

Temperance history correspondence

Section 34, Pages 991 - 1020

This correspondence was sent and received by Kansas State Temperance Union secretaries Rev. J. E. Everett and Rev. W. L. Dexter. Correspondents include Howard H. Russell, Superintendent of the American Anti-Saloon League, Rev. H. W. Chaffee and Rev. C. S. Nusbaum of the Ottawa Chautauqua Assembly, Harry A. Caton, Mayor of Winfield, Woman's Christian Temperance Union representatives from several states, and several members of Congress. Included are subscription lists with members' names from several counties including Brown, Butler, Jackson, Nemaha, Pottawatomie, and Reno. Much of the correspondence concerns efforts to advance anti-liquor agendas in local, state, and national politics. Although Kansas was the first state to adopt a constitutional amendment prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in 1880, the law was largely unenforced.

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Temperance history correspondence

Hiwinn, Mo. 4/25 '04

Dear Miss Robertson

I received your letter this A.M.
We had a disagreeable day yesterday, no service
in the evening and but few out in the morning.
This has been a disappointing trip to me.
I have held but two meetings thus far but
~~those~~ were good and profitable I
am sure. The sexton will go to Agra
for May 1, 2, 3. Please send advertisement to Rev.
Tammill. I will see about Lebanon.
I am glad to know you are getting along
nicely. I will return next week, yours etc.

W. J. Dittus



Logan, Mo. 4/26 '84

Dear Bro. Pitcher:-

I received your letter just a few moments ago. I am pleased to know that our work is moving and that you are getting along nicely. I knew you would. I wrote Miss Robertson that May Scott would go to Agra for May 1, 2, 3. I have not been able to get in touch with Lebanon yet, but will do so from Kirwin so that you may send out the advertising matter Friday. I will

2

be at Kirwin ~~Friday~~ Thursday and
Friday Prairie View Saturday
Phillipsburg Sunday and
will return either Monday
or Tuesday. I am to speak
here tonight and tomorrow
evening. I was rained
out entirely last Sunday.
It was terrible windy and
rainy all day. The bad weather
has materially affected my
work and cut my collections.
Our meetings what we have
had were very profitable and
the people were enthusiastic

3

over the effort made, I am
glad to know that Chief
Stahl is to take the place
of McCullom. I am sure
it means much for pro-
hibition in Topeka. I wish
you would send by return
mail or express about one
hundred copies of the "Issue"
and a few more tracts send
to Kirwin. I can use these
to good advantage in our
meetings. Tell Miss Robertson
that I will try Logan Co.
for the Scotts. I will work

4

it by phone from here if
she will prepare a list of
dates, and send to me. I
hope things will continue
to move off all right
until my return.

Yours in haste
W. H. Dexter

REV. P. A. BAKER
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

REV. EDWIN C. DINWIDDIE
LEGISLATIVE SUPERINTENDENT

The American Anti-Saloon League

31-32 BLISS BUILDING

TELEPHONE, EAST 102

Washington, D. C.

April 27, 1904.

To our State Superintendents,

My dear Brother:

I am sending you, separately under congressional frank, a copy of the complete hearings before the House Judiciary Committee on the Hepburn-Dolliver Bill. I will be very glad to furnish you with a sufficient number of these, in fronted envelopes, all ready to be addressed, for you to send to your State Board and also your field workers, if you will notify me of the number you would want. After hearing from you and before sending the hearings I will send you a list of the names of parties in your state to whom we are sending direct from this office, so that you will not need to send to them.

Kindly let me know promptly the number you can use in the manner indicated, and I will have them sent to you.

Very sincerely yours,

EDWIN C. DINWIDDIE,
Legislative Superintendent.

Temperance history correspondence

WM. EASTON HUTCHINSON,
JUDGE THIRTY SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
OF KANSAS.

Garden City, Kans. April 28th. 1904,

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
Topeka, Kansas,

Dear Sir:--

I am in receipt of your favor of the 25th. inst. and I accept your offer to furnish me a statement of all those in my judicial district to whom government stamps have been issued for the sale of liquor, for the sum of \$2. I herewith enclose you my check for that amount and may want the affidavits later.

P.S.
Please send the statement referred
from letter. W. E. H.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Easton Hutchinson.



Marvin, Kans., 4/22 '04

Dear Bro. Pitaker

I herewith send you clippings taken from the "Capital". They have made a blunder in reversing the reading at the head of the column of figures in regard to Revenue Receipts and Druggists-permits. I wish you would see the editor and have him correct the mistake. We were stumped out night before last but had an enthusiastic meeting here last night. The county is pledged to adopt our constitution and everything is in our favor. I do not think now that I will return until week after next as I can put in the week here next week very profitably. I hope you are getting along nicely in the office and if I am needed let me know. With best wishes to yourself and Miss Robertson I remain,

Yours for temperance

W. D. Bates

Excuse this paper it is all I can get hold of.



THE CENTRAL

HOTEL

THAD MITCHNER, Proprietor.

11.12.13.

CENTRALLY LOCATED.
BATH ROOMS.
ELECTRIC LIGHTS.
GOOD SAMPLE ROOM.

4

Cedarville ~~Abilene~~, Kansas, April 29, 1904
Miss Edith Robertson,
Topeka, Ks.

Dear Miss Robertson:—

Yours of 17. received finding
us in this hamlet of less than 100
souls and as poor as "Job's turkey".
Our experience has indeed
been rocky enough.

We ought to go from Athol
to Kensington then Agra, as
they are only about 14 miles
apart, and Kensington is about
5 miles west of Athol, then
comes Agra 14 miles west of
Kensington. Our appointments
have been so far apart that
R.R. fares have made a big hole
in our meager receipts. This
must be obviated. Send mail
to Athol. Wm. S. joins in kindest
regards. Cordially yours E. J. Sutt



HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE

REV. HOWARD H. RUSSELL, D. D., L. L. D.
110 EAST 125TH ST., NEW YORK CITY

WILLIAM H. ANDERSON
1102 MERCHANTS LOAN AND TRUST BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILL.

HON. S. E. NICHOLSON
HARRISBURG, PA.

The American Anti-Saloon League

REV. P. A. BAKER, GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
609-616 NEW HAYDEN BUILDING

REV. EDWIN C. DINWIDDIE
LEGISLATIVE SUPERINTENDENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.
31-32 BLISS BUILDING

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 14, 1904.

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
703 Jackson St.,
Topeka, Kans.

My dear Brother:-

Within a very few days you will receive printed blanks from the Secretary of our National League for securing the appointment of delegates from the various church and reform bodies to the National Anti-Saloon League Convention, to be held in this city on the 16th, 17th and 18th of next November.

We are anxious that this be the most representative meeting we have ever had. Experience has proven that men from the various states who attend the National Convention go back thoroughly established in their views concerning the Anti-Saloon League, and become valuable as the advocates of our cause. It is therefore important that we make a special effort to have the largest representation possible from all the states.

Please make up a list of the various annual bodies meeting in your state, and secure the appointment of delegates most likely to attend the Convention. Nothing will so aid us in our great forward movement as to get together representative ministers and laymen from all over the country.

Trusting this will meet with your approval, and that you will give it prompt and careful attention, as the religious bodies are now beginning to meet, I am,

Your comrade against the saloon,

P. A. Baker
General Supt.



DR. W. J. NEWTON,
DENTIST,
2ND DOOR WEST OF FIRST NAPEL BANK,
GROUND FLOOR.

OTTAWA, KAN., 4-2-1904

Rev. W. L. Dexter Sec. State Temp. Union
Topeka, Ks.

Dear Bro.

young of 31st ult found me
very busy, glad to know plans are now
completed soon as from printer, shall
be glad to see copy. Not now very famil-
iar with the present judicial districts of
the state, I will be glad to see from you a
list of the counties in each, nothing would
give me greater pleasure than to assist
in the work by being superintendent of this
district, but I regret that the duties of
my practice compelled me to decline, but
I will aid in any way I can. Hope you
will find just the proper man. I hope
& believe the work will be pushed with
vigor the nature of S. superintendent that you speak
of in a good mood. Respy yours W. J. Newton



L. H. MURLIN,
PRESIDENT

Baker University

Baldwin, Kansas

April 21, 1904.

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
Topeka, Kas.

Dear Bro. Dexter,-

Replying to yours of the 19th inst., before me, would say I have no criticism to offer on the methods and plans of the State Temperance Union. They may be better than anything I have to suggest; but since you asked for suggestions I felt free to express myself. I read neither the Journal nor the Herald; I read the Capital. My statement, however, is based upon some things that I myself have seen in occasional visits to Topeka, and I still say that conditions in Topeka are a shame and a disgrace and ^{are} ~~is~~ a more discouraging feature to those who work for the temperance cause in Kansas than any other one thing I know of. With the character of the population of Topeka and with the moral sentiment that I believe to exist there, if it cannot be organized and centralized in a way to rout the rum business root and branch, there is not much use to try it anywhere else. You will do more to give courage to the temperance sentiment in the State of Kansas by cleaning up Topeka than by any other one method I know of. I am in all parts of the State and I know what I am talking about. If we can clean up a half dozen of the larger towns of the State it will be a very easy proposition to get the County seats and smaller towns. I think the wiser plan would be to concentrate all effort in these few places.



Baker University

L. H. MURLIN,
PRESIDENT

Baldwin, Kansas

Rev. W. L. D., #2.

I am not an expert as to methods. Just how this is to be done I do not know. I am told, however, by lawyers, that our prohibition law is just about as good as can be had.

Judging from the character of the civilization of Kansas, the conditions of its life and the character of our law; it seems to me if prohibition cannot be successfully enforced here it cannot be enforced anywhere.

I think it is remarkably well enforced ^{anyhow} but I believe we can make a very great improvement and I believe the proper method is to attack the populous centers. In this I may be wrong, but since my judgment is asked for I give it.

With best wishes and kind regards, believe me,

Faithfully yours,

President.



JOHN FOX SMITH,
PRODUCE MERCHANT,
ESTABLISHED 1874.
TELEPHONE NO 130.

Port Elizabeth,
South Africa.

April 25 1914

Rev. W. L. Dexter
Spuka

Dear Sir Brother

I am very
pleased to receive your letter of March 1st asking our cooperation & assistance in your great gathering of workers at St Louis

In an very sorry that we cannot send a Representative we do not know of any of our Temperance friends visiting America this summer but in case we hear of any will ask them to call & say you.

One of our best workers is Dr. Stakely Lewis of Cape Town then in last Dr. Stuart Theo Schreiner, Fleming Thomas all of Cape Town.

Also Theo De Koenig of Johannesburg James Bruntow of the same place will send you a "clarion" one of our Temperance papers.



JOHN FOX SMITH,
PRODUCE MERCHANT.
ESTABLISHED 1874.
TELEPHONE NO 130.

Port Elizabeth,
South Africa.

During past few months we
have made a decided step forward
in the temperance work
we have had Lecturers going from
town to town and village to village
telling our fellow men around
the beauties of temperance and
getting them to join our army.
We are a widely scattered
population some of our towns
very large. For instance
the 4th in size of our inhabitants
then the next town to us is 18
miles away, about 4000 whites,
another town 100 miles away
with about 7000 inhabitants.
Please let me know what we
can do here to help.

Yours in Faith H. P. Thandy
Believe me
John Fox Smith

... Hiawatha, Mo, April 15-1904.

Dear Brother Dexter:-

I arrived here yesterday afternoon and have been in consultation with Brother Buckner. He likes the plan of organization and is taking hold of the proposition very heartily. He has already made three or four weeks engagements in this county. I begin at Reserve tomorrow and am there untill Wednesday evening and then go to Padonia for two nights following. Next Sunday will be at Morrill, the rest of the week in counties near.

The first Sunday² in May I go to
Robison and other engagements
are pending. We have seen the
editor of the "World" and next
week we are to have a good
article announcing brother Buckner
as ~~sup~~ and myself as organizer
and the general plan of work.
Now brother Buckner wants you
to send letters to every preacher
in this county at once and very
soon to all preachers in Nemaha
and Doniphan Counties and
so pave the way for our
meetings to follow. State in
the letters the plan and purpose
and that Buckner is the sup^t and
that I am your representative

...in this district and have been
appointed to do this work.
These letters will greatly help us
in making appointments. You
have been very wise in naming
Buehner as Supt. He knows
how to do things and with despatch.
So far there are no refusals to
have meetings. A man and his
wife are at one or two points
with Lauter. They will hurt us
at those points. I want you to
send me more badges and
some of the blanks for pledge
signing and also some more
subscriptions (75) and a few
more constitutions. (Send to Reserve)
I will write you soon again.
Yours in haste - Horner E. Hark

Hiawatha, Kansas, April 29-1904
Dear Brother Dexter: - 11
your letter from office at hand.
in view of your answer to my
suggestions regarding the work here
I will hold reports of meetings
in Brown County until I know
definitely what your decision is.
I found at Morrill that making
the appeal for Co. work took better
than appeal for state work,
so far cash and subs, just about
met expenses. I have received
about 3/00 in cash during two
weeks. These subscriptions can be
mostly collected within a month
I think and thus bring up cash
account. We believe with good
weather our cash account will
be much better in remaining ^{town}

In case you decide that the subscriptions are to be collected for county work I would need the reports. Otherwise I will send them direct to you.

investigation^{of} that there is an
alarming amount of lawless
selling going on in some places.
I found at Morrill that there is a
C.O.D. ^{business} amounting to 3000 dollars
a year. And Morrill has been
looked upon as pretty dry.
It caused considerable talk
when I made this statement in
meeting. They are going to work
there to better things. What can
do in the way of sending detectives?
I have been asked and did not
know whether you could furnish
one or not and what it would
cost. A jointest is to be tried here
today from Robinson.

^{3.}
Everest and Willis this morning,
for meetings in those towns.

We must arrange for meetings to
form Co. organizations soon. Could
you arrange to ~~meet~~ ^{be} here say
the last Sunday of May and then
remain for Co. meeting on Monday
or Tuesday following. Our plan is
to arrange two or three great
mass meetings at different
Churches ^{in Hiawatha} on Sunday evenings
previous to our county meeting.

I will probably have covered
the county in about 3 or 4 weeks
from this time. I am quite
sure these meetings are going to stir
up things in this county. I find on

I enclose report of Mayetta² meeting which I had intended sending sooner, but had laid aside.

The organization is affected at the three points visited. At Reserve I am to return for another meeting to complete work, on this own motion. The last two nights there we were rained out practically. Organized at Padonia & Morrill.

I quite sure we will organize at Robinson and have a great meeting. There is a fight out there.

Altogether the outlook is encouraging for the organization in this county. Have arrangements made for meeting at Powhattan. May 22-25 - a request comes from



I have written Bro. Kive and told
him I thought we could arrange
to hold meeting for them June 15,
I will be at Robinson intill
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
at country churches. address me
last of week to Hiawatha,
yours truly
Homer E. Wark



Waterville Kansas

Apr 15 1904

Bro Sister:

I got over here about 6⁰⁰ P.M. yesterday.

But such a time as I had. When I got to the baggage room at Sapuka it locked exactly 10 min. till train time. The man simply refused to try to get my baggage on the train which was 10 min. late and he had ample time to have done it easily. I had to leave it. It will get here to day. Then I got on the train and found that the baggage man had my ticket and I had to pay again full fare this time. Well I had a fine full house and we got on fairly

The house will not begin to
hold the people to night.

Yours Always
Lang

A. L. BANKS.

J. N. BANKS.

H. P. BANKS.

...BANKS BROTHERS HARDWARE CO...

DEALERS IN HARDWARE

ALL FARMING IMPLEMENTS, BUGGIES, WAGONS, PAINTS, OILS, Etc.

Vliets, Kansas, April 20 1904

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
Topeka, Kas.

Dear Sir: - We can
arrange for Bro. Long, our dates in-
dicated viz: April 27, 28, 29. The
lectures will be held in the M. E. Church
here.

Very truly,
J. W. Banks,

A. L. BANKS.

J. N. BANKS.

H. P. BANKS.

...BANKS BROTHERS HARDWARE CO...

DEALERS IN HARDWARE

ALL FARMING IMPLEMENTS, BUGGIES, WAGONS, PAINTS, OILS, Etc.

Vliets, Kansas, April 15, 1904

State Temperance Union,
Topeka, Kas.

Sirs: We would like to know
if you could send a speaker here
soon? We would like Mr. Hilcox
if he can come.

We have cleaned our town of joints
and think we have a good sentiment
for some temperance work from

A. L. BANKS.

J. N. BANKS.

H. P. BANKS.

...BANKS BROTHERS HARDWARE CO...
DEALERS IN HARDWARE

ALL FARMING IMPLEMENTS, BUGGIES, WAGONS, PAINTS, OILS, Etc.

Vliets, Kansas, 190

outside source.
I hope you can arrange it so it
will cost us as little as possible
Very truly,
J. N. Banks.



Rates \$1.25 Per Day.

SIXTH AND MAIN
MAIN ENTRANCE SIXTH STREET

MERCHANT'S HOTEL.

MRS. E. R. MERCHANT, PROP.

Newton, Kansas, Apr. 22 1904

W. L. Dexter

Dear Sir

I want to locate a Rev. Long, claiming to be a preacher, Temperance Lecturer and Evangelist. He with his family stopped here a few days and left without paying their Hotel bill. Bro. Evers Pastor of M.E. Church borrowed \$8.00 from the W.H.M.S. to add to what he had to pay his bill and take them out of town. He went and took the money with him. If you can locate him I shall be much obliged. Please answer by return mail.

Mrs. E. R. Merchant