

(COPY)

October 4, 1941

Lt. Col. W.H. Browne, QMC  
110th QM Regiment  
Camp Robinson, Arkansas  
A.P.O. 35

Dear Brownie,

Your very lengthy epistle addressed to Frederick Ware, a carbon copy of which has been sent to me, is hereby acknowledged. I also enjoyed the postscript, "A copy has been sent to the Doctor in his lair at K.U." I was greatly interested in your activities and enjoyed the description of your environment in Mansfield, La., which you have given Fred Ware, our mutual friend. However, I feel that I should come to the point and reply to your real reason for writing the message to Fred.

I have tried to analyse carefully your arguments that you present in your letter to Fred. First, I might say to you that I have spoken on two occasions to football men wherein the newspapers have seen fit to give perhaps undue publicity. Last fall I spoke to the all-star Kansas City, Kansas, high school football men where Rotary was their host. This fall I spoke before the William Jewell College football team and three hundred students at a "football kick-off" dinner rally. I spoke to these boys directly and all the remarks that were made were prompted by a desire to present the true picture of "big time" football as it is now being conducted in a great many of our American colleges.

I coached football, Brownie, perhaps before you played it, and I believe I know the strong and the weak points of the game as I have officiated and followed it closely ever since. The game as a morale builder and as a builder of men has no equal. Certainly I am not excepting basketball in this inclusion. But many sports at one time can be fine, and then they can become so distorted that they can be utterly ruined and useless instead of being a morale builder they can become a morale destroyer.

In my mind's eye I ran over a great number of former coaches and present coaches, and have asked this question: Are these coaches' sons playing football? I thought of Chet Brewer, who has a son at the University of Missouri, Henry Schulte, Bernie Bierman, Dana Bible, Major Jones, Harold Browne, "Phog" Allen, Bill Hargiss, and a great host of others. Now, I realize that neither your son nor Dana Bible's son are old enough to be in a university, but I will watch with a great deal of interest and see how many sons of coaches will play football in college.