

WILL CONNOLLY SAYS

**PHOG ALLEN IS ONE
OF THOSE GUYS WHO
WRITES ON MENUS**

We feel a bit silly for talking about basketball in this bock beer weather and we wouldn't do it except we have been intimidated by Dr. Forrest C. "Phog" Allen, the Kansas man, here for the convention of American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

Dr. Allen is director of physical education and basketball coach at University of Kansas and long has been considered one of the progressive brains of the winter sport.

When he was out here a few weeks ago for the N. C. A. A. collegiate playoffs at Treasure Island, Dr. Allen struck a sympathetic note with us by advocating elevation of the basket from 10 feet to 12 feet to take the game away from 6 foot 5 goons and restore it to athletes of standard height.

In recent weeks, Dr. Allen has been an overland commuter between Lawrence, Kas., and San Francisco. Before he entrained for our town for the second time, he stopped off at the Hotel Morrison in Chicago, and while foraging in the dining room, wrote 33 reasons on the back of the a la carte menu why the basket should be hoisted.

We always believed the greatest contributions to the fund of knowledge are penciled on restaurant table cloths and menus. If Dr. Allen had come to us with a neatly typewritten list of arguments we would not give him this valuable space, but because his thoughts were scribbled on the Morrison menu between the soup and entree courses we are convinced of their merit and sincerity.

In private life, Dr. Allen is a most pious and conservative man who shuns the flesh pots of likker and terbaccy, but professionally he is a radical soul who would keep the game in a constant uproar with shocking rule changes.



NIBS PRICE

GREASE SPOTS ON HOTEL MENU

We have not space or inclination in this climate to reprint Dr. Allen's 33-point program here because some of his handwritten items run into the roast beef au jus and eggs Florentine on the Morrison menu and are not legible to our eyes.

However, we are happy to advance two other innovations which Dr. Allen sponsors, namely, the convex backboard and the streamlined backboard, both of which seem worthy to us.

"These changes were put before the recent meeting of the national rules committee, and although no action was taken, I do not expect any for a year or two at the earliest," said the doctor.

"There is no reason why the backboard should be flat, no more than the basket should be anchored at ten feet. Both were established by arbitrary judgment. Basketball is a young sport and is still in the uncouth stage. We should welcome, rather than resent, suggested changes in physical equipment.

"The convex or curved backboard was invented by Leonard Maune of St. Louis. Mr. Maune is a middle-aged citizen who is a red hot fan. He holds no patent on the scheme and nobody has a financial interest in it. With the help of G. R. Chervenka, a research engineer, Mr. Maune designed the convex backboard and freely offers the idea for the good of the game.

"I'd like to see it adopted two or three years from now, when prejudices have been broken down. A curved backboard would please

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