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must support it. There is also the matter of a patent being taken out on such a board. In my opinion, the construction of a board with a cylindrical surface is not patentable but the manufacturers of this board contend that it is. This matter would have to be ironed out before we went too far in committing ourselves to such a change.

These things do not apply to a board with a flat surface and with a modified size and shape. It is my opinion that if the advantages seem to warrant it, the committee could authorize a gradual change which would not be a hardship on any school. If such a board were legalized as optional equipment, it would permit schools to make the change at their convenience and I do not believe that it would greatly handicap a team if they were to practice with a board of the present size and shape and then play a game with the smaller board. The only difference would be in appearance and my experience leads me to believe that any team could adjust itself to this difference in appearance during the five or ten minute warm-up period. One of the phenomenal things about basketball players is their ability to quickly adjust themselves to varied conditions. I could cite any number of cases where actual figures have proven this to be true. This has been strikingly illustrated in connection with balls which have a different bouncing reaction and with floors which vary greatly in resilience. We have carefully charted the percentage of successful tries where these conditions differ widely and it is surprising how quickly the boys adjust themselves to these slight differences.

All of this leads me to believe that the Research Committee should expend every effort in getting work done along these lines and, if actual experimental use indicates advantages such as we think exist in the modified board, there is no reason why some action should not be taken in the near future, possibly at this year's meeting of the committee.

Even if the convex backboard should ultimately prove to be desirable, probably the best method of changing over would be to do it in steps, first through optional use of the flat board of modified form and shape and in later years through the final change to the convex surface. This second change would then involve no modification of bridgework and the only expense would be in the cost of a couple of boards. Incidentally, with the size reduced it should be possible to stamp out a steel or composition board at very little expense. There is not the opportunity for warping and twisting that exists when a board of the present size is used.

By this time you have received notice relative to reservation for the March meeting. You will note that I have taken your figures on room rates at the Continental Hotel. These seem very reasonable and I have no doubt that they are made on the basis of group rentals.

Yours truly,

H. V. Porter

Secretary