

While the writer was repeatedly enraptured with Mr. Sohaku Ri's recital of this basketball recreational romance of the Land of the Rising Sun, he was also being constantly reminded of the experiences of Mr. E. C. Quigley, public relations representative and umpire of the National Baseball League and outstanding all-sports official, who on a previous tour of Japan had officiated at a tournament for the Japanese. Mr. Quigley had related his experiences to the writer some years before. He had said that after starting the Japanese games in early evening and working until four o'clock in the morning, the only way that he could finish the tournament at all was to disqualify an entire team the first time any player on the team made a personal foul. Mr. Quigley had observed that basketball interest in Japan was definitely more intense than in the United States and that crowds numbering 10,000 attended these great tournaments. He felt that Japan had gone basketball as well as baseball mad.

Count Soyejima, president of the Japanese Basketball Association, Dr. Kishi, Mr. Shumpei, Mr. Suzuki, and other foreign representatives met with us at Mr. Sohaku Ri's dinner in Los Angeles with the definite intention of landing basketball in the Olympics at Tokyo in 1940, eight years hence, where we were certain that the XII Olympiad would be held, regardless of whether or not we could get it included on the Berlin calendar, four years hence, -1936.

Upon returning from Los Angeles inspired by international interest in our truly American sport of basketball, we took up serious correspondence on the subject with Herr Karl Diem of Berlin, the general secretary of the XI Olympiad, scheduled for 1936.

In the following summer, 1933, in Springfield, Mass., Y.M.C.A. College, where the writer was instructor in basketball, he made personal contacts with Herr Fritz Sieweke, of Berlin, and exchange student, who later went home to Berlin in the employment of the Hitler Youth Movement. Undoubtedly, Herr Sieweke aided in the promotion of basketball for the Berlin Olympic calendar.