

Morning View Kentucky
22 November 1957

Hello Mr. McCarthy,

I seldom bother to disagree with anyone -- all the talk in the world will not alter a person's opinion; but I do believe Mr. Hunter in error in a few of his statements.

I would be the last person to approve of our progressive educational methods. Few elementary or high schools demand sufficient fundamental subjects. However, Mr. Hunter is beating a pretty dead horse when he accuses sports of developing brawn but no brain.

For example:- a person with inherent musical ability can polish the corners a bit and quite adequately tootle a flute or worry screeching noises from a violin, regardless of his IQ. But a youngster cannot be a button-brain and compete successfully in the terrifically complicated modern football game, or hold his own in today's lightening-fast basketball. Mr. Hunter might be quite startled if he checked the scholastic standing of a majority of the college basketball and football players.

Granted there are many faults in the make-up of today's youngster, ie., rock & roll and that Presley creature who looks like a tired marshmallow and sounds like an inebriated ape; but the great majority are basically sound and well balanced. Inadequate education or disrupted home life will handicap many of them and the weaker will fail; but most will grow up into a pretty nice generation.

I have encountered properly brought up English youngsters -- clammy, meek little things, lurking silently in corners. They may be polite; but are they alive?

Perhaps the differences in the way we raise our children may in some degree account for the difference in the present status of the two countries -- the United States forging ahead in its own blundering fashion, while England declines steadily, despite the constant assistance of our dollars.

Sincerely,

Berins