

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT NEXT WEEK

Annual Contest At Smyrna Mar. 10-12

The annual county-wide inter-scholastic basketball tournament is scheduled to be held in the new Smyrna auditorium-gymnasium Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of next week, March 10, 11, 12, unless the dates thereof are advanced to the following week by the Athletic Council at its meeting in the superintendent's office tomorrow afternoon.

The way for the tournament was cleared when the county rationing board gave the "go-ahead" signal at its meeting yesterday, in keeping with rulings by the Raleigh office whereby principals, coaches, referees, timekeepers, scorekeepers, managers, and other officials regularly used, with or without compensation, may use their cars in promoting these games and may carry members of the teams with them, without being penalized by the OPA. Use of cars in attending the tournament, except in accordance with this ruling, was not discussed and remains clearly a violation of OPA regulations.

Yesterday's ruling resulted from a letter written by S. B. Smithey, Atlantic principal, to the state OPA office on Feb. 11 and the reply thereto, which correspondence was placed before the local rationing board at the request of the County Athletic Council at a meeting on Feb. 27, at which time it was decided to hold the tournament provided the county rationing board concurs with the council's interpretation of the Raleigh ruling.

In speaking of the tournament, Supt. Allen said yesterday that the tournament is being held for the benefit of the schools as an integral and crowning part of the physical education program of the schools, and that it is not being held for the entertainment of basketball fans nor as a money-making proposition. He is asking the principals and physical education directors of the various high schools to discourage attendance upon these contests where such attendance would be in violation of OPA regulations.