

Letter from St. Dept. Reveals Need for Curbing of Competitive Athletics

By M. W. Weaver

In a letter from the office of the county Supt. of Schools recently, three paragraphs were quoted from a letter sent out by Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, Director of the Division of Instructional Service. Dr. Highsmith's references were to athletics in both elementary and high school. They are being quoted below. Each patron, teacher, and student needs to have this information. It will support and help to explain the stand taken by many school people in limiting athletic contests to a reasonable number.

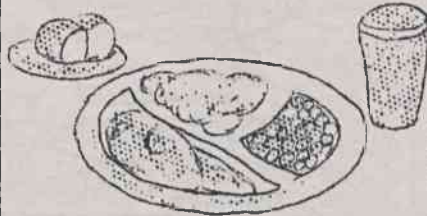
(1) "It has been called to my attention a number of times that too much time is being spent on competitive athletic activities, particularly in the elementary school. Perhaps we have thought of competitive athletics as being confined to the high school. That is not true any longer. There is evidence that too much emphasis is being placed upon activities which are not educative for younger boys and girls and which are positively detrimental."

(2) "The instructional program in elementary schools or high schools must not be neglected. This program requires time and the necessary amount of time for teaching cannot be sacrificed without detriment to boys and girls."

(3) "It may be that we shall have to refuse to

accredit those elementary schools that over emphasize competitive athletic activities to the neglect of the more fundamental aspects of the school's program."

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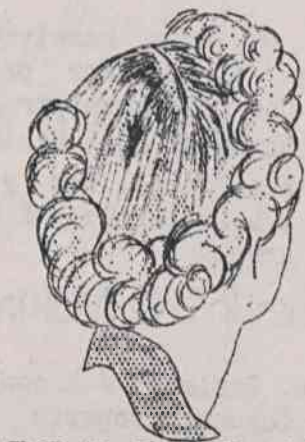
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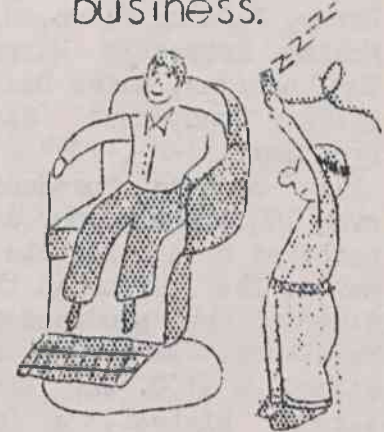


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New Students Enter

Margaret and Richard Dement, Jr., seventh and ninth graders, entered school here this week. They came from Linden School, near Fayetteville.

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