Ranks of Outdoor Sport Are Thinned by War

Athletic Leaders in Camp, and College Cancel Dates, But Government Is Trying to Prevent Stoppage of Healthful Recreations

JUNE has been for years the heyday of sports in America. It is the season of opening for professional baseball, horse races, hotel lobbies, and restaurants where men forego their seat from business cares or make a concentrated effort at this time of the year. While games in the Boston, Yale, Princeton, Cornell, or other universities winning the baseball or rowing contest carry considerable prestige today, it takes on the more serious chaff of the chances of this or that famous athlete first getting to the front with his regiment, or the absence of college and professional or military corps. Competitive sports are supervised by interest in Red Cross or Liberty Loan activities. Everything that has been starting in spring from the director of the hitherto tireless fishermen. Village greens and vacant lots, the vestigial remnants ofscratching, unkempting Bingy Jimmy or Tommy to "line her out" in a critical moment in a baseball game, re-echo nowadays the scored of the first eight innings, when the hokie-clad Boy Scouts seriously and sedately scurry about the "to the right of the right fielder" or, resound to the tramp of the more lumbering but none the less earnest men of military age, who, their early training having been neglected, are now trying to master the mysteries of the manual of arms, instead of that equally difficult task of getting away from the five o’clock football game, as a tidy if not the break of the starter's pistol.

We have overnight become a military nation. Last year we were a nation of sportsmen, and now we are a nation of soldiers.