II. SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA

II-1
Lucas summarizes the antagonisms that existed between the United States and France at the turn of the century because of the personal animosity between the countries’ two leading sports figures. For 20 years they struggled over sites of the Games and the direction of the International Olympic Committee. Besides differences in social backgrounds and personalities, philosophical differences evolved around Coubertin’s desire to see international sports competition under the Olympic Games while Sullivan more narrowly looked for American excellence. By the 1912 Games both men had resolved their dispute and the Olympic Games arrived as a genuine international sports festival. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 59 notes.

Garold Cole

II-2


During the 1890s the bicycle craze swept across all segments of English society and initiated wide-sweeping social changes. Its enormous popularity has been attributed to several forces: (1) the development of a safety bicycle that featured two wheels of equal size with improved Dunlop pneumatic tires, replacing the old “penny-farthing”; (2) the “end of the century” search for novelty; and, (3) the utilitarian value the bicycle held for the working-class. Not to be ignored was the symbolic value of personal freedom which was promoted by the middle-class oriented Fabian Society and the New Woman groups; No notes.

Garold Cole

II-3

Park, Roberta J. “Strong Bodies, Healthful Regimens, and Playful Recreations as Viewed by Utopian Authors of the 16th and 17th Centuries,” Research Quarterly, 49, No. 4 (December 1978), 498-511.

Men have planned and written about ideal societies—utopias—from the time of Plato’s Republic to the present. During the 16th and 17th centuries, the major authors in the utopian genre were Thomas More (Utopia), Tomaso Campanella (Civitas Solis), and Johann Andreae (Christianopolis). Education was regarded by this group as essential to individuals and societies. Reflecting Renaissance thought and a turn from asceticism, bodily health was important and was promoted by medical knowledge and exercise. Wholesome, pleasurable recreational pursuits during leisure, preparation for military service, and the importance of play in emotional and social development were other aspects of some 16th and 17th century utopias. Based on primary sources and secondary works; No notes; biblio.

Helen E. Fant
Recreation is an integral part of native culture. Tanga children played all day until age 12 for girls and to age 16 for boys. Both sexes played together through age 8. Activities include fishing, games such as hide and seek, and singing games. Swimming was not popular, but was taught carefully beginning with the “kukum/pul” (dog paddle). Adult males played games in which teams were divided by clan and spectators. Games involving skill with spears were most popular. Ball games using inflated bladders of newly-slaughtered pigs, and strength games such as pull the vine (tug-o-war) were also common. Based on field observations; No notes.
Mary Lou LeCompte

Games of the Tannese were played chiefly at certain seasons and closely resemble games played in Scotland. They included many forms of hide and seek, tag, and Tug-o-War as well as mock battles with reeds and fruit. Skipping stones across the water, singing and dramatic circle games were also popular. This information had been recorded by Watt, a Presbyterian Missionary, in response to questions from a fellow missionary in 1893. No notes.
Mary Lou LeCompte