

June 16th, 1941

Miss Ruth Baker
Lakeview Consolidated Schools
Battle Creek, Michigan

Dear Ruth:

I am answering your epistle of the 3rd instant and I'm glad to know you have signed your contract with the two hundred dollar raise. That's a lot of money, but I'm afraid Uncle Sam will get about one-half of it; for a very good cause, however.

Bert DeGroot left for Sierra Madre, California, to be Civilian Director of Physical Education in the Flying Field. He is on a Civil Service appointment and his salary is thirty eight hundred dollars a year. He was getting twenty four hundred here. Jim Raport went to Alabama Polytechnic at Auburn. And, Gordon Gray who was taking graduate work and our freshman basketball coach, went to Curtis Field-- Civil Service job at twenty six hundred dollars.

We previously had hired Henry Shenk who is doing a *great* job at Junction City. I received a letter from Doctor Samuel F. Harby making inquiry for the position here but our budget committee was lopped off twenty percent for next year, anticipating twenty percent drop in student enrollment. So, since we had hired Mr. Shenk and our out being mandatory, precluded the possibility of our engaging Doctor Harby. I would like very much to have him with us. I'm wondering if you, confidentially, could tell me about what we could have hired him, had we the money. I would like to know. Our salary scale is very low and I regret that such is the case.

We have a young man doing graduate work named John Cress who is the finest gymnast I have seen in many months. By the way, he just married Dorothy Gerhart who graduated here this June. She was a Fine Arts student, but much interested in Physical Education. Cress belonged to the National Championship Gymnastic Team in the University of Illinois. He was on the team that won the championship three years in succession. He has done much vaudeville work and is the best that I have ever seen. The army may get him soon but he's a dandy.

Thank you for your interest concerning our Department and I will thank you if you will always pass along the friendly tips for that helps immensely. I'm happy that you're looking forward to N.Y.U. games with much enthusiasm and expectation. That M.A. Degree will not only help your morale but help that pocket book. Lots of good luck to you