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April 5, 1941

Mr. H. R. Hensley  
First National Bank Bldg.  
Dodge City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Hensley:

Your son Larry came in yesterday afternoon to talk with me concerning the particulars of a letter that I wrote to him some time back.

Larry had written me a very fine letter thanking me for the courtesies that I had extended to him, and he was rather shocked at the tone of my reply. So he came in yesterday to go over the matter with me. After Larry had explained his honest intent and purpose in going to Wichita with the basketball team, I could see how he felt in regard to my letter to him.

There are so many boys that take short-cuts on such propositions similar to this that I wanted to frankly explain to him how I felt in similar circumstances. I have been the victim many times of such strategy. In this case, however, I am very sure that I missed Larry's honest intent.

Howard Engleman came to me and asked me if it would be possible to take Larry along to Wichita. I said yes. After matters turned out as they did, I naturally viewed Larry's trip there as one designed to primarily aid him and I frankly told him so. On circumstantial evidence it could easily have looked that way.

I believe Larry left here feeling that I was perfectly honest when I was with him yesterday as I endeavored to be in my letter which I wrote to him. I feel it is better to tell a boy exactly what you think and, he being honest, if there are misunderstandings they are soon clarified.

I explained to Larry that previous to this time I had had many pleasant contacts with him, but no intimate connections. He had never been on a team of mine. Although I had watched him play on baseball teams as a spectator, I had not had an opportunity to get under his skin as I do with most boys on my teams. I have always had a very high opinion of Larry and this occasion of yesterday has caused me to raise my estimate considerably. He is fine, clean, straightforward young man, and if at any time there is an opportunity that I