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April 27, 1939.

Dr. C. H. McCloy,
Division of Physical Education,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Dear Dr. McCloy:

This will acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 21st instant concerning Dr. Lapp.

May I state quite frankly to you that Dr. Lapp's beginning tenure here was quite unfortunate. There were a series of circumstances which a baseball player might describe as "having two strikes on him at the start".

Physical Education in this place was under rather unfavorable scrutiny from some quarters. It was the desire of the administrators that we obtain a teacher with a Ph. D. degree for Dr. Lapp's position. This was done.

When Dr. Lapp met his first classes he used the policy, as he explained to me later, that his brother at the University of Iowa used. I am told by Dr. Lapp that should any of the members of the class be a fraction of a minute late in entering they were met with stern reprimands and given no opportunity to make up the work they had missed by being late. I might say that the Germanic approach was used rather than the English style of appeasement.

We had some very brilliant women teachers who were expert, and while probably impatient to an unusual degree, their exactions exceeded what should normally be expected of a young teacher in Dr. Lapp's situation. These people had influential connections with the higher-ups in administration, and they were unhesitatingly free to make criticisms of shortcomings that Dr. Lapp quite frequently showed in his pedagogical training.

Dr. Lapp said, in substance, to one of his classes that he was having to review the material as they went along, and another time that he was having to use the students as guinea pigs, so to speak, to learn the subject. Now, I can understand thoroughly that it is necessary for a teacher to review, and to explore material that he might not be conversant with, but there were women students in that class of some maturity. These women students went to the women's department and protested to their teachers that they knew as much about the subject as their teacher did; in fact, some of them felt that they were not getting much from the course and told their superiors so.