

AMERICAN BASKETBALL LEAGUE, INC.

120 WALL STREET, NEW YORK

JOHN J. O'BRIEN
PRESIDENT

March 26, 1943

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Kansas University,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Dr. Allen:

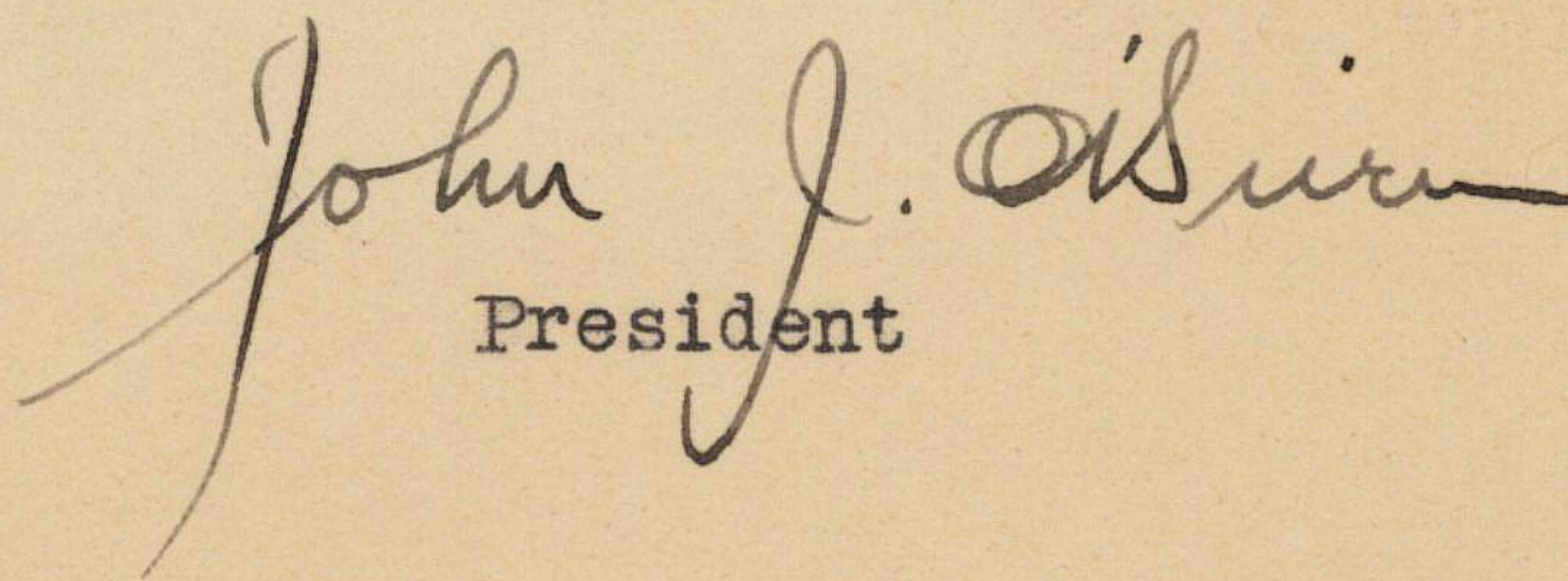
I have the release from the K. U. Sports News Bureau as to the formation of a professional basketball league of countrywide dimensions following the close of the World War.

The American Basketball League has been in operation since 1925. For the first five years of its existence the scope of its activities extended from Boston to Chicago. Since 1931 we have confined our efforts to the Atlantic seacoast. It may seem strange to you to learn that in the principal Eastern cities few auditoriums are available without having recourse to the large armory buildings and this is particularly true in cities like New York and Brooklyn. Restrictions have been placed thereon by wartime measures for the past three years, making impossible the development of the professional game to the proportions that have become nationally prominent in Madison Square Garden. However, we believe that at the close of the war a number of these restrictions will be removed and at the present time we are studying the possible enlargement of our professional league to operate two divisions extending from Boston to as far west as Kansas City and St. Louis. In your section of the country you are fortunately placed in that practically every city of prominence has an auditorium or convention hall desirable for the proper presentation of big-time basketball.

I also might advise you during the period of our existence we have never permitted college players to play under assumed names at any time, nor have we permitted college players to appear in any of our games until they completed their collegiate competition as seniors. Several college players of prominence have appeared under the last mentioned arrangement following the termination of their college course and in view of their not being candidates for track or baseball competition.

Your comments are of considerable value and you may be assured of our interest in learning of anything more you have to advance on this subject.

Yours very truly,


President

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