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LAWRENCE, KANSAS

January 4, 1944

Mr. W. C. Coleman
The Coleman Lamp and Stove Company
Wichita 1, Kansas

My dear Mr. Coleman:

Anything that reaches me over your signature is always read because I hold you and your family in high regard. I am inclined to believe that your letter of December 13th was written by someone other than yourself--someone in whom you had confidence enough to attach your signature without careful reading and in that way you probably overlooked the nasty fling in the third from the last paragraph wherein the statement is made "the future leaders in our pulpits -- come from church supported colleges, not from tax supported schools".

I have been a resident of Lawrence for slightly more than fifty-two years. I have known and have worked cordially with all of the presidents of Ottawa University from Dr. Price and thru Erdmann Smith and Dr. Behan. The present head of the school, Dr. Martin, has constantly been given to making nasty and untruthful remarks in regard to the "so called tax supported schools". You are a Baptist and you sent your boy to Lawrence. My four children and their spouses have all been educated at the state university. Scores of Baptist pastors have sent their boys and girls to the state university rather than to a denominational school. The daughter of one of the outstanding Baptist pastors of Kansas is now a student at the university and is helping to support herself by reporting college news for the Journal-World.

Dr. Martin is not blind and is certainly smart enough to know of the excellent Christian work being done by the state university--not only by Rev. C. W. Thomas, the representative of the Baptist denomination, but by representatives of many if not all of the Christian denominations.

For years owing to the work of early missionaries among the Indians, there were more Catholic students at Haskell Institute than those of any other one denomination, but for many years the Baptists ranked a close second, and it is my understanding that now the number of Baptist students at Haskell is nearly double that of Catholic students.

