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August 29, 1941.

Mr. A. J. McDonald,
Southwest Missouri State Teachers College,
Springfield, Missouri.

Dear Andy:

I have just returned from the Iowa State High School Coaches Association coaching school where Clark Shaughnessy, Bernie Bierman, Henry Iba and I were on the teaching faculty. We had a full week with 325 high school coaches in attendance.

I will be happy to help you on your thesis requirement for the Master's degree. I would suggest, Andy, that you have some place in this numerical list something to show the research work, administrative work, and so forth.

I am not trying to toot my own horn, but when the Rules Committee some ten or twelve years ago legislated the dribble out of the rules, I remember that I was speaking before the National Education Association Committee on Athletics which met in Des Moines, Iowa. Knute Rockne was speaking at the Drake field house at this section on the Pedagogy of Football, and my subject before that was the Pedagogy of Basketball. The news came over the wire regarding the action of the Rules Committee back east legislating out the dribble.

I made the following statement to the assembled group in the Drake field house concerning the deletion of the dribble: "The autocratic and high-handed method of the National Basketball Rules Committee in ruling out the dribble without obtaining the permission of the majority of the coaches is subject to gross condemnation. What the broken field run is to football the dribble is to basketball. When a man is closely guarded the dribbler can break to an open position and pass. It gives an opportunity for more open play and frees the ball from congestion. Personally, I resent the action of the Rules Committee and I propose to call a meeting of the coaches to be here in conjunction with the Drake Relays, which will be in about two weeks. We will ascertain whether the rules committee can do such a thing in the face of open criticism of the coaches."

I received 160 telegrams from the outstanding coaches of the country agreeing with my stand and we called this meeting to be held in Des Moines the night prior to the Drake Relays. We had a great meeting and the coaches voted to meet in Chicago at the time of the National Collegiate Athletic Association meeting and formulate rules and procedure for the formation of the National Association of Basketball