

April 12, 1941

Mr. Leaford F. Cushenbery, Attorney at Law
Medicine Lodge, Kansas

My dear Leaford:

Well, I see you and I are both getting into the letter writing habit, aren't we?

Well, I have enjoyed the episode, and I appreciate greatly your writing me regarding the unfortunate experience of Bill and Tiny DeWeese. I know such things happen as you describe when the Saturday night drunks roll in at some fraternity houses. As I mentioned, the fact that this fifteen per cent lunatic fringe applies to the university as well as high schools, and this spectacular demonstration on the part of these inebriates has a depressing effect on high school visitors who are not accustomed to such things.

I, personally, will see that Bill is protected from such exposures this time. I would appreciate it very greatly if I could be informed at what fraternity house he stayed last year. You and I will keep this confidential, but I will see that such a thing does not happen again.

Many of these boys go out on Saturday night and all it takes is a sour apple to make some of the boys think they are high. Of course, some of these fifteen per cent do over-indulge; but many of these youngsters are hilariously bent and a cork shot from a beer bottle, if it should happen to hit one of them, would make them tipsy; then they come home to their fraternity house, and, because someone else feels a little hilarious, it makes them more so. And so the evening goes. This causes a bad misunderstanding, and I am frank to say, that this is one of the blots on university life.

I am glad that I wrote you the letter that I did yesterday regarding Bill's not taking too much extra-curricular work his first year. The adjustments are many. If a boy is tied down to a working job, when it is not wholly necessary for him, then his academic work is apt to suffer.

Any letter that I write is for the eyes of Bill's mother or father, and you can assure them that I check pretty closely on my athletes. I do not annoy them or snoop on any of them, but I know what is going on, and I protect my boys from just such things that interfere with