

Comments, Contd.

"There has been too much of the official who wants to get to the ball game, get it over, get his money, and clear out. For this type of an official I have no sympathy, and I think we have a lot of this type attempting to officiate games.

"In the first place, I think all colleges should make an extra effort to get good officials. The attitude of a team and coach can do much toward drawing censure from the crowd toward the official or accepting his decisions as just. I think a definite set of officiating rules or at least a syllabus drawn up to guide officials should be published by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, and recommended strongly enough so each part of the country would adopt it. I believe it would be necessary to include many illustrations and explanations. I have been holding four basketball officials' schools per year and certainly I understand some of the problems the Officials Committee is trying to solve.

"As far as better relations between coaches and officials are concerned, I believe it would be a good plan to have something in the rule book prohibiting coaches talking to officials before and after, even between halves of the game. I think that a good portion of the criticism of officiating lies with the coaches. They know the rules and interpretations and should coach their men accordingly.

"In conclusion, it is apparent that the following avenues are open to all those interested in basketball, whether the individual be an official, coach, spectator, or player:

"1. The responsibility for the conduct of the spectators at a basketball game should be shared equally between the coaches, officials, spectators, and players. It is a local problem.

"2. All responsible individuals are desirous of cooperating but as yet have not found a definite understanding of each other's problems.

"3. An increased number of meetings to discuss problems relative to basketball will naturally result in a better understanding by all parties.

"4. The game should be coached and played according to the rule book.

"5. We all represent a part in the responsibilities and obligations of promoting the welfare of basketball, and therefore taking an inventory of our conduct will produce improved conditions.

"Respectfully submitted,

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