

From H. Lopez Reboledo to Dr. Forrest C. Allen

June 27, 1940

(summary of letter)

Dear Doctor Allen:

Received your letter of June 3, 1940. Am answering and sending in the same mail the public pamphlet of the last South American Championship which has the data on how basketball has developed here. Basketball is second only in popularity to football.

Montevideo has a big football stadium (80,000 people) but practically no indoor courts for basketball, and the outdoor courts are very rough. Our neighbors, the Argentinians, have several indoor courts with small spectator space. The Brazilians have the best playground in South America in the Stadium of Pacaembu (San Pablo). It was inaugurated by 3 Uruguayan victories. In Rio de Janeiro are also good stadiums with enough room for spectators. In Chile the situation is as poor as ours; while in Peru there is a great stadium of lumber imported from North America and built by my good friend Paul Crawford of the "McPherson Globe Refinery", and was coach for a while in Peru. Another North American coach replaced him. Peru uses American technique of play as does Brazil.

(General discussion of Uruguayan technique in basketball)

Basketball encouraged by champions, company dames and clubs. The South American Basketball Championship ranks number one in local athletic interest.

Use ₂ one defense system predominant, although some use man-to-man. In general the method of offense is the pivot-post with many variations. The screen is hardly used. The system in my club (Trouville) has been used for 3 seasons up to last year was an attach system characterized by simple passing, sure and short; it is based on the "rolling defense" and advance of all five men.

Excuse my lengthy discussion of our basketball situation - it may be of interest to you.

Hope to hear from you again soon. It is possible that an international contest between the boys of K.U. and our teams could be had. K.U. teams coming here might do much to introduce North American equipment.

Let me hear of any suggestions from you, etc.

H. Lopez Reboledo