

The question may well be raised. What has brought this change? Some attribute it to the changed attitude of man to man in the business world carried over into the field of athletics. Others that the attitude has been carried over from athletics to business.

The late exposures of crooked business, racketeering, and wholesale corruption of officials would indicate that some of the bigger business is not leading in the purification of ethical standards.

On the other hand a few years ago there was an astute business man who enticed some professional ball players to desert the straight and narrow. Such a storm of protest went up about their conduct that we have a pretty good guarantee that the Profession of baseball, at least, is on the square. This, not so much because human nature is different in baseball players, and the general public, but in the one case they are before the public eye and in the other they are purposely under cover.

Many of our big business men were participants in athletics as players, managers, or fans. But who ever heard of men of the Capone, of Guzie type making a team--much less a conference of All American place in athletics. The present hero of America is a football coach who is lauded not only for his success, but also for his wholesome influence on the men under his care.

No process of deductive reasoning can settle the matter as to whether we can influence through the medium of athletics the character of the individual. The only method that will give us a correct conclusion is the inductive. By the multiplying of individual instances. The question may well be asked, have any players been so influenced? I could give instance after instance to show that athletics have been used to develop the best traits of character.

Tom (Cussing Tom) Smith was a splendid player, but he could not restrain his temper and would fight in every game and be ruled out. In his last year of competition, at the opening of the season, he came to me and told me that he would not fight once, and would not be put out of a single game. He kept his word, played the best game of his competition, and the team was ever victorious.

John Williams, a red-headed basketball player spend a good part of his time on the side lines because of his personal encounters during the game. He awoke one day to the fact that he was a hindrance to the team instead of a real help. He determined to control his temper and he did so. It was not long until he was captain of his team, and the last time I saw him he was a State Senator in Colorado.