

Mr. Anneberg

To that question, Mr. Allphin, I might say that I have always been interested in gymnastics. However, soon after I enrolled as a Freshman in the University I found that you were organizing a tumbling team and I then became intensely interested. It was the association with this organization that increased my interest and challenged my efforts. During my four years in the University I learned how to use every piece of apparatus in the gym to quite a satisfactory degree. During the summer of 1932 I attended the Olympics at Los Angeles and saw some of the best gymnasts in the world. They inspired me and actually taught me several stunts I had never seen before.

Mr. Allphin

Mr. Wolfo, you are a Senior in the School of Business, and have not taken any of the courses in Physical Education. I would like to ask you the same question that I asked Frank a while ago -- Why are you interested in gymnastics?

Mr. Wolfo

That is a rather difficult question to answer. Of course, it is because I enjoy it, but that enjoyment is due to so many different factors, and many of them are of such an intangible nature that it would be impossible to put reasons for my interest in one-two-three order. There is a thrill in doing these stunts that make up the field of gymnastics. The successful completion of a difficult feat, which has involved a series of movements all requiring perfect timing, and the utmost in coordination, gives me a feeling of satisfaction. That feeling of a difficult job well done can be had aplenty in gymnastics. There is such a variety of tricks to be learned that from the beginner on up there is always something new and more difficult to be working on. It is this variety and change that prevents gymnastics from ever becoming boring.

Mr. Anneberg

Mr. Allphin, tell us how a gymnastic meet is conducted.

Mr. Allphin

There are five different units of the meet: flying rings, parallel bars, horizontal bar, side horse and tumbling. Usually two competitors from each school in a dual meet participate. Each contestant does three exercises in each unit. There are from three to five judges, depending upon the agreement before the meet starts. Each competitor is judged on a basis of zero to 10 on each exercise. The judges take into account the approach, execution of the exercise and the finish. The points are added at the end of the contest and the team with the most points is declared winner.

Frank, I have seen you walk on your hands down the stadium steps numerous times. I would like to ask you how many steps there are, and what is your advice to one who wishes to learn this difficult feat.

Mr. Anneberg

Mr. Allphin, there are 84 steps from the top to the bottom. I count them every time I do this little trick. Every time I put a hand down I count, and believe it or not, the last ten steps are the easiest. However, I would advise anyone who wants to learn this trick to first learn to walk on level ground. Then from that they may try going down one step at a time, and then several steps. This stunt, like many other gymnastic tricks, takes a certain amount of strength and a lot of practice.