Inter - Scholastic Relations

By Guy E. Reed

Good feeling toward and from our sister institutions with whom we engage on the athletic field is essential to the very life of intercollegiate athletics. We hear every year a great deal of fol-de-rol about this or that athletic conference, but the important thing is that we have the reputation in the student bodies of our rivals of being good sportsmen.

Our competitors are not our enemies. They are our friends, bringing out the very best that is in us by their friendly strife against us. We shall always believe that we have the best men, but if in open strife we shall be bested, then every man ought to show his manliness in an open and firm way by congratulating our conquerors in a hearty fashion. To malign those who have proved their provess by defeating our chosen men is a reflection upon our student body that every live Cornhusker should resent. Nebraskans have no use for the student who claims that the luck went against us and was responsible for defeat. Neither have we any use for the half-hearted, half-manly individual who says we were lucky to win. History has proved that the team which is up and doing generally has the good fortune.

For the past month Nebraska and Kansas have been squabbling over a matter which has created a bitter feeling between the student bodies of the two institutions. What paltry business for great educational institutions to be embroiled in! A principle was envolved, to be sure, but diplomats and peace have conquered more than intriguers and war. It is no wonder that the opponents of intercollegiate athletics pipe up at the opportunities thus presented.

The Missouri Valley colleges have been throwing brickbats at Nebraska for years because of our desire to join the Western Intercollegiate Conference. They state that we think we have outgrown the Missouri Valley Conference. True, it is that we are looking for new fields to conquer, and we point with pride to our record for the past ten years. It is ambition, not snobbishness, which impels us to join a more prominent conference. If we should join the larger college organization we should still want to compete with Ames, Drake, Kansas Aggies, and Kansas. Nevertheless, our desire has created an ill feeling against us that will be hard to appease. Here we can take a firm stand and feel that we are right. Nebraska will probably join the "Big Eight" conference if she gets a chance—but she will always be desirous of competing against the old worthy foes.

The Missouri Valley Conference has served a worthy cause. No one can condemn the motives of the men who have served as leaders. A better basis for settling misunderstandings has been established. All year coaches have been employed. Competent and honest officials are listed and recommended. Rules for handling all intercollegiate sports have been made and interpreted. All regulations passed have been in the interest of clean sport and have served to destroy the old spirit of "win-at-any-cost." ord of the year. Minnesota seemed delighted with the reception given them while in Lincoln. The Haskell Indians were profuse in their praise of our hospitality. Perhaps the awakening has already come here, and Nebraska's fame as a university of good sportsmen will follow the news of her athletic ups and downs. The tribute most to be desired—more important even than the one which could be given the supremacy of the teams is this: "Nebraska is a clean, straight school. Her men are real sportsmen."

Mark Whelan on Coaches A Review of an Article in Outing By R. V. Koupal

A football coach, because he works behind the scenes, is classed by Mack Whelan as a mysterious individual, or a cross between Sherlock Holmes and a professor in advanced geometry. A coach must be an executive of the highest order and must possess a combination of leadership and personal magnetism in order to make a successful eleven and the author of the article on "Football Coaches—Drivers and Diplomats" seems to have found these qualities in conspicuous coaches of the day.

"Old D. P.", or Percy Haughton of Harvard, great coach as he is, is little known to the general public because of his quiet personality. "When it comes to culture, he can be classed by none of the cultured," because his tastes are artistic. Syracuse produced, under Howard Jones, one of the best teams for that university in football history. Jones is a character the opposite of Haughton, and authorities of the school in the beginning feared that they had placed football supervision into poor hands. Glenn Warner of Carlisle, one of the best developed players from Cornell, is placed in the "driving class" of coaches.

In the West near our own institution one finds coaches who are, as a whole, neither drivers nor classed in the other extreme. They are in the "happy medium" class. W. J. Juneau of Wisconsin, is classed as a tactician, and one of the best balanced coaches in football. His well known combination of drive, tact and tactics has given the University of Wisconsin its prominent position. In his own playing day Juneau was a great end, and today his coaching is of the type which proves to the careful observer that he is master on the field. Yost of Michigan and Stagg of Chicago employ methods which in a general way place them in the driving class. The former is a high type in the driving class and makes aggressive players of his men or sees that they leave the squad. Although the latter, Stagg, is in the class of drivers, his methods off the field are distinctly those of a diplomat.

H. L. Williams, coach for Minnesota, and leader of Nebraska's greatest rival, is a man of the diplomatic type. "He is, says Whelan, "an ideal coach for bringing a team through the season and registering even progress in playing efficiency. He does not possess in great measure the power of keying an eleven to a tension which makes them formidable for the most important engagements of the season, but Minnesota is cared for in this respect by another coach. Williams is distinctly a man of new ideas." The Minnesota shift and many other football miracles so prominent in the football world, are the results of head work done by Williams and the driving power of Tom Shevlin. Shevlin is the man who, in 1910, when Yale had made a poor start, was called to the Yale field to prepare that eleven to meet an over-confident Princeton team. After work behind closed gates for one week he produced a team which forced Princeton to humbly submit to defeat. Having seen just where some of the most prominent coaches have been placed by authorities it is only just that Nebraska be privileged to ask that attention be called to the fact that "Jumbo" Stiehm, who has been classed as a "driver," be given rank with his prominent contemporary in charge of football at Minnesota. Taking into consideration the work Minnesota has done against other schools this year it is only natural that loyal Nebraskans should feel proud of their "Jumbo," who through his coaching skill had developed an eleven that defeated the "Gophers," and for the fourth time has left an unsullied trail through the Missouri Valley.

Only a few weeks ago the football team and the rooters who accompanied them had an opportunity to enjoy genuine hospitality and good sportsmanship at the hands of the Iowa State Collegians at Ames. A few years ago some of the older students will remember that our reception was quite different. This year it was cheers and kind rivalry which greeted us, instead of jibes and jeers. Ames evidently has awakened to the situation that, win or lose, competitors deserve the kindest of courtesies. The experience this year has so entirely changed the attitude of Cornhuskers toward the Aggies that all would be willing to sign a contract for an exchange of contests to last nine hundred and ninety-nine years. There can be no ill-feeling between institutions which are on good terms such as were demonstrated at Ames this fall.

Nebraska needs to be careful of her own reputation, especially since she is undergoing a period of criticism at the hands of the Valley institutions. In years past, it is more than likely that instances could be cited, showing the shortcomings of the Cornhuskers as hosts. And yet, during the past season no instance has occurred which reacts upon the spotless athletic rec-