

February 5, 1938.

Mrs. Fanchon Reid,
307 South First St.,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Reid:

I had a long conversation with Mr. Herman Engel yesterday regarding Bruce and his problem. I went into every detail of the situation concerning Bruce's aspirations, difficulties, and so forth, with Herman. I only wish that I might have had an opportunity to talk with you.

Bruce is a fine boy. He is very much like my second son who has a very quick brain but did not use it for all that it was worth in his academic contact. I would not call him mentally lazy, but he learned so rapidly, or else got it so much easier than the ordinary student, that this caused him to slight his work more than did the plugger. He had a confidence in his ability to get by. This intellectual talent of his caused him trouble in other endeavors, because he always figured that he could get things just a little faster than the other fellow. I find Bruce doing this. He was in hot water all year regarding his grades. This is symptomatic of his other troubles.

I want you to know, Mrs. Reid, that I am very fond of Bruce, and I am endeavoring to do some things for him that Milton's parents were not able to do for Milton because when we dealt with him he always put a proposition to his mother that he was getting the worst of it, when as a matter of fact he was not putting his whole self into the job.

I wrote you regarding Bruce smoking. I don't believe there has been a day that he has practiced but what I have smelled tobacco on his breath. Of course, he makes himself scarce and does not like to come close to me. I never let him know that I do smell tobacco on his breath, with this one exception. Last Tuesday just before the Nebraska game I called Pralle and Golay in for a very serious conference, and afterwards I walked up to Bruce and said, "Bruce, really, when are you going to start training? You say you want to play basketball and make the team. You have never put yourself in the position of convincing me that you wanted to make it at any price. We have four boys on the team who do not train."

We have Don Ebling, Richard Harp and Sylvester Schmidt who train one hundred per cent. I called Golay and Pralle in for an hour's extended conference, and I "put the heat" on both these boys and told them some very pointed, and yet very friendly things. I