

Temperance history correspondence

Section 45, Pages 1321 - 1350

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.

Date: 1903-1904

Callnumber: Temperance History Coll. #645, Box 3-4

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



your office some time
ago your man in charge
wrote me saying if we
hoped to have due thing
done we must furnish
money for expenses of
the detective. So we dug
down in our own pockets
and got it. One man
put in \$40.00, and he a
poor man too. Now
something must be done,
or our efforts at law
enforcement are at an
end.

Wright says he has
good evidence for five
cases. If salary is due him
and the payment of it will
put us in possession of the
evidence. (Over)



then the thing to do is
to get the evidence.
I think the best thing
to do is for Mr. Coddine
to come while Wright
is here on the murder
case of which I wrote you,
and he will know what
to do and how to do it.
If these cases can go
through some by injunc-
tion and other by prose-
cution I have hope that
we can in a short time
put at least \$200⁰⁰ in
your treasury. But if noth-
ing is done I have no
hope of doing any thing
either for you or over-
sees.
May I hear at any time
will not some action be taken
immediately? Yours Truly W. H. Smith



P.S. Wright came in
just as I closed this letter
and I have just had a
talk with him.
He repeated what he had
told me before, viz. that
he has evidence in the sev-
eral cases but will not
turn it over till his sala-
ry is provided for. Says
he would accept part of
the money if balance
is secured to him.
Says the Union owes
him a small sum that
has been standing since
Nov. and no effort seems
to be made to pay it &
that he is unwilling to
risk more without defi-
nite provision for its
payment. Says he will



be here but a few days
more,
I am hoping Coddling
may come very soon.
D.



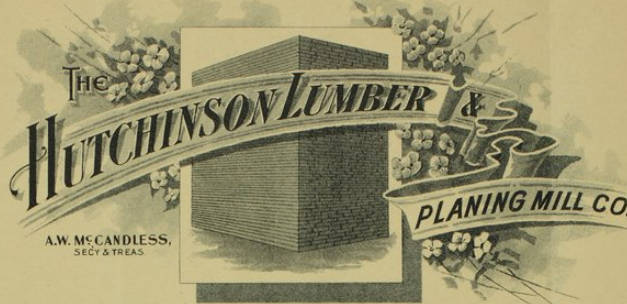
LUMBER.
JAMES ST. JOHN,
MANAGER.

OFFICE & YARD, 1 TO 10 SHERMAN WEST.
MILL, AVENUE A WEST.

MILLWORK,
M. H. WAGNER,
MANAGER.

MILL.
SASH, DOORS,
BLINDS,
COLUMNS,
SHOW CASES,
ALL KINDS OF
FINISHING WORK.

HUTCHINSON LUMBER CO. & CO.



LUMBER.
YELLOW PINE,
RED WOOD,
MAPLE,
CEDAR, OAK,
ALL KINDS OF
BUILDING MATERIALS

HUTCHINSON, KANS. July 7 1904

Mr. W. L. Dexter,
Topeka, Mo.

Amidst noise and confusion I must send a word just to say that a splendid audience greeted your representatives last night at the Presbyterian Church, a fitting finale to our campaign here, our third visit too.

We start for Denver this afternoon. Once there, where we are well known, we can decide regarding July & August, and will keep you informed. If I do not have time here will send Bro. Piche a complete report at every first opportunity.

My humble opinion is that a resume of our three months campaigning will not be as effective as a terse, telling article, giving in substance that notwithstanding ~~the~~ unprecedented stormy weather successful meetings were held, in places merchants closed stores

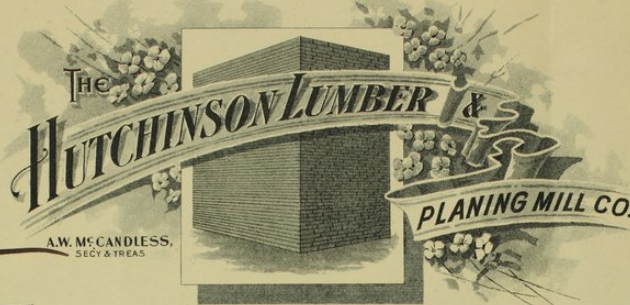


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YELLOW PINE,
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MAPLE,
CEDAR, OAK,
ALL KINDS OF
BUILDING MATERIALS.

HUTCHINSON, KANS.

Local assistance
to attend the lectures, pledges numerous other
law enforcement sentiment created etc; - that
in all places invited to return. Clinch things
by giving one or more newspaper clippings sent
you. If you have ever received anything from
ministers or the early quote from them. I
particularly request that you mention, in
dependence of the valuable assistance rendered
the State Temperance Union by Mrs. Scott she
did splendid work for the State W. C. T. U. at
Institutes, local, county and district etc.
Her addresses were enthusiastically received.
That is about all.

At special request of Mrs. Hutchinson Mrs.
Scott gave Our Messenger brief reports.

My good wife joins me in any best wishes.
Kindly remember us to Miss Robertson and
Bro. Pitcher. We thank you for your uniform
kindness and courtesy. Yours for victory
E. J. Scott.



LUMBER,
JAMES ST. JOHN,
MANAGER.

OFFICE & YARD, 1 TO 10 SHERMAN WEST.
MILL, AVENUE A WEST.

MILLWORK,
M. H. WAGNER,
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SASH, DOORS,
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FINISHING WORK.

THE HUTCHINSON LUMBER & PLANING MILL CO.

A. W. McCANDLESS,
SECY & TREAS.

LUMBER
YELLOW PINE
REDWOOD,
MAPLE,
CEDAR, OAK,
ALL KINDS OF
BUILDING MATERIALS.

Handwritten notes:
most of the
other
paper

Rev. W. S. Dexter
Topeka, Kas.

Long Beach, California,
July 14, 1904.

My dear Brother:-

Arriving at Denver we soon discovered that conditions in Colorado were not favorable. The gigantic troubles because of labor strikes, the effect being state-wide, political disturbances, for they were nothing less, have combined to make confusion worse confounded in that State. So hopeless is the outlook that even the State Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Pro. party did not attend the Indianapolis convention. I was offered a place as State lecturer, to receive not less than ten dollars per day, if I raised that amount, all over to go to the State Treasury. But the offer was not attractive. So we hastened on to California coming to this seaside resort direct as our R.R. tickets here cost nothing extra.

We waited 14 hours at La Junta owing to a washout near Syracuse. En route we



discerned a huge black funnel forming, rising gradually into the open space above, while in the east the sky soon was black, then came the cloudburst. When we reached Las Vegas, N.M., we were informed that both La Junta and Trinidad were storm swept causing great damage; that our train was the last to come & would be for several days. For once we were fortunate.

What with sea air, warm salt water bathing, a voracious appetite as a result and delicious sleep, we are rejuvenated and Richard is himself again. We wish you were here to enjoy all with all kinds of fruits added with us. You would be delighted with South California and this old M.E. camp meeting ground would fill you with enthusiasm such as is not common in Kansas.

We sincerely trust that all is well with you, all at the office, and the K. S. T. U. every way. The associated press news tell of floods again in parts of Kansas. What a year it has been to be sure!

We trust that you will keep us informed of events there. Our mail comes to Redlands, California. We shall leave here shortly for that place. Mrs. Scott joins in kindest regards to yourself, Miss Robertson & Mrs. Hatcher.

Faithfully Yours,

E. T. Scott,



PARTIAL LIST OF LECTURES.

Our Country and its Homes.
Hard Times: One Way Out.
Inhumanity of the License System.
The Liquor Problem: Its Solution.
The Young Man in Chains.
Does it Pay?
Those \$5.00 Boots.
The Liquor Traffic the Nation's Curse.
Foot-prints; or the Bright Side of the Temperance Reform.

Edgar T. Scott,

LECTURER.

Redlands, Cal., Feb. 2, 1904

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Bro. Dexter:

Wish I could be with you the 16th. My rancher was burned out and I am busy getting a shelter for him & his family. This prevents reaching Kansas at the time of the Convention.

I am desirous to know of the earliest date when I can begin. Shall look for advice from you so I can plan accordingly.

Am wondering what your new plan is. Please let me know.

I trust 1904 will be the most encouraging year in the history of the K. S. T. U. for home use work wishes. — Remember me to Bro. Everett & Miss Robertson.

Yours for Victory
E. T. Scott

Major E. T. Scott has contracted with Huntington & Twigg to erect a home on the Major's ranch adjoining Smiley Heights, to take the place of the house burned Wednesday morning. George Hersey and family will occupy the house.

10
Milford, Kansas, July, 28th '04

Dear Bro. Coddington:-

I inclose a circular which explains itself. My point is that it will be a fine opportunity to secure evidence if we had a detective here. I don't what if anything you may have had done in this line. But if you haven't already secured evidence, I believe that a man could on that day get it surely. Perhaps it would be better to have two and let their testimony support each other. I hope you can arrange it. We leave it to you. We will pay for it. I think the druggist might be caught that day. Would it be well to have the temporary injunction first so as to get a conviction for punishment? Can you manage it. We have Mrs. St. John with us Sunday night. We are hammering away. Hope you are being blessed in your work. We do not forget to pray for you and yours and your work. Hope I may see you soon.

Yours as ever,

E. L. Hull



S T A T E M E N T.

In _____ County, State of Kansas.

State of Kansas,
Plaintiff.

vs.

Defendant.

First:--Description of building, of what material built, number stories and in what rooms joint is conducted.

Second:--Description of lot, block, and on what part of same situated. Whether in original townsite or addition.

Third:--Name and address of owners.

Fourth:--Name of keepers of place, (joint keeper and bar tender).

Fifth:--How long have each been keeper and bar tender?

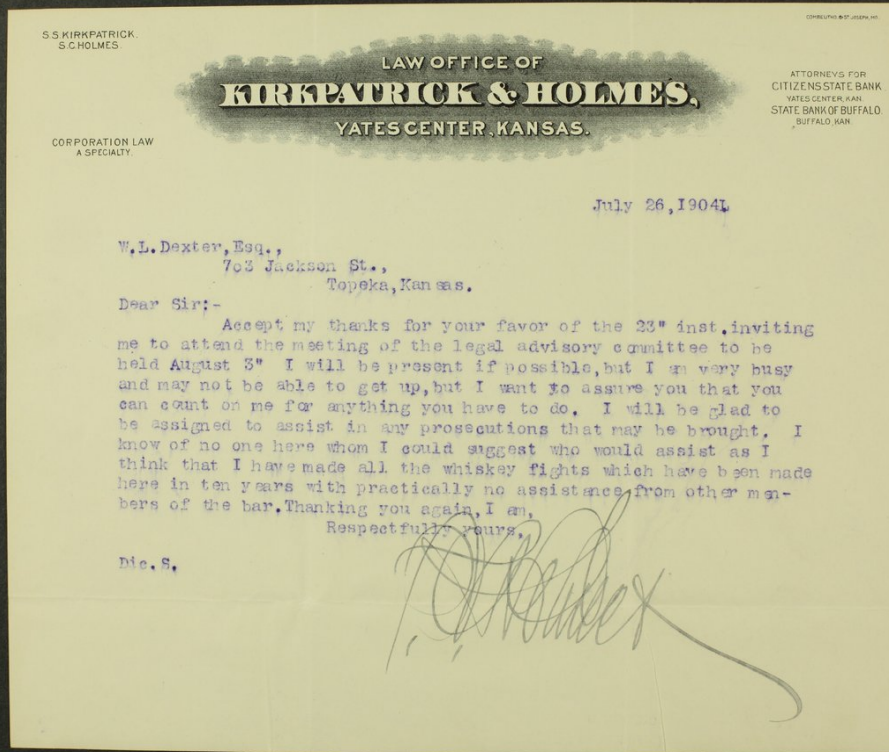
Sixth:--Names of witnesses who have been frequenters of this place, farmers and young men preferable.

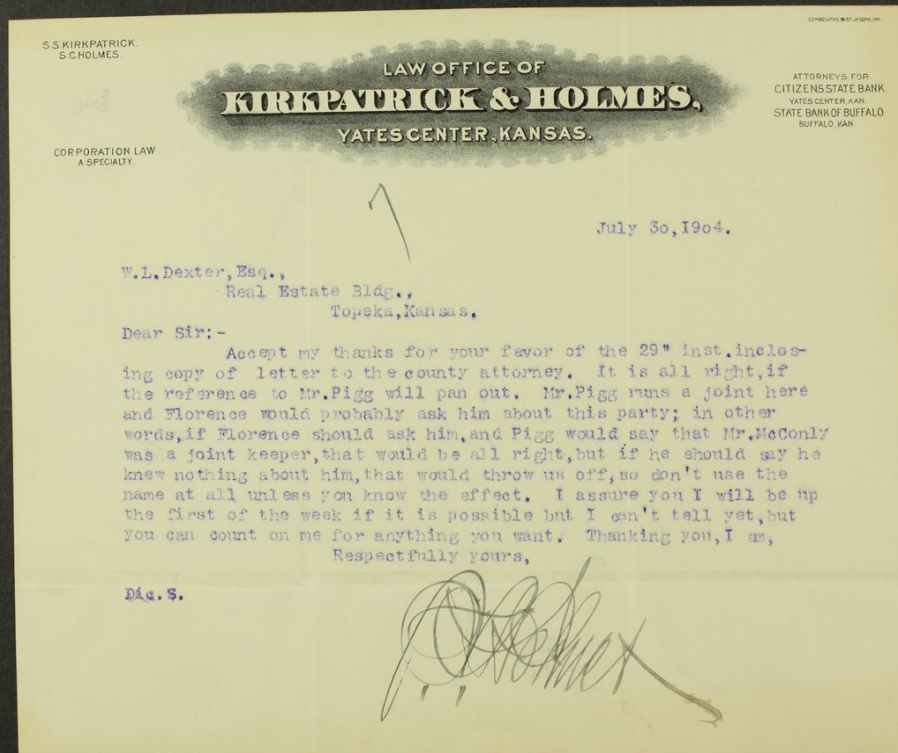
Will Roether Dan Roether C Logan Braiden r.c. +
Chas Chambers E Melligen C.V.
Holman Blacksmith Sam Gratten on 26.3.23
Bob McDowell r.c.
J.M. Grover Doubtful.

Seventh:--
Name of some citizen of county who will prosecute action in the name of the State.

Eighth:--Name of Probate Judge, _____
Name of District Judge, _____
Name of County Attorney, _____

Ninth:--Give such additional facts as may throw light on the situation.





Levens, Ka, July 1, 1884.
Rev. W. A. DeVille,
Topeka, Ka. 10

Dear Mrs.:

Yours at heart.

To say that I am not pleased with your management in this matter is to put it very mildly. You sent a man to me as "perfectly reliable" saying that his salary would be \$15.00 per week and expenses \$10.00 to \$15.00. I asked you in your letter of introduction to furnish expense money. Afterward I was written from your office that if we wanted any thing done we must furnish expenses. Now that we have done it your money is gone, you suddenly wake up to the consciousness that the evidence the "fellows" get is little if any account, that the work may be done just as well without them. Yet Coddington writes me as you see on the reverse of this "Get the evidence & I will come" Now am I to do as he says without a detective who you say does little if

CODDING & KEYSER,
Lawyers,

WAMEGO AND WESTMORELAND,
KANSAS.

J. K. CODDING,
W. J. KEYSER.

Wamego, Kansas, June 29, 1904.

Rev. W. H. Sweet,
Downs, Kansas.

Dear Brother:-

Yours received, and every thing seems ready in your matters
except the evidence, as soon as you get that let me know and I will join
with the County Attorney in commencing the actions.

Yours very truly,
J. K. Coddington



I purpose now to call several of our people together, and have Wright come before them and show what he has, and if in their judgment, the facts in his possession will ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~able~~ ~~me~~ ~~to~~ stick the criminals then we will pay him and proceed with our affairs. If as you ^{say} his evidence is worthless we shall have to give it up as a bad job; and I suppose sit down and let the accursed traffic go on. In either case we shall have little use for the State Temp. U. in the future, unless you and Mr. Coddins decide to do differently from what you now propose.

If you have any thing to say let me hear at once.

Respectfully yours
W. H. Sweet.



any good?
Wright has goods mark-
ed with name of seller, day
of purchase and names of
parties associated in some
way with ~~the~~ liquor or
its purchase. Now because
it took him longer to get
in the inside and get these
facts you propose to disregard
your agreement to pay wages
and expenses & have us do
the same, and so let all our
effort & the outlay of our money
go for naught, we
how could ~~we~~ ever hope to get
any thing more from our
~~people for~~ this work, if we
should let all we have done
fall to the ground without
effort?

You can see from the re-
verse side of this sheet that
Coddington insists on testimony.
Yet you say he can get his
wages, how am I to know what to do?



W. J. KEYSER.

Codding & Keyser,
LAWYERS.

Offices at
Wamego and Westmoreland.

I. K. CODDING.

Wamego, Kansas, June 24, 1904.

W. H. Sweet,
Downs, Kansas.

Dear Sir:--

I have yours of the 23rd inst. and note its contents and I am anxious to give you all the assistance in my power but it seems to me that preliminary to every thing else you should have more testimony than you appear to have and also you want your temperance men, who are able to pay something, to band themselves together, not only to fight this cause to a finish but to be able at the close of them to reimburse the State Temperance Union for the interest it has taken in your behalf and that the good work may go on.

Lastly you ought to employ an attorney there, some man whose heart is in the work and who has ability enough to help in the selection of a jury, keep track of the cases, sift out the testimony, etc. As soon as you have secured the services of this kind of a man I wish you would let me know so that I can correspond with him and furnish him all necessary forms, etc.

Hoping that you will not consider that I am asking too much of you in things above required and that you will be able to furnish them, I remain

Yours very truly,



Later
 Wright phoned me this morning he is going away to day. Do I want to see him and he showed me the goods he has. Twelve bottles in all I think from parties in this Co. all marked as to purchaser, date &c.
 He also has names of parties who could be called as witnesses. I asked him to leave the stuff with me but he declined. Said he would need it to establish his claim for salary from the D. T. U. Said he would be at Manhattan Monday and might go on to Topeka.
 My judgment is that if your care to hold our folks to the Union it will be best to make an amicable settle-

if you can not go to Manhattan Monday possibly you might reach W- by phone or have him come to Topeka. B. Let me know at once what to expect.




ment with Wright and
get his evidence and then
have Coddins come out
at once.

Our folks are getting
restless and something
must be done soon.
Now, the other man who
was here left the stuff he
purchased with Wright that
did not leave the informa-
tion he had. That should
be secured before final
settlement is made
with them. If cases can
be made against all of
these parties I shall not
be grudge the money; and
we can raise the detective's
fee and more besides.
Yours Sweet.



10
Downs. Kans
7-26-04

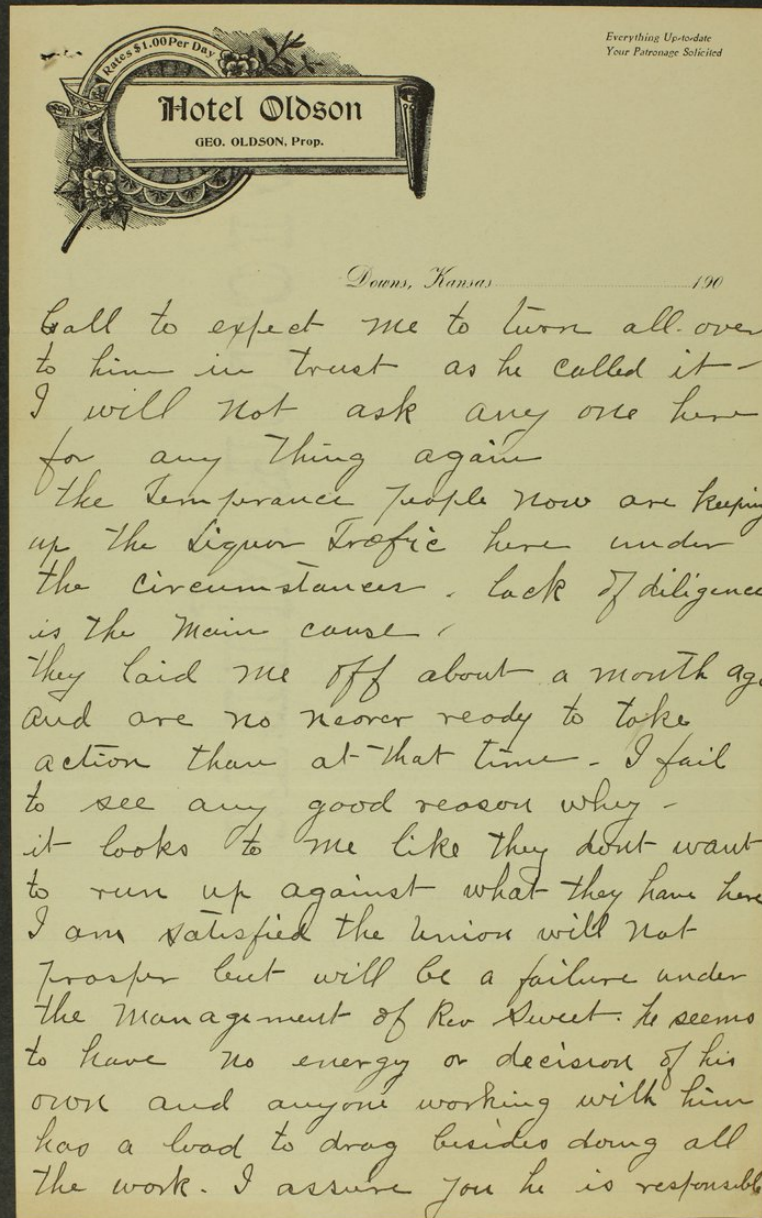
N. L. Dexter Topeka - Kans
Dear Sir - and Brother
I expect to go to Lebanon Smith Co
before long. Lebanon is about
equal to Downs as to Character
of the Temperance people. There
want any work done I would
negotiate with them while here
the County atty J. T. Reed of that County
seems to protect the Sign Dealers
in that County but no doubt
would prosecute the right kind
of work. I have known him 10 years
he is successful in prosecutions
scarcely ever losing a case -
I expected you here Thursday night
but failed to see you -
hope you may come before I leave here
very truly J. M. Wright


Everything Up-to-date
Your Patronage Solicited

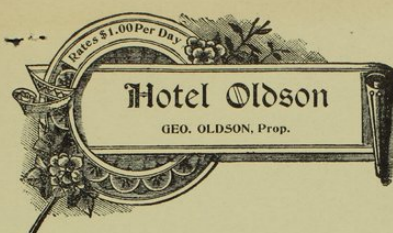
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Topeka, Kansas 7-2-1904

N. L. Lester Topeka
 Dear Brother Lester I expected
 to be in Manhattan tomorrow
 and told Brother Sweet I would
 be but did not go on account
 of circumstances concerning the
 Case upon which I am working
 here. I believe the local union
 here will take some action soon
 Rev Sweet made a strong plea
 for the goods & information I have
 he and some others have examined
 the information at my request.
 I asked for a payment on my bill
 yesterday as I needed money to meet
 bills first of the month - was in-
 formed nothing could be done I
 made other arrangements.
 Rev Sweet even refused to help
 me borrow a small amount which
 I needed badly but still had the



Everything Up-to-date
Your Patronage Solicited



Hotel Oldson
GEO. OLDSON, Prop.

Downs, Kansas 190

to a great extent for things being
as they are here
I am holding things in readiness
hoping for a settlement - but will
make no further effort to get
it my self - I proposed to turn
over the work done at Osborn
upon payment for work done there
but it was not agreeable as most
of the money had been raised at Downs
and the Downs people want to prosecute
the violators at Downs with their money
which is no more than right
I want to turn all over together upon
full payment of our claim which is
about \$140.00 to \$150.00 - mine is as
follows six weeks

Board Bills	1788	9000
R R fare	100.00	2680
Incidentals	788	1149
Advances	2600	2376
		2600
		178.95

1788
100.00
788



W. J. KEYSER.

Codding & Keyser.
LAWYERS.

J. K. CODDING.

Offices at
Wamego and Westmoreland.

Wamego, Kansas, July 27th 1904.

Dear Sir:

I do not desire in any way to change the original plans upon w
which you do your work but wish to make a few suggestions so that this
department may receive more benefit from your services .

First, Don't waste any time on joint laofer, bums or drunkards they
wont tell the truth.

Second, Try and get the names of young men and occassional drinkers
respectable farmers preferable.

Third, Don't pay to much attention to boot leggers, get evidence
against the joint keep and his wife, statement of whose doings is sent
herewith and against the druggist.

Fourth, Put down day, date and whatever incidents accured at the time
purchase was made.

Fifth, Dont form the acquaintance of any of the temperance people
at Milford, because the other fellows will catch on.

Sixth, Don't let anything I have suggested interfere with your ori-
ginal plan of work.

Yours very truly,

J. K. Codding
Address all letters from
~~Junction~~ Milford
to Ellen Wyatt. (my stenographer)
Wamego
What was your name be?



[July? 1904]

10

Dear Bro. Dexter:

I have been looking for a letter for some time from you. Your last communication stated when you returned you would let me know when it would suit for me to come down, to see you and Mr. Coddington about our matter.

The principals of Republican party made me anxious about matter. The Druggist in question led the delegation by two votes for office of County Clerk. It is a shame and disgrace. County Convention tomorrow - Tuesday. I don't know what they will do, but hope and pray justice may soon overtake this matter in his iniquity.

When can I come to see you +

If you can be successful in the case and prosecute so as to win I can raise \$100.00 if you are defeated, having done your best I can get \$50.00 sure!

Yours bro. in Christ,
W. T. Randolph.

Ans. at once



*George H. Whitcomb,
Clad Hamilton.*

*Law Offices of
Whitcomb & Hamilton,
Topeka, Kansas.*

*Rooms Nos. 17 & 19,
Crawford Building,
Telephone 77.*

July 26, 1904.

Rev. W. L. Dexter,
Sec'y Kansas State Temperance Union,
City.

My dear Mr. Dexter:-

I have received your notification of July
23, relating to your meeting on August 3rd. I will try to
attend one of your meetings at that time.

Very truly yours,

Clad Hamilton



W. J. KEYSER.

Coddling & Keyser.
LAWYERS.

Offices at
Wamego and Westmoreland.

J. K. CODDING.

Wamego, Kansas, July 21, 1904.

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

Dear Brother:

I have not written you as I should have done because I was called away by telephone to try a case and have been away from home or else so busy getting ready for our September term of court here that I did not write the letter to you.

My temperance friends over the state, where I have been doing work, seem to want action taken all at once. Our state work together with my private practice has simply over-whelmed me.

I send you herewith form of letter which you can modify to suit your own convenience.

I shall go to Tonganoxie the first of next week and will go to Oskaloosa and speak on the night of the 21st and will also go to Paola and probably to Riley County where we are stirring them up again.

I do not want you to think that I was making too much of a hobby of the money question when talking with you the other day but the more I think of the work that is to be done and the necessity for help the more I am convinced that if the sinews of war are furnished us our law enforcement work, which is but a part after all of the educational campaign will go steadily on.

I have a great number of cases for the September term of court in my own county and all of the September term of business must be tried by other lawyers. Five different places are now asking that I commence cases for them.

I wish that you would send me a hundred cards and pencils ~~as usual~~ so that I can make an appeal for funds at the Oskaloosa meeting. The people of Kansas must be taken in with us in this great work, and the more money they put into it the more heart they will have in it.

I am indifferent as to my personal reward except that I feel every time that I have to lay aside the trial of a liquor case to go out and try a law suit for money in my private practice that I am throwing away that much good time. If the work could furnish me a living I could then afford to devote more time to it, so do not feel that I am weakening at all because I have not been paid any thing but I am anxious that funds should be raised so that the work already begun may go on to completion.

Let me hear from you.

Yours very truly,

J. K. Coddling

W. J. KEYSER.

Coddling & Keyser.
LAWYERS.
Offices at
Wamego and Westmoreland.

J. K. CODDING.

Wamego, Kansas, July 18, 1904.

10

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

Dear Brother:

I will be in Topeka Saturday evening at five o'clock.
Will write you more fully as to State vs Parker.

Yours very truly,
J. K. Coddling



W. J. KEYSER

Codding & Keyser,
LAWYERS.

Offices at
Wamego and Westmoreland.

J. K. CODDING.

Wamego, Kansas, July 12, 1904.

Rev. W. H. Dexter,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Brother:

I have yours of the fifth in which you say that you cannot hold a meeting of the legal advisory board at five o'clock Saturday evening and asking me if I could be present, of course your letter did not reach me until Sunday following on account of the destruction of our railroad. I was in Topeka yesterday in the settlement of a railroad matter in the Federal Court and did not get through until six o'clock.

I met Miss Robinson and she told me you had just returned from being storm bound away from home, I was more fortunate than you by being storm bound at home. I am anxious to meet with the advisory board and go over a number of matters of vital interest to our work.

Be of good cheer there are brighter days coming for the cause.

Yours very truly,