

Lawrence, Kansas

June 3, 1940

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Ole:

It looks as if the political situation may necessitate another change in the management of the auditorium in Kansas City. For that reason I received a tip that it might be well to sign up for some dates next year, so last Saturday, among my other connections, I made a trip to the Municipal Auditorium and signed a contract with Mr. Eugene C. Zachman, the manager and director, for dates of the week of March 16 to 22, and from March 23 to 30, 1941.

The auditorium is to receive \$1.00, payment of which is hereby acknowledged by the lessor, plus twenty per cent of all gate receipts after deduction of federal and state taxes.

Ole, I am wondering if you are in a position to state when the tournament will be and whether the set up will be the same as it was last year with the eastern, western and later the final play-off. You know, there was some discussion of having eight teams meet one week in the final tournament - say Wednesday and Thursday of one week, resting Friday, and playing Saturday night for the finals. This would not entail any more time away from school than by playing the eastern and western, and then having the finals the next week for the championship.

The contract that I have with the hall will protect us if you should make such a determination. There is a paragraph in the contract at the bottom, which states: "The lessee agrees to set the permanent dates for the tournament (which are to be a part of this contract) as speedily as possible and in any event before October 1, 1940. The lessee further agrees that in the event an opportunity to rent the Arena for any of the dates reserved arises before that time, he will set permanent dates on 10 days' written notice from the lessor."

I had this put off as late as October, 1940, so that we would then be in a definite position to know exactly what we wanted to do.

There is another item, Ole, that I think I should mention that is very important. I have talked to a good many coaches that were in the tournament, or who did not get in, and most of them state that there has never been a definite statement of policy from the N.C.A.A. Tournament Committee concerning what the teams are to get, if anything. Of course, the district chairman had been advised of certain things, and so have the members of the committee, but much of the advice that they received was erroneous; namely, that this fund would be earmarked for basketball. We found this to be incorrect. Further, there was only a guarantee of expenses for the eastern, western, and final play-off, and nothing for the districts. Yet if the district tournament made any money the N.C.A.A. was to receive it. And then you know in our first year we guaranteed expenses for fifteen men, then cut it to twelve, and then raised it again to fifteen.