

it left behind something that it could not take away. That something was the American enthusiasm for Sports and Games. The results of the Olympic Games of 1928 verify the above assertion. Germany assembled the largest Olympic group of competitive participants for the try-outs, of any country in the world. A war-weary world turned "en-masse" to recreation through sports and games.

Very early we learned that the whole is equal to the sum of its parts. Basketball is one of these parts. Germany is now taking up basketball with an enthusiasm unsurpassed. To the immense population in her crowded and congested areas this sport has particular appeal. This country has long economized in play space. Her Gymnasiums have for centuries been the gathering places for her Turnverein-her men of exceptional physical skill. These gymnasiums are now being turned over to basketball and other indoor sports. Basketball is Olympic bound.

The German physique, big and powerful, and the German mind, progressive and inventive, are especially adapted to basketball. The only thing that will prevent the rapid growth of basketball in Germany will be her failure to build large arenas rapidly enough to keep pace with her enthusiasm for her new national play-program.

---

#### DESIRES UNIFORM BACKBOARDS

---

(A letter from Ray Costing, Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., contains these comments.)

There has been considerable comment in this section on one phase of basketball which it seems to me might be well considered for it would add to the uniformity of game conditions which, I believe, is one of the biggest problems now confronting the Rules Committee. The rules state that the backboards must be 4 feet by 6 feet and must be painted white, but they do not make any statement regarding the material to be used in their construction. A few colleges are using steel backboards and, because they are exceptionally fast, they have given the visiting teams a great deal of difficulty. Some places still use glass backboards and here again the team unaccustomed to them is handicapped. I am not particular just what standards are set up to govern backboards, but I do believe that definite regulations should be formulated for the sake of uniformity in game conditions. I believe a number of high schools and colleges would be unable to purchase the steel backboards due to the expense and, therefore, I would recommend that the Rules Committee draw up definite regulations regarding the construction of wooden backboards.

I was interested in an account of a rather heated discussion before the N.Y.U.-Notre Dames game which was played in Madison Square Garden. The Notre Dame coach, inspecting the court the morning of the game, noticed that the backboards were made of glass and were not painted white. Of course he had a real argument as the rules state definitely that the backboards should be painted white. Naturally his team was at a disadvantage in this game, not only because the backboards were not white but also because of the glass construction.