

## #2 Booring a Real Manace in Basketball

The bad thing from an educational standpoint is that the young twelve-year-old boy who goes to see the game, if he follows his booring elders, soon develops a state of mind that the official is a crook if he does not please the home team; that the opposing team, should they win the game, are lucky "stiffs" and the whole thing is a bad set-up unless his favorites win. It occurs to me that we are developing cads rather than good sportsmen.

The boys who play the game are under discipline, practicing every day to be able to acquit themselves well. There are rules of behavior that athletes must follow. Just because a man pays money at the gate is no reason that he should be permitted to be a roughneck and rowdy, hurling epithets and discourteous remarks at players and officials.

We as coaches should emphatically go on record as deploring this type of expression of disapproval of our officials and players, and, further, to lend every support to a project of education and control of the game for the finer benefits that it gives to our young men and to our appreciative public.

No decent person will long continue to be an enthusiastic follower of a sport that attracts such insane outbursts and antics. If some of our college presidents and members of the faculty could walk in on demonstrations reported to have occurred at some of our college field houses, I am sure that our profession would suffer in their estimation.

We should see that the rules regarding the home team being responsible for the behavior of spectators be augmented with definite rules to control this situation if present regulations are not adequate. I am sure that the coaches and athletic directors of our schools will realize this condition as perhaps the most dangerous that our game is facing today, and will very properly meet the hazard by prescribing proper treatment.