10 May

March 30, 1939

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Mr. H. H. Salmon, Jr., Chairman National Basketball Committee of the United States and Canada 40 Wall Street New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Upon the suggestion of Dr. Forrest C. Allen, to whom we had the privilege, yesterday, of demonstrating a new type of basketball backstop that we have developed, I am writing you for the purpose of offering samples of this backstop and two other backstops that we contemplate building, for your consideration.

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Briefly, Dr. Allen and Mr. N. C. Curningham, of your Committee, came to St. Louis yesterday to witness a demonstration of this backstop with the convex surface, in one of our local high school gymnasiums. Incidentally, in addition to these two gentlemen, about twenty local coaches were present at this demonstration and after using the backstop and also seeing it in use by two local teams, Dr. Allen suggested that we submit samples to you in New York prior to your May I meeting, so the other members of your group could see this innovation in actual use.

We understand your Convention will be held in the Pennsylvania Hotel on the above date, and we would like to know, providing this suggestion meets with your approval, if it is possible for you to arrange to install the three basketball backstops we would be prepared to submit to you, in some gymnasium convenient to the Pennsylvania Hotel. We, of course, would handle the question of erection through our New York Office, thus relieving you of any detail in connection with the installation of same.

You will note we mention three backstops. The one we demonstrated yesterday will, of course, be included, as well as this same 4' x 6' backstop with one or two minor variations that were suggested during the demonstration, and the third backstop to be built per specifications submitted by your Secretary, Mr. H. V. Porter of Chicago.

We shall appreciate hearing from you at your early convenience so we may be governed accordingly in the manufacture of this set of special backstops for shipment to New York