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March 7, 1941

Mr. C.E. McBride  
Sports Editor  
Kansas City Star  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mac:

I read your sporting comment of last evening with a good deal of interest.

I do not care to take part in any controversy such as this. This season makes my 24th year of coaching at Kansas and I will let my acts in those 24 years speak for themselves. I only care to make this statement.

Thompson, Livingston and Fitzgibbons were more aggressively repulsive the second half than they were the first half of the Nebraska-Kansas game at Lawrence. I was sitting on the players' bench with our players, and next to me sat Hal Ruppenthal, one of our cheerleaders. When Thompson danced before one of our players, who was starting to throw a free-throw, showing his maniacally, mephi-stophelico grin, I will admit that I could take it no longer. I leaned over and said to Hal Ruppenthal, who was parked on a thin ledge beneath the scorers' bench.

I said, "That is Dean Thompson's young son at the University of Nebraska. Dean Thompson is the Dean of Men at the University of Nebraska. The Dean should see him now." I imagine that I yelled this to Ruppenthal rather vociferously because the crowd had already challenged Thompson, especially as he seemed to be the greatest offender.

All during the first half they yelled "Rose Bowl" and "Big Shot" at Nebraska so I felt it justice to Mr. Thompson's acts that he he should be made conscious of the fact that he was the Dean of Men's son and that he perhaps owed something to his papa in the way of respectable attitude.

Now for the Nebraska game at Lincoln. Our Kansas team went out to the Nebraska fieldhouse an hour and fifteen minutes before game time. As we walked through the outer door and got into the inner part of the gymnasium I was accosted, not accidentally I think, by Cy Sherman, who seemed to be waiting for me. For the past several years Cy has shown rather an aversion to me and I assure you that this has been mutually happy, as far as I have been concerned. I have never cared a great deal for Cy Sherman after my experience in the fall of 1919 when Nebraska withdrew from the Conference and all the Missouri Valley schools abrogated their contracts with Nebraska with the exception of Kansas, whose policy was this: That Kansas would play out her existing contract in football with Nebraska but would schedule no other games.