

as fast as possible, at any cost, fair means or foul, but Win. Too much emphasis, in my opinion, is, these days, placed on winning and not enough on the importance of taking part, no matter if you win, place or show. My opinion, but there it is.

We seem to have lost every scrap of idealism that once was attached to our sport.

Now it is so bloody well commercialized that the mag moguls and the muscles by mail mahatmas can't afford to be truthful or honest lest their profits drop.

As for steroids tangling with lifting, the year I think it was first observed in the late fifties with HOFFIE and his Doctor Ziegler. But he had the gall to explain the sudden gains his lifters were making by attributing their success to the use of isometric exercises. Todd can tell you more about this than I can. I was somewhat out of it at that time.

I would say---this a wild guess--- that, possibly 1960 was the last year we had lifting on a world competition scale without steroids. They had been in use in the German Army since the late 1930's.

NO, I do not think the men of today were stronger than the men of yesteryear. Just look at what they do. They are now SPECIALISED. They also use artifices and swallow drugs to achieve what hard training did for them before. I doubt if there is any man today with the all round power of Goerner or Marvin EGAN, particularly the latter.

I do think that the British system of 42 lifts was a much fairer system than today's. In those days everyone had a chance to make a record. Kets face it, despite what the constitution says ALL MEN ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL. Some are smarter than others, some dumber, some stronger, and some more powerful in different ways, due to physical structure and mental outlook. So, in my opinion, though we'd lose by dropping back to a multi lift program, in that we'd see less records broken in specific countries, AND LESS PROFITS MADE BY THE Magazine Moguls, we would be MUCH HEALTHIER generally in a weightlifting sense.

NO, S&H Never was any competition for Joe. He had the best mag and Hoffie realised it and showed his envy by his constant sniping at Joe, and I think Joe encouraged him to pop off at him.

I would rather NOT get into the fag mag affair. I always told Joe he was making a bad mistake publishing them. They were SOLELY FOR GAYS. They were the only ones who purchased them. They were run by Wally MacManus, himself a very aggressive homo sexual. Apart from his sexual preferences, Wally was a good bloke and completely devastated when my wife came down with breast cancer.

Re Weider being indicted in Jersey City, enlighten me about this. This is an area I know naught about. I had long been gone, and I did hear something about Joe "being in trouble," but never learned what sort of trouble it was.

SO TELL ME ABOUT THIS.

Ben Weider, I had little to do with him apart from when he came into town which wasn't often, and trotted around hither and yon. I did see him on the couple of times I went to Montreal and he was very hospitable. But there is a vast difference between them. Ben wields the rapier. Joe is inclined to use the club with a nail in it. Ben has the organisational ability and Joe the promotional flair and the genius for screwing you out of what you have