

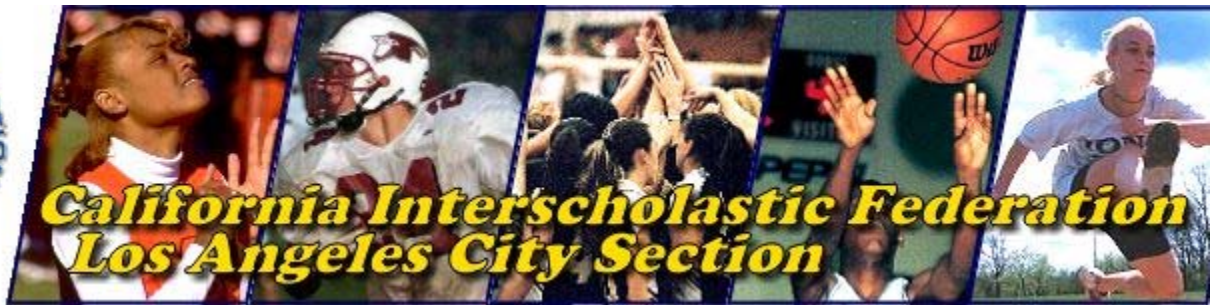
**HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA
INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION
SOUTHERN SECTION**

(CIFSS)

23rd historical “tidbit.”
John S. Dahlem, Ph.D.



FORMATION OF THE CIF LOS ANGELES CITY SECTION



The CIF Southern Section (CIFSS) was founded on May 15, 1913, and the CIF State organization had a founding date of March 28, 1914. The original leagues from the founding of the CIFSS were the Los Angeles County League, Suburban League, Orange County League, and the Los Angeles City League. The City League was represented by Earnest W. Oliver, the Vice Principal at Los Angeles High School who was one of the founding fathers of both the CIFSS and the State CIF. Most of the early meetings of the CIFSS were held on the campus of Los Angeles High School. A fifth league (the Citrus League) was added just after the founding of the State CIF.

The following football leagues were organized in 1915...from the September 17, 1915, CIFSS Council minutes:

The CIFSS continued to grow in size and scope as the depression years loomed ahead. Many of the founding members wanted to keep interscholastic athletics small due to financial considerations. League configurations continued to change and in a letter to the CIFSS Council in June, 1928, the Vice Principals who represented the City League wanted to limit the number of schools in the league to six city schools and play only five contests. From the CIFSS Council minutes of June 13, 1921:

“...it is moved that we ask our vice-principals who represent us in the C.I.F. to insist that our athletic league for next year be limited to six city Schools and five contests, to avoid multiplication of events. Also that we cannot to advantage arrange any schedule with a school in an outside city ...The reasons given were

1. Distractions
2. Expense
- 3 Chaperonage”

There was a general discussion held and the following was the response from the CIFSS Council (CIFSS Council minutes of June 13, 1921):

“...the schedule of leagues had been decided upon after an all day session in which twelve men representing 94 high schools had taken part; and that in the judgment of the Council of the C.I.F.S.S., the principals and vice principals of the high schools and intermediate schools of Los Angeles City should accept the leagues as they now stand or else take all of the high schools of Los Angeles City under their control. ... (Note by secretary—There are 14 city high schools now in four leagues; which six are they referring to and to which outside cities?)”

The feeling of the Los Angeles City schools was still upbeat and many of the early leaders of the CIFSS were members of City schools:

Presidents of the CIFSS Council from Los Angeles City Schools

1913/1920	Earnest W. Oliver	Los Angeles High
1921	T. E. Hughes	Hollywood High
1929	C. P. Honda	Manual Arts High

The Los Angeles Board of Education was often restrictive in the rules that applied to interscholastic sports. These restrictions became very difficult as indicated in the CIFSS Council minutes of May 18, 1935:

“Mr. Van Patten reported upon a conference he had had with Deputy Superintendent Arthur Gould of Los Angeles City relative to boys of the Los Angeles City High Schools entering the State Meet at Fresno on May 25 at 7:30 P.M. Mr. Van Patten stated that Mr. Gould had pointed out that night competition and overnight journeys for high school boys were contrary to the rules of Los Angeles City Board of Education that the Los Angeles school authorities would not waive these rules on this occasion, and that the Los Angeles City School Administration felt that the C.I.F. should not authorize unattached competition in the State Meet.

Moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Berlin that the request of the Los Angeles City School Administration in this matter be complied with and that Mr. Van Patten be instructed to certify only athletes from outside Los Angeles City for the State Meet. Carried.”

It is sad to note that no athlete from the Los Angeles City Schools competed in the 1935 State Track Meet.

BIRTH OF THE C.I.F. LOS ANGELES CITY SECTION

The leaders realized that there needed to be a break with the Los Angeles City Schools and on February 9, 1935, at Central Junior High School, the following is noted in the CIFSS Council minutes:

“Moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Wolfe that we request the State Council of the C.I.F. to authorize the division of the C.I.F., Southern Section into two sections of the State C.I.F. That one section be composed of schools of the Los Angeles City High School District. That the rest of the high schools of Southern California be organized as the second section. That we recommend that the section composed of the Los Angeles City Schools be allowed one representative on the State Council and that the rest of the Southern California High Schools be allowed two representatives on the State Council. The President ordered a roll call on the motion which resulted as follows:

Yes – 11

No – 6

Not voting – 4

The President (Robert Blee of Bishop High School) ruled the motion carried”

Central Junior High School



At the meeting of the State C.I.F. Federated Council on May 25, 1935, in Fresno, the following was annotated:

Mr. Moore reported that the Southern Section had been divided into two parts; the City of Los Angeles becoming a separate section. The Council unanimously adopted the report, and seated Mr. Oliver as delegate from the Los Angeles Section, and Mr. S. Chester McIntosh, as the additional delegate from the Southern Section.”

The following is the CIFSS new league configuration of 1936-1937 sans the Los Angeles City Schools:

**C. I. F., SOUTHERN SECTION LEAGUE ORGANIZATION
FOR THE YEAR 1936-1937**

<p>BAY Beverly Hills Compton Inglewood Redondo Santa Monica</p> <p>CITRUS Chaffey Pomona Redlands Riverside San Bernardino</p> <p>COAST Alhambra Long Beach Hoover (S. D.) San Diego Santa Ana Woodrow Wilson</p> <p>DESERT Barstow Needles Victorville</p> <p>FOOTHILL Covina Fullerton Glendale Hoover (Glen) Muir Tech South Pasadena Whittier</p> <p>IMPERIAL Brawley Calexico Calipatria El Centro Holtville Imperial</p> <p>INYO COUNTY Big Pine Bishop Independence Lone Pine</p>	<p>METROPOLITAN Army and Navy Coronado Escondido Grossmont La Jolla Oceanside Pt. Loma Sweetwater</p> <p>ORANGE Anaheim Brea-Olinda Capistrano Garden Grove Huntington Beach Laguna Newport Harbor Orange Tustin Valencia</p> <p>PREPARATORY Harvard Oneonta Pacific Military So. Calif. Military St. Anthony Spanish American</p> <p>RIVERSIDE Banning Beaumont Coachella Elisnore Elsinore N. & M. Hemet Perris San Jacinto</p> <p>SAN GABRIEL VALLEY Burbank El Monte Excelsior Jordan (L. B.) Monrovia Montebello Pasadena</p>	<p>SAN LUIS OBISPO Arroyo Grande Atascadero Cambria Lompoc Paso Robles Santa Maria Santa Ynez Shandon San Luis Obispo Templeton</p> <p>SOUTHERN Fallbrook Julian Mountain Empire Ramona</p> <p>TRI-COUNTY Bonita Chino Citrus Claremont Colton Corona Downey Puente</p> <p>VENTURA Lancaster Fillmore Oxnard Santa Paula Ventura Sr.</p> <p>VENTURA MINOR Carpinteria Moorpark Nordhoff Simi St. Claire Thatcher Villanova</p> <p>FREE LANCE Blythe St. Augustine Sherman Institute Santa Barbara</p>
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