

The warp and woof of the average football player at the present time is too rough and tough for the sons of coaches to compete against. Perhaps I should have said that we would rather have a son of ours major in a profession, and not in football as it is now conducted. True, there are exceptions, but it is the rule that I rather emphasise.

Regarding your statement concerning publicity, favorable or otherwise, I want to assure you that I have never sold my face for a banana ad, or Grape-nuts, or Luckies, or what-not. Nor have I endeavored to keep my name before the public unless I thought I had something to say. And I do think definitely that I have something to say and will continue to say it, not as basketball coach but as the head of the department of Physical Education at the University of Kansas. (For your information, Brownie, I have never drawn as much salary for coaching basketball as I have as director of athletics and physical education.)

There are so many young fellows that are being misguided by the so-called big shot coach in athletics that I think it is high time for somebody to be at least half way honest with these youngsters. Stories may die natural deaths, but facts never will. The fact that we have conference rules which are being broken more than they are being kept is a fact and you know it.

Your own Cy Sherman, the argosy of football hopes, in his column "Brass Tacks", says:

"The founders of football and all college sports, for that matter, gave thought only to the idea that athletics should be conducted strictly on a basis of pure amateurism, but corrupting influences unquestionably have been permitted to intrude their slimy presence, thus to make a mockery of the amateur pretense.

"The head professor of basketball at Kansas U. apparently prefers to lop off the head of the chicken rather than exterminate its lice. That proposal conveys no appeal to this column. Football is a sport so wholesome, so desirable especially in a time of a national crisis, as to merit a definite place in the educational scheme.

"How then, can a tangible plan be worked out to save the gridiron game from the fate which Prof. Allen and others, too, have foreseen? The problem is one which this column passes to the heads of the National Collegiate Athletic association, the body which has the means and methods in its hands, but in the past - more's the pity - it has failed, either through insipidity or cowardice, to use!"

Cowardice is the word that should be used.

Certainly from as stalwart enthusiast for football as Cy is, this is unmistakably an open confession that he and all other insiders know the mockery that is now being practised under the guise of character building in a major sport - especially when big time proselytors work.