

May 25, 1945.

Mrs. E. G. Nesmith,  
Box 166 A - R. 2,  
Santa Ana, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Nesmith:

I was glad to have your letter of the 30th ultimo. I am sorry that I have delayed so long in answering.

I remember when your husband came and I remember the work that we did for him. I am sorry that there aren't specialists out there who can do this work. I regret that I cannot advise you as to what course you should take. I know the operation that you describe, and in many cases it has been highly successful. They take the disc out between the vertebrae and the theory is that this lessens the impingement upon the trunk of the nerve that makes up a part of the sciatic nerve. It is an expensive operation and some cases show fine recovery. It may take two months after the operation for this to show, but the pain is generally lessened materially.

The other is the manipulative treatment such as Dean and I gave Gene. This, combined with diathermy, should do the job. Certainly the sacro-iliac should be worked upon, and work higher on the spine will do little if any good. The sacro-iliac is the exciting cause and unless that is corrected I cannot see much permanent benefit. The diathermy without the specific treatment will not do it.

Dean will be back in Lawrence the first of July, and while a trip from California is rather an expensive one, it would be much cheaper than an operation. And I believe that we could effect the same result that we did before. I trust ere now your husband has gotten relief from his difficulty. If not, I would suggest that you try to arrange it so that he could come in to have Dean follow through his work as he did heretofore.

My kindest regards to him and to you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH