

March 29, 1941

Honorable Payne H. Ratner
Governor of Kansas
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor Ratner:

I am sorry that I did not have an opportunity to visit with you more during this past basketball season, but Mrs. Allen and the rest of the Allen family, with the exception of Bobby and me, certainly enjoyed their contacts with the Ratners this winter.

With the legislature in session I imagine you have had your usually strenuous winter; however, I have noticed that the throat malady which annoyed you so much your first two years as a chief executive of the State has apparently lessened somewhat its annoying irritation. I am glad of that because I know of nothing that bothers a man more than a voice that does not respond to heavy duty.

Governor Ratner, I dislike to bother you after all the kindnesses that you showed to Howard Engleman last year. He tells me that Mr. Walter Fees placed him in the very spot that he desired and he got much benefit from his experience as well as earning enough money to pay the bills incurred by him in his previous year of schooling. It was very kind of you and I appreciate it very much.

However, Vance Hall, one of my fine sophomore basketball players from Downs, Kansas, dropped in to see me and stated that he had hopes, and I think a promise, from Mr. Harrison Glidden to help him this coming summer on a highway job. But I understand Mr. Glidden has been called into service and Vance is rather afraid that his chances of obtaining that position now are not so good as if Mr. Glidden were on the job.

Vance desires to work on the highway and he desires an outdoor job so that the work will put him in fine physical fettle for next year. Vance partially works his way through college and he is a fine boy in every particular. I think before Vance Hall has obtained his degree from the University of Kansas he will be one of our truly outstanding basketball greats.

If there is any way to help him I assure you I would appreciate it and would consider it a personal favor.