

October 11, 1940

Mr. John Cress
2710 N. Mildred
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Cress:

Your special delivery letter dated October 9 arrived this morning and I am writing you to tell you that we will expect you here in Lawrence on October 20, to be ready for work on Monday, October 21.

My street address is 801 Louisiana and my phone number is 300, so when you get to town if you will call me I will be glad to have a conference with you. This will enable us to iron out some of the normal difficulties that always present themselves when a new man comes in.

I also want to talk with you about work for your Master's Degree. I have made arrangements which will enable you to take work toward your degree, and I will try to smooth out these difficulties so you can start in at once on your work. I have also made arrangements for us to pay you \$550.00 for the year; that is, for the remaining time of this year. There are still eight months left and we expect to pay you \$550.00 for those eight months.

I am quite anxious to talk with you regarding the possibilities that will present themselves to you here. I am very anxious that we do everything possible to make your work both pleasant and profitable to you. I would like for you to build up the gymnastics and tumbling angle here, and I would like to see you put on a circus before the winter closes, or in early spring. I am also anxious that you make a survey of the things that you need to work with and we will endeavor to do everything possible so that you will get a favorable introduction and a favorable reception during your tenure.

I might tell you that in 1916 I signed a contract with Mr. George Huff with the University of Illinois that I was to be assistant coach with Bob Zuppke. Rumors of war were in the air, as they are at present, and Mr. Zuppke and I agreed that we would wait to see what happened. War broke out in 1917 so we just postponed the situation. Then in 1919 I came here and Major Griffith went to Illinois and Elmer Bearg, I believe, later filled in the assistant coaching job with Zuppke. I have been on the Illinois campus a good many times to treat some of Zuppke's crippled athletes, so I am sure you will have a very happy relationship here.