

June 8, 1943.

Mr. Lloyd Blomstrom,
288 - Winner, So. Dakota.

Dear Mr. Blomstrom:

Your letter has been referred to me for reply. I notice that you are preparing a speech for your local Rotary Club, and since I am president-elect of the Lawrence Rotary Club I will be happy to comply with your request.

The men at the University of Kansas who were physically handicapped were Tommy Johnson, Kansas greatest all-round athlete, Everett Bradley, who was an Olympic track athlete, and Glenn Cunningham. So much has been written about Glenn that doubtless you would be more interested in him than any of the others. However, I will tell you about Tommy Johnson and Everett Bradley.

Everett Bradley was a very weak and sick boy and was bothered with chorea (St. Vitus' dance) as a youngster. His physicians ordered him to stay out of school, which he did for five years. They told him to play, to climb trees and to conduct all of his activities in the great outdoors.

During the three years that Everett Bradley was in school he averaged $17 \frac{2}{3}$ points in every meet that he was in. These were the Drake Relays, the Kansas Relays, and the Penn Relays, as well as all dual track meets and the Big Six indoor and outdoor meet. He won the pentathlon in Pennsylvania in 1921 and he was on the Olympic track team in 1924 and was one of Uncle Sam's outstanding performers.

Everett Bradley had said many times that if it were not for athletics he would have never established his health nor would he have accomplished the things in business life that he had. He is a commercial geologist at Wichita, Kansas, and one of the outstanding men in the field. As a point winner here he has had no peer. He was a high jumper, a broad jumper, a pole vaulter, a sprinter, a 440-yard man, and both high and low hurdler, and he would win first place in many of these in almost every meet.

Tommy Johnson was a sick boy at twelve years of age. He had tuberculosis of the kidney. The doctors advised him to drop out of school which he did for a period of three or four years, but he went down to old McCook Field where the Kansas gridiron heroes practice, and like Hawthorne's Great Stone Face, these men served as an ideal - as an aim for him to accomplish something great. He began to want to be like one of these gridiron gladiators. He trained, he practiced all the time with an innate hope that some day he would be a football player at Kansas.

I was a freshman with Tommy Johnson in 1905. He was six and a half feet tall and weighed 152 pounds, still frail and slender, but he had an uncanny weave and hip shift that he had practiced through all these years that made it very difficult for an opponent to tackle him. He was one of the outstanding basketball players, a great catcher on the varsity baseball team, and a hurdler and pole vaulter on the track team.

Against Nebraska in football in 1906 Tommy Johnson received the ball from the snapper-back and ran 90 yards through a broken field for a touchdown. Fred Cornell, the referee, ruled that the backfield was in motion and penalized the Kansas team five yards. On the next play Tommy Johnson called the same signal and ran 95 yards on the same identical play, wormed, twisted and squirmed his way through for a touchdown over the same terrain.

In 1909 in old Exposition Park Tommy Johnson was "high-lowed" by two Missouri tacklers, Buck and Francis Alexander, and an old injury to his spine was opened up and two years from that day, on Thanksgiving Day, Tommy Johnson died at Bell Memorial Hospital in Kansas City, Mo. Never a whimper did he make. Rather, when he met his friends who visited him, he never complained. He said, "I have lived more in my 22 years than most fellows have lived in 70. I have no complaints and if I had to do it over again I would want to do it the same way. Life has been swell to me and I think the world is great."

As I said, I played with Tommy Johnson for several years and later became his coach in basketball here at the University of Kansas. He was always cheerful, exuding a lot of enthusiasm and plenty of fight, but he was clean, hard and courageous. He had no time for bickering or little things, but he gave everything that he had. No wonder, when he passed away, he was an immortal in the eyes of the Kansas alumni.

When I returned to Kansas in 1919 as director of athletics there was but one motive in my mind and that was to build a stadium in the memory of Tommy Johnson, Kansas greatest athlete, but the World War had just finished and there were 129 Kansas men and women who made the supreme sacrifice in the first world war and naturally the stadium was given the name of the World War Memorial in the name of these heroes and heroines. But if I had it to do of my own experiences and relationships, had not the war happened, there would have been only one name on that stadium, and that would have been "Tommy Johnson Memorial Stadium". He deserved such an honor.

Mr. C. E. McBride, the sports editor of the Kansas City Star, pays Glenn Cunningham a great tribute, featuring his scarred legs which have borne Glenn Cunningham, the great Kansas runner, to new records and victory. When Glenn was 8 years old he and his older brother had as their chore the job of lighting the fire in the schoolhouse. One cold winter morning an explosion occurred, and before the brothers could be rescued from the burning building they were terribly burned. The older brother died, and Glenn fought his way back to life after six months of suffering. Glenn Cunningham bears these scars on his legs today. His legs are marked by the ravages of flames from the hips down, the right leg being more scarred than the left.

In the farm life days after the burns had healed Glenn and the other boys considered it great fun to grab the farm mules by the tails and go dashing along in a mad chase, holding tightly to the mules' tails, then letting go just before the mule kicked to shake loose the tormentor. Even in his grade school days Glenn Cunningham gave indication of his running prowess. In his high school days he played center on the basketball team, full back on the football team, and ran on the track team. In his senior year he competed in the interscholastic meet at the Kansas Relays.

Glenn entered the University of Kansas in 1931 and under the coaching of Brutus Hamilton, and later Bill Hargiss, went forward to break records and set new ones in all the meets he entered. He won a place on the U. S. Olympic team, and was also picked as one of eight American track and field athletes to tour Europe in 1933.

Trusting that this will give you the information that you desire, and with kindest regards to all of your good Rotarians at Winner, South Dakota, I am

Rotarily yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

THE TEXAS COMPANY

Winner, S. D.

June, #4, 1943

University of Kansas

Lawrence, Kansas.

Att. Athletic Department

Dear Sir:

I am preparing a speech for our local Rotary club about outstanding athletes who have been handicapped and who have come through as champions even in the face of such conditions. As I recall, Glenn C^oummingham your great mile runner of some years back suffered from severe burns in his boyhood and that at one time it was believed that he might never walk. In the event that you have any available information at the University concerning the handicaps of this athlete I will appreciate having you forward them to me in the self addressed envelop attached. Thanking you most sincerily for your cooperation I am,

Yours very truly,

Floyd J. Blomstrom

December 5, 1942.

Mr. W. Roy Breg,
Executive Secretary,
Allied Youth,
National Education Association Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Breg:

I am enclosing herewith Dr. Allen's statement in reply to your letter of November 5th asking for a statement in regard to the use of alcohol. Dr. Allen is out of town at the present time, but before he left he dictated this statement. If you desire his own personal signature, please let us know. I am sure he will be very happy to respond.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Forrest C. Allen.

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NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 5, 1942

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Coach F. C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Coach Allen:

Because young people have told us that they are interested in what coaches have to say about alcohol, we have been gathering our own collection of statements from athletic coaches and directors. Last year we made a survey of football coaches and received splendid statements, some of which are included on the enclosed sheet.

Now we are anxious to feature the statements of outstanding basketball coaches and hope to have your cooperation. Will you tell us how you feel regarding the matter of youthful drinking in relation to athletic development and to a young person's activities in life? This will be circulated in a dignified and helpful way to guide the thinking of young people.

Allied Youth is a program in alcohol education and alcohol-free recreation. It is commended by many outstanding educators, athletes, and other citizens. It is an approach that wins the enthusiastic response of young people.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We shall look forward to hearing from you in the near future, within the next two weeks, if possible.

Yours sincerely,

W. Roy Breg
Executive Secretary

" It is my opinion that any boy who takes so little pride in his performance or has so little ambition to excel and to make the most of his qualifications as a player as to indulge in alcoholic beverages would not be likely to prove dependable during the rigors of a tough season or in the critical situations which we expect to arise regularly upon the field." -- Carl Snavely

" There is no place in championship athletics for liquor. Our boys show also by their conduct and attitude after the playing season that they know championships and liquor do not mix." -- Homer Norton

" Any young man who isn't smart enough to take care of his own body and, at the same time, made of such qualities that he is willing to sacrifice for the welfare of the entire organization, is not considered the type of young man whom we want." -- Paul E. Brown

"Of course alcoholic beverages play no part in an athlete's program, and I sincerely hope that every boy will pick his own sport and pay the price necessary to be a champion." -- George Munger

" From an athletic standpoint, indulgence in alcohol is a positive step toward disintegration. No boy has so much strength that he can afford to dissipate any of it away. Certainly if a boy does not possess enough pride in his own well-being to keep himself in top condition, then he is too unreliable to compete against those who do." -- Ossie Solem

"The use of alcohol at any time by these boys defeats their purpose not only on the athletic field but outside as well. Naturally we are very much against it. Every boy 'down inside' has pride enough to stay away from alcohol in any form." -- L. B. Allison

"The attitude toward drinking may have changed in the past generation; however, alcohol itself has not changed. It still remains the same chemical compound that it has always been. And when we do not permit teams in training to use alcoholic beverages, I believe abstinence is just as vital for men who are not in training and who are not in such splendid condition physically to combat the effects of alcohol." -- Andy Kerr

An athlete must say "no" a thousand
times to temptation before he can
say "yes" once to victory and to

a Championship ~~boy~~
This same ~~athlete~~ must say
"no" to alcohol everytime if he
hopes to become a great athlete.
all sensible ~~athletes~~ and all sensible coaches
taboo it.

F. C. BANNON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MANUFACTURERS BANK BUILDING
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

September 11, 1942

Dr. F. C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

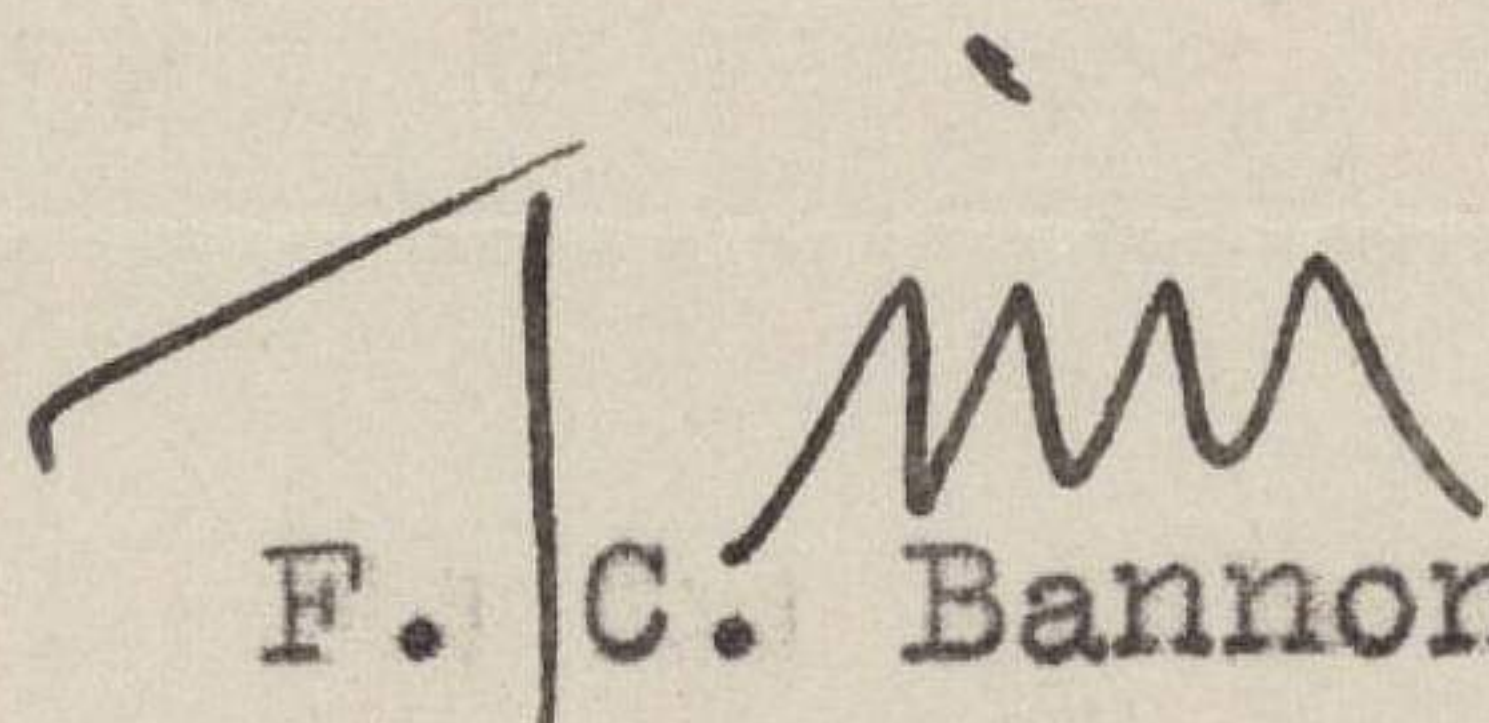
Dear Phog:

Thanks a lot for your nice letter of yesterday. Jim and I are delighted that Earl has put our tickets for the football season with the Allen clan. With the tire situation as it is we very likely will have to be together in order to keep warm, there being nobody else left to come to the games.

Enclosed is a check which I wish you would give Earl and wish also that you would ask him to send tickets here.

With very best regards to everybody and looking forward to seeing you and whatever else of the Allen outfit is around, I am

Sincerely yours,


F. C. Bannon

FCB/MM

October 5, 1942.

Miss Mildred Beecher,
Newton, Kansas.

Dear Miss Beecher:

I have talked with Mr. Shenk and with Dr. Turney regarding the completion of your summer enrollment. Dr. Turney has suggested that you should write him direct about the status of your work with him.

Mr. Shenk and I will be perfectly willing to send you final examinations in our courses, in care of the Superintendent of Schools at Newton, and let you write these examinations in his office. Or, if you are coming to Lawrence some time soon we could arrange for you to take the examinations on the day you would plan to be here.

Assuring you of our desire to cooperate with you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Newton Kansas
Sept. 30 - 1942

Mr. F. C. Allen:
Director of Physical Education:
Lawrence Kans.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I reached home on the 3rd of Sept with my mother from Okla City, and had to start at Bethel on Fri 4th in the afternoon. I have been very busy with the care of my mother, who is improving, my class work and home work. Your letter of July 23 you said you would check with Mr. Shunk and Mr. Turney regarding the completion of work for the summer. I thought I would write you and see if and what had to be done.

Hoping to be able to return to K. U. next year, I am

Sincerely yours
Miss Mildred Beecher.

October 5, 1942.

Mr. Dan Belen,
Public Utility Building,
Salina, Kansas.

Dear Dan:

I beg your pardon for the delay in answering your kind letter of the 18th ultimo, but I have been swamped with the beginning of our conditioning program here at the University this fall.

I am sending you some of the printed material we have regarding our conditioning program, and also a sketch of the obstacle course. We have one obstacle course south of the gymnasium and another near the stadium.

We are using as a guide the Basic Field Manual of the War Department, FM 21-20, which may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents at Washington, D. C., for 30¢ a copy.

If you have any specific questions concerning our program I shall be happy to hear from you.

Cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

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**THE PREFERRED FIRE
INSURANCE COMPANY**
TOPEKA, KANSAS

SPRADLEY-BOLEN AGENCY
Public Utility Building
Salina, Kansas

September 18, 1942

Dr. Forrest (Phog) Allen,
Kansas State University,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Phog:

A short time ago I received a letter from Virgil Baer, the athletic coach of Dickinson County High School at Chapman, Kansas, in which he asked me to speak at a physical education meeting to be held in Salina, Kansas, during the coming Teachers' Convention. The subject that he assigned was "What I Consider a Good Physical Education Program."

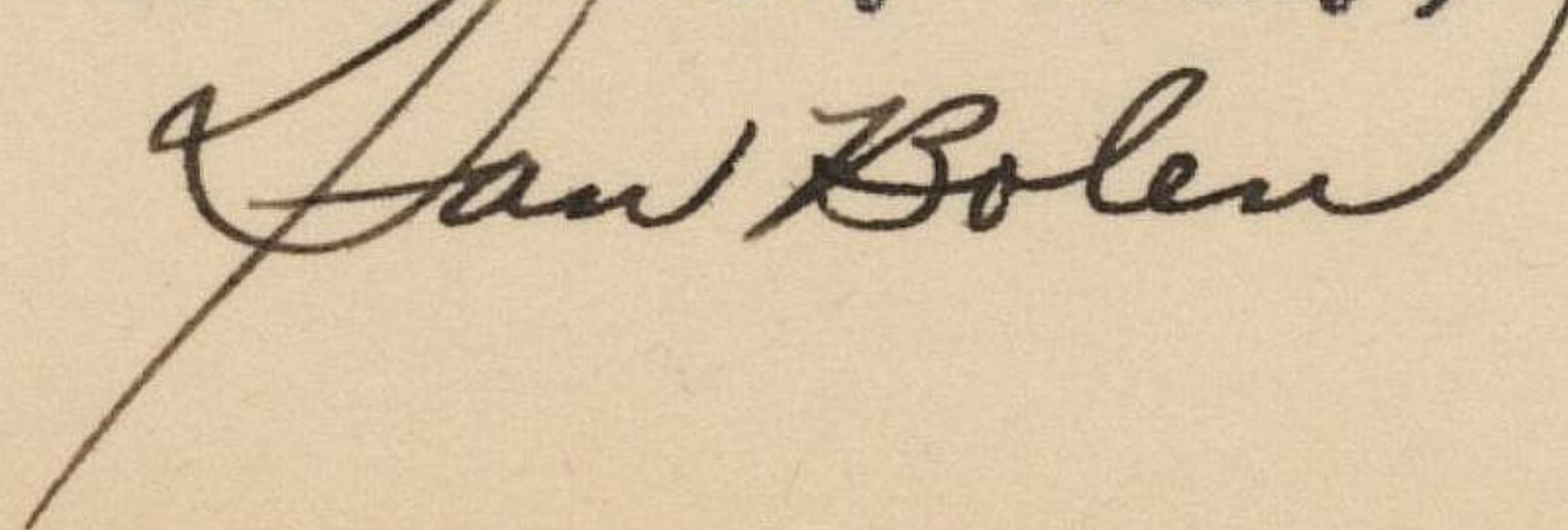
I can't figure out why he picked on me because I have been removed from any physical program for a long time, except for the program we have at the local Y.M.C.A. However, I told Virgil I would do the best I could, and now I am calling on my experienced friends that I know can help me on this assigned subject. Any suggestions, pamphlets, books, or anything else you think might help me in my talk that you have access to and can send me will certainly be appreciated. I might give you my word of honor that I would guarantee the safe return of anything you might send.

It has been quite a while since you have paid Salina a visit. I think you should try to favor us with your presence before too long. I hardly think you would recognize our fair city. I suppose you have heard that the government is putting in a fairly large air base and cantonment. I imagine within the next month or six weeks they will be completed. This new influx of people has really changed the local complexion. I know you are having the same experience in Lawrence.

If all goes well I am contemplating coming to Lawrence this fall to see a football game or two.

Thanking you in advance for any assistance you can give me in helping me with my subject, I am

Yours very truly,



DB:Z

September 9, 1942.

Mr. F. C. Bannon,
Leavenworth, Kansas.

Dear Tim:

Earl Falkenstien was just in the office talking about your football tickets and where you wanted them placed. He was going to place them with the Allen clan. Is this agreeable to you? Or will you be in the Army by that time?

With kindest regards to Jim and the firm,
I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

WM. L. BURDICK
DEAN EMERITUS, SCHOOL OF LAW

Jan. 26, 1943,

My dear Forrest:

I duly received the card and greetings of my old friend Dolts of Buffalo, sent to me by him when you met him on one of your recent trips. Thank you very, very much for bringing me his message. Congratulations upon your splendid record, this season, with your (and our) great basket-ball team.

Cordially,
Wm. L. Burdick

Doctor F. B. Allen,
Director, Physical Education.

January 29, 1943.

Mr. Laurence Butler,
Principal,
Wallace County Community High School,
Sharon Springs, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Butler:

Immediately upon receipt of your letter of the 27th instant I took it to Mr. Earl Falkenstien, financial secretary of the Athletic Association, and asked him to reserve two tickets for you for the Iowa State game here on February 6th.

These tickets will be held in your name at the ticket window in the Auditorium up to game time. If you do not call for them prior to game time they will be sold. But Mr. Falkenstien has the tickets for you and he has made some very excellent reservations.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

WALLACE COUNTY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Laurence Butler, Principal

SHARON SPRINGS, KANSAS

January 27, 1943

Dr. F. C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I've been so far away from the Hill since I graduated in 1929 that I have not had a chance to see a K. U. basketball team in action since the night that Peterson got up from a sick bed to set a Valley scoring mark for the season. As I remember it Byers of K. State was the runner-up after the game.

Would it be possible that you could get two seats for me for the K. U. Iowa State game on February 6th. I'd sure like to be in a seat where I can see everything that goes on. I'd send a check for the tickets if I knew where to find out the price. If you will tell me how much they will be I'll mail you a check by return mail. I'll be in Emporia on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week so I'll have to have the tickets here by next Tuesday.

Sincerely
Laurence Butler

January 25, 1943.

Mr. E. B. Black,
Black & Veatch,
4706 Broadway,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Black:

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and kindness in mailing me a tear sheet from the New York Enquirer as of Monday, January 18th. You are a real son of old K.U. - you never overlook a bet to promote her welfare.

We deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness and loyalty.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

Dear Sir: I know it may be troublesome,
but I am very anxious to get some
information, re: Tuesday night's game
with Creighton. (Dec. 13th) -

Would you be so kind as
to advise me as to the exact
time you started the first play -

Please do so, only our inability
to get the authoritative information elsewhere,
causes me to trouble you -

Thanking you for this and
all past favors. I am,

Respectfully,

Yours for Victory

A. B. Browne.

7:32 P.M.

November 18, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Dept. of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of recommendation. After reading it over, you must be talking about someone else instead of me. It made me swell up and almost burst the buttons off my shirt. I hope that someday I will be able to repay you for this kindness.

If the gas rationing is forestalled for two or three more months, and I hope it is, it will give me an opportunity to get down to Lawrence and work with Jack some more. The way it looks now, the Navy deal will probably take a couple of months before I will hear anything definite on it, but should I hear sooner than that, you will be one of the first to know about it, because I want you to be.

Thanks again for all you have done for me.

Sincerely,

Murray Brown

December 11, 1942.

Miss Mildred Beecher,
301 Harrison,
Newton, Kansas.

Dear Miss Beecher:

I am happy to mail the examination in Community Recreation to Mrs. Blaylock. I am also sending Mr. Shenk's test to her at the same time.

I hope that your mother has effected a complete recovery by this time.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

December 11, 1942.

Mrs. Anna Blaylock,
Superintendent of Harvey County Schools,
Newton, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Blaylock:

At the request of Miss Mildred Beecher I am sending
you examinations which she desires to take during the
Christmas vacation.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

Dec. 9 - 1942

Dr. F. C. Allen
Lawrence Kans.

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am planning on taking my
test during Christmas vacation
so if you will please send my
test to Mrs. Anna Blaylock, Supt
of Harvey County, Newton, Mo. I am

sorry I have caused so much
trouble and I appreciate all you
have done for me.

I believe this Spring I will
try and ~~get~~ get me a different job.

Sincerely yours
Mered Beecher

301 Harrison
Newton Ks.

October 20, 1942.

Miss Mildred Beecher,
301 Harrison,
Newton, Kansas.

Dear Miss Beecher:

Most of the questions in the final examination are practical problems, covering the work that we went over during the summer. The questions cover the course pretty comprehensively. They are all common sense questions that a woman of your ability can work out because you were one of the better students.

I will be happy to send the questions to Mrs. Blaylock whenever you are ready for them.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

301 Harrison

Newton Ks

Oct 7 1942.

Dr. F. C. Allen

Lawrence Kan

Dear Dr. Allen:

Your letter of Oct 5. received.
I have followed your advice.
In regard to your test will
it cover the whole summer
work? I would like to
know what to study.

I wonder if you could
send the test when I am
ready to our County Supt.
Mrs Ann. Blaylock as I can
make better arrangements
to take it ~~there~~ with her
or the office.

Thanking you

Sincerely yours
Mediel Beecher.