

January 26, 1943.

Mr. Reaves Peters,
342 So. Chelsea,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Reaves:

I trust that you have procured Gibbs for Saturday night because the game I think is important enough, and further, the income will be sufficient to obviate any unpleasanties of poor officiating. By getting Gibbs as the balance wheel and the ballast necessary to keep all of those games under control, I believe is important.

I am afraid of that Nebraska game at Lincoln with Pullian in the game. Since it is Saturday night I am especially desirous of your being there. I believe if you are in the audience and can have a friendly yet necessary conversation without revealing your purpose that you may help him do a better job than he would otherwise do, should you not be there. I do feel that your presence is necessary, and I regret exceedingly that it might be impossible to move him from the job.

Please feel assured that I know the difficulty that you face in trying to do such a thing, but I am sure that you are cognizant of the fact of just how much a fellow can harm you when he is seeing only one way. I am perfectly willing to take a licking, but not at the hands of an official who is digressing from his obligation as an official. I think pretty frankly that he was definitely conscious of what he was doing. It was so obvious that the furthest stretch of the imagination could not keep one from seeing the havoc that he was creating. The Aggie crowd stood and cheered for two minutes when Charlie Black was taken from the game, and I want you to get this -- all four fouls were called on Black when he had possession of the ball. Not a single one of them was a defensive foul.

And I will tell you frankly if I lose this game it will be the last game that he will ever work for me. Gene Johnson worked one game at Manhattan for me years ago and that was the last he ever worked. I can forgive a fellow who makes a mistake, but a man who is so obvious will not work many more. That is why I never used Jack North at Ames. He is too much of a homer and I think a homer in one place is a homer in most every place that he works. I wouldn't want a homer at Lawrence any more than I want a homer on the visiting floor.