

January 4, 1944.

Mr. Russell L. Wiley,  
Director of the Band,  
University of Kansas.

Dear Mr. Wiley:

Again you did a swell job with your band, and the fact that you got Mr. David Lawson to sing The Star Spangled Banner put the very thing into it that we have been needing so long, and that is spectator participation in this very stimulating National Anthem.

I asked Ernie Pontius to say that we are in a war and each of us is participating; therefore, we ask you to participate in the singing of the National Anthem. Then I spoke to Corlett Cotton and said if we could get some band member to sing into the mike it wouldn't embarrass him because the lights are out.

When I heard this wonderful voice I was thrilled and did not even take my eyes off the flag, but after it was over I turned around and saw that it was David Lawson, and I yelled at him, "Marvelous! Marvelous!"

Now, can't we do this at each game? And with the conference games we will have the stage seated with bleachers and we will have a much bigger crowd. I believe it will stimulate real patriotism by spectator participation.

I always appreciate greatly your fine cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH