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April 10, 1939.

→ Mr. Byron Kern,
c/o Mehl and Schott Drug Company,
Leavenworth, Kansas.

Dear Byron:

Mr. E. Rice Phelps, of our city, called me in regard to the possibility of your entering the University of Kansas this next fall.

I want you to know how happy I would be to have you matriculate at the University of Kansas. We, of course, have heard of your prowess on the basketball court. But it is your other recommendations of high academic achievements and fine morale character that appeal to us as well.

Most of our outstanding basketball players have come from small towns, such as Lawrence, Leavenworth, Horton, Glaseo, Arkansas City, Newton, Winfield, Downs, Iola, Chanute, Humboldt, and so forth. I am thinking now of my fine captain, George McCune, of the 1903 Kansas varsity, the first one that I coached here. I am sure that Mac was not over five feet nine, and he was one of the finest little captains that I have ever had. Mac has passed on, but I will never forget the courage and downright sheer ability of this little fellow. He was a wonderful inspiration to me when I think of the small men meeting the challenge of over-reach and over-weight.

Dutch Lonborg, who is now coaching at Northwestern, was my captain in 1920. He was from Horton. John Bunn, of Stanford, who made a great record with Hank Luisetti and his Pacific Coast boys was on my 1920 team. John Bunn came from Humboldt. Adolph Rupp, who is varsity coach at the University of Kentucky, is from Halstead, Kansas. And Frosty Cox, who is coach of the University of Colorado outfit, is from Newton.

Tus Ackerman, Paul Endacott, and Andy McDonald were from Lawrence, Frenchy Belgard from Newton, Paul Rogers and Ray Noble from Arkansas City, Fred Pralle and Al Wellhausen from St. Louis, Al Peterson from Argentine. On the present varsity are Lyman Corlis, Lester Kappelman and Bob Allen, from Lawrence; Howard Engleman and Bruce Reid of Arkansas City, Bruce Voran of Pretty Prairie, Ralph Miller of Chanute, Loren Florell of Topeka, Don Ebling of Lindsborg, and Dick Harp of Rosedale.

So you can see that through the years past, as well as our present squad, by far and large most of the boys have come from small Kansas towns. Someone made a statement to me that you were not sure as to your ability in basketball. I want to assure you that I do not