

May 3, 1937

The second thing I think of off-hand that you should give your attention to is to the matter of training people for the field of recreation. The two things, recreation and physical education, are not the same thing. Some of the training of each will carry over into the other field, but by and large, there are differences. I am going to take the liberty of writing to a personal friend of mine, James Edward Rogers, whom you mention as knowing. I am going to tip him off that the first time he is in your locality, he ought to see you. Jimmy Rogers is, I think, as well posted a man as there is in the United States. This is particularly true in the field of recreation, and I would give him a good vacuum cleaning when he comes along, particularly on that side of the thing. My guess is that there is going to be more of a demand for people who can administer both physical education and recreation in the next twenty-five years than there is for straight teachers of physical education.

Should like to set in on this

In my opinion you should join the National Recreation Association, which costs you \$5.00 a year and for which you get their magazine and bulletin twice a month. Send your money to Howard Braucher, 315 Fourth Ave., New York City.

If at all possible and your work permits at this time of the year (and you can ask the University for expense money), I would attend the Recreation Congress at Atlantic City, May 17 to 22.

At the last National Recreation Congress, held in Chicago, there were representatives from eight different universities taking copious notes and plugging away at getting pointers for a course for the training of recreation leaders. However, they all had in mind just a course or two that they could add to the regular physical education course. My guess is that this is not proper procedure. I have a feeling that you with your experience in coaching competitive athletics will also have a different viewpoint of the situation, once you look around and go into this matter of recreation leadership. The average physical education course trains people to handle groups of children or adults, as the case may be, but usually on schedule and under some sort of disciplinary control. Recreation is different. You have to get your people in recreation through interest appeal and, therefore, it seems to me that the difference in training is essential.

Regarding the matter of some one with a Ph.D., wish to say that you can get one at the figure you mention, but if you aren't in too big a hurry, it might save you some embarrassment if I made inquiries and got lines on half a dozen people for you, and sort of weeded out the candidates. What I am trying to say is this; if you announce that you are looking for a fellow, you will literally be swamped with applicants. Every one, good, bad and indifferent, will have dozens of friends who will write you how good they are. That is one thing advanced education seems to have done. On the other hand, I can write to a half dozen friends of mine who know of some really good prospects, and I can tip you off. You could then go about looking them up in your own way, without being flooded with a lot of correspondence and the pressure that goes along with it. Do you have to have a man with a Ph.D., or can you take a man with his Master's degree who is working toward his Ph.D.? If you are looking for the latter sort of fellow, it would pay you to look into Nicholar Schreiber who is now connected with Ann Arbor High School and is taking work toward his Ph.D. degree at the University of Michigan.

Right!