

February 3, 1945.

Lt. Commander A. H. Buhl,
University of Kansas.

Dear Commander Buhl:

On December 21, 1944, Leslie Dodd came in to my office and asked a favor. Dodd's grandfather was Dr. James Naismith, the originator of the game of basketball, a man that I had associated with since 1902. I succeeded him here as head of the Department of Physical Education, when he was retired.

This young grandson, of course, knew of our relationship and when he came in he wanted to borrow \$15.00, stating that the money he had to go home on had been stolen from him the previous night. Knowing that school was dismissed, I said, "Why don't you go down to the Red Cross?", and he said, "I just haven't time - my train leaves in 45 minutes." Knowing the red tape of the Red Cross, I was sure that he would not have time for that, so I loaned him this \$15.00. I said, "When are you going to pay this back?" He said, "On Friday, the 29th of December, when I return." I said, "All right, now, you are sure that you will pay it back at that time?" He said, "Yes, sir."

Not having heard from him a week after the 29th, I sent for him and asked the conductor of his gym class to send him in. He informed the boy, but he never showed up. Then I called Mr. Leonard Axe and told him of the difficulty, and Mr. Axe said he would report it to headquarters. But Mr. Axe had learned after investigation that no money had been stolen that they could ascertain, and further stated that the boy had borrowed money from the Welfare Fund on previous occasions and he had been slow in paying that back. So it might have been that he borrowed this money to pay back the Welfare Fund.

About a week ago I called Mr. Axe again and he said he had been very busy but he would look into it and report it to headquarters.

I would not bother you with this ordinary detail, but I believe there is something loose somewhere in the boy's make-up that you should know about.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH