

“Strained Relations?”

There is one question which we would like to direct toward David V. Connelly, the University's athletic director. It is this: just what are the “strained relations” between Bowling Green State University and Toledo which are supposed to make a post-season basketball game or any future athletic contest with that school an impossibility?

By all that has been said by Mr. Connelly, such relations in the past seem to be the chief obstacle to prevent Toledo and B-G athletic teams from getting together on the same schedules as they did in the 1930s.

Those words “strained relations” have cropped up so much in this matter that we wonder just exactly what has happened in the past to create such a situation. Most people are curious enough to want to know. Certainly there could be no harm in letting the students and newer faculty members in on the deep dark past—if there is one. And apparently there is one or we would have had more explanations about “strained relations” than those we have read so far.

If Mr. Connelly were speaking about Marshall College of Huntington, W. Va., in the same breath with “strained relations,” we could understand. Marshall College athletic endeavors, especially when on the same football field as Toledo, go hand in hand with such clean sport as purposely kicking backfield men in the face and roughing colored players. Add to these the obviously poor refereeing at all games Toledo has played at Huntington and such hospitable cheers from southern football spectators as “Hit 'im harder!”, “Kill that black boy!” and just plain “Kill 'im!”

Yet, we will finish out a home-and-home football contract with Marshall in the fall. The contract should never have been made in the first place, especially after the roughing Toledo's colored boys took at Marshall in 1941 and the broken neck a colored Toledo man suffered in the Marshall game of 1942.

All this, and still we are supposed to believe that relations between Bowling Green and Toledo are “strained.” We would be glad to hear of the sins which Bowling Green may have committed in the past; then balance them off against the clean, pure and sportsmanlike rivalry which Marshall College has shown to us for more than five years.
