

Temperance history correspondence

Section 19, Pages 541 - 570

This is correspondence sent and received by members of the Kansas State Temperance Union, including Robert Norris, secretary Topeka, Kansas;, John Marshall, attorney, Ellsworth, Kansas; and Julian K. Codding, attorney, Wamego, Kansas. A letter from H. C. Ericsson, sheriff of Wabaunsee County, lists the names of several individuals that have been "seen drinking." Frequent letters are exchanged with George H. Stuessi, an attorney in Pittsburg, Kansas, regarding legal cases involving alcohol in Girard, Kansas. 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: 1906

Callnumber: Temperance History Coll. #645, Box 6 Folder 4 - Box 7 Folder 4

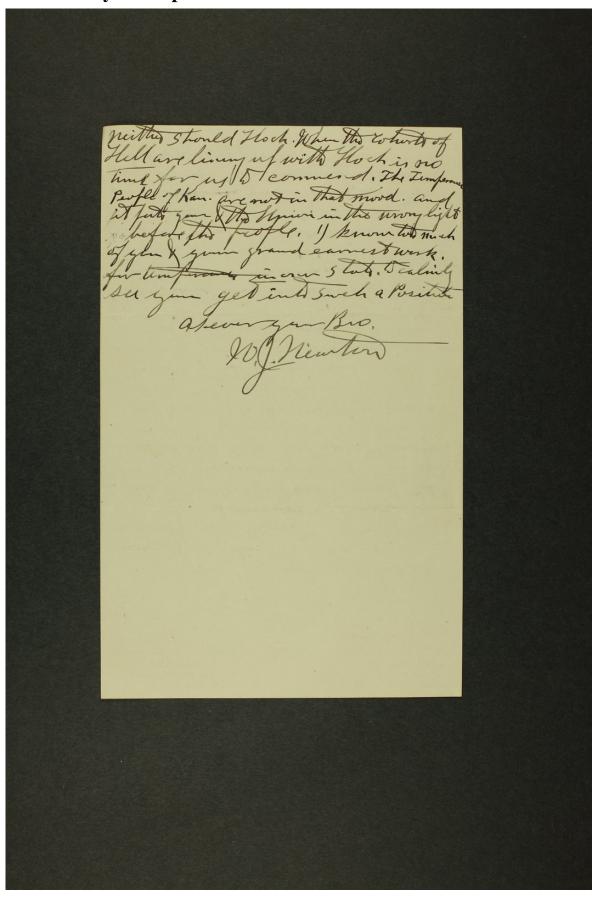
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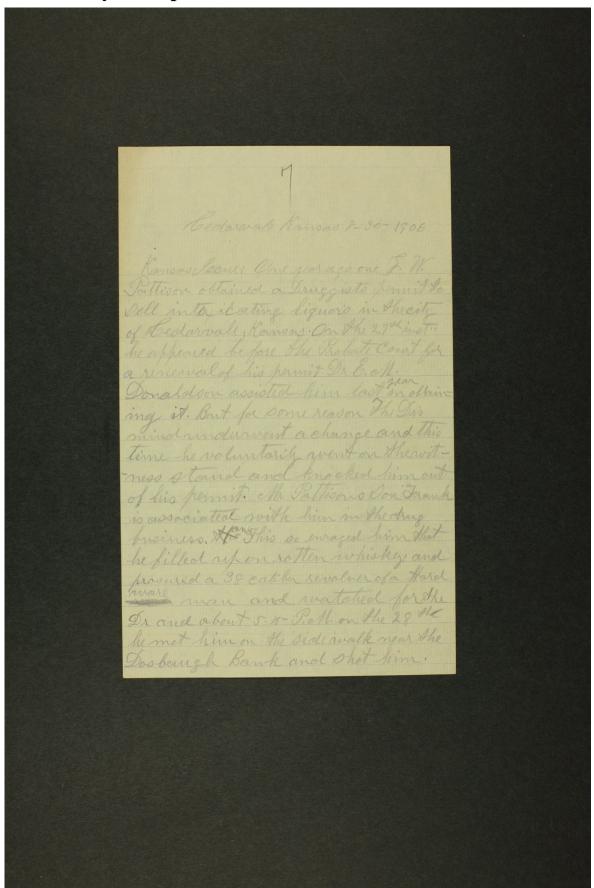
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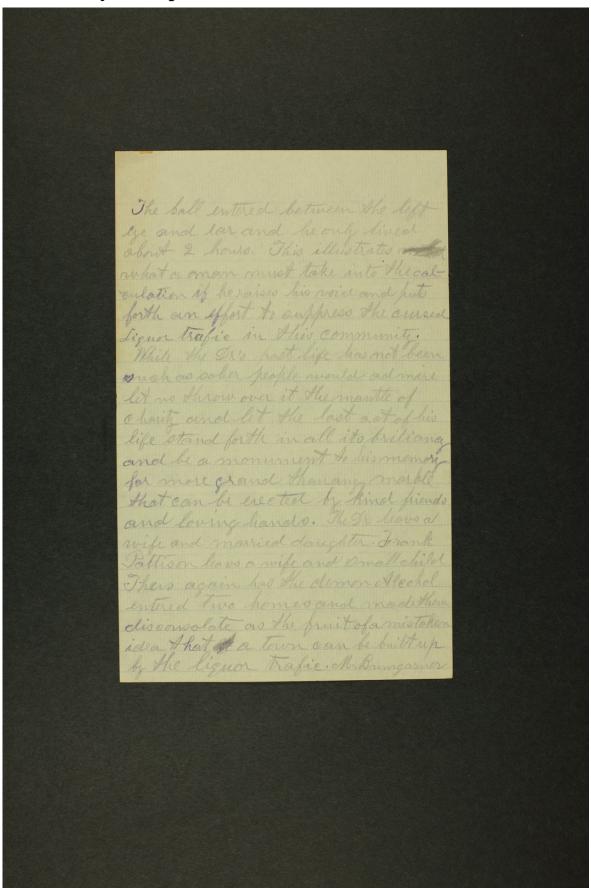




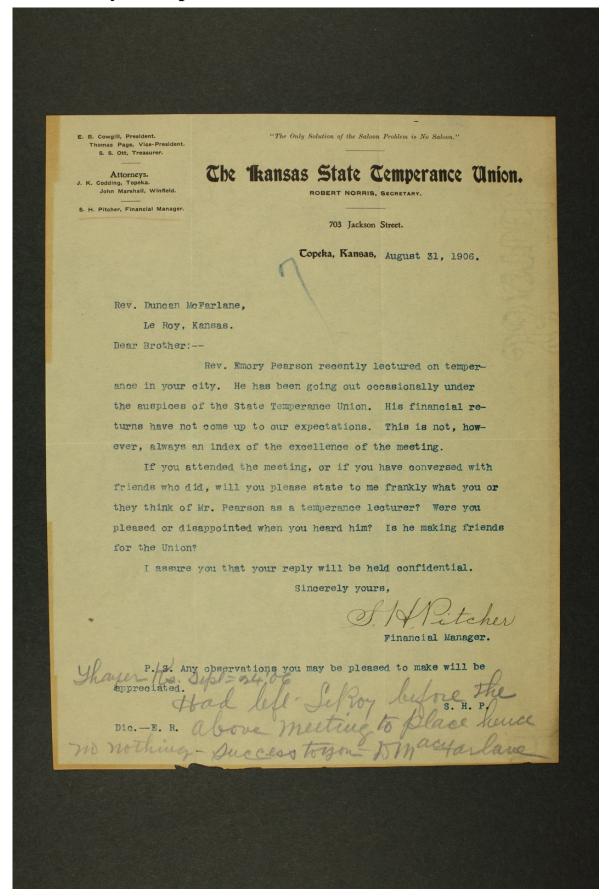




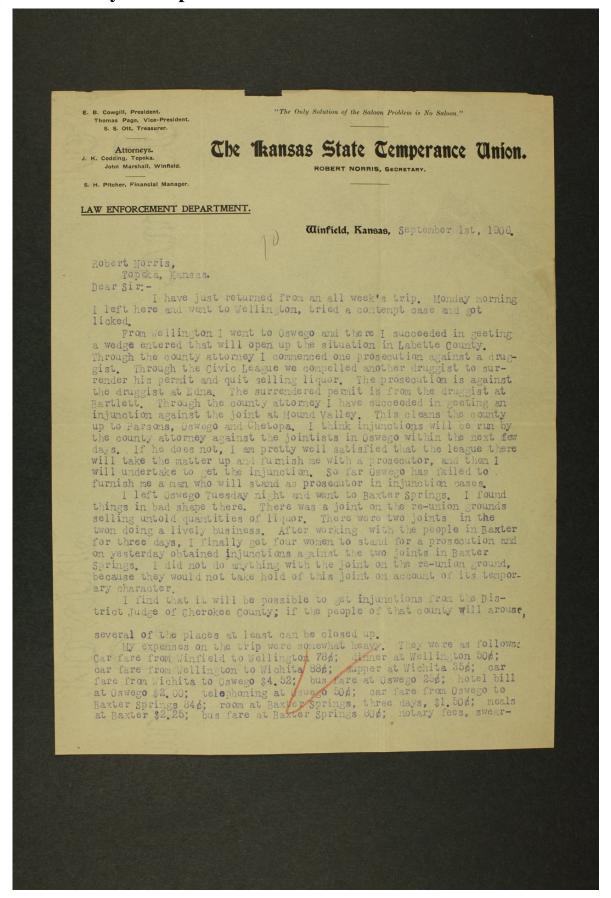




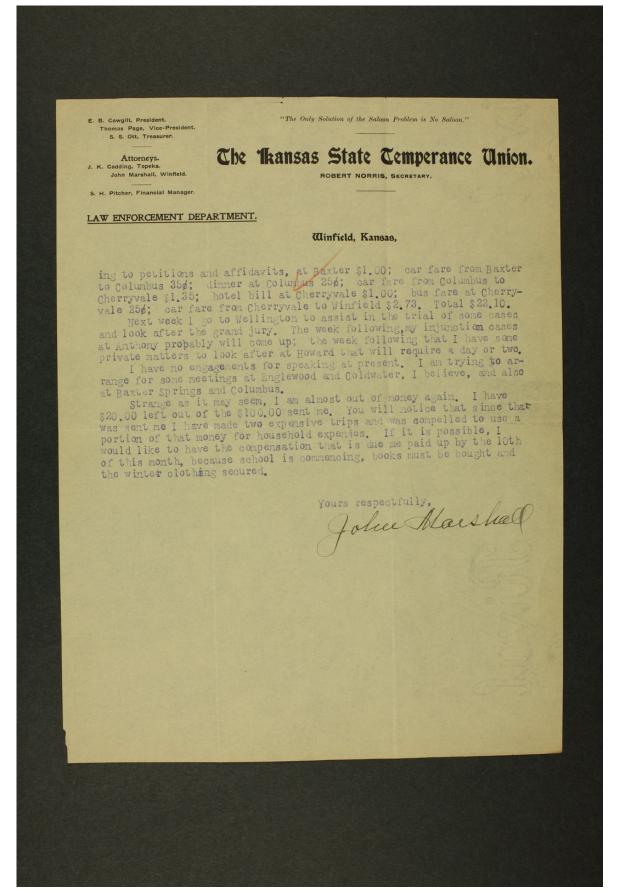














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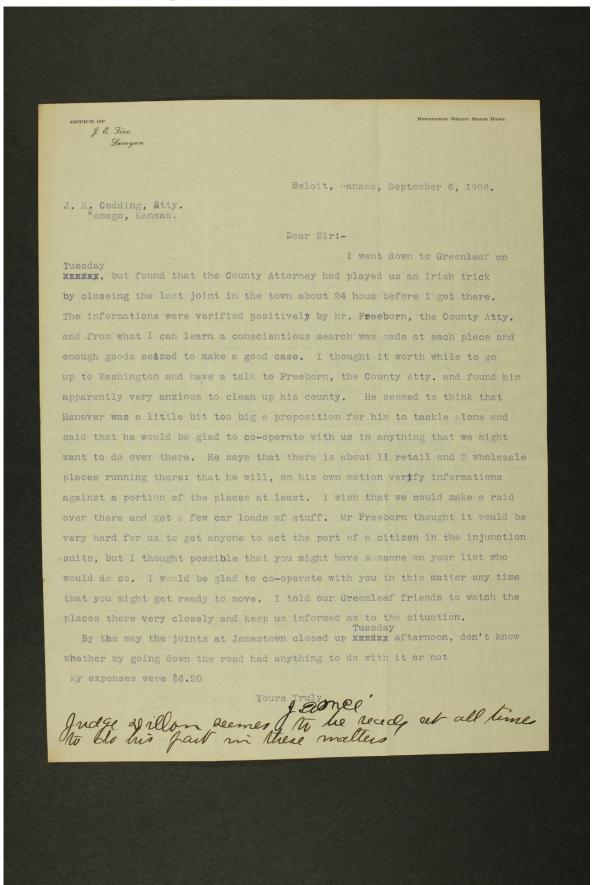


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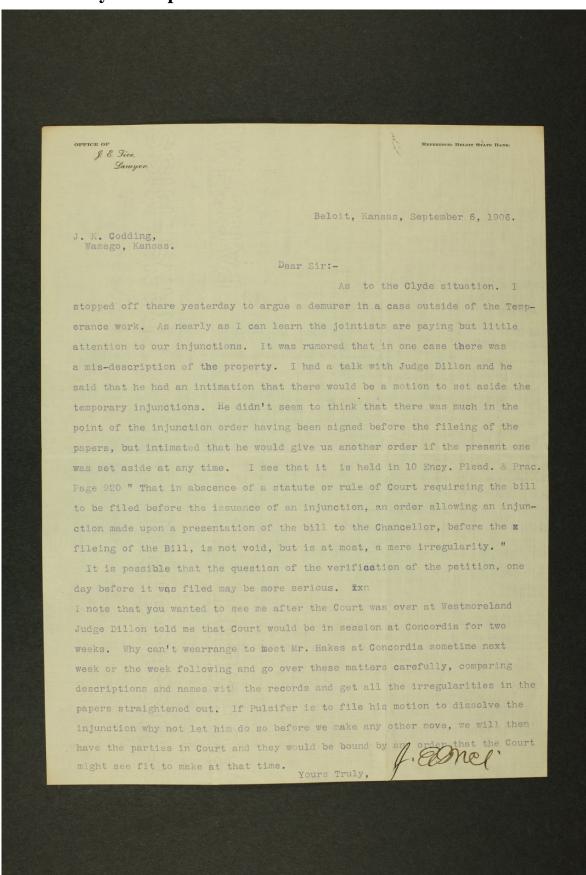


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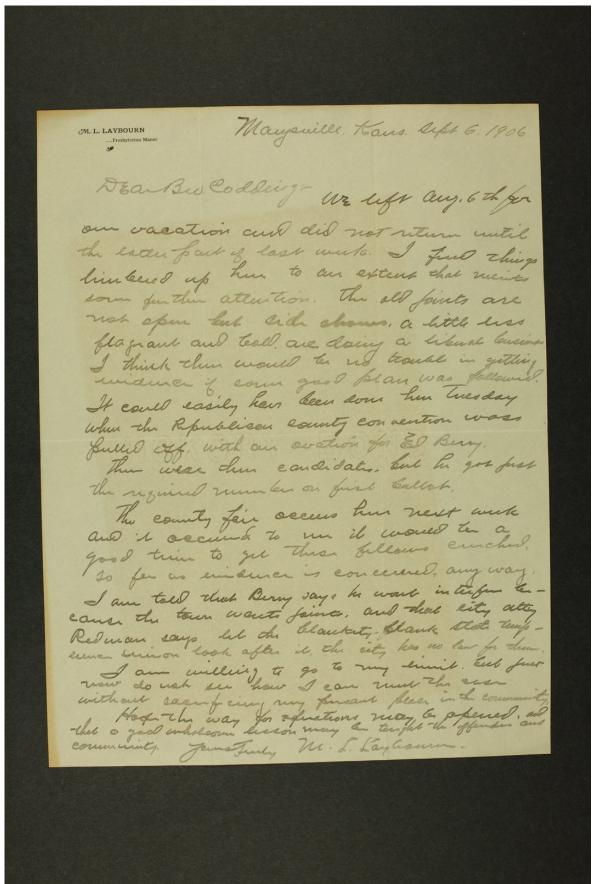










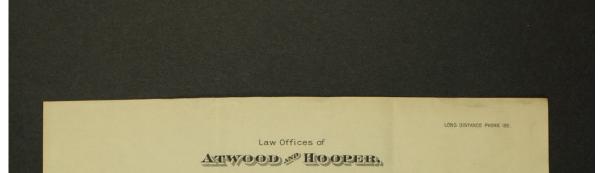




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JOHN H.ATWOOD.
WILLIAM W.HOOPER.
LEE BOND
DAVID W. FLYNN

Seavenworth, Kans

Hon. J. K. Codding,

Wamego, Kansas.

My Dear Senator:-

Judge Laurens Hawn has just called my attention to an article that appears in No. 12 of Volume 8 of "The Kansas Issue", a publication which, I understand, is printed under the auspicies of the state temperance union of Kansas, and in it is contained the following statement:

"Two candidates will be given special attention as men unfit and unworthy of the confidence of this common wealth.

We great calamity could come to Kansas than to put a man like Judge Hahn of Leavenworth on the Supreme bench as one of our justices. While occupying the position of Probate Judge of Leavenworth county he has been known for years as "The reprobate Judge" and is so rank in his politics as to have become unbearable even to the City and County of Leavenworth, the ideals of which are not very lofty."

This excerpt is from an article headed "State Temperance and Politics" and has reference, of course, to Judge Laurens Hawn and is so entirely apart from all that is true in regard to him that I am convinced that no organization whose purposes are as lofty as that of the State Temperance Union would have emitted it except while laboring under a most pronounced misapprehension.

Now the facts are, Senator, that I have known Judge Hawn for 20 years and it is the simplest of admitted truths in this community that no man stands higher in it than he. In the matter of the use of liquor he is a tetoteler and that I know of him from a intimate association with him for these many years. That there never has been, even in the many campaigns in which he was a participant, an assault



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Hon. J. K. Codding, #2.

made upon his private or official character and you know that I know what has happened in Leavenworth politics during the last 20 years. Even Colonel Anthony in all the virulence of his opposition to me and my party associates, never said a word against Judge Hawn's honesty, political, personal or official. For 22 successive years he held that office and retired from it upon his own volition.

The only conclusion I can draw, after reading such an article as that, knowing Judge Hawn as I do, is that somebody has told a lot of deliberate falsehoods to the people printing this paper, whom, I have no doubt, are entirely honest in all they say.

Knowing your connection with them and knowing your inate sense of fairness I write to you asking for you to use your good offices to the end that so flagrant a falsehood and so unjust a libel be corrected.

The fact that Judge Hawn is a particular friend of mine does not weigh with me in making this request but I am making it because I believe that you and your associates in the temperance work of this state are Christian men and women inspired by the idea to do no injustice to any man.

If it was a fact that Judge Hawn was as well known everywhere in the state as he is in his own home a refutation would be unnecessary. If you have any doubt of the truthfulness of my statement, which I don't think for a moment that you do, you can varify all that I have said by communicating with any one of the leading temperance workers of this city or any of our leading citizens. If any political adversary should make any general declaration of the character contained in this article you have only to ask them for a bill of particulars to have it



