

March 14, 1942.

Mr. George Edwards,  
University of Missouri,  
Columbia, Missouri.

Dear George:

I am sending you a copy of my letter to John Bunn as of April 25, 1940, also his reply to me dated April 30, and also Prof. W. B. Owens letter to him as of April 29 and H. G. Olsen's letter as of April 26. There is a large file of this correspondence, so I will not burden you with a lot of it. However, I believe this correspondence shows evidence enough that Olsen, Bunn and I met, with Olsen as chairman, and worked out a rate of distribution for the teams and for the N.C.A.A. And it was wholly Olsen's failure to transmit the action of our committee to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. for action. He had a year to do this, and had he done it we would not now be in the predicament that we are in.

Olsen had represented to Bunn and to me that we could have this money earmarked not only for the Olympic fund but earmarked for basketball.

I do not want to have you feel that I am vindictive in regard to Olsen's failure to carry through, but I do believe that when an individual is given a responsibility he should be held accountable especially when our committee of Olsen, Bunn and I had spent a great many hours getting together on this proposition.

And what makes it even more striking is that St. John, his boss who is one of the high priests in the N.C.A.A. Council, and Major Griffith and the president have the fate of the N.C.A.A. in the hollow of their hands. Therefore, I see no reason why he shouldn't bear the burden of this failure.

You will notice in John Bunn's letter that he was under the impression that only the Big Ten and the Big Six had the idea that playing in Madison Square Garden was contrary to the spirit of things. The N.C.A.A., as Bunn says, had no objection to it.

Armed with the findings of our basketball committee I went to Oklahoma City and met with Henry Iba, Tom Stidham and Bruce Drake and sold them the idea of sticking with the N.C.A.A. even though Madison Square Garden made more lucrative offers. And Iba is still sticking in the face of all that has gone before.