

sands of gamblers looking for new rackets, and our college sports will be the next thing they will try to take over.

### 'For Sport's Sake'

The professional game, being a competitive business, not a sport, creates the attitude that "the crime is in getting caught." The college slogan, whether it is true or not, is "sport for sport's sake." Winning, while important from an educational standpoint, is not supposed to be the most important factor. "Not winning or losing, but playing it out" to the best of one's ability, develops strength of character and fortitude.

In 1905 the then President Theodore Roosevelt saved the game of football from extinction when intercollegiate football was on trial because of physical dangers to the participants. The protest then was against too many deaths from injuries.

### Dangers to Sports

Today, with college sports on trial again, there is need of another militant leader. To offset this gambling menace to our college sports, it is essential that a courageous, farsighted band of college and university presidents assemble and give unlimited power to a high commissioner of college sport. Baseball gave unlimited power to Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, and he built confidence in a sport that had received a knock-out by the gamblers, who are trying to clean up on intercollegiate athletics.

These are the dangers menacing our major college sports:

**Football:** Proselyting, the lifting of a star player from one campus

prospect. Naturally the baseball coach draws from the country young baseball players with outstanding talent. Instead of the coach being a faculty member in fact, he is a glorified scout developing boys to follow baseball as a profession rather than dentistry, law, engineering or medicine.

**Basketball:** There is traffic in the 6 foot 10 inch basketball players among the basketball coaches to the same degree that feverish activity is manifest among football coaches toward a star tackle or forward passer who can thread the eye of a needle with his football pass.

**Track:** A star track man on the east or west coast is much more valuable from a subsidizing standpoint than he is in the middle west because track has not developed in the midlands to the extent that it has on both coasts.

### No Promoters

Current opinion is that basketball teams should not play in large city auditoriums. There is just as much reason for college teams playing in city auditoriums or stadium as there is an excuse for college football teams to play in the Yankee Stadium or any baseball park. The question is that these games should be under the supervision of the colleges, and not the professional promoters.

I know of no college coach in the major sports who has had any connection with gamblers. But the great evils which exist certainly could make a full-time job for a high commissioner. We cannot deny the fact that the emphasis on big-time sports created by the increased interest of the public has

# Akron Junks Promoters

By ERWIN VAN SWOL

The University of Akron is through with professionally promoted basketball games.

In a telegram to PM, H. E. Simmons, the University's president, said:

"The University of Akron will compete in no more intercollegiate athletic contests where we do not contract directly with the educational institution with whom we are participating. This is true from this date forward."



Chase Ain't Talkin'

Akron thus becomes the first college since the bribery scandal to quit the "trained flea" role in which cagemen of many of the higher institutions of learning have filled the big hippodromes like Madison Square Garden. General practice was for the promoters to go out and recruit a schedule, giving the colleges that were willing a guarantee and percentage of the gate receipts.

One of these games, Akron versus Brooklyn College, scheduled for last Wednesday night in Boston, blew the lid off. Five Brooklyn players admitted getting \$1000 of a promised \$3000 from a trio of professional gamblers, two of whom have been locked up, by agreeing

to throw the game to Akron.

Dr. Simmons' statement was a reply to queries by PM to the heads of 24 colleges, six in New York City, as to their future basketball plans

Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase, of NYU, would not comment.

Dr. Frank S. Lloyd, director of CCNY's Hygiene Dept., declared it "involved a matter of policy, and the Faculty Athletic Committee would have to answer." None of City College's administrative officials could do so, he said.

The position of the small schools was indicated by Brother Richard, athletic director of St. Francis College, Brooklyn, who said:

"We do not intend to pull out of, as you call it 'professionally promoted games.' I don't see what is wrong with 'professionally promoted.' The big college football games that attract tens of thousands of spectators are almost professional. So far as the smaller colleges are concerned, we don't make enough to be able to carry on without the few big games. Our court is so small, we never make any profit on home games. We couldn't get any of the big clubs to come here and play us."

Meanwhile the Kings County Grand Jury, which is probing the whole basketball setup, will continue to hear the opinions of sports writers and college coaches. Dan Parker, sports editor of the *Daily Mirror*, was the first to testify.

minister the laws when football coaches and athletic directors were considered unqualified to reflect academic ideals.

Today, nine out of 10 faculty representatives are unqualified to cope with the present situation. They know no more about the athletic danger confronting athletics than the athletic directors know about the faculty representative's main business, which generally is a deanship of his college.

If they had known more of this nasty business that now confronts us, it would never have happened because they would have seen the handwriting on the wall, and would have acted. The high resolutions passed at the last meeting of the NCCA in Columbus shows this.

The talk of some college presidents of abolishing the game will not absolve them of their responsibility. Had we had vigorous action by college administrators, this thing never would have happened. The heart of the 15-year-old American boy is clean as a hound's tooth. He is still a hero-worshipper. We must preserve this ideal for him.

Our boys in the many armed forces, upon the seven seas and the many battle fronts, are fighting to preserve the things they love in America. Sport of all kinds gets a hearty and tremendous response from our Yanks. Certainly, while they are fighting to preserve democracy they expect the home front to preserve the many sports free from encroachment of the professional gambling rodents, chiselers, and tin torns.

Cheap racketeers are eating at the very foundation of our American sports by "fixing" the players who participate.