

Kansas Memory



Temperance history correspondence

Section 25, Pages 721 - 750

Correspondence sent and received by members of the Kansas State Temperance Union, primarily Rev. W. L. Dexter, secretary, Robert Norris, secretary, Julian K. Codding, lawyer, and William T. Jones, solicitor. Correspondents include Elizabeth P. Hutchinson, president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Rev. Purley A. Baker, superintendent of the American Anti-Saloon League, Mary Evelyn Dobbs, Rev. Charles W. Whorrall, and William H. McCamish, assistant attorney general of Wyandotte County. Included in this correspondence are several signed petitions to members of the U.S. Senate from citizens in Arkansas City, Kirwin, and Abilene asking them to vote against the Hamilton Bill which they argue "would annul the solemn pledge of the Government to protect the Indians against the introduction and sale of intoxicants in the Indian territory." Some financial records are also included, such as a report from the finance committee for the previous year, ending February 15, 1905, and receipts and disbursements by month, signed by financial manager S. H. Pitcher. 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: 1905

Callnumber: Temperance History Coll. #645, Box 5 Folder 1 - Box 6 Folder 3

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Aug. 31. 1905:
Hon. E. W. Koch.

Governor of Kansas.

My Dear Governor.

This is fair week. Yesterday I found a place where bottles were jingling but the door was shut preventing my getting in.

This A.M. I informed the Marshall he said he knew it; but the County Attorney Lafe Thompson turned every thing down which he attempted to do. He said I should speak to the Sheriff about it. I have not seen him yet.

The Marshall said every conceivable device of gambling and joint business was permitted against his will, and that if you will send an Assistant Co Attorney to Norton, the Marshall will take pleasure in showing him into

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the dives and other places in town. Can you do it Governor?
I have no desire to add to your labors, but as the Marshall seems to be helpless, I would like to see him assisted.

I am not a "Prohibition Crank". I began to vote in 1866, the year after I returned from the war of the Rebellion. (Co. D. 58 Ohio) (and formerly of (Co K. 151 Ohio) and have voted for no one, who was not a candidate on the Republican Ticket, ever since.

I am yours Respectfully,

H. Eby.
Pastor W. B. Church.
Norton Kansas.

P.S. Of my own knowledge I do not know only what the Marshall told me.

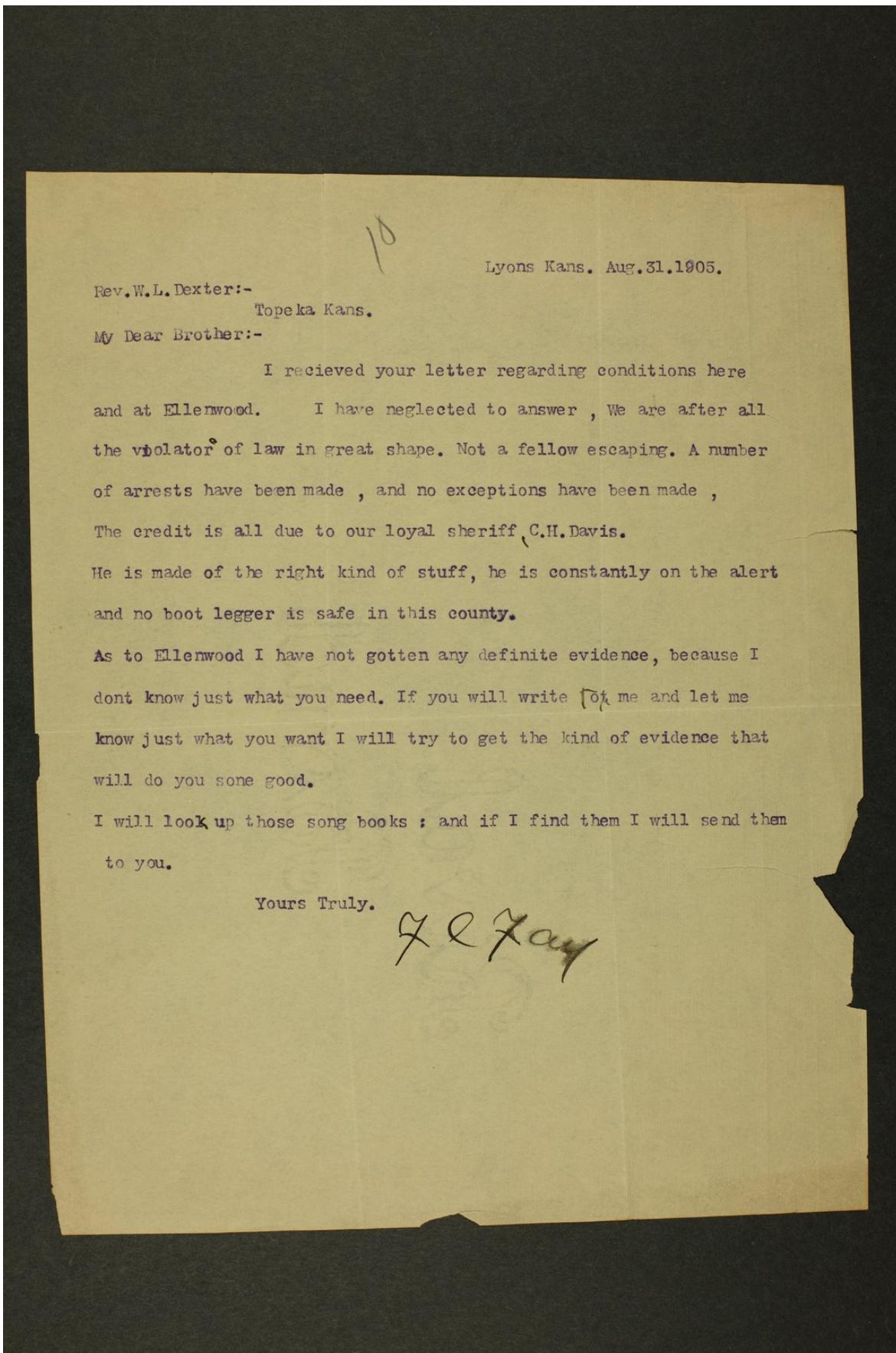
H.E.

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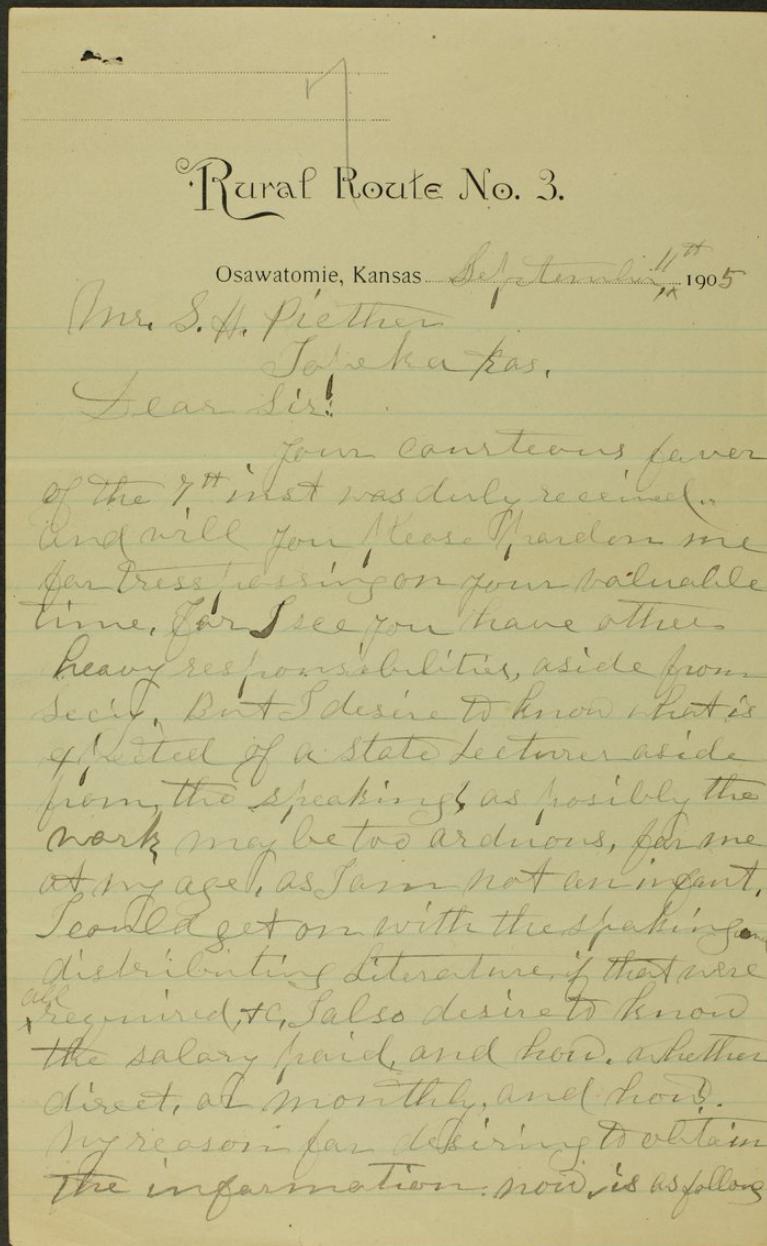


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Your courteous favor
of the 9th inst was duly received.
And will you please pardon me
for trespassing on your valuable
time, for I see you have other
heavy responsibilities aside from
lect. But I desire to know what is
of & that of a state lecturer aside
from the speaking, as possibly the
work may be too arduous, for one
at my age, as I am not an infant.
I could get on with the speaking and
distributing literature, if that were
all required, &c. Also desire to know
the salary paid, and how, whether
direct, or monthly, and how.
My reason for desiring to obtain
the information now, is as follows

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I wish to decide on something definite soon, and should I wait until the meeting of committee and be accepted and find I could not meet the requirements it would place both them and myself in an unpleasant dilemma. Also if I find I cannot perform the duties required, I wish to try to obtain (if possible) a similar employment, in another field of labor, which I am confident I can accomplish, and at once.

Please excuse Post Card partly, stamps are not plentiful with me, at present.

Very respectfully yours,
(Mrs) A. M. Gler,

P.S.

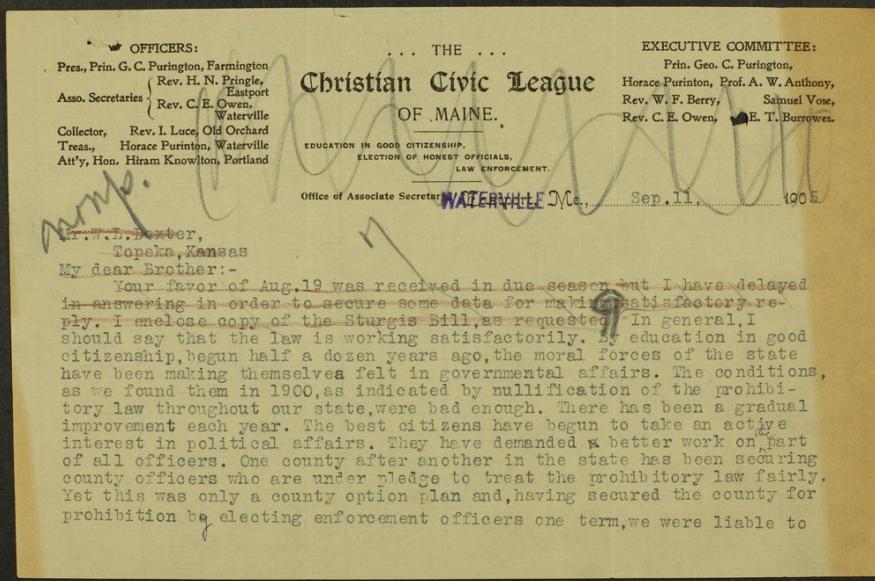
I am writing in a hurry and with poor light, so please excuse scribbled letters.

A. M. G.

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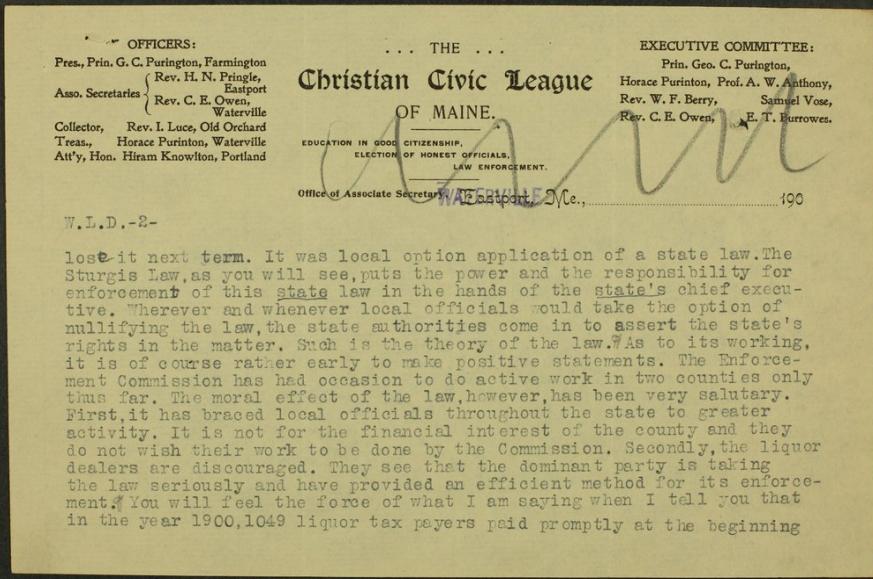


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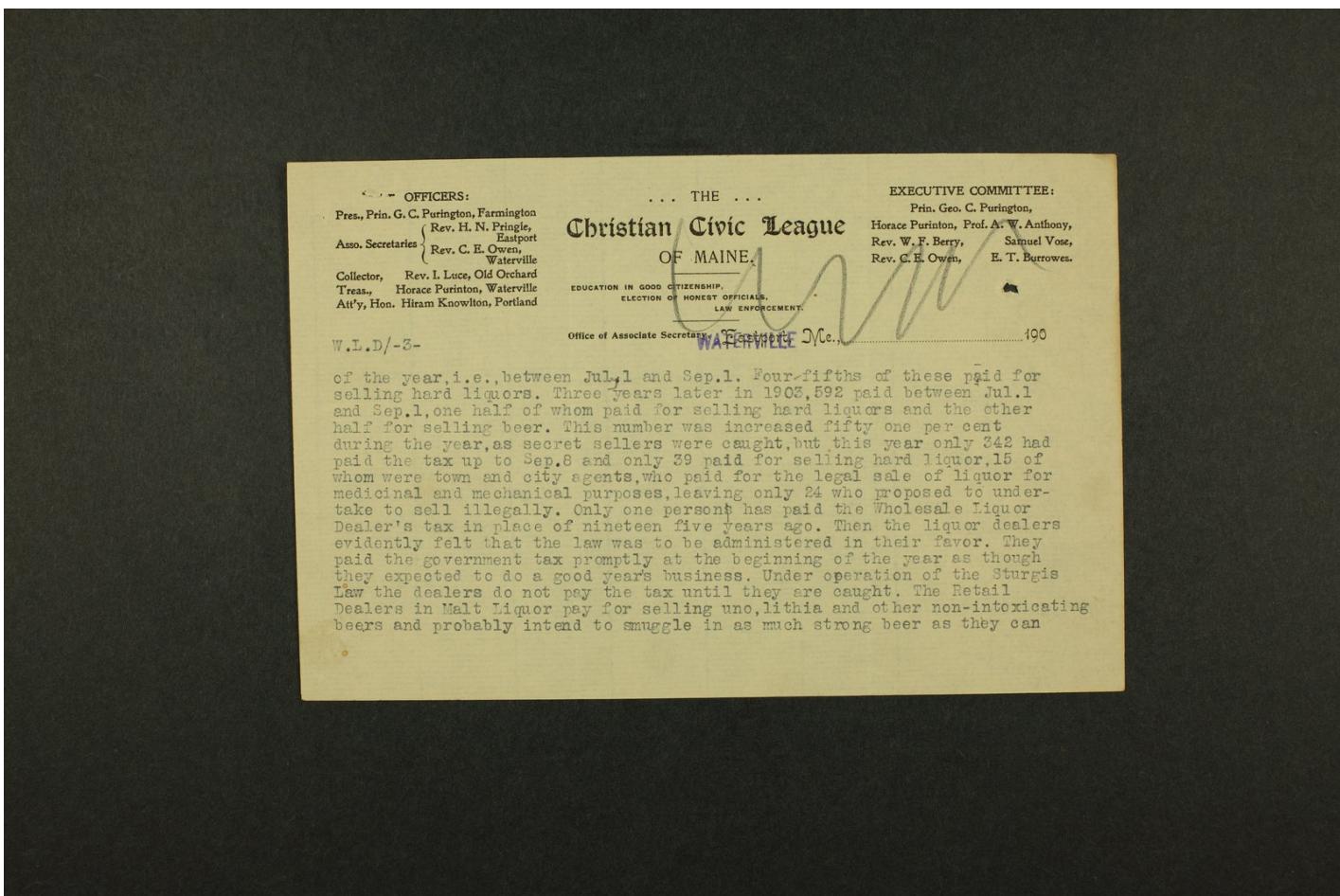
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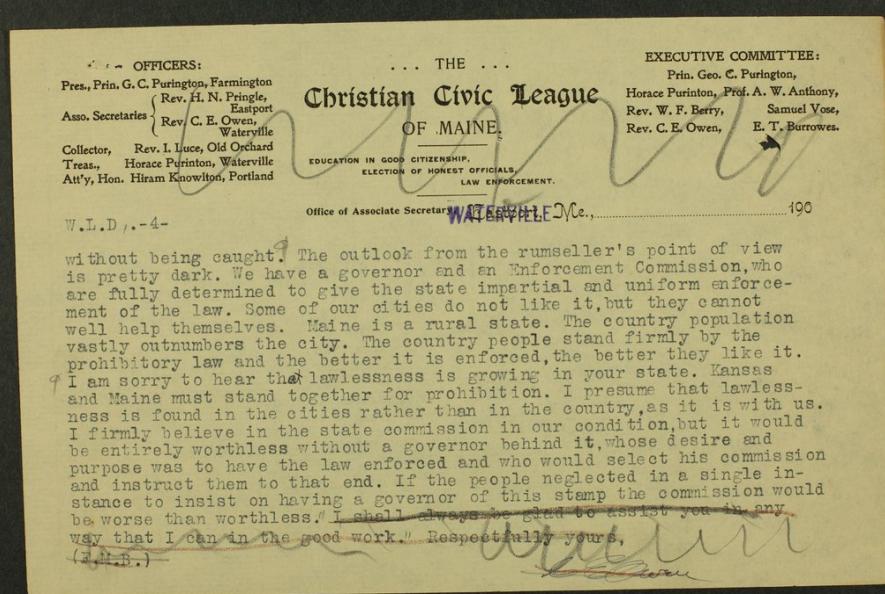
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ADDRESS OF C.R. OWEN BEFORE THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE
ON A PROPOSED DRUGGISTS BILL.
Drafted by L.L. Walton, Esq.

It must be understood that the Civic League of Maine as an organization is not committed one way or another with reference to this bill. The members of the Executive Committee are not of one mind regarding it. What I have to say therefore must be regarded as my personal views and not as representing the League.

The question who shall be entrusted with the sale of spirituous liquors for legitimate use in the cities and towns of the state of Maine is one of no small significance and of great perplexity. That there is a legitimate use for spirituous liquors, no reasonable persons will deny. Granting that many persons need alcohol for medicinal purposes, much less frequently than they think they do, it is nevertheless true that in medicine and in the arts there is a legitimate use. We agree that the legitimate uses of alcohol are exceedingly important, so important, that in the minds of those who know its value, the question how to conserve its true uses with least danger to the welfare of communities through its abuses, is worthy of the consideration of legislative bodies. There are many uses in which alcohol would be very convenient and economical were it not for the danger through exposure to the human appetite. In a recent article in a scientific journal it was stated that grain alcohol can be produced so cheaply that, if it could be deprived of its dangerous qualities and the revenue tax removed, it would be cheaper and much more convenient for fuel in our homes than coal or wood and for light than gas or electricity. Its crime producing qualities, however, make it so dangerous an article, when placed within easy reach of man, that its legitimate uses must be heavily curtailed and as far as possible confined to the necessities of life.

The theory of our prohibitory law is sound and sensible; prohibiting the sale of liquors for beverage purposes, permitting and providing for, under restrictions, the sale of liquors for medicinal, mechanical and manufacturing purposes. About two fifths of the prohibitory law, so called, is devoted to the legal sale of intoxicating liquors for medicinal, mechanical and manufacturing purposes. The remaining three fifths is devoted to the illegal sale for beverage purposes. It is safe to say that both parts of this law have been as badly abused in their administration as the liquor itself. This is one serious symptom of bad government due to bad citizenship. During the past two or three years, however, an honest effort in most parts of the state has been made, and we hope it is to continue, to properly administer the law against the sale of liquor for beverage purposes. The real intent and purpose of the law, viz: to stop the public sale of liquor for drinking purposes; to close the saloon and put the rum sellers out of business has come to be recognized as the duty of county officials. The courts, also, have cooperated with the officials in the honest administration of one side of the prohibitory law. But the other side, the agency so called, which provides for the legal sale of liquor for legitimate needs, has been neglected and ~~neglected~~ it is thoroughly discredited in nearly every part of the state. Only fifteen such agencies exist in the state today to provide for the nearly 500 cities and towns. In one town after another they have been repudiated as nuisances. They have not been administered according to the intent and purpose of the law. As a rule, liquor has been sold ~~as~~ freely with but slight reference to the use made of it. Especially in those counties where there has been efficient enforcement against the saloon, the agencies have done an immense business. In Lewiston and Auburn last year, under the enforcement of sheriff C.S. Cummings against the open saloon, the sales of the agency ran to \$2,000. The city of Lewiston alone sold in its agency from Dec. 1, 1903 to Dec. 1, 1904, over \$23,000 worth of liquors, while the city of Bangor in the same time in its agency only \$5,620 worth. The city of Fortland, with its population nearly double that of Lewiston, sold less than two thirds as much liquor through its agency during the last ~~years~~ did the Lewiston agency. The city agencies have been ~~as~~ ~~as~~ the thermometers indicating the char-

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the saloons, the city agencies supply the thirsty and increase their sales many fold. This is not the fault of the law, but of the administration of it. It is the neglect and abuse of it. The sheriff has no oversight of the agency to see that it is run according to the intent and purpose of the law. The municipal officers, who have it in charge too often regard it as affording an opportunity to make a profit and reduce taxes. They commonly discontinue it in case it cannot be made to pay financially.

The time has come when attention must be given to better and safer provisions for the legal sale of spirituous liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes. Either the agency must be regenerated, reformed and properly conducted, or some other method must be adopted. Can the agency be reformed? Two answers are given. Principal Purington of Farmington stated to a company of gentlemen recently that in his town an honest effort has been made to get honest service from the town agency. The agency was in the hands of its friends. A fair trial was given applying the law, safe guarding it and inspecting its administration as well as they were able, but without any satisfactory results. The agency was used to sell for all purposes and was a nuisance. On the other hand, we are credibly informed that the town agency in Bethel is giving satisfactory results. It is located in the heart of the beautiful village and is treated with the utmost respect. The law is respected and liquor is sold only for legitimate uses. This is the only bright spot we have heard of among the fifteen agencies in Maine. It speaks well for the good citizenship of the town of Bethel. The municipal officers do well to continue the agency under such conditions. If the municipal officers of all towns, with the support of the good citizens and the cooperation of a judicious agent, would continuously conduct the sale of spirituous liquors for medicine and mechanics, the problem would be solved. Would that we could be assured of such municipal officers in every town, or even continuously in any one town. Would that we could depend upon the help of good citizens in every city and town, or could secure everywhere the services of a conscientious, firm and fearless agent for this position. But so long as it is a fact that in one town the agency is respected and properly conducted, while in ten others it is lawless, a nuisance and a scourge to the city, so long the system must be regarded as a failure in the state, as a whole. One after another, the agencies have failed of their purpose through mal-administration and have been closed up in the State of Maine, either because they did not pay or because they were misuses, until they exist only in seven cities and eight towns. In these fifteen places only, let it be remembered is there the possibility of purchasing alcoholic liquors for medicine, or any other legitimate purpose without breaking the law. Into most of these a respectable citizen hesitates to go, on account of the unsavory reputation acquired by the town agency as a common rum shop. In the present condition of the institution, by which we provide for the legal sale of spirituous liquors for legitimate use, we are in an unhappy plight, to say the least.

With the stricter enforcement of the law against the saloon, will come an increased demand for proper provision by respectable people to secure in a respectable way spirituous liquors for legitimate use. Honest people require on the one hand that the sale of liquor be prohibited for those purposes, which endanger the peace, health and safety of a community and that that prohibition be honestly enforced. On the other hand, they require that it be legally sold in respectable fashion where health and the legitimate needs of the arts require it. A law will not be accepted as an honest law, which fails to recognize and properly provide for the legal sale of an article of medicinal necessity. The fact that an article is abused and its public sale prohibited for purposes that endanger the safety of communities, is not a good reason for prohibiting its sale for legitimate use. Reasonable people will not stand for a law, which is unbalanced and unreasonable. The prohibitory law is not at fault. It makes just this provision. In the prohibitory law the right of people to buy alcoholic liquors for legitimate use has always been recognized. But the agency system has been thoroughly demoralized and discredited through neglect and abuse until it fails to furnish the proper facilities for respectable people to supply their legitimate wants.

Considering then the past history of the agency system

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and the discredit which has come upon it by reason of its mal-administration; considering the difficulty of securing responsible, capable men to act as agents for the small compensation allowed in an agency, that is run according to law; considering the temptation to which all municipal officers are subjected and to which so many have yielded to run the agency without reference to law and for profit to the tax payers, it seems a discouraging position to attempt to reform the agency system.

The most natural alternative method and the one which propriety suggests, is to make provision for the legal sale of alcoholic liquors for legitimate use through the pharmacy. Whether or not the pharmacy, as appropriate as it is for the purpose, would be a better institution for the accomplishment of the end sought, depends upon the character and purpose of the men who control the pharmaceutical association of Maine. Are they true friends of law and order and true friends of their own profession? If, as some people appear to believe, the apothecaries of Maine, as organized under the pharmacy law, are a class of men not very far removed in character and purpose from the average saloon keeper; if the majority of them believe that the law which prohibits a man from selling liquor for beverage purposes is an infringement of his proper rights and privileges; if the control of the organization is, or is to be, in the hands of men who would themselves sell and encourage others to sell regardless of law and of the interests of the community, then we should be making bad matters worse by passing a druggists bill of any sort whatsoever. But I do not so understand the apothecaries of Maine. It is not to be denied that many of them have criminal records under our law. Some druggists of high personal character and pure purposes have felt, either rightly or wrongly, that it was necessary for them to pay the United States tax. They have been indicted by the grand jury and paid fines upon the evidence which the U.S. tax furnishes. The reputable druggists themselves admit that their profession is disgraced and cursed by certain men, who are today running drug store saloons, but I do not understand that this element of saloon-druggists is in the ascendancy in the Maine pharmacy. On the other hand, from personal acquaintance with many of the profession, it seems to me fairer to say that the pharmacists of Maine, excluding the rum-druggists, rank in character with those of any other reputable profession. The druggists of Maine, as a class, are not outlaws and should not be reckoned as such. If I understand the position of the leaders in the profession, the members of the board of pharmacy, it is their purpose to lift their profession higher and higher year by year in the esteem of the public whom they serve. It is the purpose of this board to rid the profession of the drug store saloon and the saloon druggists as fast as possible, knowing as they do that the presence of such in any community is a disgrace to the profession. The pharmacy law, if I read correctly the Journal of Medicine and Science which comes regularly to our exchange table, is demanding more of men by way of ability and education in order to enter the profession and there is a plea in the last number of that journal by a member of the board of pharmacy for still larger educational demands, requiring at least a complete high school education before a young man can enter upon his three years' course in pharmacy. Now if this is the attitude of the druggists of Maine, if the reputable druggists are in control of the pharmaceutical association and control the board of pharmacy and have the laudable determination to lift their profession to a higher plane by driving out those who bring discredit upon the business by lawlessness, then the question of giving the reputable druggists in Maine the legal right to dispense alcoholic liquors as an article of medicine may fairly be considered.

Speaking for myself personally, without reference to any church or society or Civic League, with which I may have connection, I should favor a law which would put the handling of alcohol for medicinal and mechanical purposes only into the hands of the pharmacists, provided they are organized for the improvement of their profession and not for its degradation. I take this position because I am led to believe that the leaders of the profession would see to it that

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the law was administered with credit to the profession. Nothing, in my judgement, would bring greater discredit and shame upon the apothecaries of Maine than for them to seek the legal right to dispense alcohol for medicinal and mechanical purposes and, having received that right at the hands of this legislature, to abuse it. Nothing, on the other hand, would be a greater credit to them than, having this difficult task committed to their trust, to handle it safely, wisely and in a law-abiding spirit. I believe that the present board of commissioners of pharmacy understand this perfectly. It has been my privilege to meet but one member of that board. His word of honor as a druggist and as a commissioner stands pledged to the proper administration of this law, should it become a law. From another member of the board, I have a letter, which states his position in the following words: "I will say to you, or to anyone interested to know my position, that as a druggist and as a commissioner I would observe the letter and the spirit of such a law and nothing would please me better than to be a party to drive out of the drug business those drug stores which exist today for the purpose of selling liquor". Now if this attitude of the commissioners of pharmacy represents the attitude of the controlling element of the association, I, for one, should be glad to make the druggists responsible for the dispensing of alcoholic liquors for legitimate use under the restrictions of this bill.

This bill provides that the commissioners of pharmacy, appointed by the governor, several nominations having been made by the association, shall have authority to issue permits to such registered druggists as they may believe will respect the provisions of this law. They may refuse to grant permits to any druggists, whose honesty of purpose they question, or who for any reason they believe will not respect the law. They have authority, moreover, to withdraw such permits, whenever they have reason to believe any druggist is abusing his trust. Further, if any registered druggist, to whom a permit has been granted under this law, should be caught violating its provisions, he would be subject to the penalties of a common seller (\$100 and costs and 30 days in jail) and in addition his registration as an apothecary would become by such conviction, null and void and it would become the duty of the board of pharmacy to cancel his certificate. He would be out of the drug business and the profession would be relieved of one of its burdens. If the druggists of Maine, as represented by the officers of the pharmaceutical association, are honestly in favor of this law with the power which it gives them to serve the respectable public in a legal manner, confining themselves to the purposes named in the bill and will honestly administer the law, they will solve a perplexing problem for us and acquire great credit to themselves. If, on the other hand, these officers of the association are here seeking this law, cover under which to enlarge and more successfully conduct the drug store rum business, then they are courting ruin for their profession and disgrace for the state of Maine and the sooner they get turned down the better for them and all concerned. This law, if enacted, will be a success or a failure according as the board of pharmacy is composed of honest, efficient men, or as made up of false and hypocritical grafters. The restriction ~~in practice~~ ^{in practice} of this bill may, or may not be, ample for the purposes of its enforcement. It seems to me that they are, but I am not a lawyer and claim no ability to decide upon this matter. I stand simply for the principle involved in this bill. If I believed that the druggists of Maine were seeking this law in order to abuse it, I should take the ground that no restrictions which could be invented would avail. The law, as it stands today, denies to all druggists, even the most conscientious, the right to sell alcoholic liquors as medicine or for any other purpose. The principle of this bill, as I understand it, puts into the hands of the pharmacists of Maine the power to permit the right sort of druggists to sell liquor for legitimate use and at the same time, it gives them the power to put out of the drug business that class of druggists who choose to abuse the privileges of the law. In other words, it gives the pharmacists of Maine, as a reputable ~~x~~ profession, an opportunity to be the authors of their own salvation, or to seal their everlasting doom.

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Kansas City
Sept. 17. 1905

W. F. Jones.

A. McPherson.

Dear sir.—Yours of 14th. at hand & contents noted. Will say in reply that I to have often wondered what had become of you. I had come to the conclusion that some of our many friends the (Pointed) had laid you out. And I was just getting ready to look you up.

How does it come that you moved back to McPherson. Didn't your wife like it in Newton or what was the matter.

I am very glad to hear that she has all the practice She can find to.

In reference to the Jackson Jordan case. You spoke of going there as a witness. I have been expecting to receive a subpoena on that case for some time but have not heard a word.

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.2.

I suppose you saw Sweeny while
there. Did he mention me in any way.
if so what was it.

Well Jones as long as it turned out
in our favor I will not kick but by
thunder I did want to put in an ear at
the finish.

You spoke of Murphy. Well Jones you
just lay low and something is going to
drop in his direction one of these days
You know that I firmly believe in
hitting them all.

I have at the present time a man
in Newton who is working under my
directions he has been there about
three weeks & will remain there till
November. So just be down. This man
is there on other business but is watching
that as a side line.

You spoke of having some exciting times
Why your old sinner that is just what makes

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me fat. You had ought to be with me for about 60 days. I guess you would get some excitement I have had eleven shots fired at me since I left Topeka.

The people I half to get after have got more nerve than a miserable sneaking jointest. They could not be driven to do anything let alone of their own accord.

Every time I go through Kansas I meet a bunch of them and I always get plenty of room.

I carry 2 new Colts magazine pistols that shoot 9 shots each & I know how to use them. And the funny part is my fingers just itch for a chance & they know it. It seems that the shot I fired at Dan Pennell in Topeka has sounded all over Kan. - At least I hear it where ever I go & where they find me out. That one thing has saved me a lot of hard fights.

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4.

You spoke of being in K.C. in July.
Well Florence was here but I was at work on a dimitting case. I got seventeen Italians in jail now. & they are going to plead guilty and ask mercy of the court. They were Anarkist here & simpler one of them shot at me and the bullet plowed a furrow across my shoulder. but he is a good dago now he is in a wooden overcoat now.

How did they come out in Thaddeus Jones case in Topeka. & the rest.

Write & give me a list of the cases & their disposition will you.

You spoke about John King at Leavenworth did he get tired of the recruiting office or did they set him back.

I was in Leavenworth yesterday and had I known he was there I would have went out & seen him.

You spoke of the electric car. Well

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Jones it does not cost me any thing to travel now & I always ride Pullman to all I have to do is just to pile on & go and as soon as I get a chance I will go up & see him.

You also spoke of Mr Knowles how is he. I have written him several times but have not received any answer yet. Is he in good health.

You spoke of having a Detective there is he a good one. & if so what is his name. Is he an officer under the statute laws or not.

I hold a roving U.S. Com.-

If ever I can get the business I have in shape I shall be delighted to pay you a visit I hope to be able to do so some time in the future. And I hope not to distant one When you come to K. C. again call & see us if I am not here Florence will be.

I had her with me in Omaha & Council Bluffs Iowa But she is not well & I will leave her in K. C. in the future.

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.6.

You spoke of Dexter & Stahl. I do am satisfied Jones that what you say is correct.

I am now perfecting a plan to use in Kansas City Kansas. I have closed up three here during spare hours and they all hate me worse than they do the devil every time I walk into a joint every body hies out for tall timber Bartender & all. + I am left to do as I please. And I do it.

As for my wife We had a pretty serious tilt after coming here. I laid down the law and a set of rules and up to date none have been broken. You know how I am when I make up my mind on any thing. Well she understands me thoroughly now.-

As for my success in the future it is assured. Any man with the slightest spark of Ambition self respect & confidence in his own ability can succeed. if he will only be persistent. And I always hang on till the last dog is hung. Now Jones You spoke of me seeing the error of my ways. Well you know what my religion is + eye for eye

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please return
this Bro Posler
if I do not
get the come

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+ a tooth for a tooth. My motto is no partiality, Equality + justice to all.
I have no time for a policy man or woman
This is what put me where I am to day.
I can always go back + work in the places I
have quit.

Speaking of me fighting the devil. Well
I have done so to the best of my ability for
15 years + will do so to the end.

While not professing religion or bragging
I fear nothing on earth, or in the universe
either above or below man or devil.

As long as my conscience is clear I will
push ahead regardless of results. God knows
I hate a coward + a quitter.

Hoping to hear from you soon I am
Yours in a fight to the finish
Perrin DuBois. R.D.P.

S.A.D.

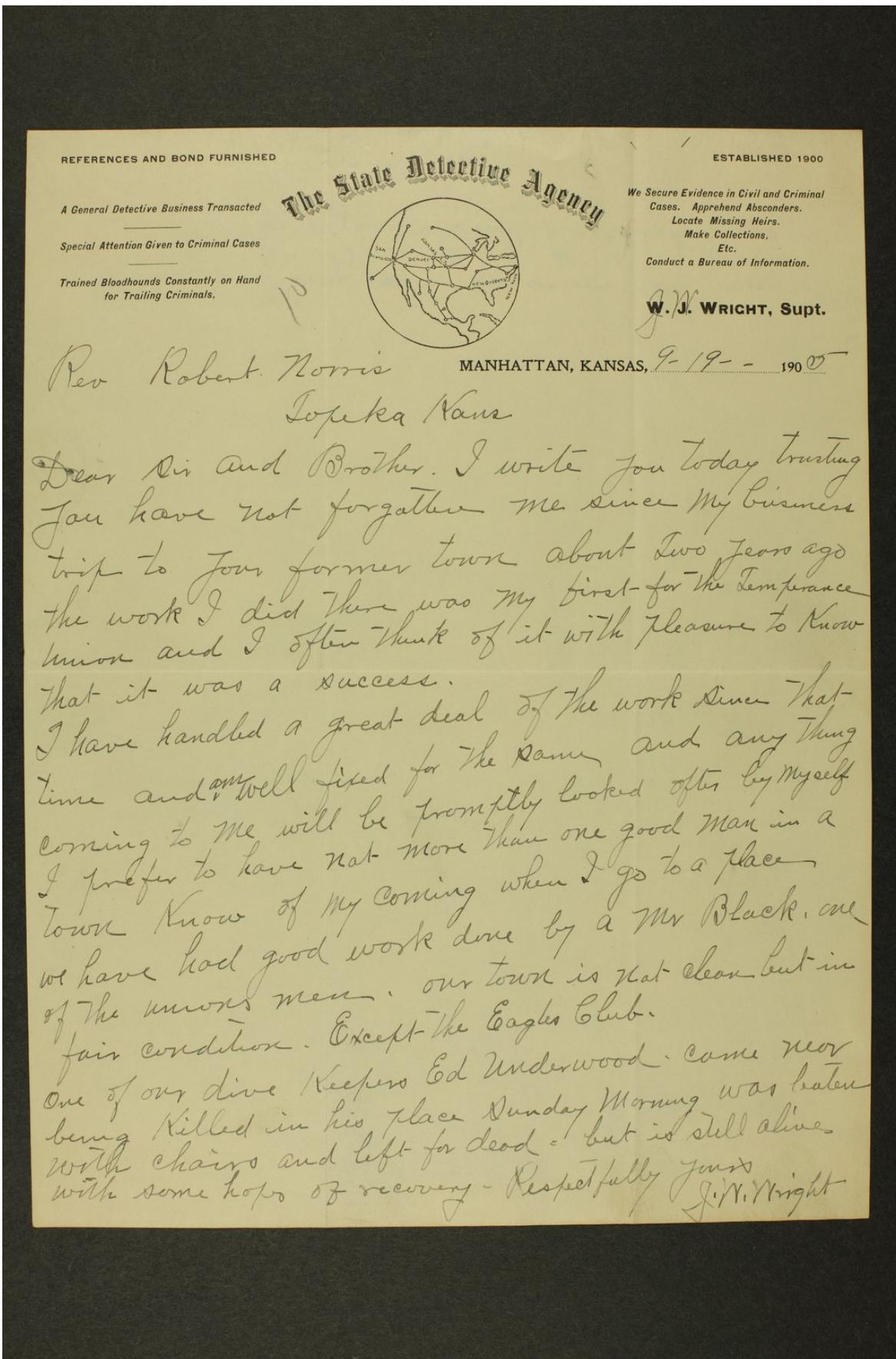
803 Campble St.
Kansas City Mo.

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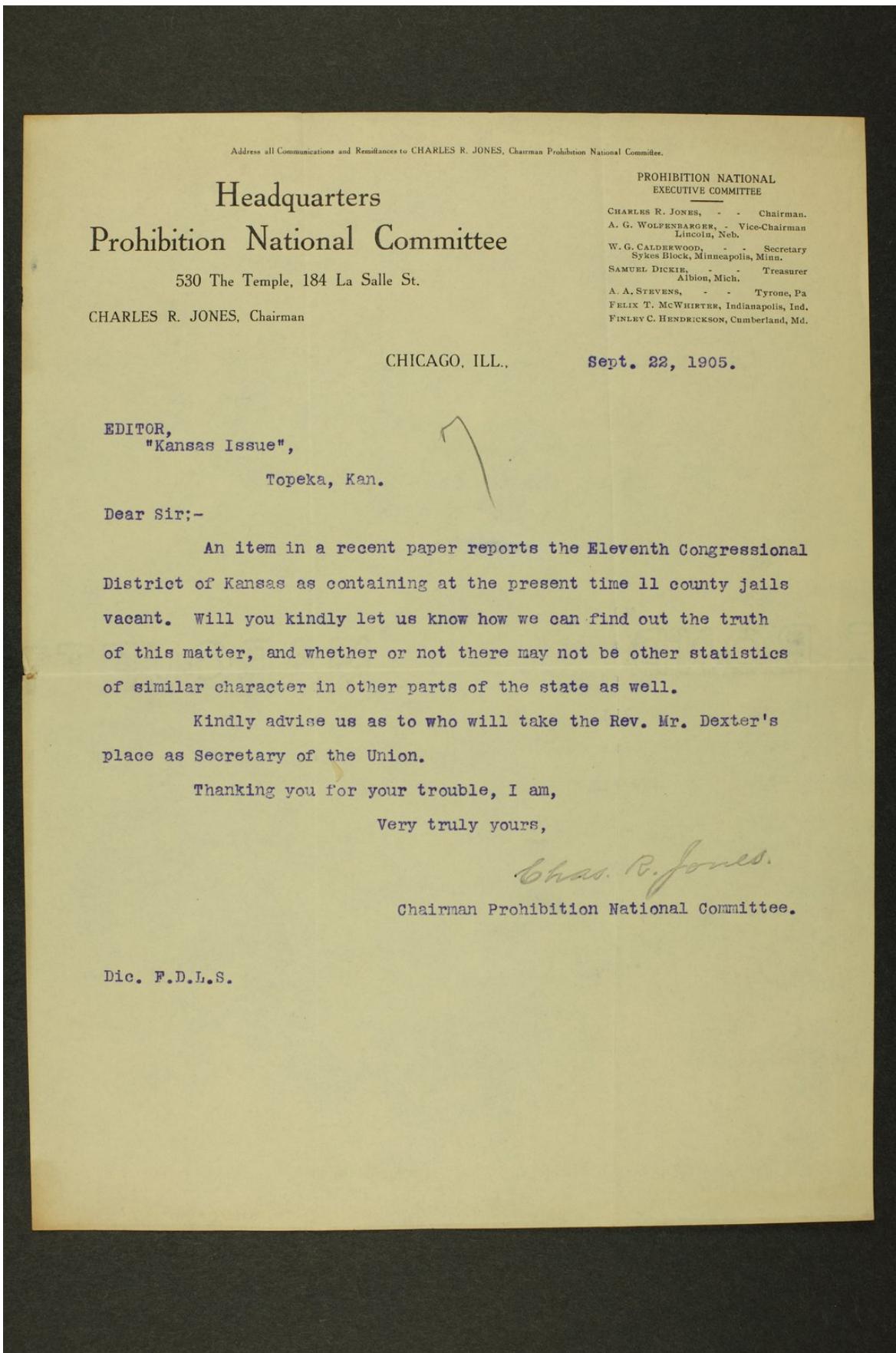


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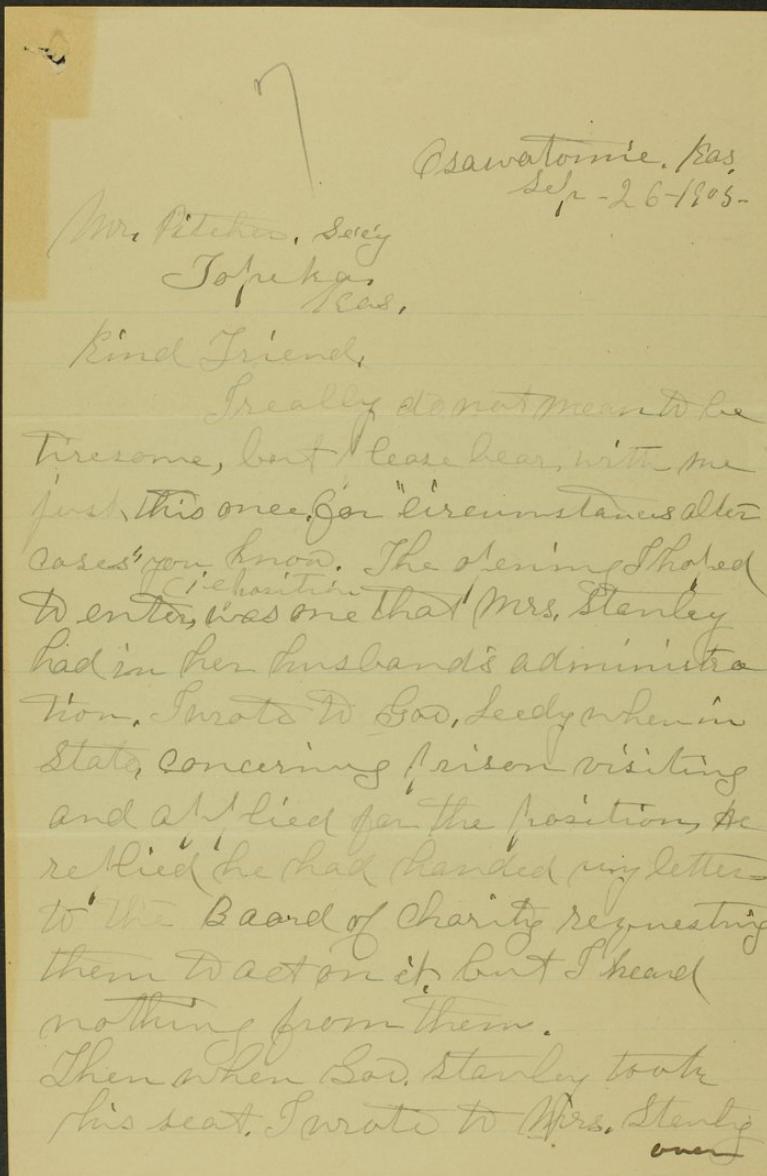


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in regard to the matter, and she took up the work herself, but Gov. Foeh, does not know how the matter stands I presume, but if he finds he can fairly give one the position and put one from the state funds, I think he will do so, but I believe he is too honorable to do so otherwise.
Now after this long prelude I will state my object in writing you at this time. I see there is to be a tremendous effort to establish Prohibition in Kas. & make it Prohibit, and I thought whilst the fight is on, the Union would be glad of all the work as obtainable, and perhaps if you show them my letter now on file, also the Card & paper they might think it worth while

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to employ me until the battle
was definitely decided, if for no
longer term. We are told "a proh
it is not without honor save
in his own country"; but such
is not my case, for invitations
reach me, from all around
me, but as I stated in a former
letter, the difficulties in my
way of carrying on the work
whilst in my present position
are unsurmountable, and
I must have a complete
change, but my heart is so
earnestly engaged in the
Temperance movement, to
save our state from the terrible
invading foe, that I cannot
rest satisfied unless engaged
fully in the work. I purchased
to talk Temperance every
where I went, if I took up

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the prison work,
I do not wish in any way to
disarrange your plans, as to
perplex you, but as I before
stated, think you might wish
my services, whilst the battle
rages. If you do not think
prefer to employ me, I will
not trouble you for a reply.
you have so many cares.

Please pardon the breach
of good form in letter writing
I am like Martha, cumbered
with much serving" though
named Mary, therefore cannot
always conform to established
rules of correspondence.
I fear our God, thinks so far
I wrote him under great
stress of circumstances.

Respectfully yours.
J. M. Miller

over,

Kansas Memory

Temperance history correspondence



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

An after thought.

Should you decide to secure my services, and
not know whether I obtain the Prison work
you, perhaps could get the information from
Kan. Soc. Tech.

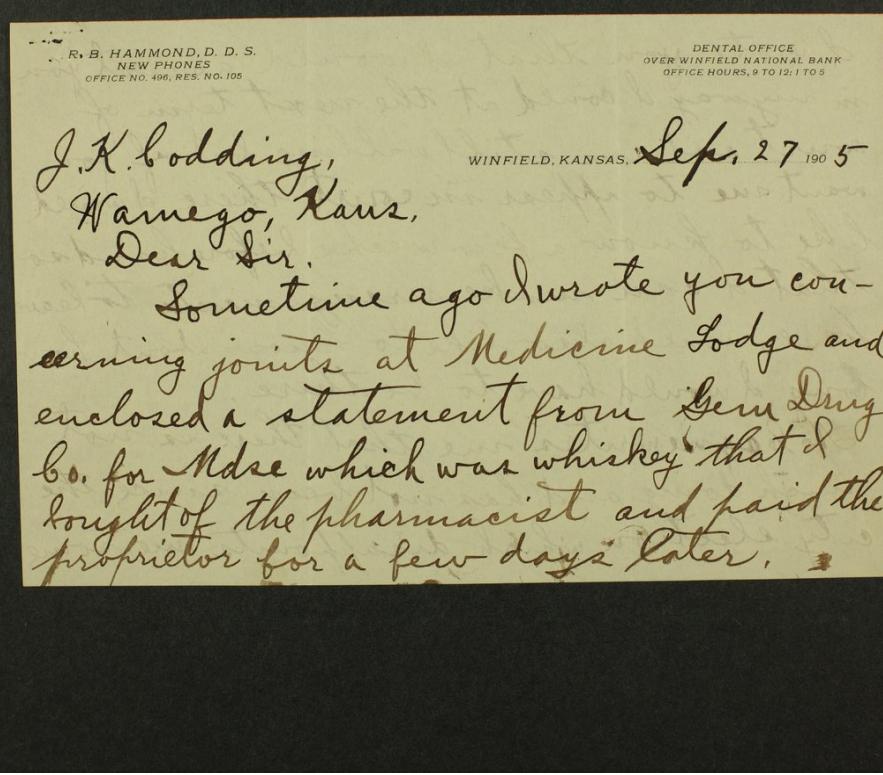
E. M. S.

Kansas Memory

Temperance history correspondence



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



Kansas Memory



Temperance history correspondence

I wrote you that I would assist you in anyway I could at the next term of court and am still willing but if you want me to appear in court there I would like to know a few weeks before hand so that I can make arrangements to leave here, would also like to know about how long I would have to be there.

McGraw writes me that there is not much doing and has not been since the city election which disappoints me some