

issue with athletics in the colleges themselves. The disease starts from without - among the men whose interest is misguided. But also conflicting purposes arise in the mind of youth regarding school and college. Many coaches hold up to the boy the glory of conquest on the athletic field as the most important activity of college life rather than the all important thing of acquiring durable satisfactions in the classroom.

The intelligent athlete will not sell his academic birthright for a mess of pottage (the pay-off). This athlete will protect his forthright freedom the same as the American voter protects his ballot. But naturally the boy desires to compete in games of combat and contact. The game of football as a morale builder and as a builder of men perhaps has no equal. Above the door of the gymnasium at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., are these words of Major Koehler, cut in stone:

"Upon the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that upon other fields in other years are borne the fruits of victory."

Football would never die, but would continue to thrive, were it not for the football followers of Brutus who have stabbed the sport to near death. These pseudo-friends of football are the gamblers, the subsidizers, the proselytors, and the "pollyannas" who state that "football at the present is enjoying sound health and is becoming more of an amateur sport all the time".

I stated last winter that subsidized football and basketball had but ten years to live. I revised this estimate downward somewhat this fall, depending on the part that we play in this second World War which we are now in. Replying to my long-time friend, Major John L. Griffith, Commissioner of the Big Ten, may I say that I base my deductions on the