

July 1, 1939.

Mr. Raymond Swanson,  
Randolph, Kansas.

Dear Raymond:

I was happy to hear from you and to know that you are in the midst of the harvesting. I have always had the notion that a man had a better philosophy when he labored hard in an environment of productive nature. There is something that that kind of work does for a fellow. Someone has said it takes most of the meanness out of a fellow, but yet leaves the best things in the man. And so I am sure that you have that philosophy because you tell me that you are enjoying the best of health.

Now, about that job at Salina. I certainly hope you land it and I will do all that I can for you. However, I have a policy as an administrator of not writing unsolicited letters to school administrators for applicants. I have found that school administrators resent such letters because it looks to them as if someone is trying to force an individual down their throats.

But I will do this for you. You can mention my name and bring it before them in such a way, saying that you have been in correspondence with me, and you can count on me doing a good job for you. Now, of course you want to be discreet and intelligent in the way you present the situation so that it will carry its strongest appeal.

Yes, I know a great many people in Salina. Mr. Earl Woodward, who is on the Salina Journal, head of the advertising department, played on my varsity basketball team here in 1908 and '09. His son, Bob Woodward, was a freshman this year at the University and he was out for my freshman team, and I coached him. I believe that Mr. Woodward is on the Board of Education. If he is not, he has been, and he is one of my very dear friends. If I were you I would write him telling him all you care to and I will back you up in trying to land you a job.

Dr. Lawrence Nelson, of Salina, has a son here in school - Larry - who is a sophomore pre-medic. Dr. Nelson was a great athlete here at Kansas, and he is a very close friend of mine. If he is not on the board he knows all the board members. If I were you I would write Dr. Nelson just about the type of letter that you write Mr. Woodward and I believe that will bring good results.