

What is Prohibition to a Track Team

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Athletics and athletes aren't what they used to be, said Charley Paddock, famous dash man in a recent article, and Prohibition is the cure. Drinking is common among athletes in all sports he averred. College athletics in particular have suffered as a result of the general drinking of "hard liquor" among students. (Fortunately for Paddock, he penned his article a few days before the track and field meet in Chicago when several records fell, among them the hundred yard dash record, once held by Paddock.)

Athletic coaches in all parts of the country hastened to refute Paddock's array of glittering (for the wets) generalities with an array of authoritative statements. Among these was one by Dean Cromwell, coach of the track team of the University of Southern California, victors in the meet.

He said: "There is absolutely no liquor problem among the athletes of our school. Booze and the slipshod sort of athletics that go with it have no interest for our boys."

"During recent months we have made extensive trips throughout the country. Our schedule took us as far as Montreal, but the open liquor stores of the Canadian capital were of no interest to our men."

"I know the coaches of our association well and practically without a single exception they are dry and their influence is reflected among the boys they train. College athletics, so far as my experience goes, are ninety-nine per cent free from booze"