

to the game the semblance of hockey. The ball was tossed up at center once and after the toss-up it became a wild, harum-scarum scramble to out-race the opposition to the offensive basket. As soon as a goal was made by one team, the team scored upon grabbed the ball out of bounds and hurriedly tossed it in, sacrificing good fundamentals of ball handling for speed, and more speed. Speed mania seized these contesting teams, and that mania reflected to the crowd. The players drove faster than good coordination dictated. Therefore, loss of possession became the rule, and the spectators rather than enjoying a clever, artful and versatile passing, dribbling and shooting game, feasted mentally upon an orgy by the players' fumbling that made for a general crowd-player neurotic situation. In other words, the spectators knowingly and willingly sacrificed good play to the point of excitement, even though the level of skilled basketball marked<sup>ly</sup> deteriorated.

Facetiously speaking, the spectators are more prostrated after a hectic game of this blood and thunder basketball than are the players. Individual shower baths should be furnished the spectators after a game to enable them to recoup from the nervous shock. They need the relaxation and refreshment after these hypertensions as much as do the players.

Non-fouling is an impossibility with these fast-moving players driving down the court. It is impossible for even the best officials to properly officiate this hurricane type of game. The crowd gets excited and "rides" the officials because a play is miss-called. In the game of basketball the crowd is right on top of the players and the officials, and the crowd never gets off of an official because it is the American game to give him a "buggy ride". Good basketball is sacrificed, and the crowd in their excitement forget the values of good ball handling, team play and goal shooting, and allow their jaded nerves to be satisfied with a fire-wagon brand of the game that does not begin to compare with games in previous years where patterns of play beautifully set up won the plaudits of the admirers.