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December 26, 1941.

Mr. Harry L. Grayson,
Sports Editor, NEA,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Grayson:

Bob Busby, in the Lawrence Journal World, ran the following excerpt from your sports column, The Scoreboard:

"Harold Keith of Oklahoma wrote that Coach Bruce Drake welcomed the Sooners' eastern basketball trip 'with its handicaps of crackerbox courts, slick floors, weird officiating interpretations and hostile crowds.'

Drake's idea seemed to be, according to Tub Thumper Keith, that the jaunt would ideally season his team for 'the difficult Big Six conference race'.

Well, the Sooners couldn't miss getting plenty of seasoning, but what New Yorkers would like to know is when the Madison Square Garden floor was reduced to the size of a crackerbox.

It is apparent that the good people of the prairie have taken Dr. Forrest C. Allen of Kansas too seriously.

If they don't watch out, Dr. Phog Allen eventually will convince them college football is on its way out.

Dr. Allen has been shouting that for a decade."

Permit me to say without fear of contradiction that I have never cast any aspersions on crackerbox courts and slick floors in the east, nor hostile crowds. When it comes to weird officials and their interpretations, permit me to add with emphasis that I have made such statements.

For instance, when an offensive player passes the ball in one direction and cuts over in another direction to screen the opponents, in the east it is called a foul for blocking. By way of illustration, the story goes like this. The offensive man with the ball in his possession passed to the left and then cut diagonally off to the right to interfere with an opponent without making bodily contact. An eastern referee blew his whistle and called a foul on the screening player. The player, in surprise, protested, "Why, I didn't do a thing. I just cut across the court toward a man and I wasn't near him." "I know", shouted the referee, "but I decteded evil in your eye."