

January 28, 1938.

Mr. Fred E. Cameron,
Athletic Director,
Vinton, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Cameron:

Thank you for your very good letter of the 13th instant. I beg pardon for my delay, but we were out on a trip and after returning examinations came on, and I have been so extremely busy that my correspondence has been neglected.

Answering your first question in your letter of January 3rd, these three men always play a straight man to man, but they use the principle of the zone. When they try a pick-off, instead of following the man, we slide, switch or trade. They play straight man to man as long as there is no picking off but when they slide past and pick off then we trade men just the same as a straight man to man does. But if you follow your man all over the court the opponents will pick you off, and that is where we play the principle of the zone.

The other question which you ask in your letter of January 3rd I am answering by your diagram. If the ball is on the left side of the court the guard plays the forward on the players side and also the side of the court in which the ball is located. In your diagram you have the center man playing in the free throw area. Of course, this is prohibited. But if you had put him just outside of that lane I would have the player play on the side of the individual where the ball is located. In other words, never play behind the post man, always play inside. Then if they attempt to throw the ball over that fellow's head I have the guard rush back and cut off the play, and the defensive player over whose head the ball was thrown knife's back to switch on the other man

In other words, follow the principle of massing your men around the free throw circle in that area, but not making them stationary, making them slide and switch and trade.

Now, for instance, if X1 would pass the ball to X5 and X1 would then cut for the basket to receive a return pass, X5 would follow up to a certain point and then he would slide over and take X1's man while 1 would cut back, shift and pick off

X5's man but near the basket. □ 4 would swing over under and near the basket and □ 2 would drive back in the area of the free throw circle. I believe this gives you the idea there. If not, you write me again and send me diagrams and I will mail the diagrams right back to you.

Now, replying to your favor of the 13th instant. Always remember when the ball is passed in to the offensive past the two defensive forwards there is no point to those forwards being out that far. Have the two forwards out back to the area around the free throw outer circle. They do play man to man defense, but when the ball goes into the offensive territory past them then they should double back.

I agree with your operation of your defense in 2-1-2 or 293, either one.

Now, regarding Exhibit 110 you will notice that there are five men in dark uniforms on the three defensive men in white uniforms. You will notice that the left guard, in the left of the picture, is holding two men at bay, the man with arms extended over on the side and an opponent in the far corner behind the right guard. The apex man is holding the shooter at bay and also ready to check back to help the guard in case the man extending his hands receives the ball.

You will notice in Exhibit 112 that the ball was passed to the man with his arms extended in 110. This player was behind the #6 man in Exhibit 110, consequently the left guard rushed out to foil the attack and you will find in Exhibit 112 that the apex man, #6, cut back rapidly and took the left guard's place. Notice in Exhibit 112 the position of the right guard. He is working over and under the basket to help on the rebound. This right guard is handling the two men, one in the corner, and one to his left who is out in front.

Now if three men can handle five in this practice situation you can readily understand that the two forwards on defense could add very materially to these three men. They would harass these two offensive guards in such a way that they would make passing difficult and at the same time they could cut back deeply on defense to aid the three apex men.

We have a general principle of play that we follow but when offensive opponents change location on the court our men switch, slide and trade with these by talking to each other. Our formation on defense is dependent upon the formations the opponents use. We do change our formation according to the opponent. If they spread out we play straight man to man with the principle gone.

That means we reform this principle at the earliest opportunity. If they make us play straight man to man, we play it, but there are a lot of cut-backs in zone play principles that we use even in this situation. If the opponents play in the center and around the basket we play the man who is near the basket, and we play him at the side rather than play him from behind.

If the right guard passes to his forward on this side of the floor, the guard rushes that man and the forward cuts back to help the guard. The left guard, of course, comes over. The defensive forward on the other side will cover back to help the second pass to the center.

Answering your question again regarding how we would play against a 2-3 type of zone where the three men play along side in a straight line, I would use Diagram 80 and Diagram 81. If this does not answer your question please write me again.

I assure you it is a pleasure to give you this information, and I trust it will be satisfactory. Please inform me if I have answered your questions.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Vinton Public Schools

C. E. KNAPP, Superintendent

Vinton, Iowa

January 13, 1938

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

In reply to your letter of January 10, I wish to say I do have your book on "Better Basketball". I have read the chapter on the stratified transitional defense with the zone principal. I understand the two forwards are to play man to man defense. We have used this defense for the past two years and have found it particularly effective. When we tried to press it it has paid us dividends. When our opponent brings the ball close to our basket we fall into a tight zone of 2-1-2 or 2-3 formation. In exhibits 108-113 inclusive, the question I have in mind is do you assign the apex man (#6 in diagram 110) or the right guard to any particular man in his zone or does the formation your opponent uses make any difference or do you have these three men play straight zone out in front of the basket? Let us say the opponent plays straight at the side of the floor and the center around the basket. The right guard passes into his forward on this side of the floor and of course the left guard covers the first pass. Who will cover the second pass to the center, left guard or center man?

I believe you forgot to answer my question as to just how you would play against a 2-3 type of zone where the three men in the basket court play along in a straight line.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Fred E. Cameron

Fred E. Cameron
Ath. Dir.

FEC:LB

January 10, 1938.

Mr. Fred E. Cameron,
Athletic Director,
Vinton, Iowa.

Dear Coach Cameron:

Thank you for your kind wishes of January 3rd.

I am wondering if you have my book, "Better Basketball". The stratified transitional man-for-man defense with the zone principal is described on pages 316 to 335. I think this explains the situation thoroughly, but if after looking this book over you find this does not answer your questions I want you to write me again.

The two front men play man for man, and the three men play zone, but if they spread out over the court as you have it in your diagram they play man for man but as soon as it is practicable they move into the triangle zone.

As you have this listed on the court we play a straight man-for-man, but when we spread or switch we use the zone principle.

Will you please write me after reading the chapter.

With every good wish to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Vinton Public Schools

C. E. KNAPP, Superintendent

Vinton, Iowa

January 3, 1938

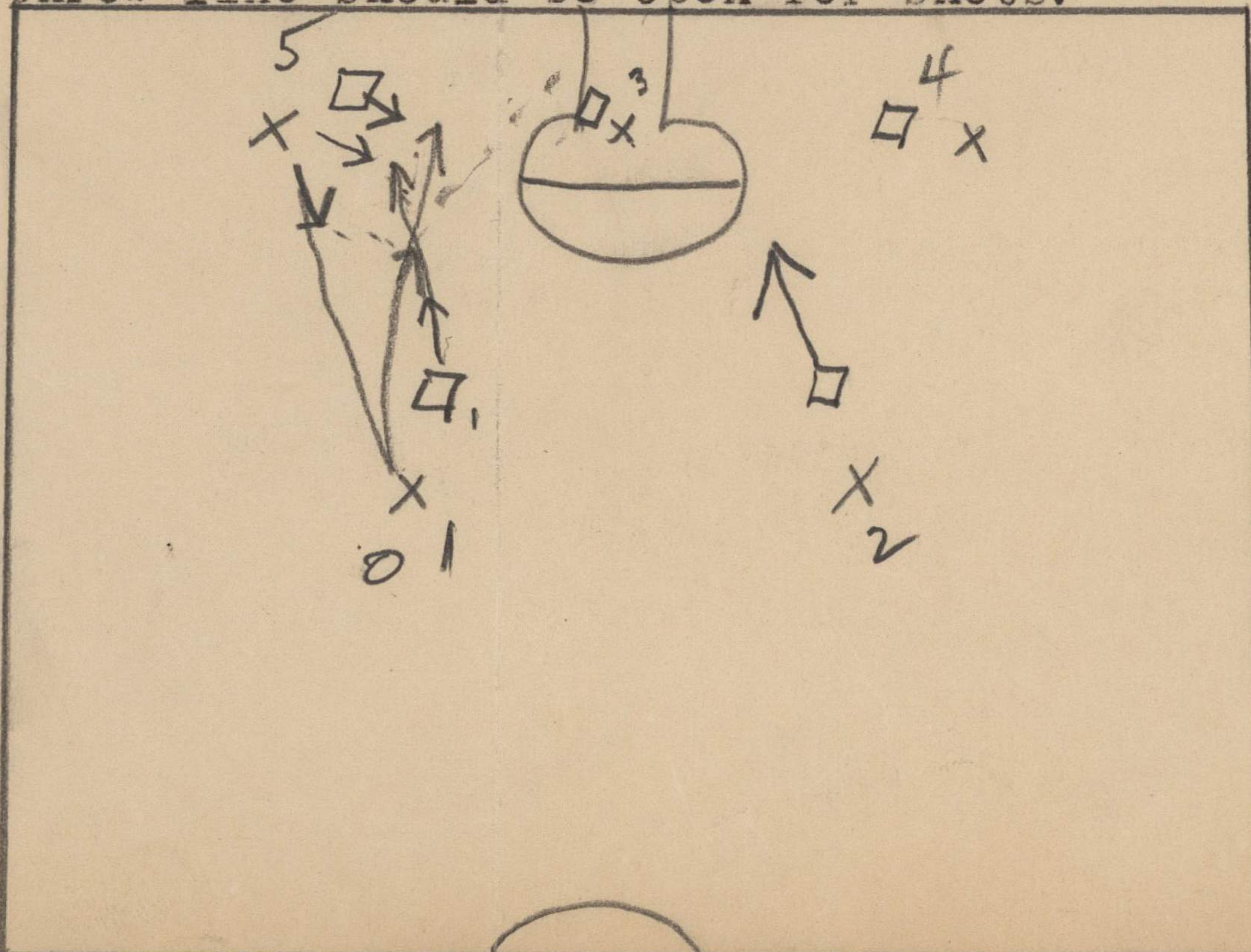
Dr. F. C. Allen
Basketball Coach University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I wish to congratulate you upon the contribution to the basketball coaching world through better basketball.

I have two questions in mind I would like to ask you. In your stratified zone idea with the apex man in the triangle and the two guards, do these three men always play the same regardless of the formation the offense is using against them or do they adjust themselves to it? By that I mean the opponent playing ~~two~~ ^{at side} guards out, center ~~in~~ ^{the} free throw hand forwards at the side of the floor or if your opponent is using three men out and two men in. The thing I wish to know is just how you adjust this to different offensive formations.

The other question I will ask is through a diagram. How would you play offensively against a 2-3 type of zone in this defense? The two guards and the center play in a straight line behind the free throw line across the court. Forwards form the side of the court in front of the free throw line. At a return pass from the other forward the former's guard will follow him man for man. In other words they are playing man for man with the guards. Following is a diagram of the defense set-up and would appreciate your idea on how to play against it. It looks as though the area around the free throw line should be open for shots.



Fred. E. Cameron
Ath. Dir.

Very truly yours,
Fred E. Cameron

February 15, 1938.

Mr. Charles Cramer,
Cramer Chemical Co.,
Gardner, Kansas.

Dear Chuck:

Thank you very much for your note. We have heard of these Stanley boys; in fact, we had heard of Ryden. While you may think me queer, I have never gone out after the boys. I have always felt that the alumni of the school were the best representatives to sell the University of Kansas to the boys.

Please do not think I am putting the pressure on you, Chuck, because I know you are selling athletic training commodities to different schools, and you couldn't do it, but that is not my motive in writing this. My motive is to show my appreciation for your interest, but I have never made a practice of contacting directly or indirectly the boys with super-athletic talent for the reason that the boy generally, after such a move by the coach, would consider that that was his chiefest gain that he got out of college, and in the majority of cases he becomes difficult to handle.

I want a boy that picks the University first. And then after he arrives he is determined to make the athletic team of his choice. Now, Chuck, isn't this an antiquated and foolish premise to work on in this day and age of proselyting? But it is actually the one that I work on. What boys I do get at Kansas I have because they first desire an education, and secondly some of them come to play basketball. But they come with the right idea in mind, and not an idea that somebody is going to cash out a dole to them on account of their athletic ability.

When I take the attitude that I have got to go get these boys to make my ball club, then I figure I am slipping as a coach.

Thank you so much, Chuck, for calling my attention to this boy. If the boy is interested in the University, you know darn well that I would love to have him, but if he is looking for a build-up on account of this athletic ability of his, which he is not, I am sure, then the biggest hustler will get him. Now, again, let me emphasize - don't misunderstand my letter. I appreciate your writing

me, but I do want you to know that I recognize what is going on all over the country, and if every coach would keep his hands off of these plastic youth with athletic ability every coach would get better material mentally and the attitude on the part of the players coming to college would be something to boast of.

With deep appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

CRAMERGRAM

A Message from

The Cramer Chemical Co. Gardner, Kansas

Proq -

There is a Basket Ball player on the Stanley Kansas team named Ryden - 6ft 2" tall - and really a whiz -

Stuffy Dunning of Spring Hill and I watched him play last night and both thought

of you -

Chuck

February 21, 1938.

Mr. Charles Cramer,
Cramer Chemical Co.,
Gardner, Kansas.

Dear Chuck:

It was very nice of you to write me as you did, and too, I want you to know that I am pleased beyond measure that you are going to send your son Bill to K.U.

I thought that one of the Cramer boys was going to Manhattan. I had heard he was to go there. Am I wrong, or is this Frank's boy, or does he have a boy big enough to go to college?

You tell Bill that I want him to come in and see me often when he is in the University. It will be a great pleasure to extend him any courtesy that he might desire.

I was happy to hear more about Ryden, and if you happen to run across him just assure him that I would be glad if he should select the University of Kansas.

When a boy comes here is really when I try to let him know that I want to render service, but there is so much proselyting that I am always afraid when you pay too much attention to the boys in high school that they think you are trying to wangle them to the University.

I know how very much I appreciate any courtesy that anyone extends to my son, and in that same spirit I try to do something not only for the boys but for their parents. We all have to cooperate in doing our best to give our youngsters the best opportunity in life, which is none too good at the best.

With cordial greetings to you and the rest of the Cramer households, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

CRAMERGRAM

A Message from

The Cramer Chemical Co. Gardner, Kansas

Phog -

I understand your letter perfectly and admire your stand. I'm not very well acquainted with Ryden but will try to get better so.

I'm of the same opinion about his school boys who are inclined toward athletics and that's why I'm advising my son, Bill, to start at K.U. next fall. He says a pretty

CRAMERGRAM

A Message from

The Cramer Chemical Co. Gardner, Kansas

Good brand of Foot Ball for his school but I
hate to "sell him down the river" even tho he
has had some very attractive offers from ~~some~~ ^{two}
big schools. Bill says he wants an education
so why not?

I surely appreciate your frankness
in the letter - That's what makes us better
acquainted -

Chuck.

2/17

BOARD IN CONTROL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
FERRY FIELD ~ ANN ARBOR

February 23, 1938

Mr. F. C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Pfogg":

I am grateful for your good wishes with regard to my new appointment at the University of Michigan. The warmth of your message will stimulate me to contribute a real service there and justify whatever confidence you have in me.

Cordially

H. O. Crisler

H. O. Crisler

HOC/NB

March 21, 1938.

Canada Dry Gingerale Company,
New York City, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I wish to propose for membership in your "Hole-in-One Club" the name of Tommy Wagner, Jr., a student in the University, age 16 years.

Tommy was playing the University Golf Course, a sand green course. He made the hole-in-one on No. 1 hole, 150 yards. At the time he was playing with Glenn Oatman.

We would be very happy to secure a certificate for this young man.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

March 16, 1938.

Mr. W. F. Coen, Jr.,
Coen's Athletic Goods Company,
925 Walnut Street,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Junior:

I heard recently that your firm is going out of business soon. Some one said that you thought it was better to take care of your money, and with the unsettled conditions as they are, I think that is a wise decision.

I appreciate the many courtesies that you have extended to me, June, and you can always rest assured that if there is anything we can do in return for your kindness it will be a pleasure.

The main reason for this letter, June, is to let you know that the Department of Physical Education is in need of a dozen 36-foot tennis nets right away, and I am wondering if you could care to submit a bid. You know about what the other companies would bid, and you perhaps might not have the nets in stock, but I shall be glad to hear from you at your early convenience.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION (28)

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Received at 646 Massachusetts St., Lawrence, Kansas. Phone 2764

58 MAR 15 AM 9 20

KAT34 9=CORNING IOWA 15 9 10A

DR FORREST C ALLEN=
:CARE UNIVERSITY

TIME OF BANQUET SIX THIRTY WEDNESDAY HIGH SCHOOL GYM=

J LOUIS FISHER.

TELEPHONED TO *Edme*
TIME 9:30 BY *Edme*

GYM.

February 21, 1938.

Mr. J. Louis Fisher,
Coach, Corning High School,
Corning, Iowa.

Dear Coach Fisher:

Wednesday, March 16, will be quite satisfactory for me to speak at your banquet. Will you kindly give me the hour of the meeting, and also the place?

I note the sports that are to be included.

Thanking you, and looking forward to seeing you on the 16th, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

h

The Corning High School

R. W. Currie, Principal

Corning, Iowa

2-17-38.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education,
Lawrence, Kansas.

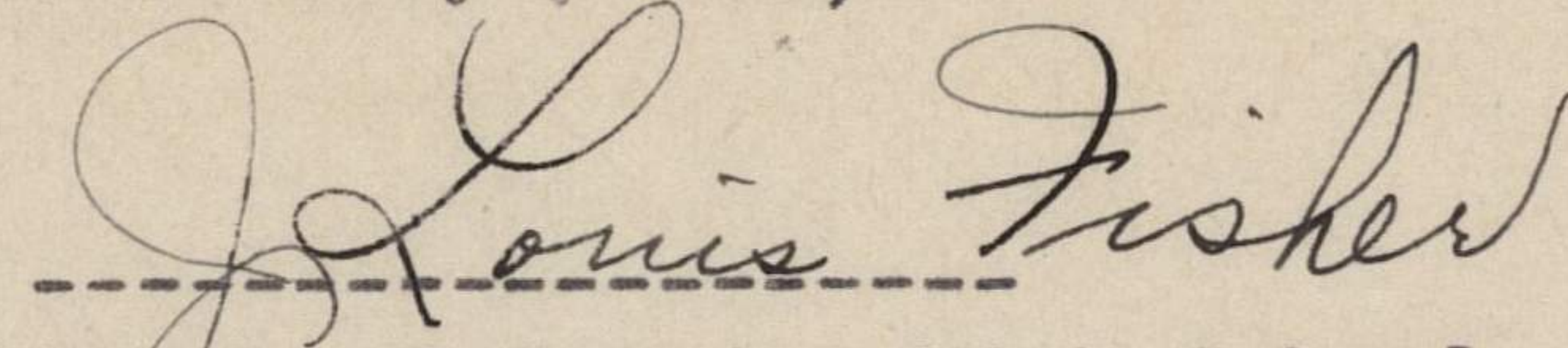
Dear Dr. Allen:

If it is satisfactory to you, we should like for you to reserve Wednesday, March 16th for the Corning Banquet.

The sports included in this banquet will be Football, Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball.

We greatly appreciate your making this change for our convenience.

Sincerely yours,



Coach of Corning High School

February 16, 1938.

Mr. J. Louis Fisher, Coach,
Corning High School,
Corning, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I am in receipt of your telegram which came this morning.

I will be very glad to conform to your wishes, and go to Corning on either March 16 or 17. Our basketball season is over by that time.

Kindly let me know which date you choose. Either one is satisfactory with me.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

h

CLASS OF SERVICE

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Received at 646 Massachusetts St., Lawrence, Kansas. Phone 2764

1938 FEB 16 AM 8 00

KZ 14 32 NL=CORNING IOWA 5

DR F C ALLEN=

UNIVERSITY OF KANS

UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE MADE IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE DATE OF OUR BANQUET TO EITHER MARCH 16 OR 17 IF POSSIBLE PLEASE ACCEPT ONE OF THESE DATES AND ADVISE US BY LETTER=

J LOUIS FISHER COACH.

Handwritten: Feb 16 1938

16 17.

Corning, Ia

Chamber of Commerce

59 -

Law - Hartsville
Aethism, St. Joe,

Mound City, Darko -

Clarinda -

St Joe # 71 - Maryville Mo

71 + 34 Junction about
(14 mi.) into Corning

(200 mi.)

Row 27

148

February 11, 1938.

Coach J. Louis Fisher,
Corning High School,
Corning, Iowa.

Dear Coach Fisher:

I have just checked up with the railroads and find that it will be necessary for me to leave Lawrence at 6:30 in the morning, get to Kansas City at 7:30, out of Kansas City at 8:15 on the Burlington, arriving at Omaha at 1:50, out of Omaha at 4:25, and into Corning at 7:08.

On the return, it will be necessary to leave at 5:50, arriving at Omaha at 8:25, out of Omaha at 9:00, arriving at Kansas City at 12:55, leave Kansas City at 2:00, and reach Lawrence at 2:53. It will take practically two days, with a tough ride, so I believe it would be best for me to drive up.

No automobile, even a Ford, can be operated for less than 5¢ a mile. The road travel is estimated 286 miles to Corning. The round trip would be \$28.60. When you consider the meals and the travel by railroad, the expenses would run just about that. To save time on traveling I believe I had better use the automobile. I cannot afford to be away from the University too long.

Suppose we count this mileage at 5¢ a mile and not make any charge for hotel and meals. I want to be reasonable in these figures, and for that reason I know that a high school cannot stand the extra burden. The railroad fare would run to better than \$15.00 without the parlor car or pullman, and with this kind of a trip it is pretty tough.

If this is agreeable to you, please let me know. I will plan to be there on Friday, March 18th, as you desire. Will you please write me and give me a background of all the things you would like to have me stress? I notice that this banquet includes all the athletic sponsored by the school. Do you have a girls' basketball team, and so forth? I would like to know the whole set-up.

I am sending you two mats which you can use, one large one and one small one, and you can return these to me when you have finished with them. You perhaps will want to use the smaller mat, but I desire to send you both so that you can use what you want.

I am also sending you some publicity that you may use, or any part of it you desire.

At the present time we are tied with Oklahoma for first place in the conference, but I am afraid on the 18th of February when we go down there - a week from today - that we will have pretty tough going, as the Sooners are very potent on their home floor. Anyhow, if we do get licked it won't be the first time.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

The Corning High School

R. W. Currie, Principal

Corning, Iowa

2-9-38.

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kansas.

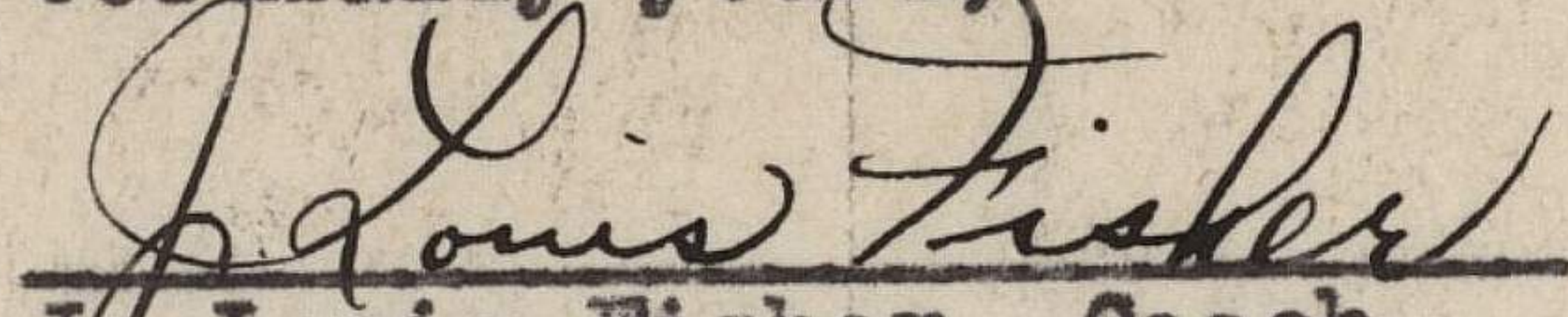
Dear Dr. Allen:

After checking up on our calendar we find that the week ending March 18th appears to be most suitable to both of us. Our choice of dates is Friday, March 18th, if you can come at that time. If this is not possible, will you select the nearest possible date during that week. If no date during this week is available, will you suggest the earliest date in April on which you can come to us?

We are trying to estimate the total expense of our banquet and will appreciate it, if you can give us a fairly definite idea of what your expenses will be.

If you have available materials which we may use as publicity in the news-papers we shall be glad to have them. Perhaps you have an electrotrope of yourself we may use.

Cordially yours,


J. Louis Fisher, Coach.

January 31, 1938.

Mr. J. Louis Fisher, Coach,
Corning High School,
Corning, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Answering your valued favor of the 26th instant, I assure you it would be a pleasure if it is possible for me to speak to your all-sports banquet some time after the middle of March.

We finish our basketball season on March 3rd. Near the latter part of March, from the 25th on, I will be at Physical Education meetings -- on March 26 and 26 at Pittsburg, Kansas, and on the 30th and 31st, and April 1 and 2, I will be in Minneapolis, and then I will be in Chicago for the National Basketball Coaches Association meeting on the 4th and 5th of April, and either in New York or Chicago for the Rules meeting which follows close upon the coaches meeting.

I will be freer around the middle of March, or soon thereafter, than at any other time.

I have checked up on the mileage, and it is 286 miles from Lawrence to Corning, Iowa, by motor car, via Topeka, Highway 75 to Nebraska City, #34 near Plattsmouth and on into Corning. I know that you appreciate the time consumed in making a trip of this kind. I am teaching courses here and it is not an easy matter to get away.

On the ordinary out of state trips I have always received \$50.00 and expenses for such occasions, but I know that the size of your town and the condition of your treasury would not permit that. Under the conditions, I would be very happy to come for \$25.00 and expenses if you feel that this is not exorbitant.

Yes, I remember you very well, and it would be a pleasure to see you again. I assure you that I enjoyed working with you at Spirit Lake last summer, and I am glad that you like the new book.

With every good wish for your continued success,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

286 miles

Lawrence to Corning, Ia.

Go to Topeka - take Highway #75 and follow it through Nebraska City to the Junction of Highways #75 and #34, near Plattsmouth, and take #34 on into Corning.

Mrs. W.

*Population
of Corning*

286
2

572
5

2860

*Lawrence 10:55
By rail 6:30 KC 7:30
By Omaha 8:15 Omaha 1:00
By Corning 4:25
By Corning 5:00 Omaha 7:08
By Omaha 8:25
By Omaha 9:00
KC 12:55
By KC 2:00
at 2:55*

The Carning High School

R. W. Currie, Principal

Carning, Iowa

1-26-38.

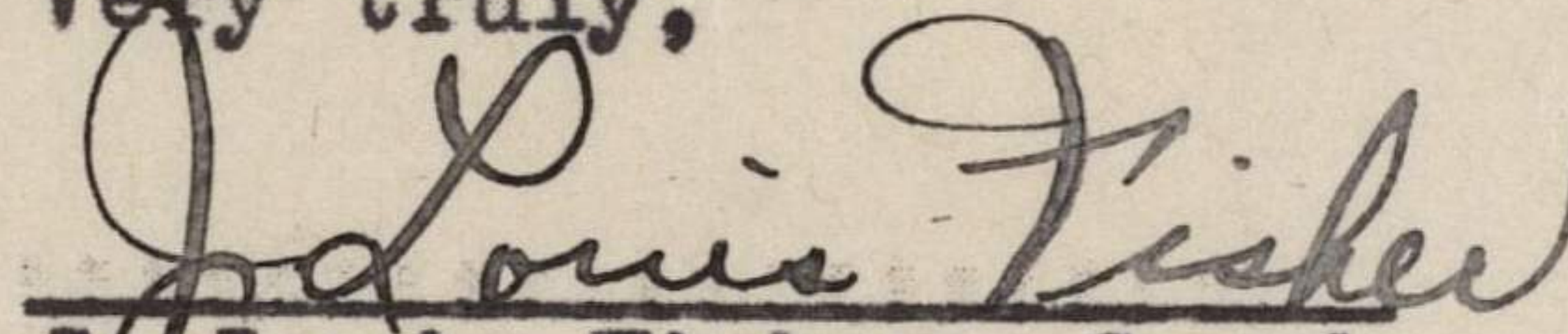
Dr. F. C. Allen,

Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Dr. Allen:

We are making plans for an athletic banquet to take place in the spring after the basketball schedule has been completed. Our plans at the present are to have this banquet include all the athletics sponsored by the school. Since I enjoyed your work at Spirit Lake last summer very much and have just read your new book, I am wondering if we can afford to have you as our guest speaker at this banquet. Will you make suggestions as to dates when you can come to us after the middle of March and give us some idea as to the expense involved in securing you as speaker? If we can get together, we shall be very happy to have you as our speaker.

Very truly,


J. Louis Fisher, Coach.

ck
153
1 7/2
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Return

LAW OFFICE
J. E. CARLSON
UNION STATION
KANSAS CITY, MO.

February 28, 1938.

Mr. Forrest Allen
Lawrence, Kansas.

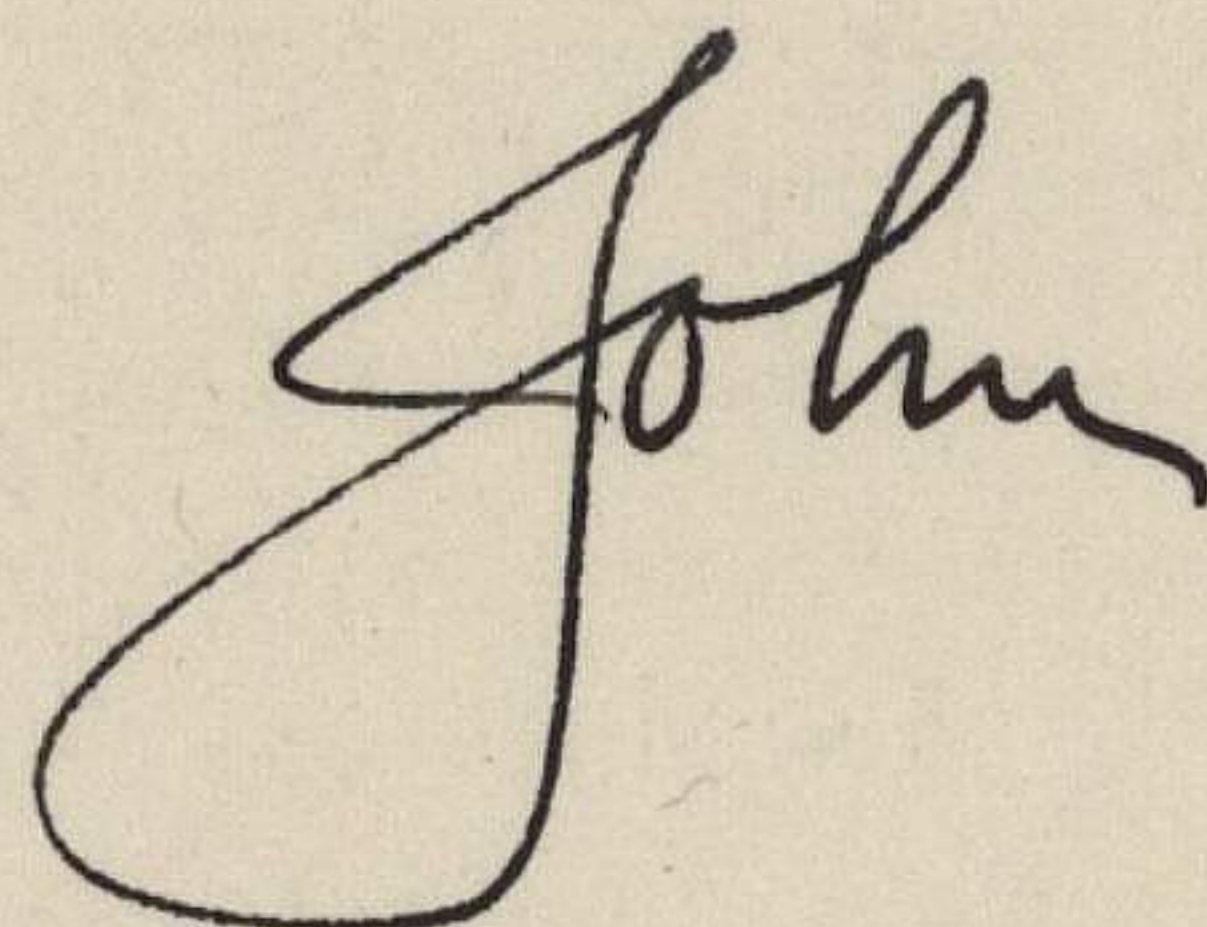
Dear Phog:

I am enclosing check for \$1.53 for which I would appreciate your sending me two tickets for the game Thursday night.

I hope I may see you and have an opportunity to congratulate you personally for the wonderful showing that you have made this year out of average material.

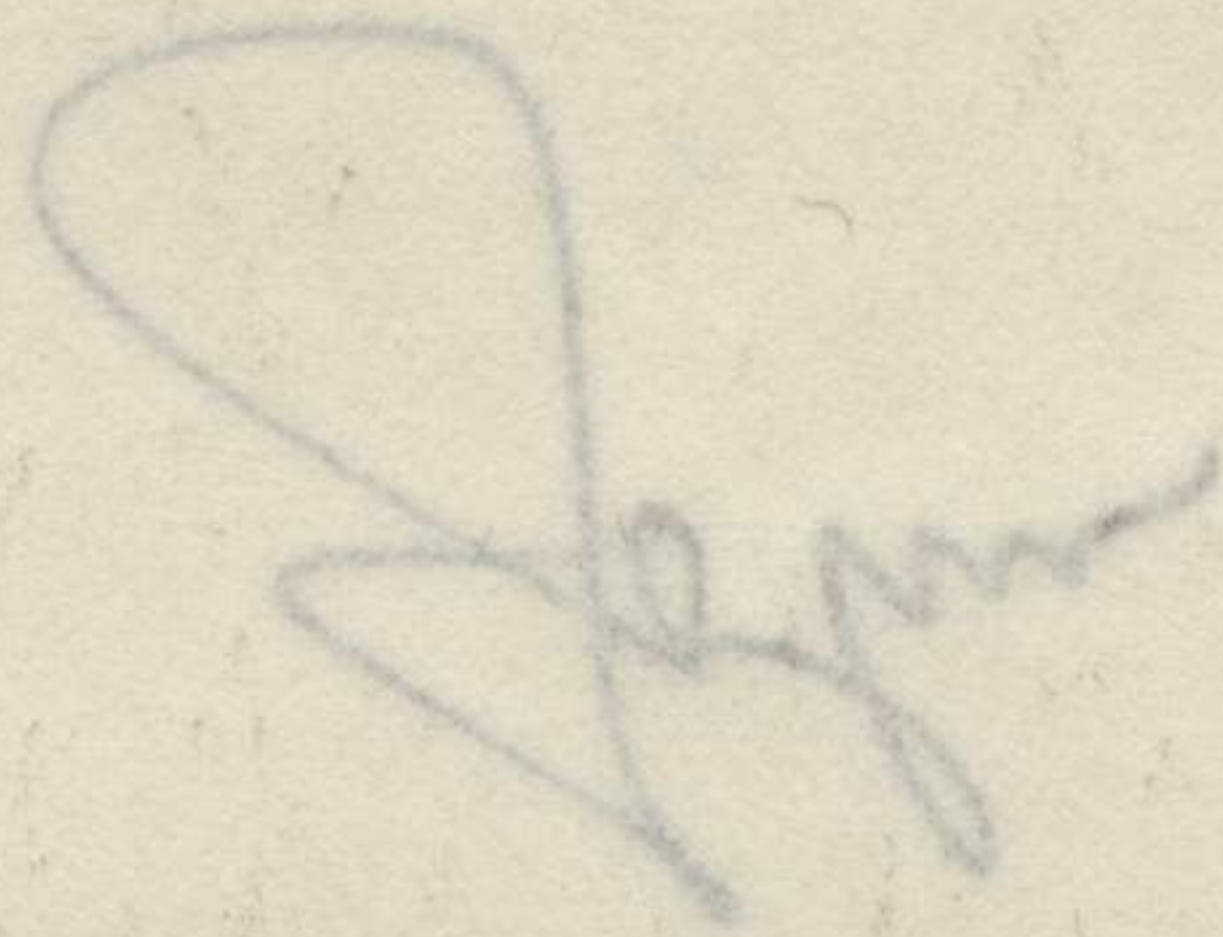
Until I see you,

Very truly yours,



JEC/s

180/a



Dear Mr. Allen,

I am writing you

regarding the matter of the

purchase of the land for the

purpose of the school

building.

I am enclosing herewith

two checks for the amount

of \$100.00.

Very truly yours,
J. E. Carlson

February 28, 1928.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

UNION STATION

J. E. CARLSON

CLERK

77
110
15
9

2/28/28

Allen