

# Kansas Memory



## Temperance history correspondence

### Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

This correspondence was sent and received by Kansas State Temperance Union secretaries T.E. Stephens, A.D. Wilcox, and J.E. Everett. Each exchanged letters with religious leaders across the state, including Rev. H.G. Fraser from Ottawa, Rev. C.C. Brown of Tonganoxie, Rev. J.M. Leonard of Iola, Rev. R.A. Bolton of Junction City, Rev. James Kerr of Scandia, Rev. J.K. Miller of Manhattan, Rev. A.W. Cummings of Canton, Rev. John A. Holmes of Harper, Rev. W.H. Eaton of Cherryvale, Rev. H.H. Bowen of Glen Elder, and Rev. Fred Grey of Alton. Organizations involved in the temperance movement include the Kansas State Temperance Union (KSTU), the Twentieth Century Total Abstinence Union (TCTAU), the Anti-Cigarette League, the American Anti-Saloon League (AASL), the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) and others. This collection also includes local subscription lists for those supporting the Kansas State Temperance Union in Phillipsburg, Lakin, LeRoy, Cimarron, Dodge City, Liberal, Greensburg, Cunningham, Sedgwick, Mount Hope and Colwich. Other correspondents include attorney John Wiswell in Columbus, Elmer Lawrence, publisher of The Sunbeam, a weekly Christian journal in Galena, and several members of the Independent Order of Good Templars, including George F. Fullinwider of El Dorado, S.S. Jackson of Scranton, and Mrs. Kate A. Billings of Clyde. Much of the correspondence concerns efforts to advance anti-liquor agendas in local, state, and national politics. Considerable correspondence with organizations in other states is included. Although Kansas was the first state to adopt a constitutional amendment prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in 1880, the law was largely unenforced.

Date: 1858-1902, bulk 1900-1902

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Hunting, A.  
Temperance

Manhattan, Oct. 25th, 1857

Rev. Mr. McVicker,  
Senator,

Since my return from Topeka, I have been quite unwell part of the time, and have lost other business, which has prevented my writing sooner.

The first Temperance organization that I know of in Kansas was the Central Kansas Total Abstinence Society, which was organized in my cabin, in the winter of 1853, by electing A. Hunting, President, Rev. Mr. Shiner, Vice Pres., Rev. C. E. Blind, Cor. Sec., Rev. J. Denison, Rec. Sec. & F. T. Horstman, Treas. Aathing giving Constitution and pledge were adopted, and a goodly number subscribed their names. The next organization that I know of was in Topeka, Linn Co. in Oct. 1858. The first movement towards a State Temp. organization was at a meeting of the Cong. Association in Manhattan

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in Oct. 1858. After laboring perseveringly until April 1859 we succeeded in organizing a State Society. After considerable debate a Constitution was adopted, and the following officers elected. Lieut. Gov. Wm. R. Ras. A. Hunting and fourteen others; Vice Pres., Rev. P. Mc Dicker Cor. Sec. Charles C. Whiting Rec. Sec. H. M. Greene Auditor. Hon. H. W. Barnsworth and eight others Ex. Com. Several resolutions were passed, among them the following offered by the Rev. Mr. Mc Dicker. I hint the thinks of the Society he tendered to Dost. Hunting for his persistent efforts to secure a State Temperance organization. The first annual meeting of the State Society was held in Topeka, Oct. 8th, 1859. The same Pres. was elected. A. Hunting and eleven others Vice Pres. The same Cor. Sec. H. M. Greene Rec. Sec. David Seagrove, Auditor, Joshua Knowles, Treasurer. E. Fofft and nine others Ex. Com. The second annual meeting was held in Topeka, Oct. 8th, 1860. Dost. A. Hunting was elected Pres. Dost. C. C. Moore and twelve

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other Vice Pres., Rev. P. McElroy, Con. Sec.  
A. M. Green, Rec. Sec., Miriam McArthur,  
Auditor, Joshua Thorne, Treas., J. C.  
Miller and nine others Ex. Com.  
The Society held a Convention in Topeka  
on the 2d of Jan. 1853. I was absent in the  
East from the spring of 1853 until the spring  
1854 and have no record of the doings of  
the Society during my absence. Price's  
rain prevented our holding an annual  
meeting in Oct. 1854. There was no meeting  
called in 1855, but so few responded that  
it was a failure, and there was no annual  
meeting until Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> 1856. Rev H. D.  
Fisher was elected Pres. A. Hunting and  
four others Vice Pres., F. D. Knob, Con. Sec.  
M. McArthur, Rec. Sec., C. Tefft, Treasurer,  
C. Almon, Auditor, J. C. Miller and nine  
others Ex. Com. A special meeting was  
called at Topeka on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1853 to hear  
and act on the report of Rev. W. Ross, the  
State Lecturer. He recommended that the  
State Society be incorporated, and nine

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men were appointed as inspectors and they were authorized to ask the raising of the sum of fifty thousand dollars as a capital basis for temperance purposes. Various reasons prevented the accomplishment of the object. A meeting of the Society was held in Topeka, Feb. 25, 1857. Rev. G. W. Burdette was elected Pres. A. Hunting and four others Vice Pres., F. Smoyer Cor. Sec. A. W. Hayes Rec. Sec. C. Gefft Treas. Rev. J. T. Young Auditor. A committee was appointed to revise the Constitution, which was done, and their report accepted. In the winter & spring of 1857 the Society employed Dost. Jewett. His labors were very efficient he did a good work in Kansas.

The annual meeting of the Society in 1857 was held in Lawrence Sept. 25 & 26th. It was addressed by Mrs. E. C. Stanton, Senator Pomeroy, Susan Anthony & others. Rev. Mr. Coddley was elected Pres. Rev. H. Guild from other Vice Pres., A. H. Foot, Auditor, A. W. Hayes Cor. Sec., Dr. H. Arthur Rec. Sec. Dost. Gefft, Treasurer, Dr. F. Smoyer, Rev. L. Bowditch, Dost. Huntington and eight others Cor. Com. The Constitution was amended so that the annual may be held at such time as the Ex. Com. may deem advisable.

The annual meeting in 1858 was held in Manhattan, Oct. 14th. Rev. G. S. Denison was elected Pres. Dost. Huntington and four others Vice Presidents.

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W. Arthur, Cor. Sec. R. P. Harper, Rec. Sec.  
C. Gefft, Deens. A. H. Firth, Auditor, J. C.  
Miller and nine others Ex. Com. Several  
interesting speeches were made, and there  
was singing by the choir.

An adjourned meeting of the Society was held  
in Topeka the 21<sup>st</sup> of Jan. 1854. It was an  
interesting meeting. Resolutions were passed  
discouraging the manufacture of domestic  
mines, or mines of the use of alcoholic  
medicines. The annual meeting in 1854  
was held in Topeka the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> of October.  
Rev. G. S. Denison was re-elected Pres. Dr.  
Huntington and four others Vice Pres., W. M.  
Greene Cor. Sec. & W. F. Baker Rec. Sec.  
C. Gefft Deens. H. W. Cook, Auditor, H. P.  
Fitch, J. C. Miller and eight others Ex. Com.

Several resolutions were passed, one re-  
commending that the use of fermented  
wines for sacramental purposes be dis-  
continued.

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Mr. McVicker, I don't know whether I  
understood what you wanted, but I have  
given an outline of the history of the State  
K. Society. If anything else is wanted that  
I can furnish, I will do it with pleasure.

I shall expect to see you on the  
8th of Nov. until if no one meets you at  
the Depot, come directly to my house.

A severe nervous headache has  
delayed me in writing this letter.

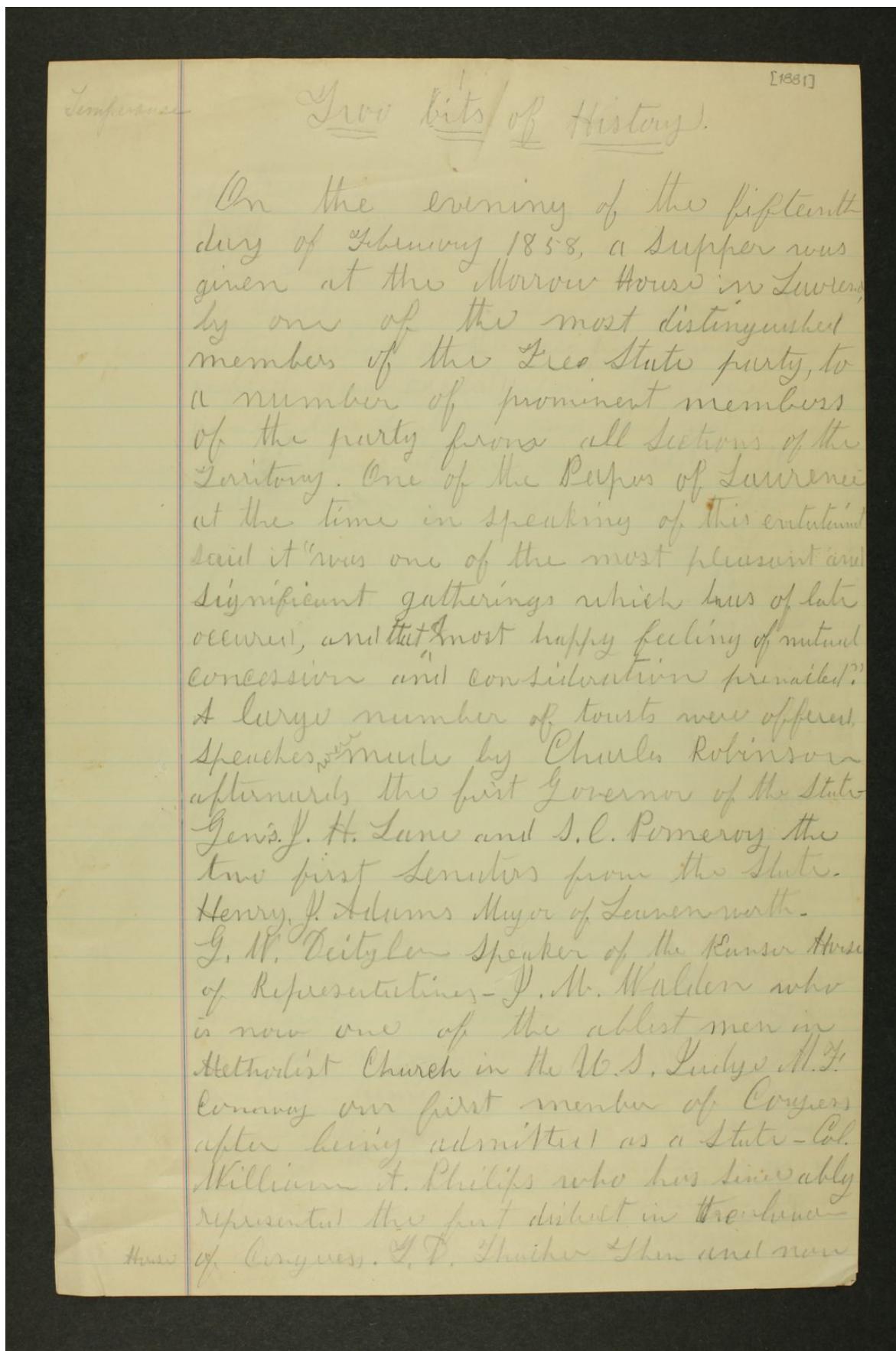
Ours truly,  
J. A. Hunting

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of the Lawrence Republicans,  
and a number of others.

The Lawrence Republicans of that date  
in speaking of the Supper said "A pri-  
marty feature of the occasion, and one which  
reflects great credit upon the men who  
gave the Supper, was that not a drop  
of Spirituous liquor was used at the en-  
tertainment. The guests came sober and  
left sober. We venture the opinion  
that nowhere except in Kansas, and  
among the Free State men, could so many  
politicians assemble and spend so long  
a time - from three to four hours of  
continuous speaking - without resorting  
to something stronger than coffee and  
cold water to excite the brain.

We hope the example of the gen-  
tlemen, in this respect, will be followed  
for the future." The writer of this  
will remember how few the large  
majority of the Free State party men  
of this man, and how they would  
contrast him with the Catherines, the  
McLans, the Hendersons, and other representa-  
tives of the Pro Slavery party who always  
ended their gatherings in debauchery, and  
drunkenness, and frequently in murde-

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The first Legislative Assembly elected by the people of Kansas had just closed their session in Lawrence a few days before. During the entire session of the Legislature two or three of the members were drunk nearly the whole time and one of them conspicuously so.

During the entire session he managed to keep his seat, but he was in a continuous debauch, and after two or three days sweetening the argument he has the Kellogg Deemers, and finally upon the very day on which this supper was given, he died a terrible death in the streets of Lawrence.

This death cast a gloom over the whole community, but being followed by this supper where Spiritual Figures were prohibited they hoped that this was the dawn of a new era, and yet since that time over one hundred have died in Lawrence, the victims of strong drink. This is one bit of history relating to early times. The next will be more marked.

Twenty seven years ago when this event of which we have written happened, Lawrence was a small place of some 800 or 1000 inhabitants, a majority of them, young men, reckless, and during, very in some of these ways, but sober and industrious.

John C. H.  
Aid 5/15/1858

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If they had any pride at all it was of their fighting qualities, being ready at all times to resist the Missouri invader, send passage through on the Underground Railroad or outwit the Federal officers sent here to force slavery upon the people of Kansas.

Now Lawrence contains 11000 inhabitants.

This pride is in their unsurpassed manufacturing and educational advantages, their check publishing of their beautiful place of resort Bismarck Fair, and last but not least the City authorities are proud of their open saloons in violation of law.

It's a little bit of history connected with Bismarck Fair of which I will write.

This Fair gained its great renown from the immense number of attendants upon its grand Temperance Conventions,

These meetings were attended by persons from every State in the Union and from the Canadas several hundred of a dozen hours in our own beautiful State but not has been represented at these meetings.

The greatest Orators of the United States and Canada both Male and Female have spoken at these meetings. All this has been a great advertising to Lawrence and yet her people have not appreciated it.

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By these music gatherings Dunnek  
Grove was considered specially dedicated  
to Temperance. This ground above all  
others should have been kept sacred from  
the contaminating influence of "Frog Shops" -  
where sober and refined persons could visit  
without coming in contact with the ruling  
drunken, and where they would not hear  
the blushingurism, profanity, and blasphemy  
which comes from the lips of the drunkard  
and where the fumes of the Frog Shop and  
of alcohol should be unknown.

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This ms. was found in a file of the  
Lawrence Republican, date not noted

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Local Subscription List					
The Kansas State Temperance Union					
LOCAL SUBSCRIPTION LIST					
(To be filled out by Collector and sent to State Secretary)					
Secretary Kansas State Temperance Union, 703 Jackson Street, Topeka, Kansas.					
DEAR SIR: The following persons on <u>July 18, 1899</u> subscribed at <u>Philipsburg</u> (City)					
<u>Philips</u> County, to the support of the Kansas State Temperance Union. The collections for quarter beginning <u>July 1st, 1899</u> are as follows:					
<u>Elizabeth Granger</u> Collector (Please write this Blank with Care)					
NAME	ADDRESS	AMOUNT DUE PER QUARTER	DATE OF PAYMENT FOR QUARTER	AMOUNT COLLECTED QUARTER	
<u>Samuel La Rue</u>	<u>July 18 - Philipsburg</u>	.75			
He wrote me a letter telling me he could not pay any more.					
<u>Mrs. Anna Couch</u>	<u>Dec. 4 Philipsburg</u>	.30			
Her husband drinks and she says can't pay any more.					
<u>Mr. C. H. Dutcher</u>	<u>Dec. 4 Philipsburg</u>	.30			
He moved to Colorado. I wrote asking for a remittance & have received no reply, now about 2 months since.					
<u>Mrs. Sarah E. Cox</u>	<u>Dec. 11/99 Marvin</u>	.30			
Has written to her twice. She is able to pay but I imagine she has squeezed her money so tight it has imbedded itself so deeply in her palms she can't grab it loose.					
<u>Mrs. R. F. Stinson</u>	<u>July 18 Philipsburg</u>	.75	<u>Aug 1899</u>	.75	
<u>S. S. Hageman</u>	<u>July 18 Philipsburg</u>	.30	<u>Last gr.</u>	.20	
The latter made ten cents extra which last payment to the \$0.20 brings him all square. I regret I could do no better. I believe my business as collector is finished.					
Mrs. Elizabeth Granger.					

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I caught Mrs. Cox of Marion  
at our County Soldiers Reunion  
and argued with her till  
she paid me 88 cents.  
I add the other two cents  
making the money due  
you from her all square  
- ninety cents, #.90  
  
.75  
.20  
.90  
\$1.85 - enclosed

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REV. J. A. WORDEN, D. D.  
Superintendent of Sabbath School  
and Missionary Work.  
1919 WALNUT ST. PHILADELPHIA, PENN.

REV. THEODORE BRACKEN,  
Synodical Sabbath School Mission-  
ary—Kansas, Oklahoma and the  
Indian Territory.

LOCK BOX 283. EMPORIA, KANSAS.

ELAM BARTHOLOMEW,  
Chairman Sabbath School Com-  
mittee, Osborne Presbytery.

ROOK COUNTY, ROCKPORT, KANSAS.

LINCOLN J. ALLEN,  
Sabbath School Missionary for Os-  
borne Presbytery.

LOCK BOX 22. COLBY, KANSAS.

Presbyterian Board of

## Publication and Sabbath School Work.

17  
Colby, Kansas, Dec. 29th, 1899,

To  
The Kansas Issue,

Having the seen in the "Issue" reports of the good work being accomplished over the state and seeing nothing from Colby where we have lately been very successful in combating the evil of liquor selling at the request of the Officers of the W.C.T.U., I send you this.

Last July the W.C.T.U. instituted the reward for evidence of a man and at the November term of the District Court one of our worst violators of the law was convicted of selling whiskey and sentenced to a fine of \$100.00 and 120 days in the County Jail where he is serving out his sentence now.

Our other violators of the law took "French leave" between sunset and sunrise.

One of the largest and most representative Sabbath evening audiences ever assembled in our city came together recently to listen to a most admirable Lecture by Prof. Geo R. Kirkpatrick.

Very truly  
Lincoln J. Allen,

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GENERAL OFFICE  
The Kansas State Temperance Union.  
703 JACKSON STREET.

Topeka, Kansas, June 24, 1898.

Subscribed in Dr. Dougherty's meetings during April, 1898, ...	\$355.70
Cash from Basket Collections, .....	13.92
Total, .....	\$369.62
Total Expenses during April, .....	53.94
Balance, out of which to pay Salary, .....	\$315.68

Dr. Dougherty's Salary and Expenses during April,

Salary, ....	\$100.00
Expenses..	53.94
Total, .....	\$153.94

Paid on April Salary and Expenses, all of which was raised  
as the result of Dr. Dougherty's April efforts,

Direct to Dr. Dougherty in Meetings, \$16.87
Out of the Treasury, ..... 61.32

Total, .....	\$78.19
Balance due on April, .....	\$75.75

Total now in the Treasury (June 24) ..... #51.64

In the Treasury to Dr. Dougherty's credit, ..... 11.55

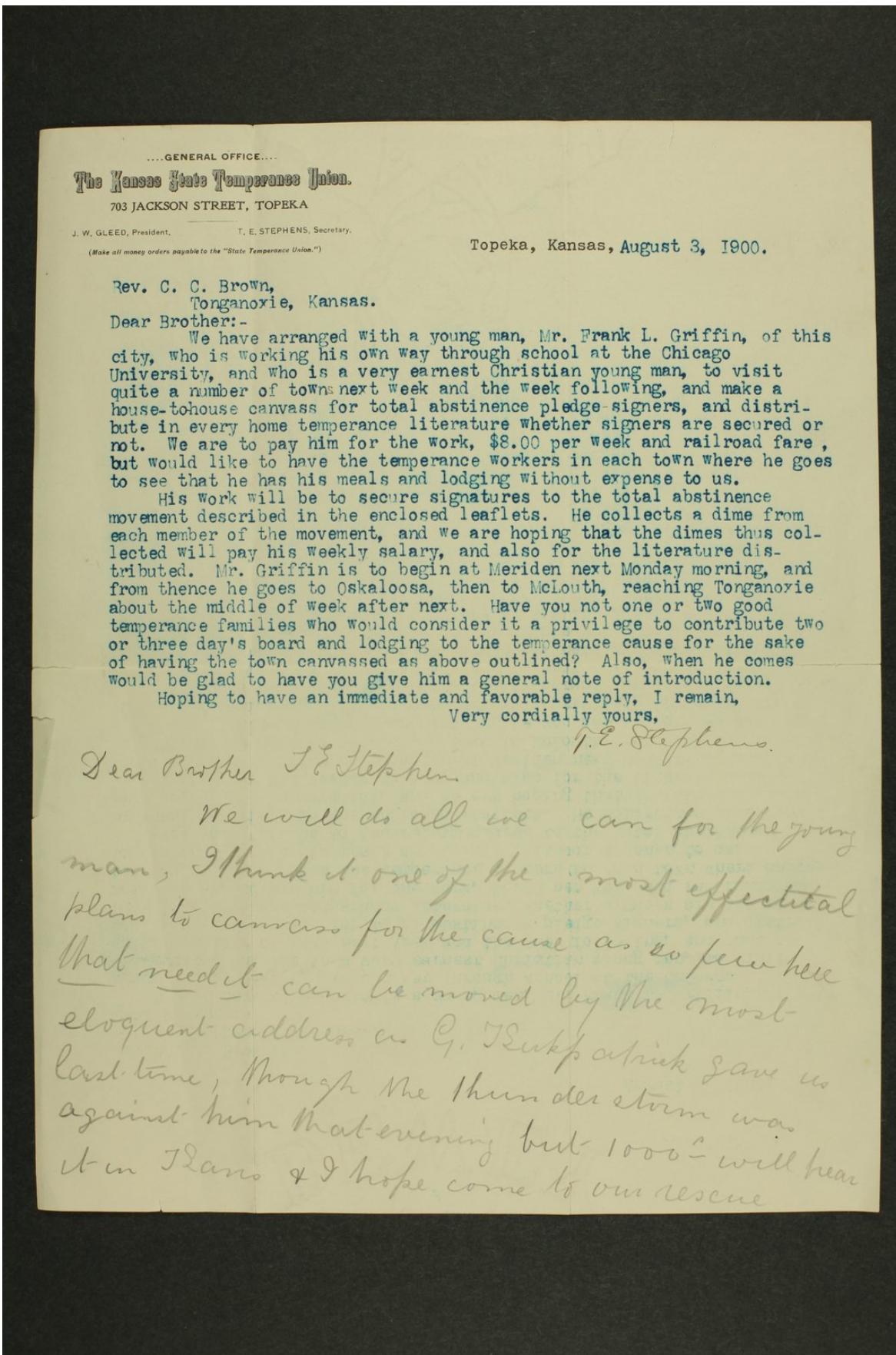
Balance, .....	\$40.09
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in the great Battle that is on,  
Major Scott writes me from Detroit  
to arrange for 3 lectures here shortly  
Our pastor will send him word by this  
mail, all the Pastors met to again  
consider what to do for our town yesterday  
we have lost our Academy very much  
by the liquor influence, I don't  
know if any new subscribers were taken  
at the Lecture send me names of all who  
are on the list & I will do my best for you  
in this gospel hardened place  
excuse haste my Brother

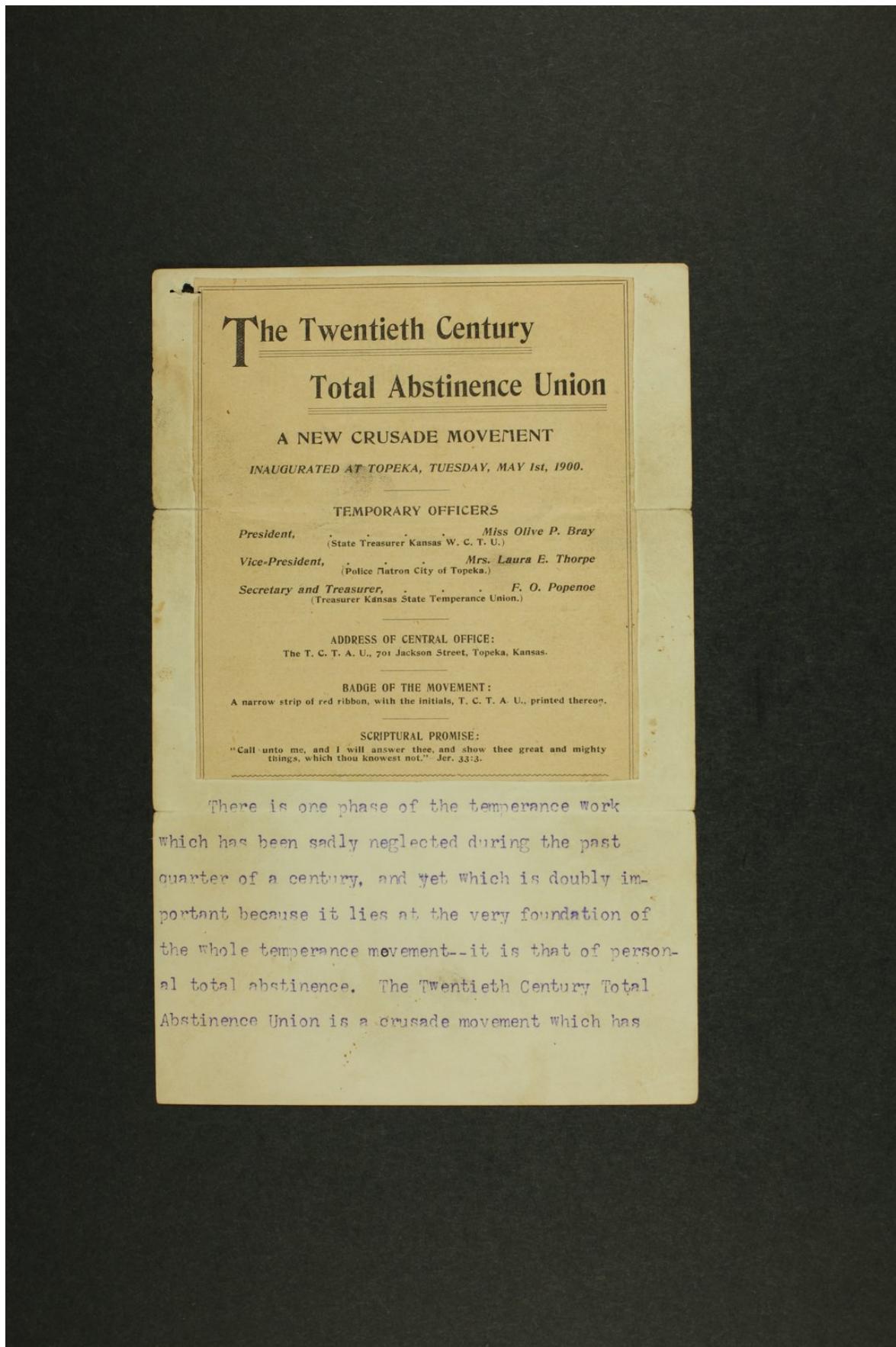
C.C. Brown

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There is one phase of the temperance work which has been sadly neglected during the past quarter of a century, and yet which is doubly important because it lies at the very foundation of the whole temperance movement--it is that of personal total abstinence. The Twentieth Century Total Abstinence Union is a crusade movement which has

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recently been started to help revive interest in (2)  
this branch of temperance work. P The organization  
has two classes of members, and Active and an  
Associate. Both classes take the total abstinence  
pledge and agree to wear the badge (this latter,  
however, being optional); both classes also con-  
tribute a membership offering of a dime to help pay  
the expenses of the movement and to pay for the  
publication, the only expense being a membership  
literature which is distributed. Not a single  
officer receives or ever expects to receive any  
salary whatever. All that is contributed goes  
distributed. immediately to help extend all the more rapidly  
the influence of the movement, no officer receiving  
any compensation whatever. P It is earnest-  
ly hoped that every one to whom this statement is  
presented will become at once either an active or an  
associate member. Each active member is expected  
to obtain three new members if possible within one  
month's time. Each member whether active or assoc-  
iate is given a number which will always belong to  
that member. There are to be no future fees or  
assessments, — only the one offering of a dime from  
each member.)

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If there are those who feel that they cannot {become members} at present, it is hoped that all will at least give something to help it along--- 50 cents, or if not that, a dime or a quarter, -not less than the latter amount if possible. Let all do something to help destroy the evil of intemperance. Since this crusade was started in May nearly 30,000 pages of literature have been printed and much of it has been distributed. It is the purpose of the promoters of the movement to make a house-to-house total abstinence canvass and to scatter literature everywhere. Our special representative for work of this kind in Douglas county is the bearer, Mr. Frank L. Griffin, a thoroughly honest and trustworthy young man, who, it may be incidentally mentioned, is working his own way through college, and with this end in view, is employing his vacation in a doubly laudable manner---that of helping himself, and helping also to inaugurate in Kansas <sup>this</sup> a long-needed movement. We bespeak for him the kindness and encouragement of all who are interested in this work.

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Mr. Griffin is authorized to receive membership  
cards and to make proper acknowledgement for all  
contributions to the cause. 14

Very respectfully,

Officers T.C.T.A.U.

D. S.

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12 Ottawa Kans. Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 1900

Mr J. E. Stephens  
Topeka Kans.

Dear Sir: — At the request of D. Newton  
of this city I write you in the doing  
work for the State Temperance Union.

When the Union was in session,  
last month, he spoke to you about  
the matter & you requested that I  
write you.

It is scarcely necessary that I  
write you of the interest I have  
in the Temperance work in Kansas.

Having lived in other States & in  
Canada I have a profound con-  
viction that the Prohibitory Law of  
this state has done great things  
for her, notwithstanding laxity on  
the part of officials in many places  
& indifference in some localities  
on the part of the citizens.

Kansas is the battle ground—if  
the law is well enforced in Kansas  
then other states will be stimulated

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to enact & enforce a similar law, but should we allow the sentiment of the people to weaken & the law to be brought into disrepute - then what hope is there for success in other states, indeed, what hope for the cause in the world.

Recognizing the vast importance of the situation I have sought to do what has been possible in the election of good officers & the enforcement of the law in the towns where I have lived.

My pastorates have been in Hutchinson, Parsons &ola. While in Hutchinson we formed a local union of the best citizens which did much toward the suppressing of the joints. Since then Hutchinson has been in a much better condition. In Parsons the conditions were such that we were justified in making an open fight & succeeded in electing a clean council with Mayor Stephens at the head, which gave Parsons a clean administration & lifted her out of a deplorable condition that had existed many years.

Perhaps you know of our struggle

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in Iola. The <sup>(3)</sup> County organization asked me to give a mouth to the organizing of the county. A local branch was formed in every township except two. We called a grand jury & placed in their hands carefully prepared information, giving the name of the seller & the names of twenty or more parties who were in the habit of frequenting this place; also, adding any items which would assist them in gaining each information.

Having secured a large number of indictments, we employed two attorneys to prosecute these cases, as our County attorney was not to be depended upon. Fines to the amount of over six thousand dollars, with jail sentences attached, were imposed on these violators of the law.

The Mayor & police judge, also the 8-Mayor were indicted for violating their oath of office. Appeals were taken, but the decisions given were against these violators. I have not learned of the decision on the appeal taken by the Mayor & Police judge.

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My observation & experience has led me to the conclusion that what is needed is not simply platform speeches - these are needed to arouse but the kind of work that will bring together first a score of good reliable citizens, who have stamina sufficient to stand up like men & say to these wilful & persistent violators of law - you cannot continue this anarchy longer.

The running into a town to talk for an evening does not as a rule bring things to pass, but that some one spend two or three days in the leading towns & stay with the cause until such an organization is formed which is likely to live for sometime - then an occasional visit with correspondence to help keep this moving, is what the situation requires.

I have had it in my heart to give all or part of my time to this work. My home is now in Ottawa, having come here mainly for school advantages.

Since coming here I have assisted

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...the pastor of the First Baptist Church of this place in special meetings & have held special meetings in other places near here, supplying Churches on Sunday.

The State Temperance Union is working brackets on eight lines & should have the support of all good citizens. An organization in ~~Allen~~ County is the thing needed for the purpose of holding regular meetings & maintain a warm interest & to secure the enforcement of the law.

If you think I can serve the Union & desire further information in regard to my interest in & fitness for the work - I refer you to Dr. Hendricks of Cola Co & to Rev John Leonard of Cola. The former is President of the Allen County Temperance Union & the latter is pastor of the Presbyterian Church & leading spirit in Temperance work in Allen County. Would also refer you to Rev W.R. Wood pastor of First Bap. Ch Ottawa Dr. Norton Ottawa & Rev Dr M.L. Ward of Ottawa University. These brethren have

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Known me for<sup>(6)</sup> a number of years & will be pleased, I am sure, to give you any information you may wish.

I had hoped to attend the last meeting of the State Temperance Union but owing to illness in my family was prevented.

Being a member of the State Board in connection with the Kansas Baptist Convention I hope to be in Topeka at the next meeting of that body & shall be pleased to see you & form a personal acquaintance whether I become connected with the Temperance Union or not.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience & wishing the Union great success during this year & the years to come

I am  
Yours respectfully

H. G. Fraser

P.S. It may be in place to say that I am a graduate of the Chicago University having taken the B.D. course of that institution. H.G.F.

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Ottawa Kans. Feb 13<sup>rd</sup> 1908

Mr. T. E. Stephens P.S.  
Topeka Ks

Dear Brother: - Am pleased to receive your letter of yesterday & have carefully read it.

I am not quite certain what you have reference to when you say that "if you have any plan of organization or any proposition to make" or

I suppose you refer to how organizations can best be formed throughout the state. If this be it, I should say that the first thing is to get one or two in the particular town to more in the matter & talk it up among those most likely to take hold & in this way open the path for the organizer who should if possible spend a day in conference with these spoken of before a public meeting is held. Then at the public meeting carry

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into effect what<sup>(2)</sup> has been decided  
on in the conference mentioned.  
The public meeting shall be for the  
purpose of arousing sentiment, &  
widening interest, securing member-  
ship & funds.

This is in outline the course &  
should seem best to follow in most  
cases. In some instances it will be  
necessary to first hold a public  
meeting to get things started, but in  
most cases I prefer a conference  
with reliable parties prior to the  
public meeting. In the conference  
the condition of things existing in  
the town, can be discussed & plans  
considered & matured before being  
presented in public. To have things  
in proper shape so that they will  
move readily & heartily in public  
is necessary to enlist the largest  
number in the work.

In reply to the other part of  
your statement - "proposition to  
make to our Executive Committee"  
would say; that I would hope