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LET us go right to the record for this. The N. C. A. A. has what it calls "The Basketball Coaches' Creed." This "creed" is subscribed to by every man associated with the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the N. C. A. A. It reads—not a comma is left out—as follows:

"I BELIEVE that basketball has an important place in the general educational scheme and pledge myself to co-operate with others in the field of education to so administer it that its value never will be questioned.

"I BELIEVE that other coaches of this sport are as earnest in its protection as I am, and I will do all in my power to further their endeavors.

"I BELIEVE that my own actions should be so regulated at all times that I will be a credit to the profession.

"I BELIEVE that the members of the National Basketball committee are capably expressing the rules of the game, and I will abide by these rules in both spirit and letter.

"I BELIEVE in the exercise of all the patience, tolerance, and diplomacy at my command in my relations with all players, co-workers, game officials and spectators.

"I BELIEVE that the proper administration of this sport offers an effective laboratory method to develop in its adherents high ideals of sportsmanship; qualities of co-operation, courage, unselfishness and self-control; desire for clean, healthful living; and respect for wise discipline and authority.

"I BELIEVE that these admirable characteristics, properly instilled by me thru teaching and demonstration, will have a long carryover and will aid each one connected with the sport to become a better citizen.

"I BELIEVE in and will support all reasonable moves to improve athletic conditions, to provide for adequate equipment and to promote the welfare of an increased number of participants."

There is nothing there about exploiting the college athlete for gain. So it goes without further saying that the colleges are not sending their teams into the highways and byways for money. They are not if there is one speck of honesty within the collegiate setup.

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WHY, then, it must be asked, do the colleges permit teams within their association to take part in private promotions—to take the place which rightfully belongs to the professional performer?

That is the main question "Phog" Allen raised in his letter of last week—the main question which all have sought to ignore, and which Ned Irish and Madison Square Garden would by-pass by a "personal wish" that the entire matter be dropped so that Allen might be "silenced."

For my part, I do not believe the colleges of the land can "silence" Allen now. His charge that games played in Madison Square Garden "already have been thrown," plus Sergeant Greenberg's charge that players TOLD HIM—HIM, not somebody else—how they, IN THEIR COLLEGE GAMES, co-operated to make the points fit the gambling odds—has focused national attention upon the entire setup as it exists.

This brought out into the light of day conditions surrounding college players appearing in Madison Square Garden—detectives posted outside their hotel rooms to keep away the rodents, as Allen calls them, of the gambling world; telephones severed to remove the boys from the temptations of bribery; gamblers knocked down, or thrown out of college hotel suites when they came to make their bribe offers; Madison Square described as "filled with Broadway mobsters hickering and dickering" in its aisles during the contests, the police standing idly by.

Is this college athletics—sport designed, as the coaches' "creed" puts it, to instill "a desire for clean living" in the participants?

A lot of people would, no doubt, like to make the "personal wish" that Allen be silenced.

"Phog" Allen has thrown down the gauntlet.

Let the colleges of our land pick it up.