

of New York last year there took part in the annual tournament: in the running high jump, 868; in the weight events, 956; in the relays, 1,698; in the running broad jump, 1,810; in the sprints, 9,643; in all, 15,133, which added to the 1,200 who were entered but failed to appear makes a total of 16,333 grammar school athletes who were competent, at least, to enter a contest. This number is sixteen per cent of the total number of boys in the New York schools.

Besides these, there were 106 baseball teams entering the tournament; 294 boys who entered the swimming contests; 94 teams of basket ball. What is true of New York in this matter is true of the most of the large cities, and this too in crowded cities where land is valued by the square foot instead of by the acre.

Fourth, let us consider the progress in organization of athletics. The first attempt at organization was in 1872, when a call was issued for a meeting in New York. Twenty-seven rowing clubs were represented, and the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen was instituted with sixteen members, all the other clubs refusing to join. The chief object of this organization was to draw a line between the amateur and the professional oarsman. The opposition to this organization was bitter and the fight hard, but the amateurs kept gradually drawing the line closer and closer. It is to this organization that we owe our interest in track athletics and our athletic organizations of today. At their regatta, held at Saratoga in 1874, there was a track contest put on as a side attraction. There were only five events and a few colleges competing.

Next year the citizens arranged the meet and had ten events. This meet was more popular than the preceding and set the college men to thinking, so that before the next regatta there was an intercollegiate athletic association. This association took charge of the meet in 1876, and from this time on we have had annual meets with authentic records.

This organization soon had more competitors than it could