

November 12, 1940

Mr. Dale Deweese, President
Chamber of Commerce
Wellington, Kansas

Dear Dale:

I have been thinking very seriously since you called asking that I deliver the address at the Wellington Football Banquet in honor of your exceptional and victorious high school football team.

I assure you that I consider this an honor but I am torn between two decisions. A desire to have a good basketball team, especially since our football team has not been going very well. We are playing the University of Texas on December 9 and 10 here in Lawrence and we have not had opportunity to practice as much as we should. It will be necessary for me to miss basketball practice on the afternoon of December 5. In addition to that I have two classes that meet in the mornings which takes me up to noon and that would not permit me to catch the ten o'clock Santa Fe for Wellington. However, I could meet my classes in the morning if I drove down and left here about noon.

The State does not provide any traveling expenses for such occasions as this, and since I drive a Buick Roadmaster, it would take at least 5¢ per mile each way to pay my expenses. If you are willing to do this I will make special arrangements so that my basketball team can practice under supervision and I will forego the practice that day for the pleasure and honor of being with you and your boys in their championship celebration.

Congratulations to you and the boys over their splendid victory over Wichita. I looked up the score and found that all Wellington had reason to rejoice over their fine victory. Will you extend congratulations to the boys for me?

Will you please tell me what time the banquet is to start and what time you plan to have it terminate. I can get started back from Wellington that night and drive part of the way, and will plan to get off early the next morning so that I can get back to my classes; the first one of which meets at 9:30.

I have very many pleasant recollections of Wellington. I remember I spoke at the kick-off of the building of your new memorial hall right after the World War. Mr. Ed. Hackney asked me down for that meeting. I remember that Claude Scott was your secretary and I happened to be vice-president of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. When the Lawrence directors were looking for a secretary I told them about a young man who led the singing, sold all the tickets, and took the cooks home after the meeting. Scott was elected up here and did a fine job for a number of years.