

Basket and Bandboards

By "PHOG" ALLEN
(President, National Association of Basketball Coaches)

We have just returned from the Pacific coast where we met Nibs Price's University of California basketballers in a three-game series. Bled by the perpetual California sunshine and endowed, by climate, with yearlong possibilities of outdoor play, these men of the far west are truly more highly developed physically than the average mid-western or eastern athletes. In reality, the range and weight of these men determine their style of play. The coast teams play a two-hand overhead, hard driving four-man offensive game. California's coaches do not permit them to take a shot farther than twenty feet from the basket. They play an expert tipping game.

Whenever the ball is loose in the air, near the basket, these elongated Californians, because of their superior stature, uncork a wizardly art of tip-ins.

Always, their offensive men function with their arms above their heads. Even when not in possession of the ball they run with their arms high. When receiving a pass, they drive hard and meet the ball high in the air with a two-handed catch. And, many times, with the ball still high above their heads, they will return the pass or shoot for a goal before they alight.

Indeed, the Californians' offense is not unlike a high-grade combination of volley ball and basketball. To me, it seemed a transition between the two. In volley ball,

the player cannot catch the ball. It must be batted or tipped. The Californians sometimes caught the ball, but more often used a quick tip-flip.

Unlike the mid-western amateur teams and the eastern professional teams, the Californians have not yet learned the stalling game. In time, it will reach the coast.

Two days prior to our departure for the Pacific coast, we met the University of Notre Dame in a two-game series. The Notre Dame system is predicated on the delayed offensive or stalling tactics. They play for a one point advantage and when this one point is secured, they go immediately into a deep back court stall—with the evident attempt to make the opponents play their game. Thus, they open up the five-man defense and by means of a hard driving dribble or a quick pass, they break through the scattered defense for a goal.

The University of California has long been a leader on the Pacific coast. Notre Dame has consistently held its head high in the mid-west. No two teams could play the same game in more divergent styles.

This is another way of saying that clever coaching and excellent material, coupled with basketball brains, puts any efficient style in the win column. It is intensely interesting to meet these widely different styles of play.

REDUCED FARES ANNOUNCED FOR HOOVER INAUGURAL

When Herbert Hoover of California takes office as the nation's leader at inaugural ceremonies on March 4, the targets assembly of Californians ever grouped in Washington, D. C. will hail the first president from the west.

This was assured today by announcement from the Southern Pacific and San Diego and Arizona railroads of reduced roundtrip fares from California to Washington and other cities. The excursion fares will provide a way for Californians to witness the presidential inauguration at exceptionally low travel cost.

The tickets will be sold on February 25, 26 and 27, with return limit of March 27. Diverse routes will be authorized to permit passengers to go in one or both directions via New Orleans.

Transportation to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York City is included in the reduced roundtrip schedules.

WESTERN UNION EXTENDS TOLLS

The night cable letter service of the Western Union Telegraph company has been extended to include all points in Great Britain, Ireland and Belgium. The service as first announced was available only to these cities in Great Britain and Ireland where the Western Union had its own offices. Further extension of this service to other countries will be made as soon as arrangements can be made with various foreign administrations.

The company also announced that direct cable service between New York and Berlin will be instituted January 15. This is the first time direct service has been made available between these two points. The rate from New York City for the new service will be 33 cents a word and the syphon-recorder system of transmission will be employed. The new service is expected to be a decided boon to bankers and brokers and is an indirect result of the increased

volume of communications handled between this country and Germany following the commercial rehabilitation of that country.

PUBLIC SERVICE COM. GETS APPLICATION FOR TELEPHONE LINE

The Public Service Commission is in receipt of application of Utilities Consolidation Corporation, a corporation, for certificate of public convenience authorizing the construction and operation of long distance telephone lines from Las Vegas, Nevada to Kingman, Arizona, via Black Canyon, and Barstow, California, via Jean, Nevada. Inasmuch as there is at present no long distance telephone service to and from Las Vegas and the public convenience and necessity appearing to require the same, the Commission will proceed to grant the application if no well-founded protest against this proposed action is received prior to February 11, 1929.

HOLD WINTER CARNIVAL

WAUSAU, Wis., Jan. 22, (AP)—Wausau becomes the Lake Placid of the middle west February 5-10

when hockey artists, champion skaters, ski jumpers and curling players vie for honors in the city's annual winter sports carnival.

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