

February 26, 1941

Mr. C.O. Cooper
Postmaster
Saluda, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I am sorry that I have delayed answering your good letter of 8th instant regarding your son who is affected with a bad knee.

I have had two sons playing on the basketball team here at the University of Kansas, and I can appreciate your interest in your son's activity.

I do not have a map before me, and do not know where Saluda is located, but one of my former athletes, who was athletic director and football and basketball coach at North Carolina State, Raleigh, North Carolina, is now practicing in Raleigh. His name is Dr. Raymond Sermon.

I recall that when Dr. Sermon was in school he suffered a very bad knee injury and we took care of him and put him back in shape. In fact, he later went to Springfield, Massachusetts, Y.M.C.A. College for his advanced physical education work. While there he was injured, and he came back and asked me to fix his knee. I work on many athletes of all sports and have had fairly good success. I am a physician and I have made my specialty the treatment of athletic injuries.

You mention that you have had several feelers from colleges for your son. Doubtless you will have many more. We never solicit athletes. But due to the fact that I have coached twenty-five years and have had two sons of my own on the team, this has caused me to take a very definite interest in the boys and not to use them for what you can get out of them, but rather to emphasize college work, which is, after all, the very thing that will make them a success.

Many boys choose the University of Kansas as their school because they feel I can keep them in shape should they have an injury. Only last Saturday night we had three of our regulars injured in a game at Columbia, Missouri. Kline, our big guard, had a severe hip and knee injury. Sollenberger, the other guard, had a sprained ankle; and Bobby Allen, my son, received a severe charley-horse. That was only last Saturday night that these boys received these injuries in a very rough game at Columbia. We played Kansas State here in Lawrence last night and we had these boys in nearly tip-top condition. So, you see, we do pay a great deal of attention to athletic injuries and their care.

North Carolina is a long way from Lawrence, Kansas, but we have visited the Sermons in North Carolina twice, and while I do not know that I will be driving East this spring, if I should, I would consider it a pleasure