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October 3, 1940

Mr. George R. Edwards  
University of Missouri  
Columbia, Missouri

Dear George:

Thank you very much for your favor of the 30th ultimo; also for your enclosure and copy of the Constitution of the National Association of Basketball Coaches of the United States, as revised in 1938.

I have glanced over the booklet and fail to find any corrections save the reference in regard to the founding of the Association. I might give you a little background.

Knute Rockne and I spoke before the N.E.A. in Des Moines, Iowa in early April. The meeting was held in the Drake Field House. The dribble had been deleted by the Rules Committee and I made a statement in the N.E.A. meeting that the autocratic and high-handed action by the rules body of deleting the dribble was undemocratic. Especially was this so when the coaches had had no opportunity to express their pleasure or displeasure upon the rule. Immediately this statement evoked quite a stir and I received 160 telegrams from coaches over the country supporting me in my action.

As this incident took place in April, immediately there was a clamor for a meeting. I did not want to hold this protest meeting in connection with the Kansas Relays for fear that it might reflect in an unfavorable manner upon the Kansas Relays, especially when I was connected with Kansas and had made a criticism against the Rules Committee. Therefore, I called the meeting in conjunction with the Drake Relays at Des Moines.

A very representative group of coaches from over the United States met there and after discussing the matter for two days we decided definitely to meet in Chicago in June, during the time of the National Collegiate Track and Field Meeting in 1928. I remember a great many of the men who were there; Carlson of Pittsburg, Price from California, Hurt from Stanford and Nels Morgren, Lew Andres, Sheabinger, and a host of others.

At that meeting in June they elected me as president, and the following year in 1929 I was reelected as president. I can see very clearly