

### ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

It would be ridiculous to say that there isn't room for improvement in basketball. But when the rules committee takes up the matter of correction it should remember that most of the things now being criticized are the result of changes that were designed to correct what previously were considered faults.

A case in point is the elimination of the center tipoff after a score. Purpose behind the elimination of the tipoff was to minimize the importance of a tall center. Maybe the change did that, but it still didn't eliminate the importance of height in the team as a whole.

Beyond that, the change brought up the reasons for the present criticism, giving the ball to the team which was scored on, out of bounds. Do the critics want to go back to the center tipoff, or do they have in mind a better way of putting the ball back in play after a score?

### ANOTHER CHANGE FAILED OF PURPOSE

Another change that was designed as an improvement apparently has failed in its purpose.

That is the one that provides for moving the ball out of the back court within 10 seconds. The purpose was to eliminate stalling. In a way it may have done that, but it resulted in an objection even greater than the old-time stalling.

Whereas it is still possible to stall in the front court, the game is now limited to half the floor instead of the full court as once was the case. Defensive players no longer go beyond mid-court to obtain possession of the ball, but wait for the opposition to advance past mid-court. It is much like defensive hockey at its worst, with the defense scurrying back to defense of its own goal as soon as it loses possession of the ball.

These various matters are not pointed out as direct criticisms, but merely to illustrate the difficulties into which the rules committee can get itself if it listens and responds to all critics without giving due consideration to the new difficulties which changes may bring up.

### NO PENALTIES IN BASKETBALL

By Dick Cullum, Sports writer- Minneapolis.

Mr. Carl B "Rube" Hoy,  
University of south Dakota  
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Dear Rube: There's a publicity yarn here from your school which quotes you as opposing the old four-fouls-and-out rule in basketball.

You say that, in all other sports, players may commit any number of fouls and merely take the penalties unless, of course, they are disqualifying fouls.

You say the same principle should govern in basketball.

Continued.