

YALE ALUMNI ASSAIL HEADS OF ATHLETICS

**Bad Management and Poor
Coaching Charged by Commit-
tee, Demanding Change.**

MENDELL DENIES RESIGNING

**Has No Intention of Quitting
Board of Control, He Replies
to New Haven Rumor.**

A criticism of Yale athletics by a committee of graduates which charged that money is wasted, that coaches' salaries are too high, and coaches inefficient, and that Jews are discriminated against in sports, was followed last night by a report in New Haven that Professor Clarence W. Mendell, Chairman of the Board of Control, had resigned. This was followed at 1:30 o'clock this morning by an emphatic denial from Professor Mendell that he had resigned or contemplated resigning. Meanwhile, however, it was predicted in certain alumni circles that reorganization of Yale's athletics was about to take place. There have been many criticisms of salaries and some other features of the athletic situation at Yale, even by those in the university, and it is known that Dr. James R. Angell, President of the university, and an old baseball player himself, has taken an interest in recent developments. It is reported that he will attend a meeting of the General Athletic Committee on Monday.

The report of the committee of graduates, of which George S. Trevor of the class of 1915 is secretary, charges that Yale's recent defeats are due to a lack of experience on the part of those in control. "The athletic situation is so befuddled and mishandled that it seems nothing short of a complete remoulding of the system of control, finance and coaching will serve to remedy it," says the report, adding that "many graduates feel that those in control at Yale have fumbled the ball."

The report criticises Professor Mendell, and disagrees with his statement that Yale has had a "reasonably good year."

"The active and responsible head of Yale athletics is Clarence W. Mendell, but his real job is professor of classics," said the report. "Professor Mendell has never had any athletic experience. The committee cannot agree with Professor Mendell that Yale can 'look back upon a reasonably good year,' because in its present athletic year so far Harvard varsity teams have defeated ours in football, hockey, basketball, track, tennis and golf.

Charges Lack of Athletic Brains.

"The alibi for all this is that 'we are out of luck.' We respectfully submit that we are not out of luck—we are merely out of athletic brains."

The report, which has been sent to

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Professor Mendell as well as to every Yale alumni association in the country, criticises Tad Jones's ability as a football coach and his \$15,000 salary, and also the salary and ability of Bernard Tommers, coach of the baseball team.

"No Yale man, proud of the athletic tradition which Yale built up through so many years, when the bulldog spirit that never acknowledged defeat was the backbone of every Yale team, can help but hope that something may be done to bring back that ascendancy," says the report. "Yale has the best athletic material of any university in the country, but its records for the last ten years are deplorable.

"Athletics at Yale have become of financial importance. Large sums of money are taken in and spent, and yet only a few in the university, those fortunate enough to get on the relatively small number of teams, have the opportunity to take part in organized athletics. They are missing something that they have the right to expect as a part of every undergraduate's life.

"In 1920 Yale football receipts were \$360,000 and in 1921 they were \$540,000. Yet last year there was an athletic deficit of \$100,000. Nearly \$650,000 spent for a string of defeats."

Football is instanced as the sport which shows best the changed conditions at Yale, and the committee points out that Yale has no monopoly of fighting spirit and that unless its brawn is backed up by brains it cannot expect to win.

"In the years before 1908 Yale 'had it on Harvard,' " the report says. "The Crimson's material had to be at least 30 per cent. superior to give Harvard an even chance. Today the shoe is on the

other foot. Though Yale has recently had some of the greatest football players in her history, Harvard wins the games and Yale has to be content with the moral victories and 'glorious defeats.'"

Tad Jones does not possess a strategic mind, the report says.

The charge that Jews are discriminated against occurs in the committee's remarks on basketball, in which it is pointed out that Yale finished last in the intercollegiate race.

The charge is made also that most members of the baseball team have played Summer baseball, which is forbidden by the Big Three. "Under the present lack of system athletic potentialities are either overlooked or ignored, and that is what has recently weakened many Yale varsity teams."

The committee makes the following general recommendations:

1. A consistent athletic policy and system.
2. More athletics for more students.
3. A known athletic specialist and organizer as head of Yale athletics, who shall be a member of the Faculty.
4. A director of freshman athletics.
5. Competent coaches and more of them.
6. An efficient business manager.
7. Committee supervision but not committee direction.
8. Responsible and open publicity.
9. Invest coaches with more authority.

"10. Less alibis for defeats, more sympathy with graduate co-operation, eliminate all snobbish intolerance and accept a broader vision of our athletic future."

Professor Clarence W. Mendell, Chairman of the Yale Board of Athletic Control, was shown a copy of the report of the "Voluntary Committee on Yale Athletics" at New Haven last night, after which he gave out the following statement:

"This report coming from a voluntary and unnamed committee calls for no comment at this time from the authorities entrusted by the Yale Corporation with the control of Yale athletics. The Board of Athletic Control is the body to whom criticisms and advice should be directed and the board will always welcome eagerly and make use of everything constructive that comes to them in the proper way."

Tad Jones, head coach of football, said he did not know George S. Trevor, chairman of the committee which issued the report. The only comment he would make was that there had been no interference by athletic committees in his handling of football and that he had been in complete charge of gridiron activities.