

pneumonia and other diseases early in life. Morally also great injury is done by men who have played in various sports under coaches whose sole objective was to have winning teams. It is well known that there are many coaches prominent on the sporting page of the newspapers whose ethics are so bad that the better universities will not even schedule their teams for games. I have always refused to allow my own sons to participate in sports where the coach was not competent in all of these requisites. Rotten and debased athletics, in my opinion, are at the bottom of many of our national evils. The boy who learns in football that it is entirely proper to violate the rules if one is not caught will almost inevitably carry the same reasoning into the affairs of life. On the other hand the boy who has learned self-control, decency, and fair play on the football field will carry the same qualities into his later life. Bad as the situation is in many colleges, it is much worse when in high schools such evils are allowed to affect the boy during his formative years.

The wise parent, therefore, will determine the character of the coach and the principal of the school before allowing his son to participate. I am glad to say that in my own experience I have found no difficulty in finding the right kind of coaches, and that although I have met a number of crooked coaches and crooked principals, the majority of high school principals and coaches have been decent, honorable men. There are just enough of the other kind to make extreme care advisable.

In what athletics should your son participate? There are certain guiding principles here which will assist you in solving the problem. In general it may be said that outdoor sports take precedence over indoor; that sports involving group participation are to be preferred to those which provide for individual development only; that games allowing for large numbers of participants should be preferred to those allowing for few; that games involving special facilities are to be placed below those involving only slight equipment and expense; and finally, that some preference should be given to those sports which can be carried on in later life.

Group games are preferred because of their social possibilities, since they involve adherence to rules, co-operation with others, subordination of