

between the N.C.A.A. and the A.A.U. that there was verbal war. Major Palmer Pearson fought so bitterly and personalities were so strong that it was necessary for Major Pearson to resign his position as president of the N.C.A.A. so that negotiations could be carried on by the A.A.U. In other words, Major Griffith was leading the fight by staying in the background. He did not get hurt, but the front men did. Then Major Griffith negotiated with Avery Brundage and other people, and Major Griffith emerged the top man. Griffith arranged the deal with Brundage, saying, Give us control of naming the coaches for track and field, crew, swimming and wrestling, and you can have basketball and the other sports. In other words, the N.C.A.A. sold basketball down the river after basketball had been recognized in the Olympic Games. But Major Griffith had made a ten-strike because it gave to him St. John and other powerful figures in the N.C.A.A. the naming of these Olympic coaches and their assistant coaches.

On all the N.C.A.A. committees Major Griffith and his group have named coaches in the eight N.C.A.A. districts of the United States which gives him a powerful leverage.

The Big Ten is considered the top conference in the United States, certainly by the Big Ten officials and many others. Major Griffith, having served as president and now as secretary-treasurer with Phil Badger of New York as president of the N.C.A.A., has a very keen insight in the athletic politics of the country.

When a czar is broached those people of the N.C.A.A. say, Of course we do not need a czar. We have things well under control. Major Griffith, in his Pollyanna attitude, says God is in His heaven and everything is all right with the world. Of course there are a few isolated cases here and there, but by and large everything is o.k.

If a czar were appointed the power of Major Griffith and the N.C.A.A. officials would be lessened perceptibly because this self-perpetuating body would not function the same as it does now, if a czar should come in. The A.A.U. was a self-perpetuating body in the sense that the N.C.A.A. is. They name the people who work with them. The chairmen of committees, as you know, are men who are friendly to the organization. Therefore, that is why the authorities of the N.C.A.A. say there is no need for a czar. Everything is under control.

I have often thought of Major Griffith as a fuse-pincher before the spark gets to the keg of powder. He never permits explosions if he can help it - always softening the thing by some investigation and