

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEPARTMENT
OF
INSTRUCTION

November 9, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

Received your telegram, and I want to thank you very much indeed for accepting our invitation. We are looking forward to seeing you.

The thing we have in mind particularly is getting across information to the officials as to how to make the game more educational so far as the players are concerned; how to handle the ball game with as little interference as possible. In other words, what we would like to have the officials learn to do is to do a professional job, but keep from interfering with the ball game as much as possible.

You may not know it, but we have been experimenting here with ball games being played without officials at all. It is interesting to note that we get fewer fouls and, in many ways, a more interesting ball game than we do with officials. What I am trying to say is this - that officials many times get the mistaken idea that people come to basketball contests to see them strut their stuff and toot their whistles. So far as I am concerned, the kind of an official I would want is one who sees fouls and violations, who calls them in a pleasant but firm way, but who has the respect of the players and who does all of this not as a part of the show, but as an official act made necessary by the necessity of rules enforcement only.

I will write you later in regard to actual places - that is, whether you will appear in McDonald first or here, but regardless of that, you may count on coming here and having accommodations at the Cleveland Athletic Club, as in times past. If you can get here in time for a handball game, I will try to get Big Bill, so we can have some fun before the work.

With personal regards and many thanks for accepting, I am

Sincerely yours

Floyd

Floyd A. Rowe, Directing Supervisor
Bureau of Physical Welfare

*just talked to Bill and
he said to tell you that
he would knock your ears
off when you come. That
is at hand ball.*

FAR:McG

Far