

class that others had been unable to handle. Naismith after working on a new game gave it to this class, and from that day on never had any more disturbance for those eighteen boys took to the game and relished every available minute that they were allowed to play.. That game has grown from one that offered entertainment and recreation to eighteen future Y.M.C.A. secretaries to one that attracts, as it did last year, eighty million people under its portals. The game was given international recognition in the 1936 Olympics when 21 nations competed for the championship which was awarded to the United States.. To show how the game has grown from the eastern coast of the United States to the farmost eastern point in the world, would be comparatively easy if E. C. Quigley, national authority in referring and officiating, were to tell you of the number of participants and the interest that the Japanese showed in an elimination contest that he had the job of handling.

Today you and I are remotely interested in things that occur outside of our community and yet when we read of the game of basketball being played in the Olympics and all of the major powers and secondary powers with the exception of Spain, entered into competition we must surely comprehend that the game has grown to gigantic proportions.. The reasons for this rapid growth and why it should be part of every high school curriculum is the real purpose of my speaking here tonight..

The game was originally developed to give youths an opportunity for recreation through play during the winter months.. Its wide acceptance by youths who pledge allegiance to many