

## H. K. Harper to Representative Albert Cole

A letter from H. K. Harper, president of the North Topeka Merchants Association, Topeka, Kansas, to United States Representative Albert Cole, Washington, D. C. Harper writes on behalf of the North Topeka Merchants Association in support of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program and its potential impact on Topeka, Kansas. The association sent John Fernstrom to visit Representative Cole with a plea to support flood control.

Creator: Harper, H. K.

Date: February 20, 1948

Callnumber: Albert Cole, Coll. #40, Box 40, Folder 8

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## H. K. Harper to Representative Albert Cole

### The North Topeka Merchants Association

North Topeka, Kansas

February 20, 1948

J. F. FERNSTROM, SECRETARY  
PHONE 2-2237  
835 NORTH KANSAS AVENUE

Honorable Albert Cole,  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We are sending the bearer, John Fernstrom, with a plea for your support of flood control for Topeka as embraced in the comprehensive plan offered by the Army Engineers.

While we appreciate the opposition of those who would be adversely affected by the installation of the Tuttle Creek Dam we take a position of the greatest good for the greatest number of your constituents. Aside from the subjective value, which to them is dear, they would be compensated for their loss. We have recovered neither money nor morale from past floods nor could we in the future. This does not include the too often forgotten injury and loss of life, which is irreparable.

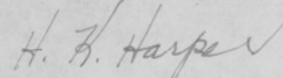
Mr. Fernstrom has long been an active crusader for maximum protection against flood and at the instance of the residents of this area. The North Topeka Merchants Association made it possible for him to make a personal appeal on our behalf.

He is adequately equipped as a student of this problem to supply you verbally with details too voluminous to be contained here.

Relative to the so-called Soldier Creek cut-off west of Topeka, we recognize this as a necessity to our local protection. Studies, surveys and recommendations of the Army Engineers have our approval and we are satisfied that the reasons for objections raised by those in the sparsely settled vicinity are not born out in the competent judgment of the engineers.

Mr. Fernstrom was not provided with petitions. However the aroused residents of the flood potential land north of the Kaw can furnish ample opinion of this nature if you so elect.

Sincerely Yours  
The North Topeka Merchants Ass'n.



H. K. Harper, President.

## H. K. Harper to Representative Albert Cole

February 25, 1948

Mr. H. K. Harper, President  
North Topeka Merchants Association  
835 North Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Harper:

Mr. John Fernstrom called upon me yesterday and brought with him your letter of February 20, regarding the Tuttle Creek Dam.

I assure you that flood control is a matter of great interest to me, and that I will do what I can to assist in an expeditious and fair solution of this problem.

I lived in North Topeka for many years and know and sympathize deeply with the situation in which its residents find themselves.

With very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Albert M. Cole, M. C.

AMC:IK