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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION *of the* UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

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HEADQUARTERS — ROOM 2 FRANK STRONG HALL

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

February 19, 1943

Dr. F. C. Allen
Athletic Department
University of Kansas

Dear "Phog":

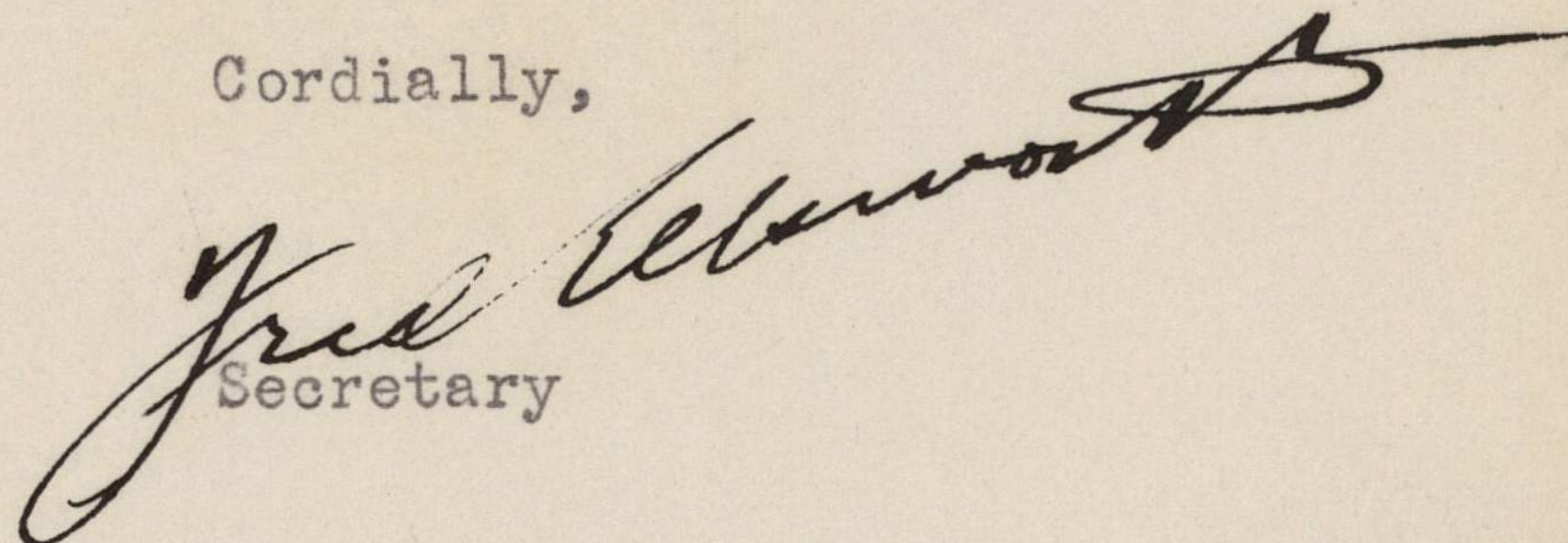
Your point about the coaches lobbying for continuance of athletics is well taken. People will accuse you of changing sides on the question and of all kinds of other things, but after all, this war is getting serious.

We have found that the boys at the front prefer to have news of the sports back home more than anything else and I have been feeling that we should keep them going as a release and a morale builder for the people at home and for the boys on the battle lines. I believe with the proper vision, other things can be substituted to do this job.

Also, I am glad to see you quoted in the Journal World column regarding the use of the word "Jays" in reference to our team. This was started by the Topeka Capital several years ago. Mickey Ryther protested against its use when he was still at South Dakota, and I used his letter with some added comments to battle the habit.

I wonder how widely you sent your word about it. Couldn't we get out a personal letter to the sports editors in various key papers and news services and send them the enclosed leaflet. This leaflet proves to be a useful piece of printing. I give out an average of between fifty and a hundred of these a year in response to direct requests. For example, we sent one to the Jayhawk Shelter in England. Professor Mix didn't know the background of the term "Jayhawk" so he could tell them and someone finally directed them to this office. He was not alone in this ignorance.

Cordially,


Secretary

FE:lb

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