

c

January 26, 1940.

Mr. Clarence McGuire,  
Hoover Brothers, Inc.,  
922 Oak Street,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mac:

Boy, you are a real Scotchman with an Irish heart! If ever any Irishman swooped down on that blarney stone, boy, you smacked it! But did you make the Allen family happy! I took your letter down to the house and read it to Mrs. Allen, Eleanor and Bob, and how old Clarence McGuire came in for many blessings. You know, if you want to open the door of a mother's heart, just say some splendid things about her son -- and you did both things just exactly right.

Mac, it was nice of you to say the things that you did because Bob and the other youngsters have always been told to keep your pride under yourself, and Bob is a pretty modest youngster. In fact, I think he inhibits some of the exhilaration that he feels at times. He is so afraid of being called cocky that he keeps his pride under most of the time. Your letter certainly picked him up.

In the same mail with your nice letter was one from Ted O'Leary regarding Bob's play, and these two letters coming from Bob's favorites did him a lot of good. You can be assured, Mac, that any letter from you would make me feel good, and the fact that Bob has not been a brilliant player but has kept on working each game to improve himself is a source of pride to me. Bob and Ted O'Leary were two boys very similar in many ways. They are very intelligent boys, not caring for the "hoi-polloi" and the rabble of cheap athletic competition, but they like to match their brains and strength with the best of their fellows. But they were mental athletes rather than physical ones. Bob certainly is no sissy, but he is rather serious in his school work which keeps him from the down-town drugstore, quarterbacking group, and for this and other reasons your letter was appreciated. It came from a business man -- not from a rabid fan who vents his emotions pro and con at every opportunity. Thank you, Mac, it was swell of you.

And I know of nothing that I would like better than to have your own boy under my care. I assure you that I would endeavor to give him the very best that I have.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH