

July 23, 1943.

Colonel William C. Washington,
Commandant, R.O.T.C.,
University of Kansas.

Dear Colonel Washington:

We have sent out inquiries to four different firms in regard to prices and their ability to furnish gym equipment for the Army students expected at the University on August 9th.

The outlook is not too encouraging. We have received replies from two firms, and doubtless will hear from the others in a day or so. One firm says "Even on the orders in these quantities, the actual production costs will exceed the comparative price quotations given by the Director of the Training Division, so we are led to the conclusion that these prices must have been taken from a schedule that is decidedly on the obsolete side." They can supply for September delivery shoes quoted at \$2.35 per pair, and can supply for immediate delivery shoes at \$3.00 per pair. The other firm quotes shoes at \$4.50 per pair. Ration certificates would be required on the shoes.

These prices are more than the \$1.85 quoted in the bulletin from the Seventh Service Command.

Gym shirts are difficult to obtain, and the sweatsuits will be even more difficult to get. This type of gym equipment has been purchased in tremendously large quantities by other training programs - some of which have been in operation for more than a year. As one firm says, the real problem will be to obtain the equipment within any reasonable time at any price, on any preference rating.

I have also written to Mr. Frank Leahy, director of athletics at Notre Dame, who is in charge of the Keds Sports Department of the U. S. Rubber Company. I have not heard from him as yet, but I shall keep you advised as soon as replies come to my desk.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH