

December 4, 1937,
910 S. Michigan Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Allen:-

With the 1937 - 1938 basketball season rapidly getting under way I again find great interest in your Basketball Bible. While vast changes have been made in the rules and regulations since your book was written I note that there are really no changes necessary in the men who play the game - now just as then it is the man with the winning spirit that forges to the fore. I have read several times your article about that one great game and wish that I might have seen it. It is a shame that the spectators at the game did not understand what courage it took for your men to play as they did. In connection with Endacott's fighting his way into sixteen jump balls - were the rules such at that time as to enable one of the jumpers to take the ball himself after tipping it in midair? If not, how did Endacott ever manage to get into such a position as to enable him to participate in every one of those jump balls?

At the office where I am employed - a number of us have formed a team to compete in a local league. We get to practice but about two hours one night each week. Only two of the men have ever played before, I mean to say that only two of these men have played along side one another. Our problem is to make a unit out of our ten men. Thus far we have devoted our time mainly to fundamental practice with a short period for scrimmage thrown in each practice night. Four of us have been playing a long while - the other men are new employees - mainly youngsters about 18 to 20 years of age. We have not had a chance to work on any plays and do not anticipate attempting to do so inasmuch as the little time we spend together prevents our working well enough to properly perform plays. We expect to concentrate on short accurate passes to work the ball in for short shots - using wherever possible screening.

Our main problem has to do with what type of play we shall engage in when we get the ball under our basket after the other team has scored. We play on a large floor. We are undecided if we should rush one of our fast forwards down the floor in an attempt to get ahead of our opponent's defense or if we should keep our men more or less in the backcourt to provide the man who takes the ball off side with plenty of men to pass to. Another feature about which we have had a discussion is this - when the other team gets the ball under their basket - shall we drop back or shall we retain our positions - playing a man to man defense - and try to intercept the pass?