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Scribe Takes Allen Apart For Libeling Basketball Players

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International News Service Sports Editor

NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—I received the following telegram today from Forrest C. ("Phogg") Allen, the well known loud-mouth:

"Your statement that I have backed down is untrue. I stated that certain eastern writers have minimized the gambling hazard, and your story prompts me to believe you are one of them. As far as my getting out of the game I am in is concerned I suggest you apply the same yardstick to yourself in your profession. What could you know of how much basketball has given me?"

Let us take the well known loud mouth apart from the beginning. Each year for many years this bumpkin of no particular standing and of questionable ability as a basketball coach has managed to get his name in the headlines by demanding that baskets be set higher or referees be cut shorter or some other nonsense. He has managed through phony publicity to build himself into some kind of a character in basketball.

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Having failed to find something better for personal aggrandizement this year, he leaped on the college basketball teams who play in Madison Square Garden and tossed about charges that some of them had been bought by gamblers. Not certain that this would give him the publicity due a has been in the basketball coaching ranks, he added that the eastern sports writers were a party to the sell-out.

Allen achieved his purpose of getting his name in the papers, but also tacitly libeled every basketball player who has appeared in Madison Square Garden and all the writers who cover basketball.

