
MENACING AMATEUR SPORTS

THE WORLD of scholastic and college athletics owes a great deal to Phog Allen, veteran basketball coach and physical director at the University of Kansas.

It was he who had the courage first to point out that gamblers were horning in on the sport of basketball. Now we know that they have been tampering with college players and offering them large sums of money to throw games. That is what Phog Allen said was going on several years ago. And he said it so plainly and so positively that he brought upon himself derision and abuse.

Some of that continues. But right and the vast company of those who love amateur sport are on his side. His cause will win. Gambling on games may be impossible to stop. But tampering with players and betting on a sure thing can be stopped and it will be.

I HAD THE HONOR of a brief personal acquaintance with Mr. Allen more than two years ago. While serving in the Marine Corps, I visited his institution to secure applicants for officer training. He was most helpful and kind. And I had an opportunity to know him better through several games of handball during off hours at the gym, in which he joined me. In that brief time, I came to respect and to admire him.

His life effort is devoted to clean sport. His teams are taught to play to win. But they must win "clean". He couples that high principle with great skill at his chosen profession and an impressive, attractive personality. All Americans who love clean sport owe much to Phog Allen.

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