

Zeigler, Earle F. (ed.) *A History of Sport and Physical Education to 1900: Selected Topics* (Champaign, Illinois: Stipes Publishing Company, 1973).

Since Professors Loy and Kenyon published their pioneering Reader on the sociology of sport in 1969, entitled *Sport, Culture and Society*, there have been a number of similar publications, such as G. S. Kenyon (ed.), *Sociology of Sport* (The Athletic Institute, 1969); G. Luschen (ed.), *The Cross-Cultural Analysis of Sport and Games* (Stipes, 1970); G. H. Sage (ed.), *Sport and American Society: Selected Readings* (Addison-Wesley, 1970); E. Dunning (ed.), *Sport: Readings from a Sociological Perspective* (F. Cass and Company, 1971); M. M. Hart (ed.), *Sport in the Socio-Cultural Process* (W. C. Brown, 1972); and C. H. Page and J. T. Talamini (eds.), *Sport and Society: An Anthology*. There is little doubt that the academic study of sport as an increasing contemporary pursuit has benefitted from these publications.

The study of the history of physical education and sport has experienced a natural concomitant growth, but this has not been characterized by a similar expansion of Readers in the area. With the exception of the Proceedings of the Big Ten Symposium on the History of Physical Education and Sport, held at Ohio State University in 1971, and subsequently published by the Athletic Institute in 1972 under the editorship of Professor B. L. Bennett, sporting anthologies of an historical nature have been comparatively rare. However, many of the works referred to in the first paragraph have contained articles, or even a whole section, with an historical emphasis. Loy and Kenyon, for example, included John Betts' classic article on "The Technological Revolution and the Rise of Sport, 1850-1900", as did M.M. Hart, also. The first section of the G. H. Sage Reader is entitled "The Heritage of Sport in America," whilst Part II of the Reader edited by E. Dunning is entitled "The Development of Sports and Games." While sports historians can be grateful for these tidbits and make use of them, they have felt the need for some comprehensive Reader(s) specializing in the history of physical education and sport. There has been more than enough activity in the area, particularly in recent years, to provide material for such a venture and warrant publication. Now Professor E. F. Zeigler, one of the most prolific scholars in our field, has attempted to answer this need by editing a *History of Sport and Physical Education to 1900* (Champaign, Illinois: Stipes Publishing Company, 1973).

This is not the first time that Professor Zeigler has published in an innovative manner. Readers will recall his *Problems in the History and Philosophy of Physical Education and Sport* (Prentice-Hall, 1968) which has been generally well-received as an individual thought-provoking analysis. Dr. Zeigler was also a co-author, with Professors M. L. Howell and M. Trekell, of *Research in the History, Philosophy and International Aspects of Physical Education and Sport Bibliographies and Techniques* (Stipes, 1971). These contributions have been useful to sports historians in recent years, and it seems likely that the latest Zeigler-Stipes Reader will be of some use in the future.

A History of Sport and Physical Education to 1900: Selected Topics is divided into four parts:

1. Early Societies (9 chapters)
2. Greece and Rome (8 chapters)
3. The Middle Ages (5 chapters)
4. The Enlightenment and Nineteenth-Century Europe (6 chapters)

No less than twenty-four authors have contributed to this Reader, including two well-known scholars to whom the book is dedicated, Rachel S. Robinson and Harold A. Harris.

With such a wide range of authorship, the reader can expect some variance in the quality of the contributions presented, and this is reflected in the sections. The book's dedication is obviously a most deserved one, to a female and male scholar who have both contributed so much to our knowledge of sport in the ancient world. Their experience over so many years, their ability to work with primary source material at site, and translate from original languages, provides the unparalleled foundation for their authority and meticulous scholarship. Not all of the authors are so well-blessed in such essential aspects; although perhaps Harris-and-Robinson represents an unfair standard for the majority, particularly when Editor Zeigler admits that he has made an effort to include the work of "somewhat younger, historical scholars." Most chapters, in fact, are sound and each reader will select a few that he or she may also describe as delightful.

This collection of readings will certainly be of some benefit to all in the history of physical education and sport area; and it would be difficult to disagree with the various uses suggested by Dr. Zeigler in the Preface, (pp. v-vi:)

The selections included cover the sweep of history during these four periods. In many cases they represent condensations of much longer investigations. Thus, this volume includes the results of literally thousands of pages of historical writing. Of course, this does not mean that the reader would not learn more about the history of this field by referring to the original work (individually or collectively). What is important, of course, is that the author's work is being called to the reader's attention; that he will obtain at least some of the essence of the study; and that he will be able to follow through and obtain a specific investigation in the original...

This represents a fairly succinct statement of the main merits and limitations of the Reader.

It is unfortunate that a great deal of the material has been published elsewhere previously, a comment applicable to many such collections. Most conscientious people in the field will already possess much of the contents, some in the preferable 'pre-condensation' versions. It is refreshing to read that Chapter 27 "was written specifically for this volume by Mr. Peter McIntosh" --would that more chapters had been so written! For one can agree wholeheartedly with Professor Zeigler where

he states in the Preface (p. iv) that "the reader should understand that the study of history is anything but a static affair. As a matter of fact, the history of man's past is being continually rewritten. further, there is absolutely no question but that the body of knowledge in this latter area needs to be supplemented continually." Many chapters in this Reader will definitely have to be "supplemented continually" by reference to other, as well as more recent material if faculty and students are to obtain maximum benefit from its use. Several examples could be given but perhaps a point from Chapter 5 "Sport and Games in Ancient Egypt" will suffice. This was based upon a P. Ed. Dissertation written in 1961, and all the works listed in the bibliography were published before this date. Thus some recent significant evidence is absent, including of course the excellent book by A. D. Touny and S. Wenig, *Sport in Ancient Egypt*, which was published in 1969. This Reader could well be supplemented by visual aids, also, since it can hardly be described as "illustrated", containing but one picture of Johann Guts Muths and one of Margaret Streicher.

If the sub-title had been "Selected Problems", and the chapters chosen accordingly, this reviewer could forecast a much longer academic life for this text, too. One of the most popular Readers in Canadian history is so sub-titled, *i.e.* MacKirdy, Moir and Zoltvany, *Changing Perspectives in Canadian History*, first published by J. M. Dent and Sons in 1967 and revised in 1971. It deals with such issues as "France's View of Canada--Asset or Liability?"; "Westward Expansion--Choice or Necessity?"; "The Loyalist Tradition--Fact or Fancy?" and presents arguments in each case, mainly from primary sources, to support contrary views. Other Readers in other areas are similarly designed, especially recently published ones. Chapter 22 of this 1973 Reader is Peter C. McIntosh's essay on "Physical Education in Renaissance Italy and Tudor England," which was first published in *Landmarks in the History of Physical Education* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1957). The authors of that "fine volume", as Zeigler describes it, attempted to answer such questions as 'was physical education in Nazi Germany the perversion of a tradition or its natural development?', 'Was P. H. Ling a rebel or the child of his age?', 'How has physical education contributed to the British Raj or to the American Way of Life?'. This latest Reader is not generally structured to pose or answer many such similar historical questions in the history of physical education and sport before the twentieth-century, although of course it does offer some appropriate information and theories. Perhaps a Reader drawn from similar wide-ranging sources, but with essays arranged to present possible and differing answers to such questions as those in the *Landmarks* text would be more suitable to contemporary tastes? The humanistic portrait of De Coubertin given in Chapter 28, for example, is as Professor Zeigler states "a truly heart-warming picture" of the man in question; nevertheless, it contrasts sharply with the less-complimentary view given by Paul Hoch (whose book is also reviewed in this *Journal*) and others of a military-minded jingoist. Alternatively, instead of the usual

chronological arrangement from early societies to the present day, a new Reader might group articles together which deal historically with the relationships which have existed through the centuries between sport and various social institutions, under such headings as 'art', 'politics', 'religion', 'education', 'technology', and so on. This would probably better compliment sociological Readers where sport is examined within such terms as 'economics', 'minority groups', 'nationalism', etc.

If Professor Zeigler's latest contribution to the field should stimulate the consistent publication in future of other Readers which focus more critically and selectively upon issues and problems in the history of physical education and sport area, it will have served well beyond its present purpose and value. Pioneering efforts in literature as in other endeavours often succeed in making themselves redundant after providing an essential and initial impetus--not altogether an unworthy fate. This Reader has taken a long time to arrive and its presence now affords some reasons for cautious gratitude. In future, who is better qualified to produce a superior Reader in the area, in fact, than Professor Zeigler, who over the years has personally analyzed so many persistent problems in our field? In the meantime, *A History of Sport and Physical Education to 1900: Selected Topics* must serve within the limitations expressed here, and in the preface by Editor Zeigler himself, May its appearance in the same year as the founding of the North American Society for Sport History be an omen for continued growth in many directions.

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