

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
Lawrence

Department of Physical Education

March 17, 1938.

TO MEMBERS OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Gentlemen:

Robinson Gymnasium was built in 1906 for a total student body of 1200. The University now has more women enrolled than the entire student body when the gymnasium was built. Robinson Gymnasium is more quasi-public than any other building on the campus. The high school boys and girls from Oread use it several times each week. Oread has no high school gymnasium, and our practice teachers conduct the classes in Physical Education under the direction of the teacher supervisor.

It is very difficult to present an adequate teaching schedule when the class rooms in the building are used by both men and women Physical Education majors. The new set-up for Physical Education has, of necessity, called for additional class rooms in this building.

The Athletic Association uses the front offices on the west side of the gymnasium, and the K Room and the coaches' room upstairs on the southwest corner of the second floor occupy two well-lighted and convenient rooms. In addition to this, the gymnasium is used for enrollment for the first and second semesters. Also the Teachers Convention uses the building early in November, and the high school band festival has generally used this for checking and sometimes for sleeping quarters. The W.S.G.A. Carnival each year has moved in on Thursday of a certain week and it has been late Saturday before the building was again in any shape. Some of these activities rightfully belong in the Student Union Building.

The busy intramural program, especially during the fall and winter months, as well as early spring, calls for the gymnasium to be in use from 8:30 in the morning until 10:30 at night. The varsity basketball team uses the only main auditorium in the gymnasium in the afternoons during basketball season. The freshmen practice from 6:30 in the evening until 8:30, and the women take it over at 8:30. The intramural games are sandwiched in between these times and as late at night as it is possible to play.

Although the basketball team used the auditorium to play in, they are permitted but three evenings a week during certain parts of the winter months to use the auditorium floor. While this may seem a fair percentage of the time, it must be considered that our games come during this period, and many of our games fall on Monday and Friday. So it actually gives us two afternoons a week, from 3:30 to 5:30. No other team in the conference is forced to play off the floor they practice on. I mention this point to show that the intramural program is very definitely interfered with because the gymnasium cannot be released on account of varsity and freshman practice.

As the majority of University class schedules end at 3:30 in the afternoon, and many of our teachers leave the building at that time, many high school boys and other people not connected with the University overrun the building, bringing their own basketballs and play equipment here. The janitor leaves about 3 or 4 o'clock, and unless we exert eternal vigilance this gymnasium is overrun by itinerants who desire to use some part of it.