

March 15, 1938. C
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Professor Robert J. Francis,
The University of Wisconsin,
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Professor Francis:

The University of Kansas four years ago, 1934, made Physical Education optional with the students. Prior to that time 120 hour was required for graduation. The faculty raised the requirement to 124 hours for graduation, four hours of which may be in Physical Education courses. One hour credit is given for each semester's work.

You can see by this scheme that it is now possible for a student to go through the University without taking any Physical Education. I consider this a very backward step, but some things are done in the University in which the minority do not agree, but according to democratic principles the majority rules.

Since Physical Education has not been required we have had no registration for handicapped students. So long as there was a requirement for Physical Education these handicapped students were required to take some form of Physical Education, and by their reporting for credit they were the benefactors of a scheme about which they were very enthusiastic. All students in the required course in Physical Education came under the observation of our department. The handicapped students took this work joyfully because it was a positive constructive force in their lives. They got the element of play from it, yet there was a therapeutic value that they recognized. They received much benefit from the corrective work and much encouragement from the teachers in Physical Education who worked with them. Since the required work was done away with this very important feature is missing.

This type of work has become practically extinct in the past four years. I deeply regret that this work has been discontinued, and I further regret that it will not be possible for you to see the constructive work which we once did here with a great deal of satisfaction.

I debated quite some time as to whether I should fill out the questionnaire bearing on the work we did prior to the abolition of the required work in Physical Education, but since