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December 11, 1941.

Mr. Gene M. Leahy,
Manager, Lusk Crude Oil Co.,
Lusk, Wyoming.

Dear Mr. Leahy:

I acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 4th instant, and I am happy that you were able to see the great football game between the University of Southern California and Notre Dame.

When I received your first letter I interpreted it as written by the proprietor of a tavern or a pool hall, and I answered it in the same vein. Since I find that you are a graduate of Creighton University and played football under Tommy Mills I am revising entirely my estimate of you. In fact, I stopped in Omaha and went out and had a long visit with Tommy when he was coach at Creighton. I refereed some of the games that Creighton played under Tommy Mills and perchance I might have worked a game while you were playing. I was very fond of Tommy Mills and I thought he was a fine gentleman and a great coach.

I think you took my letter too seriously. When I was kidding about Irish parentage I was kidding myself because I happen to be Irish, and I was not taking any of the things that I was writing too seriously because I thought I was talking to someone other than a college graduate. And if I could say anything that would kid the fellow along a little I did it for the humor that was in it.

I coached football at Kansas in 1920, and have had better than ten years of college football coaching. I also played football, basketball and baseball, so I do not happen to be a crank on basketball.

I am sending you a copy of a speech that I made at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on November 26, and in that you will see that I have never stated that college football if conducted on a basis other than straight professionalism would die. They have named Elmer Layden czar of professional football, just as they named Judge Landis czar of professional baseball. Now, if they would have a czar of college football and he could say there is a limit to this proselyting and subsidizing then anyone found extending that authorized limit would be dealt with. The coach breaking the law would be discharged; the athlete violating the law would be declared ineligible. The faculty member disregarding the law would be removed; and the alumnus, - well, it wouldn't make much difference about him if he