

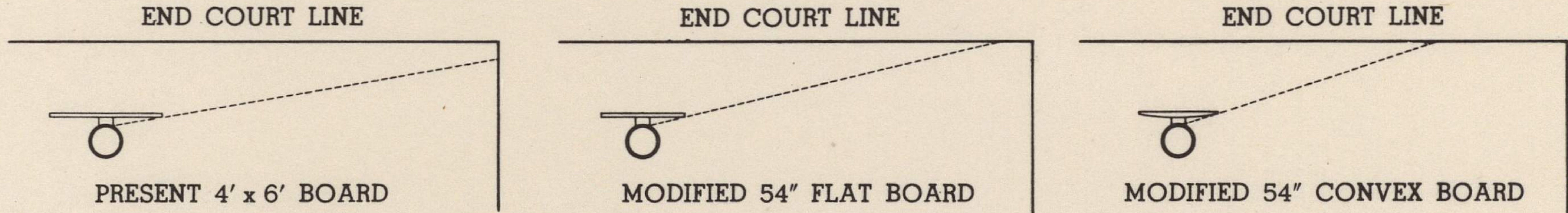
Re: Convex Surface Backboard . . .

With reference to the five enumerated advantages of the modified backboard, listed above, the following extract from the 1939-1940 Rules Book, Page 46, Paragraph 1, under the heading "EXPERIMENTATION" — "THERE IS ALSO MERIT IN BOARDS WITH A CONVEX SURFACE WHICH WILL PERMIT ADDI-

TIONAL FREEDOM IN THE FOUR-FOOT END SPACE AND WHICH WILL TEND TO SCATTER THE REBOUNDS AND THUS RELIEVE CONGESTION IN THE AREA IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THE BASKET." — is supported by the following claims which are presented for your consideration.

1. "Freer use of the four-foot end space, etc."

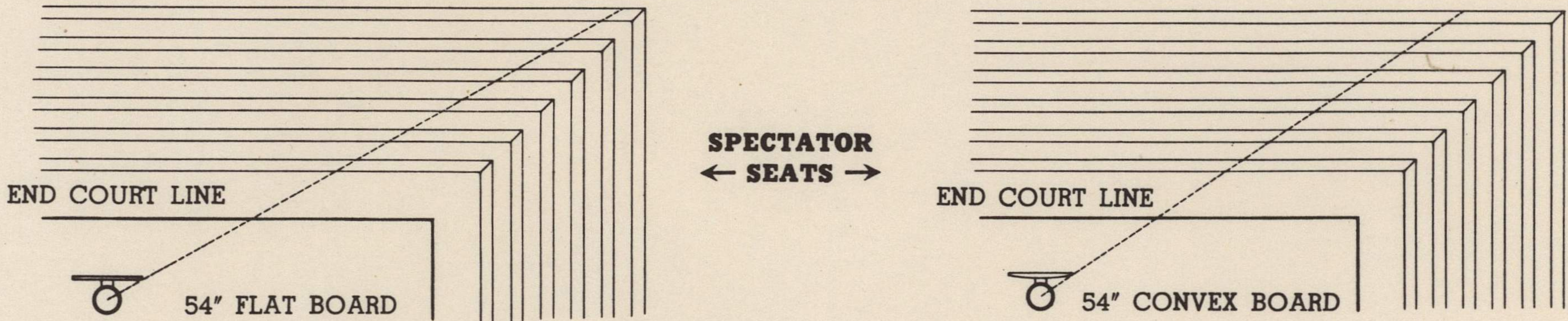
A comparison of the drawings below reveals the added opportunity of offensive play on convex surface backboard.



2. "Increase Visibility, etc."

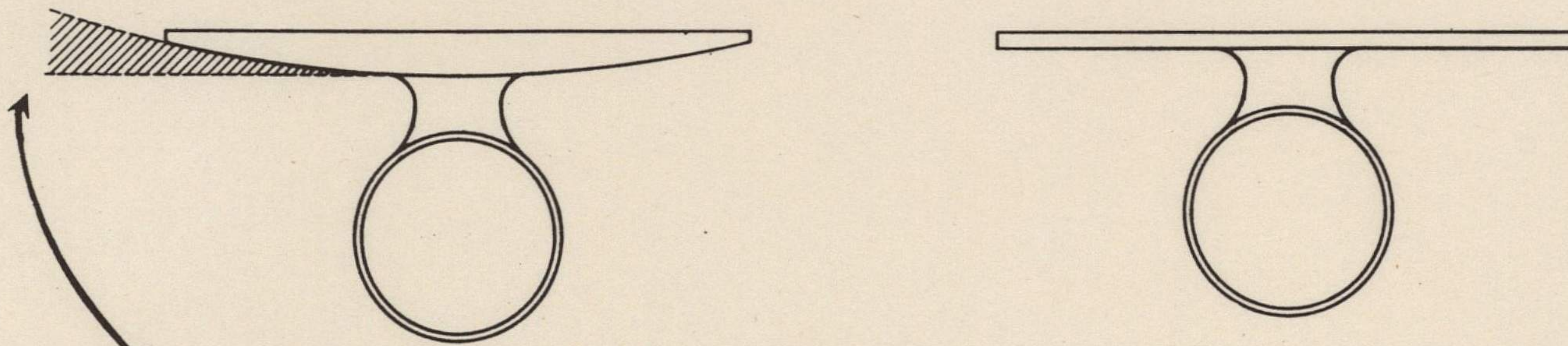
The above drawings also serve to illustrate the added visibility made possible by the curvature of the convex board. Consideration of the question of visibility should not be restricted to players but should be viewed from the

standpoint of spectators as well. The gain in spectator visibility is immediately apparent when dotted lines in illustrations on back page are followed beyond the end court lines to include the area occupied by spectators.



3. "(1) Increase space under basket from which goal may be made . . . (2) permit a rebounder to escape from congested area."

CLAIM No. 1 is enhanced by reason of curvature of convex board as illustrated below.



NOTE: Because both left and right ends of convex backboard are turned away (back), the shooting area directly beneath the backboard is increased considerably. Likewise, the convex backboard eliminates the mental hazard represented by the edge of a straight or flat backboard, which hazard to the player is always present when a goal is attempted from the sides of the court directly opposite the board.

CLAIM No. 2. Balls rebounding off of convex backboard will be found to cover a wider floor area than when rebounding from plain or flat surface. This fact

can be best proved by 15 minutes of demonstration or comparison test, and is considered an important factor in breaking up play in a congested area.

4. "Simplify bridgework, etc."

A plane surface or convex surface backboard would enjoy this same advantage although it should be noted that the construction of a convex board automatically

provides a more rigid and generally stronger piece of equipment.

5. "More pleasing streamlined appearance . . . a better target, thus promoting greater accuracy."

The above drawings conclusively illustrate the advantages of the modified 54" straight or flat backboard (and goal) as a better target than the present 4' x 6' board in use today. It follows that if maximum visibility from every possible shooting position on the playing

floor makes for a better target, then the convex backboard qualifies as a marked improvement over the same modified size board with a flat surface and that greater accuracy can be expected of the convex board.