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Dear Mike:

My friend! Any time you write me I know it is from one Irishman to another. And the thing I like about you, Mike, you put your cards on the table and you do not beat around the bush. You may beat the dickens out of the bush, but I like the way you do it.

Yes, sir, I will be very happy to see young Mr. Peterka. The first thing I would like for you to ascertain from him is if he has had his teeth looked over by a competent dentist with a view of looking for any granuloma or carious spots in them. Now, Mike, if I get too technical, you just tell me that I started as a shanty Irishman and I can't get above that, and tell me not to be high-hat with you.

But I want to be sure that his teeth are all right. You see, the blood vascular drainage from the jaw filters down through lymphatic glands in the area in which reside the brachial plexus or the nerve supply of the arm. That is why bad teeth or tonsils bother pitchers or fellows who depend so much on their throwing arm.

Now the tonsils would be the next thing. Please have these two things looked into before you send him up. I always want to eliminate these two possible factors before we start on the skeletal framework. Also, I would like to know if he has had any unusually severe accident, having been thrown on his head or shoulders either off a horse or out of an automobile. In other words, I want a history of his case before the boy comes up because I can do much more for him in a short time by having a knowledge of his personal history.

Without going into any criticism of anybody, I have never thought of any nerve being pinched. So far as the boy suffering from rheumatism is concerned, undoubtedly he is, because rheumatism is nothing but lack of vitality in tissue due to an improper nerve or blood supply being distributed to the point in question. Bone and ligaments always have the poorest blood supply and because the blood does not carry away the waste accumulated from an area we call it rheumatism.