

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