

**For What It's Worth**

By Clifford P. Rowe

Any individual who was unaware of the inroads made by athletics into the academic structure of our modern institutions of higher learning has certainly been enlightened in the last few months. Particularly has he had his eyes opened in regard to the burly heroes of the football gridiron.

A quarter of a century ago the

proponents of intercollegiate football employed as their principal tool of propoganda the argument that this sport strengthened character in our youth as well as developing them physically. Today, however, the picture has changed considerably.

Recent scandals among member schools of the Pacific Coast conference definitely prove, if further evidence were necessary, that character building has been thrown out the window. Further-

more it is very evident that in many of the larger institutions, the tail is now wagging the dog; football victories are more important than academic achievement; stadiums are more important than classrooms; coaches are more important than college presidents; and the alumni and the metropolitan sports writers carry more weight relative to university policy than does the board of trustees.

These facts were brought out emphatically in southern California recently where the stiffest penalties were doled out for code violations. Supposedly responsible adults had the unmitigated gall to insist that university faculty men should not be in the driver's seat as far as controlling the PCC was concerned. They backed up their argument with the idiotic assertion that these faculty representatives didn't know enough about football to be able to judge wisely.

In other words, from their warped viewpoint which has resulted from over-emphasis on athletics, these football fanatics are now going so far as to tell the universities, which gave them permission to exist in the first place, that what football does is none of the college's business.

All of which means, in the final analysis, that universities must soon decide whether their prime purpose is to educate students or to entertain the public.

Mrs. Mae Smith who had served as city recorder for something over a year, left last Saturday to make her home in southern California with a daughter.

**Veterans Affairs Given Study**

Congressional legislation actively pursued by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as mandates from this year's national convention, concerns all veterans and their families.

At the top of the list is the advocating of pensions for all World War I veterans. The delegates called for re-introduction of the World War I pension bill passed by the House at the last session, but which died in the Senate Finance Committee. Because of the "death" the convention asks the Senate to amend its rules and set up a separate committee to deal with all veterans' bills.

Another recommendation of very widespread necessity, especially to the younger veterans is urging the granting of pensions and allowances to the widows of World War II and Korean veterans who are now without any federal recognition for themselves or their children, whatever. The Veterans of Foreign Wars is asking benefits for this segment similar to those now in effect for the widows of World War I.

The delegates also voted asking the raising of income limitations (in order to be eligible for pensions) from \$1,400 to \$2,400 for veterans or veteran's widows with out dependents and from \$2,700 to \$3,600 for those with dependents, and to prevent returns from commercial insurance policies from being considered as income for VA pension purposes.

Elderly veterans, applying for

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service connected pensions would be given a complete physical checkup and the examining

doctors would be required to certify how long a time they took in making the examination if the wishes of the convention are followed, and the delegates approved in principal, prevailing upon the Veterans Administration to make possible a demonstration of the method of chiropractic treatment, both in their hospitals and on an out-patient basis.

On a wider basis, the convention went on record as disfavoring any dealings whatever which would bind the U. S. to any and all forms of world government, urges complete evaluation of our relations with the Yugoslavs and turns thumbs down on any attempts to allow Red China a seat in the United Nations. It also opposed inviting any Russian military personnel to inspect any defense bases in the U. S. A.

The delegates also voted to oppose any attempt toward national prohibition and resolved that the voting records of all members of Congress on matters pertaining to veterans, their widows, or dependents be published in their national magazine as a continuous policy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

**RATE RAISE?**

Due to property improvements the board of trustees of the local VFW Post are studying an upward revision of rates which have prevailed since the building was made available. Service charges must be increased to meet street and sewer assessments which, in the case of the property not being eligible for installment payments, had to be paid in cash, the sum of \$1,000 being borrowed at 6 percent interest.

Since being opened, the veterans have endeavored to run it at a rate comparable to a community hall, and possibly would have so continued but the trustees realize the addition of a paved street and availability of a sewer makes their property yet more valuable and feels the public will profit accordingly.

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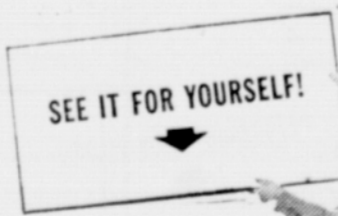
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