

January 29, 1940.

Mr. Carl W. Bosse,
Brooking Cemetery Road,
Route #3,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Bosse:

Your special delivery letter was received by me this date and I am hastening to reply. I am puzzled why Richard did not come to my office after the Buildings and Grounds people had asked him to do so.

This boy, Dan Bernstein, is a Jewish boy from New York City. Last year he attended Washburn College. I know very little about him. But it is a fact that we cannot build a fence around our children while they live in this world, and each individual boy must make his own decisions as to the type of friends he keeps.

I am afraid I will not be able to be here at the office at 6 p.m. today, but I will make it a point to see Richard, as I have some things to say to him in a pretty definite manner. From my talk with you and Mrs. Bosse in the presence of Dean Werner, I think there is a good deal to do for this boy. I can see that he is willing for other people to take the responsibility for his failure.

I met the young man who lost his gray wrap-around no-button overcoat. He is Elmer Ramie Beims. No high school boys are permitted or admitted in the gymnasium at that time of day. The only time the Oread boys come into the gymnasium is every day at 1:30 p.m. I was downstairs when this stuff was taken and heard the statements of the boys. Mike Sihlanick and Bob Johnson were the boys who lost the stuff, and Richard met Dr. Elbel at the foot of the stairs. Richard had some clothes under his arm and he said, "I thought I would take my work clothes home."

Mr. Bosse, I am not an easy fellow to get along with unless a man assumes his own responsibility. Richard will have to come clean and go straight if I am to do anything for him at all. From a circumstantial point of view this case looks pretty bad,