

February 23, 1940.

Mr. George R. Esterly, Dean,  
University of Newark,  
Newark, New Jersey.

Dear George:

Thank you very much for your lovely letter of the 13th instant. I took your letter home and read it to Mrs. Allen and let Bob see it, and of course they were delighted. It was mighty nice of you to say the things that you did, because kind words are always helpful to us.

George, it was a pleasure to do anything that I could for your good mother and dad. They are wonderful people and there is nothing that I enjoy so much as doing things for our friends. I was down to see him the other morning and he is nearing top form again so far as health and vivacity are concerned.

We are still in the basketball race, but we have a very slim outside chance to do any good. The team members are not large. We leave tonight for Lincoln where we battle the Huskers Saturday night, and then on to Ames to play Iowa State Monday night. We are pretty badly bruised up as a result of our game with Kansas State last Tuesday night, and I do not know whether we have enough rugged boys to stand the racket as Nebraska is especially tough on their own court. A boy named Fitz has been out with a bad knee - a big, tough fellow, and he will be in the game again. He is only one of about six of those boys six feet four or over who will give us plenty of trouble there. They pile in on you and the referees let them go, so I do not know whether our boys will be able to take it or not.

Iowa State is double tough on their court. They have been in a very severe slump, but they have come out of it during the last week. Missouri has five seniors, one of whom is 6 feet  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , one 6 feet  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , and one 6 feet 4. It is an interesting thing that all of these tall boys are from out of the state of Missouri. Tison is from El Dorado, Illinois, Currence from Phillipsburg, Kansas, and Lobsiger from Gary, Indiana.

The tallest man we have on our squad is 6 feet  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , John Kline.