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February 1, 1941

Mr. H.G. Olsen  
Chairman, NCAA Basketball Tournament Com.  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Ole:

I always answer letters even though I am somewhat belated in my reply. Your telephone call perhaps made it unnecessary for me to answer this letter, but I leave a letter on my desk until I dispose of it and I am now answering your good letter of the 14th instant.

In the last part of the first paragraph of your letter, you state, "but apparently the sticking point came in that the representative from that district had taken a poll which indicated that there was a strong desire for a change."

Doubtless you will recall that I informed you that four years ago this same representative had apparently taken a poll because your Professor French told the basketball committee that there was a strong desire for a change, but it happened that Mr. Artie Eilers, who was then the chairman of the Nominating Committee, informed Mr. French that he had the poll in his possession and everybody in the Missouri Valley and the Big-Six had voted for me with the exception of Missouri, and it was Professor French's desire at that time to place Mr. Edwards on the committee.

I only refresh your memory for the purpose of informing you that I was not born yesterday, and that it does not always take a young man to read the handwriting on the wall for an old king.

Personally, I think they did me a real kindness. So many fellows are afraid to express their thoughts for fear of their getting in bad with the machine and they go on taking dictations forever and failing to be fully independent as they should be. I have always been of this opinion; I would much rather be free, white and effective than to be a stooge.

You have asked me to let you know right away my feelings in the matter, and I have done that.

Good luck to you, Ole.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

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