

You will understand that I have no objection to the Eastern-Western play-off and then the national, but personally, a big play-off during Easter week in my opinion is the biggest thing that could come to basketball. In your circular letter I noted that, of course, you did not mention Easter vacation time. Also in the letter you asked for an opinion, and at the same time argued against the eight-team tournament idea. You would hardly get an unbiased vote by this procedure.

On August 12 Bill Owens wrote me from Stanford saying that the Executive Committee meets in Chicago on September 6 and 7 at the Sherman Hotel. He says:

"You will recall at the time of our discussion in Kansas City last Spring, that I suggested that representatives of the Basketball Committee attend the next meeting of our Executive Committee to discuss problems in connection with the basketball tournament. Our Executive Committee meets in Chicago September 6th and 7th at the Sherman Hotel. I will be very glad to have you attend if possible at that time.

"I am also asking Mr. Olsen of Ohio State to be present."

I am replying to him this morning, sending a copy of my wire to him and imploring him to have Mr. St. Clair. Personally, I would not want to take the responsibility of you and I alone doing this job without Saint. And too, since I have borne the blunt of this distribution problem in my conversation with Mr. Owens and Professor May, I would not want to put myself in a position of opposing these gentlemen who feel that the N.C.A.A. organization should have all the money. In my opinion, this scheme of President Owens' is doomed to failure and our tournament is whipped forever. So I prefer to let them outline their strategy and policy rather than to have me oppose it because I would be misunderstood if I presented the case as I see it.

If the three of us meet together we could so temper our reasoning so that all of us could be agreed upon the policy presented to the N.C.A.A. and no one individual in particular could be put in a position of opposing the men of high authority. For that reason, I stand on my former statement that I would not care to attend the meeting unless Saint, you and I were there to discuss the matters in fullest detail before we presented them to the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee.

I would have felt very much better last year had I not been represented by a team. I could have then without stint of selfishness presented the case even more vehemently for the team members who participated. I am not for the individuals getting a pot of gold, in fact, I see eye to eye with the officials of the Executive Committee having the players assume the role as pot hunter, but I do believe that these institutions who go to the finals should have their treasuries enriched in a small degree because it then gives that sport prestige with their own athletic committee and their University. Every administrative officer of any institution that I have talked with thinks that the