

MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE OFFICIATING

The Missouri Valley Conference, consisting of Creighton, Drake, Oklahoma A & M, St. Louis Univ., Tulsa Univ., Washburn College and Washington Univ., will again continue the unique plan adopted last year for the selection and training of all officials working in Conference games.

This plan requires the selection of 12 regular officials and five alternate officials to work all Conference games. The group selection was made at the time of the National Convention, in Kansas City. It consists of a proportion number of officials from each school area throughout the Conference. The specific assignments are made by Artie Eilers, Conference Executive Secretary, and each school is notified of the assignments in advance of each game. The officials are required to work throughout the entire Conference area. This feature, alone, was credited last year as having been the greatest step forward in producing harmonious consistency and unvaried interpretation of the playing code in all sections of the Conference. The assignments were made in such manner as to equalize the additional travelling expense over the period of a season's play for all the Conference teams.

The unique feature of this plan requires every official to attend a two-day joint meeting with the coaches in advance of the season's first games. The meeting this year will be held at Kansas City, on December 7th and 8th. Both the coaches and officials make a thorough study of the rules, mechanics of officiating and game problems. The session closes with a mutual understanding of the various officiating problems and has tended to a mutual confidence between the coaches and the officials.

The officials are pro-rated additional expenses throughout the season games to cover the additional cost of their attendance at this joint session. The plan seems to meet with the approval of every member of the Conference and is undoubtedly the greatest single factor in bringing about a more uniform interpretation throughout the area of the Missouri Valley Conference.

With Oklahoma A & M, Drake and Creighton making extensive intersectional tours in pre-Conference games, the Missouri Valley Conference will again have teams in action in every section of the country.

Mid-western teams were more than mildly successful in intersectional play last winter. Indiana won the national collegiate title, during the course of which, it tripped some of the best teams in the East; Kansas turned back Southern California from the West; and Rice, from the South.

The popularity of basketball in the mid-west has become such that two institutions---Iowa State and Kansas State---are clamoring for new field houses. Increased attendance has been noted in both high school and college ranks in these 2 states.

Does this issue of the Bulletin feature sundry items on basketball in your territory? If not, it's because we have been unable to secure notes that we are especially eager to print. How about contributing items that would have popular interest both locally and nationally? Send them to the Editor. Thanks.

The New England basketball coaches voted not to use the same officials in more than three home games in one season. This is a grand move in the right direction, and it will be nice if this were maintained everywhere.