A powerful case is made in the following pages against the rules which awards the ball out of bounds to the opponents after a successful foul goal. The arguments against it are listed, the reactions of players, fans, and officials are given, together with the opinions of outstanding coaches.

After the destructive criticism, comes the constructive. A remedy, simple and direct, is suggested. And the results of an exerimental game in which the proposed remedy was used, are cited. Have a look, please.

Criticism of Present Rule which Awards Ball to Opponent After Completion of Successful Foul Goal

A. Arguments against

1. "Punishes" the "innocent victim"

The rule really says to a player, "If you are good enough a shooter to make the foul shot, we shall award the ball to your opponents. If you are a poor shooter and miss the basket, why we shall let you 'fight it out' for possession of the ball." Thus a team whose player makes a foul goal is punished by the fact that the ball is given to the opposing team. The offensive team, innocent of any offense, is doubly a victim; it has been fouled and then loses the ball if it makes the goal. The advantage given by the foul goal is partially, if not more than completely, offset by the fact that the opponents now have the ball and get a chance to score two points.

2. "Rewards" the "guilty offender"

The team which fouled gets the ball. The offender does not deserve the ball. Why should he get the ball? Is it a reward for fouling?

3. For no good reason the offense loses possession of the ball.

The offense had the ball and should retain it or be given at