

HARKINS & HARKINS
COUNSELLORS AT LAW
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY

WALTER S. HARKINS
JOSEPH D. HARKINS

May
Ninth,
1939.

Dear Walter Davidson:-

When you took the job of working at the race track this winter, I was very doubtful whether or not it was best for you to do so, but when I was told about it you were already at work, and I was further told that you were going to school each morning and working at the track each afternoon. I hoped that it would work out all right, but I doubted it, for nothing should have been permitted to be done which would have interefered with your school work in any manner.

I have talked to you over the phone during the time, and on each occasion I asked you how you were getting along with your school work, and if you were going to school regularly, and each time you told me you were going to school each day and keeping up with your work. The correctness of these statements you know better than I do.

I have many different contacts with Miami through the season and through the year, not only through the family and freinds, but even through strangers as well, and I happen to have information that you have not been going to school or giving any attention to your school work since the time you took the job at the race track. The last information comes to me only today, and from a stranger to me.

Your grandfather was a highly educated man, educating himself by the study of books worth while; your father was a highly educated man, a most excellent and competent physician, and I personally know that he continued his studies of the best medical books so long as he was in active practice. They were each and both most proud of you and had high aspirations for you; and I am saying to you frankly that I know that if there was or is anything which would make one turn over in his grave, your lack of interest in your schools, in your studies, and in preparing yourself for an honorable and successful career, would cause each of them to do so.

They were not and are not the only ones who were or are proud of you; your Mother is, and so are all the rest of us. However, if you dont know it, or dont realize it, I am telling you that I know that your lack of interest in your school work and in preparing yourself for the future has caused her many, many heartaches, and I firmly believe has contributed to a great extent to her present physical condition. She hasnt said so, but one doesnt have to have things said to them or written to them to understand and to know many things in life. She has been far too good and too lenient with you for your own best interest.

I dont know what you can expect for yourself if you dont take advantage of your opportunity to prepare yourself for some business or profession. It doesnt make any difference what the business or profession is so long as it is honorable and gives

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