

course. We telephoned President Day and although we avuncularly figured the Dartmouths were being led down a primrose path by the overzealous student manager keeping the game chart, we also agreed unhesitatingly that Cornell did not want a game it had not legitimately won. I left soon thereafter to join the team on the train for Ithaca and on that ride back there were all sorts of frenzied versions of what had happened. But only Nick Drabos '41, among the players, was dead certain that we had scored on a fifth down. Most of the others thought there had been a double offside to account for the extra down.

I was only seven years older than the ball players. There were certain now-poignantly-recalled pressures exerted on my callow neck in the situation. Some of the ball players gave me a bad time: "No one ever corrected officials' mistakes when they hurt us." "Mort Landsberg went over two plays earlier and the officials didn't give it to us. The movies show that too."

That gave us pause; we did not want to let down these great young men, but there was really no serious reservation on our part about the propriety of the eventual decision.

It was a morning like any other Monday morning. There had been references to a fifth down in the writeups of the game, but they had not been overplayed. There were no reporters badgering us. It was pretty much business as usual. Carl Snavely came by my office waving the cans of film. "C'mon, Bob, they're here. Let's take a look." So down to the Schoellkopf lecture room we trooped, his staff and me. And we looked, and we looked, and we looked.



President E. E. Day discusses the decision to forfeit the 1940 Dartmouth football game with Robert J. Kane '34, left, acting director of athletics, and Louis Boochever '12, the university's director of public relations.

Everything was quite serene. Carl never did anything impetuously. After running the film back and forth many times, he turned off the projector, removed his glasses, and quietly said, "No question, it was a fifth down."

No one coached more earnestly, even doggedly, to win than Carl Snavely. But he made it quite clear in this case he did not want to take a game for which we had to apologize. We decided to speak to the players at the noon training-table meal at Willard Straight Hall.

I called President Day and gave him the news. He was a 1905 Dartmouth graduate and had been manager of the 1905 track team. Mrs. Day's father had been an eminent member of the Dartmouth faculty. So