

associations, most of them with different rules and beholden only to themselves, he wants them all locked into one national and overall organization, with a czar like baseball's Judge Landis, and a standardized code of regulations. Each individual unit would still have its straw boss, but there'd be a Top Guy with full crack-down powers to settle all arguments and make all decisions. The Dr. even states this super-gentleman's salary. It would be \$50,000 a year.

IT JUST CAN'T BE DONE

I'm for it, but it's got about as much chance of coming to pass as a testimonial dinner to Hitler in your nearest synagogue. It would pull the linch-pin completely out of our intercollegiate athletic cosmos as it is, or was, and coast-to-coast reorganization would have to be complete.

The Muscovites have just liquidated their Communistic International and part of the official reasons given read, "Profound differences, even contradictions, in the historical development of every land and in their social structures, differences of level and rate of social and political development . . ." made it impossible further to run the affair from one master blue-print. That's what they said, anyhow, and whether that's the truth, or an out, so far as the Russian leaders go, it's a straight description of the college athletic difficulties.

Not only do very few of those intercollegiate groupings operate the same way, but most of them seem to have differing and determined convictions concerning what is right and what wrong in any given circumstance. The common denominator would be very hard to find. Some would quit and others die if it ever were found, wherever and whatever it is, and set up as the law of the stadium Medes and the gym-floor Persians.

I once went into this matter as a definite piece of research and was forced to abandon it completely as irreducible and undecipherable. What can you do when you find a couple of institutions such as Stanford and Harvard, each celebrated, each clean and each socially hygienic on its coast, and yet both completely at variance upon what constitutes financial help to an athlete, and each insisting, politely but immovably, that it is correct?

IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES

The difference in what constitutes proselytizing, what constitutes an athletic scholarship, what constitutes eligibility changes almost from conference to conference. Finding the median between the Southeastern Conference and the Ivy League, for instance, would be like looking for the halfway mark between the French Foreign Legion and a Sunday school class. The Sunday school class is not going to enlist to fight the Arabs and the Legion has no interest in turning sis, so where are you?

There's all that, and then there are the social significances. Dr. Phog doesn't suggest tampering with schedules, but, with a standardized set-up, the temptation to work out a real national championship annually would be great. Great—and strongly resisted by certain teams jealous of their local reputations and their local exclusiveness.

The Catholic colleges, either more brazen or more honest in their building of teams, have been the victims of exclusion on both coasts. The Pacific Coast Conference has resisted all pressure to include Santa Clara and St. Mary's, whereas the Ivy institutions on this shore don't play Boston College at all, and Holy Cross only on the skip-stop pattern. The perfection of the proposed plan would probably expect Dives to deal with Lazarus on a more fraternal basis than merely tossing him the crumb of a Stadium date about once in every 10 years. But who can deliver the Dives?

Tracing the parallel any further is no intention of mine. I'm for a league of some sort or other when the war ends, as long as we don't have to surrender our identity as a nation, our traditions or our way of life. Somebody's got to straddle that Hun. But those who are thinking in terms of an international camp-meeting can well afford to skid an eye across that college sports world jumble. Who's going to give up what? Who's going to say what's right, what's wrong? Who, if a jam comes, is going to make 'em? Who's going to help and what with?