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Aug. 16, 1941

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

Dear Doc:

Just received word from Rollie William saying that Carroll would be alright for your game up there Jan. 29th. I have assigned Parke to that game. He also stated that with your approval he was assigning MacDonald to that game.

I was rather amused at the attitude of the Boys on the Missouri-Kansas line about officiating. How many assignments have they had in the Big Six? None. Now that someone is in charge of officials they want to get assignments, apparently not realizing that the coaches are still saying who they want. They have been invited to all our Clinics and Rules meetings and have been given every encouragement. They have been told how the whole set-up works and what they must do before they can get on coaches preferential lists.

The first year I assigned football officials I had a letter from a man that had worked a few, a very few, college games and he stated that while he had never worked in the Big Six he expected a full schedule the next year since every coach had assured him that he was on their list. He was on one list and that as no. 16 Field Judge - we don't go below ten in football. Of course he will probably feel unkindly toward me, that is to be expected.

I answer every letter I get and take pains to explain everything in detail. You can imagine how many, and what peculiar letters I get; you have been getting them for many years.

At the present time Andy Skradski is the only official over there anyways near ready for Big Six assignments, and he is on the list this year. Ed Ellis is coming along but is not ready. I have been trying to get across the idea that the Big Six is big league and that they must come up through the ranks and qualify for this conference; and that officials are picked on their merit and not because he happens to know some of the coaches or is a good fellow. It doesn't matter to me who an official is or where he comes from if he can get the job done and the coaches want him then he will get assignments. I have no friends when it comes to assigning officials.

Want to talk with you further about this when you come down.

With the best of wishes,

Reaves.