



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Education

December 8, 1939

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

My dear Dr. Allen:

You have been suggested to me as an individual qualified to pass judgment on the personal and professional qualifications of Norman G. Becker who is an applicant for ~~instructorship~~ Head of Department of Health and Physical Education in one of the Massachusetts State Teachers Colleges.

May I impress upon you the importance of considered judgment in the filling out of the enclosed recommendation form, every detail of which will be kept in strictest confidence.

My purpose in asking you for a candid expression of opinion in regard to this applicant is that I wish to determine whether or not the applicant is qualified to assume the important responsibility of training others in the art of teaching. The duties of the position demand superior qualifications on the part of the individual.

The scale which I have adopted for convenience in the expression of your judgment lends itself to accuracy. May I ask that you check it carefully, bearing in mind that the influence of instructors in our Teachers Colleges will be reflected eventually on thousands of our children in this Commonwealth.

If your knowledge of the applicant is such as not to enable you to express yourself from experience on all of the details on the enclosed blank, I ask that you express yourself only on those on which you are qualified to speak from this viewpoint.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER F. DOWNEY

Commissioner of Education.