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MANUFACTURING Co.

POTOMAC AND DE KALB STREETS SAINT LOUIS, Mo.

R. E. WEINZETTEL  
SALES PROMOTION MANAGER

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

Dear Phog:

Last month I had quite a session with Porter in Chicago for the purpose of finding out what opportunity we had of getting the convex basketball backboard of modified size and shape, approved as optional equipment at the next meeting in March.

This was a lengthy session and was largely given over to the question of how we could get a patented item approved by the Committee and still avoid the appearance of establishing a monopoly. More about this angle later, but what I want to talk to you about now has to do with presenting this convex backboard idea before this Committee.

Porter seemed to be of the opinion that you, as Chairman of the Research Committee, should have some data available covering investigations or research made by you and possibly others comprising your Committee, and we are wondering whether we can count on you to work up something prior to this session so we can bring this matter to a vote.

We have had some very encouraging information to date, namely, that Hickox is a booster of the new convex board, and also a vote taken by Good of Williamsport indicating that of 18 coaches who inspected or used the board at the Williamsport Y.M.C.A., 13 were in favor of it, 3 disapproved, and 2 were non-committal. At the same session, which extended over several months, 237 players were interviewed and 178 approved the convex board, 40 disapproved, and 19 were non-committal.

John Bunn also writes under date of December 28 advising that they have had quite a little time in which to judge the board we gave them and that he had received many satisfactory comments and no criticisms. Bunn seems to be concerned over the question of expense and states that it will be necessary for the Rules Committee to consider this item as well as the playing advantages if the new board is adopted.

In other words, Phog, this desire of ours to have the convex board come up for a vote in March is not going to be so easy and we are trying to learn just how we can go about having this board approved. Certainly the coaches over the country who have had an opportunity to work with the board have many reasons to approve it, and the records speak for themselves.