

Games in Berlin when he found out what the foreign countries wanted to do to his beloved game. It was quite a setback for him in the moment of his greatest triumph—when he saw the athletes of 21 nations participating in the game which he had invented 45 years previously.

### **KEEP 'EM SHORT**

You'll remember that the American squad, which won the championship quite easily, was made up of a combination of the local boys who won the Olympic playoff and the Oklahoma gang who were runners-up. Among them were such human Eiffel Towers as Joe Fortenberry, who was 6ft. 8in. tall, and any number of other giraffe-like individuals. When they lined up against the normal or undersized foreigners they made a joke of the game, for, in addition to the enormous advantage of size, they were a great deal more skillful and experienced. Well, to make you see the reaction, the International Federation promptly began discussing a regulation to limit the game to players of 6ft. and under. How's that for a regulation on a world's championship event?

### **OUT OF OLYMPICS**

Anyhow, that was the end of basketball as an Olympic event—at least for the present. It won't be played at Helsinki in 1940. As a matter of fact, of course, height is an advantage when everything else is equal, but it isn't a necessity. Sam Barry is doing pretty well with a Trojan squad that isn't any too tall and apparently the best high school basketball team in this neighborhood is the Hollywood High team, which doesn't have a single 6-footer on the line-up. But, at all events, when the coaches labor under the notion that the way to improve a game is to change the rules they certainly gum things up. The game's exciting, all right, but it's more maddening than anything else.

### **THE GOOD DOCTOR**

When Doc Naismith started the game of basketball he had nine players on a side . . . The reason was that he was simply inventing a game to give winter exercise to a group of 18, so he just divided 'em into two teams . . . His players were all guys training to become Y.M.C.A. secretaries . . . One of the original players, I believe, lives in Redlands now . . . Naismith is a double-doctor . . . He is a doctor of medicine and an ordained minister . . . He has never worked at either profession, but has been in athletic work all his life . . . He's on the faculty at the University of Kansas and Phog Allen, who coaches basketball there, has had remarkable success . . .