

Athletics at the Northwest School

Athletics for students at the Northwest School fulfill a need that exists in few other schools. The boys and girls from farming communities are by nature accustomed to active exercise and healthful recreation, so that a well-balanced athletic and physical education program is not only appreciated, but demanded. Because of a unity of purpose, the spirit shown by students and athletes at the Northwest School is rarely matched in other schools whose students have different backgrounds and a variety of aims. Athletics at the Northwest School are also entirely free from the commercial taint that touches many schools since we rely only on the students for financial support, doing away with the necessity for large gate receipts and thereby escaping public demand for winning teams at any cost.

Athletics are frequently subject to the criticism that they are only for the minority; that only the small percentage of the total enrollment takes part in inter-scholastic competition. This is relatively true in the large schools and universities, but a school the size of this could well provide a very high percentage of its students with the advantages of competitive athletics. A football squad of seventy-five is not too large and is our aim in the future, not only to give as many as possible the advantages that football provides physically, but also to provide an opportunity for a larger number to learn the game fundamentals. With a new gymnasium which we hope will be completed this fall, larger basketball squads and greater opportunity for minor sports will be realized so that there should be nothing to hinder any one from taking part in some type of athletic activity. With the completion of the new building we also hope to effect the organization of an agricultural school league or conference to include the University's four schools of agriculture. An organization such as this with championships awarded in the various activities, would result not only in an increased interest in all activities, but would make for a closer mutual relationship between these schools whose aims and ideals are identical.

Students at the Northwest School in the future will realize even more than those who are here now that they can experience most of the advantages and few of the evils of all kinds of athletics.

—R. J. CHRISTGAU.



A. M. Foker
Athletic Director