

the Shrine Band in Minneapolis and pays his dues and makes money on the side by doing all their lettering and cartooning for the Shrine Band and the Shrine.

I went out to a chapel meeting of his high school and I met his boys and many of his co-workers. I am frank to say to you that if there is one single thing wrong with this young man I do not know it. In fact, he is tops in every way I know of. I think perhaps the invalid wife has kept him close and where his interests have radiated he has spent most of his time at home and therefore has not reached out like he would have had his wife been well. He has also taught there in the school playground during the summers.

I think I told you, did I not, that when Dr. Raymond A. Kent, who is now president of the University of Louisville and who was superintendent of schools here in Lawrence during my first years at the University of Kansas in 1919, and later went to Duluth, Minnesota, wrote and asked me to recommend a young man I recommended Ray Parkins to him. Then Dr. Kent came back here as Dean of the School of Education and is now in his present position, President of the University of Louisville. I asked Dr. Kent about Ray's tenure at Duluth, and he said that he was one of the finest young men that he had ever dealt with, and most competent.

I might tell you further from very intimate knowledge of Ray that he lived at Carrollton, Missouri. He is a boy that had to work his way through school. We had him live in our home for two years. This was at the time when our family was very young. Ray would get up in the morning, cook the oatmeal, fix the furnace, and help around the house, sweeping the porches and sidewalks and so forth. Our whole family learned to love Ray Parkins. He never smoked, drank or use any profanity, but on the other hand was a wonderful character with our young children. He always whistled and sang and it was an extreme joy and pleasure to have a boy like that in our home. Then the war came and he enlisted. We have seen Ray off and on for a number of years, but he has not changed one iota.

Now, a bit of confidential information. I know that a great number of alumni went to Ray Parkins when Dave McMillan was going badly at Minnesota and they told him that they were for him to take over the basketball team and that they were going to boost him for the coaching job. Ray said, "Don't you do it. Dave McMillan is a friend of mine and he has been swell to me, and under no circumstances would I consider it." I only mention that to show you the type of man that Parkins is.

Ray had written me a number of times saying that he wanted to get in college work but he was doing so well there financially that no job that I have been able to recommend him for has appealed to him financially, or at least not enough to get him away from Minneapolis. So it would take a very sizeable sum to lure this boy away from a swell set-up, as I consider it. Since he is an alumnus of the University of Minnesota and since he has developed so many