

February 1, 1939.

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Harold:

Acknowledging your circular letter of January 26 regarding the possible date for the play-off as of March 27 at the Chicago Coliseum, it seems to me that the only fair thing to do would be not to play the game a day before March 27.

It is rather unfortunate that the Pacific Coast conference has their play-off so late, but I do not believe that Districts 5, 6 and 7 should be penalized on account of District 8's late dates for determination of their championship. I have always gone on the theory that the greatest good should be for the greatest number. And to penalize three-fourths of the districts for one's late date would not be harmonious with this policy. It would certainly be unfair to the winner of the western district to make them travel more than half across the United States and force them to play the following night against the eastern winner that had had plenty of rest and perhaps a short haul, at that.

I realize how much trouble the chairman of the National Committee would have in arranging this play-off. But it seems to me that another year all these factors can be taken into consideration, and if the Pacific Coast arranges their play-off the coming years as late as they do now, then I do not think they should have the geographical advantage in their favor. If nothing can be done about advancing the playing time, then it seems as if the final play-off should be as late as the first part of April.

Answering your objection about the boys being away from school, I think that objection should be minimized because only one team from each district would be missing this added time. Then the national championship, if it is to be played, should be played under the fairest possible conditions that can be obtained.