

June 19, 1942.

Chancellor Deane W. Malott,
University of Kansas.

Dear Chancellor Malott:

Mr. T. C. Ryther spoke to me about the fact that we are using old rubber tires filled with concrete as supports for badminton and volley ball nets on the playground. These are very necessary pieces of equipment, and I explained to him how we had resorted to this expediency several years ago.

We had Mr. Dell Davidson go the junk yard (where we get most of our play equipment) and buy some old car wheels, fill them with concrete, and then weld in old rusty pipe for the standards. To change them from their shoddy appearance of old age we gave them a coat of aluminum paint. We have used these for years, and they are the only thing we could afford, in the first place, and in the second place they are a necessary utility.

It is necessary that we move these standards to different areas on the gymnasium floor because we use the floor for exercises and physical education activities. When not in use they are moved to a corner of the gym.

If we would have any kind of casing with eyelets they would cost \$5 to \$8 each if they were heavy enough to protect the concrete from cutting into the hardwood floor.

Professor George Stratton spoke to me and asked why we did not give the tires for old rubber. I told him just what I am telling you, and I told him further that we were developing a physical fitness program on a twelve months basis, not only on the playground but in the gymnasium, and this is certainly one of the war aims in building better and stronger bodies. Then I called K. W. Davidson, minister of propaganda, and asked him to insert a paragraph in his write up on the playground, explaining the utility of this wheel standard. We did not want to apologize for it, but we wanted the public to be informed as to the usefulness of these old junk wheels and tires.