

FRED MEDART

MANUFACTURING Co.

POTOMAC AND DE KALB STREETS SAINT LOUIS, Mo.

R. E. WEINZETTEL
SALES PROMOTION MANAGER

January 10, 1940

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

Dear Phog:

Your letter of January 8 with reference to the coming meeting of the National Basketball Rules Committee in relation to the convex backboard, was received by all of us with more than ordinary interest.

We are particularly pleased to note the closing sentence of your letter in which you advise that you will keep us advised as to the progress of the committee and the attitude they take.

We are extremely anxious that this convex board come up for consideration as it will undoubtedly be a prominent part of the meeting, judging from what we have received elsewhere, and that it be approved as optional equipment. The last desire on our part is, of course, understandable without much difficulty.

In any event, Phog, we are going to bear down on this subject as much as we can from our position as a manufacturer and shall thoroughly discuss this with you when we meet you during the N.E.A. Convention. At that time you will probably have some reports from your Committee, and we can, in turn, give you such data as we have compiled here and there over the past year.

One other thing, Phog, that is worthy of mention at this time, and that is your statement in the second to last paragraph, to the effect that you would not mention our name or the firm's name. I don't see how we are going to be able to avoid this question of identity inasmuch as Porter and yours truly have met on several occasions in connection with the disturbing problem of a possible patent being allowed us, in which case the thought of a monopoly being established, has come up for discussion. We attempted to side-step this, and, I think, in a very fair way by agreeing to license reputable manufacturers to fabricate convex backboards, altho we would like the privilege of passing on such applicants in conjunction with the Rules Committee. More about this later but it is an important fact, at least in Porter's mind, and also in mine.

Cordially yours,
FRED MEDART MANUFACTURING CO.

REW/AC

Sales Promotion Manager

STEEL LOCKERS___STEEL WARDROBES___STEEL SHELVING___GYMNASIUM APPARATUS___GYM SEATS___BASKETBALL BACKSTOPS___PLAYGROUND APPARATUS