

May 3, 1937

This brings me to another point and one which you might well give careful consideration to - and that is the matter of admission to your courses. You will get at first, probably, a lot of boys who want to compete in athletics and who take the courses in physical education because they think they are going to be snap courses, and that all they have to do is be good performers in order to get credit. You will certainly want to disabuse their minds of any such fool notions. I know, of no course outside of Medicine or possibly Engineering, which should be as exacting as a course in Physical Education. This means that you want to set up some rather rigid requirements, both academic and physical, for admission to your major courses.

This brings up another point and that is the question of giving majors or minors in physical education for women. You personally will want to watch that rather closely. I am assuming that that will also be in your division. You will want to select a woman to head it up with whom you can work, and one who has had some practical experience, as well as educational advancement. You will find more women with advanced degrees in physical education than you will find men, and you will find a lot of them who couldn't make a success in teaching and who have gone on and gotten more and more education, who have little ability, little personality, and nothing excepting degrees to recommend them to one. If, and when, you get to the point of selecting, I again feel I could give you some positive help. We have a girl here in this department who is old enough to know what it's all about, who has had her Master's degree for some time and is moving along toward her Doctor's degree, you might want to consider.

There is one other angle and that is the angle of health education. Health education is a field in itself as we handle it here in Cleveland, and as it's developing here, my guess is that we can make a case for it as being a special field all its own. I should like to talk with you about this. With your training, however, you ought to appreciate the fact that health education and physical education are not the same thing, and yet with many of your students you will have to give them some health education, probably at least one required course for all of them, but here again you ought to have a superlative teacher, if it is possible to get one.

You'd better plan to go to the Atlantic City meeting of the National Recreation Association and come around this way and spend a day with me. I will try not to bore you with my more radical ideas, but will try to give you a picture of some of the things I think are essential.

You are not far from St. Louis, and if you can drop in on Anderson you would get hold of some very good ideas. Anderson is a sterling fellow, has lots of imagination, and is particularly strong on the recreation end of the thing.

I think I have written enough for this time. Hope I have answered all your questions, and if you want me to go out on the hunt for a man for you, let me know and I will do so at once.

Despite all of the wonderfully fine things you have done for the University of Kansas (and I think you have done a lot), I really believe that you will be able to do more for them in this capacity than you could in your old one. After all, as you develop your thinking along the lines of physical education and recreation, I believe you will begin to see the athletic program in its proper perspective and position in the scheme of education.