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January 11, 1940

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Mr. F. C. Allen
Univ. of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

I have your letter relative to research work on the eleven-foot basket. I would be willing to encourage some experimentation along this line but, frankly, our men have looked upon this as primarily a college problem. I have never been able to work up very much enthusiasm for raising the baskets for high school play, although I think most of our men are of the opinion that there is merit in the suggestion for college players. Up to the age of nineteen or twenty, where high school eligibility ends, there are not a great many unduly tall players or, if they do exist, their muscles are not coordinated to the extent where they become great scoring threats. It is exceedingly rare to find a six foot five high school boy who is also well enough coordinated to make a defense against him an impossible problem. I may be able to stir up enough interest at one or more of the schools to persuade them to collect actual data on this matter, but I am not sure I can do it.

With respect to other research problems, I will say that we have been concentrating on the problems which I mentioned in a former letter, i.e.

1. The problem of the effect on the game through use of the modified backboard as outlined in the back of the rule book.
2. The proper bouncing reaction of a ball.
3. The advantages and disadvantages of eliminating more of the jumps which follow held ball.

In my opinion, the most valuable work the Research Committee could do at this time would be to stress experimentation with the backboard of modified size and shape. I note that you mention this in your form letter to members of the committee. As far as I am concerned, I am attempting to maintain an open mind in connection with the convex backboard. I am not yet ready to commit myself as either favoring or disapproving the change. I do feel that even if the convex type of board should prove to be of enough advantage to warrant the change, it is very doubtful whether it would be wise for the committee to consider such a change this year. In my opinion, the adoption of such a board would practically force every school in the country to make a change, not only in their backboard but in the bridgework which