

Then the National AAU organization took the tournament over and said that they wanted all the money and the Kansas City people let it go, and it went to Denver, Colorado. At the present time the basketball tournament each year is paying all the office expense of the AAU in New York City. This is between \$5,000 and \$7,000 a year. I dislike to make this accusation, but I have made it before, so when I say it to you you will understand that I would not want to be quoted on it unless I would make the statement direct.

The AAU, it seems to me, is interested only now in promoting the things that they can make money out of. And some of their officers have been known to give athletes a silver service set, running up to above \$100, yet they will deny the right of a boy to take anything for expense money that might run over their stipulated sum per day. In other words, the king can do no wrong. They are a group of politicians, henchmen who do what they want to, and when a poor youngster should make one misstep they will disqualify him, and unless he is a profit-making athlete he is apt to get the worst of it.

There are several cases in point concerning what the AAU did to the athletes who competed at Berlin. The Negro boy, Jesse Owens, who won more firsts than any of the other Americans, was disqualified because he refused to take a trip to some of the adjacent countries in Europe so the AAU could fatten their coffers at this boy's expense.

The AAU of the United States is in the throes of a very unhealthy turmoil. Political, race and religious prejudices are tearing it to pieces. The only reason that it survives at all is the fact that to be eligible for Olympic competition the competitors must be certified to by the organization that represents the United States, and that organization is the AAU. So long as these politicians have that power they can continue to do the things that they have been doing.

But the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the organization of colleges of the United States, which furnishes practically all the competition now for our Olympic competitors, is gaining ground by their square dealing with the athletes and by the fact that their college coaches develop more than 90 per cent of the competitors. The colleges have an overhead naturally that is sustained by the institutions, while the AAU must pay the expenses of their officers who do nothing but arrange meets, and so forth.