

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR MEN
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

October 22, 1940.

Doctor Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear 'Doc':

I'm ashamed of myself for not writing to you sooner than this. But I have been pretty busy here since I first arrived in this sunny (??) clime, and have just been putting off writing to you. My conscience finally prodded me so much that I thought I had better write you or I would never get any rest. But I can assure you that I had good intentions 'Doc', and I will write more regularly in the future.

Of course, by now, you have reasoned out that I accepted the assistant-ship here at U. C. L. A. I have been here since August 27th, and I certainly am in love with the place. This is wonderful country out here.

The Physical Education Department here surely is a keen lay-out. The school has plenty of money and the Phys. Ed. dept. has certainly received their share. The men and women have separate buildings and they face each other across a huge expanse of the greenest lawn I have ever seen. But then all of the lawns here are perfect. They all have the hidden sprinkler system, and they sure use the water in an effort to keep the grass looking nice--and they succeed.

The Phys. Ed. buildings are both huge affairs. Each one has a large swimming pool attached (which measures 100' X 60' and having two one-meter adjustable diving boards and one three-meter adjustable board. The pools are finished in green tile and they are both outdoor, being surrounded by a high wall. The mens pool is where the polo matches and swimming meets are held, and consequently they have a large bleacher section erected next to the pool walk.

And 'Doc' you should see this gym here! It is really something. The floor is one of those 'soft' kind--it feels like you're playing on firm velvet, if you can imagine such a thing. I can't understand why they don't turn out champion-ship teams all the time. Wilbur Johns is the basket-ball coach here. And of course you know that Bill Spaulding is Director of Athletics.

I am teaching two classes in swimming, one in basket-ball and one in track and field. These boys are surely getting a thorough going-over in fundamentals. I think I will even allow some of the boys from U. S. C. come over and audit the course!

Well, 'Doc', I'm afraid I will have to quit for now, but I promise (or threaten!) to write to you more frequently in the future. Please let me hear from you--whenever you can find a spare moment, which is really rare for you, I know.

Gene Billups.