

The A.A.U.-Y.M.C.A. committee has named Nat Holman, City College of New York, as the official interpreter of its code. They have been joined in the rebellion by the Public Schools Athletic League of New York City, Jewish Welfare Board, American Sokol Union, Military Athletic League, Catholic Youth Organization, and Slovak Catholic Schools. A consideration of this list introduces an interesting angle. It will be noted that headquarters of each of these organizations is located in New York City. Also the leaders in the Y.M.C.A. and A.A.U. who engineered the move are New York men. The rules interpreter is a New York coach. Can it be that New York City basketball leaders are challenging the right of the rest of the country to have a majority vote in the game's legislation?

While such a picture may be deemed a stretch of the imagination one fact is certain. The New York area has for several years enforced an interpretation of screens and blocks which has been opposed by all other sections in the country and proclaimed illegal by both the N.C.A.A. - High School committee members and by Dr. James Naismith, the game's inventor. That the interpreter of the revolters will adopt the New York policy on screens and blocks may be assumed without little contradiction, and soon such a wording will be in the A.A.U.-Y.M.C.A. code. And that will be only a step in the direction of a drastically different set of rules.

Consider the ultimate results of this schism. Players who have learned the game under one code will have considerable difficulty playing under another and the growth of intersectional competition will be checked. Pity the poor official who handles an A.A.U. game one night and a college game the next. Won't the boos be nasty? Spectators never yet have learned even one set of rules, and now we are asking them to know two. Won't coaches howl when the referee slips a cog and calls the wrong three second rule, or fails to decide whether a player is entitled to his floor position or must get out of the way of some defensive man in pursuit of his opponent? Those connected with the game between 1906 and 1912 know only too well how different playing regulations hurt the game.

Unless the break among legislators can be healed the dark ages in basketball will return. Some way or other this Association must help in the moves that will bring uniformity back to the game. The best method to do this is hard to determine at this time. Probably group action may be wise, but the opportunity for this must await our convention. In the meantime members should be gathering facts and opinions so that the most serious threat to the welfare of basketball in twenty years may be overcome.

NEWS NOTES

Eddie Davidson is the new basketball coach at St. Louis University taking the place of Mike Nyikos. Mr. Davidson is a graduate of St. Louis U., and is a practicing lawyer.

J. H. Heisman, football and basketball coach at Georgia Tech from 1904 to 1920, died at his home in New York City on October 3 after a short illness of bronchial pneumonia. He was nearly 67 years old.

Mark MacIntosh, new football coach at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, also will handle the basketball team this season. He was connected last year with Arizona State Teachers College.

Blair Gullion, University of Tennessee, has announced the publication of a new book, "Basketball Fundamentals Analyzed". It is a companion text for his older work "100 Drills for Teaching Basketball Fundamentals", which has enjoyed a brisk sale for several years. Information regarding these books may be obtained by writing the author.