

From the "Phila. Record" — A lousy Democrat paper — They stunked #1 like to write him a hot one!

'Phog' Allen's Charges Of 'Fixed' Court Games Proved Baseless—Irish

N. Y. Garden Promoter Declares Coach Is Merely Repeating Allegations Investigated Last Year

NEW YORK, Oct. 23 (UP)—Ned Irish, acting president of Madison Square Garden, said today that Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen's charge of college basketball games being thrown here was "nothing more than a baseless repetition of allegations which he picked up by way of hearsay."

Fix by Gamblers

Irish, replying to charges by the University of Kansas basketball coach, that gamblers arranged to "fix" the results of certain games here, said that "there is nothing new in what Dr. Allen alleges."

"The situation he refers to was investigated thoroughly by local authorities and the newspapers, when the rumor first developed last season," Irish said. "That investigation proved the rumor was baseless. No player was ever disciplined and no other action was taken."

"Same Old Stories"

Irish said he personally "would like to let the entire matter drop rather than give Allen a chance to talk again."

"He 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.

"However, 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."

Irish confirmed that he had received Allen's telegram in which he named the players allegedly involved in the "fix."

A Case of Put Up or Shut Up

By RED SMITH

Dr. Phog Allen, who has made a career out of proving that he would have invented basketball if James Naismith hadn't thought of it first, is an extraordinarily fortunate man gifted with many talents, rare personal charm and a reverent admiration for the sound of his own voice.

Out in Kansas, where school children are taught that Dr. Allen invented the very peach basket that Naismith first tacked up on a pole, editors would as lief go to press without the weather report as publish an edition lacking an announcement by Dr. Allen that basketball is going to the demnition bow-wows. As a consequence, Dr. Allen's ordinary fulminations now create almost as much excitement among readers as a forecast that tomorrow will be mostly cloudy with rising temperatures in the afternoon.

However, within the last few days the Kansas coach has given tongue to a set of contradictions which cannot be shrugged off without comment.

He started out by disclosing that in certain sinful circles bets were laid on basketball games. What's more, he was quoted as declaring he knew of at least two cases in which players in Madison Square Garden games sold out to gamblers last winter.

Twenty-four hours later he denied making any specific charges involving games in the Garden. Games were run on the up and up there, he said. When he spoke of sellouts, he'd been referring to a certain tournament held in the East.

Inasmuch as the two major college tournaments conducted in the East last winter were run off in the Garden, this had all the earmarks of a distinction without a difference. However, Dr. Allen was not abashed.

In a third statement he announced he had furnished Ned Irish, promoter of the Garden games, with the name of one player influenced by professional gamblers. He did not identify the player, the college, the game in question or the gamblers.

Instead he hedged, explaining that "it is very difficult to get proof."



Red Smith

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