

June 8, 1939.

Major J. W. Henderson,  
Director of Admissions,  
Culver Military Academy,  
Culver, Indiana.

Dear Major Henderson:

I have filled out the Personal Recommendation blank for admission to Culver Military Academy for Lyle Stephenson Powell, Jr. I am very happy to do this and I am very pleased to report that I learn this boy took his 7th and 8th grade work at Mauer Hill School, Atchison, Kansas, which is preparatory for St. Benedict's College of the same town. This is a Catholic institution, but Lyle's father is a very strong Protestant.

Lyle's father, Dr. Powell, was one of the ace aviators in the World War and believes in discipline. I have a notion that this is his idea of bringing the boy up - with some degree of regimentation. I learn that this boy is especially interested in photography and comes down after school hours to develop his films in his father's office.

As stated in the blank, his father is one of the outstanding physicians for eye, ear, nose and throat, and enjoys an international as well as national reputation. Two years ago he was commissioned by the British government to spend a year in India doing some special research work. Lyle's mother has an exceptionally fine voice and has sung for a number of years as chorister in some of our churches.

Dr. Powell is a dynamic worker and thinker and he has one of the outstanding clinics in this part of the country. I talked to Dr. Powell once when our son Bobby was attending Culver. He took a great interest in Bobby and stated to me that one of his great ambitions was to send a son to Culver. He stated that as a boy he lived near Culver but his folks did not have enough money for him to attend, and it was always one of his burning ambitions to attend Culver Military Academy. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and then took his advanced medical training in Vienna, Leipzig and other European countries. My thought was that this little background regarding his boyhood wish and ambition might help you in your contacts with him. He is a big, fine-looking, splendid gentleman who commands the attention of all, yet he is modest regarding his great art.