

AS

September 2, 1938.

Mr. Bruce Reid,
307 South 1st St.,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Dear Bruce:

Your very excellent letter of the 31st ultimo has been received, and I am glad that you are facing the situation in a logical fashion. Bruce, you know that if there was any way that I could have helped you out I would have cooperated most fully with you. But I remembered that Dean Lawson is poison on the procedure of a boy trying to make up correspondence work while he is in school. Having been director of athletics for a number of years and having this thing come up with so many football men, I know just how "red-headed" the dean gets, and he has put his foot down emphatically on this sort of procedure.

So you see it would embarrass you with the dean. While you personally might not come in contact with him of your own initiative, you would come in contact with him because of his action. And then you would have one or two strikes on you for doing such a thing, and it would be just too bad all around.

I congratulate you on your insight in seeing that had you not failed in your course last spring you would not be forced to take this work this summer. But, Bruce, I am not chewing on your neck at all, because I know that every individual has different reactions toward different situations. One boy will get his work up ahead of time, but he will fail in something else, perhaps.

Up until now it seems that you have endeavored to put off the unpleasant or the difficult things without meeting them squarely face to face on every occasion. Then I have seen, for no good reason apparently, that some fellow do an about-face, and the things that were difficult for him before became a challenge that he was happy to combat aggressively. I call it the old fight. Now what develops that old fight in a fellow just at this particular time, no one knows.

Now I am not talking about athletic scraps. I am talking about that something internally that grips a man and changes him over night it seems from what he was in years previous. I am hoping that this is just exactly what is happening to you, and I believe that I am right in my diagnosis.