

**HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA**  
**INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION**  
**SOUTHERN SECTION**  
**(CIF-SS)**

64<sup>th</sup> historical “tidbit.”  
Dr. John S. Dahlem



**FOUNDING FATHER OF THE STATE CIF AND ADVOCATE**  
**OF CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

**WILL C. WOOD**  
**(William Christopher Wood)**

Will C. Wood was born December 10, 1888, in Elmira, California. He attended Elmira’s schools and left as valedictorian of his class of four. He attended Vacaville High School for his fourth year of education and was valedictorian again in a class of eight. He lived on a fruit farm with his parents always struggling with chores and worries of farming. He began his college studies at the University of California at Berkeley, but due to a hazing incident decided to enroll at Stanford University with a loan from the village grocer. He studied education from a popular professor, Ellwood P. Cubberly, who would influence his later career in educational administration. He had to leave Stanford as local droughts reduced his family’s resources. He obtained a teaching position in a country school in Suisun Valley (Danka’s Corner-\$70 a month) and later became an elementary Principal in Fairfield. He had a printed motto on his office wall for many years that stated:

*“Id like to know alotta things  
With curiosity I’m kurst  
But techer sez I gotta git  
My ejucation furst.”*

He became a popular Principal due to his speaking ability and a reputation for managing schools well with high staff morale. He became a Principal in Alameda (Wilson School) and later, at the age of twenty nine, Superintendent of Alameda Schools. He was instrumental in helping to organize the California Teachers Association (CTA). He continued his education at Berkeley, Michigan, and USC (M.A.) He was appointed California’s first Commissioner of Secondary Education in 1914. Wood believed strongly in the totality of schools and education in California needed to serve all students, not just the college bound. He helped create

the Junior College model in California and was always an advocate for the rural schools.

Will C. Wood was a very strong proponent of high school activities, especially athletics. It is interesting to note the strong negative feelings of many in the early 1900's towards interscholastic sports. High school sports were:

- physically and morally harmful;
- harmful to academic achievement...took time away from studies;
- the financial cost were too high;
- paid coaches often referred to as “bums;”
- too many students transferring just to play sports and were referred to as “tramps;”
- sportsmanship not stressed;
- schools with football teams were always fighting and town locals, clubs and lodges were dictating the control of the gridiron;
- rooting, jockeying and other devices were employed to confuse or obstruct players;
- winning of games more important than fair play...”win at any cost;”
- no physical training rules;
- overnight travel took too much time;
- night games were dangerous;
- colleges and the local YMCA's were running all the sports, especially track;
- schools had only one sport team and other minor sports received no support;
- too much emphasis on team sports and not individuals;
- students were receiving medals and other expensive prizes;
- only “big students” played and not much support for the smaller student;
- rewards were given to the best players and not the one who “tried the hardest;”
- kids were running amuck (term often used was “rioting”);
- no academic eligibility rules;
- no age rules to compete;
- no formal definition of what is an “amateur;”
- use of profane language on the playing fields.

To combat these feelings, Wood wrote and spoke extensively about the positive attributes of high school athletics. His basic premise was that Principals can control their own students, but there needs to be a “general control” where students are competing against students from other schools. He believed that sports should not

be allowed to dominate the spirit of schools and mitigate against the development of wholesome habits of life. To combat the negative feelings toward high school sports and activities he told everyone that would listen that sports helped with the following:

- building character;
- wholesome physical activity;
- creating initiative, independence and responsibility;
- allowing a degree of freedom (Wood did say, “but the prerogative of the faculty should not be surrendered to the study body!”);
- allowing faculty members to supervise athletics;
- developing qualities of manhood and womanhood;
- opportunity for self-direction;
- self-control;
- sportsmanship.

Wood assigned Superintendent J. C. Templeton, Palo Alto, to chair a committee to develop a state-wide control of high school sports along with E.W. Oliver, President of the Athletic Council of Southern California (which had been formed on March 28, 1913, and later renamed California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section – CIFSS). The state was divided into four sections (Southern, Central, North Coast, Northern) which aligned with the four sections of the California Teachers Association (CTA). In the California State Board of Education Bulletin No. 2, Wood spelled out his principles for state-wide control of school activities followed up by the Minutes of the Los Angeles High School Athletic Convention held March 28, 1914. He stated, “...the organization of this Federation is one of the most helpful signs of better times in high school sports.” **He believed that the State Department of Education should leave as many of the administrative details of administration to the CIF as possible.**

It is interesting to note that the first Constitution of the California Interscholastic Federation (formatted to the CIF-SS Constitution of 1913) included answers to many of the concerns expressed by the anti-high school advocates to include:

- purpose of the organization;
- responsibility of the organization;
- satisfactory supervision;
- sportsmanship;
- jurisdiction;

- time, date and location of games;
- appointing of officials;
- financial responsibilities;
- final court of appeal;
- age of contestants;
- no postgraduates are eligible;
- contestants must be members of their schools;;
- passing grades;
- amateur standing;
- captains and faculty members exchange list of team members before the contest;
- protests;
- finances.

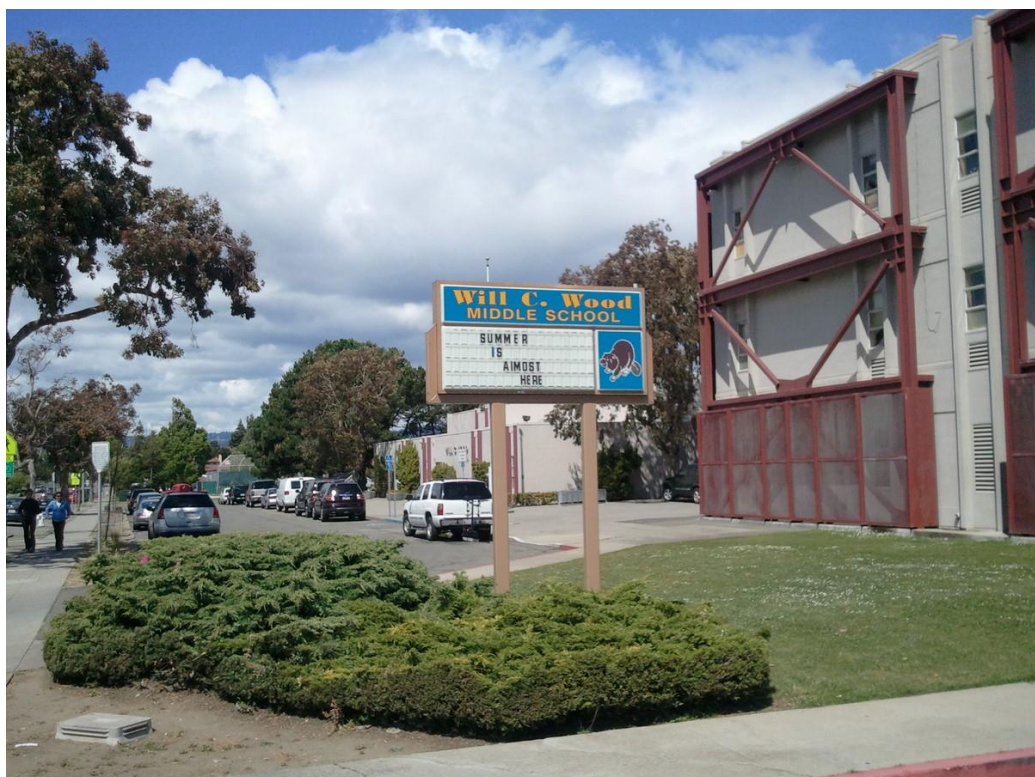
Other recommendations included:

- urged the City Superintendents and High School Principals to adopt the policies articulated by Wood;
- sane training rules;
- **abolish paid coach system and the teachers of physical education be substituted. Coaching should be done by the student “Captains” of the teams under the jurisdiction of the faculty;**
- trips restricted to the weekend and not more than one day;
- no profane language on the field of play;
- winning of games secondary to fair play;
- local Championships for small groups of schools should be encouraged.

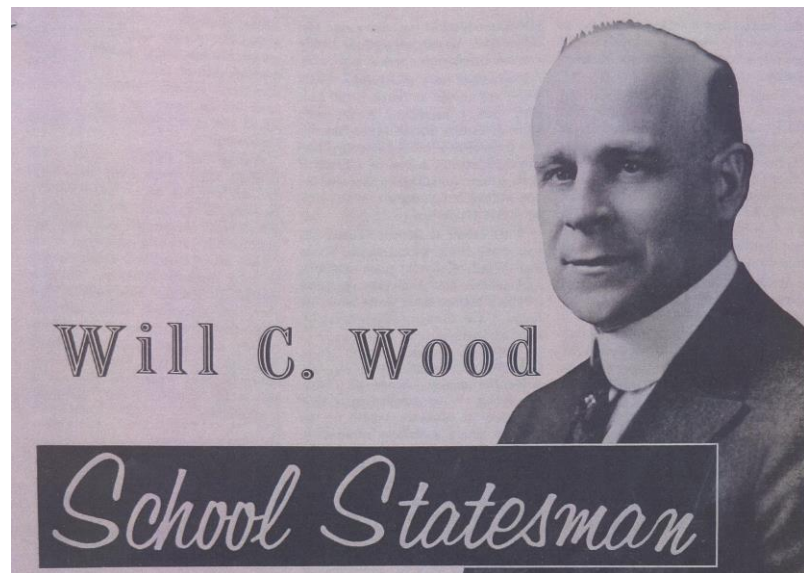
Resolutions included:

- **grounds of many schools were not adequate or in poor shape...a law be passed to require each high school to have at least “10 acres of land” for sports;**
- don't give medals and confine prizes to modest cups and pennants;
- definition of what an amateur is. **This would be the first real challenge for the new CIF and there were many ideal of what an “amateur” is. In fact E. W. Oliver, President of the CIF-SS, stated, “Let Amateurs Play for Coin.” He wanted high school athletes to be given the right to play on weekends for pay.**

Will C. Wood would continue to support high school athletics for his entire life. He was California's State Commissioner of Secondary Schools from 1914-1919, the California State Superintendent of Banks (1927-1931) and passed away on May 15, 1939, in Piedmont, California. Two schools were named after him... Will C. Wood High School in Vacaville and Will C. Wood Middle School in Sacramento.









The state treasury should bear a larger share of the burden of supporting elementary education, thus relieving the district and equalizing school advantages.

A parent-teacher association should be established in every community.

Since the elementary schools are the foundation of democracy, they must be maintained on a high plane of efficiency.

The schools should place greater emphasis on moral education, emphasizing such virtues as patriotism, thrift, temperance, loyalty, and respect for law and order.

*For women — equal opportunity, equal service, equal pay.*

*Mr. Wood has been faithful and efficient.*

*His record is a recommendation.*

*California educational welfare calls for his election as State Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

VOTE FOR  
**WILL C. WOOD**

Primary Election, Aug. 27, 1918

### HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Supported the suffrage amendment in public addresses in the campaign of 1911.

Stands for the principle of equal pay for equal work.

Recommended the appointment of the first woman elected to a supervising-principalship in the elementary schools of Alameda.

### HIS WORK FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Devoted himself chiefly to the improvement of the elementary schools, while City Superintendent in Alameda.

Introduced kindergartens, school savings banks, special classes for backward children, and organized play and recreation.

Reduced the average size of classes in the elementary schools from 38 to 30, thus securing better attention to the needs of individual pupils.

Expended for elementary schools a larger proportion of the total school revenue than was expended in any other city in California.

Maintained strict but wise economy in school expenses.

Worked for the law providing for the establishment and support of kindergartens.

Obtained the introduction and worked for the passage of the original law authorizing the use of school buildings as social centers.

Opened the school auditoriums to the public, and organized a course of free public lectures.

Supported teachers' retirement salary fund bill.

### HIS WORK AS STATE COMMISSIONER OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS

During his four years' incumbency, the enrollment of California's high schools increased from 48,000 (1913) to 113,000 (1917).

Author of the law providing high school textbooks free after 1920, and optionally free before that year.

Author of the county high school fund bill,

## WILL C. WOOD

State Commissioner of Secondary Schools



Candidate for

### State Superintendent of Public Instruction

"An educational statesman of a high order."—Dr. Alexis F. Lange, Dean of School of Education, University of California.

"A constructive and forward-looking school man of high ideals; a practical worker who gets things done."—Dr. E. P. Cubberley, Dean of School of Education, Stanford University.

### HIS CAREER

A native of California.

Educated in the elementary and high schools of California, Stanford University, the University of California, and the University of Michigan.

Teacher of rural elementary school, 1901.

Teacher, principal and supervisor of elementary schools 1902-1909.

City Superintendent of Schools, Alameda, 1909-14.

State Commissioner of Secondary Schools, 1914 to date.

Lecturer in High School Administration, Columbia University (New York), Summer Session, 1917.

which equalized high school opportunities, encouraged evening high schools and vocational courses, and helped the rural high schools of the State. This law is regarded as a model by the leading educators of America.

Author of the law authorizing the establishment of intermediate schools.

Author of the law authorizing the establishment of junior colleges, thus bringing college opportunities to thousands of young men and women who cannot go away from home to college.

Author of the law requiring high school boards to submit an itemized budget of expenses.

Has stood for the enforcement of the law relating to high school fraternities.

Has stood for high school courses that prepare for life as well as for college.

Has advocated the teaching of the history and government of California.

### HIS EDUCATIONAL WAR ACTIVITIES

Co-operated whole-heartedly with the Junior Red Cross in securing a hundred per cent membership in the high schools of California.

Sent out to the schools thousands of bulletins prepared by the U. S. Food Administration.

In co-operation with Commissioners Margaret S. McNaught and Dr. E. R. Snyder, he issued to all the schools of California a war bulletin entitled "All for America" immediately after war was declared. This bulletin has had a wide circulation and commendation throughout the United States.

Issued over a hundred thousand patriotic bulletins dealing with the war, which were studied by all high school pupils of the State.

Recommended that the teaching of the German language be abolished in California high schools.

Recommended that a course in American history and civics be required for graduation from all California high schools.

### SOME OF HIS PRINCIPLES

The schools must make democracy safe for democracy.

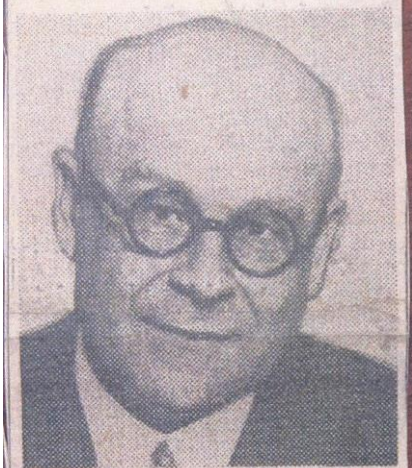
Through education America must be made a land of one language, one people, one national ideal.

## W.C. Wood, Educator,

*Call Bulletin May 15 1939*  
**Dead**  
Former State Official  
Succumbs In  
Piedmont Home

Will C. Wood, 59, former state superintendent of public instruction and subsequently state superintendent of banks, died today after a lingering illness at his home, 112 Wildwood Gardens way, Piedmont.

With him at the end were his widow, the former Agnes Kerr of



**WILL C. WOOD**  
*Illness Proves Fatal*

Fairfield and their son, Willsie, 32, of Piedmont.

### ELECTED IN 1919

Wood first came into prominence in California in 1919 when he was elected state superintendent of public instruction. Prior to that time he had been superintendent of schools of Alameda. He likewise had been state commissioner of secondary schools from 1914 to 1919.

During his term of office he waged a bitter controversy with Governor Richardson over the ousting of President E. P. Clark of Riverside from the State Board of Education.

### BORN AT ELMIRA

Wood was born December 10, 1880, at Elmira, California. He entered Stanford University in 1900 and was there until 1901. He studied at the University of California from 1906 to 1909, was at the University of Michigan in 1913 and at the University of Southern California in 1919.

He married Miss Agnes Kerr of Fairfield July 12, 1905, while he was principal of schools there.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 10:30 a. m., at the Grant Miller chapel in Oakland.



## High School Athletics

### A Plan for State-wide Faculty Control

Prepared by the

Los Angeles High School Athletics Convention  
Held March 28, 1914

Submitted to the Principals of California High Schools  
by  
The Commissioner of Secondary Schools

CALIFORNIA  
STATE PRINTING OFFICE  
1914

#### CONCERNING STATE-WIDE CONTROL OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

*To the High School People of California:*

For a long time we have recognized the need for general faculty control of interschool activities. Each high school principal may control student activities within his own school, but he feels the need of general control when his students are competing with the students of other schools. In consequence of a lack of general organization, many abuses have grown up in interschool contests. In many instances, interschool athletic contests are positively harmful because of these abuses. We are facing a condition, not a theory. High school athletics are with us, and they are generally regarded as a natural means of expression for adolescent human beings. However, they must be controlled if they are to serve their real purpose in moral and physical training. School activities that are allowed to run wild, militate against, rather than assist in the development of character. All of us must realize the need for a greater moral emphasis in athletics, and this can be secured only through state-wide control.

During the past four months, much good constructive work has been done looking toward state-wide control of school activities by faculty representatives. Superintendent J. C. Templeton, of Palo Alto, as chairman of a committee of the California High School Teachers' Association, and Mr. E. W. Oliver, President of the Athletic Council of Southern California, have devoted much time and thought to the work. As a result of their interest, a general convention of high school men met in Los Angeles recently and drafted a constitution for the California Interscholastic Federation. The plan involves the division of the State into four sections corresponding roughly to the four sections of the California Teachers' Association. Each section will elect two representatives from the members of the high school faculties of the section. These eight representatives, sitting with the President of the State High School Teachers' Association, will make up the Federated Council, which will be the final court in all matters pertaining to semi-final and final contests for the state championship; will determine the qualifications of contestants, and the rules which shall govern the selection of umpires and referees. The Council will also try to maintain a proper relation between high school activities and other school work. Leagues existing at present will not be interfered with. The champion team of each of such leagues within a section, will be pitted against one another for the section championship. Section champions will be pitted against one another in semi-final and final contests for the state championship. This will reduce to a minimum the number of long over-night journeys for high school boys.

I am submitting herewith a copy of the proposed Constitution of the California Interscholastic Federation, prepared at the Los Angeles convention, together with recommendations adopted at said convention. Will you study the plan carefully and determine whether your school cares to join the Federation? If you have any questions, I shall be glad to answer them. If you desire that your school shall become a member

of the Federation, kindly fill out the enclosed blank and return it to me. When a majority of the schools in a section have signified their approval of the plan, you will be notified of the action, and the high school principals within such section may then determine how the section council shall be organized.

I commend the matter to your careful consideration and give the principle of state-wide faculty control of school activities my hearty endorsement. May this movement solve the problem of school activities for California, just as a similar plan has solved the problem in Indiana and other states.

Very truly yours,

WILL C. WOOD,  
Commissioner of Secondary Schools.

#### MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CONVENTION

At which the California Interscholastic Federation was Formed and a Constitution Adopted March 28, 1914.

A convention of high school principals and teachers representing the four California Teachers' Association Sections of the State called by E. W. Oliver, Vice-Principal of Los Angeles High School and President of the Athletic Council of Southern California, under date of December 19, 1913, at Los Angeles, for the purpose of organizing athletics on a state-wide basis, met at the Y. M. C. A. Field House on Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, at 10.30 a. m., March 28, 1914.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Oliver who briefly stated its purpose as set forth in the call. Mr. Oliver was elected chairman and Superintendent J. C. Templeton of Palo Alto, secretary.

Twenty representatives were present; nine from the three sections of northern California, and eleven from Southern California.

Mr. Templeton stated that the report of his committee had been worked out in the form of a constitution for a federation of sections; it was the result of three meetings of principals and high school men interested in physical education. A conference of twenty-two men was held during the meeting of the Bay Section of the California Teachers' Association in Oakland January 2d, at which Mr. Templeton was elected chairman. A second meeting known as the Berkeley Convention was held in California Hall, University of California, at the call of the chairman, on February 7th, thirty-five high school representatives being present; and a third meeting of a committee of five, appointed by the chairman under the instruction of the convention to work out details, met in San Francisco on March 14th.

The proposed constitution represented all sections of northern California in matters of fundamental importance. Prefacing the Constitution Mr. Templeton submitted a series of resolutions addressed to the city superintendents and high school principals of the State. These

resolutions were considered paragraph by paragraph and adopted. They are printed in this bulletin immediately after the Constitution and By-laws of the California Interscholastic Federation.

The following Constitution for the California Interscholastic Federation was adopted:

#### CONSTITUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION.

##### Art. I. Name and Purpose.

SECTION 1. This organization shall be known as The California Interscholastic Federation.

SEC. 2. The purpose of this organization is: (1) So to direct and control athletics (and other high school activities) of the State that boards and faculties will regard them as educational resources to be encouraged and fostered rather than decried and suppressed; (2) To locate the responsibility for their administration with reference to satisfactory supervision; (3) By means of constitutions, by-laws, and efficient organization to simplify and make definite their administration; (4) Through the observance of good standards of sportsmanship to cultivate more cordial and friendly relations between schools.

##### Art. II. Jurisdiction.

SECTION 1. The State shall be divided into four sections, corresponding to the sections of the California Teachers' Association, subject to change by the Federated Council.

SEC. 2. Each section that organizes as hereinafter provided, and by vote of its governing board accepts the Constitution and By-Laws of the Federation, shall be under its jurisdiction, and be one of the geographical constituencies of the Federation, having equal representation with other sections and equal voting power.

SEC. 3. All high school pupils, both public and private, in any section under the jurisdiction of the Federation will be subject to the rules of eligibility of the Federated Council for participation in contests between schools, and amenable to said body for violations of the same in contests between sections.

SEC. 4. This Constitution shall become effective when two or more sections shall have adopted it.

##### Art. III. Government.

SECTION 1. *Definition.* The governing body of this organization shall be known as "The Federated Council." It shall consist of two members elected from each section, together with the President of the California High School Teachers' Association, who shall serve as ex officio member.

SEC. 2. *Election and Eligibility of Members.* The governing body of each section shall determine how its own delegates to the Federated Council shall be elected, provided that such election occurs before July 1st, in time to report to the summer meeting of the Federated Council. City Superintendents and High School Principals, and high school teachers actively engaged in teaching, shall be eligible to hold office on this Council.

SEC. 3. *Powers and Duties.* The Federated Council shall be the highest governing body in the State, and shall exercise the following powers:

a. It shall determine the credentials of its own membership.

b. It shall have jurisdiction over all athletic games and meets between sections and semi-final and final contests leading to or determining State championships.

c. It shall determine the time and place such contests are to be held; prescribe the conditions; appoint the officials; arrange for the competing schools to provide for expenses of same; act as a final court of appeal in protests from semi-final and final contests; define the powers and duties of referees, umpires and other officials; fix and enforce penalties for any violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, or other rules of the Federation; determine what forms of athletic sport shall be conducted by the Federation; devise ways and means by which the standard of eligibility shall be met; elect its own officers; institute and conduct the impeachment of officers of the Federation or sections thereof; exercise, or provide for the exercise of all functions of the Federation not specifically provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws.



Art. IV. Meetings.

SECTION 1. Time of Meetings. The Federated Council shall hold two meetings annually...

Sec. 2. Order of Business. At the summer meeting, the Federated Council shall pass upon the credentials of the new members...

Art. V. Eligibility of Pupils.

A. Age. No pupil shall contest in any game or meet with another school who is twenty-one years old or over.

B. No pupils shall compete in athletic contests with another school after the first eight semesters (four years of actual residence) in any secondary school.

C. Postgraduates shall be ineligible to compete.

D. 1. No person shall take part in any games held under the auspices of this Federation who has not been a member of his school for the semester...

2. Pupils who are compelled to leave school on account of illness, or other unavoidable cause, may make application to the Board of Managers...

E. No pupil shall compete in any game with another school who is not making a passing grade in nine units of new work according to University of California entrance credit.

F. Pupils taking part in contests leading to the section championship shall be required to register with the secretary of the Section Council...

G. The Principal of each school shall be held responsible for the amateur standing and eligibility of his teams under the rules...

H. In the event that a member of a team is shown to be ineligible for any championship game in which he has participated...

I. No visiting team shall be recognized by the Captain of the home team, or the Principal of the school, unless accompanied by a faculty representative...

Art. VI.

SECTION 1. Referees for the final and semi-final games of football shall be provided by a committee of three members of the Federated Council...

Sec. 2. Referees and umpires shall have full and absolute authority over their contests...

The following resolutions were prepared at the convention and passed by unanimous vote:

(9) Recognizing that the grounds provided by many of the high schools of California are not adequate for necessary outdoor student activities...

(10) Prizes: We recommend that the high schools abandon the policy of giving individual medals and confine the prizes to modest cups and pennants to be won by schools.

Following the adoption of the general recommendations and the Constitution and By-Laws, the following motions were made and carried:

(11) That the definition of amateur standing be referred to the respective boards of managers of the sections for recommendations to be submitted to the Federated Council.

(12) That the offer of Commissioner Will C. Wood, made on behalf of the State Board of Education, to mail to every high school of the State the proceedings of this Convention as a State bulletin...

J. C. TEMPLETON, Secretary.

E. W. OLIVER, Chairman.

DELEGATES AT THE LOS ANGELES ATHLETIC CONVENTION.

- 1. E. W. Oliver, Chairman, Vice-Principal Los Angeles High School, Los Angeles.
2. J. C. Templeton, Secretary, City Superintendent and Principal Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto.
3. L. L. Beeman, Principal San Bernardino High School, San Bernardino.
4. Sydney A. Tibbets, Department of Chemistry, California School of Mechanical Arts, and Secretary Academic Athletic League, San Francisco.
5. Emory Ratcliffe, Department of History, football and baseball coach, Santa Ana High School, Santa Ana.
6. G. B. Moody, Director of Physical Education, Berkeley High School, and Treasurer Northern Council, Berkeley.
7. W. L. Bouve, Jr., Head Master Anderson Academy, Director of Physical Education, Irvington.
8. H. O. Williams, Principal Sacramento High School, Sacramento.
9. C. L. Biedenbach, Principal Berkeley High School, Berkeley.
10. Will C. Wood, State Commissioner of Secondary Schools, Sacramento.
11. A. E. Wilson, Principal Los Angeles Manual Arts High School, Los Angeles.
12. E. H. McMath, Principal Santa Ana High School, Santa Ana.
13. W. A. Dunn, Principal Los Angeles Polytechnic High School, Los Angeles.
14. W. L. Richer, Vice-Principal Los Angeles Polytechnic High School, Los Angeles.
15. L. D. Scherer, Physical Director Pasadena High School, Pasadena.
16. F. L. Thurston, President City Section, Los Angeles County High School, Athletic League, Los Angeles.
17. V. R. Ross, Covina Union High School, Covina.
18. W. R. Moberly, Principal Compton High School, Compton.
19. Jay B. Nash, Physical Director Fremont High School, Oakland.
20. A. M. Simons, City Superintendent and Principal Visalia High School, Visalia.
21. J. E. McKown, Principal Santa Monica High School, Santa Monica.

Art. VII. Protests.

Protests between sections must first be filed by the complaining school with the governing board of the league to which it belongs.

Art. VIII. Finances.

SECTION 1. The expenses of each representative of the Sections of the Federation for attendance at meetings of the Federated Council shall be met by the section represented.

Moved by Mr. Simons that the Constitution of the California Interscholastic Federation be adopted as a whole. Carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Northern California Athletics Convention, through its Committee on Provisional Constitution, in session in San Francisco, March 14, 1914, makes the following recommendations to the State Athletics Convention in Los Angeles called for March 28, 1914...

(1) We urge that City Superintendents and High School Principals carefully consider the report of the State-wide Committee on Athletics adopted by the California High School Teachers' Association on July 11, 1913...

(2) That Principals emphasize the importance of students observing sane training rules in the interest of clean personal habits and patriotism to their schools, as well as for their bearing on athletic efficiency.

(3) That schools abolish the paid coach system and that teachers of physical education be substituted. The work of coaching should become one of the functions of the captains of the various teams under the direction of the teachers of physical education or some other member of the faculty detailed as advisor.

(4) That the adjustment of the annual High School Interscholastic meets, previously held by the University of California and Stanford, be limited to one meet a year, and the matter of final arrangements for 1915 and succeeding years, be referred to the Federated Council.

(5) That, as a general practice, trips not including Section or State Championships, be restricted to week ends, limited in number to such as can be personally conducted by a member of the faculty without demoralization of class work, and restricted to distances that do not require more than one day for the round trip...

(6) That special care be taken to keep the athletic fields free from profane and obscene language and other objectionable conduct. The captains should be held responsible for the enforcement of this rule.

(7) That the winning of games and meets be regarded as secondary to fair play; that rooting, jockeying, and other devices employed to confuse or obstruct a player, are to be considered as disreputable and unsportsmanlike conduct, and therefore to be condemned; that in general, high standards of sportsmanship be maintained as the dominant purpose of organized athletics rather than the winning of games and meets.

(8) That the development of a widespread interest in games and sports throughout schools, upon a recreational basis, is better policy than concentrating upon a few experts for the purpose of winning athletic victories. To this end local championships for small groups of schools should be encouraged.

Examples of a card sent out to high schools to join the Federation

May 18, 1914

San Bernardino High School approves of the Constitution of the California Interscholastic Federation as adopted by the State convention held in Los Angeles March 28, 1914.

L. L. Beeman, Principal.

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Hollywood HIGH SCHOOL.

To the Commissioner of Secondary Schools, Sacramento, California.

In accordance with Section 2 of Article II of the Constitution of the California Interscholastic Federation, Hollywood High School, acting through its principal, hereby agrees to accept the Constitution and By-Laws of said Federation, and to take part in the organization of a Section Council for the section in which said high school is situated.

(Signed) H. S. Snyder, Principal of Hollywood High School.

Dated June 5, 1914.