

NEW SENSATIONAL CHARGE MADE IN CAGE GAMBLING

Army Man, Former Manager of Syracuse Pro Club,
Says College Players Told Him of Their 'Co-Op-
eration' With New York's Gambling Element.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 24.—With Ned Irish, manager of Madison Square Garden, in New York, expressing the "personal wish" to "let the entire matter drop rather than give (Dr. Forrest C. "Phog") Allen a chance to talk again," a new, and by far the most damaging, indictment against "the 'Broadway mob' and its alleged control of basketball was written into the record here Tuesday.

Sergt. Lou Greenberg, former manager of the Syracuse (New York) Reds, professional basketball team, now stationed at Columbus, said that eastern pro players had told him of their alleged "co-operation" in having the point scores in their college games fit the gambling odds.

Greenberg said:

"The only remedy for it is to have a basketball czar."

This brought immediate opposition from Harold G. Olsen, Ohio State basketball coach and chairman of the National Collegiate Athletic association tournament committee—the group which arranges the college games played in Madison Square, and on other eastern courts, as well as the Kansas City tournament held each March.

Olsen called Greenberg's suggestion "silly."

"I've been coaching for more than twenty-five years," he said, "and I never knew of a single instance where any boy ever has fallen for any of that gambling stuff."

In New York Irish, promoter of the winter program of basketball games, was quoted as saying that he received Allen's telegram, naming names in the latter's charge that certain college players has "thrown" games.

Allen, dean of midwestern basketball coaches and tutor of the game at the University of Kansas, last week charged that gamblers had approached certain players and paid them to throw games. He named the players allegedly involved in a telegram to Irish.

"The situation to which Allen

refers was investigated thoroly by the authorities and the newspapers when the rumor first developed," Irish said. "That investigation proved that the rumor was baseless. No player was disciplined and no other action was taken."

Irish said it was his personal wish to "let the entire matter drop rather than give Allen a chance to talk again."

"He (Allen) has been doing that sort of thing for years now and the mystery to me is that people take him seriously in the light of his previous false prophecies," Irish said. "In this instance, it was a very serious thing for him to do, based strictly on a second-hand story, and, in justice to the players he named, I feel moved to say there was nothing to it."

The new phase of the Allen case, as brought into the open by Greenberg, has been touched on before. The matter of "co-operation"—the term used by Greenberg—resulted in several articles in the New York Daily Mirror, in which its sports editor, Dan Parker, and its sports columnist, Bob Considine, commented.

Considine wrote, recently:

"Most of the warnings . . . have centered around the curious way in which so many of the final scores of Garden games have ended 'in the middle.'

"'In the middle' is a gambling expression denoting a final score which is just right for the gambler—in that he collects from both wagering side. For instance, a gambler ordains that one team is '15-13' over another, meaning that if you want to bet on the favorite you must bet not that the favorite will win, but that the favorite will win by at least fifteen points, or if you want

the underdog you bet that said underdog will come within thirteen points of winning.

"A lot of games have been ending in the middle, which, in the hypothetical case outlined above, would mean that the winning team wins by only fourteen points. Thus the bookmaker collects from both bettors.

"There have been a few too many in-the-middle games to suit the lovers of the law of mathematics . . ."

What, if any action, the N. C. A. A. will take relative to the statement of Greenberg was not known Tuesday. In his statement Greenberg said the players involved—men who had played on college teams and at the end of their amateur careers had turned "pro"—told him of their experiences, and actions. Greenberg made it clear these statements did not relate to professional basketball, but to what took place in college games.