

Mr. Tower-----3

Some may aver that keeping tabs on the minutes actually played by each man would be difficult to check. I ~~doubt~~ it. That can be added duties for the timer. Forgetting the personal reference, I may add that up to two years ago, when I was employed by the athletic department here, I kept records of all the Rhode Island games. While employed by the department, I also was in the employment of the Providence Journal. Hence, these two duties had me do the following: keep a record of the playing times of members of both teams, a record of every shot, foul or field goal, attempted AND made by any of the 10 players on the court, in addition to a running story, record and description of every point made for the next morning's papers. I am human! It is not hard, I must confess. The timer usually was Fred Tootell, and I had him "trained" so that he'd bellow the time to me, at the scorer's bench, everytime a substitution was made. That was easy. I sat next to the official scorer, and I identified players with numbers, and, whenever there were three or five immediate shots beneath the basket, I never took my eyes off the backboard or floor, and, the moment there came a "lull," I commenced to jot down the figures of the players, as remembered, or suggested to me by those around me, who had been forewarned that they might be called upon for such assistance. The personal fouls I secured from the official scorer, as well as the foul tries one had.

I honestly believe that the form of box score I have suggested on the previous page would be, by far, more informative than the present. While some might be loathe to do as much work necessary to put it out, I believe that in due time everybody will be reconciled to it. I dare add that any student of basketball, be he a coach or reporter or a mere fan, can surmise a fair account of a game merely by studying the proposed form; yes, he can *even* write a good review of the game for the papers!

I trust you will regard my criticism as an effort to improve the game. I shall appreciate receiving any criticism you may have of my recommendations.

Very truly yours,

William G. Mokray
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