

are scattered over three or more districts? Why was this change in tabulation allowed by our N.C.A.A. representatives? Sorry, Mister God, but you ought to check your information before you attempt to send innocent men to hell. All 6 cylinders aren't working. The questionnaires are distributed to colleges by each college representative for his own district. A district returns its questionnaires to its own representative. He tabulates for his own district and sends the summary to the Questionnaire Chairman. Obviously, he has his own record of his district -- otherwise how could the Chairman get the summary? It may have occurred to the sub-committee that there are other groups (relatively unimportant according to report) in this joint rules committee which are not organized in 8 districts but who might find some use in a sectional tabulation of total returns.

Here is another prize statement from the report: "-----one might logically draw the conclusion that the questionnaires were mailed to a carefully selected sampling of those schools favoring the new type of equipment." Since the distribution of the questionnaires is entirely by the state high school associations and their member high schools for the high schools and by responsible representatives of the N.C.A.A., the Y.M.C.A. and the Canadian organizations, that statement is a slur on the integrity of the state high school officers of 48 states and the coaches and administrators of 25,000 high schools who elect those officers; as well as on the men who form the policies of the N.C.A.A., the Y.M.C.A., and the Canadian groups. Mister God, you are covering a lot of territory.

It is intimated that the sub-committee could make a lot better questionnaire. Of course, every individual thinks he can do it better. That's his privilege. Let's take a look at the supposedly "unbiased" nature of the questionnaire which was sent out by Blair Gullion to all college basketball coaches. It started with this paragraph: "Dear Basketball Coach: Numerous rules changes in past years have not been satisfactory to the members of the college basketball coaching profession. Many have felt that the National Rules Committee had been acting in an arbitrary manner in the adoption of new equipment and the formulation of new rules." Here is one of the questions with a flag-waving motif: "Do you believe that, in the light of the present demand for conservation of materials for the war effort, that the trend toward the fan-shaped backboard in the college games would be a logical procedure?" This is claimed to be an attempt to get unbiased sentiment based entirely on the merit of the molded basketball and the small backboard. Go a step further and note the result. This same questionnaire showed a slight majority of the college coaches favoring the molded type basketball and a number who proclaimed it just as good. So the small group which assembled at New Orleans brought in a "practically unanimous" recommendation that the molded ball be declared illegal for college use. This is the group that is criticizing the Rules Committee for not adopting their recommendations and is hurling innuendoes at the High School groups and the other parent bodies of the rules committee and who would like to change the complexion of the committee. One with rubber stamp attributes might be about right.

The report refers to an "endorsement" of some item of equipment by Mister Scratch. The nature of this so-called "endorsement" is not indicated. The fact is that Mister Scratch, in connection with his various duties writes quite a few letters in a year. To be specific, the stamped envelope record of his office indicates 4,126 for the year in question. Statements in these letters have never been copyrighted. A number are in answer to questions as to whether "a product or a procedure is in harmony with the rules which govern school athletics and whether it is suitable for use in member school systems. Schools have a right to know whether materials meet rule specifications and there is no copyright on statements that they do or don't. (Witness lack of copyright on statement published in the Gullion report and lifted bodily from a private letter from Floyd Rowe.) Such statements are open to