

April 23, 1940.

Mr. Ernest J. Vanek,
Department of Physical Education,
Wichita High School North,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Ernie:

I understand that Dale Covert, Calvin Miller and Bob Kent are all fine prospects at El Dorado. I wish that when you had your golf match in Winfield Saturday that you had had an opportunity to talk to young Mr. Tucker of high school fame in Winfield.

This boy Calvin Miller, of El Dorado, is a brother of Jack Miller, formerly of the Kansas Aggies, but I understand they are not feeling very friendly toward the Manhattan set-up now, and Calvin may go elsewhere. He is a high jumper and an end on the football team, but he is planning to attend the junior college one year because he works at a Skelly filling station and he can save enough money to go elsewhere later.

I would be interested in having you talk to any of these boys with an idea of their attending the University of Kansas.

I missed seeing you at the Relays Saturday, but I understand that business comes before pleasure and that you must take these boys and their assigned competitive matches on the day that they are to play.

I heard some good news concerning you and I am hoping that you are successful in the new set-up.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

April 26, 1940.

Mr. E. J. Vanek,
Wichita High School North,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Ernie:

I was happy to have your letter of the 18th instant and I wish to thank you for your many compliments. Wasn't Indiana sizzling hot?

Regarding Dale Covert and Bob Kent, I understand that Covert's mother said that he hasn't received any offer yet that will enable him to go away from home to school. When it is considered that Colorado made him an offer and it isn't enough, I am afraid there isn't much chance of him appearing on the K. U. gridiron or the basketball court. I understand Dale doesn't have any money, and some of his friends and perhaps his mother might be expecting a deed to a house and lot besides his ordinary living expenses.

You know, Ernie, parents sometimes get the idea that because a boy is an athlete somebody should just pick him up bodily and move him from a place where he has to struggle for an education to a place of ease and comfort, both mentally and physically. But you and I know that isn't true.

Now, regarding Bob Kent. I am endeavoring to make arrangements to speak at El Dorado high school and in that case I want to see Dale Covert and Bob Kent and Calvin Miller. Calvin is a great all-around athlete in football, basketball and track, but he is making about \$80 or \$90 a month at Skelly's and he will doubtless go to the junior college there. He is a brother of Jack Miller who played with the Aggies, but I understand that Jack is pretty sore about the Aggie set-up. Wichita U. is also after Calvin. I am told that this boy Miller is the best all-around athlete that has been at El Dorado for quite some time.

Ernie, I am going to speak at Wichita Rotary on Monday, the 29th, and I am trying to make arrangements to speak at Winfield and El Dorado, either on my way in or my way out. If I

have an opportunity after Rotary and if my schedule permits, I will
certain look you up for a short chat.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

May 8, 1940.

Professor P. W. Viesselman,
School of Law,
University of Kansas.

Dear Professor Viesselman:

In reply to your letter of April 30th regarding vocational counselling, I find that I will be out of town much during the time you have mentioned. I have high school commencement engagements on the following dates:

May 15 - Hill City
May 16 - Seneca
May 21 - Humboldt
May 22 - Marysville
May 24 - Wanego

On May 17 and 18 I expect to be at Lincoln, Nebraska, for the Big Six Meet.

I find that Dr. E. R. Elbel, of our department, will be glad to serve as a counsellor on the afternoons of May 20 and 23. I regret that my absence from the University will make it impossible for me to assist in this very important service.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

H.S. Commencements

May 15
16
21
22
24
29

afternoon
20 ✓
23 ✓

Inack meet

May 17
18

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
THE SCHOOL OF LAW
LAWRENCE

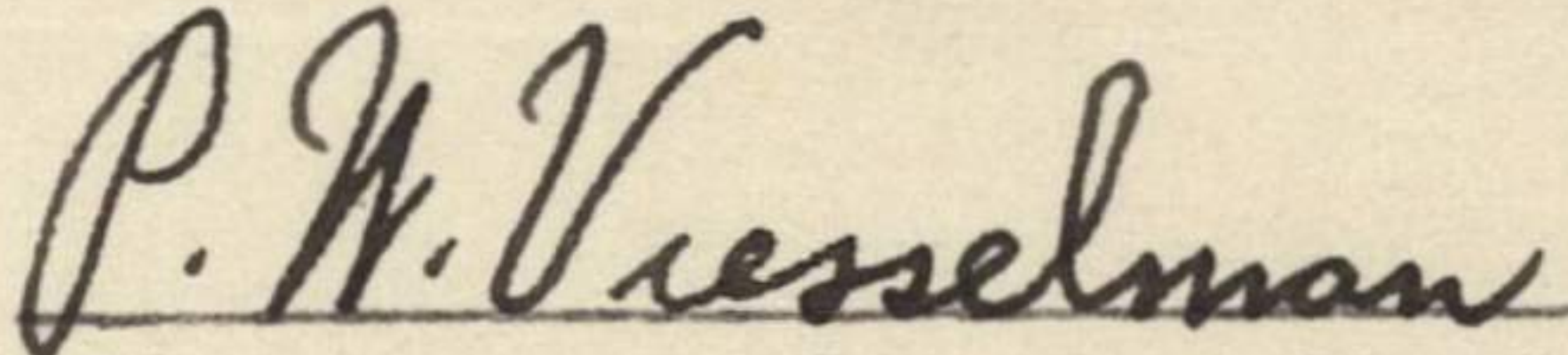
April 30, 1940.

Professor F.C. Allen,
105 R.

Dear Professor Allen:

The University Committee on Vocational Guidance has arranged for a series of conferences or interviews between students and faculty members from May 15th to May 23rd, inclusive, to discuss with students individually or in small informal groups the commercial and vocational possibilities (other than teaching and graduate research) of training by each department.

If you are willing to interview students with respect to the above subject, will you kindly fill out and return the enclosed slip. If you cannot conveniently serve, will you arrange for some other member of your department to do so.


P.W. Viesselman, Chairman,
Committee on Vocational Guidance.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE CLINIC
MAY 14-23

Name _____

Business Address _____ Telephone No. _____

Home Address _____ Telephone No. _____

Vocation _____

Subjects in Which You are Willing to Counsel;

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Days Available (please check) May 14___, 15___, 16___, 17___, 18___, 19___, 20___,
22___, 23___.

Time Available _____

Special Comments:

June 19, 1940.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Ernest J. Vanek,
Wichita High School North,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Ernie:

Mr. Stark, who is assistant to Mr. Van Slyck, principal of the Topeka High School, wanted a recommendation for a physical education major first, and a basketball coach second. I recommended you very highly and you were the top recommendation. In fact, there was no close second.

Before school was out Buck Weaver called me from Topeka and told me that I would be asked in a few days to make a recommendation and that he would like to have you. That has been over a month ago and I had heard nothing until Mr. Stark came down from Topeka for an executive meeting with superintendents and principals in Fraser Hall yesterday.

I believe that you have the inside track, but politics are getting into the situation and different board members have separate choices, so if there is anything that you can do on your own resources to help your situation, do it. I am not sure that you want the job, but if you do I will help you in every possible way.

Please destroy this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

VERNON'S HARDWARE

PHONE 107

1029 MASS. ST.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

June 27, 1940.

Dept. of Physical Education,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

With reference to bid sheet which we recently received from you - We will not be able to quote you prices on same, since we are not agents for the Johnston Lawn Mower which you specified in same.

We regret we are unable to serve you in this instance.

Yours truly,

Vernon's Hardware.

E. G. Vernon.

EGV:gv

July 3, 1940.

Mr. W. H. Van Slyek,
5515 South Woodlawn,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Van Slyek:

I have your letter of the 27th ultimo, and in reply wish to state that we have a young man about twenty-five years of age whom we believe will make an exceptionally strong man in your set up. His name is Eugene Billups. He was one of the outstanding graduates in our department this year. His grades have been excellent, not only in this department, but in allied subjects.

Mr. Billups has been especially trained in physical education and does not have the athletic complex, yet he is a very vigorous and aggressive young man. He has a fine personality, is cultured and well-mannered, very dependable, conscientious and serious in his work. We have others, but I consider Mr. Billups the strongest of the group.

For the woman, I have in mind Dorothy Jane Willcuts, who graduated a year ago. She has made an exceptional record in the Lawrence Junior High School in the past year. Miss Willcuts is a Topela girl, and in her undergraduate days here on the campus she was one of our outstanding leaders.

At the same time we recommended Miss Willcuts to John Jacobs of the Junior High School, we recommended Maurice Camady. Both of these young people have done a splendid job there.

The reason I mention Billups is because of the cadet teaching and the possible fact that you could secure him for much less money than you would be able to get Camady. Camady has done a most excellent job at the Lawrence Junior High School. I understand that he is slated for a job in California this fall, but it is not definite.

If you should follow the thought that you outline in your letter it would permit you to secure an outstanding teacher who would head up the thing in the future, but I believe you would be quite surprised with the personality and leadership of these two young people.

Personally, I think that your set-up as you have outlined it is perfectly feasible, and under this sort of plan should work well. We have a number of outstanding people in the state who have done an exceptional job in physical education work. Henry Shenk, at Junction City, although he has taken part in athletics, is one of the outstanding physical education leaders at the present time. We have others, but I presume that you feel your work has not advanced far enough as yet to get an outstanding leader.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

W. N. VAN SLYCK, Principal and
Director of Secondary Education
S. H. STARK, Vice Principal

LLOYD W. CHAMBERS, Director of Guidance
Junior and Senior High Schools
HELEN M. SHIRK, Dean of Girls

TOPEKA HIGH SCHOOL
TOPEKA, KANSAS

Chicago - 6/27/40

Gene Billups
D. J. Millente
(home town)

Dear Dr. Allen:

Mr Stark has written me about his conversation with you concerning a physical education instructor. I have also had a letter from Mr Vanek.

I feel, and the members of our Bd of Educ. concur, that our physical education program is not functioning as it should. Our facilities are somewhat short of what I wish they were. In spite of that I believe we can do more than we have. I have felt that we should require Sophomores & Juniors to take Phys Ed with election for Seniors. Senior work to consist largely in leadership try-

I recommended to the Bd this spring that we secure a man & a woman who were just graduating from college to act as cadet teachers for one year. At the end of that period secure a well trained & experienced teacher in both boys & girls departments. I am inclined to believe however that the Bd might be willing to select the experienced teacher at this time altho we would have very little advanced work this first term. We now require Soph to take P.E.

I would like to have your reaction to the idea of cadet teachers. Also what is your opinion as to the best man & woman available for P.E. work. I am not thinking in terms of coaches but principally P.E. teachers. I am in school this summer at Chi Univ.

Sincerely W N Van Slyck
5515 So. Woodlawn. Chi. Ill.

July 8, 1940.

Mr. Ernest J. Vanek,
Walden, Colorado.

Dear Ernie:

I got your good letter of the 22nd ultimo and am happy to know that you and the Mrs. are enjoying ranch life near Walden, Colorado. Gee, a fellow teaching school has a lot of wonderful opportunities, doesn't he, Ernie?

You know, Ernie, I think that Mr. Weaver and Mr. Barnett and all of us did not want you to write to Mr. Van Slyck. He has a physical education man in mind, and the basketball was to be incidental. In fact, I got a letter from Mr. Van Slyck, who is in Chicago taking his doctorate degree, and he expressed himself as much.

So if you do not get it, just bear in mind that Mr. Van Slyck and Mr. Stark are looking for a straight physical education man, and Mr. Weaver and Mr. Barnett were looking for a man to coach basketball in addition to that.

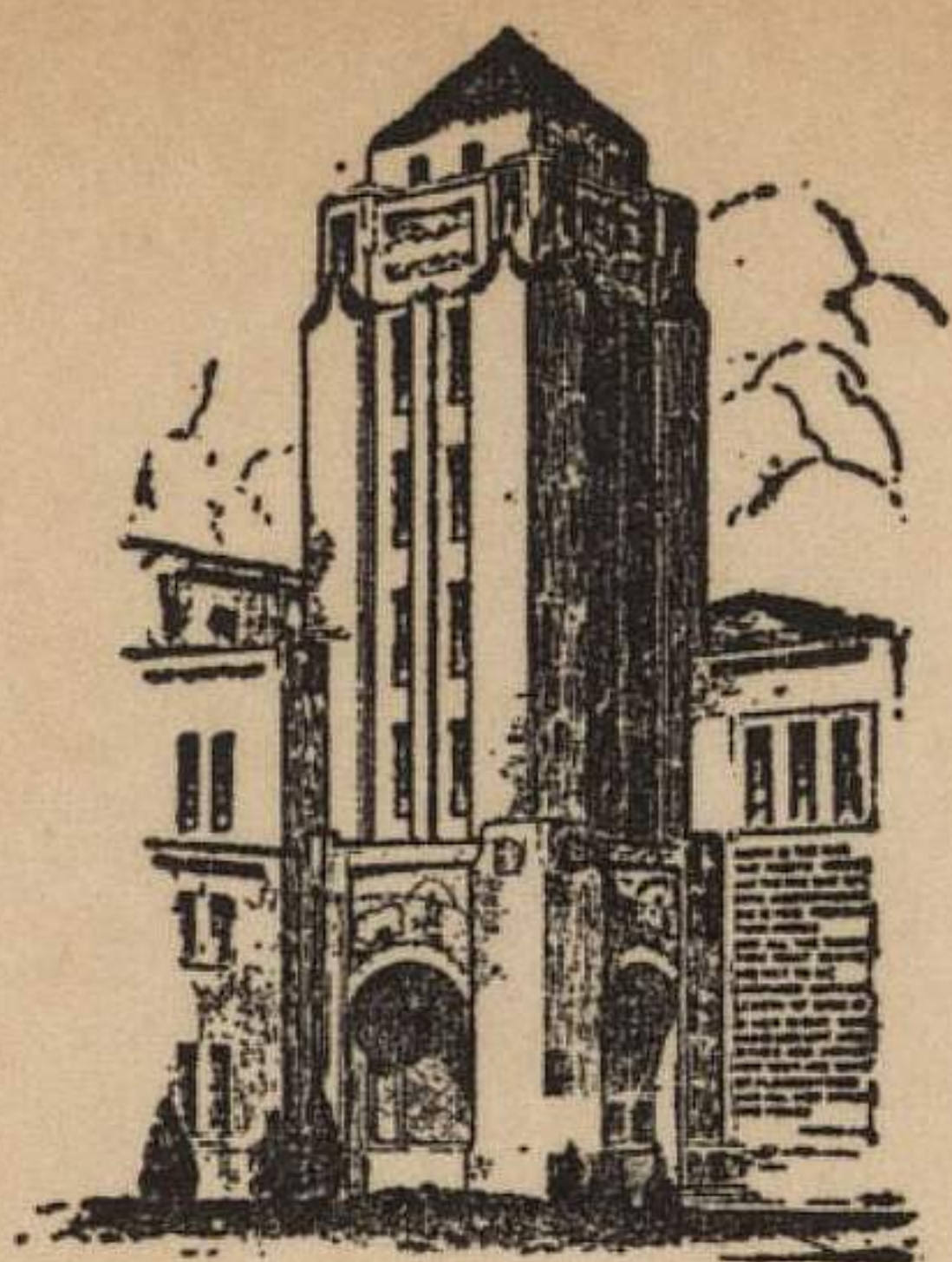
Anyhow, you know, Ernie, I am working for you all the time for bigger and better successes for you and Mary Virginia. After this eight weeks of Summer Session is finished I go to Austin, Texas, for a short coaching course, and then I will be in Topeka on the Kansas High School Coaching faculty for several days.

With all good wishes for your continued success, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH



Wichita High School North

GROVER C. DOTZOUR, PRINCIPAL

Wichita, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Boys'

ROY G. GROE
A. B. COLLOM
A. R. EDWARDS
ERNEST J. VANEK

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Girls'

EVA LYMAN
JUANDA HAWKINS
ESTHER PFLEGER
ANN THEILEN

June 22, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
Varsity Basketball Coach
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Doc!"

I received your letter yesterday. It was quite a surprise, but a pleasant one. "Doc" I just don't know how to go about thanking you for the things you have done for me. I want you to know that Mary Virginia and I appreciate every bit of it. I hope there will come a time that I will be able to repay you for your kindness.

During the Physical Education Convention at Wichita, I talked with Mr. Weaver and Mr. Barnett. They seemed to think at that time that a Basketball Coach would not be hired until after next year. I guess something else must have happened. I am very much interested in this position and would like to look into it further if I get a chance to. I have all ready written to Mr. Stark, Mr. Van Slyck and Mr. Weaver. I do hope I hear from them.

At the present time, I am tutoring two boys in Junior High Algebra on a ranch near Walden, Colo. Mr. E.B. Shawver, an oil producer in Wichita, owns this place. His son and another boy lack their credit in Algebra to be able to enter Military School at Rosswell, New Mexico. I imagine we will be here until about the first week in August. However, if it is necessary to go to Topeka for an interview I'll be able to make arrangements.

Thanks again "Doc!"

Sincerely yours,

Ernie Vanek
Walden, Colo.

August 1, 1940.

Mr. Ernest J. Vanek,
Wichita High School North,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Ernie:

We were passing through Wichita the other day and we learned that a boy named Layton from one of the Wichita schools had been "signed up" by Bruce Drake, of Oklahoma.

I am wondering if you will write me and give me the background of this boy and tell me just how good he is and how, in your opinion, he came to decide on Oklahoma. I will appreciate this information.

I trust that you and Mrs. Vanek had a very pleasant vacation.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

August 7, 1940

Mr. Victor Hurt
Assistant Football Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Vic:

Principal W. N. Van Slyck of the Topeka High School, dropped in at noon today and brought his son, Harold Van Slyck, with him. He was looking for you because his son is a football player, having played last year at DePauw University in Green Castle, Indiana.

He is an excellent looking chap, well set up and very intelligent. He is entering the University of Kansas this fall as a freshman here and I believe he will be a very welcome addition to your fine looking freshman squad.

I took Harold's address. It is 832 Anderson, Topeka, Kansas. I told him that doubtless you would drop by and see him in a week or so. He played right guard last year on the DePauw team and I understand he made a record.

I endeavored to call you but missed you so I am writing this note because I am leaving Lawrence tomorrow morning at 6:00 A.M. for parts west and south.

With all good wishes and trusting that this boy will stimulate your optic football nerves, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

August 13, 1940

Mr. Ernest J. Vanek
Department of Physical Education, Boys'
Wichita High School North
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Vanek:

Your letter of August 6th addressed to Dr. F. C. Allen arrived at his office after he had left for the University of Texas. He expects to be there until the 17th of August for a short basketball coaching clinic. The following week he will be in Topeka for the Kansas High School Coaching School.

As soon as Dr. Allen returns to the office your letter will be brought to his attention. I am sure that he will be glad to know about Lester Layton and Bob Groom, and will be happy to see you in Topeka if you are there.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. F. C. Allen



Wichita High School North

GROVER C. DOTZOUR, PRINCIPAL

Wichita, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
BOYS'

ROY G. GROE
A. B. COLLOM
A. R. EDWARDS
ERNEST J. VANEK

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
GIRLS'

EVA LYMAN
JUANDA HAWKINS
ESTHER PFLEGER
ANN THEILEN

Walden, Colorado
August 6, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach
Lawrence, Kansas

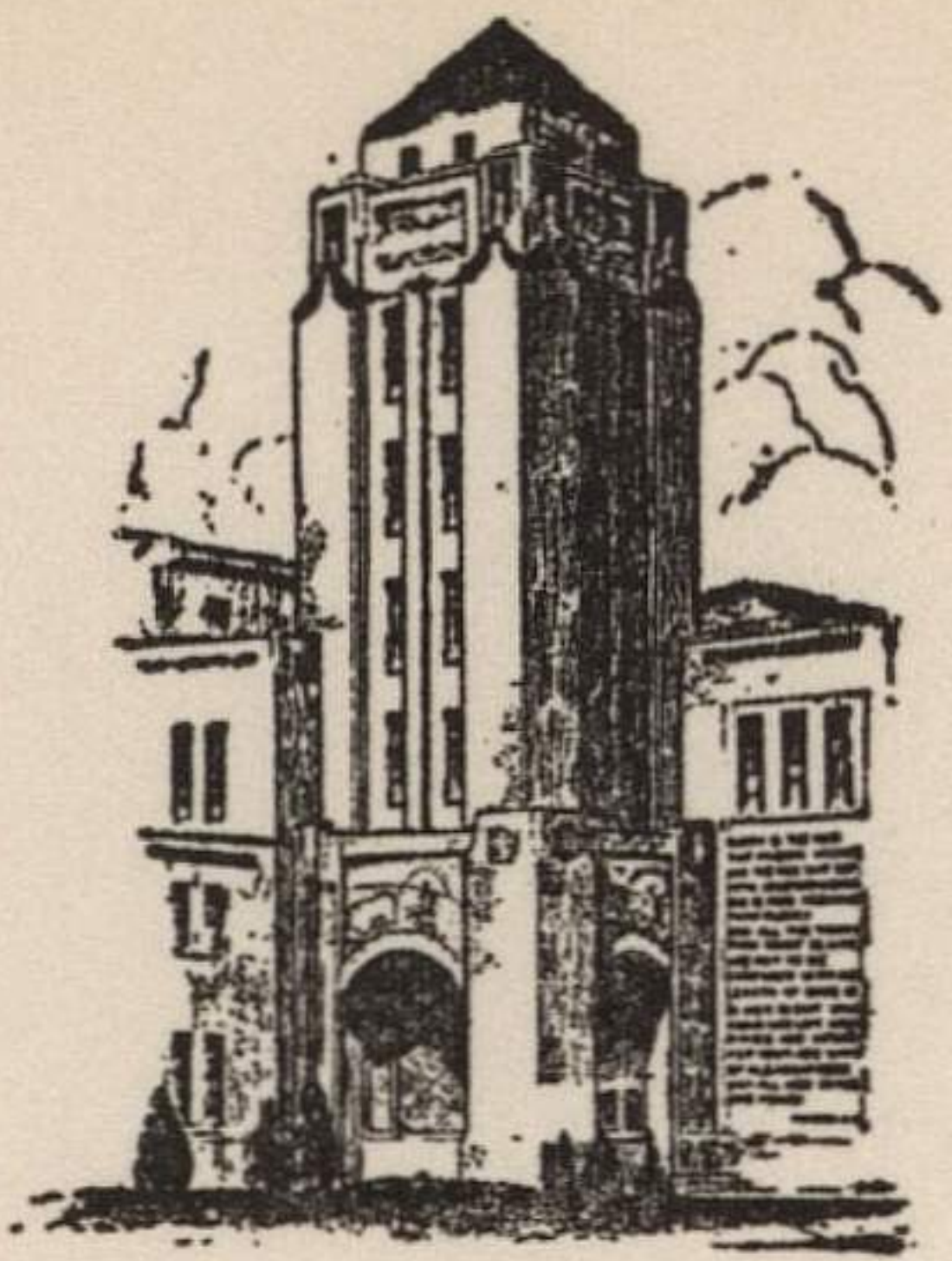
Dear "Doc":

Just a word about the Topeka job, I have not heard much from the Topeka officials. I guess they decided on just a Physical Education man, or they might have left Coach Weaver with basketball for another year. At the Physical Education Convention he told me that he would like to keep it one more year. He hated to let it go with such an unsuccessful season. I don't blame him a bit for wanting to keep it.

I should be well satisfied with my Wichita job. But it surely does not hurt to investigate such an opportunity. I do want to make a better record this coming winter than I made last year. Practically my whole "A" squad graduated, but the "B" squad was composed mostly of Soph. and they did not look bad in Spring practice.

Now I will try to give you a complete account of Lester Layton. He was one of my boys. The night we saw you at the Lassen Hotel before the series I told you about him, but you had so many things on your mind I imagine you soon forgot about him. I also introduced him to you the day you spoke at our high school assembly.

Layton is about 6'1" tall, weighs around 165 pounds. He was about a "B" student in high school. His plans are to take up engineering. His father works for the Beechcraft Airplane Co. in Wichita. I have talked to his folks several times about K.U. His Dad favored it very much and said he would be able to help him some, but that Lester would have to have a job of some kind. When I left Wichita he was planning on K.U. I told him to be sure and get in touch with you, and that I was quite sure he would not have to worry about getting lined up with a job.



Wichita High School North

GROVER C. DOTZOUR, PRINCIPAL

Wichita, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION Boys'

ROY G. GROE
A. B. COLLOM
A. R. EDWARDS
ERNEST J. VANEK

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION Girls'

EVA LYMAN
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ESTHER PFLEGER
ANN THEILEN

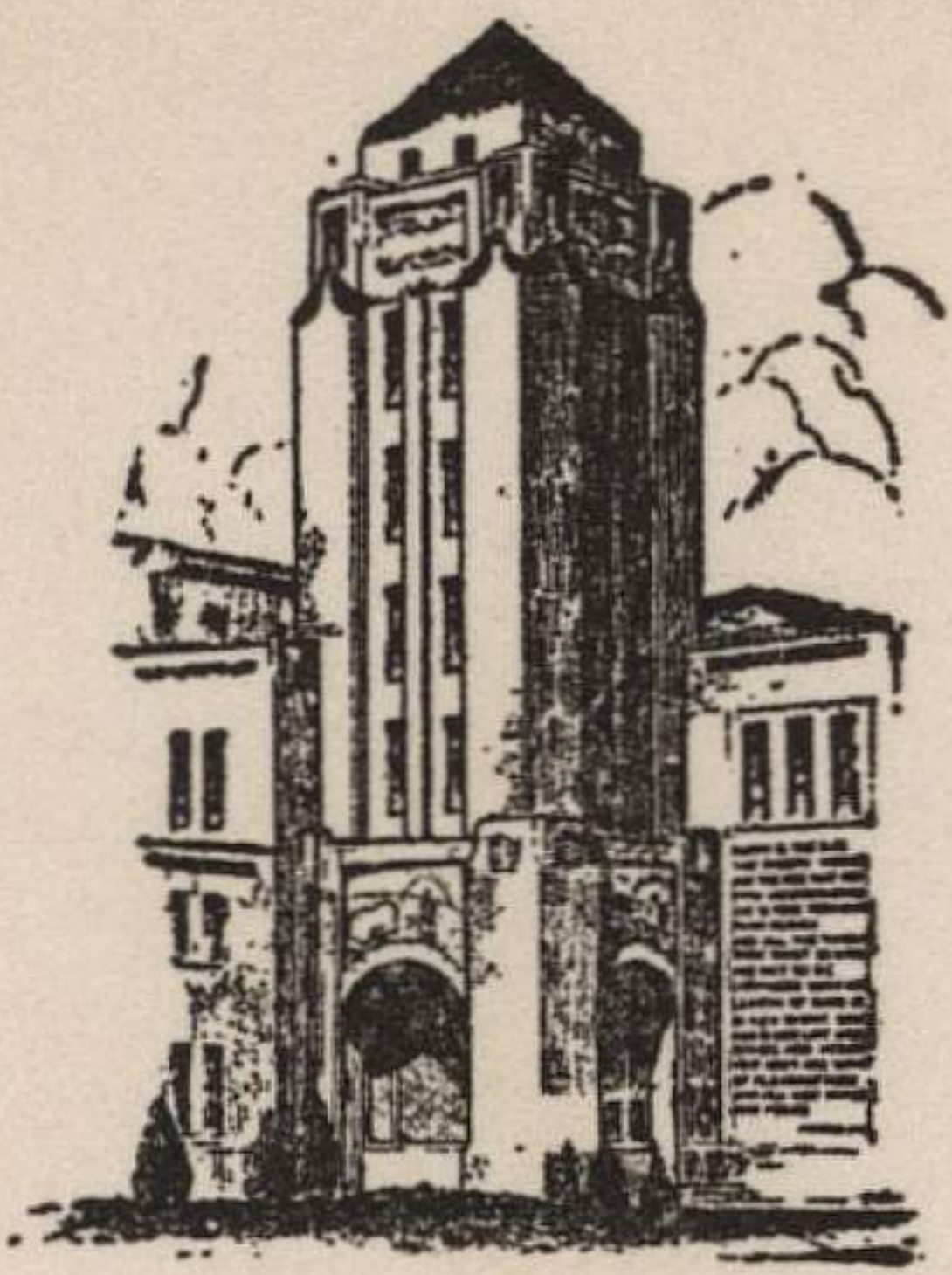
I have been watching the write ups about him in the Wichita papers. He is also a very outstanding baseball player and it seems that several O.U. scouts have gotten to him. Oklahoma is his home state. He was born there and did not come to Wichita until he was in the Intermediate School. That may be one reason why O.U. looks good to him.

Now about his basketball ability: When I came to Wichita last fall, everybody said what a star he was. Well as far as I am concerned he never did come up to what I expected. Many persons told me that he played lot better ball last year. It looked like a case of too much publicity for a kid that could not take it. He has got a fairly good eye for the basket and is a very hard driver, but is very weak defensively. According to the other boys, during his Soph. and Jr. years, he was the only one that did any shooting and scoring. His coach never made him do a thing on defense, so I had quite a job with him. He is very individualistic, and did not get along with the other boys as well as he should. That was one great fault with my whole bunch. They were all Seniors, and thought they knew everything.

This is Layton's record of his shooting according to my books. We played 19 games. He attempted 390 shots, and made 52 baskets, a rather poor percentage. He seemed to be in some sort of a slump about half of the season. I think he was not training as well as he should. However, he made the All Ark Valley team as a Forward, and was fourth from the top among the leading scores in the Ark Valley. It looked to me like making the All Ark Valley was a darn sight more important to him than trying to cooperate with the other boys, and win some ball games for us.

I do think that Lester will snap out of it when he goes to College. I guess all high school boys have their faults. The fact that he seems to be in love with a girl in Wichita and that he has been considered the "big shot" around school, did not help him or our ball club. He has a swell personality, and he is not hard to handle.

I hope I have given you the information you wished. If there is anything else you want me to do please let me know. I will be glad to contact him if you so desire.



Wichita High School North

GROVER C. DOTZOUR, PRINCIPAL

Wichita, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
BOYS'

ROY G. GROE
A. B. COLLOM
A. R. EDWARDS
ERNEST J. VANEK

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
GIRLS'

EVA LYMAN
JUANDA HAWKINS
ESTHER PFLEGER
ANN THEILEN

I have been wondering about Bob Groom, East High boy. He had seen you during the Spring at K.U. I talked with him several times and he seemed pretty well sold on K.U. He was a darn good ball player. Besides that, he made the National Honor Society and was President of the Student Congress at East High.

If things work out I will be seeing you in Topeka at The Coaching School. I sure hope I can make it.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ernie".

Ernest J. Vanek