Mr. W. C. Simons
President, The Lawrence Daily Journal-World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Simons:

Your good letter of October 31 has not gone unanswered because I did not want to give it earlier attention than I have. I was out of town some ten days at the time your letter arrived and I have been on so many speaking tours that it has been impossible for me to find time for dictation. I am up here at the office at 10:15 tonight dictating this letter to you along with others that I should have answered quite some time ago.

I am very happy to have your letter and I concur one hundred per cent in your belief regarding the very valuable benefit of physical exercise. I am very sure that we can arrange to have Dolph come up and play with the faculty under the direction of Mr. Burt DeGroot. The faculty meet with Mr. DeGroot on Wednesdays and Fridays at 4:30. I can make arrangements so Dolph could exercise with these boys if he would like to. They play volley ball and none of them are too strenuous. I believe it would fit in very nicely.

If he does not like this set up I believe that we could cooperate with the Lawrence High School people and arrange to secure use of their gym for games similar to the ones our faculty use. I believe we would have no difficulty in getting someone to conduct this work at the high school that would prove both beneficial and highly recreative to Dolph and his group, if he would prefer a less crowded condition than we have here at the University.

After you have talked the matter over with Dolph, if you will give me a ring I will be glad to drop down at some convenient time and talk this over with you. Personally, I believe the high school would be a better place for Dolph and his group because some of these faculty members do not unlimber either physically or socially, but they are a bunch of swell fellows and too, there would be more room for them at the high school. Also, the high school would be closer to Dolph's domicile and I believe that Neal Wherry and that group of people would be glad to serve the Lawrence community in a neighborly way.

I am very sure that we can furnish the personnel if arrangements can be made to use the gym.

I await your response and assure you it is a pleasure to cooperate with you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA :me

THE LAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD

AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

BY THE WORLD COMPANY

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

LORENZEN & THOMPSON INC.

NEW YORK, 28 WEST 44TH ST.

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LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO,

AND ST. LOUIS.

PRINTERS, BINDERS, BLANK BOOK MAKERS

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

October 31, 1940

Dr. F. C. Allen Athletic Department University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

From my personal experience, when I was in the middle and late thirties, I believe that directed physical exercise can be of tremendous importance to every other man in the thirties and forties. I am particularly interested in this at this time because I believe that intelligently directed exercise may be the very thing that will restore Dolph to his ordinary, perfect health. The relaxation which comes from exercise is good in more than one way, because, during such a time, a man's mind is entirely free from all thoughts of business or politics, or whatever it may be.

I took my exercise twice a week at the Y. M. C. A. I wonder if now there may be available for Dolph any University classes of this sort in which he might take a part. I have also felt that there might be a real opportunity for some one to conduct classes for business and office men, and, in such a case, it might be possible to secure the use of the gymnasium at the high school. I should be very glad to back your judgment in this matter in a practical way, because my present excellent health, I believe, is quite largely due to the several years when I took exercise regularly.

For the past four years, every night before I go to bed, no matter where I am or what the hour, I go through with five hundred or more exercises of torso and limbs, and, when I am through, I drop off to sleep almost immediately.

Is it possible that some of the K. U. athletes or pre-medics have sufficient knowledge to direct a class of this sort, and, there-by, aid themselves in making their way through the University?

With great appreciation for what you have meant to me, I remain

WCS: FIRAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD

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Mr. W. C. Simons
The Lawrence Daily Journal-World
Lawrence, Kansas

Deer Mr. Simons:

Your letter of October 31 to Dr. Allen has been received.

Dr. Allen is out of town at the present time speaking at the State High School Teachers Associations meetings, athletic sections, in Toledo and Milwaukee.

Your letter will be given immediate attention upon Dr. Allen's return to the office.

Sincerely yours.

Secretary to Dr. Forrest C. Allen

December 21, 1940 Mr. W.C. Simons Lawrence Daily Journal-World Laurence, Kansas Dear Mr. Simons: I must acknowledge with thanks your extreme thoughtfulness in mailing me a check. Thank you very much. A man who has had as much experience with a family as you have certainly has an innate knowledge of the necessity of a man buying a woman something in New York City. For that reason I thank you for your thoughtfulness and assure you that when country folks get in big cities they are sure to be separated from their money. I assure you it was a great pleasure to do anything in our power to relieve any sufferings and further to cement a reciprocal friendship among our families which is one of the finest things in human relationships. Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA: 1g

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AND ST. LOUIS.

PRINTERS, BINDERS, BLANK BOOK MAKERS

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

December 17, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen 801 Louisiana Street Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am inclosing a check, not in payment for what you have done, but in appreciation for your many favors, and for your skillful service.

Please buy something for yourself, or Mrs. Allen, that you would like.

Mrs. Simons and I hope you are enjoying, as much as we are the fine friendship that exists between our families.

Cordially yours

LAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD

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COLONEL JOHN J. MCCOOK AND HIS FIELD -- A LETTER AND REPLY

University of Kansas Lawrence

Department of Physical Education

Movember 13, 1939.

Professor M. W. Sterling, 1129 Louisiana Street, Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Professor Sterling:

Some time ago Mr. George O. Foster gave to the Athletic Office a picture of John J. McCook, and after my demise as Athletic Director the picture was taken upstairs. I desire to have the Men's Student Council take cognizance of Mr. McCook's gift of McCook Field to the University. I have also asked that his picture be put in a conspicuous place in the Union Building, perhaps the trophy case.

I am writing you for some information that I would like to pass on to them. How much did John J. McCook give to the University in the way of land or money? And in what year? What year was McCook Field built, and was the baseball and football grandstand a part of the gift?

Any additional history that you may give in regard to this will be greatly appreciated.

Very cordially yours,

(Signed)

FORREST C. ALLEN

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Basketball Coach. Dear Dr. Allen:

When I received your letter of Movember 13th, I was on the point of writing a reply offhand but, suspecting that there was more in your inquiry than appeared on its face, I decided to look into the matter somewhat more carefully, because I knew from my own experience how leady the memory is. I first turned to the record as printed in an article on "Student Life" by Professor A. G. Canfield, in the Quarter-Centennial History of the University of Kansas, published in 1891. This record gives the authoritative statement of the McCook bequest. I quote Professor Canfield's language.

"Another attempt was made in December, 1889, and the association then formed is still in existence. Besides supplying a central management for the various sports, it set itself to the task of raising money to procure and fit up suitable grounds for an athletic field. The need of such a field entirely under the control of the University has long been felt by the students and frequently been pointed out by the college papers. A subscription was begun among the students and faculty, and about \$200 raised. Cohonel McCook, of New York, interested himself in the plans of the association and gave \$1,500 towards its object, with the promise of doubling whatever it should raise up to \$10,000. The association has prosecuted its work during the present year and raised about \$600, and has received a further gift from Col. McCook of \$1,000, so that there is available for its purpose about \$3,500."

The <u>Quivira</u>, the senior yearbook of 1893, repeats this history in the following language:

"This athletic board has also, from the beginning, endeavored to collect money to provide a suitable athletic field and eventually a gymnasium. It found an unexpected benefactor in Col. McCook, of New York, who gave \$1,500 for a field, and afterwards increased his gift to nearly twice that sum.

Governor Charles Robinson also came to the rescue of the association, when it

was ready to purchase land for its purpose, and gave half of the tract which it had decided to buy. This field has been partly graded, affording excellent baseball and football grounds, and a good grand stand has been erected. It has been appropriately christened 'McCook Field'".

I quote next from a pamphlet published in 1894, a short history of University athletics by J. V. May, secretary of the athletic association at that time.

"One of the first enterprises undertaken by the new organization was the purchase of a suitable athletic ground and the building of a gymnasium. Col.

J. J. McCook, of New York City, who delivered the commencement address of 1890, presented the Athletic Association before leaving the city, with fifteen hundred dollars, and afterwards added another thousand. Early in '91 ex-Gov.

Chas. Robinson offered to donate to the association one-half of a twelve-acre tract west of the University on condition that the other half was bought at \$200 per acre. This offer was accepted and McCook Field is the result. The deed is held in trust by the University Endowment Association. With a good athletic field at its disposal, the success of the association was assured and its prosperity has been uninterrupted."

I may say that Mr. May was mistaken in saying that Colonel McCook delivered the commencement address that year. The address was delivered at commencement time but was An Address Before the Literary Societies.

In the <u>Graduate Magazine</u> of May, 1905, I find an article entitled
"A Historical Survey of the Campus", by Professor W. C. Hoad of the engineering school. I quote from his article.

". . . the first addition to the University grounds made after North

College campus was completed was through the generosity of Colonel John J. McCook.

While on a visit at the University, in June, 1890, Colonel McCook witnessed a

game of base-ball between the University nine and a visiting team, a game well

played, though on a poor field. Being very much interested in athletic sports, he subsequently expressed his readiness to provide for the purchase and preparation of a suitable athletic field for University sports. The sum given by him for this purpose amounted to twenty-five hundred dollars. With this money, the twelve and one-half acres now known as McCook Field was purchased from ex-Governor Robinson, and the northwest corner was graded, sub-drained and fenced, and the grand-stand was built. The generosity of Governor Robinson also should be recognized in this transaction, as he accepted in payment for the tract a sum--twelve hundred dollars--equal to about half itsereal value. A resolution of the Board of Regents of October 16, 1891, thanks ex-Governor Robinson for his 'gift of six acres of ground to be used as abhletic grounds'."

One more quotation in this line will surely be enough. This is from the December issue of the Oread Magazine, of 1919, Tradition Number.

"McCook Field was added to the campus in the early nineties. It was the gift of John J. McCook of New York City who was asked to deliver a commencement address at K. U., about 1890. He was given an honorary degree at the time and likewise witnessed a game of baseball, played under the umpirage of Professor M. W. Sterling. That same night the announcement was made that McCook had given \$1500 to be used for an athletic field. Later he contributed \$1,000 to complete the fund found to be necessary. There is still some doubt as to whether it was the degree or the game that won the field. McCook said he was highly pleased with the athletic spirit of K. U.; no one recalls exactly what he said about the degree."

Now, Dr. Allen, I have positively no recollection of having umpired a baseball game during this period, and I now enter an absolute disclaimer of any intent on my part to manage the impirage of the game in question in such a way as to loosen the purse strings of Colonel McCook.

This series of quotations from authorities indicates that the story is told consistently through decades, and might be considered sufficient answer to your inquiry. But suspecting that there was something more back of your questions, I decided to put the matter to a test, and asked Fred Ellsworth, "Of course, you were not here Mr. Ellsworth, but what do you know about the McCook bequest?"

After a moment's reflection, he replied, "Well, I have read somewhere that he gave a gift of \$12,500 with a later addition of a considerable sum in cash."

When Karl Elooz was what he knew he said he did not know a thing but had supposed that Col. McCook was a local ex-army man who owned the Field which he just good-naturedly gave to the E. U. Athletic Association. I thought that if our University people had such ideas the matter must be traced through to some sort of explanation. A short search in the files of the Graduate Magazine revealed this amazing information. The January issue of 1913 contains an article entitled "History and Argument in Tables", with this brief introduction.

"Many facts and figures bearing on matters of University interest now pending before the legislature have been reduced to the form of tables. Some of them are printed here for their interest historically or their value as 'amunition'." [Sic]

Among other tables is this ones

GIFTS TO THE UNIVERSITY

Value	When Received
Amos A. Lawrence, Cash	\$10,500
Chas. Robinson, 40A Campus	40,000
	3,000
	5,000
	500
Funds	20,000
Proceeds Sale of Bonds by City of Lawrence,	
	90,500
	4,000
	1,200
	12,500
	2,650
	91,618
	7~, ~~~
Mosedale	90,000
	Amos A. Lawrence, Cash Chas. Robinson, 40A Campus Jas. H. Lane, 2.8 A Campus City of Lawrence 5.2 A. Campus City of Lawrence for Observatory North College Building, Donations and Relief

1898 Geo. O. Fowler, Cash for Shops, 21,000 1904 Frank B. Lawrence, 10 A. Campus, 15,000 Frank B. Lawrence, 41.2 A. by Annuity 1800, 103,000 1908 Lucius H. Perkins, Law Books, 1,000

The present value of these gifts is estimated at \$609,018.

Let me examine a few items in this table.

Against the second item in this table, I quote from the Quarter-Centennial History of 1891 with reference to the bill locating the University at Lawrence and the story of the original 540 acres of the campus.

"The bill provided for the appointment by the Governor of three commissioners, whose duty it should be to locate the State University. The specific duty of the commission was to examine proposed sites, make proper selection, require a good and sufficient title for the location without cost to the state, and make a full and impartial report to the Governor on or before the first day of May, 1863. In case of the failure of Lawrence to secure a site of forty acres adjacent to the city and to deposit an endowment fund of \$15,000 with the State treasurer within six months after location by the commissioners, the provision of the act should be null and void. And in that event, the proposition of Emporia to grant an eligible site within or adjacent to that city should be accepted by the State as the location of the University, and the Governor should issue his proclamation accordingly.

"The commissioners appointed were S. M. Thorp, Josiah Miller and I. T. Goodnow, who met at Lawrence in March, and spent some days in examining grounds adjacent to the city, and adjourned to hold a final meeting at Lawrence on April 25th, when the city council met in special session to consider a proposition to purchase a tract of land for the University site. The commissioners were present and 'made some very interesting remarks in reference to the location of the same. (Chas. Robinson came forward with a proposition to furnish the required forty acres from his land above the city, on condition that the council would deed to him a half block of land lying south of the school foundation, on Mt. Oread.

"A committee of the council was appointed to confer with Robinson and report two days later. In their report they recommended the acceptance of the proposition, provided Robinson would give bond to allow the city the privilege of redeeming the half block within six months for the sum of \$1,000. The mayor was, accordingly, ordered to sign a deed of conveyance, and Robinson secured to the State the transfer of the University campus."

This story is based upon the council proceedings (Page 402) and Governor Robinson himself, who at that time apparently had no thought that the transfer of the original 40 acres of the campus was a gift. Of interest, too, in this connection is the footnote on page 70 of the History, with reference to Mrs. Robinson's part in the transaction. On the authority of Governor Robinson and Fred Read, "About half the campus was the property of Mrs. Robinson, who received for her share something over \$600 from the citizens of Lawrence."

All was

With reference to the third item of this inflationary table of gifts is the gift of Jas. H. Lane. I quote from page 83 of the History the following account: (The authority for this statement was a personal letter from R. W. Oliver).

owned two and three-fourths acres necessary to complete the square of ten acres, and the good offices of Chancellor Oliver were again called into requisition. He conferred with Gen. Lane and secured bond for title by giving his personal note for \$100. Gen. Lane, however, was afterwards pleased to feture the note and donate the land to the State.

In the middle of our inflationary statement is the original of Mr.

Ellsworth's misinformation that the McCook bequest was \$12,500. The whole
table is a blend of facts and fiction, I suppose fabricated as legislative
"ammunition". I am not sure that I understand the mental processes of the
compiler, but I assume that having started with the gigantic falsehood of
the original 40 acres as a gift he readily carried over his method other
items. If Governor Robinson gave 40 acres worth \$40,000, surely the 122 acres

McCook field was worth \$12,500.

This table of gifts could not have excaped the knowledge of the Head of the Department of Publicity. If you want the name of the person to whom this title belonged in the year 1913, you can easily find it in the general catalogue of that year.

Maybe this will satisfy your reuqest for "any additional history in regard to this."

Yours truly,

M. W. Sterling.

September 30, 1940 Mr. Eugene A. Stephenson Professor of Petroleum Engineering University of Kansas Dear Steve: Yes sir, without a doubt we are going to have a driving range for you and other golf fans and competitors. I have taken this matter up with Mr. Burt DeGroot and we are working on the proposition now. In addition to that I have spoken to Mr. DeGroot regarding the use of Medicine Ball for exercise and this has already been put into effect. Dean Jakosky has made a similar demand for Medicine Ball, but he wants wrestling instead of golf. With all good wishes, and assuring you of my desire to cooperate to the fullest for the enjoyment of us all, I am, Sincerely yours, Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach FCA:1g

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE LAWRENCE

DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

September 25, 1940

Dr. F. C. Allen Physical Education Department Campus

Dear Phog:

Last year we discussed the possibility of a small golf driving range in the Gymnasium for use of faculty members who cannot participate in more violent exercise. As you already know, woolen balls are used in such places instead of the hard regular golf ball. Would it be possible for such an arrangement to be consummated this year?

If the above cannot be done, would it be possible for a small group of us to make use of a medicine ball for exercise in the Gymnasium?

Cordially yours,

Eugene/A. Stephenson

EAS:LES

CHANUTE CITY SCHOOLS . CHANUTE . KANSAS

L. H. PETIT . SUPERINTENDENT

3

REGINALD R. STRAIT, Director Physical Education

1001 Lincoln Street Neodesha, Kansas

Dr. Forrest C. Allen Director of Physical Education University of Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

Your letter came yesterday informing me that Mr. Shenck will be with your Physical Education Department for next year. I know he will be an energetic and satisfactory addition to your staff.

I do want to thank you for the very pleasant courtesy shown me in our interview. If in the future a position should arise which my qualifications can fill I shall be very happy to offer my services.

The tonsilectomy was successful. Wishing you a pleasant summer.

Sincerely,

Regionald & Strait

September 12, 1940 Mr. Raymond Swanson Lansing, Kansas Dear Raymond: I have just returned from my vacation and find your letter of the fifth instant. Is there not someone to whom I should address my letter at the U.S. Civil Service Commission? I do not believe it would be a good idea to write Senator Capper, because that smacks a political flavor. If you can give me a little more detailed information concerning your position, I will be very happy to comply with your request immediately. It was good to see you at Topeka and I am happy that you feel that you obtained some helpful information. With all good wishes, I am, Sincerely yours, Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach FCA:1g

Lansing, Kansas Sept. 5, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen University Of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am working hard to get a physical education job with the government and there is a very good one open at this time. It is a position which is mainly recreation for the mentally ill in some government hospital. My qualifications are perfect because I have my Master's Degree in Physical Education. I think I will need a good boost in some way to get the job.

I am wondering if you would write a good recommendation for me and send it to The United States Civil Service Commission or maybe it would be better to write Senator Capper. I know it would help a lot.

Our school has not opened here as yet due to the great number of cases of infantile paralysis. It seems that Leavenworth has several new cases every day.

I certainly enjoyed your sessions at the coaching school and I really obtained some very valuable information.

Well, Dr. Allen, I would appreciated anything you might do to help me get this position. Thanking you very much. I remain as ever-

Yours very truly,

Raymond Swanson

Raymond Swanson

September 20, 1940 The University of Southern California Press Los Angeles, California Door Sires Please send us immediately 25 copies of "Physical Education Curriculum", second edition, by William Ralph LaPorte. We need these books for our physical education classes, and shall appreciate it if you can send them to us at once. Prompt remittance will be made upon receipt of a statement. Sincerely yours, Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Howard L. Brus, President
COLUMBUS

September 27, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear "Phog":

If I had been able to make a
recommendation to you, I would have wired.

I checked this matter with
Dr. Oberteuffer, who does not find any suggestion

to make with reference to such a candidate as you

group in the Major Physical Education course have

we would care to recommend. I am sorry, because I

would like to have one of our men with you in your

Cordially yours,

L. W. St. John,

Director of Athletics.

been placed, which accounts for the fact that at

this time there doesn't seem to be anybody left

Department.

LWS:MF

seem to require. Practically our entire graduating

September 24, 1940

L.W. St. John
Direct or of Athletics
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Seward F. Staley, Head Department of Physical Education University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois

Professor E.G. Schroeder, Head Department of Physical Education University of Iowa Iowa City, Iowa

UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS MAKE SLIGHT DEPARTMENTAL READJUSTMENT

NECESSARY. COULD YOU SUGGEST MAN INTERESTED IN GRADUATE STUDY

SALARY FOUR TO FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS. REQUIRE EXPERT GYMNAST.

DESIRABLE CANDIDATE SHOULD HAVE PROFICIENCY GOLF, TENNIS AND

SWIMMING. WIRE WESTERN UNION.

Formest C. Allen

Mr. A. A. Schabinger, Director

Basketball Educational Bureau

209 South State Street

Chicago, Illinois

Dear "Schabie":

We have but one copy of the Indiana-Kansas basketball film, and that is owned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. I sent this one copy to Mrs. Alice K. Griffith for her inspection. Doubtless she will return the same in a very short while.

Harold Olsen is Chairman of the Basketball Committee, and while I have no qualms at all about loaning it to you, I believe that Harold would not want to pass it out to different groups for a showing unless there was some definite connection with the National Collegiate.

Frankly, Schabie, the pictures are not clear, and although the photographing might have been the best that the operator could do on that occasion, yet they are not nearly as good as Chuck's film. We saw some of Chuck's work on the Southern California-Rice game, and compared them with the Indiana take, and ours are not so good.

However, if you feel that this is a special occasion, I would take the responsibility and send them to this fellow, but I would rather not unless it was a special favor to you. I think Ole knows you well enough that he would have no objection, but we would not want to do it as a regular practice.

Branch McCracken had the films for a while, then Ole had them, and then we sent them to St. Clair at Southern Methodist. I have been wanting to have them here for a showing, but just as soon as they arrived we mailed them to Mrs. Griffith. So our boys have not had a chance to see them at all; I mean the boys who played last year against Indiana. But perhaps it is just as well because someone has said they "just can't get Indiana off their minds", and maybe this would not do them any good.

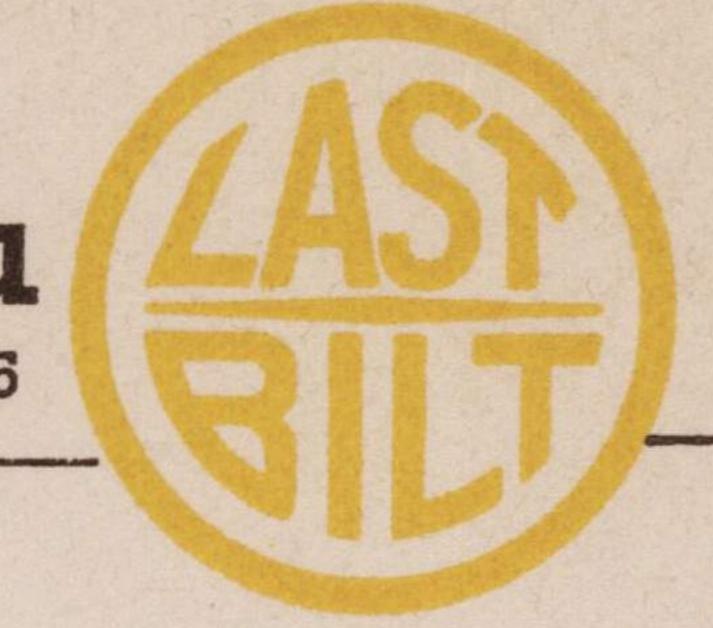
With all good wishes, I am.

Sincerely yours,



Basketball Educational Bureau

209 South State Street: Republic Building: Chicago, Illinois: Telephone Harrison7025



CONDUCTED IN THE INTEREST OF LAST-BILT PRODUCTS

A. A. Schabinger, Director

October 9, 1940

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education and
Head Basketball Coach.
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

Would it be possible to get a copy of the Indiana-Kansas Basketball film for showing at Cleveland Sunday, November 17th? If so, would you be kind enough to send it to Tony Pianowski, 3706 East 69th Street, Cleveland, Ohio? They have a meeting on that day of high school, college and University officials.

An early reply will be appreciated.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards, I am

AAS: gd

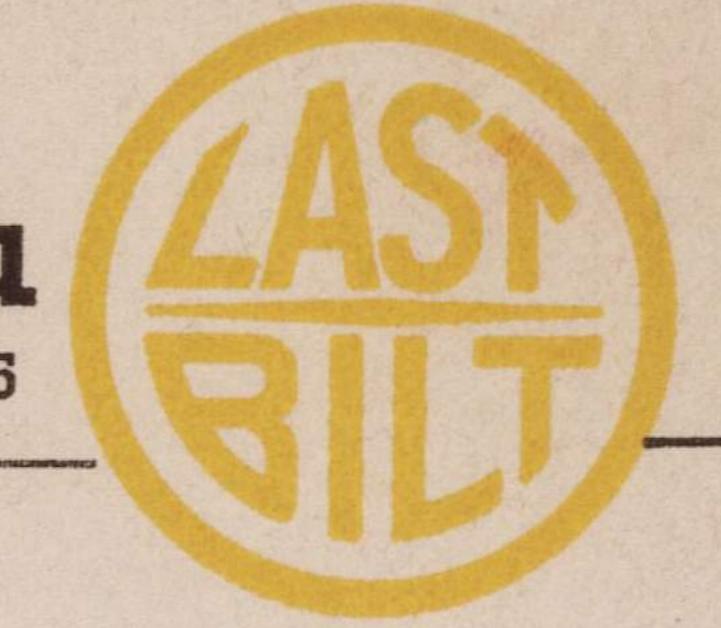
Sincerely yours,

A. A. Schabinger. "



Basketball Educational Bureau

209 South State Street: Republic Building: Chicago, Illinois: Telephone Harrison7025



CONDUCTED IN THE INTEREST OF LAST-BILT PRODUCTS

A. A. Schabinger, Director

October 21, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen, Director of Physical Education and Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

Thank you for your kind offer to send the Kansas-Indiana Basketball film to Cleveland for their Officials meeting on November 17th) as a special favor to me. I appreciate this very much.

You will be interested to know that their Officials Association holds their meeting that day and while visiting in Cleveland they requested me to see if they could not get this film. However, I can very well see your point of view in not wanting to send it to everyone requesting it, and believe we will just let them get along without it.

Congratulations on your fine basketball schedule. I was very much interested in receiving the copy. Sorry I am not near where I might be able to work some games for you.

Best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,

A. A. Schabinger

AAS: gd