

Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

Section 14, Pages 391 - 420

Kansas governor Andrew Schoeppel collected this series of correspondence on prohibition legislation and the repeal of state-sanctioned prohibition. Kansas passed a state constitutional amendment on prohibition in 1880. Kansas repealed that amendment in 1948.

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1943-1947 : Schoeppel)

Date: 1942-1946

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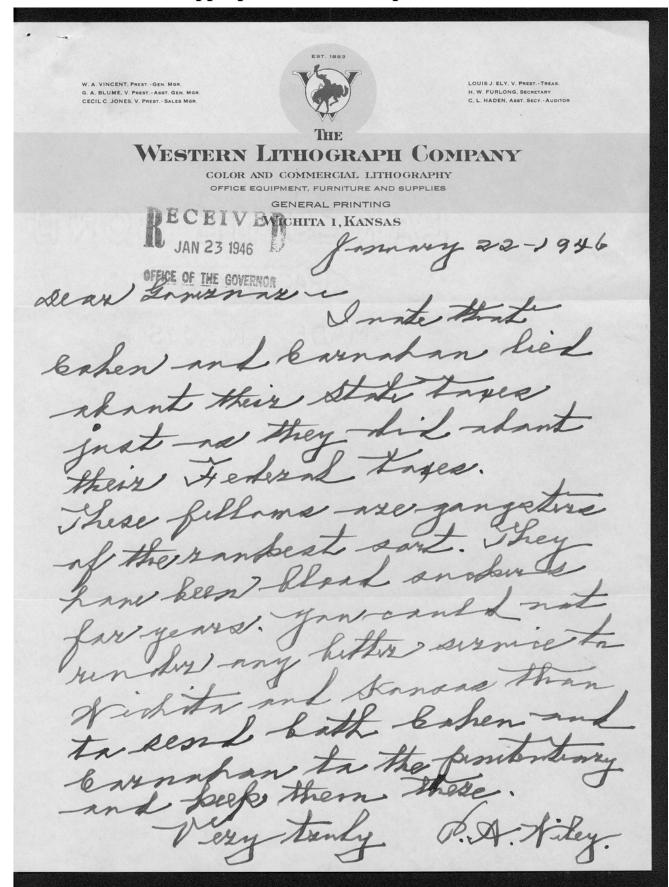
KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

January 24, 1946 Mr. P. A. Wiley Box 1099 Wichita, Kansas Dear Mr. Wiley: Governor Schoeppel has asked that I thank you for your very nice letter relative to the gambling and liquor conditions in your city. The Governor very much appreciates your interest and wishes me to thank you for it. Yours very truly, W. F. Turrentine, Jr. Secretary to the Governor WFT: 1r







Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

E. R. GIBSON, Clerk

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A. MUHLHEIM J. W. NICHOLSON J. C. KIPPES H. A. BARTELL GEO. H. NIESLEY

THE CITY OF ELLIS

LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

ELLIS, KANSAS

January-25th 1946

Hon Andrew Schoeppel State House Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor;

I read the attached, with great pleasure, and take this means to thank you,

I personly feel, that you have thousands, of good officers, that will get behind you, if you can got the County and city officers to get behind them,

I have never had the pleasure to know you personaly. But my nephew Sam Fritzler who runs a store at Ness City, tells me you are a man for right, and justice,

Please feel sure that I will help in any way I can. But I personaly feel that the set up around here, would take some one, that is not known, to do any real good,

Yours Very

Chief of Police.

E. J. ZERFAS, Treasurer

A. MUHLHEIM

C. E. NELSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Schoeppel Strikes Out Topeka, Jan. 24 — (AP)— Gov. Andrew Schoeppel struck out today at "lax law enforcement" in Kansas and said he personally was getting behind law enforcement officers to see they uphold the state's laws against liquor, gambling and slot machines. "There's been a lax law enforcement—no doubt about it," the Governor said then added, "You're going to see a lot of activity—and for obvious reasons."



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Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

AR CRASH LEADS TO BOOZE ARREST

Wayne Crist Pays Fine In Police Court on Charge of Possession

A car accident on the city streets n Newton and some quick action n the part of the police officers reulted in the apprehension of a ocal man in possession of a quanty of intoxicating liquor.

y of intoxicating liquor.

Thursday afternoon at 2:30, a 'ord car driven by G. E. Thornon, age 27, of 808 East First street, Dodge City, Kans., collided with an automobile driven by Mrs. George Battin of 521 East First street. The accident occurred at the intersection of Fourth and Walnut. Thornton was driving west on East Fourth street and Mrs. Battin was going south on Walnut when the two vehicles met at the intersection. The, Battin car was knocked into a telephone pole and Thornton's automobile went up over a curb. Mrs. Battin's two children, Mary and Billy, were riding with their mother at the time and none of the four people in the two cars were injured.

Immediately after the crash.

Immediately after the crash. Thornton grabbed a package out of Hornton graphed a package out of his car and took out on foot. Mrs. Battin called the police to report the wreck, also telling them that the man who had hit her, had fled flied with the police.

from the scene with a package under his arm. When the police were told that no one was injured in the collision, they quickly got on the trail of the stranger.

The law officers rushed to Wayne's Beer Joint," located at 436 South Kansas Ave. Upon arriving, the police found Wayne Crist, proprietor of the place, Thornton and another man locking up the business. The police nabbed Thornton, put him in one of their cars, and started back to the station with him. On the way back, however, Thornton, who had run 10 blocks to reach the beer joint, stated he had given the package to Crist.

Upon further questioning, Thorn-

given the package to Crist.

Upon further questioning, Thornton said that he had been sent by Crist to Crist's home at 714 East Fourth street to get the package. Thornton also said that more booze could be found at the Christ residence. With this information, a search warrant was obtained and the police staged a raid on Crist's house, finding an unnamed amount of intoxicating liquor. Crist was taken to the city jail along with the liquor. the liquor.

Crist was arraigned before Judge E. W. Nelson in police court later that day and plead guilty to charges of possession of intoxicating liquor for which he was fined \$100 and released.

The Ford car driven by Thornton at the time of the accident is owned by Crist. Thornton is employed by Crist it was stated and he was also where the control of the control also released.

Wichita, Jan. 26 (P)—Homer R. Mosley, Wichita, was acquitted yesterday on state liquor charges. Two investigators from the federal alchol tax unit at Oklahoma City, testified that Mosley told them he owned some of the liquor seized last fall at a Sedgwick county club. Mosley, however, denied ownership of the liquor. After the acquittal, County Attorney Pat Wranick, issued a statement saying that for 30 years Sedgwick county juries have been turning accused bootleggers loose, "but my office will continue to prosecute as long as the law is on the books."



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

511 E. Main St. Sterling, Kans. Jan. 26, 1946

Governor Andrew Schoepel Topeka, Kans.

Honored Sir:

We read in the Hutchinson Herald of your campaign to enforce laws against the Liquor Traffic in Kansas.

We wish to most heartily commend you for this stand. Last summer we moved to Kansas from dripping wet New York in order to educate our children in a dry state. We are indeed pleased that you are demanding enforcement.

Be assured the we and many other people are whole-heartedly back of you in this campaign.

Yours for a dry Kansas,

Rev. R.T.M.McGill

Mrs. R.T.M.McGill

Teacher Sterling High School

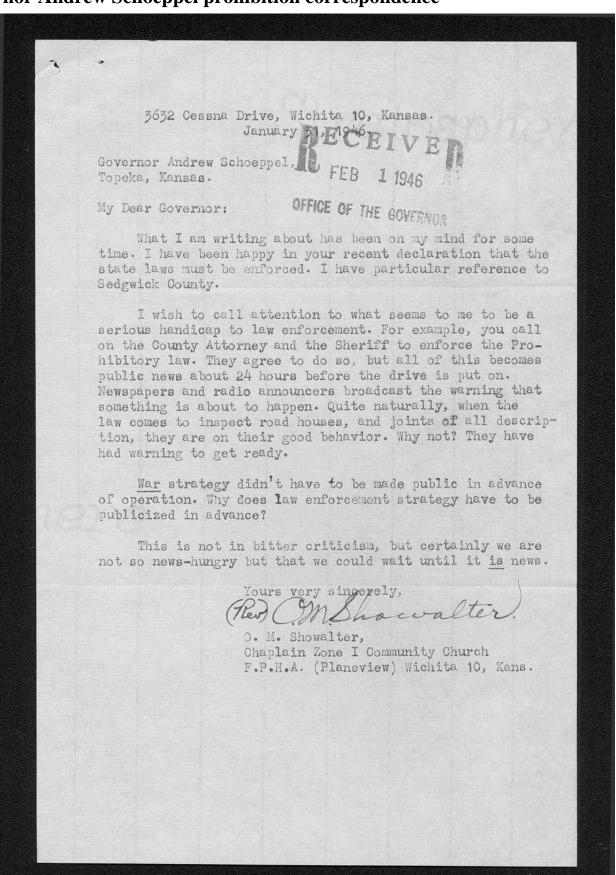
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| Sterling, Kano. Jan 30, 1946 Sovomer Schoepel: |
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Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

February 1, 1946

Mrs. Willis J. Bailey 5810 High Drive Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

I very much appreciate your very nice letter relative to the liquor conditions in our state, and I am specifically glad to hear from you and know your attitude toward this matter.

I know you hated to miss Kansas Day as we had a very large crowd, and the general interest was unusually high. I know you would have greatly enjoyed mingling with the crowd and seeing your many friends.

Again I want to thank you for your nice letter.

Sincerely,

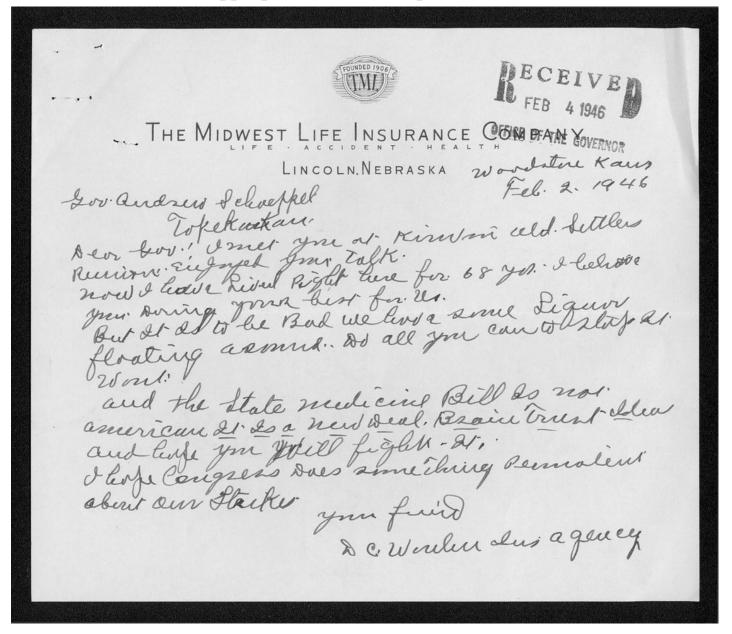
Governor

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| MRS. WILLIS J. BAILEY | |
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Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

February 6, 1946

Reverend V. L. Trail First Baptist Church Howard, Kansas

Dear Reverend Trail:

Governor Schoeppel has asked that I acknowledge receipt of your letter relative to certain groups asking for a special session of the Kansas legislature and the repeal of our present prohibitory law.

You understand no change can be made in our present law without a vote of the legislature, which does not meet until January of 1947. Even the legislature can only resubmit the question to the people so that no change can be made in our law except as the voters of Kansas decide. In the event you have not seen the recent press release given by Governor Schoeppel, he stated there would not be a special session of the Kansas legislature relative to resubmission of the repeal of the prohibitory law.

The Governor appreciates very much hearing from you and wishes to thank you for your letter.

Yours very truly,

W. F. Turrentine, Jr. Secretary to the Governor

WFT:lr



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

FRANK H. ADRIAN, CLERK CHAS, VAN BUSKIRK, TREASURER W. L. MORSS, SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

B. A. EBY, CHAIRMAN DEACONS GEO. ELLIS, CHAIRMAN TRUSTEES

The First Baptist Church

REV. V. L. TRAIL, PASTOR

HOWARD, KANSAS

February 4, 1946

Gov. Andrew H. Scheeppel Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir: -

There has been some publicity given to the fact that certain groups are going to ask that a special sessioned of the Legistature be called. This is to be for the express purpose of considering the prohibition question and bringing it up for repeal.

I realize this is just sort of a feeler to try to gain favor from sertain elements. If the sentiment is strong enough these parties will try to make it an issue in the fall election of course.

I am sure the State Office has no idea of calling the Legislature into session for this purpose. I hope the issue will never come up for repeal of the Prohibition Amendment, but there may be some need of changing shme of the statutes under the amendment. Kansashas stood firm on this matter for decades and she cannot release that stand today.

Sincerly and respectfully yours,

V. L. Trail

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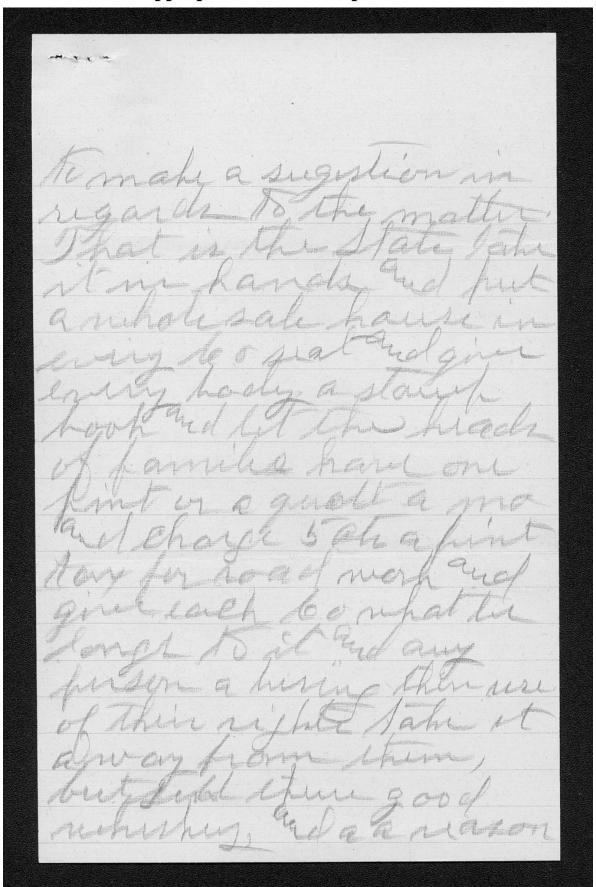
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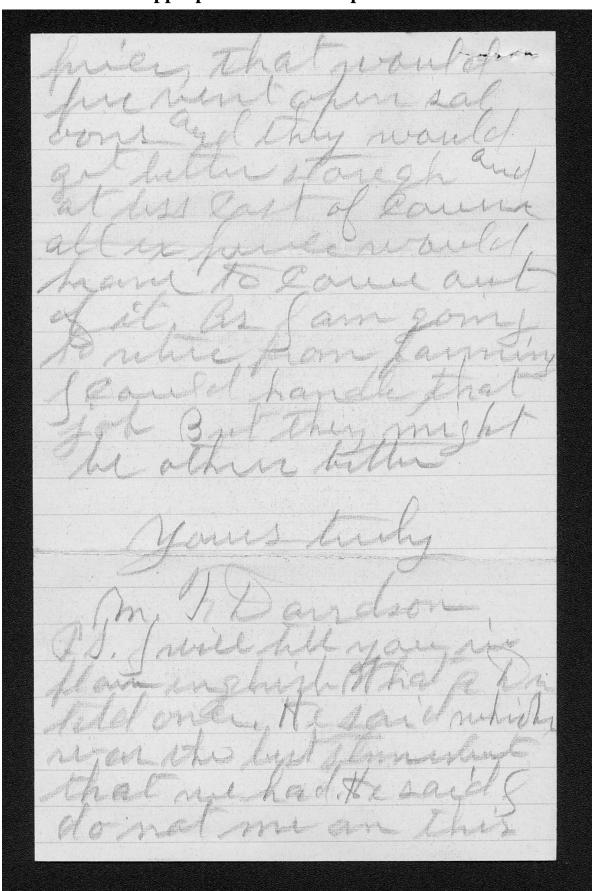


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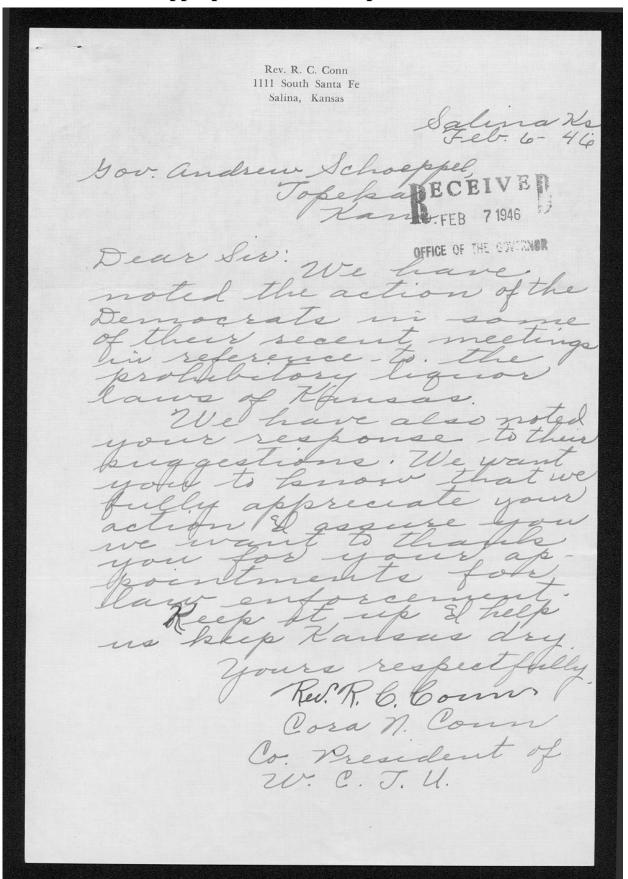














Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

TRACT No. 99

TOTAL 20,000

UPPER, or Supper ROOM? FASTING or FEASTING?

The early Church Prayed in the Upper Room, the Twentieth Century church, cooks, dances, and plays cards

in the supper room.

Today the supper room has taken the place of the Upper Room. Play has taken the place in some churches of the desire to Pray; and feasting the place of Fasting. There are more full stomachs than there are Bended Knees and Broken Hearts. There is more fire in the range in the kitchen than there is in the Pulpit. When you build a fire in the church kitchen, it often, if not altogether, puts out the Fire in the Pulpit. Ice Cream In The Church Chills the Fervor of Spiritual

The early Christians were not cooking in the supper room the day The Holy Ghost came, but they were Praying in The Upper Room; they were not waiting on tables, they were Waiting on God; they were not waiting to warm by the fire from the kitchen stove; but for The Fire from Heaven.

They were Detained by The Commandment of God, not entertained by the cunningness of man. They were all Filled with The Holy Ghost: not stuffed with stew or roast. Acts 2:4.

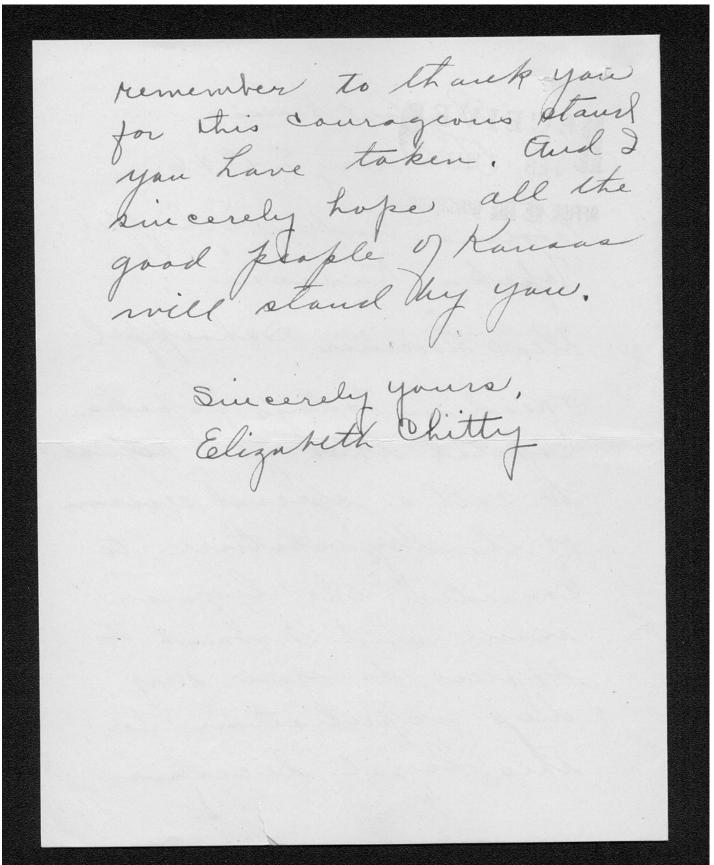


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| OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR andrew Schoeffel |
| Topeka, Kansas |
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| Dear Lovemor Schoeppel: |
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| to call a special sessione of the legislature to |
| consider the liquar |
| issue and I want to |
| express to you my |
| deep appreciation for |
| this layal decision |
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Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

How about Kansas Plays At Innocence

-SAYS SHULTZ

Says We're Naive, Blind And Gullible

Says We're Naive,
Blind And Gullible

(Special political letter to The
Journal by A. L. Shultz)

TOPEKA—Dear old naive, blind,
dumb, guillible — and somewhat
hypocritical—Kansas. She has
reached a standard of innocence
never before attained by intelligent, self-governing people of any
spot on this earth.
Court developments of the last
week have presented Kansas in a
new light. How this record may
inspire the Native Sons and
Daught rest of Kansas Day to lustily chee
for the land which gave them
birth—a land where everybody
shuts both eyes to avoid the facts
of life! How this evidence of
frenzied racketeering in liquor,
gambling and the operation of slot
machines will lift the souls of candidates for law enforcement jobs
—men who haven't had the slightest idea as to what was happening in their communities!

This column has long been a
proponent of state's rights. Feebly
we have opposed government intervention in the affairs of the localtities. Now we are beginning to
shift position. Maybe we have
been wrong. Maybe we need a
guardianship.
Until the federal agents moved
in, mobody in Kansas seemingly
the whole opposed of thousands of dollars in annual
"take" through, volations of
thousands of dollars in annual
"take" through, volations of
sumptuary state laws which the
legislature blithely passed and
went home to watch mould in the
statute books. Until government
radds of recent months, no law
official seemed more than mildly
conscious of those wholesale
rackets. Until government
radigors testified under oath in
Wichita federal court hearings last
week, no Kansan had so much as
a mild appreciation of the huge fortunes involved in license and pro-

Just a few weeks ago federal agents conducted raids and developed evidence that showed illicit liquor dealers have maintained a never-failing pipe line for booze into Kansas. Hundreds of cases of bonded whiskey were seized under the very eyes of state and local officials who seemed never to dream what was happening. Languidly they went about filing formal injunction proceedings and made a few arrests—based entirely on evidence which the government discovered and placed on their desks.

pumps down at the city water plant.

Kansas, it is now being established, has been a flourishing mecca for a lot of hardened slinners who profit through games of chance that are somewhat in their favor. The idea, though, has been practically unheard of in state law enforcement circles, if the government accountants have their bookkeeping straight. To be sure, an occasional wayfarer in search of a little lush lucre has sought to muscle in on the organized trade and had to pay the penalty for traducing the sacred laws of the land. But in one lone instance, the government last week showed where a single Wichita operator handled a bit better than a quarter of a million dollars in a mere 12 months through his private industry which is quite contrary to the Kansas statutes.

For some years Kansans have

Kansas statutes.

For some years Kansans have not talked about those little one-armed bandlis commonly known as slot machines. The average good citizen of the state attended Sunday morning services confident in his mind that no such source of infquity was practiced within our fair borders. It was as abhorrent and removed from the high principles of our neople as were the little green tables around which men and women played for stakes. If Uncle Sam hadn't felt that some of the operators were trying to swell their profits by concealing their incomes, good, clean minded Kansans might have spent another half century in contented ignorance.

Now, the federal government is showing there is extensive, open, licensed and protected gambling in the state. In the same measure, hundreds of private clubs which used to send committees around to appeal to members to pay their dues and save foreclosure, now are loiling in fat bank accounts. The little one-arm bandits turn in the daily profits while members feed nickels, dimes and quarters into the machines. The arrangement with somebody somewhere keeps the business going and only an occasional interloper has been found to possess one of these devices in recent years.

to possess one of these devices in recent years.

The things the politicians have told the voters about law enforcement, the stories some of them recited from Kansas pulptis, even, are in no measure in keeping with things federal income tax investigators have been digging up. Now and then some county attorney or some sheriff of chief of police honestly and candidly throws up his hands in despair. He says the people under his furisdiction want their Bourbon and Scotch highbals and Martini and Manhattan cockalis, that there is a demand by a lot of otherwise good, honest, law-abiding people for a place to play for stakes and that the rattle of slot machines is restful to a surprising number of Kansas ears. Those people, sitting on juries will not convict persons charged with violation of the liquor and gambling laws—and that in spite of the fact that the state passed a law guaranteeing a bonus for every successful liquor prosecution.

So maybe Kansans are not, after l, so very dumb or blind or naive gullible. Maybe they are get-

ting the thense they want with the added flair of making it seem a bit iniquitous by having a law against it. Just plain, ordinary sin in the raw is highly repulsive to many cultured people. Yet many of them like it—in their own way. And that may be the Kansas attitude about flaunting the liquor and gambling laws and providing protection for those who operate under license and privilege. Some day, though, the legislature and the voters will have to tussle with the question.

made a few arrests—based entirely on evidence which the government discovered and placed on their desks.

Inability of Kansas officials or their constitutents to smell well, though, doesn't appear to have been the only defect of people who thave for years relied wholly on their own self prepared purity press notices. It doesn't seem as though Kansas ears are attuned to the rattle of the red and blue amy the attorney general's office hadn't her the pumps down at the city water.

Kansas, it is now being established been arrested and the same and t



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

FRIENDLY REACTION TO ADDRESS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—The White House reported today that President Truman's address last hight had brought a greater immediate reaction in messages from his audience than any other speech he has made since assuming the presidency. Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said that reaction to Mr. Truman's discussion of labor and other domestic problems "has been quite friendly, judging from the messages received."

ed."
He said more than 100 tele-

He said more than 100 telegrams were received this morning alone and more were still coming in. Of these, he added, about 80 percent were "unqualifiedly favorable" and the remainder either wholly or partially unfavorable. The messages represented a cross section of the country and came mostly from private citizens, Ross said.

Meanwhile, the White House disclosed that present plans call for the president to deliver his annual message on the state of the union to congress on Jan. 15, the day after it reconvenes. The annual budget message will go up Jan. 16. It still remains to be determined whether the state of the union message will be delivered by Mr. Truman in person or read for him by clerks.

TOPEKA, Jan. 4 (P)—Members of Kansas' all-republican delegation to congress today supported the stand taken by the lawmaking body on legislation proposed by President Truman. At his home in Parsons, Senator Reed had this comment on the president's speech last night in which he appealed to the nation for support of his legislative program:

"President Truman's principal trouble is that both houses of the congress are in disagreement with the major part of his program and have clearly indicated such attitude by their votes. The president is not quite candid in his invitation to congress to present a program of its own if it does not agree with him.

"On one important point, that of returning employment services and offices to state control, congress did adopt a program and it was vetoed. The president nom his senate leaders made any such statements at the time the bills passed by the senate on full employment and increased unemployment compensation are satisfactory. Neither the president nor his senate leaders made any such statements at the time the bills were passed.

'It must be remembered that the congress indicated such attitude by the senate on full employment and increased unemployment compensation are satisfactory. Neither the president frem of both houses are likewise democrats. President Truman's principal comp

ed:
"I think the president is wrong
in his interpretation of the failure
of congress to enact his proposed
legislation. His statement that
congress is inactive and probably
dilatory is not correct. The

reason congress has not passed the measures is due to the coolness on the part of congress toward the proposed legislation."

Rep. Winter, ill at his home in Grard, said congress was "not in the mood to pass bills now without full consideration. There have been too many measures passed hastily in the past, notably the anti-strike law. That didn't work and won't work." The president, he continued, sent "too much major legislation to congress too late in the last session for the measures to get adequate consideration by congress."

Other members of congress

eration by congress."

Other members of congress from the state were not available immediately for comment. Rep. Hope was reported en route to Garden City from Dodge City, and Rep. Carlson was returning to Concordia from Dodge City and not expected home until this evening. Senator Capper, who spent the holidays in Washington, could not be reached immediately.

Landon Sees Frustration

Alf M. Landon. 1936 republican presidential candidate, commented that President Truman's radio talk of last night was one of futility and frustration. "The president said in effect," Landon observed, "I can't get the job done and can't get anyone else to do it."

and can't get anyone else to do it'."

Gov. Andrew Schoeppel said he believed President Truman's fireside that of last night offered "no solution to current problems. It looks like he's checked it to congress to bring out legislation to meet these conditions," the governor said, but added, "The president can't pass responsibility to congress any more than they can pass it to him.

The president should be definite and specific and show some signs of leadership. It's time the congress and president of the United States get together and do something to get us out of this mess in view of the turmoil we've got ahead."



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

FRANCES CASEY Secretary 808 Shoemaker MARGARET PENNING Vice-chairman 519 Linn MARIE THROOP Treasurer Jarbalo, Kas.

Democratic Central Committee

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

MICHAEL R. LONERGAN, Chairman 243 Sherman Avenue

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February 6, 1946.

Hon. Andrew Schoeppel Governor of Kansas, Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Inclosed find a resolution adopted by the Leavenworth County Democratic Central Committee at a regularly held meeting February 2nd, 1946.

We believe that the matter set forth in the resolution calls for immediate action on your part and I feel that you will give it your careful consideration.

Respectfully,

Frichael Q. Lonergan

FEB 1 1 1946

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

WHEREAS, it is a well known fact and recognized by enforcement officials throughout the State of Kansas that the prohibitory laws of this State are impossible to enforce and which as a direct result thereof, has caused wide spread graft and lawlessness among the people when compared with such laws;

WHEREAS, it is also a well known fact that the State of Kansas has not received one cent of the revenue received from the enormous volume of intoxicating liquors purchased and consumed in this State, and which is sorely needed for the support of its schools, road systems, and other useful functions of the government, and which has a direct bearing upon the welfare, peace and happiness of the people, and all caused by the prohibition laws of this State which now stand upon its Statute Books; and

WHEREAS, this state of affairs has resulted in making the average citizen, who under the Constitution of this State is entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, hypocrites and criminals, and

WHEREAS, in this enlightened age, the prohibition laws at the present time are contrary to the desires and will of the majority of the citizens of the State of Kansas, and who, according to these laws are at the present time in direct conflict on the prohibition question of practically every state in the Union, and which has unfairly caused the citizens of the State of Kansas to be subjected to embarrassment, criticism and derision from surrounding States for having such so called reformer legislation on its Statute Books.



Governor Andrew Schoeppel prohibition correspondence

THEREFORE, in consideration of the above, BE IT RESOLVED: That we, the members of the Democratic Central Committee of Leavenworth County, Kansas, do hereby petition the Hon. Andrew F. Schoeppel, Governor of the State of Kansas, to immediately convene a special session of the Legislature of the State of Kansas to prepare and submit to the qualified submitting voters of the State of Kansas an amendment to repeal the present prohibitory amendment to the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and all prohibition laws with reference thereto in order that a free expression of the qualified voters of the State may be had as to whether such prohibition amendment and laws should be retained or not. approved and adopted this 2nd day
of February a. 20. 1946 Inichael R. Lonergan