

Dr. Wheeler No, they should not. This mistake follows from too much selfishness and from too much commercialization of sport in this country. The great value of competitive games is lost when the goal is not to do one's best, to take pride in skill and cleverness, and to lose in a spirit of good sportsmanship. There is a fundamental law in psychology and in mental hygiene that the goal must be its own reward. Efficiency and happiness are guaranteed in the long run only when achievement is made for its own sake and not for some ulterior purpose like being in the limelight, or being at the top of a list, or what not. We should teach that doing the very best with what we have to do with is the ultimate goal.

Mr. Rapert I agree with you, Dr. Wheeler, and I think that physical education instructors are constantly striving to educate youth and the public also in this direction. Just one more question, Dr. Wheeler. Many children hesitate to engage in recreational activity with others because they fear that they cannot attain any great degree of perfection. Physical education teachers are beginning to see that technique may be over-emphasized and the healthful purpose of the game be lost. What do you think about this problem, Dr. Wheeler?

Dr. Wheeler I believe that we must look at this problem from two angles. We may scare a good many children away from recreational activity by expecting too great a degree of perfection, but on the other hand we should not teach habits of not doing one's best. We are all inclined to follow the path of least resistance. I think, therefore, if I were a physical education instructor, I would try to see that every child in my school participated in several different kinds of games, but that at least in one kind, suited if possible to the capacities and interests of the child, I would strive for perfection.

Mr. Rapert Well, thank you very much, Dr. Wheeler. When I go home tonight I'm going to stand in front of a mirror and try wiggling my ears.

Announcer - Make announcement regarding Health and Physical Education Round-Tables held in conjunction with the Kansas State Teachers meetings, Nov. 4 and 5.