

through not the team

~~So~~, Major Griffith, these coaches are not chizzlers. It is much easier for these fellows to close their season and quit worrying about basketball than for them to keep them in training and face the criticism of certain faculty members who say that the season is already too long and it is being prolonged unnecessarily. And, too, the professional promoters always offer much more in the way of lucrative expense accounts than we offer. ~~They offer to pay expenses for 15 men and they will guarantee you definitely enough money to make it.~~ Very enticing. Therefore, I believe that if we are going to continue this tournament that we ~~do~~ not have to compete in dollars and cents with these fellows, but we ~~do have~~ to follow along the line of giving these teams enough money that it will be at least a friendly gesture in meeting the competition that the professionals are ~~strongly~~ offering.

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In Chicago when our committee met with your group I was pained exceedingly to see your group ask for a 10% out before all expenses were paid, and then ~~to ask for a 50% out of the total.~~ When track receives but 10% it seemed to me that if we could pay all expenses and then ~~the N. C. A. A. take 50% of the total profits and distribute 50%~~ ^{have} fourteen ways that ~~would be more than fair,~~ and I believe that everybody would be happy with such an arrangement. But the 50% was certainly more than any member of the Regional Basketball Committee ever thought of.

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I was not the one to say that the arrangement ~~that~~ your executive committee proposed was wrong because I did not want to argue any further. I wanted to counsel and mediate but we were in no position to do that because you had bigger business at hand. Then when you wrote Ole setting forth the findings of your committee, we found that that was not what was agreed upon in ~~that~~ meeting. Therefore it seems to me that ~~we have a possibility of mediating this year~~ because what was written to Ole was not what was agreed upon as it was read to St. Clair, Olson and me. Ole sent me a carbon copy of the letter that you wrote him, ~~and~~ I presume that he also sent St. Clair one.

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In closing let me make myself plain. I will agree to do most anything for the good of the order, ~~and~~ I pledge my loyalty to the N. C. A. A., but I can see no reason why we cannot continue with a fine tournament where the N. C. A. A. can immediately count on a fine income and where the fourteen colleges participating will have at best a very small sum, but at least it will be enough to make them happy. Therefore, I beg of you to see if it is not possible with some mediation to forget the original 10% discussed and to pay the railroad, pullman, hotel and meal expenses of all fourteen teams competing in their respective Eastern, Western and National play-offs and then to divide a very handsome profit, 50% to the N. C. A. A., and 50% of the net to the fourteen teams split in the way that the committee suggests.