

of that experience and knowledge must necessarily be of a higher quality than work done by men not so well qualified. It is further claimed that the work is done more expeditiously in that professionals act more quickly than amateurs. It is further claimed that bias caused by friendship is precluded from influencing the stewards and that a continuity of supervision is maintained.

160. It may well be that the system is, in many respects, superior to a system based upon amateur administration, but its efficiency must, in the ultimate result, depend upon the efficiency, integrity, and independence of the men in whom authority is vested. The only possible weakness of the system lies in the absence of impartiality in the exercise of the judicial functions delegated to the stipendiary stewards. It is at that point that the favourable disposition to one another of men engaged in the same vocation and the possible bias that may be caused by constant contact with the persons over whom they are exercising jurisdiction might find most play. Then, too, the universality and autocratic character of the functions delegated to them may result in a dogmatic attitude of mind which would be absent from an administration vested in amateurs.

161. However, these are purely speculative considerations, and the fact remains that the system has won the approbation, up to date, of those most concerned. Its continued future operation will doubtless be regarded with a great deal of interest by all persons associated with the administration of racing in any of its forms so that uniformity in such matters, which is always susceptible of achievement, may ultimately obtain. The functioning of the honorary system maintained by the Racing Conference was the subject of some discussion before us. No adverse criticism of any great weight was directed to it, but particular reference was made to the appellate function of the honorary administrators.

162. Whilst in the main and conceding that the appellate constitution is satisfactory and works fairly, there is a school of thought amongst racing administrators which suggests that the appeal from the judicial committees of clubs should go direct to the Conference. Many, on the other hand, think that an appeal to the district committee has merits. The president of the New Zealand Jockeys' Association said that his organization approved of the present system, subject to a slight modification. That association apparently approves of an appeal from the judicial committee of clubs to the district committee and thence to the Conference, but would like to see the district committee reduced for the purposes of the appeal from ten or thereabouts to five. They also want power to employ counsel as a matter of right at the hearing of all appeals. Such a right has not been uniformly recognized. For