

### Open Letters.

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### "SUMMER BASEBALL"

To the Editor:—

"All men are created free and equal." It may seem a far cry from this fundamental Americanism to the much-mooted question of "summer baseball," nevertheless there is an intimate connection between the two. If the wealthy college undergraduate can spend his summer vacations in lolling about some fashionable resort, doing nothing at all but getting rid of his father's money; if the student of musical ability can turn this talent into money during his summer months; if the exceptionally bright student does well financially by "tutoring" during his summers; if the technical undergrad works at his chosen profession during his months out of college; and so on through an almost endless list: then why in the name of justice and good common sense should not the needy college man who possesses baseball ability enjoy his vacations among college men, and also earn the money necessary to defray his college expenses, by playing summer baseball?

This is a question squarely put. Does the college baseball athlete come under President Roosevelt's maxim, "A square deal for every man?"

The writer of this article has played summer ball himself, and with or against college men from Princeton, Yale, Brown, Dartmouth, Penn State, Lafayette, Amherst, Michigan, Pennsylvania and a dozen other institutions; and has taken part in much interested discussion of the remedies necessary for the

chaotic state of affairs. Here are four suggestions that may aid in the solution of the problem.

First: any college student to be eligible for his varsity nine must be in good standing in his college work, and must sign a certificate stating that previous to entering college he has never received money for playing baseball.

Secondly: if in working his way through college, the student plays baseball for money during the summer, all well and good; but he shall not be permitted to play upon any club in organized professional baseball. Neither shall he be permitted to play under an assumed name.

Thirdly: no professional coaches shall be hired for college teams.

Fourthly; all our colleges shall agree upon some definite code of rules upon this question.

The fact remains that thousands of ambitious young college men have made and are making their way through college by means of summer baseball, and who has the right to deny them such a privilege? An open and frank discussion of this question by all the

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parties concerned, which means every college of consequence in this country, is the only way to solve this question. Alumnus.