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MORNING

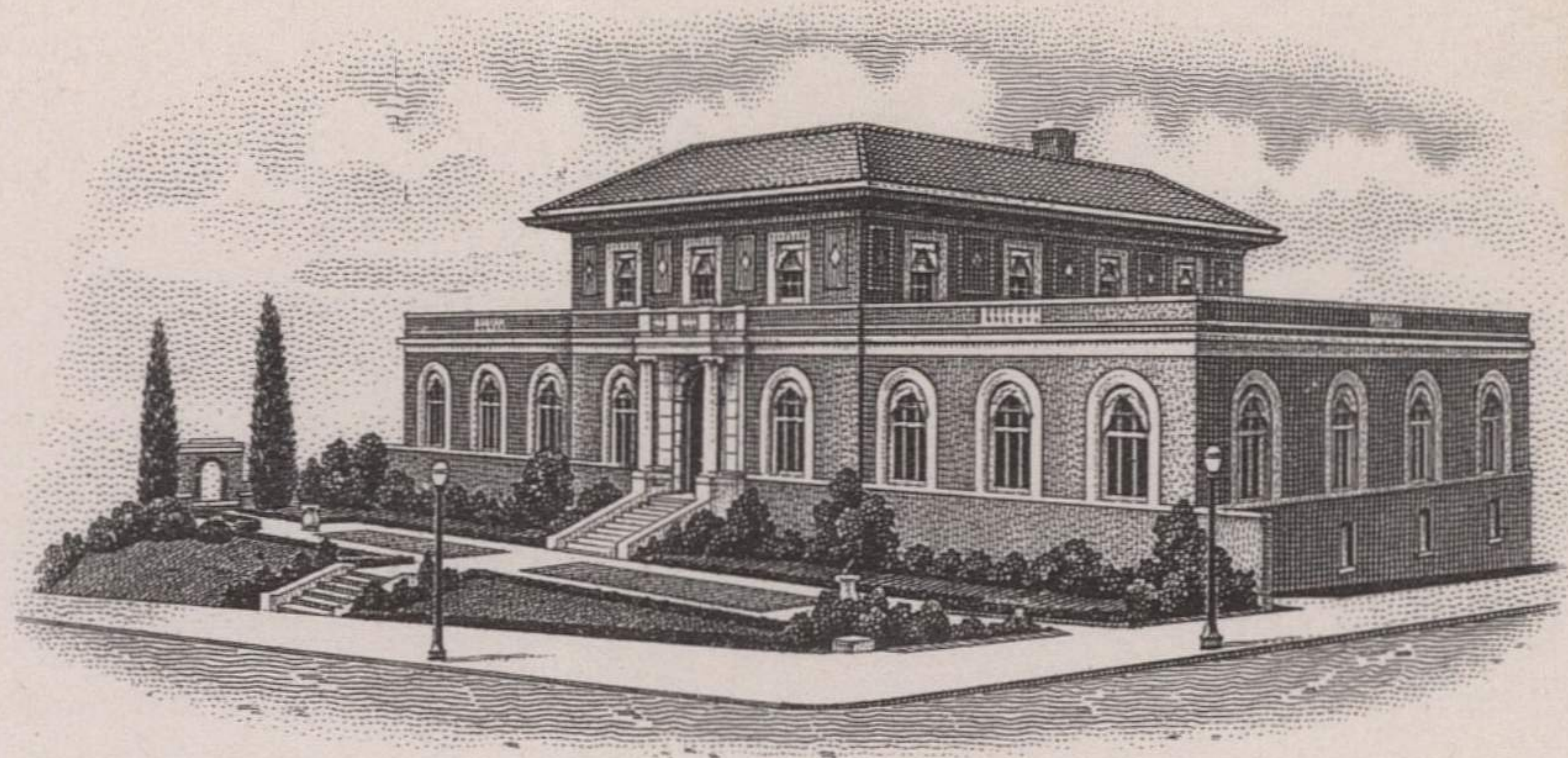
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ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

EDITORIAL ROOMS

ARTHUR V. BURROWES, EDITOR



Jan. 28

Dear Phog;

I was wondering if what I wrote about the game would reach you and what your reaction would be. I sent Elliott a clipping hoping that it would fall into your hands as I think people should know what is being said about them.

Your remark about DeVictor was out of character and unworthy of you. I know a number of the men at Columbia but have never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. DeVictor. My ideas were strictly my own, without any prompting, altho to be truthful I was watching for some things as the result of comments by basketball fans here who had seen Kansas earlier in the season.

It is my understanding of the rules that a trainer or coach can go on the floor any time that time has been called and when he received recognition from the referees AND that the referee should be with him when he is administering to the team or a player. Am I wrong? My column, as much as referred to the trainer on the floor, was based on my assumption.

I noted that Nesmith did not ask for permission or recognition during the first game and not in the second until Ed Ellis had called him on it.

Maybe Nesmith isn't a basketball player but I noted that while he was on the bench that he was continually coaching the players near him. If he doesn't know any more about the game than you indicated you are taking an awful risk in letting him yell out advice.

I am heartily with you on the idea of letting players communicate when they enter the game. There is no way of enforcing a rule against it so why have such a rule? As to the trainer transmitting information and advice that isn't the point. If the rules say he should be accompanied by an official either the rule should be enforced or dropped from the book. It seems a silly rule anyhow but if it is in the book something should be done about.

A couple of years ago after a football game at Lawrence I asked Gwinn Henry what a coach could drum into his players' heads in the final huddle that he hadn't already taught them and his reply was "nothing". That coincided with my own idea and I think the pre-game and pre-half huddles around a coach are being overdone in all lines of sport.

Enthusiasm on the bench and in the game is commendable but isn't