

Postville, Iowa.  
Feb. 27, 1944.

Mr F.G Allen;  
Dear Sir;

I received your most welcome letter some few weeks ago but have not had the opportunity to answer it as soon as I would have liked to have.

I want to take this time to thank you for the many minutes of your valuable time you have given Lloyd. And I am indeed sorry that he could not or did not come thru for you.

Perhaps it would have been much better if in the beginning I should have written to you and familiarized you with the type of boy Lloyd is.

For some unknown reason and from some unknown cause he developed an inferiority complex during his early high school days. I had hopes of this complex disappearing as he got older but it is evident that he still retains much of it.

His high school basketball Ivan Blackmer who was a very fine center at the U of Iowa in '34 found him different than any boy he had ever coached. If he took him out of a game and gave him the works for a mistake and then put him back in the game he would tie himself in knots from trying too hard and he would actually be doing a worse job.

Mr. Blackmer finally tried another method. If he was going badly he took him out of the game and gave him a pep talk. Told him he could do his job just as well as the next fellow and when he put him back in again he seemed to play even over his head so to speak.

When he went to Iowa he still retained a considerable amount of the said complex but Blackmer and Pops Harrison being good friends they got together on the situation and Pops who was then freshman coach, seemed to, what I thought, remove this complex from the boy.

He was assigned to Chapman second scorer in the big Ten and from the letters I had the boy did a swell job defensively. He was among ten boys who were held over for an additional month to practise. I had every reason to believe that he had whipped the old "complex" but he still carried it to K.U. with him.

He thought he was doing all right in the Missouri game and he did not quite understand why he was taken out and from then on his confidence began to slip and along with it his interest.

Perhaps I should give you an insight to his characteristics but it seemed that I would appear to be asking for favors and I do know that you have enough to do without teaching psychology too. The other boy is just the opposite. He gets self-satisfied and loaf. The coach takes him out and gives him the works so to speak and when he gets back into the game he really puts out.

I know you have given Lloyd a lot of valuable time. I appreciate it and I know he does too. And I am truly sorry that he could not come thru for you as I know he can if he had tossed off that damnable complex. Thanking you again for what you have done for him I beg to remain, Your very truly,

L.E. Palmer.