

# WICHITAN WINS NATIONAL SPORT FAME DESPITE INABILITY TO HEAR

## Dalton Fuller, Deaf-mute Who Starred in Three Sports, Started Career 40 Years Ago

The life of the average athlete, with everything in his favor, is hardly one sweet song, but with the cards stacked against him from the start, it is something else again.

Dalton Fuller, Wichita deaf-mute, serves as a practical illustration of the will to do things being sufficient to the needs thereof, for in spite of his handicap, one that would have deterred many from even attempting to do anything in that line, he has been in turn, a basketball player, baseball player and last, but not least in any manner, a gridiron athlete of high ability.

One of the finest tributes to Fuller, and incidentally, one of his cherished mementos, is a letter from Forrest C. (Phog) Allen, famous director of athletics at Kansas university. Allen, who recalls Fuller's start in athletics, particularly basketball, when the Wichitan was an honor student at the Olathe school for the deaf, pays high praise to the latter for his ability and also his sportsmanship under fire.

Fuller's association with Allen dates back to 1903, when basketball was virtually in its swaddling clothes, particularly in Kansas. Many of the smaller schools had yet to take the venture into the sport that has since become outstanding in the Sunflower state, where many of the greatest exponents have had their start and made national history. In that year Fuller was a member of the Olathe team, which opposed Kansas university, Allen appearing in the Jayhawker lineup. K. U. won 32 to 15, Fuller recalling that the Kansas mentor played a starring role in the defeat of the Olathe squad.

### Professional Player

Starting his baseball career at the age of 16 years, Fuller soon found his way to professional circles, much of his education along that line coming from the famous Luther (Dummy) Taylor, who was connected with the school and at the same time a star hurler for the

