UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
Lawrence

Department of Physical Education

March 16, 1938.

Dean E. B. Stouffer, Chairman, Budget Committee
Dean R. A. Schwegler
Dean P. B. Lawson
Dean F. T. Stockton
Mr. Raymond Nichols, Secretary.

Gentlemen:

May I present for your consideration a matter very vital to the physical welfare and health of our students at the University of Kansas.

The tract of land south of Mount Oread, known as the Intramural Field, was purchased by the Athletic Association, a non-corporate body, in 1923 for a consideration of $12,000. This land was held in escrow by the K. U. Endowment Association and later deeded back to the Athletic Association (University of Kansas Physical Education Corporation), a corporation now in existence.

Last year when the University of Kansas Physical Education Corporation got into financial straits, the Board of Regents agreed to purchase the land for the sum of $12,000, the amount that was paid by the Athletic Association in cash in 1923. The deed is now in the name of the State.

The Athletic Association has never used this land for a competitive purpose. Rather, it was purchased for the intramurals in the beginning, and has always been used by student organizations as such. The University has, however, from time to time, cut large tracts of sod from this acreage to be used in sodding various portions of the campus proper. This refers to the time when there was grading and filling around the Administration Building and on the slopes around new buildings, such as Snow Hall.

The thought that I am trying to project is that this tract of land has not been treated by the University as a University possession with the exception of the time when something could be obtained from the tract. Inasmuch as intramurals are a part of the Department of Physical Education and the physical activities of the students in play are sponsored by the department, it seems reasonable and thinkable that it would be in keeping with logical practice to have the University at least remove the distinct hazard that this ungraded field presents to the life and limb of the students playing on it.

It seems to me that CSEP labor, under the direction of Mr. Bayles, has done much constructive work on the campus. Since this tract is now directly a part of the University it would be a very much desired thing if we could have the field graded so as to make it safe for the students to play there. The slope of the field from the north to the south is so acute that there is apt to be extreme injury to the participants of a game where physical contact is indulged in. The intramural football fields run from the north to the south. I was present at some of the games last fall, and I am amazed that there are not more serious injuries than there are.