

March 29, 1941

Mr. H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Harry:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter and confirm the date of May 19 with your Kansas Alumni.

Will you kindly write me where the meeting is to be held, and I would also be pleased to know if there is any slant on any situation that you would desire stressed. I imagine you want a message from the University of Kansas, and I assure you that we will endeavor to bring you word regarding the faculty and student body.

I am sure it will be pleasure for me to renew old acquaintances.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

FCA:lg

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office of the Superintendent

March 25, 1941

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

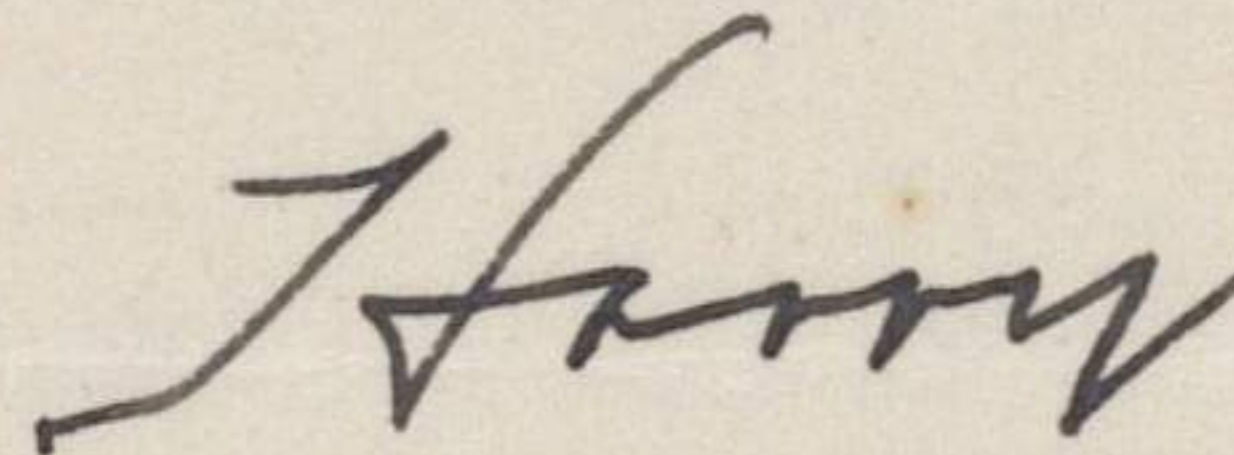
We shall expect you Monday evening, May 19, and are happy that you can come.

While the Association has no money, we will pass the hat, and I am sure will be able to raise enough to pay the expenses.

We had our first meeting at which about fifty were present, but I am sure that with you as the chief attraction, the number will be augmented greatly.

We are looking forward with pleasure to your coming.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools

G:b

March 21, 1941

Mr. H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Harry:

You may count on my being with you on May 19. There is one catch, however, the University Board of Regents passed an executive order that no expenses could be paid for speakers of any kind going out of the State of Kansas.

I wanted to be sure of my grounds, so I called Fred Ellsworth this morning and told him about my being asked to Tulsa on May 19, and asked him if the Alumni Association could do anything about it. He said that they were in such bad financial plight that although he would like very much to do it he could not.

I imagine your Alumni Association is as bad off as any of the rest that I have ever heard of, so I will just have to await your reply to see whether somebody can take care of the "po" boys's expenses.

I make a good many of these speeches and of course never expect an honorarium such as the big boys talk about, but naturally my exchequer is in such shape that I am not in a position to pay my own expenses.

My pleasure comes in meeting my old friends and renewing acquaintances. Awaiting your reply and with all good wishes to you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

FCA:lg

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office of the Superintendent

March 19, 1941

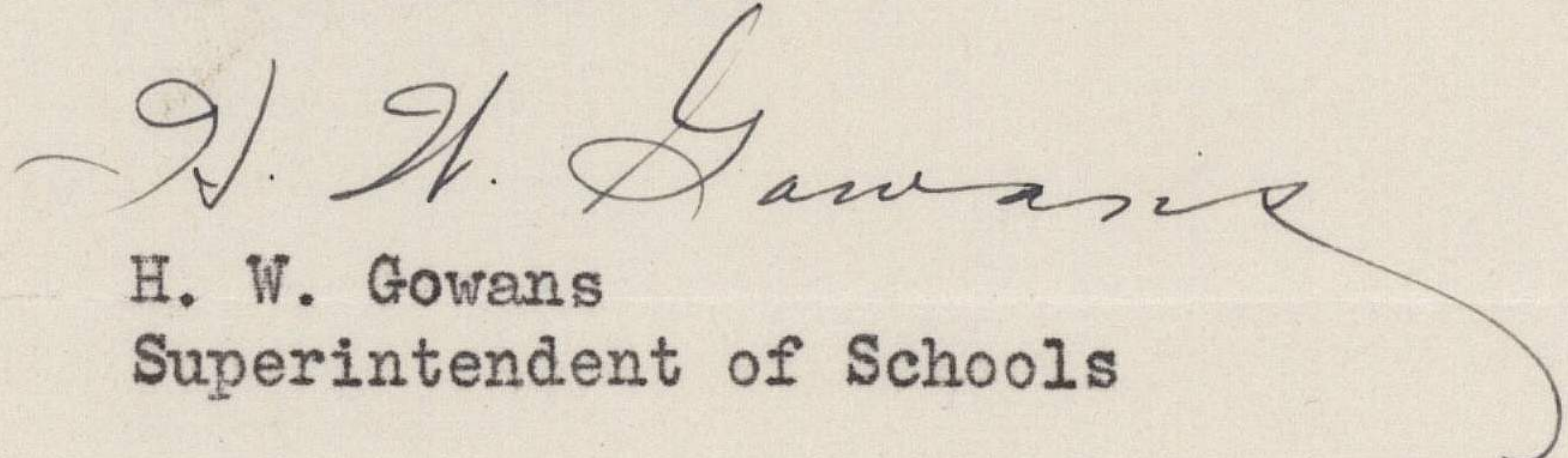
Dr. Forrest C. Allen
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

Your not being able to come on May 20 will in no way disrupt our plans, particularly if you can come on May 19 instead of the twenty-first as you suggested in your letter.

Our first get together will be Tuesday evening, and I shall appreciate your reply so that I may be able to announce it at that time.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools

G:b

March 18, 1941

Mr. H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Harry:

I would have a break like this. Doggone it, Harry, on the very day that I wrote you, namely March 8, I received a letter from Brice Durbin, Superintendent of Schools, Burns, Kansas, asking me to take his commencement date on May 20 in the little town of Burns. They have been trying to get me out there for a number of years and I wrote Supt. Durbin and accepted his date of May 20.

Since I have accepted this date, I see nothing else to do but go through with it. I am very sorry. I am writing you by return mail and sending you a list of the dates that I now have. I imagine the 21st would not suit, would it?

Write me and let me know your desires, and I will try to hold the date that you want.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

FCA:lg

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office of the Superintendent

*Dr. Allen
you are going to
Bureau on May 20.
Correspondence attached
by*

March 15, 1941

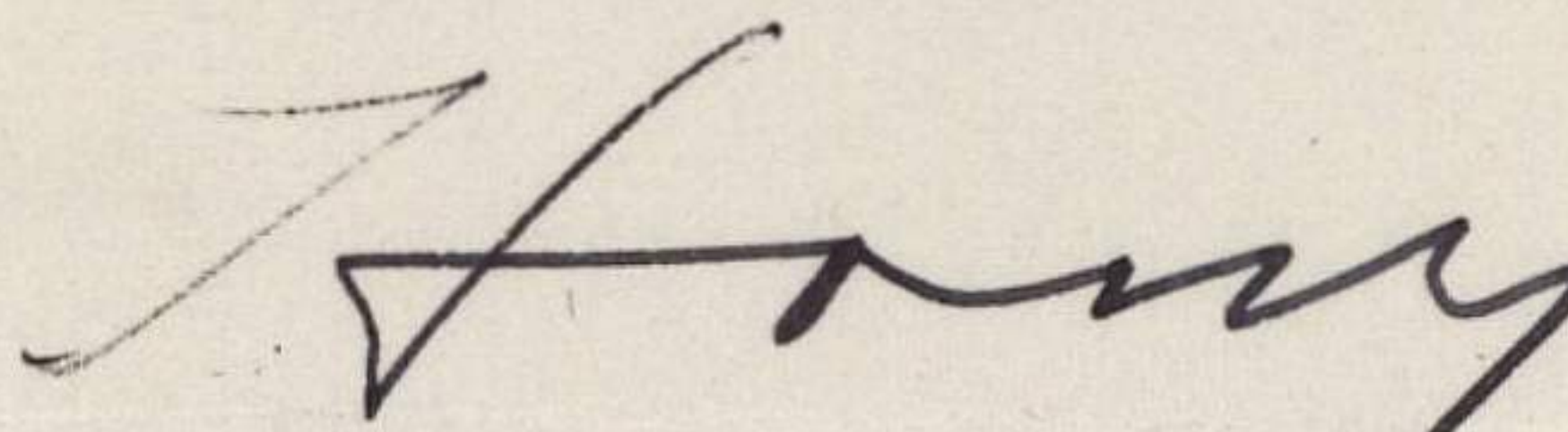
Dr. Forrest C. Allen
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

I wish to thank you for your generous response to my inquiry of March 6. I have discussed the meeting with the executive committee of the K. U. group and we have finally decided that if it meets with your approval, we should like to have you on Tuesday evening, May 20.

We are planning to invite all of the K. U. alumni in Tulsa and surrounding territory.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools

G:b

March 8, 1941

Mr. H.W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your good letter of March 6.

I greatly appreciate the compliment paid me that the K.U. Alumni in Tulsa would ask me to speak at their May meeting. Nothing would give me more pleasure.

As you know, Harry, I have agreed to take the baseball team after the basketball season is over, and I have quite a job cut out for me as we have only one returning veteran from last year and the team finished in sixth place.

I am sending you our baseball dates together with other speaking dates that I have agreed to at the present time. You can check these over and if there is any possible way for me to be with you at a convenient time nothing would delight me more. It would be a great pleasure to meet with you and the fine K.U. group in Tulsa.

Thank you for your congratulations regarding our team. We lost to Oklahoma last night and that gives the championship to Iowa State.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office of the Superintendent

March 6, 1941

Dr. Forrest G. Allen
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

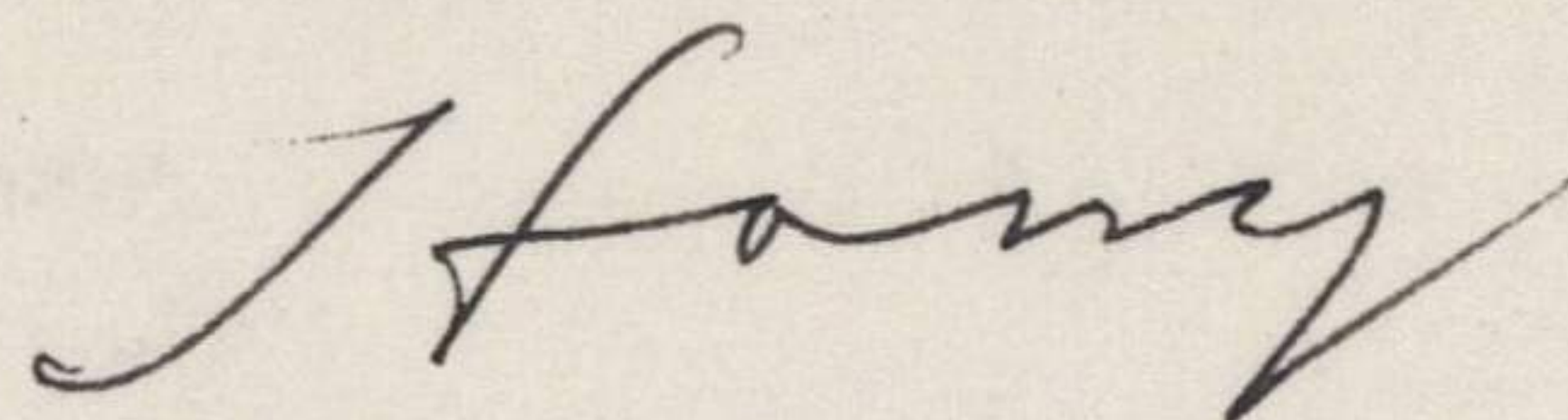
Dear Phog:

Our K. U. alumni association in Tulsa is coming to life in quite an encouraging way. At a meeting of several alumni last night the president and secretary reported that they had recently completed an up-to-date file of K. U. people in Tulsa which shows 236 members of the alumni with their addresses and telephone numbers.

We are planning a meeting shortly in order to get together and renew acquaintances and then plan to have another meeting about the middle of May. We should like very much for you to be the principal speaker at the May meeting. If you find it possible to come, please tell me what evening would be most suitable for you and we will try to arrange our schedule to suit your convenience. The committee and I personally, would appreciate it if you can accept this invitation.

Congratulations on the success of your basketball team.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools

G:b

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office of the Superintendent

May 23, 1941

Dr. Forest C. Allen
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

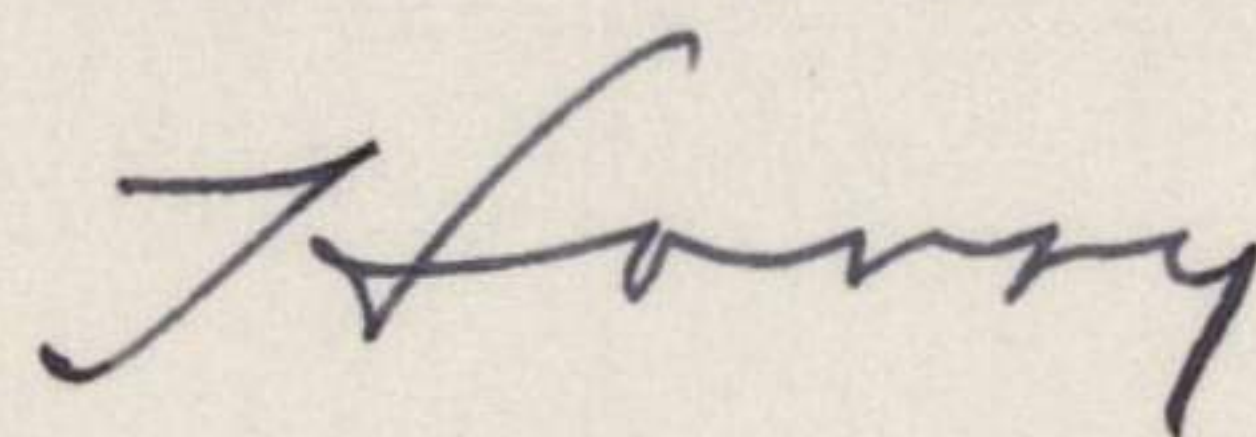
Dear Phog:

I want to thank you again for coming to our Alumni Association meeting. We were all disappointed that more people did not get to hear you for all that I have talked with have been highly complimentary about your talk.

You said that you would be interested to know how the election came out. Our side won by about a 1,400 majority. My friend Roeder Wild deserves a great deal of credit for the success of the election.

I hope that I shall be able to get up for at least a day at commencement time, and if so, to have the pleasure of seeing you again.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools

G:b

M. F. AHEARN, CHAIRMAN
KANSAS STATE COLLEGE
F. G. WELCH, SECRETARY
K. S. T. C. OF EMPORIA
GWINN HENRY,
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

FRANK GILLEECE,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

STATE OF KANSAS

ATHLETIC COMMISSION
TOPEKA

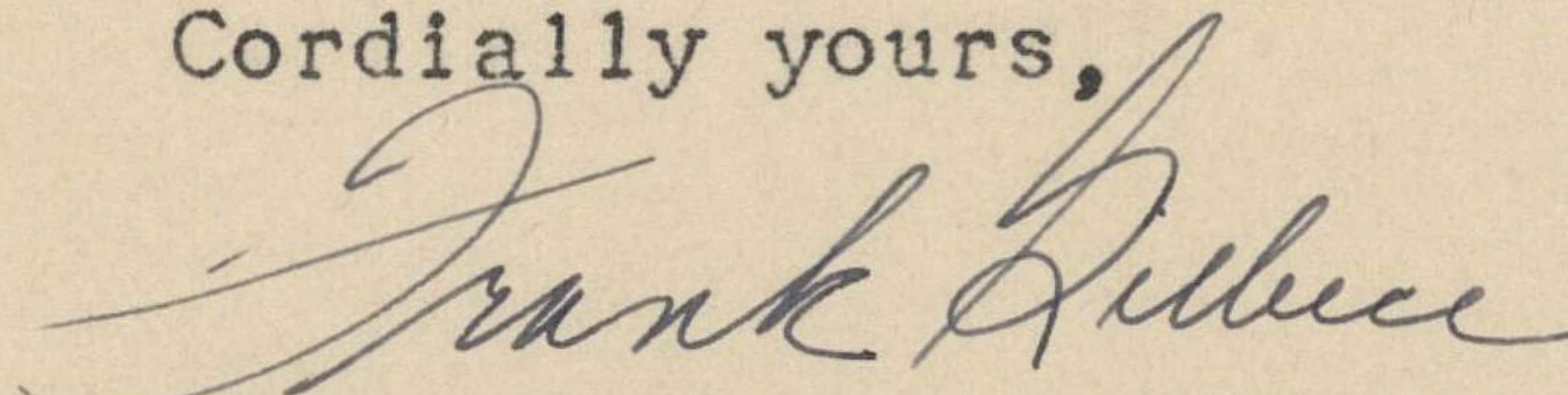
July 15, 1941

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Doctor Allen:

Enclosed is your card again designating
you as one of our staff of representa-
tives.

Cordially yours,



Frank Gilleece *eg*
Executive Secretary

FG/eg
encl-1

July 26th, 1941

Mr. H. W. Gowans
Superintendent of Schools
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Harry:

It is a long time between trips, I imagine, because on May 23rd, you write me telling me you won 1400 and that your friend, Roeder Wild, deserves a great deal of credit for the success of the election. I expected to write you and congratulate you upon your success but your letter coming just about Commencement time caused me to defer for a few days and here has been a month already.

Although this congratulation is belated, it's none the less genuine and I want you to know I "bully" in your spunk. You gave them a great administration and this election shows that they believe in you. Keep up the good work.

By the way, I believe we are going to have your niece in our office, when and if she whips the shorthand that she is taking here from one of the Professor's wives on the Hill. Polly has been in to see me and we're now awaiting the time until she can become more proficient. She is a fine girl and I think will make an excellent secretary. My son, Bob, and she were in some of their classes together and both were Phi Beta Kappa's. So, I can reasonably assume that they are both pretty smart youngsters.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education
and Recreation-Varsity Basketball
and Baseball Coach.

FCA:rc

9.
July 31, 1941.

Mr. M. J. Getto,
Estes Park, Colorado.

Dear Mike:

I have just received a communication from the National Surety Corporation of New York asking for information for a surety bond. I gave you "A 100% plus". I hope they will let you handle a million dollars any time you want it.

I trust that you and Virginia are having a good time at Estes Park.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

News From Page One

CHANUTE MAN—

and I feel this is one of those regrettable incidents. In view of this I respectfully give you my sincere apologies with the hope that our long standing friendship will continue as in the past.

Truly yours,

Wm. M. (Bill) Gray.

JAYHAWK COACH—

nothing is malicious in my makeup, and while my state-

ments have been mistaken at times, I do not wish anyone ill or harm.

It will be good to see you, Bill, and thank you for your swell letter.

Sincerely yours,

Forrest C. Allen.

Gray Apologizes To "Phog"

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

A Closed Matter--Allen

Jayhawk Coach Accepts Apology

Dr. F. C. Allen yesterday said that he considered his verbal tiff with William "Bill" Gray, Chanute, a closed incident, in acknowledging the latter's letter of apology.

Allen further explained that if he had any public panning coming concerning any part he might be accused of having taken in subsidized athletes he would be ready to take it.

Doctor Allen's letter:

Dear Bill:

I acknowledge with gratitude your swell letter of December 13.

I will admit that the statement attributed to you in the Kansas City Star shocked me severely. Without going any further I made the move that I felt was justified in making because I knew I had never subsidized a basketball player.

If there was any erroneous conclusions gathered from anything I have done regarding regarding Ralph Miller, I wanted to take full responsibility for it, and was willing to take a public panning for any athletic indiscretion that might have taken place.

Yes, Bill, I have known you for some time and that was a shocking thing to me. I assure you I accept your statement 100 per cent and so far as you and I are concerned I have forgotten the matter entirely. The next time I see you, you will realize it because I assure you that

(continued to page eight)

THE SUNSHINE MANTLE COMPANY

1 copy
73022
Don
Price

WM. M. GRAY, PRESIDENT
L. BAILEY GRAY, VICE PRES.
A. F. LEVERENZ, SECY & TREA.
R. T. BROWN, FACTORY SUPT.

WHOLESALEERS

MANUFACTURERS



DISTRIBUTERS

GENERAL OFFICES & FACTORY
CHANUTE, KANSAS

CHANUTE, KANS.

December 13, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director Physical Education,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Phog:

I am in receipt of your December 11th letter and first let me say that I am truly sorry that any remarks that I am quoted as having made, were such as to have caused you any grievance.

Only a portion of a conversation that I had with a certain party was quoted, in an uncomplimentary manner and in such a way as to fail to express my true feelings with regard to you or your remarks.

You, Phog, have known me for some time and should know that there is nothing malicious in my make up which would call for my making any statements intentionally, with the view of causing any one the least of harm, ill will, or hard feelings.

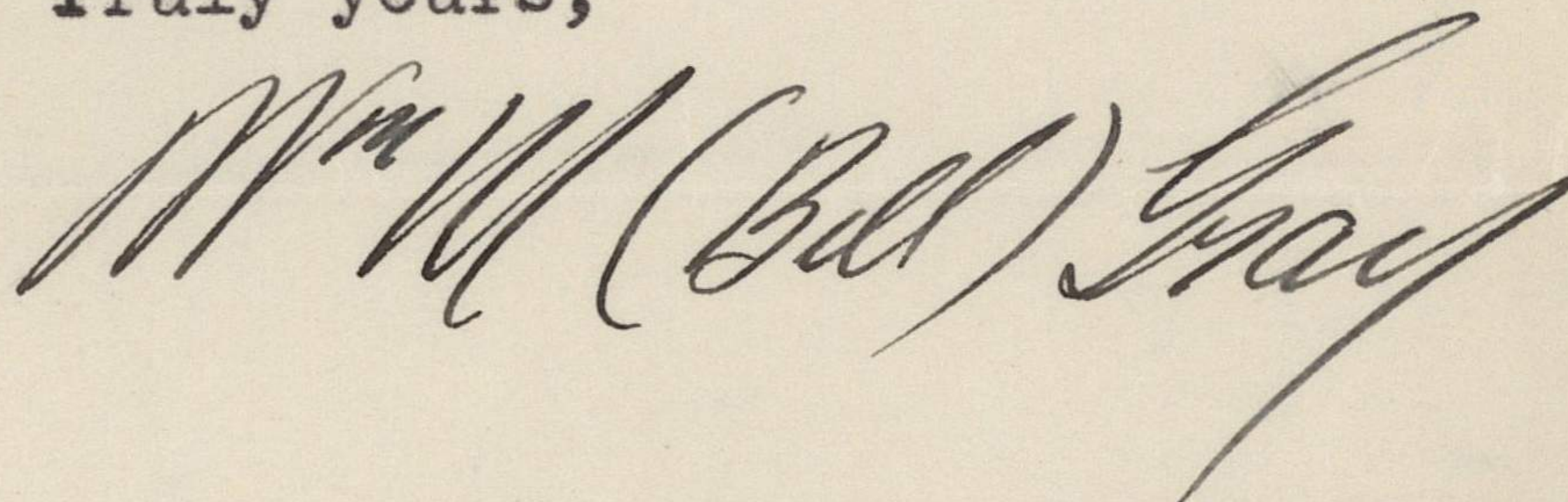
Unfortunately the best of us are some times misunderstood and I feel this is one of those regrettable

Mr. Forrest C. Allen

Page #2.

incidents. In view of this I respectfully give you my sincere apologies with the hope that our long standing friendship will continue as in the past.

Truly yours,



WMG:ANG

C. C. to C. E. McBride, Sports Editor, Kansas City Star, K. C., Mo.
C. C. to Don Pierce, Sports Editor, Daily Kansan, Lawrence, Kansas.
C. C. to Clarence Moody, Editor, Chanute Tribune, Chanute, Kansas.

HAMMERMILL
BOND
MADE IN U.S.A.

COPY

COPY

COPY

Chanute, Kansas
December 13, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Phog:

I am in receipt of your December 11th letter and first let me say that I am truly sorry that any remarks that I am quoted as having made, were such as to have caused you any grievance.

Only a portion of a conversation that I had with a certain party was quoted, in an uncomplimentary manner and in such a way as to fail to express my true feelings with regard to you or your remarks.

You, Phog, have known me for some time and should know that there is nothing malicious in my make up which would call for my making any statements intentionally, with the view of causing any one the least of harm, ill will, or hard feelings.

Unfortunately the best of us are some times misunderstood and I feel this is one of those regrettable incidents. In view of this I respectfully give you my sincere apologies with the hope that our long standing friendship will continue as in the past.

Truly yours,

Wm. M. (Bill) Gray

VMG:ANG

CC to C.E. McBride, Sports Editor, Kansas City Star, K.C., Mo.
cc to Don Pierce, Sports Editor, Daily Kansan, Lawrence, Kansas
cc to Clarence Moody, Editor, Chanute Tribune, Chanute, Kansas

December 14, 1940

Mr. Wm. M. Gray
Sunshine Mantle Company
Chanute, Kansas

Dear Bill:

I acknowledge with gratitude your swell letter of December 13.

I will admit that the statement attributed to you in the Kansas City Star shocked me severely. Without going any further I made the move that I felt I was justified in making because I knew I had never subsidized a basketball player.

If there were any erroneous conclusions gathered from anything I had done regarding Ralph Miller, I wanted to take full responsibility for it, and was willing to take a public panning for any athletic indiscretion that might have taken place.

Yes, Bill, I have known you for some time and that was a shocking thing to me. I assure you I accept your statement 100% and so far as you and I are concerned I have forgotten the matter entirely. The next time I see you you will realize it because I assure you that nothing is malicious in my makeup, and while my statements have been mistaken at times, I do not wish anyone ill will or harm.

It will be good to see you, Bill, and thank you for your swell letter.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

cc: C.E. McBride
Don Pierce
Clarence Moody

COPY

COPY

COPY

December 11, 1940

Mr. Wm. M. Gray
Sunshine Mantle Company
Chanute, Kansas

Dear Bill:

I read with interest in Mr. McBride's sport comment dated December 11, 1940, in which you say that "Phog Allen is a prevaricator when he says he never subsidized a basketball player. I happen to be in a position to know that he has."

With that statement from you I would appreciate it, yes, in fact I would insist that you write Mr. McBride and tell him about all the knowledge that you have regarding any subsidizing that I did. I am perfectly willing that Mr. McBride print every word that you write and I will exercise the same option.

Doubtless you may refer to the case of Ralph Miller. So that Mr. McBride will have full information regarding this discussion I am sending him a carbon copy of this letter I am writing you.

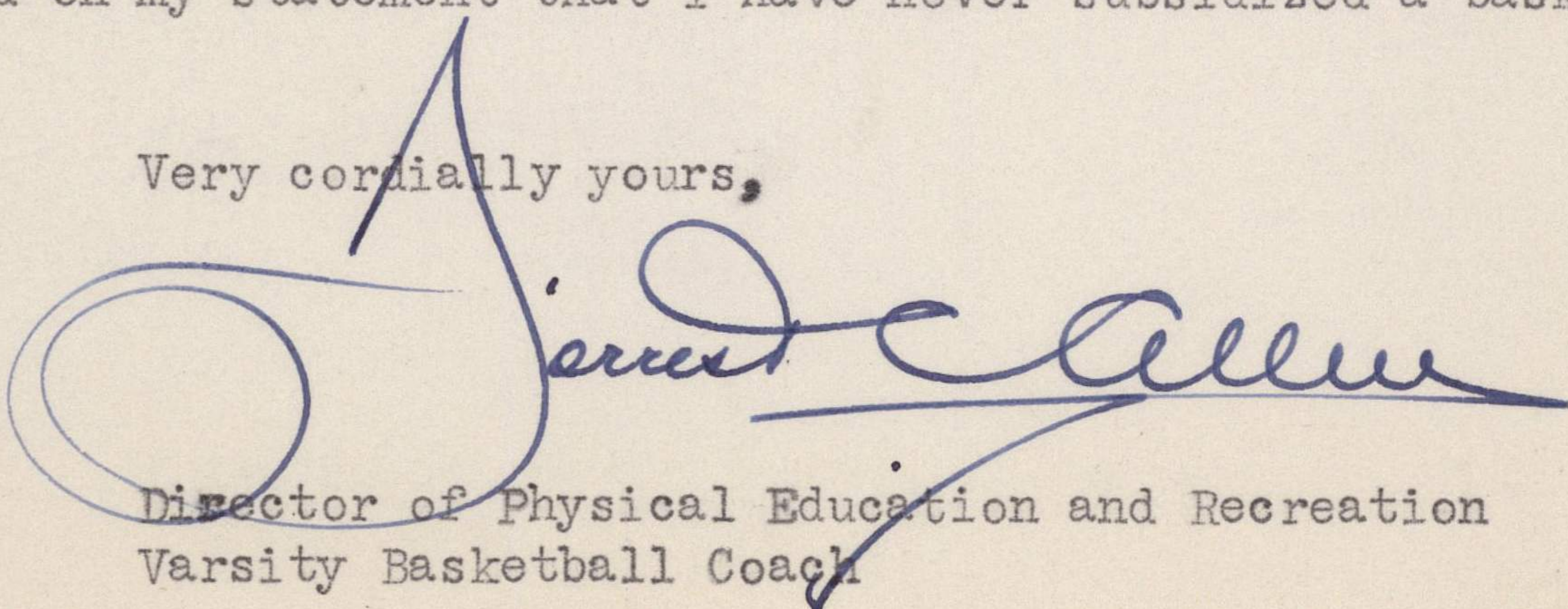
If my memory serves me correctly, I recall that I was invited to your home for dinner one Sunday evening. At that dinner were a number of Chanute people who were desirous of seeing Ralph Miller attend the University. I attended that meeting and discussed with Ralph Miller the advantages of attending the University. This was in the presence of eight or ten of your friends whom you had asked in. At no time during any of my discussion did I mention subsidation in any shape or form. There was no promise of a job by me nor was I consulted by you or any other individual regarding a job or a subsidy for Miller.

I learned later, indirectly, that there was a group of Chanute businessmen who desired to help him in college. I was not a party to this knowingly or otherwise. There were no intermediaries. All I did was talk to him about the advantages of the University and I did it in an open and frank way, making no promises and working with no one, not even you, toward an easy job or a subsidy for Miller.

If you deny this fact then I withhold the inherent right to characterize your assertions in the same manner that you have characterized mine.

I still stand on my statement that I have never subsidized a basketball player.

Very cordially yours,



Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

Dec. 12, 1940

Mr. Bill Gray
Sunshine Mantel Co.
Chanute, Kan.

Dear Bill:

I read with interest Mr. McBride's sport comment dated Dec. 11, 1940, in which you say that "Phog" Allen is a prevaricator when he says he has never subsidized a basketball player. I happen to know that he has."

With that statement from you I would appreciate it, yes, in fact I would insist, that you write Mr. McBride and tell him about all the knowledge that you have regarding subsidizing that I did. I am perfectly willing that Mr. McBride print every word that you write and I will exercise the same option.

Doubtless you may refer to the case of Ralph Miller. So that Mr. McBride will have full information regarding this discussion I am sending ~~Mr~~ him a carbon copy of the letter I am writing to you.

If my memory serves me correctly, I recall that I was invited to your home for dinner one Sunday evening. At that dinner were a number of Chanute people who were desirous of seeing Ralph Miller attend the University. I attended that meeting and discussed with Ralph Miller the advantages of attending the University. This was in the presence of eight or ten of your friends whom you had asked in. At no time during any of my discussion did I mention subsidization in any shape or form. There was no promise of a job by me nor was I consulted by you or any other individual regarding a job or subsidization for Miller.

I learned later, indirectly, that there was a group of Chanute business men who desired to help him in college. I was not a party to this, knowingly or otherwise. There were no intermediaries and all I did was talk to him about the advantages of the University and I did it in an open and frank way, making no promises and working with no one, not even you. If you deny this fact then I withhold the inherent right to characterize your assertions in the same manner that you have characterized mine.

I still stand on my statement that I have never subsidized a basketball player.

Very cordially yours;

Forrest C. Allen

THE SUNSHINE MANTLE COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS

WM. M. GRAY, PRESIDENT
L. BAILEY GRAY, VICE PRES.
A. F. LEVERENZ, SECY & TREA.
R. T. BROWN, FACTORY SUPT.

WHOLESALEERS



DISTRIBUTERS

GENERAL OFFICES & FACTORY
CHANUTE, KANSAS

CHANUTE, KANS.

December 18, 1940

Copies

Mr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Phog:

Your letter of December 14th made me very happy and is further evidence that you are both a scholar and a gentleman.

Such a mess as I was unwittingly drawn into you of course can appreciate could not have been other than distasteful to me and it certainly is gratifying to me-- since such an incident did occur--that the other party concerned was big enough to appreciate my position and gentleman enough to forgive and forget the entire matter without causing rupture between friends as you so clearly stated in next to last paragraph of your December 14th letter.

If I fail to see you sooner, I certainly want to be in Lawrence, January 16th to see your team trim Missouri but in any event, you may rest assured that I will make it a special point to see you the very first time I am in Lawrence.

Incidentally, for your personal information, since Mr. Sidney S. Linscott of Erie, Kansas, very apparently wrote me a letter dated December 13th for your benefit, I would like for you to know that the envelope carrying me this December 13th dated letter shows Erie postmark of 6:00 P. M. December 16th. 'Nuf said.

Wishing you and your family a most enjoyable Christmas season, I ask to remain

Sincerely yours,

Wm M (Bill) Gray

WMG:ANG

THE SUNSHINE MANTLE COMPANY

Chanute, Kansas
December 18, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Phog:

Your letter of December 14th made me very happy and is further evidence that you are both a scholar and a gentleman.

Such a mess as I was unwittingly drawn into you of course can appreciate could not have been other than distasteful to me and it certainly is gratifying to me--since such an incident did occur--that the other party concerned was big enough to appreciate my position and gentleman enough to forgive and forget the entire matter without causing rupture between friends as you so clearly stated in next to last paragraph of your December 14th letter.

If I fail to see you sooner, I certainly want to be in Lawrence, January 16th to see your team trim Missouri but in any event, you may rest assured that I will make it a special point to see you the very first time I am in Lawrence.

Incidentally, for your personal information, since Mr. Sidney S. Linscott of Erie, Kansas, very apparently wrote me a letter dated December 13th for your benefit, I would like for you to know that the envelope carrying me this December 13th dated letter shows Erie postmark of 6:00 P.M. December 16th. Mum said.

Wishing you and your family a most enjoyable Christmas season, I ask to remain

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Wm. M. (Bill) Gray

WMG:ANG

I never did like the Betas.

I contributed \$15.00 per mo for
three 9 mo. periods, \$405.00.

Never even asked Bill what he
did with it. Wonder if Ralph
got it all? I understood he
got \$40 per mo for 3 years.

COPY

Sidney S. Linscott, President
Carl V. Rice, Vice President
L.T. Linscott, Cashier

HOME STATE BANK

COPY

Erie, Kansas
December 13, 1940

Mr. Wm. M. Gray
Chanute, Kansas

My dear Bill:

I have been reading the newspaper reports of your controversy with Phog Allen with great chagrin.

Phog has done so much for K.U. and you have done so little that it ill behooves you to stir up dirt.

Haven't the newspapermen done Ralph Miller enough by putting him up on a pinnacle of publicity, to become a marked man, and had he been permitted to have quietly gone and fought his way from the bottom up, in place of from the top down, he personally and K.U. generally would have written a different story.

Now why persecute Ralph further? It would seem this would have been a wonderful time for you to have pondered over the old adage that "Silence is Golden."

As I recall you were the original man of the campaign to send Ralph Miller to K.U., and you told me you were sitting by the phone when I was solicited to contribute to such a fund. Phog Allen had nothing to do with it, nor did the University. I made my checks payable to you personally, and they were so endorsed and no other endorser except the collecting banks. As near as I can figure I contributed about 35% of the fund. Further, being the only Democrat in the "association", it devolved upon me to fight, bleed and die with my political friends to get him, a Republican family, a job with the Highway to offset his offers with Chicago, Louisiana and California. I sacrificed several political friendships but got the job done, on the theory that I was loyal to my Alma Mater.

Now for you to start something that is so unnecessary, and can accomplish no good plus lots of muck, seems to me to be a base betrayal of the friends that helped you at that time, helped you with their time, their energy and their money.

The dinner party at your house, to which you were kind enough to invite me, and which I enjoyed, seemed to me to be rather a rushing party than one under the auspices of the Athletic Department of the University of Kansas. Every adult present, except yourself, was a member of the one fraternity, and later Ralph joined that fraternity.

Really it seems to me that the very nice thing for you to do, out of respect for the friends who stood by you when you wanted them to, would be to just drop the whole matter.

Phog Allen is the outstanding Basket Ball Coach in the country and K.U. is very fortunate to keep him.

He is able to keep one light burning in the Athletic Department of the University, and is entitled to the support of every alumnus and alumna. If Coach Henry can get the support of the alumni as he has the student body, he may yet build a football team, but if they all chaff at him, it will be the same old story. I have an idea he is doing his best and hope he can succeed.

I always thought that if Ralph Miller's powers and abilities had been unsung and unheralded until he delivered the goods he would have made a brilliant record. As it was he had a high mark to jump for from the start, his rivals marked him, and his team mates were inclined to envy, classing him as teachers favorite. I may be wrong, but if he had had just a common chance, he would have had a brilliant career, as it is only a passing memory.

I trust you will think this over and try to do something For your Alma Mater rather than Against.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

(signed) Sidney S. Linscott

Copy to F.C. Allen.

I never did like the Betas.

I contributed \$15.00 per mo for
three 9 mo. periods, \$405.00.

Never even asked Bill what he
did with it. Wonder if Ralph
got it all? I understood he
got \$40 per mo for 3 years.

September 25, 1940

Coach Jack Gardner
Department of Athletics
Kansas State College
Manhattan, Kansas

Dear Jack:

I do not agree with all the arguments set forth in your letter of September 24 regarding the new backboard.

For your information I am enclosing a carbon copy of a letter I have written to Louis Menze.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg
Enc.

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
KANSAS STATE COLLEGE
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

September 24, 1940

Mr. Louis Menze
Mr. George Edwards
Mr. W. H. Browne
Mr. Bruce Drake
Dr. Forrest C. Allen

Gentlemen:

After extensive study and experimenting with the fan-shaped backboard I am convinced that its adoption with the present proposed dimensions would be a backward step in the game's progress. Anything that tends to reduce scoring hurts the game, and my findings have proved beyond a doubt that such would be the case should the new board be adopted.

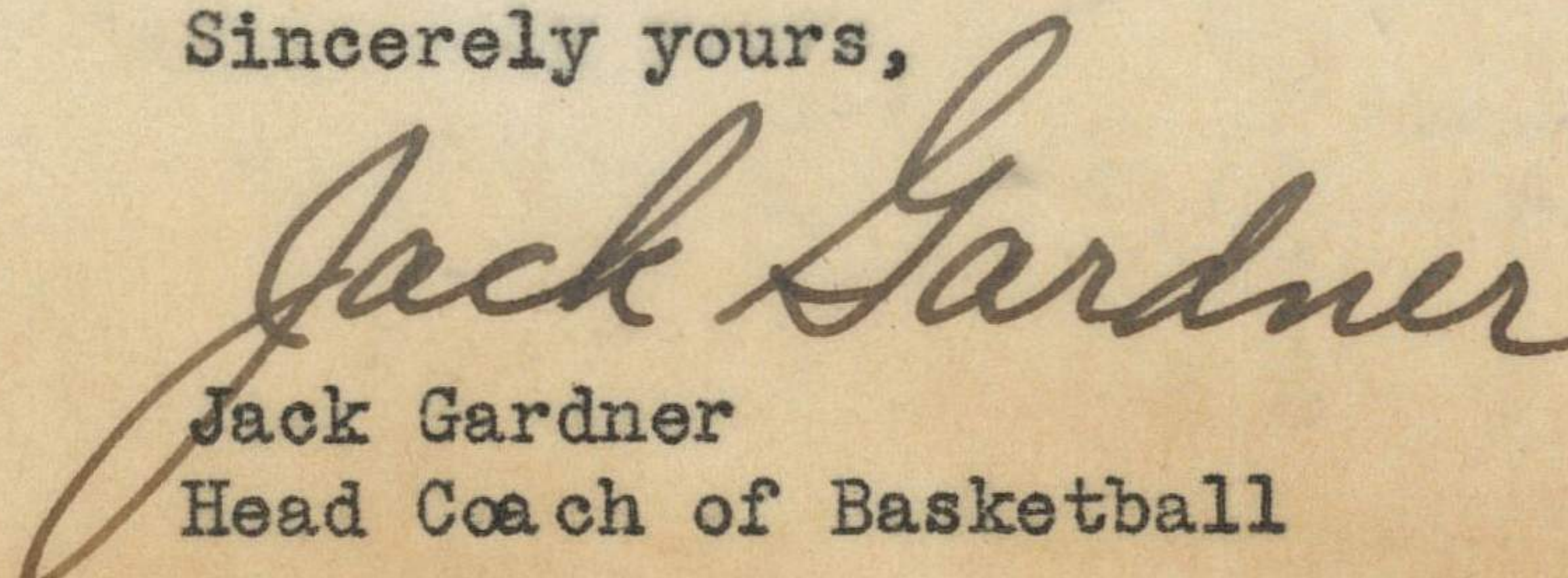
My decision is based on the following findings:

1. The new board is a poor target. When shooting from an angle the black ring is hard to see since the white background is eliminated. Medium-long and long angle shots become as difficult to convert as corner shots.
2. The new board does not have the necessary banking space for angle shots, and therefore, tends to discourage players from making such attempts.
3. The small board increases the number of out-of-bounds, therefore, there is more whistle blowing and too many unnecessary interruptions which the spectators do not like.
4. The small backboard cuts down the number of rebound attempts which are thrilling to watch and an aid to scoring.
5. I have yet to find the player who likes the new board.

To me the above points out-weigh the advantages the fan-shaped board would give to the spectators' visibility. Should the new board be adopted, resulting in decreased scoring, I doubt if we would need to worry much about filling the end seats.

I am heartily in favor of removing the one-foot space below the basket and would be in accord with the modified board, but simply feel that our Rules Committee has done a little too much whittling for the good of the game. The new board's proponents have misrepresented it by claiming it to be a better target, thus promoting greater accuracy. Until a more suitable, modified board is presented this corner will cast a negative vote regarding its adoption.

Sincerely yours,


Jack Gardner
Head Coach of Basketball