

July 22, 1946

Mr. Walter M. Hall, Director  
Program & Personnel Service  
Boys' Clubs of America  
381 Fourth Avenue  
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Hall:

I have known Horace Mann Mason since he was a small boy attending elementary and high school here in Lawrence, Kansas, and later when he graduated from the university, and still later when he was the publicity director of our University of Kansas Athletic Department.

After this time he enlisted in the Navy and served with fine distinction. I am not sure of his rank but I am sure it was at least lieutenant.

Horace Mann Mason is a fine young man of excellent character and good health. He has a genuine interest in boys and has a pleasing, although quiet, and forceful personality. He is matured, has exceptional self-control, and has rather good judgment. I would take it that he has a splendid sense of humor. He is practical and a man of good logic, and so I would say that he has a very good realistic understanding of community life as its environment affects and influences boys living in less privileged areas.

Mr. Mason has always been interested in young men and has worked among them in his church and school activities. He is a hard worker and has imagination, initiative, and splendid ability. I cannot say what depth he has as to a clear understanding of a Boys' Club philosophy, technique, and methods, as I know nothing regarding his reaction to this. However, his education and experience is commensurate for the job to be done, I am sure. Mr. Mason has always been a very loyal and cooperative individual with deep understanding and I am sure that he will be a valuable member in working with the Board of Directors on budget planning, fund raising, and administration finance.

His journalistic career and his service in the Navy should adequately fit in for the type of work which you mention. I have a very high regard for this young man and I am sure that he will give you his very best, which is, in my opinion, highly efficient service and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Forrest C. Allen,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

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