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November 1, 1941

Mr. Graham B. Hovey  
International News Service  
Hearst Building  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hovey,

I'm very glad to have your letter from New York dated Oct. 30. It will be a pleasure to see you if and when I am in Chicago. The Kansas basketball team is playing DePaul in Chicago on Jan. 31 at the Chicago stadium. I trust that I may have the pleasure of visiting with you at that time. We play Iowa at Iowa City on Jan. 30 and doubtless we will come on into Chicago on the 30th.

I'll be very happy to talk with you regarding my attitude on big-time inter-collegiate athletics. That takes in both football and basketball. I've said that big-time basketball is as much a racket as big-time football only basketball is on a smaller scale due to the fact that there's not so much money taken in at the gate. The same proseliting, the same abuses of making the boy feel that athletics are his primal purpose in college are dominant, but they are less apparent.

The coaches are becoming proseliting hounds rather than teachers of physical education. Formerly, it was the barber shop that the coaches hung out in and told the down town bunch about the activities of the team. Now it's the banks and the bond houses that the boys frequent.

Please understand me, I'm not saying that we do not have many fine coaches yet who do not do this thing, but what about the next generation of coaches taken, of course, from the athletics who are playing now. If these present-day athletes get their laboratory experiments under the proseliting type of coaches what can we expect? If these present-day athletes get their board and room and tuition expenses paid for playing on an athletic team, what will be the attitude of these fellows when they become coaches? It is perfectly obvious that they will not be in the position to challenge the boys regarding the fine, high, standards that should obtain in regard to athletics, but they will go out to the market and buy them the same as any of the big-league clubs buy their baseball players.

Now don't misunderstand me, I'm not against football. I'm strong for football and I'm strong for basketball, but the coaches are making a racket out of it rather than a sport. The professional baseball