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March 22, 1945.

Mr. George R. Edwards,
Basketball Coach,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Mo.

Dear George:

I have never doubted for a second the sincerity in your desire to do a wholesome and complete job. Frankly, I did not expect you to take the time or the trouble that you have gone to with my comments.

Frankly, I did not care about raising the ire of certain members on that committee. I did not want it to reflect on you or Floyd Rowe or Hec Edmondson, - maybe I have missed someone else, - but as for the rest of them, it suits me fine.

I dare say that the rules committee will pay no attention to any of mine and to the majority of other suggestions. Let the committee accept the responsibility for making the game a rougher one by increasing the fouls from 4 to 5. They have played a good many years without the increase in number of fouls, and had they increased that from 4 to 5 in the beginning they would have just had five or six more rougher years.

My guess is that the committee will refuse to reduce the number from 5 to 4 because to do so would mean that a number of coaches would be forced to do a little more coaching in regard to some of the finer points of the game and maybe take out some of the slam-bang tactics that they now employ. Outside of a few members on the committee, I have always thought things were done to keep somebody good-natured rather than because logic dictated the action.

George, I wrote this Sammy Wolfe stuff that was from "Time" of February 12, on the gambling expose, because he was a race horse tout and discussed very unscientifically and unknowingly the game of basketball. Read it over again.

Personally, George, I don't care whether the rules committee ever change a rule or make another one. I was much interested when you said that there had been much work done on the 12 foot basket. John Bunn had a most exhaustive report on the 11 and 12 foot basket, and knowing Roy Munderff as I do, because I was down there at a coaching school and coached the South Georgia boys against his North Georgia boys, I would say that he didn't spend a lot of time on 12 foot basket research. I have had 12 foot baskets erected in Robinson Gymnasium for fifteen years and we use them constantly. I have tried them out from a great many