

February 8, 1945.

Mr. Bob Considine,  
Sports Editor,  
New York Daily Mirror,  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

It was very generous and sporting of you to handle the situation as you did in your column, "On the Line".

First, I want to say that Ned Irish and I have never had any trouble. I consider Ned Irish a very astute and successful businessman. I wrote him once that I had never come in contact with a man who was as efficient concerning details as he.

The N.C.A.A. group - Griffith, St. John, Olsen, et al., were the ones that organized the N.C.A.A. basketball committee to handle their own tournaments. And in 1940 I handled the Western N.C.A.A. and the National play-off, and made them \$10,000 at the games in Kansas City. Olsen had previously lost \$5,000 the year before in the games between Oregon and Ohio State played at Northwestern University.

I was rather amazed at Olsen's taking the games in the Garden after the avowed statements of St. John, Olsen, and so forth, but that is neither here nor there. That is their affair.

In 1942 when Kansas played Fordham in the Garden, St. Joseph's in Philadelphia and St. Bonaventure's in Buffalo, I made the statement at the luncheon given to the writers at Toots Sher's, that we came to New York for the trip and the money, which was a very truthful and forthright statement. Many of the boys all over the country like a trip to New York but they do not like the officiating because it is radically different from the officiating in other parts.

I am very frank to say that if the ordinary top eastern team made a trip to Kansas City, Missouri, and they were subjected to the western type of officiating, the easterners would be humiliatingly defeated. As it is, there are few eastern teams that have been winning their games in the Garden for the past five years, which, discounting the edge in the officiating, would still make the easterners look worse in other areas.

There is one play called in the east that is not substantiated by the Rule Book. It is a throw-back from the old pro rules and many of the coaches having been pro players, that influence is still felt. I