

Mr. Hartmann

C. I. F., SOUTHERN SECTION MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 2

MARCH, 1939

No. 7

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Held in the C. I. F. Office
Thursday, March 2 at 3:00 P. M.

Members present:

Mr. Hayhurst, Chairman
Mr. Alman
Mr. Hamilton
Mr. Moore

Present all or part of the time were:

Rev. E. A. Mauch—St. Augustine
Mr. J. B. Cousart—St. Augustine
Mr. Johnson Walker—Principal, Pomona
Mr. F. L. McEuen—Vice-Principal, Riverside
Mr. Arch Nisbet—Pomona
Mr. Harry Karns—Pomona

1. Joe Stacey of St. Augustine School for Boys had been reported as ineligible for competition during the past semester because of having failed to pass in three subjects the previous semester. Rev. Mauch of St. Augustine stated that the Probation Office in San Diego had requested his school to try to do what it could for Joe as he had come under the Probation Office jurisdiction. Rev. Mauch had no records of the boy's school attendance or Scholastic records with him.

Moved by Mr. Alman, seconded by Mr. Moore that Rev. Mauch prepare a full written record of the case of the boy and file it with the C. I. F. Office and that the Commissioner of Athletics at his next visit to San Diego call at the St. Augustine School and go over carefully the school's athletic record and report to the Executive Committee. Carried.

2. The eligibility of Harry Karns of the Pomona High School who played on the Pomona football team last season had been questioned. A careful review of the boy's records by the Executive Committee seemed to indicate that Harry Karns had competed in Nogales, Arizona when he would not have been eligible under the C. I. F. rules but that the Pomona High School and the Citrus Belt League were justified in disregarding Arizona conditions and ruling the boy eligible.

Moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Hamilton that the ruling of the Citrus Belt League be approved. Carried.

3. George Peterson of Pomona High School, last year's high hurdle champion was compelled to repeat one semester of school work because of moving into a district where there was no mid year promotions. Including the semester of

repeated work he has now finished eight semesters since completing the eighth grade. Is he eligible this semester? The Executive Committee, informally ruled "no".

4. Joe Frazier of the Covina High School at the end of last semester had passing grades in two subjects and was marked **incomplete** in a third because he was not present to finish a part of a final examination. The examination was taken the first day of the new semester and the grade was changed to a passing mark. **Question**—Is the boy eligible this semester? The Executive Committee ruled that the C. I. F. recognizes only two grades, **passing** and **not passing**, and that it is the responsibility of the administrator and the teacher to decide whether a boy has completed enough of the semester's work by the last day of the semester to be given a passing mark. Whatever changes are made in marks after the close of the semester does not concern the C. I. F.

5. An organization known as the N. Y. A. School has been established at Redondo Beach. The school is attended by young men and young women from 18 to 25 years of age. This institution is carrying on an athletic program in addition to its regular school work. A request had been received by the C. I. F. Office to sanction games of baseball between our high school teams and the N. Y. A. team.

The question was discussed at some length and the Commissioner of Athletics was directed not to issue sanction for such games. The reason given for the action was that the young men on the N. Y. A. teams are of college age and should compete against junior college and college teams.

6. The Coast League at a meeting on February 8 at San Diego passed motions recommending two changes in the Constitution and Rulings of the C. I. F., Southern Section.

One change recommended would divide the C. I. F., Southern Section Leagues into four groups according to size of schools in the Leagues, with an Executive Committee for each group and no play-offs among the four groups except in track.

The other change would give Leagues one representative on the Council of the C. I. F., Southern Section for each 5000 A. D. A. or fraction thereof in the schools making up the Leagues.

The Executive Committee directed that notice of these proposals be printed in its minutes and that the Secretary of the Coast League be



**CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC
FEDERATION SOUTHERN SECTION**

SOUTH PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL
South Pasadena, California PYramid 1-1707

Executive Committee

Normal Hayhurst, Principal Herbert Hoover
High School, President.

H. J. Moore, Principal Woodrow Wilson High
School.

S. Chester McIntosh, Principal Puente High school
Kinter Hamilton, Principal Harvard School.

John E. Alman, Principal South Pasadena High
School.

Seth F. Van Patten, Commissioner of Athletics
O. P. Hornaday, Principal Elsinore High School,
President of the Council.

asked for a definite wording of the proposals for publication in the April Bulletin. This will make it possible for the proposals to be passed upon at the May meeting of the Council.

7. The Commissioner of Athletics recommended that a committee be appointed to make a careful study of the football playing rules of the National Federation of High School Athletic Associations, and recommend to the Council at its May meeting as to the advisability of adopting these rules for use by the C. I. F., Southern Section.

The recommendation was approved and the following Committee named:

Mr. Walter Bell—Coast League, Chairman

Mr. Arthur Badenoch—Bay League

Mr. Wm. Foote—Citrus League

Mr. Glenn Lewis—Foothill League

Mr. Wm. K. Dunn—San Gabriel League.

8. The Commissioner of Athletics recommended that a committee be appointed to make a detailed study, next basketball season, of the effect of the playing of basketball under present rules, on the physical condition of the boys who play.

The recommendation was approved and the following committee named:

Mr. Ray Root—Burbank, Chairman

Mr. J. W. Means—Tustin

Mr. Don Douglass—Whittier.

It is expected that this committee will formulate its plans and submit them to the Council for approval at the May meeting.

The Commissioner of Athletics was directed to cooperate with the two above committees and have all clerical work taken care of by his office.

9. The Commissioner of Athletics reported that the two reels of colored films showing some of the spring sports of 1938 had been in continuous circulation since January 1 and that the reception seemed to be very favorable.

The Executive Committee directed that the Commissioner of Athletics plan to have addi-

tional pictures taken this Spring of activities not covered last year, especially swimming and golf. Some of the track events, particularly those where it seems probable that a new record may be made, should be included.

The Commissioner of Athletics was also directed to arrange with some of our own schools that have suitable cameras for the taking of more films and thus keep the expense as low as possible.

10. The following letter was sent to all Council Members—

"February 23, 1939

At the Council meeting on February 4 the following motion was approved.—Moved by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Perry that the Commissioner of Athletics be directed to see that the Pomona Baseball Tournament be set up so that no team is required to play more than four games in three days. Carried.—This action was intended to protect the pitchers on the teams taking part in the tournament.

On Tuesday, February 21, a conference of baseball coaches and Pomona 20-30 Club members was held and they were of the opinion that the action taken by the Council will not accomplish the purpose intended. A boy may still pitch four games in three days.

This conference of February 21 recommended in place of the above motion that the Council rule for this year:

1. That no pitcher pitch more than eighteen innings during the whole tournament.

2. That no pitcher pitch more than one game in any one day.

The Executive Committee has authorized the submission of the coaches' recommendation to the Council for a Post Card vote.

Will you give us your vote on the enclosed card by return mail.

Seth F. Van Patten
Commissioner of Athletics
C. I. F., Southern Section."

The post card replies approved 15 to 1 the coaches' recommendation.

The Executive Committee voted the recommendation as approved by the Council and directed that the ruling be followed in the tournament this year.

At five o'clock the meeting adjourned.

FOOTBALL ILLS

Mr. W. H. Orion, State Supervisor of the Health and Physical Education Department, spoke to the Los Angeles County High School Principals and Vice-Principals at Los Angeles on February 27 regarding the problems of football.

There seems to be many problems still needing attention when the State as a whole is considered.

When we saw our first high school football

in Southern California in 1901 it had all the faults pointed out by Mr. Orion as still present in some schools, plus many that have now been entirely forgotten by the present generation of school administrators and coaches.

We have seen high school football develop from a rough and tough contest, often directed by the Main Street bum and officiated by a bartender from a corner saloon, into a well organized sport, played by well equipped teams, officiated by thoroughly trained school men (Principals, Vice-Principals and Coaches) and approved, we believe, by a very large majority of patrons and supporters of our schools.

We are quite familiar with the care and thought that is given to the football program by every league in the C. I. F., Southern Section. We know from observations and conferences with coaches and Principals how no detail is overlooked in preparing for football games. For more than a third of a century we have been privileged to watch what we believe has been a steady improvement in high school football as a sport, a recreation, an interschool contact and an educational asset.

The game is not perfect yet, even in Southern California. We have seen though, what we considered perfect high school football for almost a full game with large bodies of spectators behaving in a quiet becoming manner. We believe that our course here in Southern California is steady and in the right direction. Let us not rock the boat.

We believe the C. I. F., Southern Section, may well undertake some things that will help some schools to further perfect their football programs. Were we to undertake some of the following moves the High School game in Southern California as a whole would doubtless be improved:

- (1) Set up minimum standards for equipment.
- (2) Designate the medical assistance necessary for a well ordered football program.
- (3) Suggest best procedure in handling traffic problems.
- (4) Advise on ways and means of developing cordial relations between student bodies at times of football games.
- (5) Advise on number and character of pep rallies prior to football games.
- (6) Advise as to maximum hours of practice per week.

A well outlined program along the above lines approved by the C. I. F., Southern Section, would assist Principals in securing budget allowances, in holding overenthusiastic coaches in check, in directing student leaders, and making football serve better as a worthwhile feature of high school life.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS, SUPPORT—CONTROL

When interscholastic athletics were introduced into the high schools of Southern California thirty or more years ago the financial support was provided wholly from the student body funds of the various high schools. This method of support continued to be the general practice in most of our high schools until the depression hit us about 1930.

When the depression came along and student body funds decreased and receipts from interscholastic athletic contests in many schools practically reached the vanishing point we began to hear that the school athletic program was a very essential part of the physical education set-up and as such should receive support from regular school revenues. At first Boards of Education made very modest appropriations for buying athletic equipment. During the past few years in many school districts the budget allowance for high school athletics has been very materially increased until now \$500.00, \$1000.00, \$1500.00 or more is set aside by a large number of school systems to help finance the high school athletics.

This change in the financial support of high school athletics has been very gradual and has seemed quite a natural and reasonable development. There is, however, a business axiom to the effect that, with financial support goes control.

As long as the high school athletic program was supported from student body funds and as long as the games were played after regular school hours or on Saturdays, Boards of Education, Superintendents, and other administrative officials were content to let the Principal and his coaches run the show.

In 1914 the C. I. F. was set up in California to help Principals and coaches control athletics within their schools. Rules and regulations were agreed upon. These have been changed from time to time principally by the trial and error method. The C. I. F. Constitution and Rulings of the present year form a complete and detailed guide for the conduct of all our high school athletics.

Are there any indications that seem to point to possible Board of Education interference in interscholastic athletics in high schools? We believe from numerous conversations we have had with coaches and Principals that there is a tendency in that direction. Let us cite an instance or two. When spring football practice was a moot question two years ago the Council of the C. I. F. was notified officially by one high school that the fact that the Board of Education was making a generous appropriation in support of the school's athletic program was influencing the attitude of the school regarding spring football practice.

Another case—During the discussion of releasing a few weeks ago, we were reliably informed

that a Board of Education by formal vote regularly recorded, directed its Principal what action to take regarding the assignment of his school to a league for next year.

These instances and many others that we could relate indicate that Boards of Education and administrators are concerning themselves officially with the problems of interscholastic athletics. During our connection with the Los Angeles City School System we knew of numerous decisions made by the Board of Education regarding athletics that the Principals and coaches were directed to follow.

Before we came into the C. I. F. Office eleven years ago we were convinced that the Principals and coaches in our high schools were in a better position than anyone else, to exercise intelligent and efficient control of the athletics of their schools. Our observations and contacts while we have been in the C. I. F. Office have all tended to strengthen the above noted conviction.

It is a fine thing to have the Board of Education make generous appropriations in support of high school athletics but does any Principal or coach want his Board of Education to set up his football schedule for him, tell him what League he may join, how far he may go on trips with his teams, or how many baseball games his school may play in any season?

Are we drifting? Had we not better start charting our course?

IS A SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL GAMES JUSTIFIED?

Our high school sports program which continues from September to June of each school year now embraces a wide range of activities. No one of the games of our interscholastic athletic program has originated in our high schools. Football, basketball, baseball, tennis, water polo, golf and other activities have been introduced into high schools after being originated for other groups or organizations.

Not only have we adopted games that have been originated by others but we have also accepted the rules that have been worked out to suit other than high school conditions.

Almost all of our high school program of interscholastic athletics is subjected to criticism of sorts.

Our football is too dangerous, too strenuous, too expensive, over emphasized, etc.

Baseball we are told requires too much space, is too expensive, is losing its public appeal, and might well be displaced by soft ball.

Basketball requires an expensive building. It has been speeded up to a point where it is too strenuous for growing boys.

Water polo we are told is objectionable because too much of the activity is beneath the surface of the pool where it cannot be seen and controlled. It is claimed too that water polo

players are often subject to annoying sinus infections.

Crosscountry running and all distance races in our high school track meets are objected to by many persons as being too strenuous, too fatiguing, or too hard on the heart.

It does not require a lot of hard thinking to raise objections such as are listed above.

We can always answer such critics by suggesting that they have no proof of the contentions they are making but do we want to dispose of the subject in that manner? Should we not periodically take inventory of our objectives, our methods, and our results and be ready to justify our program? If we cannot justify our program then should we not discontinue it or modify it to meet our objectives?

So far as we know no detailed study of interscholastic athletics has ever been undertaken to determine physical, social, and scholastic effects upon participants. No study that we know of has ever been undertaken to determine how athletics affect discipline problems of a high school, or how the morale of the student body as a whole reacts to week-end athletic contests. Would it not be of value and interest to know how much it costs per player in the average Southern California high school to put on a good football program and how football costs compare with those for basketball, baseball, or track?

The questions just suggested can be correctly and conclusively answered only by thorough and careful research. These questions are C. I. F. problems. We believe the C. I. F. is in a better position to get the information we should all want than anyone else.

Should it be undertaken?

SAN GABRIEL LEAGUE USES OWN MEN ON BASKETBALL GAMES

During the basketball season just ending the Basketball Manager for the San Gabriel League requested the C. I. F. Office to appoint San Gabriel League men to officiate the League basketball games as far as possible.

The request was carried out and no unfavorable reports have been filed regarding the officiating.

The San Gabriel League coaches are all like Caesar, "honorable men", so the scheme must have some merit.

FLEAS

A fairly steady flow of debatable questions come to the C. I. F. Office by letter, by telephone and by word of mouth. This reminds us of a remark by David Harum to the effect that—"A reasonable number of fleas is good for every dog. They serve to remind him of the fact that he is a dog."