

BIG NINE ACTS ON FOOT BALL

Radical Changes Intended to Stamp Out Professionalism. PAID COACHES ARE ABOLISHED. Players Must Carry Full Number of Receptions—Date Fees and Number of Intercollegiate Games Limited.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—College football has dealt a staggering blow to the representatives of the faculties of the "Big Nine" western colleges, who at the conclusion of a two days' conference, tonight recommended several radical changes in the conduct of football and other sports.

It was recommended that the game of football, as played at present, be abolished as an intercollegiate and collegiate contest in the conference colleges; that the conference award from the American football rules committee such modifications of the playing rules as will free the game from brutality and unnecessary danger; that in the event such alterations are not sufficient, the conference will delegate a committee to draw up rules of its own and that if a satisfactory game can not be established the recommendations established by today's conference shall apply to its conduct and management.

Players Must Be Students. One of the new rules will compel football players to have as many recitations during the school year as at any other time of the year, and at the end of the school year he must be able to show a clean record to be eligible for the team during the next playing season.

Other Drastic Recommendations. Among the other recommendations made were the following: The number of intercollegiate games played by each university team shall be limited to five.

SHORTS TALKS IN CINCINNATI

Chairman of Canal Commission Is Guest of Commercial Club. ISTHMUS NOW A SAFE PLACE TO WORK. Preliminary Preparations Are Now Practically Complete and Progress Will Be Rapid and Certain.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Isthmian Canal commission, was the guest of honor and sole speaker at the January meeting of the Commercial club in this city tonight.

Mr. Shonts said: I am here tonight to talk, as I have said not of an experiment, but of an assured success. We are not merely going to build the canal; we are going to build it.

At the same time we are engaged in this preparatory work barely six months, that we have completed in such a short time in a tropical country, mainly a wilderness, not accessible by railway, but 3,000 miles at least from any line of communication.

Character of labor. The character of labor on the isthmus has more to do with the time it will take to build the canal—more to do with the cost of construction—than any other determining factor.

There is no insuperable difficulty in the way of the construction of the canal, but an engineering point of view and with any ordinary class of labor. The serious problem is to get what will be considered in this country anything like an ordinary class of labor.

Experiment with Italian laborers. While not made on a large scale, has not been satisfactory for the reason that they do not seem possessed of great vitality and succumb quickly to tropical diseases.

The West Indian negro that we are using has but little life and ambition in him. We are practically trying to weld an inert mass, which is not getting over 25 per cent, or from a most liberal point of view, 30 per cent, of the United States.

As I said at the beginning of these remarks, our preparatory work is nearing completion. It has in fact, been carried out far as we can carry it safely until we know definitely the type of canal we are to construct.

NEBRASKA SPEED ASSOCIATION WANTS ASSISTANCE OF LOCAL HORSEMEN

Omaha was given an opportunity to have a share in the circuit of the Nebraska Speed association at the annual meeting, which was held at the Merchants hotel Saturday afternoon.

Omaha Driving club, will be organized to take the date offered by the association. The affairs of the association are most prosperous, all the towns being winners of the year's possibly one exception, Fremont and York.

There are several other towns which are prominent in the circuit, and these are: Tekamah, Fremont, Lincoln, Auburn, Hastings, Wayne and Randolph. N. J. Ronin of Fremont, F. E. Kimball of Hastings, C. H. Rudge and W. P. McCreary, represented, had filed credentials and were elected to membership, which was adopted.

Classes and purses were adopted as follows: Hereafter the athletic associations will have nothing to do with the securing of coaches, that duty being left in the hands of the trustees of the colleges, and there will be no foot ball training before college opens.

That no team consisting in whole or in part of college students shall play with high schools, academies or independent professional schools.

That it is recommended to the college conference that its rules which allow the three first games of the season to be uncounted in participation be eliminated.

That the number of intercollegiate games played by each university team shall be limited to five.

That no team consisting in whole or in part of college students shall play with high schools, academies or independent professional schools.

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