

STIRRIN' the DOPE

By VEDDER GARD

ANY one who feels himself called upon to take a ran-dom shot at intercollegiate or amateur athletics in the national meetings this week at New York had better watch the direction in which he is shooting and not aim at John L. Griffith Big Ten commissioner and executive vice-president of the National Amateur Athletic Federation.

Griffith has some high-powered ammunition and is likely to let loose a barrage that will annihilate any one who has the temerity or foolhardiness to take issue with the major.

The Western Conference is fortunate in having such a man at the head of affairs. From the lecture platform his rapi-der thrusts and cold, clear logic form a combination that is most convincing.

He says that the present discussion in press and on the corner centers largely around four points. They are:

(1) Has football become too popular?

(2) Is athletic interest antagonistic to scholastic interest?

(3) If an amateur sport is conducted at a profit does this necessarily mean that the sport has become professionalized?

(4) Are the present amateur rules satisfactory?

Griffith admits that the debate on athletics probably will be continued indefinitely until some agreement is reached regarding life purposes, the function of the college and the objectives of athletics.

But he has some mighty good answers for the above questions that we will summarize.

ANSWER NO. 1

Regarding whether football has become too popular Griffith states that the game has improved wonderfully since the old days because of uniform eligibility rules. The playing regulations also have been changed, vastly improving the game for players and spectators.

Naturally the grid sport has increased in popularity with students, alumni and general public as judged by attendance figures. Did the students and others make better use of their leisure time before the days of modern football than they do now when they attend the games?

ANSWER NO. 2

Is athletic interest antagonistic to scholastic interest? Greece led the world in intellectual pursuits at the same time that she led in athletic activities. Is the United States and Great Britain contributing as much along intellectual lines as such non-athletic nations as China, Russia, France or Spain?

If it is true that the colleges "tail wags the dog" another question is presented as to whether we would help the dog by cutting off its tail or whether something constructive should be done for the animal.

ANSWER NO. 3

Griffith doesn't believe that because possibly some \$20,000,000 was cleared by colleges last fall on football that the game has become professionalized. All of this money will be used to promote a larger program in athletics and physical education for the millions of boys and girls in educational institutions. Fully 90 per cent of the organized amateur athletics in the United States have been promoted by schools.

If the practice of making money from amateur athletics and of using the profits to promote more athletics is to be condemned, then some means should be devised for financing the school and college physical education work.

ANSWER NO. 4

Are the present amateur rules satisfactory? The National Amateur Athletic Federation, which is composed of a number of national organizations, will consider at its annual meeting on Tuesday the advisability of adopting the principle that boys under 16 can hardly be considered as professionals, and will further propose that each organization that belongs to the federation shall assume the responsibility of passing on the amateur status of the boys and young men who come under their jurisdiction.

Most of the difficult amateur questions relate to border line cases. The above proposals, if favorably acted upon, may do away with some of the difficulties in the administration of amateur law.

Now don't become confused. We have been telling you Major Griffith's ideas. We may not agree with the Big Ten boss who has become a power in amateur athletics—yet we may not agree with him on some things—but you must admit he's right most of the time. And when he's wrong he can convince you he's right. What he wants in those New York meetings he is very likely to get.

Just how high did you have your bedroom window raised the last two nights?

BETTER hurry up and play Notre Dame in basketball. The club may be stronger than ever shortly. Reports drifting in state that Mike Niklos, former Indiana U. star and elder brother of Johnny, will be eligible next semester. If Mike is anywhere near previous form, watch out!

A certain person does not know how close he came to being another cold weather casualty. He asked us this morning, "Is this cold enough for you?"

The zero hour has arrived—in fact several of them.

PRO GRID POSSIBILITIES



H. S. Games This Week

TUESDAY
Shortridge at Broad Ripple.
WEDNESDAY
St. Xavier (Louisville) vs. Cathedral at K. C. Hall.
FRIDAY
Manual at Lawrence.
SATURDAY
Shortridge vs. Tech at fairground.

U. S. AGAIN DOMINATES ON TITLE TENNIS COURTS

Tilden Is Best of Racquet Wielders — French Runners-up in Davis Cup International Play.

By United Press

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Advancement of France to the position of the second ranking tennis nation was the bright feature of the 1925 season. The continued domination of the United States in individual play and team competition was not a feature because it has become a custom.

The United States again won the challenge round for the Davis Cup against, spirited competition from the two young French stars, Rene Lacoste and Jean Borotra, and the Americans probably will continue to win as long as Bill Tilden and Bill Johnston are on their game and willing to play.

Big Bill Tilden lived up to his reputation as the world's greatest player by winning the national championship again. The tournament could have been recognized as being for the world's championship as practically every ranking player in the world was entered.

Bill the Great
The tennis association, however, had consistently refused to consider

Twice he defeated Mitchell, regarded as England's greatest match player. Britishers figure him about ready to take down the open championship.

STAR GOLFER
Compston Rated England's Strongest Pro Player.

The outstanding professional golfer of 1925 in England is A. Compston, the North Manchester giant.

When Compston won the British professional match play championship, it was the second \$5,000 tournament that he has captured this year. Compston is a money player on the style of Walter Hagen. He believes he is the best golfer in all Great Britain and is always willing to prove it.

In addition to winning the two big money golf stakes of the year in England, he finished in a tie for second honors in the British open, which was won by Jim Barnes. He also tied with Arnaud Massy for the French open title, but lost the play-off.

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BIG FOUR ASSOCIATION
Athletic Officers Named for 1926—M. P. Parker President.

The Big Four Athletic Association elected M. P. Parker president for 1926 and L. C. Gelske vice president. William Seitz was named secretary and W. F. Dear treasurer.

Sixteen new board managers for the association also were selected, as follows:

Zone 1, J. A. Roush; zone 2, A. T. B. Jones; zone 3, William Haught; zone 4, W. W. Innes; zone 5, C. H. Waterman; zone 6, H. C. Copper; zone 7, A. E. H. Janke; zone 8, J. White; zone 11, E. A. Johnson; zone 12, George E. Tolson; zone 13, F. Sheehan; zone 14, G. R. Ayres.

Basketball Notes

CUMBERLAND, Ind., Dec. 28.—The Indiana Y. M. C. A. basketball team is playing here Wednesday night. A game is wanted away from home Friday evening. Address: Robert W. White, Box 1124, Indianapolis, Ind. Main 1477.

The Indiana Marauders want for New Year's night, Call Indianapolis 4331 and ask for Frank. State games are to be played at Indianapolis, Marion, Anderson, Bloomington and Rushville. Notice, and write Frank R. White, 316 N. R. M. Ayres.

Meteor Notes

THE METEORS have a heavy schedule this week. Playing first game in five days, the card, Friday, Dec. 27, C. Wednesdays.

THE METEORS had a good team last year, changed management and is scheduling games with strong State clubs. Address: Frank W. W. Wadsworth, State Normal, Indianapolis, Ind.

THE WESTERN Marauders will play a double bill Tuesday evening. All players are requested to be at school No. 21 not later than 7:30 p.m.

Franklin Five on Trip

By Times Special
FRANKLIN, Ind., Dec. 28.—Franklin College basketball team will start on a trip Tuesday morning which will take it to North Manchester for a game with Manchester College Tuesday night. On Wednesday Detroit College will be met in the Michigan city.

Franklin looks upon the Manchester game as a real test as that club defeated Butler and State Normal and seems to be exceptionally

strong. Nothing is known of Detroit.

The Franklin squad is not in the best of condition. Ballard and King received injuries in the Purdue game and Lyons has a "bum" eye proved in practice. The line-up against Manchester probably will be Captain Gant and Friddle, forwards; Scott, center; Ballard and King, guards.

Fuzzy Vandiver is working out slowly in an effort to get back into shape. It is not expected he will play until the middle of January.

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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

FIRST GAME ON BUTLER'S NEW BASKETBALL COURT TUESDAY

COACHES GATHER IN EAST

Grid Mentors Expected to Curb Roughness — Huddle System Is Opposed.

By Henry L. Farrell

United Press Staff Correspondent
NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Stricter legislation against the use of huddle and shift play formations and a few new forms of roughness and further regulation of the forward pass were to be considered today at the annual meeting of the Football Coaches' Association.

Everything is in readiness at the new basketball court, but the paint is not quite dry on the backboards, so the Show-Me boys did not practice at the fairground today. They may go out and shoot a few baskets Tuesday morning to become accustomed to the floor and conditions.

No one need worry about the cold weather interfering. The building is steam-heated and Butler had the fires booming today. Big blowers distribute the warm air throughout the building.

Doors will be open at 7 p.m. Tuesday and the main game will start

Basketball netters have been working throughout vacation time for the contest. Missouri is opening its schedule here, but has been hard at work for a long time. The players did not go home during the holidays.

The visiting club, which was

strong last year, is supposed to be more formidable than ever with sophomore stars beating out some of the veterans for places on the present trip.

The Indianapolis Times will broadcast the game from Merchants Heat and Light Company, station WFBM, 268 meters.

The meeting of the coaches today opened a week of conferences devoted almost entirely to college athletics and amateur sports and no doubt there will be plenty of references to "Million Dollar" Red Grange.

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