A

Apr

24

January 22
1 9 3 5

Mr. John R. Tunis,
Care Harper's Magazine,
49 East 33rd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Tunis:

Coming out of Cleveland, Ohio in December I purchased a copy of December's Harpers and read your story "The Changing Trend in Sports."

I assure you it was very interesting but I was struck by your failure to list basket ball anywhere near its proper place in the list of the ten fastest growing sports in the United States at the present time. In fact, you didn't mention it at all.

I understand that you quoted a manufacturer who is forced by business to keep his eye on the ball, etc. No doubt you noticed in the last month on two occasions more than 16,000 people paid admissions in Madison Square Garden to see college teams play basket ball.

In the January 10th number of "Sport Story Magazine" I have an article that sets out some of the reasons why basket ball is much further developed in the west than in the east. In the Country Gentleman in the February issue I have written another article that I would like for you to see at your leisure. I think it would very much change your idea of the game.

Only very recently basket ball has been made an Olympic sport. More than twenty million people are playing basket ball at the present time.

In our Physical Education Department here at the university, where all the high school boys are examined on their entrance every boy without exception, who is able bodied, has stated that he has played basket ball in his high school days. I have checked with other university departments and I find the same thing is true here in the Middle West.

#2 Mr. John R. Tunis
January 22, 1935

While I realize that you treated this story in a panoramic way regarding sports, I felt that it was the duty of some of the coaches of basket ball to properly inform you of your lack of knowledge of this most rapidly growing major sports game.

Very cordially yours,

Director.

FCA:IW

John R. Tunis
Rowayton, Connecticut

January 25, I935

Dear Mr. Allen;

Your kind letter of January 22 was forwarded to me by Harper's Magazine. I take it very kindly when anyone goes to the trouble of reading my stuff, and when they go so far as to write a letter I am very grateful indeed. This will make my reply seem all the more churlish, but I have to say what I think even at the risk of being impolite, for after all, I am sure you would agreed that there are far too many yes-men in this country today, and that intellectual honesty is a quality more to be desired than politeness.

I did not list basketball because I doubt very much whether it is one of the ten fastest growing sports in the United States. The manufacturer who gave me the information, which was confirmed by checking elsewhere, did not mention basektabll. He knows what he sells every day, and what the stuff is used for. Also he is in contact with schools and colleges all over the country.

The fact that basetball drew I6,000 at Madison Square Garden means of course nothing whatsoever. This is not sport, it is exhibitionism and you ought to know it. Hockey draws I6,000 a couple of times a week at the Garden but hockey is not making much progress. Your argument here leads me to distrust your other arguments for basketball even if I were not sure you were wrong.

The fact that basketball is now an Olympic sport has nothing to do with the case. So is lacrosse and soccer and dozens of other sports which have no place whatsoever in an Olympic program. In fact the only sports not therein included are bullfighting and pogroms and I understand they will be in the I940 Games.

You state that more than twenty millions are playing basketball. Now when the bowling people say 7,000,000 play or rather bowl, they know what they are talking about, because they have an accurate check. When the pin-pong people sell twenty million ping-pong bats, that's fact. If there

are half that number playing basketbakl, I'd be surprised. Why ? Because its a young man's game. You can't play it at 40. The games that are growing today are the games older men can play,; softball, horseshoes, squash, and prissy games like badminton and ping pong. These are games. The various forms of exhibitionism like football, basketball, etc which are played, have no more relation to sport than fornication. Men don't play football after they leave college, unless they're crazy or Red Grange. Even today, football has no more place in an institution of learning than a Jew in Hitler's bathtub.

But I'm getting away from the subject. What I started to say Mr. Allen was, that I think you'r wrong. You can't convince me twenty millions play a game like basketball and the manufacturers be unaware of it. But thanks a lot for writing, just the same.

Faithfully yourd,

John R. Tunis

Forrest C. Allen, Esq.
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

February 27
1 9 3 5

Mr. John R. Tunis,
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Tunis:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 25th ultimo.

I heartily agree with you that there are too many yes men in the country already. Therefore, in the true spirit of camaraderie, greetings from one anti to another. Indeed I am very fond of intellectual honesty, but I fear in your recent correspondence that a certain species of intellectual honesty was aborted soon after conception.

As Chairman of the Press Committee of the National Association of Basket Ball Coaches of the United States and as Chairman of the Research Committee of the National Basket Ball Rules Body, I expect to give you certain irrefutable facts bearing upon my previous statement concerning numbers playing basket ball in the United States. When I made the statement that twenty million people were playing basket ball I did not confine the number of participants to America. However, I expect to make a definite recheck on both national and foreign participants in this sport and although it may take several months to obtain this data, you shall receive an authenticated compilation of facts and figures in due time.

I was struck by the lack of coherence between the trend of the argument in your article and the thought conveyed in your letter. The underlying thought of your article seems to be "playing-games" as against "attendance-games". However, you seem to be somewhat confused at times on the differentiation between attendance games and participation games. Especially do you strengthen this belief when you say to me that basket ball "is a young man's game. You can't play it at forty. The games that are growing today are the games that older men can play." Yet, nowhere in your article was the reader made to understand that you were drawing fine lines between youth-sports and maturity sports.

I fear that you have an improper conception of sports. The game fitted for a man of forty is not

necessarily played by boys of the teen age. Games suited to the physical and moral growth of the boy are specially indicated. Indeed it would be a poor plight to teach young boys games that men past forty enjoy. Fighting games with contact and combat, which develop the qualities of courage, romance and drama are necessities for the boy. "Man is an omnibus in which all of our ancestors ride."

The English conception of a gentleman is that one should learn to play one game well. It is for the purpose of acquiring game sense and thus to teach sportsmanship in the growing boy, that the educators of America have incorporated athletics in our school system. Education through play is as sound today for the high school and college boy as was Froebel's theory which he prescribed for the kindergarten age years ago.

We have our youth for play and development, rather than to learn games for the forty year age period. I am inclined to grow facetious and to state that many men past forty are permitting gin to do the thing for them in the way of a kick or pickup that exercise would have done had they indulged in the struggle or fighting games during the early period of their youth. In other words, I think I can rightfully apply the fooling play theory of Froebel's to the forty year elders in their play and can also consistently apply the serious play theory to the youth in their teens. The serious play is for a purpose, while the fooling play tends to pacifical behavior and leads to no great purpose.

Therefore, I still believe that you have slighted a fast growing attendance and playing game that the provincial east has as yet failed to appreciate and which should have been included in any article on fast-growing sports.

Your comparison of football, basket ball and fornication in relation to real sport, is unworthy of a dignified reply. As truly as does tennis, basket ball deserves its place in both attendance and in participation sports. In your letter you hoot at the idea that basket ball recently drew over 16,000 at Madison Square Garden, yet in your article you mention with dignity the fact that "last February 17,000 persons, the largest number that ever saw a match of tennis, packed into the Garden to see Tilden play Cochet. They stayed until nearly 1 o'clock on the worst morning of the winter and paid almost $30,000 for the privilege."

#3 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 27, 1935

The basket ball games that I mentioned were college sports played by amateurs - collegians. The tennis match that you mention was more than tennis. It was a duel between two professional super-champions, Tilden and Cochet. You ought to know that.

In spite of the fact that in dividing your article into epochs, you state that the super-champions passed away at the end of 1930. Yet, you state the basket ball games were exhibitionisms and not sport. I maintain that these games were and are more than exhibitionisms, - they are both attendance and participation sports and are entitled to the benefits of both.

Again I ask, when for years basket ball over the United States has been both a fast growing attendance and participation sport, why you utterly ignore it as either? However, I note that you concede basket ball to woman-competition. This is some concession.

Of course, you can be excused for your undue liberality toward tennis. Perhaps you can say the same thing for me concerning basket ball. You might be interested to know that at the University of California, Prof. Clifton Price, a tennis and not a basket ball enthusiast, in his letter to me of January 7, 1935 states, "That we have only 12 tennis courts for 11,750 students at Berkeley." In contrast to this they have built a new mammoth field house for basket ball at Berkeley, which seats over 8,000 spectators.

Most of our mid-western state universities have field houses which accomodate from 5,000 to 15,000 spectators at their conference semi-weekly championship basket ball games. The legislators and school board members are the real Sports Promoters of Basket Ball. With a thorough working public school system, requiring compulsory physical training, one has the explanation of the astounding growth of basket ball throughout the United States. Every new public school building is equipped with a gymnasium outfitted for basket ball. And most of the private schools have them, as do many churches. Basket ball is inexpensive to the player. The state pays the overhead. The expense to the player is a cotton gym shirt and a pair of tennis shoes or sneakers. One basket ball will last a whole season.

#4 Mr.John R. Tunis
February 27, 1935

Golf, tennis and baseball grounds require maintenance. Even a school boy must pay to play golf on a public course. That same boy can play basket ball all winter in his school or church for nothing. And in summer with a pair of hoops nailed to an upright 10 ft. from the ground in his own backyard he can continue the development of his health and skills with this versatile game. In a tournament in Indianapolis alone 600 teams engaged in basket ball. In the same city 15,000 people paid admissions each day for a high school tournament lasting three days, and the doors were closed while hundreds were turned away.

I am sending a recent copy of "Health Rays" of the K.C. Missouri Public Schools, showing marked spaces devoted to basket ball. Please refer to page 3, wherein it states that 2,500 adult players have been playing basket ball recently. In one of the high schools alone, the Paseo High School, Kansas City, there are 112 organized teams of basket ball.

I am enclosing a sheet from Iowa State College Daily Sports Service wherein it states there are ninety intramural teams there. Also, you will find enclosed the December issue of the Kansas Athlete, page 3, wherein it shows that there are 644 organized competitive teams of basket ball out of a total membership of 657 senior high schools in the State of Kansas. Mr. E.A. Thomas, Executive Secretary of the Kansas State High School Athletic Association, estimates that there are 16,000 high school boys and 4,000 high school girls playing basket ball in the high schools of Kansas this year. He further estimates there are 2,500 junior high school youngsters participating.

Incidentally there is more newspaper space devoted to basket ball in the mid-western papers in the winter than that given to all other sports combined - bowling included.

In looking over your manufacturer's list regarding the ten fastest growing sports in the United States, I thought it might prove interesting to you to submit Mr. Fred Turbyville's figures on the numbers taking part in intramural events in the different sports among the college people of America. This is a compilation from 255 colleges and universities in this country, published under the title "The Blue Book of College Athletics" and edited and published by McNitts, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio. In 255 colleges the number taking part in intramural events in the different sports are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Baseball | 21,889 |

#5 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 27, 1935

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Playground ball | 8,306 | |
| Indoor ball | 2,718 | |
| Soft ball | 994 | |
| Diamond ball | 979 | |
| Kittenball | 876 | |
| Mushball | 419 | 36,181 |
| Football | 12,517 | |
| Speed ball | 2,925 | |
| Touch-football | 1,700 | 17,142 |
| Basket Ball | 32,467 | |
| Free Throw | 3,148 | 35,615 |
| Bowling | | 3,298 |
| Badminton | | 179 |
| Ping Pong | | 936 |
| Archery | | 326 |
| Horseshoes | | 5,507 |
| Soccer | | 7,472 |
| Squash | | 6,429 |
| Tennis | | 17,549 |
| Trap-shooting (not mentioned) | | |
| Golf | | 10,316 |
| Polo | | 47 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Number playing basket ball | 35,615 |
| " playing all the games mentioned in this list | 39,544 |

I have just received some very interesting figures from two of our largest manufacturers, jobbers and wholesalers of athletic equipment in this country. They stated that of their total business over a period of the last four years basket ball represented the following percentages:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1931 - - - - | 12.5% |
| 1932 - - - - | 13.5% |
| 1933 - - - - | 14.1% |
| 1934 - - - - | 14.5% |

This shows that despite the depression their basket ball business has indreased.

#6 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 27, 1935

Further these manufacturers rate the following as their list of the fastest growing sports in America today:

1. Soft Ball
2. Ping Pong
3. Basket Ball
4. Badminton
5. Soccer
6. Squash
7. Archery

They further state that badminton is growing rapidly but is a very small industry in comparison with other sports, and that soccer and squash are just about holding their own. They have handled archery equipment for years but believe that archery has had its peak.

I have just finished a definite check-up with Dr. James Naismith, who originated the game of basket ball in 1891, as to the nations now playing basket ball. He lists 46 nations, namely: Australia, Africa, Brazil, Germany, England, Alaska, Hawaii, New Zealand, France, Spain, Portugal, Madagascar, Uruguay, Chile, Mexico, Switzerland, Rumania, Czecho-Slovakia, China, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Canada, Chosen, Paraguay, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Panama, Italy, India, United States, Poland, Bulgaria, Argentine, Latvia, Hungary, Syria, Cuba, Porto Rico, Haiti, Persia, Siam, Arabia, Ceylon, and Bolivia.

Basket ball is now an Olympic sport because of the surge of youthful interest in this game and not because it is in a class with "pogroms and bull fighting". The Olympics have revived and kept alive track sports. So shall they further develop the growing popularity of basket ball among the nations of the world.

In Section III of your article you elaborate upon the deflation aspect of "Bulletin No. 29" of the Carnegie Foundation Report. Aside from causing an initial flurry among the athletic and academic faculty as well as providing an opportunity for sports editors to elaborate pro and con regarding

__Regulation court.

--Court for Experimental Games.

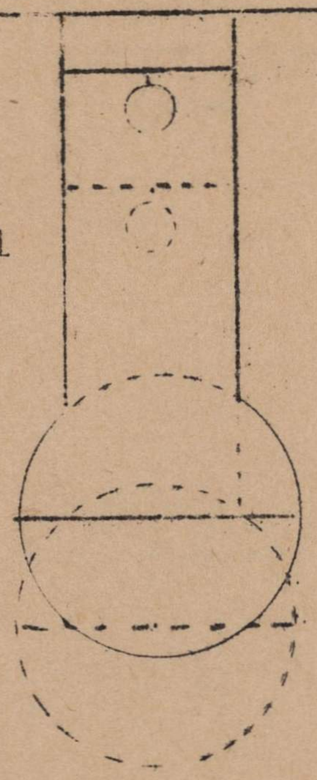
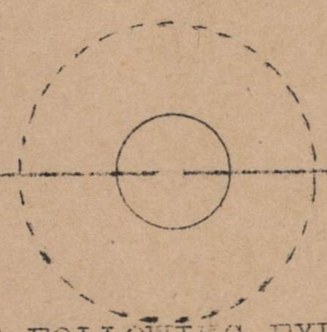


DIAGRAM BASKET BALL COURT

To Be Used In

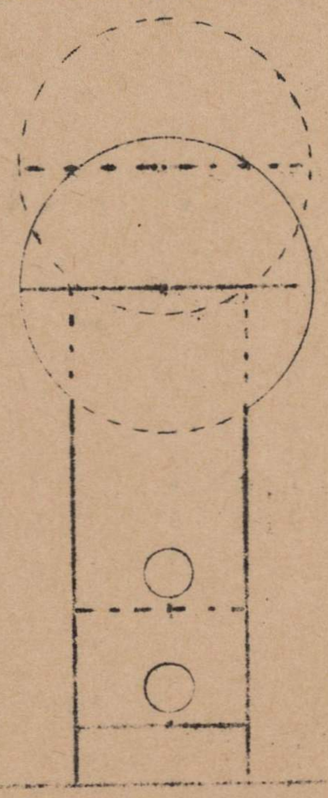
TWO CLINIC GAMES BETWEEN KANSAS U.- KANSAS STATE

December 14 and 18



GAMES WILL INVOLVE THE FOLLOWING EXPERIMENTAL FEATURES:

1. Goals moved in 6 ft. from end line instead of 2 ft.
2. Baskets 12 ft. in height instead of 10 ft.
3. Field goals 3 points; free throws 1 point.
4. Three 6 ft. radius restraining circles, all held or jump balls thrown up in nearest circle.
5. Time out after all goals, throw or field.
6. All free throws in half of court in which foul is made.
7. Fifteen minutes between halves instead of ten.



the alleged over emphasis on football nothing constructive to date has been accomplished by the publication of this famous bulletin. It did not act as a deflationary instrument on sport nor is it of any potent constructive force at present.

May I quote the words of President Angell of Yale University when he said, "We must believe in all sincerity, as I am sure many of us do not, that physical education, including competitive sports, is an essential part of the obligation of the college and in no sense a mere excrescence to be confided to the casual outsider or to the transient apprentice. We must recognize that it stands in the closest possible relation to moral education, which we often pronounce as one of the prime duties of the college, if not, indeed, the very first. We must believe unreservedly in sports for the whole college community, and competitive group sports as far as possible. If, then, physical education in the largest sense is an intrinsic part of the work of the college, why should there longer be hesitation in recognizing that fact, and accepting the full responsibilities that go with it."

Thirty years ago Ex-president Theodore Roosevelt saved the game of football for the good that he thought it possessed. The disease of the gridiron starts from without, among the men whose interest is misguided. The games of football and basket ball will increase in player and spectator interest because they are contact and combat games that appeal to the red-blooded youth of America.

Of course, attendance in sport fell off with the decline in earning power during the depression starting in 1930. Exhibitionisms or attendance sports may have been on the decline the last few years but the real Golden Era of attendance sports will reach its peak in 1939, and, Mr. Tunis, your article as of December 1934, will be in the same relationship of antiquity regarding prophecy as was your Mr. Jones' abundant interest concerning sport. All stadia will be overflowing, our playgrounds, public and private courses will be filled to capacity with the return of prosperity. The depression deflated sport as it did all super-activities, so shall boom days again return the milk and honey to the land of athletic plenty.

With all sincerity, I am
Very cordially yours,

FCA:IW

Director.

Improper Conception of Sports - The game fitted for a man of 40 should not necessarily be played by boys of the teenage + Games suited to the age and strength of the boy are perfectly proper. Courage, Romance & Drama are the necessities.

Contact and Combat — City boy Boxing & Wrestling Farmer

"Start hitting some kind of a ball."

Hockey dot nation over the West & South - rinks in towns of 2 to 300,000

First class tennis - sold by Bill Tilden & Co. You naturally gave Tennis a big hand, it deserves it perhaps but Bill Tilden was the attraction who had him here to exhibit his skills and his ~~dips~~ idiosyncrasies and his temperamental moods - He did not boost tennis as a sport. The public paid to see him.

Maintenance of tennis courts costs $1/2 per day to sprinkle, roll and mark out courts.

Here at the U of Kansas we have 26 tennis courts for students to play on yet at the U of Cal @ Berkley they have but 7. When Dwinelle Yoder new plant a few years back their ~~Cotton~~ Cas ~~Cotton~~ Cas courts plus a dozen others lolded ~~an~~ enormous expense with the possibility of but few participating. Tennis BB was invented

Largest of Tennis participation

Tennis was a major sport in the Colleges in 1890. Professors and pitchers and slaving men played it assiduously in the gay nineties.

~~(If 3 or 4 million people play tennis as you state then I am sure that 20,000,000 is a small figure for basketball participants~~

BB Club 1878 founded in N.Y.

Badminton played by millions in gyms Y's Armories + Clubs - Croquet, bowls archery, deck tennis all of these are easily learned by anyone.

Civil War Baseball
World War Football & Basket Ball
One thing I'm going to find out both for myself & for you + the number of people playing B.B both in the U.S. and the world. It will take a year to do it but I will have it for you. And I am convinced that Bill Shaw you - even tho I am not a Mason

Ping Pong played in Apartments

Ping pong played by 5 millions - I am surprised that you would doubt my veracity regarding 30 millions BB when you use the word millions so lightly. Why not question the printed word since anything will lie on paper.

Coal

Commercialized Exhibitionism is on the decline.

Attendance Sports - in contradistinction to sports in which people take part.

(over)

Did the manufacturer make the wooden horses for polo practice mounts?

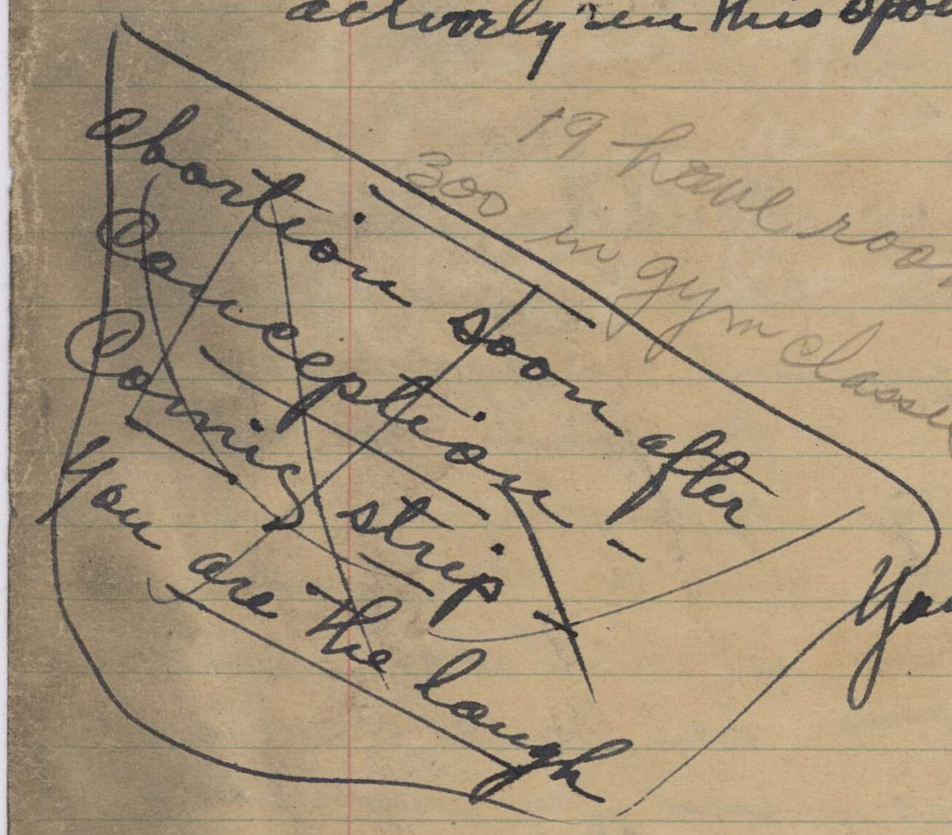
1 Soft Ball
2 Badminton
3 Soccer
4 Squash Games
5 Archery
6 Polo & Horses
7 Ping Pong
8 Trap Shooting
9 Horseshoes
10 Tennis

Later Sport.

Why did you not mention the stimulation from Gin that so many of the athletes indulge in?

Trapshooting has 5 million followers - You still continue to be reckless in your gaming & Editorial life. Then permit me to say that B.B. has 100,000,000 as followers.

Horse shoes
7,000,000 participate actively in this sport.




Fast growing Hyperbole

Rackets + Squash Rackets Badminton

These games, played near thruout the college world as well, have been adopted by business men clubs rdly - That is a laugh. What if the new Whitney Gym & Yale has 30 courts more than there were over the Entire Country at the time when Mr Jones thought of squash as a vegetable - For every squash court there are over 1000 basket ball courts.

Bowling

More people bowl than engage in any other form of athletics.

7,000,000

Lay it out to the manufacturer same scheme the superintendent of a school system uses when he says the school board hires fires.

Fastest growing ball game is soft ball - a game officially less than one yr old.

"Last F'eb 17,000 prisons — The King of Tennis Tilden on 2 occasions You scoffed at over over 16000 attendance when mere college teams played in the Garden

Do you think B.B. paid the garden a dividend - when Irish arranged these empty dates as a mere filler for Col. Fitzpatrick

Jno T. Doyle that enuf of it to write me a special letter on it -

Hockey - People enjoy watching ~~Hockey~~ speedy game like hockey but only the young and athletic are fast enuf to play it.

Lawrence, Kansas
February 23, 1935

Mr. John R. Tunis,
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Tunis:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 25th ultimo.

To begin with I heartily agree with you that there are too many yes men in the country already. Therefore, in the true spirit of camaraderie, greetings from one anti to another. Indeed I am very fond of intellectual honesty, but I fear in your recent correspondence that a certain species of intellectual honesty was aborted soon after conception.

As Chairman of the Press Committee of the National Association of Basket Ball Coaches of the United States and as Chairman of the Research Committee of the National Basket Ball Rules Body, I expect to give you certain irrefutable facts bearing upon my previous statement concerning numbers playing basket ball in the United States. When I made the statement that twenty million people were playing basket ball I didn't confine the number of participants to America. However, I expect to make a definite recheck on both national and foreign participants in this sport and although it may take several months to obtain this data, you shall receive an authenticated compilation of facts and figures in due time.

I was struck by the ~~Anti~~ lack of coherence between the theme of your article and the thought conveyed in your letter. The underlying trend of your argument seems to be "playing-games" as against "attendance-games". However, you seem to be somewhat confused at times on the differentiation

between attendance games and participation games. Especially do you strengthen this belief when you say to me that basket ball "is a young man's game. You can't play it at 40. The games that are growing today are the games that older men can play."

Yet nowhere in your article was the reader made to understand that you were drawing fine lines between youth-sports and maturity-sports.

I fear that you have an improper conception of sports. The game fitted for a man of 40 ~~should~~ is not necessarily to be played by boys of the teen age. Games suited to the physical and moral growth of the boy are specifically indicated. ~~perfectly proper.~~ Indeed it would be a poor plight to teach the young boys games ~~in their teens, games~~ that men past 40 enjoy. Fighting games with contact and combat, which develop the qualities of courage, romance and drama are necessities. "Man is an omnibus in which all of his ancestors ride."

The English conception of a gentleman is that you should learn to play one game well. It is for the purpose of acquiring game sense and thus to teach sportsmanship in the growing boy, ~~rather than to teach a particular game~~ that the educators of America have incorporated athletics in our school system. Education through play is as sound today for the high school and college boy as was Froebel's theory which he prescribed for the kindergarten age years ago.

We have our youth for play and development, ~~rather than to develop during our youth games for the 40 age period.~~ learn games for the 40-year period. I am inclined to grow facetious and to state that many men past 40 are permitting gin to do the thing for them in the way of a kick or pickup that exercise would have done had they indulged in the struggle or fighting games during the early period of their youth. Continued on following page

#3 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 23, 1935

no par -

In other words, I think I can rightfully apply the fooling play theory of Froebel's to the 40 year elders in their play and can also consistently apply the serious play theory to the youth in their teens. The serious play is for a purpose, while the fooling play tends to security? (spelling) and to no great purpose.

Therefore, I still believe that you have slighted a fast growing attendance and playing game that the provincial east has as yet failed to appreciate and which should have been included in any article on fast-growing sports.

Your comparison of football, and basket ball and fornication in relation to real sport, is unworthy of a dignified reply. As truly as does tennis, basket ball deserves its place in both attendance and in participation sports. In your letter you hoot at the idea that basket ball recently drew over 16,000 at Madison Square Garden, yet in your article you mention with dignity the fact that "last February 17,000 persons, the largest number that ever saw a match of tennis, packed into the Garden to see Tilden play Cochet. They stayed until nearly 1 o'clock on the worst morning of the winter and paid almost $30,000 for the privilege."

The basket ball games that I mentioned were college sports played by amateurs - collegians. The tennis match that you mention was more than tennis. It was a duel between two professional super-champions, Tilden and Cochet. You ought to know that.

In spite of the fact that in dividing your article into epochs, you state that the super-champions passed away at the end of 1930. Yet, you state the basket ball games were exhibitionisms and not sport. I maintain that these games were more

than exhibitionisms, - they were both attendance and participation sports.

Again I ask when for years basket ball over the United States has been both a fast growing attendance and participation sport, why you utterly ignore it as either? However, I note that you concede basket ball to woman-competition. This is some concession.

Of course, you can be excused for your undue liberality toward tennis. Perhaps you can say the same thing for me concerning basket ball.

You might be interested to know that at the University of California, Prof. Clifton Price, a tennis and not a basket ball enthusiast, in his letter to me of January 7, 1935 states, "That we have only 12 tennis courts for 11,750 students at Berkeley." In contrast to this they have built a new mammoth field house for basket ball at Berkeley, which seats over 8,000 spectators for basket ball.

Most of our mid-western state universities have field houses which accomodate from 5,000 to 15,000 spectators at their conference semi-weekly championship basket ball games.

The legislators and school board members are the real Sports Promoters of Basket Ball. With a thorough working public school system, requiring compulsory physical training, one has the explanation of the astounding growth of basket ball throughout the United States.

Every new public school building is equipped with a gymnasium outfitted for basket ball. And most of the private schools have them as do many churches.

#5 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 23, 1935

add to other par

No par

Basket ball is inexpensive to the player. The state pays the overhead. The expense to the player is a cotton gym shirt and a pair of tennis shoes or sneakers. One basket ball will last a whole season.

Golf, tennis and baseball grounds require maintenance. Even a school boy must pay to play golf on a public course. That same boy can play basket ball all winter in his school or church for nothing. And, in summer with a pair of hoops nailed to an upright 10 ft. from the ground, in his own backyard, he can continue the development of his health and skills with this ~~very~~ versatile game. In a tournament in Indianapolis alone, 600 teams engaged in basket ball. In the same city, 15,000 people paid admission each day for a high school tournament, lasting three days, and the doors were closed while hundreds were turned away.

I am sending a recent copy of "Health Rays" of the K.C. Missouri Public Schools, showing marked spaces devoted to basket ball. Please refer to page 3, wherein it states that 2,300 adult players have been playing basket ball recently. In one of the high schools alone, ~~there~~, the Paseo High School, Kansas City, there are 112 organized teams of basket ball.

I am enclosing a sheet from Iowa State College Daily Sports Service wherein it states there are ninety intramural teams, ~~there~~. Also, you will find enclosed the December issue of the Kansas Athlete, page 3, wherein it shows that there are 644 organized competitive teams of basket ball out of a total membership of 657 senior high schools in the State of Kansas. Mr. E.A. Thomas, Executive Secretary of the Kansas State High School Athletic Association, estimates that there are 16,000 high school boys and 4,000 high school

girls playing basket ball in the high schools of Kansas this year. He further estimates there are 2,500 junior high school youngsters participating.

Incidentally there is more newspaper space devoted to basket ball in the mid-western papers in the winter than that given to all other sports combined - bowling included.

In looking over your manufacturer's list regarding ~~your~~ the ~~allegedly~~ 10 fastest growing sports in the United States, I thought it might prove interesting to you to submit Mr. Fred Turbyville's figures on the numbers taking part in intramural events in the different sports among the college people of America. This is a compilation from 255 colleges and universities in this country, published under the title "The Blue Book of College Athletics" and edited and published by McNitts, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio.

In 255 Colleges, the number taking part in intramural events in the different sports -

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baseball | 21,889 | |
| Playground ball | 8,306 | |
| Indoor ball | 2,718 | |
| Soft ball | 994 | |
| Diamond ball | 979 | |
| Kittenball | 876 | |
| Mushball | 419 | 36,181 |
| Football | 12,517 | |
| Speed ball | 2,925 | |
| Touch-football | 1,700 | 17,142 |
| Basketball | 32,467 | |
| Free throw | 3,148 | 35,615 |
| Bowling | | 3,298 |
| Badminton | | 179 |
| Ping Pong | | 936 |
| Archery | | 326 |
| Horseshoes | | 5,507 |
| Soccer | | 7,472 |
| Squash | | 6,429 |

#7 Mr. John R. Tunis
February 23, 1935

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tennis | 17,549 | |
| Polo | 47 | |
| Trap shooting | (not mentioned) | |
| Golf | 10,316 | |

Number playing basket ball 35,615

" playing all the games mentioned in this list 39,544

While my final statistics on numbers playing basket will not be ready for quite some time

I have just received some very interesting figures from two of the largest manufacturers, jobbers and wholesalers of athletic equipment in this country - They stated that of their total business over a period of the last four years basket ball represented the following percentages:

1931 --- 12.5 %
1932 --- 13.5 %
1933 --- 14.1 %
1934 --- 14.5 %

This shows that despite the depression their basket ball business has increased.

Further these manufacturers list state as their list of the rate the following

fastest growing sports in America today;

1 ~~Indoor Baseball~~ Soft Ball

2 Ping Pong

3 Basket Ball.

4 Badminton.

5 Soccer.

6 Squash.

7 Archery.

They further state that badminton is growing rapidly but is a very small industry in comparison with other sports, and that that soccer and squash are just about holding their own. They have handled archery equipment for years but believe that archery has had its peak.

I have just finished a definite check-up with Dr. James Naismith who originated the game of basket ball in 1891, as to the nations playing basket ball. He lists 46 nations, namely, ~~_____~~ run list & correct spelling

Australia.
Africa.
Brazil.
Germany
England
Alaska
Hawai.
New Zealand
France
Spain
Portugal
Madagascar
Uruguay
Chile
Mexico
Switzerland
Rumania
ChecoZeklavia
China
Corea
Japan
Philipines
Canada
Chosen
Paraguay
Greece
Turkey
Egypt.
Panama
Italy
India.
United States
Poland
Bulgaria
Argentina
Latvia
Hungary
Syria.
Cuba
Porto Rico
Haiti
Persia
Siam
Arabia
Ceylon
Bolivia

1 Basket Ball
2 Soccer

200 000
Bowling alleys

more BB

1000

46

Basket ball is now an Olympic sport because of the surge of youthful interest in this game and not because it is in a class with "pageants and bull fighting". The Olympics have revived and kept alive track sports. So shall they further develop the growing popularity of basket ball among the nations of the world.

In ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Section ~~III~~ of your article you elaborate upon the deflation aspect of "Bulletin No. 29" of the Carnegie Foundation Report.

Aside from causing an initial flurry among the athletes and academic faculty as well as providing an opportunity for sports editors to elaborate pro and con regarding the ~~or~~ alleged over emphasis on football nothing constructive to date has been accomplished by the publication of this famous bulletin. It did not act as a deflationary instrument on sport nor is it of any potent ~~ordinance~~ constructive force at present.

May I quote the words of President Angell of Yale University when he said, " quotes (P 590 H.E. in Amer.)

"Thirty years ago President Theadore Roosevelt saved the game of football for the good that he thought it possessed. The disease of the spirit starts from without - among the mass whose interest is misguided. The game of football and basket ball will increase in player and spectator interest because they are contact and combat games that appeal to the red blood youth of America. Such games always attract enthusiastic audiences. The players must learn to say "no" to temptation a thousand times before they can say yes once to victory.

Of course attendance in sport fell off with the decline in earning power during the depression starting in 1930. " Exhibitionisms or attendance sports may have been on the decline the last four years but I do not make a prediction for 1939. The real Golden Era of attendance Sports will reach its peak in 1939.

~~during this period~~ and ~~in my opinion~~
and Mr. Innis ^ your article ^ as ^ of December will be
in the same relationship of antiquity
regarding prophecy as was Mr. Jones
abundant interest concerning sport.
Our stadia will be overflowing our
playgrounds, public and private courses
will be filled to capacity with the
return of prosperity. "I did all I can unto this
deflated sport" so shall boom days
again return the milk and honey
to the land of athletes plenty.