

Another problem with respect to qualifying tournaments was the contention that certain districts are too large. The Eighth District, for instance, found it difficult to persuade Washington and Oregon colleges to compete, and the suggestion has been made that certain districts be permitted to sub-divide their districts. On this question fourteen replies endorsed sub-division, provided the total number of qualifiers from the entire district was not increased, four were against sub-dividing, and four were non-committal.

It would appear almost an impossibility to receive any unanimity of opinion with respect to some of these questions. Certainly the qualifying tournaments this year were not successful and without complete coöperation on the part of college authorities it is the opinion of the chairman that the qualifying tournaments cannot be made to be successful. In many cases the college authorities themselves are opposed to the qualifying tournament, in which case their enthusiastic coöperation might not be forthcoming. The study of former intercollegiate tournaments which were open to all colleges without qualifying indicates two major objections; first, that the number of entries is too large to permit the proper completion of a tournament within one week, and, second, the number of entries from the vicinity in which the tournament was held was greatly out of proportion to the entries from the rest of the country. It was this predominance of local entries which necessitated the "weeding out" process, for in most cases remote colleges would not bear the expense of sending their players across the country unless the caliber of play justified.

Therefore, in the consideration of this problem, the chairman is inclined to the opinion that perhaps the ideal solution would be to return to the open tournament, any college being permitted to enter a maximum of four men in singles and two teams in doubles, but with a restriction on the number of entries being imposed upon the district in which the tournament is held. This would undoubtedly result in an entry list of more than one hundred, which brings up the question as to whether it would be advisable to have the intercollegiate tournament extend over a period exceeding one week. With uncertain weather conditions, a large tournament condensed into a period of one week generally results in serious congestion during the last few days when the matches are more important, and in some cases certain important matches (for example, the doubles finals) are unsatisfactory and perhaps unfair, because of the physical exhaustion of certain players. Unless the college authorities and the clubs or colleges holding the final event would be willing to extend the tournament over a period exceeding one week, then it would not appear advisable to have an entry list which exceeds sixty-four, and in order to have an entry list restricted to sixty-four it would appear that the qualifying tournament should be continued.

It should be borne in mind, however, that this was the first attempt at an entirely new venture, and it is undoubtedly unfair to