

NED IRISH

NINE ROCKEFELLER PLAZA

NEW YORK CITY

August 31st, 1942.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical
Education and Recreation,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Phog:-

I have made a rather comprehensive study of the hotel situation for the college basketball teams that will visit New York this coming season. Following this survey I would like to recommend that in making your plans for the New York trip you plan your stay at the Hotel Belvedere, 319 West 48th Street, New York City, of which Mr. George A. Fechtman is the manager.

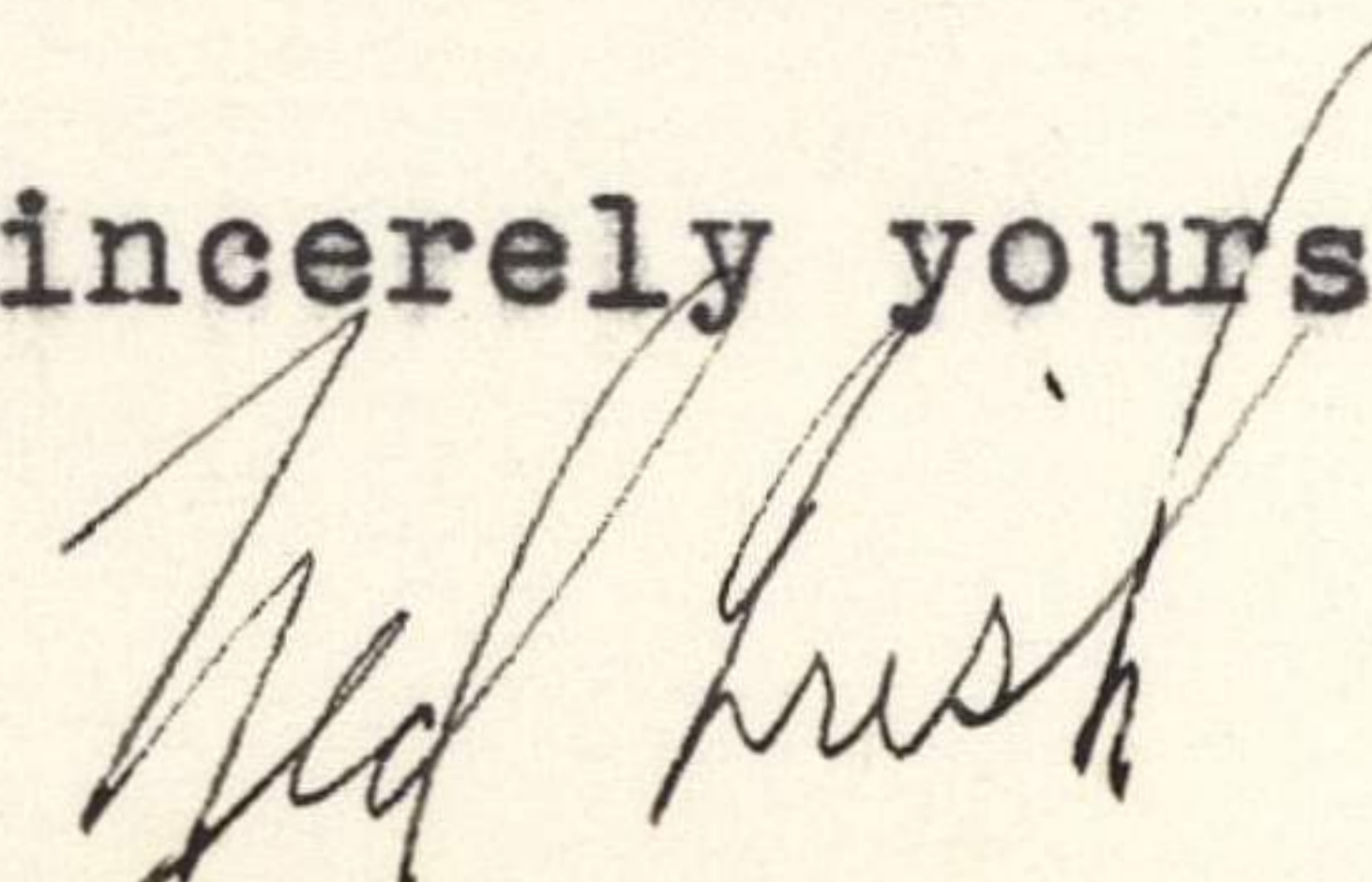
I feel certain that this arrangement will be to the best advantage of the visiting teams and completely satisfactory in all ways. The Belvedere is semi-residential in character and has slightly larger rooms than other hotels on the West Side. It has the outstanding advantage of having an entrance on 49th Street which is just across the street from the entrance which is used by the players in entering Madison Square Garden. The hotel has been recently redecorated, and Mr. Fechtman assures me that he will place your squad all on one floor in adjacent rooms at the rate of \$2.00 per man for twin-bedded rooms with bath, etc. This is a remarkably good value in rooms at this time since most of the hotels have raised their rates and some of the larger transient hotels, according to newspaper reports, have been taken over by the Army.

An additional reason why I feel that this hotel will have an advantage to visiting teams is its accessibility to the Garden for players in the event that it should be necessary for the players to dress and use their hotel rooms for showers after the game. The players could simply step across the street in their warmup suits without running the danger of catching cold if staying at a hotel further from the Garden. The uncertainty of the fuel situation here in New York makes it likely that we might have to curtail on our heating which would affect the hot water supply in our dressing rooms.

In addition, taxi cabs are bound to be limited and the nearer the boys are to the Garden the better off it will be for your squad.

Mr. Fechtman will undoubtedly get in touch with you concerning reservations. I hope that you will be able to make your stay in New York at the Belvedere.

Sincerely yours,



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