

A
August 20, 1942.

Mr. L. E. Menze,
Basketball Coach,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

Dear Louie:

Thank you for your fine letter of the 13th instant. It was indeed a pleasure to hear from you.

You know, Louie, the queer part about the thing was that we missed the article in our paper. I did not know a thing about it until I heard in a round-about way that one of my boys coaching in Minneapolis had committed suicide. That is why I wrote you, feeling that you would know if anybody did. And too, I thought it was queer because on May 11, 1942, I wrote Ray and addressed it to him as coach of Edison High School, Minneapolis, but received no reply.

Several years ago, shall I say five, when the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Association of the Midwest met in Minneapolis I attended the meeting and had a fine visit with Ray. I visited his home and had a fine visit with his wife and daughter. I went out to his high school; in fact, I spoke out there at assembly. He showed me over the place and I met a number of his co-workers and superiors. He was immensely popular with everyone. We went out to the Shrine Temple where he was doing some special art work for them. He was also playing in the Shrine band, or maybe it was the drum corps. At any rate, he was enthusiastic about everything he was doing.

I had recommended Ray for a job with Andy Kerr at Colgate when he wired me for a man, and Ray was my first selection. It seemed as if Ray was making so much on the side, together with his high school job that he was loath to leave unless he could do as well or better. And of course a fellow coming just out of high school - they were not willing to raise the ante high enough to attract him. I have always felt that Ray wanted a college coaching job, but maybe his family expenses were so heavy that he was afraid to make the move.

Won't you give me Harry Parkins' address in Kansas City, and any others of the family so that I may write them? Do you know his mother's initials?

Somehow, Louie, I had heard that Ray's wife had died about two years ago. I guess that must have been an error. Are you sure that she is living? And too, it seemed to me as if they had a little