

November 11, 1944.

Mr. Robert Fuoss, Managing Editor,
The Saturday Evening Post,
Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Fuoss:

Naturally the minds of many people wonder why the legally constituted athletic authorities of the National Collegiate Athletic Association are not enthusiastic regarding an intercollegiate czar the type of Judge Landis.

I am giving you this information confidentially. You may never want to touch upon it in any way, but it will explain things to you, I believe, that will be helpful in fathoming this situation.

I have known Major John L. Griffith for thirty-five or more years. John Griffith was director of athletics and director of the Drake Relays, as well as the football and other sports coach when one man coached all sports. This was long before World War I. He was a better than average coach and a great personality with organizing ability. Confidentially, he has had a phobia to be in the President's Cabinet for years as the educational athletic advisor of the nation, much after the manner of the Commissioner of Education.

During World War I he was one of the athletic administrators, being stationed at Camp Dodge, just out of Des Moines. In 1916 just before World War I, I signed a contract with George Huff, director of athletics at Illinois, to go to Illinois. The war rumblings were then on and we postponed my going until after the war. After the war things had changed quite considerably and Major John L. Griffith was then an applicant for intramural director at Illinois and one of the administrators of the four-year coaching school course.

Some of my duties and some of Major Griffith's duties were overlapping. I went to Urbana to confer with Mr. Huff regarding the job. Just at that time the possibilities opened here, and I chose the competitive side while Major Griffith, due to his war work, went into the intramural and administrative field.

When a commissioner for the Big Ten was discussed, Tom Jones who was athletic director at Wisconsin, wrote me and asked if I was interested in the commissioner's job. He said there were certain factions promoting Major Griffith of Illinois, and Wisconsin was not at that time