occasion, the centre-half, being unmarked, receives the centre-forward's pass, and then he in turn gives the ball to his outside-right.

Defence.—As in previous diagrams, the tackling of the attacking outside-forward lies between the back and the half-back of the defending side. The other back will place himself more in the centre of the field, ready for any contingency. The other defenders will continue to mark their opponents as in the diagram for attack. Thus:—

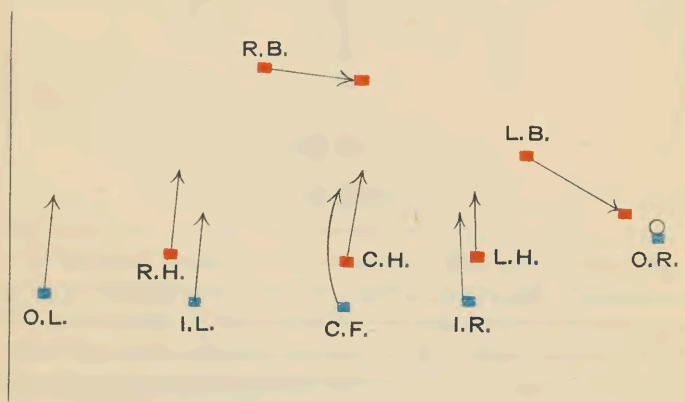


Diagram 20

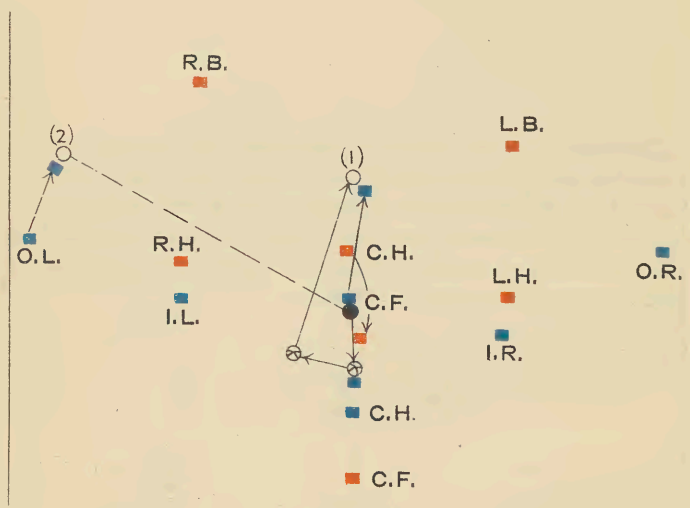


Diagram 21

Attack.—The blue centre-forward passes back to his centre-half. The latter, being tackled by the opposing centre-half, dodges him and then places forward to his centre-forward.

The alternative pass of the centre-forward to his outside-left is advisable only when the latter player has already placed himself in his new position to receive the pass. Otherwise the opposing right-back might be able to intercept the pass.

Defence.—For situation (2) (diagram 21), the defence is similar to that shown in diagram 13.

In the case of situation (1), the remarks on defence referring to diagram 16, position (1), will apply.

INSIDE-RIGHT IN POSSESSION

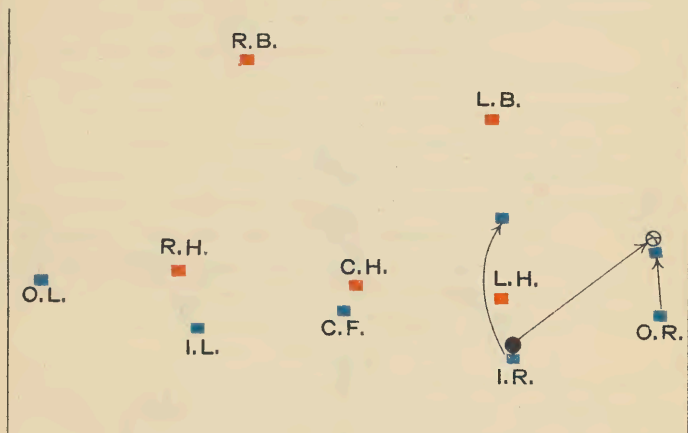


Diagram 22

Attack.—The inside-right passes to his outside winger, and then gets himself into position to receive a return pass. Observe the direction in which the inside-right passes the ball—not straight towards his partner, but some distance in advance of him. Thus the latter is enabled to pick up the pass “on the run”, and no time is wasted. Care must be taken, however, not to place the ball too far forward, *i.e.* far enough to give the opposing back the opportunity of intercepting the pass or of tackling the outside man immediately he receives the pass. The outside-forward, after receiving possession, ought to have time to deliberate while running, before he meets an opponent.

Defence.—As in diagram 13, except that positions are on the opposite side of the field.

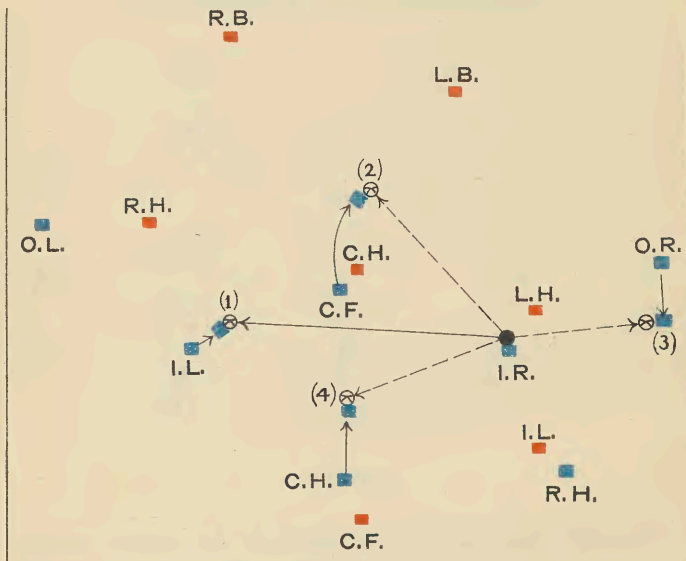


Diagram 23

Attack.—With the players in their original positions in the diagram, the inside-right's most open pass forward is across to the inside-forward on the opposite wing. But several other players can place themselves in good positions for receiving the ball from the blue inside-right, viz. the blue centre-half by running forward, the outside-right by falling back, and the centre-forward by running past the red centre-half. The last of these movements, with the pass from the inside-right to his centre-forward, leaves the blue forwards with a good position for attack.

Defence.—In the case of situation (1) (diagram 23), either the right-half or the centre-half of the red team would tackle the opposing inside-left. If the former does so, he must try to keep in the way of a possible pass to the blue outside-left; and the red right-back must move forward to his support, keeping an eye on the outside forward.

To meet situation (2) the red centre-half would immediately chase the opposing centre-forward, who has possession, and the other defenders would mark opponents likely to participate in the attack; or see remarks on situation (1), diagram 16.

Situation (4) might be prevented by the red centre-forward's anticipating the blue centre-half's change of position. Otherwise the former should endeavour to compel the latter to part with the ball, so that none of the red defence would have to leave his position except the right-half, who would move a little closer to the blue inside-left.

To meet situation (3) the red left-half would require to chase the attacking outside-right, unless the defending left-back were better placed for doing so. The other half-backs would change position as shown in the following diagram:—

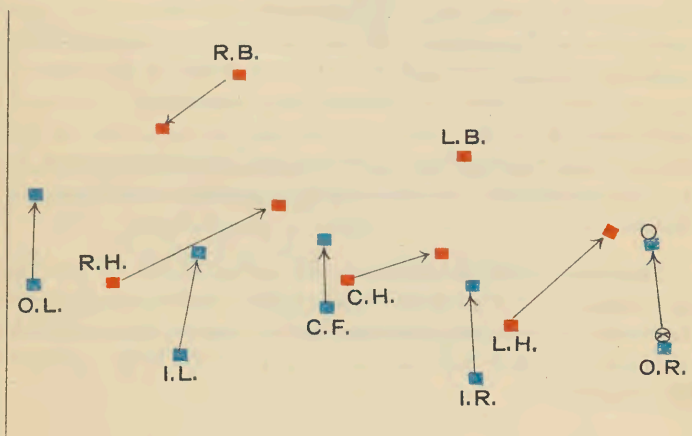


Diagram 24

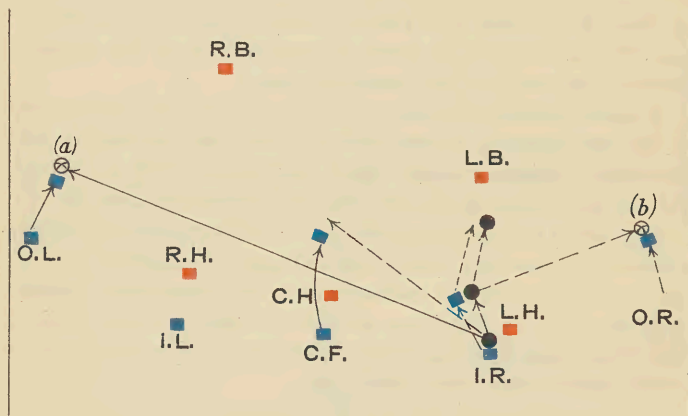


Diagram 25

Attack.—The attacking inside-right sees that the outside player on the other wing is unmarked, and with a long high pass gives him possession. If the inside-right can successfully pass the opposing left-half, then he will probably find several courses open to him: (1) he may keep possession of the ball until tackled by the back; (2) he may at once pass to his outside man and follow up in support; (3) he may pass to his centre-forward, who has got to a position where he can co-operate.

Defence.—The defensive tactics for situations (a) and (b) are similar. The duty of tackling the outside-forward lies between the half-back and the back opposing that forward. Probably in either case the back will be in the better position for doing so.

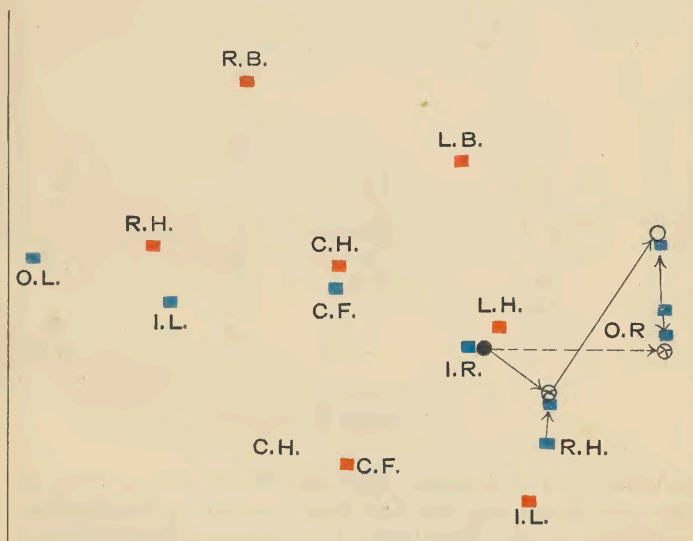


Diagram 26

Attack.—The attacking inside-right calls in the aid of his half-back, who in turn places on to his outside-forward.

The alternative pass is rendered feasible by the outside-right's falling back to clear the obstructing half-back.

Defence.—The defensive movements for either situation have been dealt with in previous diagrams.

OUTSIDE-RIGHT IN POSSESSION

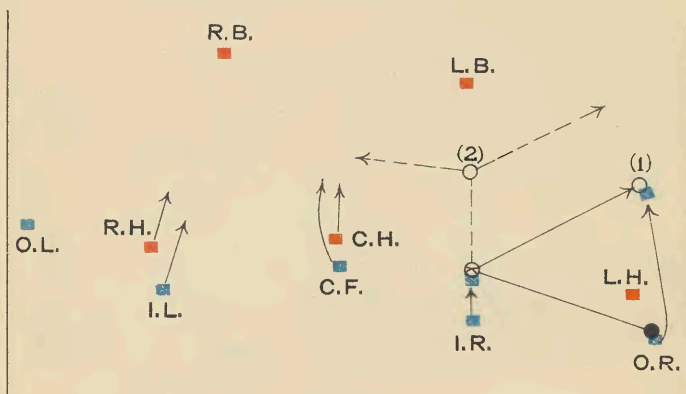


Diagram 27

Attack.—The diagram gives an illustration of what is known as wing play, the ball being carried up the field by one of the wings. This style of play is very effective, if not overdone, that is to say, if the other attacking forwards are not thereby excluded from a fair share of the game.

It will be seen from the diagram that the inside-right, who receives the ball from his outside man, has two courses open to him. If tackled, say by the red centre-half or by the left-half, he could at once re-place the ball to his partner; or if not immediately tackled he may gain a considerable amount of ground himself before parting with the ball to advantage.

Defence.—For defensive movements to meet situations (1) and (2) study diagrams 20 and 17 respectively.

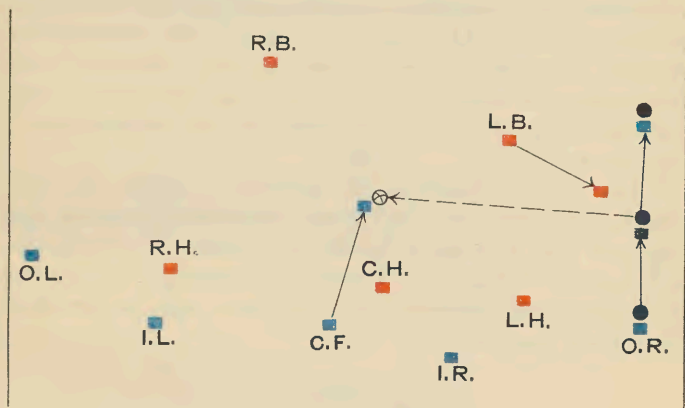


Diagram 28

Attack.—The attacking outside-right has a clear field until tackled by the opposing back. If he is sure that he can beat that defender, the outside player may retain possession and go ahead. If he is doubtful as to his ability to out-manceuvre the back, he should rather pass the ball across into centre, where his centre-forward ought to be in position for receiving a pass.

If the outside-right is in possession near his opponents' goal-line, the pass into centre is preferable to carrying the ball farther ahead close to the touch-line.

Defence.—If the red left-back is beaten and hopelessly left behind by the attacking outside-right, the other defending back must leave his position and cross the field to assist his partner. The left-back would then fall back into the place vacated by the right-back, and the other defenders would mark opposing forwards in something like the manner shown in diagram 29.

When the red left-back ran forward to tackle the blue outside-right, the other back would have drawn towards the centre of the field so as to be in readiness to tackle the outside-right if required. Therefore he would not be so far from that outside player as he would have been, had he kept his original position.

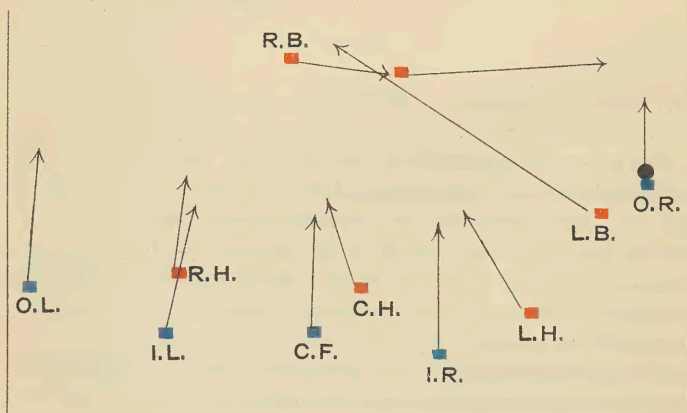


Diagram 29

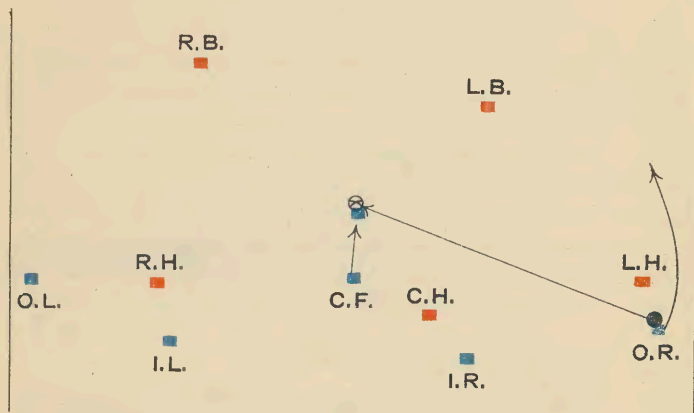


Diagram 30

Attack.—The attacking outside-right is tackled by the opposing left-half. The blue centre-forward is lying clear, or at any rate can assume an unmarked position by moving forward a little distance. The outside man makes a most effective pass in giving the ball to his centre-forward. The former should again get into position by running past the opposing left-half, whose attention will have been diverted from him by his pass to the centre.

Defence.—If the red centre-half is unable to overtake the blue centre-forward in possession, one of the defending backs must immediately prepare to tackle that attacking forward.

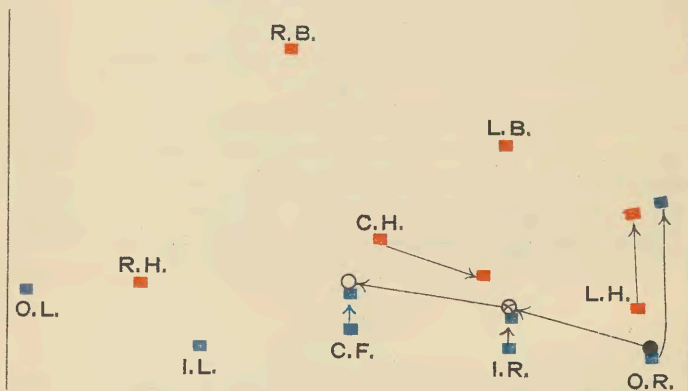


Diagram 31

Attack.—The blue outside-right, tackled and marked by the red left-half, passes to his inside partner, who is then tackled by the opposing centre-half. The last-mentioned player having left his position, the attacking centre-forward is unmarked and receives the ball from his inside player.

Defence.—As the red left-half is attending to the blue outside-right, and the red centre-half is beside the blue inside-right, the attacking centre-forward has to be tackled by the right-half or by one of the backs of the red team. It is assumed that the centre-half of the defending side cannot overtake the blue centre-forward. If the play is at all near the defenders' goal, the red right-half, if in a good position for doing so, should make to tackle the attacking centre-forward, while the red right-back should advance to watch the opposing left-wing.

If play is in mid-field the back might run forward to meet the opposing centre-forward. Thus the red left-half would not require to lose touch with the blue right-wing.

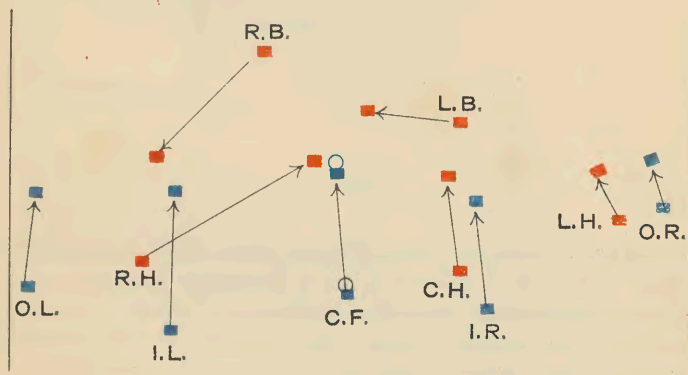


Diagram 32

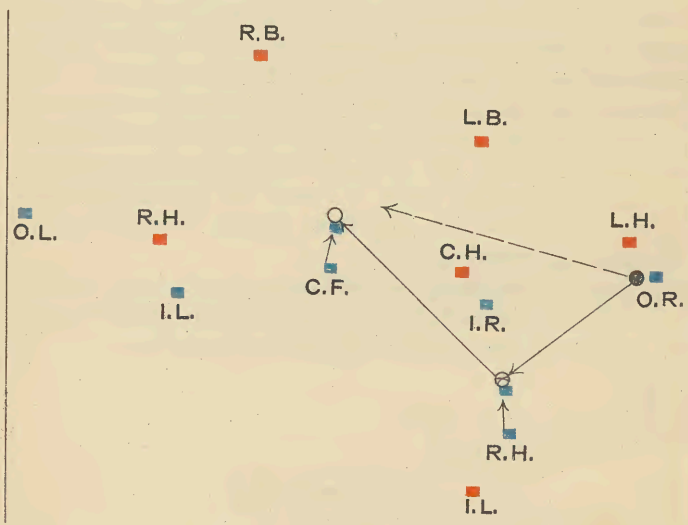


Diagram 33

Attack.—The blue outside-right passes back to his half-back, who in turn places on to a forward. If the outside player cannot place to another forward who is well placed to receive a pass, the half-back is almost certain to find at least one forward to whom he may with advantage give the ball.

Defence.—The defensive movements are similar to those shown in several previous diagrams.

The red inside-left should endeavour to spoil the pass of the blue right-half by overtaking him, or at any rate by giving him as little time as possible to place the ball accurately to his forwards.

If the red centre-half can quickly overtake the blue centre-forward, who has possession, it should be left to him to do so. The other defenders will thus not be withdrawn from the defensive positions they have already taken up. The defending left-half, however, might take up a position between the inside and the outside players of the opposing wing, as he will then be ready to tackle either of these players, if required.

It will be seen from the diagram that, if the red left-back can mark the blue inside-right without going out of his way to do so, the red left-half will retain his position beside the opposing outside-right.

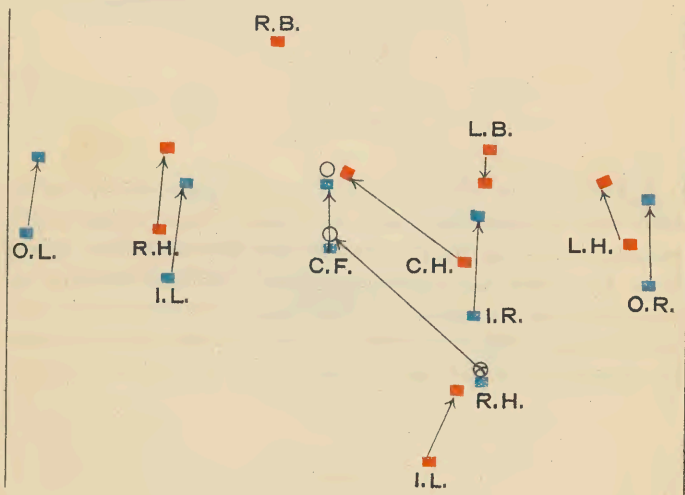


Diagram 34

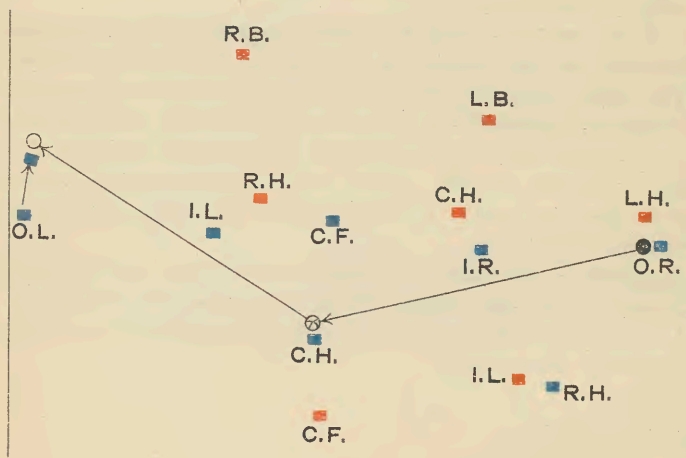


Diagram 35

Attack.—The attacking outside-right passes to his centre-half, who is unmarked, and the latter's most effective procedure is to lose no time in transferring the ball to his outside-left. He might have given the pass to his inside-left or his centre-forward, but either of these again would probably send the ball out to the outside-left, so that valuable time is gained by a pass direct from the half-back to the outside-forward.

Defence.—The centre-forward of the red team tackles the blue centre-half with a view to rendering that player's pass inaccurate if possible.

The red right-back, being in the best position, tackles the outside-left; the other defending back "covers up"; the red right-half marks the blue inside-left; the red centre-half picks up his usual man, the opposing centre-forward; and the half-back on the other side of the field from the point of play keeps an eye on the two players composing the wing opposed to him, *i.e.* the red left-half is placed so as to mark the blue right-wingers. Thus:—

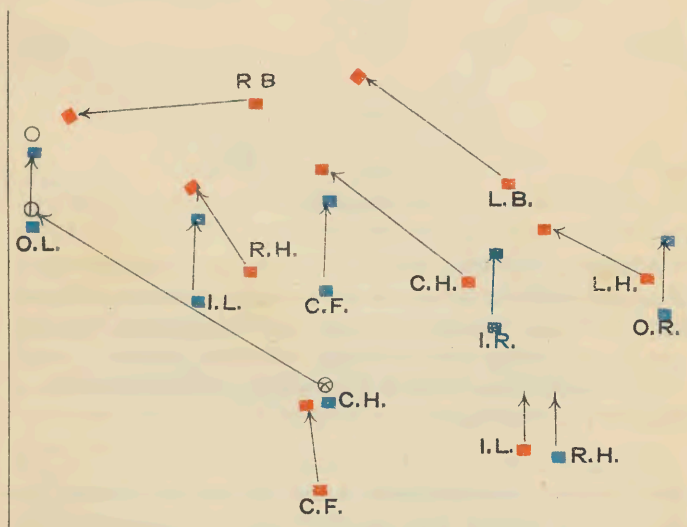


Diagram 36

HALF-BACK IN POSSESSION

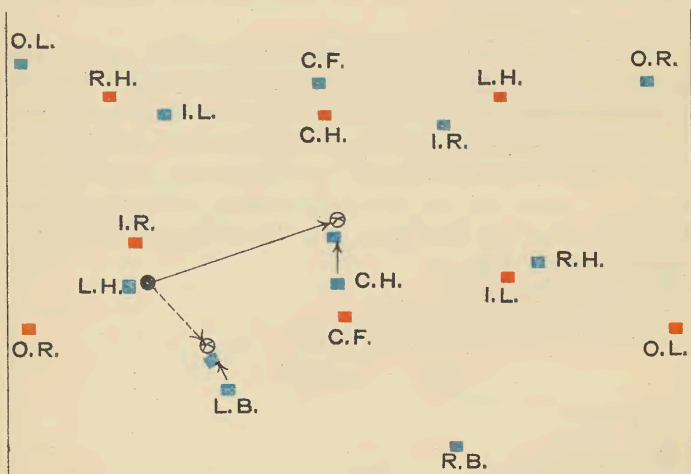


Diagram 37

Attack.—The blue left-half, tackled so that he cannot place the ball well to one of his forwards, passes to a fellow-half; or if hard pressed and facing his own goal, the blue left-half can call in the aid of his back.

An effective pass forward is generally to be preferred to an effective pass backwards.

Defence.—When the blue centre-half is receiving the ball, the opposing centre-forward should endeavour to spoil his effectiveness, leaving the other defenders to mark their men as usual.

If the ball is passed to the back, one of the red forwards must rush in to tackle that back.

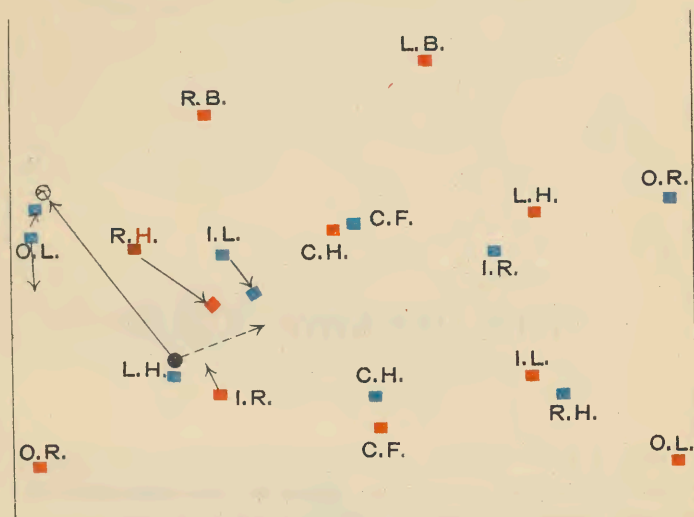


Diagram 88

Attack.—When the blue left-half is tackled by the red inside-right, both the outside-left and the inside-left of the attacking team are partially marked by the red right-half. Either can easily place himself in an unmarked position, the outside man by moving back some distance towards his own goal-line, and the inside player by increasing the distance between himself and the red right-half.

If the half follows up either of these two attacking forwards, he leaves the other in a good position for accepting a pass from the blue left-half.

Defence.—The simplest and probably the most effective method of meeting the attack is for the right-back to move forward to the assistance of his half-back. Thus there will be two defenders to watch the two left-wing forwards of the attacking side,

THE OFF-SIDE RULE

Rule 6 is as follows:—"When a player plays the ball, or throws it in from touch, any player of the same side who at such moment of playing or throwing-in is nearer to his opponents' goal-line is out of play, and may not touch the ball himself, nor in any way whatever interfere with an opponent, or with the play, until the ball has been again played, unless there are at such moment of playing or throwing-in at least three of his opponents nearer their own goal-line. A player is not out of play in the case of a corner-kick, or when the ball is kicked off from goal, or when it has been last played by an opponent."

It follows that a player is *not* off-side—

- (a) if he was behind the ball (that is, nearer his own goal-line than the ball) when it was last played;
- (b) if he had at least three opponents nearer their own goal-line when the ball was last played.
- (c) in the case of a corner-kick;
- (d) when the ball is kicked off from goal;
- (e) when the ball has been last played by an opponent.

Diagrams to Illustrate the Off-side Rule

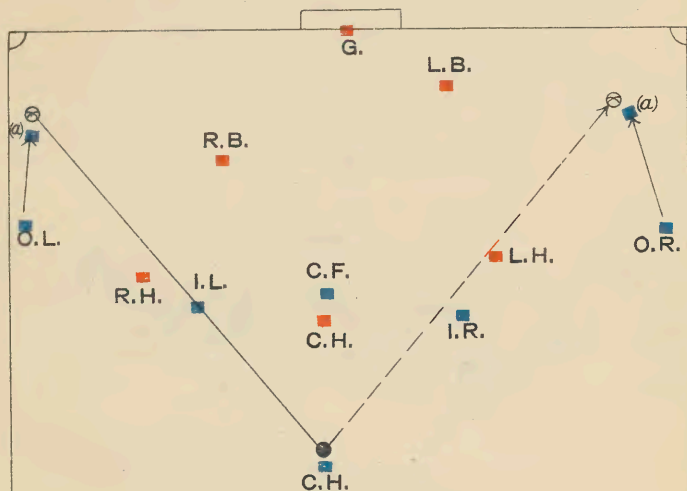


Diagram 39

With the blue centre-half in possession of the ball, his forwards, being nearer to their opponents' goal-line, are off-side, unless they again have three opponents between them and the opponents' goal-line. In their original positions in the diagram, then, all the blue forwards are on-side. If, when the blue centre-half has possession, the attacking outside-left or the outside-right occupies position (a), he is off-side.

If, however, either of these outside players left his original position only after the ball had been played by his centre-half, he is on-side when he receives the ball. He is on-side in position (a) if he did not pass the red right-back until his own centre-half had played the ball in his direction. He may have passed the defending right-back before overtaking or being overtaken by the ball; but, if on-side when (*i.e.* at the precise moment) the ball was last played, he retains an on-side position, no matter where he meets the ball.

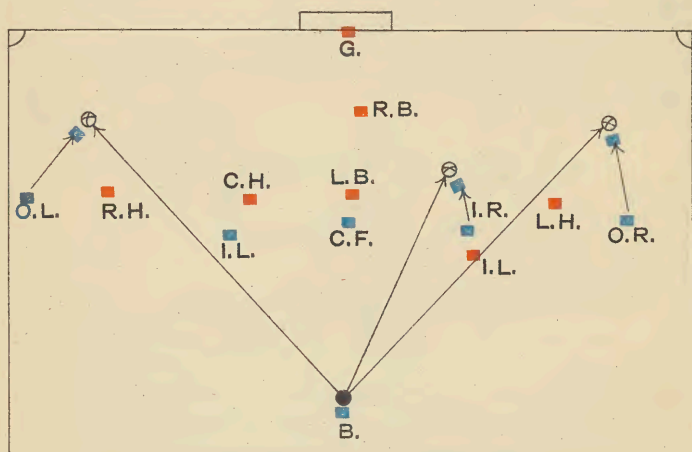


Diagram 40

The diagram illustrates the taking of a free-kick some distance from the defenders' goal.

The outside-left, or the inside-right, or the outside-right, is on-side when he gets possession of the ball, provided that he started to move to his new position only after B played the ball.

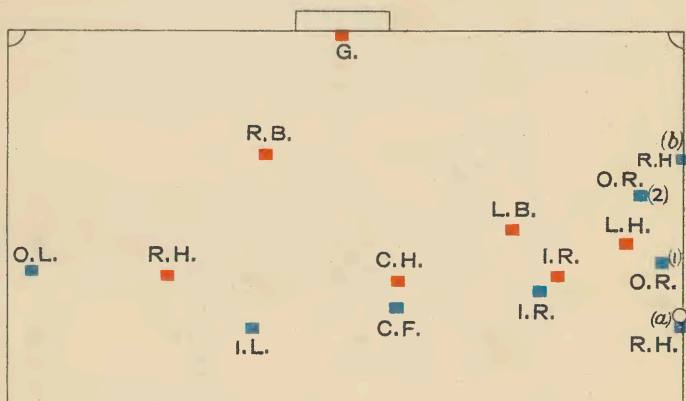


Diagram 41

The blue right-half is throwing in the ball from touch.

In position (1) the blue outside-right is on-side irrespective of the position of play, because he has three opponents nearer their own goal-line. Whether the half-back throws in from position (a) or from position (b), his outside-right then is on-side.

In position (2) the outside-right is off-side, if his right-half throws in from position (a), because he is in front of the ball, and has not three opponents nearer their own goal-line. If the attacking right-half throws in from position (b), his outside-forward is on-side in position (2), because he is behind the ball when it is last played.

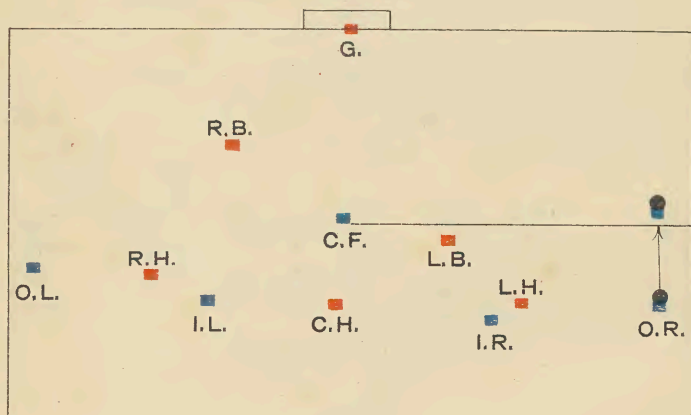


Diagram 42

The blue outside-right having possession in his original position in the diagram, the centre-forward of the blue team is off-side, and "may not touch the ball himself, nor in any way whatever interfere with an opponent, or with the play" The centre-forward must stand still until his outside man has reached a point nearer the opponents' goal-line than the centre-forward's position and has played the ball from such a point. The centre-forward is thus behind the ball when it is last played, and is therefore on-side, no matter what may be the positions of the defenders.

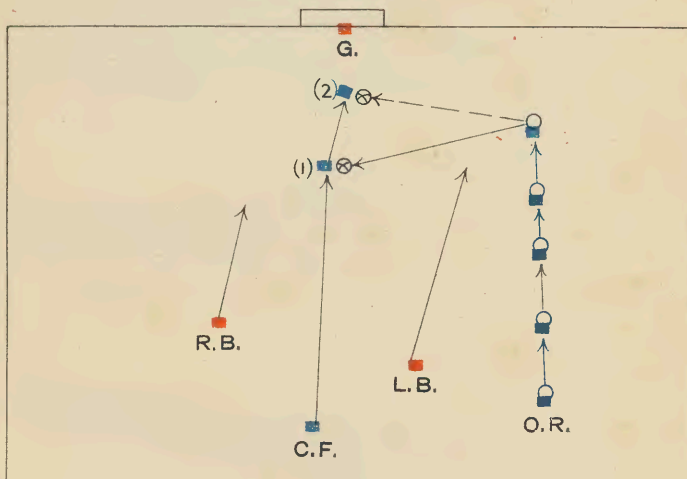
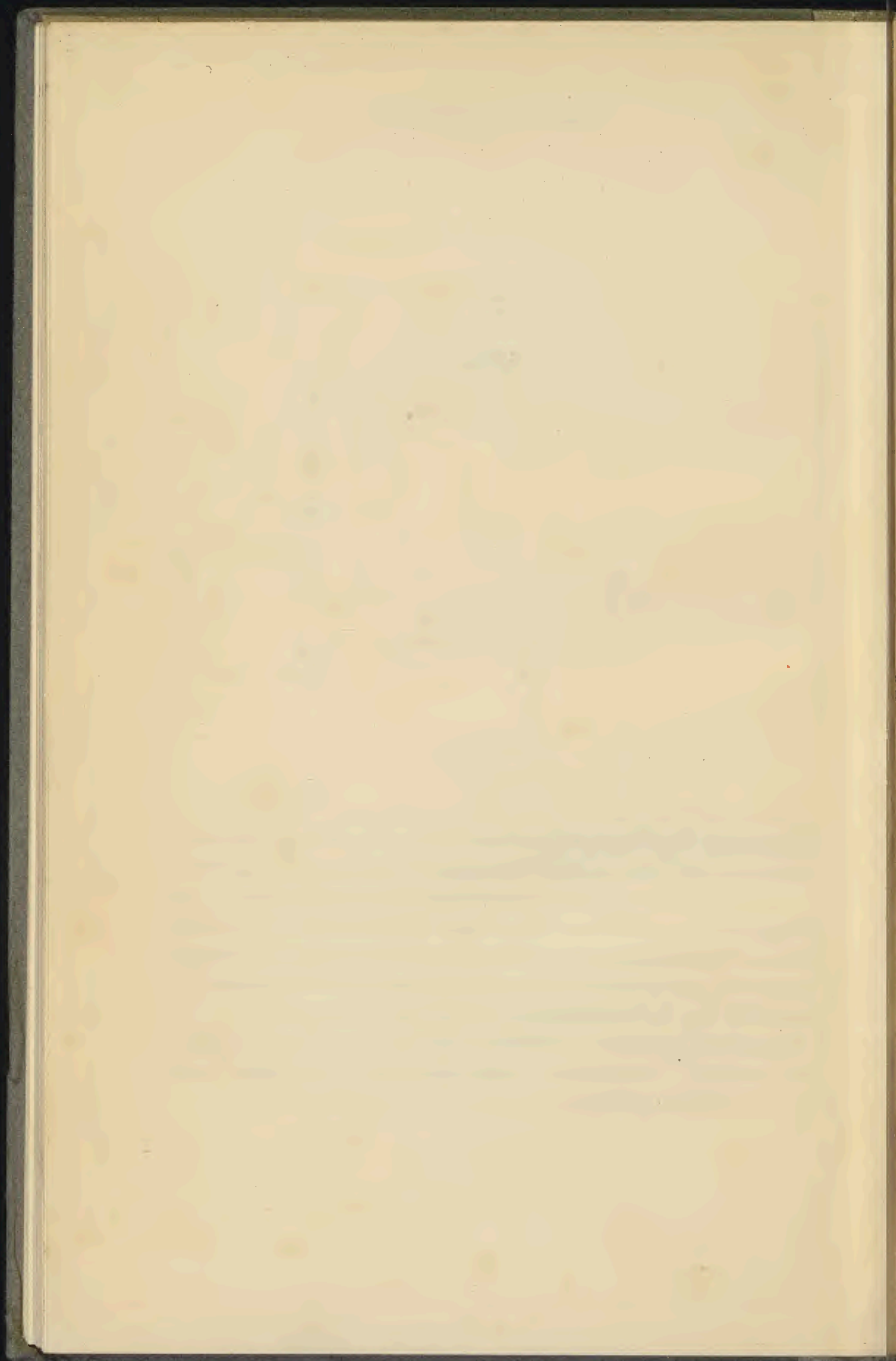
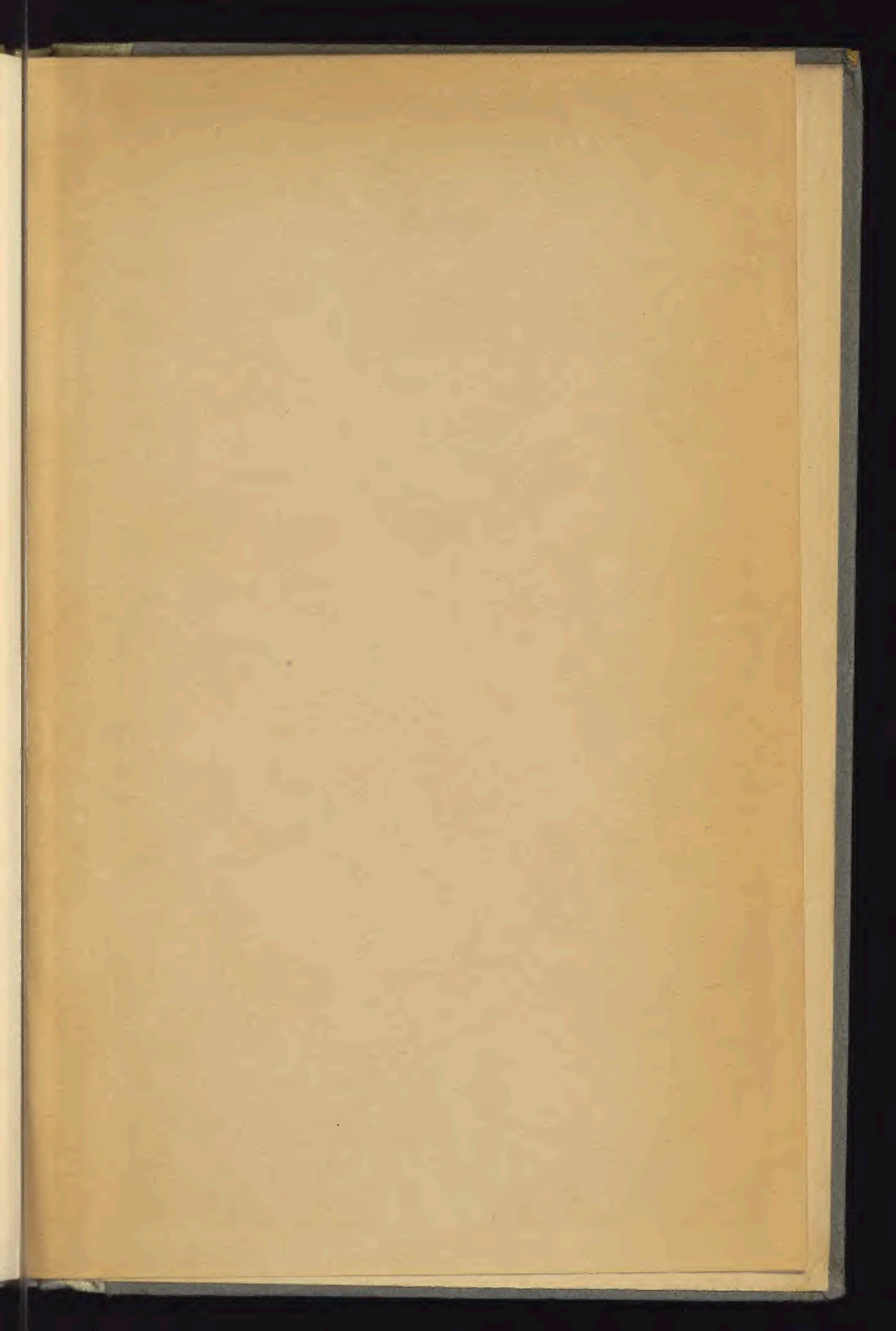


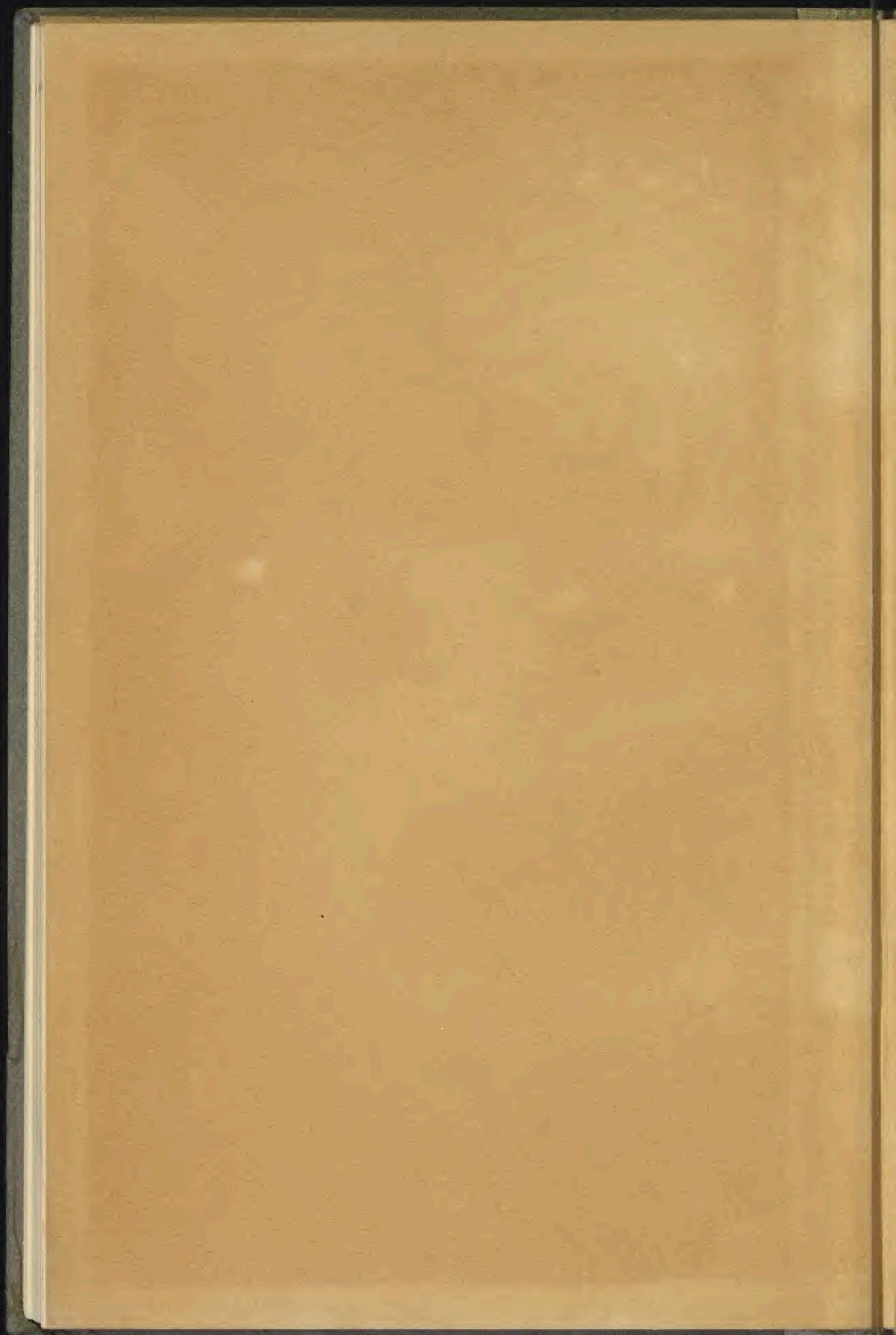
Diagram 43

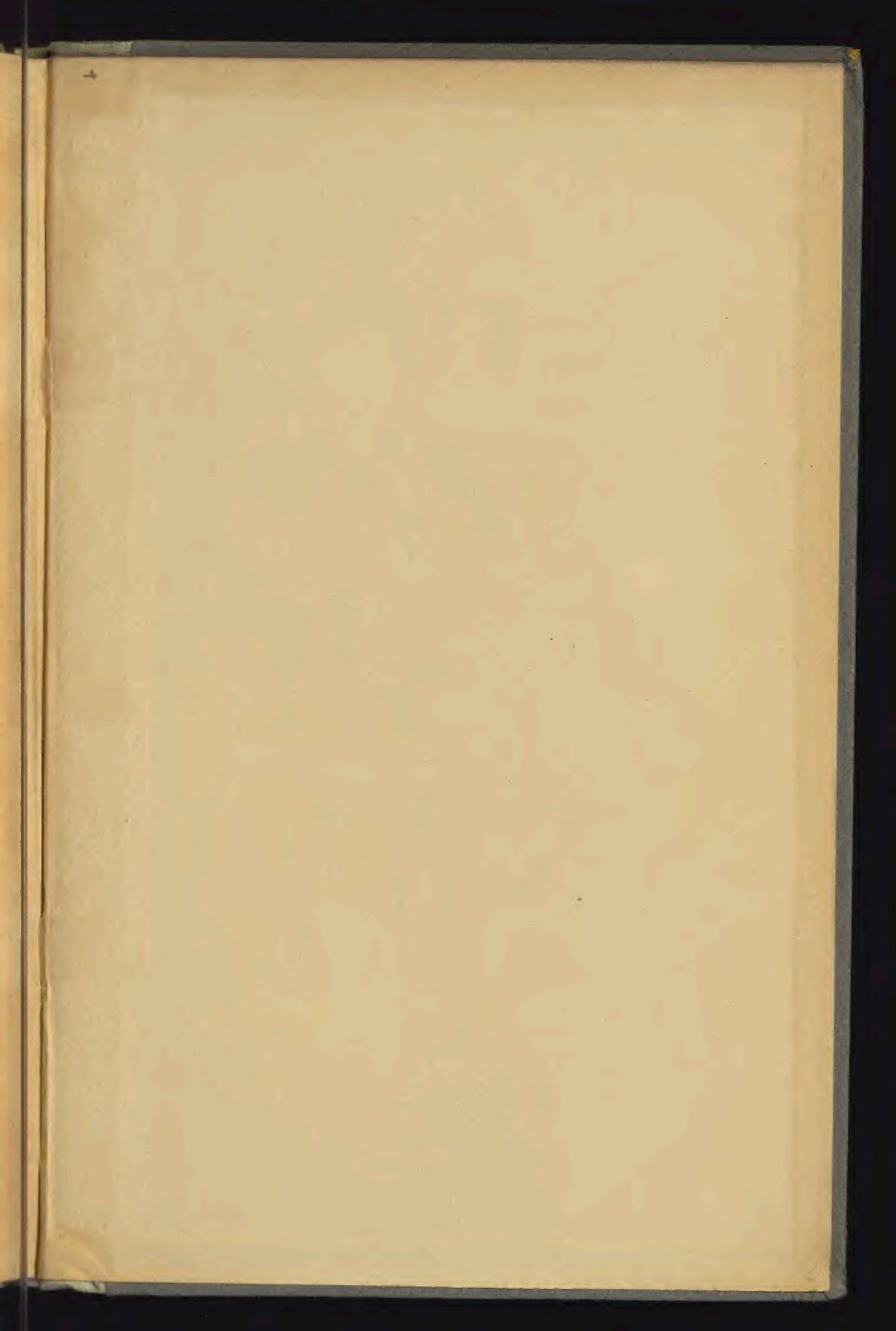
The blue outside-right and his centre-forward in their original positions are on-side, having three opponents nearer the red team's goal-line. The outside-right carries the ball up the field, the centre-forward following. Irrespective of the positions of the defenders, the blue centre-forward keeps himself on-side by being behind the ball (*i.e.* nearer his own goal-line) each time the ball is played by his outside player.

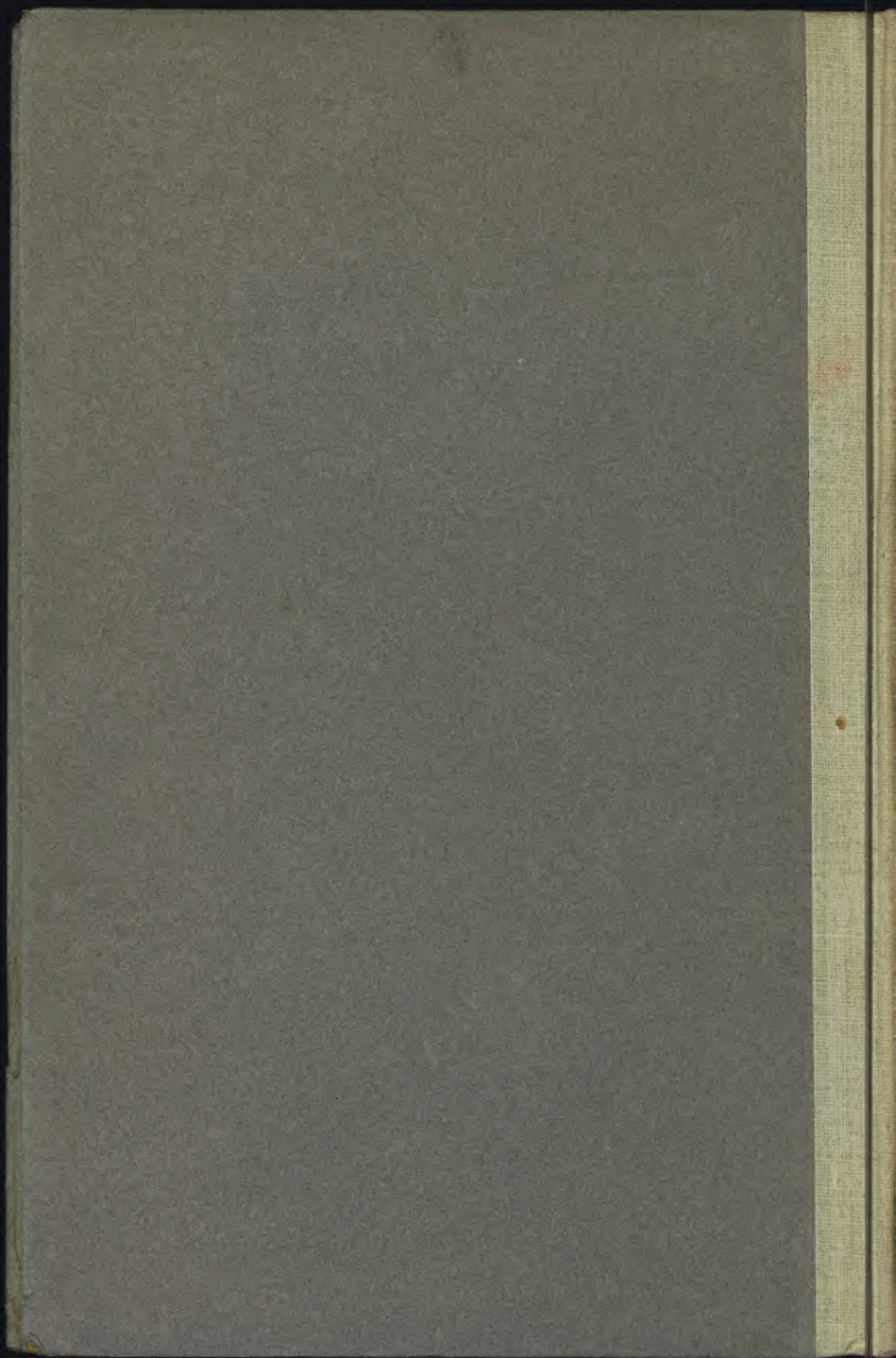
In position (1) he is obviously on-side, as the ball is passed back to him. In position (2) he is on-side if he was behind his outside-right when the latter last played the ball.





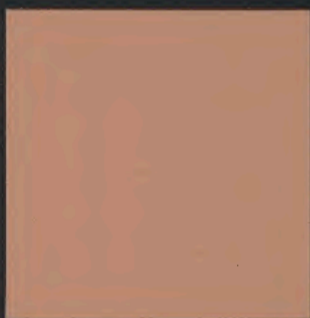






x-rite

COLOR CHECKER CLASSIC



30mm

COLORCHECKER CLASSIC



mm

x-rite