

### Frederick W. Brinkerhoff correspondence

Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

This is correspondence to and from newspaper editor and publisher Frederick W. Brinkerhoff. The bulk of letters date from the 1940s and 1950s, His first newspaper job was with the Ottawa Herald, after which he worked for the Fort Scott Republican, Chanute Sun, Chanute Tribune, Kansas City Star, Pittsburg Headlight, and the Pittsburg Sun. Brinkerhoff was also vice-president and a director of Stauffer Publications as well as director of Capper Publications Inc., the Topeka State Journal Company, and Newton Publishing Company. In addition, he was vice-president of the KSEK Broadcasting Company in Pittsburg. Brinkerhoff was well known as a journalist, serving as president of the Kansas Press Association in 1935 and as chairman of the Kansas Associated Press in 1946-1947. He also served as a member of the Pulitzer Prize jury for editorial writing in 1950 and 1951. In 1956, he received the William Allen White award to a Kansas editor for journalistic merit. Active in community affairs, Brinkerhoff was a member of the board of the Pittsburg Public Library, served as chairman of the Pittsburg Industrial Commission, and was on the board of directors and served a term as president of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce. He was also active in Republican party politics. Brinkerhoff was interested in the history of the state and served as president of the Kansas State Historical Society in 1944. The correspondence is arranged chronologically and grouped alphabetically by individuals with whom Brinkerhoff was in frequent contact, including Roy F. Bailey, Arthur Capper, Rolla Clymer, Harry W. Colmery, Harry Darby, Jess C. Denious, Myron George, Merl Huffman, Clyde M. Reed, Richard W. Robbins, Andrew Schoeppel, and Oscar Stauffer, among many others.

Date: 1909-1966

Callnumber: Frederick W. Brinkerhoff Coll. #97, Box 1 Folder 1 - Box 8 Folder 5

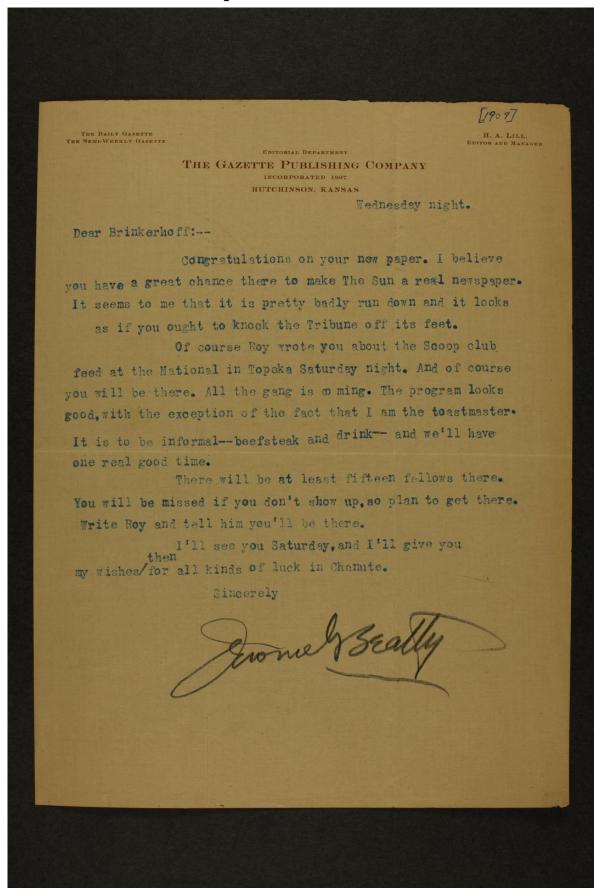
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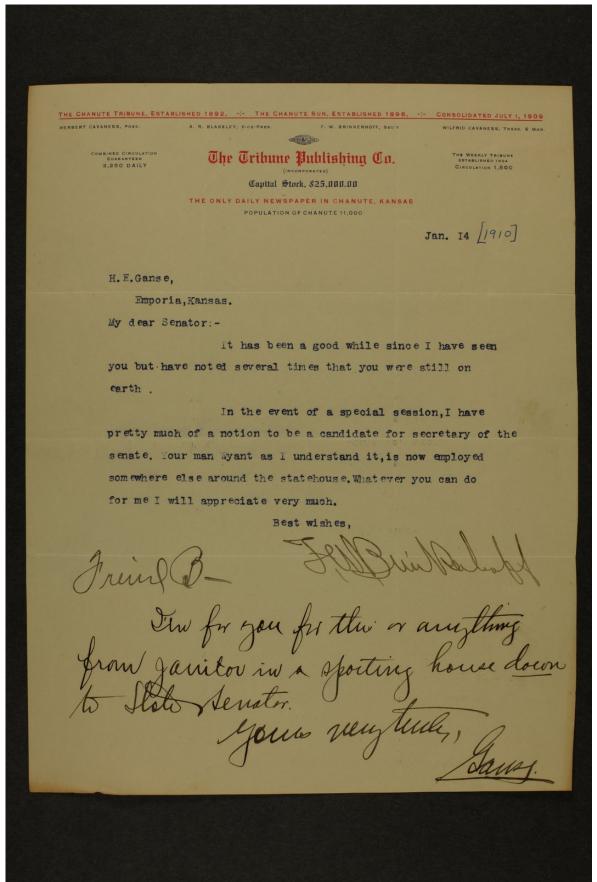
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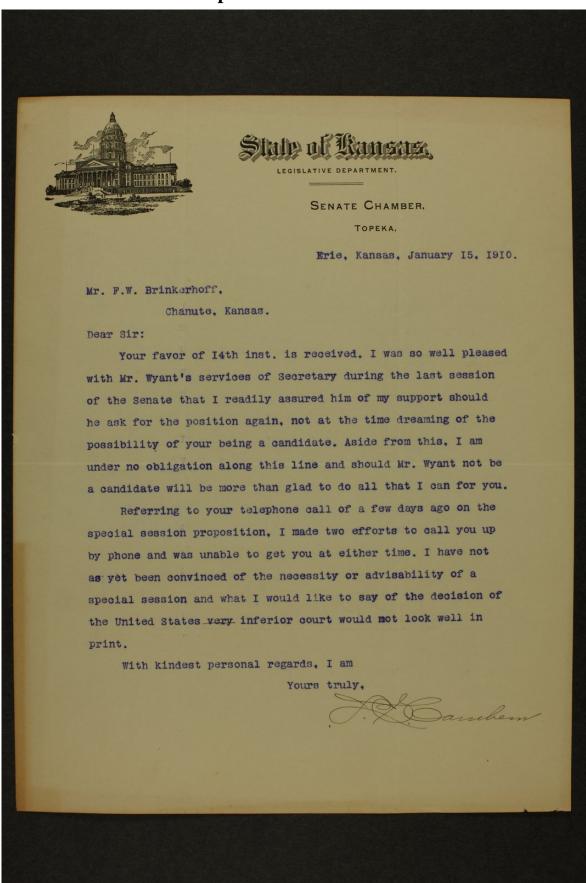




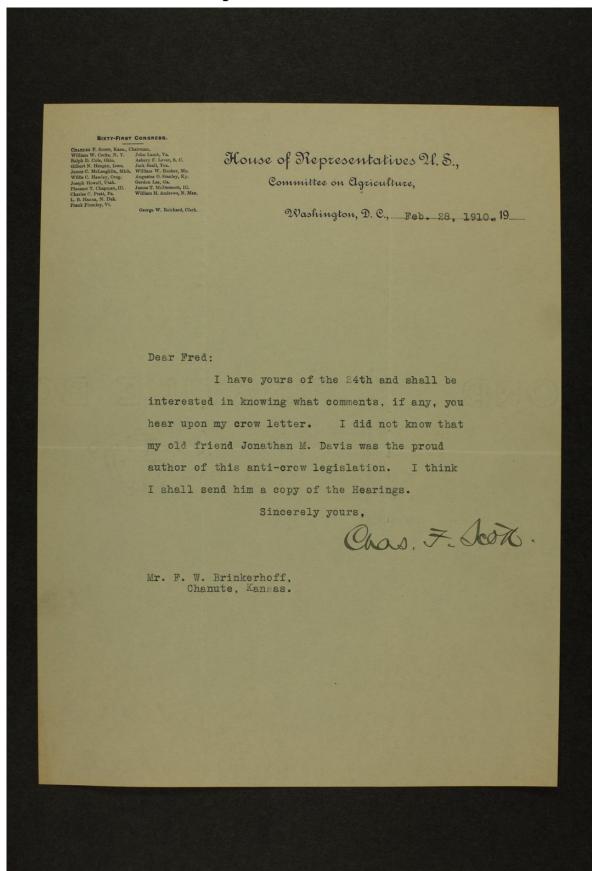




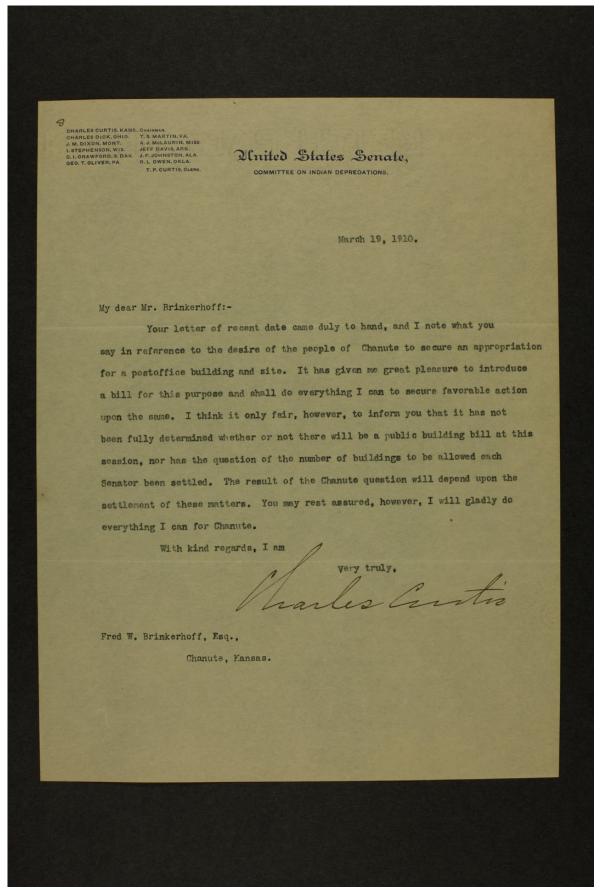




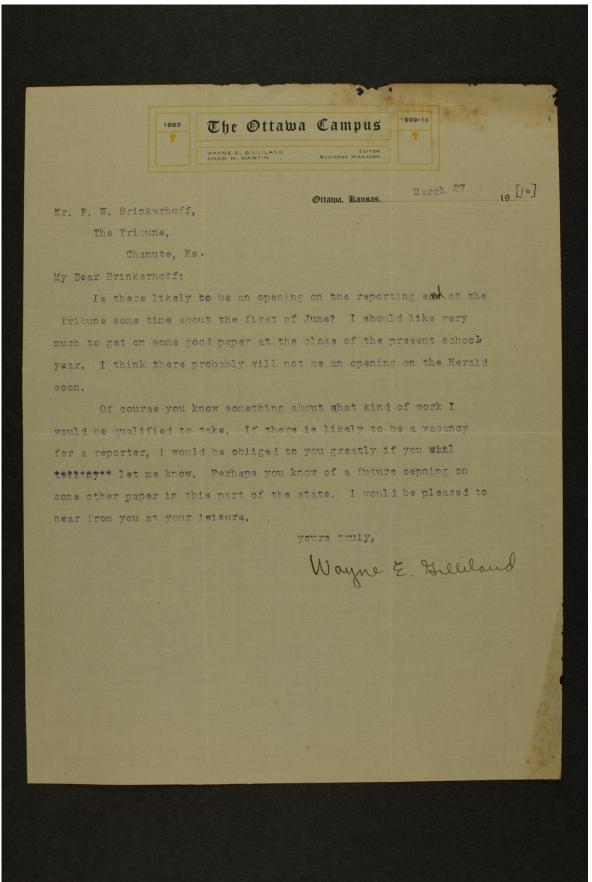




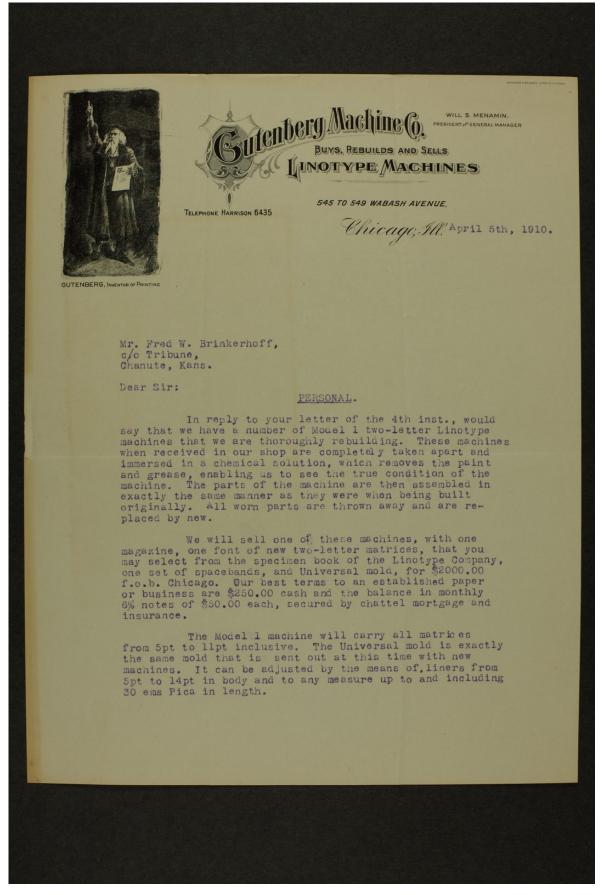




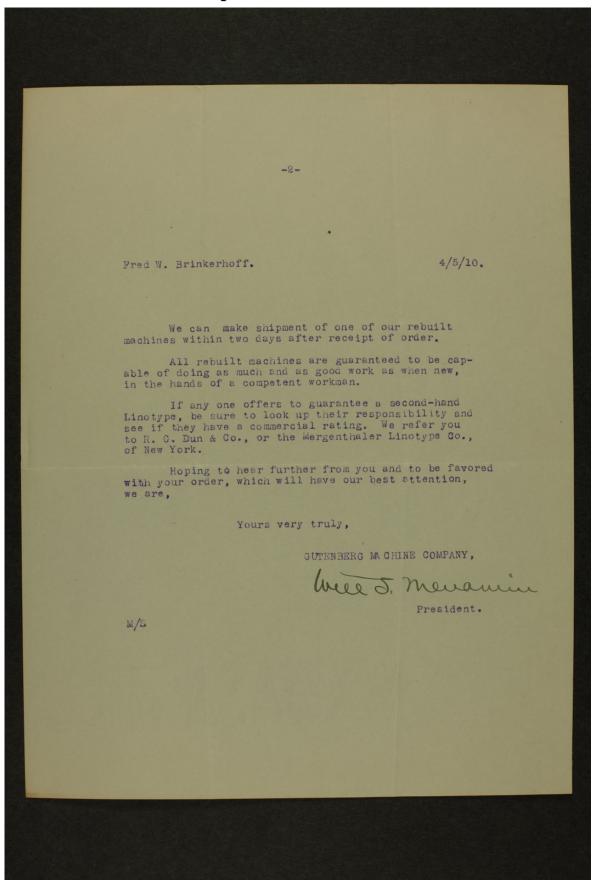




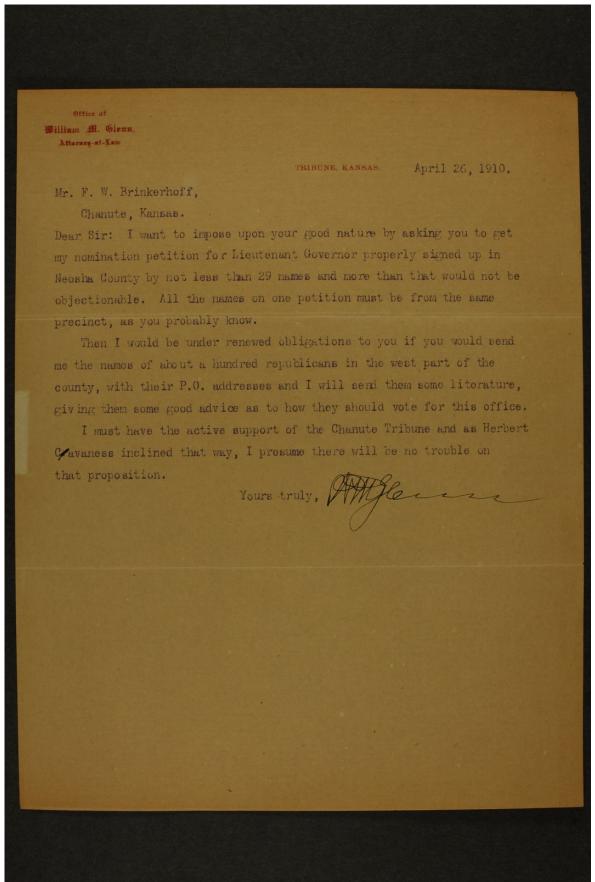




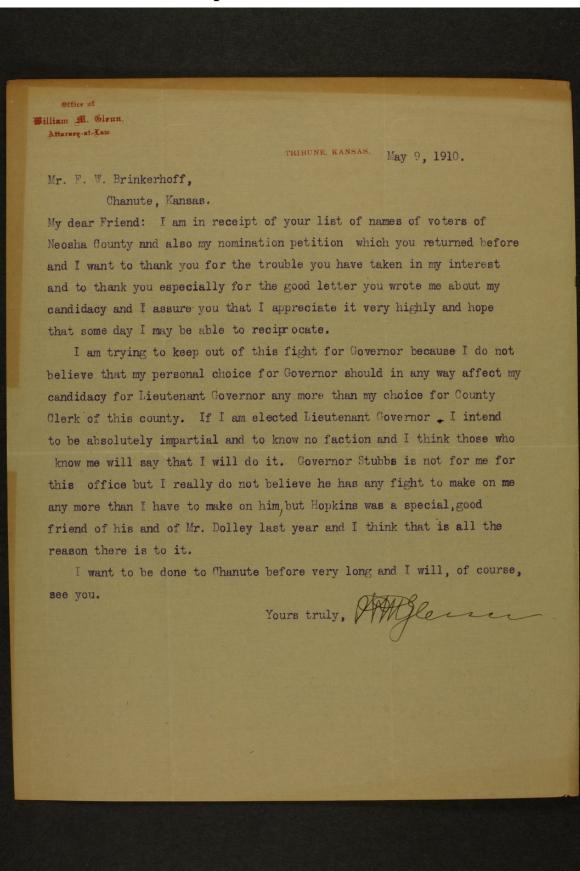














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#### THE MORNING ENQUIRER THE EVENING NEWS

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

5/6/14.

Dear Fred:

It was good of you to send me the news of Tom Cordry's death. Good old Tom! I was impressed by what Charlie Finch said, in a paper I read today. He said that it was to Tom, and men like him, that Kansas owes her prominence. There is none of the Tom Cordry type in Michigan; none of the spirit of local and state patriotism, and neighborlyness, that so

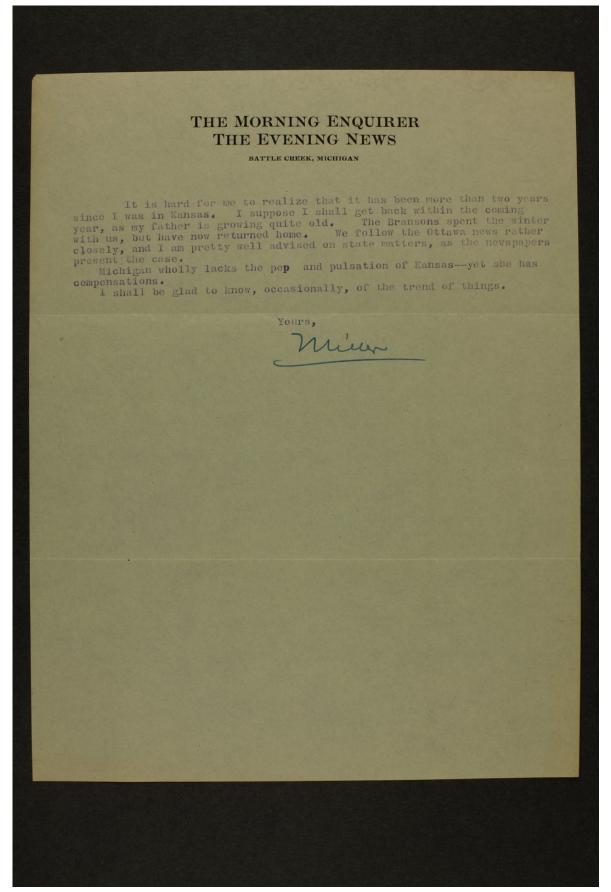
her prominence. There is none of the Tom Cordry type in Michigan; none of the spirit of local and state patriotism, and neighborlyness, that so permeates Kansas journalism.

I am glad if my pioce about Bristow got any attention. I had written Bristow my personal notion of his stand, and he suggested that the comment would look well in print. Othereise I should have kept out of print. For I don't really care what Kansas does-knowing she will do it, anyway.

The progressive movement is a repetition of the populist movement, and probably hatched from the same bug. It is refined, by our later processe and set to softer and more civilized mustc. I have not some conventions of the progressives—they had a great in-gathering of the clan here a year ago-and they talk like a chautauqua assembly.

I do not by any means intend to discount their sincerity, or question the moral worth of their dectrines. Nor do I mean to come to the dermag against them, of the time-tried and oil-smoothed system of politics which we have known so well. I care nothing about the republican party, as a party; I am for a democrat as governor of Michigan against anybody who comes on-wrap he himself in ever so many folds of the flag. Because the democrat is sound in the head, and wholly devoid of bunb. Aside from his party, and its simply wonderful capacity for error, and its quite uncumy habit of bringing on hard times, I like Wilson, as a type, better than any president we have had in years. Here, also, is an absence of flapdoodle. And this is the principal count in the indictment against the progressives: Too much flapdoodle. At this distance I cannot see how Bristow can be returned to the senate, nor how Henry Allen can win for governor. I wish Henry might vin, though I can't unders and his politics, as politics. I can understand it as mottocs, or texts. I see a good deal of sharp talk about Hodges as governor. I have a suspicion, which may be ill-founded, that Hodges is a pretty good governor in all but his tendency to keep the offices among t







### Frederick W. Brinkerhoff correspondence

ALFRED W. BENSON TOPEKA, KANSAS

Oct. 3, 1914.

Mr. F. W. Brinkerhoff,

Pittsburg, Kansas.

My dear Sir:

I thank you for your letter of September 27, and note your suggestion about advertising.

The advertising proposition has been carefully considered from the first. It presents several difficulties. I am a non-partisan candidate. Common fairness would require that such advertisements should be made in papers of each party. To discriminate would also be dangerous. Again city dailies are not read with any more care, if as much, by their patrons than the better country weeklies by their subscribers. The advertisements should therefore be in both. Where there are two or more respectable daily papers in a city, or more than one good weekly paper in a country town, it would not be wise, if fair, to patronage but one. There are over 800 newspapers in the 105 counties of the state. Suppose that because of possible insignificance 300 might be ignored, the others approximating 500 in number, ought not to be by one seeking a state non-partisan place. If the modest sum of \$5.00 only should be paid to each for an advertisement consisting of a mere announcement, the amount when added to postage, stationery, and other unavoidable expense would be large enough to be



#### Frederick W. Brinkerhoff correspondence

ALFRED W. BENSON

-2-

prohibitive to one whose income is chiefly derived from a salary.

Under the old system the candidate, after nomination for a judicial office had the support of a party press and other partisan facilities, and his expenses were practically limited to a reasonable assessment by a committee. I do not refer to this as an argument against the non-partisan law. It is a simple statement of the situation. The law is based on the theory that the voters have such vital interest that they will make necessary inquiries concerning the qualifications of candidates. If they are so indifferent as to refrain from seeking needed information, or for any other reason cast an unintelligent vote, they will to that extent endanger the efficiency of the courts.

The candidate who is a present member of this court, must have his picture displayed on bill boards, fences, or in windows along with advertisements of miscellaneous wares, sound his own praises by general advertising, or speed over the state in a vain endeavor to see a considerable number of voters, or, he may try all of these methods. The bill-board plan is offensive to my sense of propriety, although I do not criticise those who resort to it. Every man must be governed by his own opinions. General advertising with the usual self-laudation is to me impossible for the same reason. Modest anxent announcements might with propriety be made if it were not unfair or unwise to discriminate



### Frederick W. Brinkerhoff correspondence

ALFRED W. BENSON

-3-

reputable between respectiable papers. Without such discrimination the expense, as already suggested, is too great.

Your friendship, observation and experience gives your advice great weight. I thank you for giving it is but for the reasons briefly outlined, I do not see my way clear to act upon it.

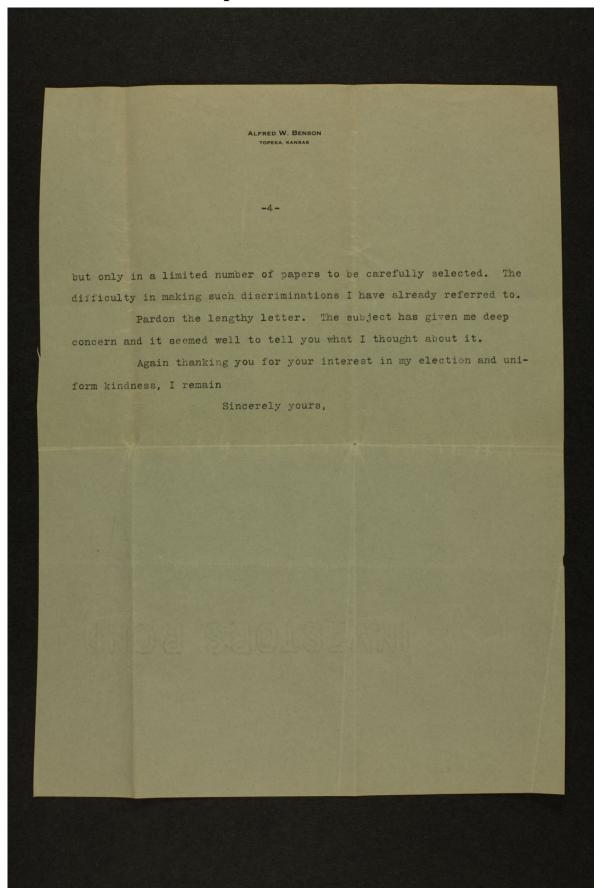
A recent issue of a lawyer's publication tells of an Alabama judge of a district court who was tendered an appointment to fill a vacancy in the supreme court until the next election. In a communication to the Governor he stated that after careful inquiry he had found that it would require an expenditure of \$3500 for the primary and election to fill out the unexpired term, and the same amount at the election for the regular term to follow a year later. He declined the appointment because of the expense.

I am aware that candidates for Governor and Senator and possibly for other offices cheerfully pay sums for incidental expenses out of proportion to anticipated salaries, but hitherto it has not been thought becoming in candidates for high judicial positions to do so, especially an incumbent of the office seeking re-election.

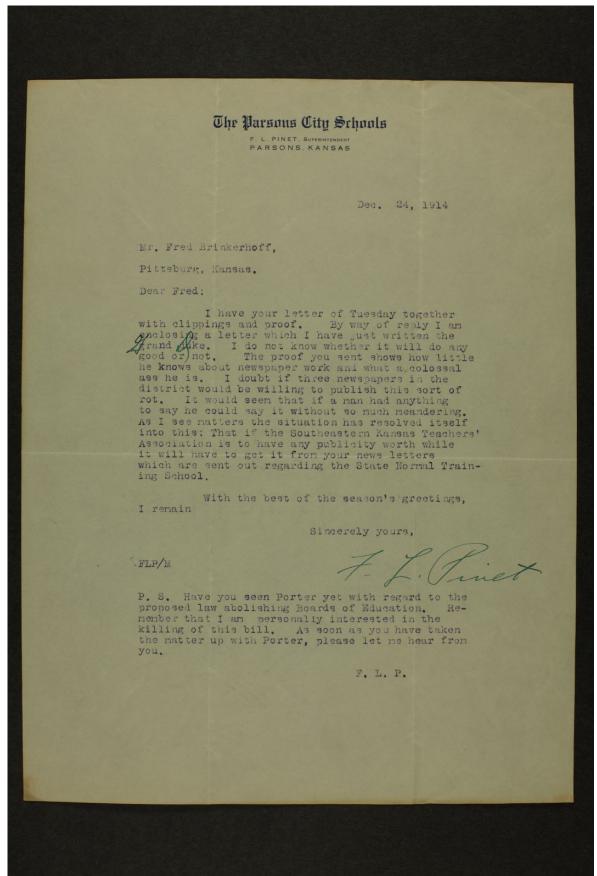
My earnest desire--greater than any wish to be elected-is to refrain from any thing that will degrade the office in the estimation of good people, or in my own estimation.

Please understand that I do not in the least criticise you-I know that you did not expect me to resort to general advertising,



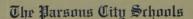








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F. L. PINET, SUPERINTENDENT

Jan. 5, 1915

Mr. Fred Brinkerhoffer,
PITTSBURG HEADLIGHT,
Pittsburg, Kansas.
My dear Brink:

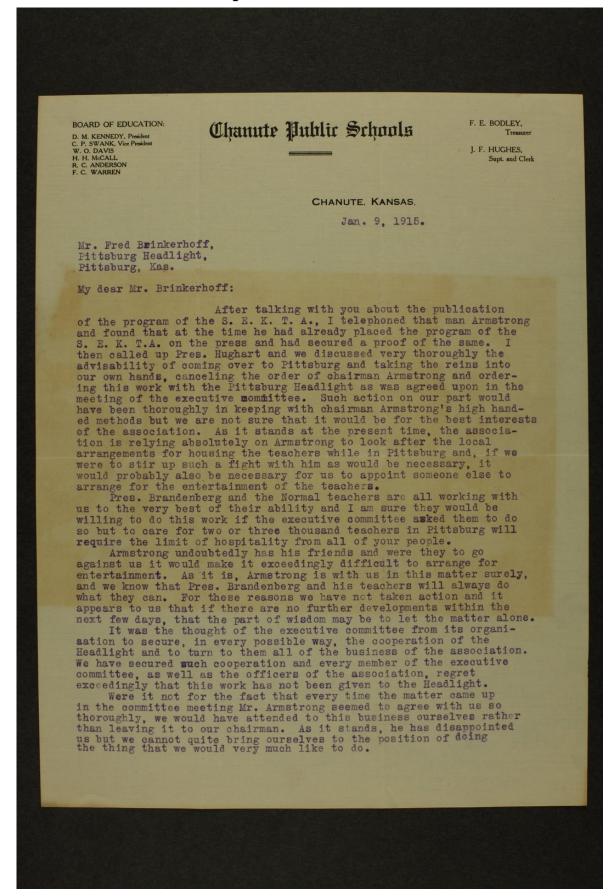
I wish to thank you for your note received this morning together with a clipping concerning the indiscretion of our friend Armstrong. I knew the fellow was a fool but I didn't think he was fool enough to get in bad in this manner.

Concerning the publicity work for the S. E. K. T. A., I will say that I am very much discouraged over the prospect. Practically, the only effective publicity the Association has had is what you have been able to give it in the HEADLIGHT. Here we are within a month of the meeting and no one has seen a copy of the program and no one knows just what the chief attractions are to be. I trust that you will push the matter all you can.

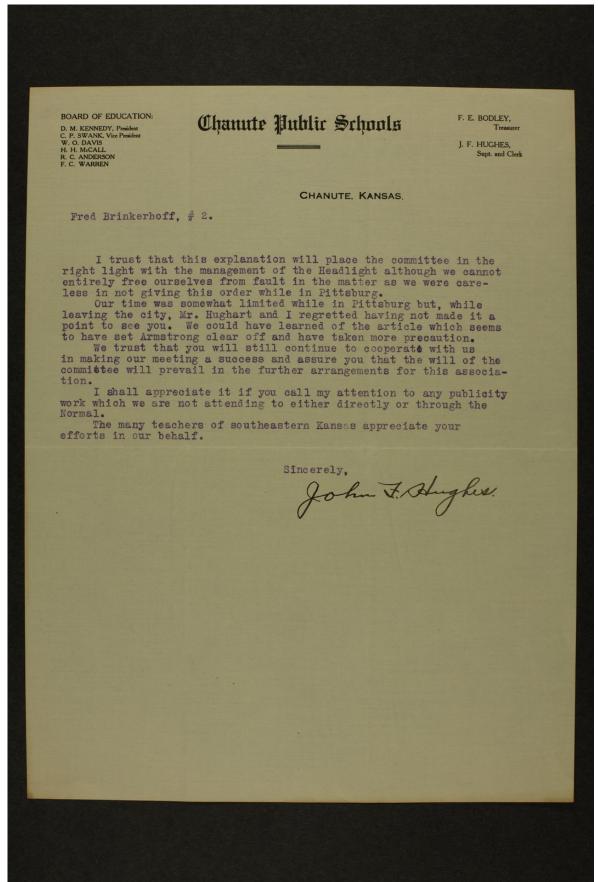
Sincerely yours,

FLP/M

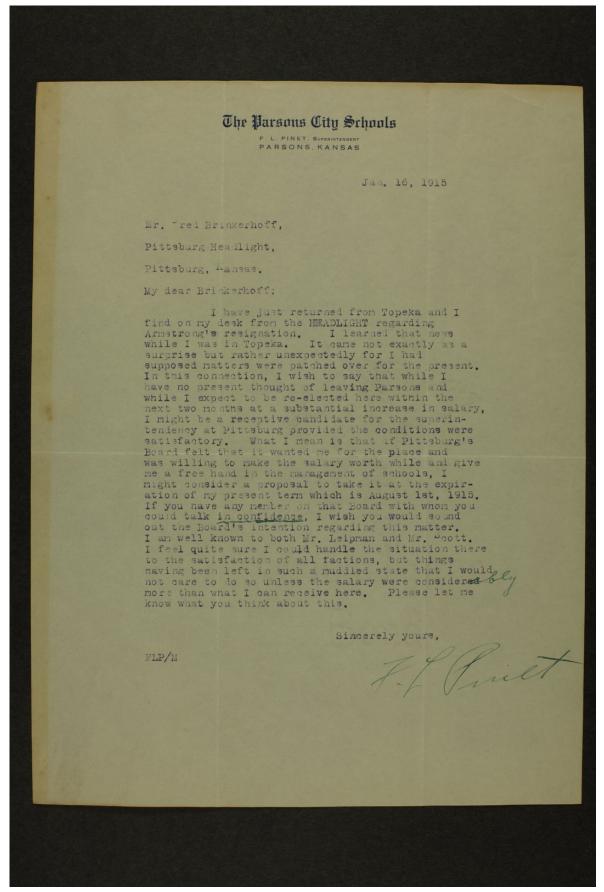




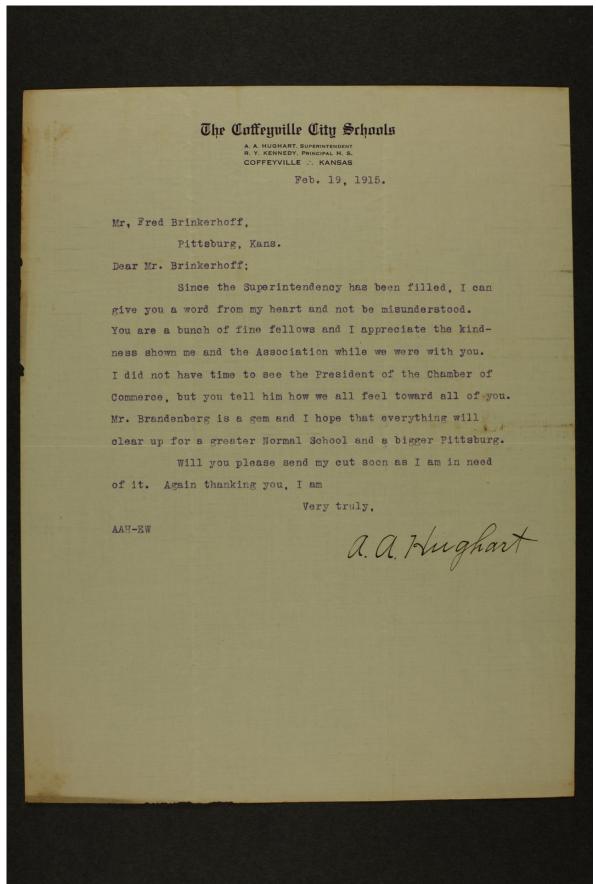














#### Frederick W. Brinkerhoff correspondence

BOARD OF EDUCATION:
D. M. KENNEDY, President
C. P. SWANK, Vice-president
W. O. DAVIS
H. H. McCALL
R. C. ANDERSON
E. C. WARDEN

#### Chanute Public Schools

F. E. BODLEY, Treasur

J. F. HUGHES, Supt. and Clerk

CHANUTE, KANSAS,
April 17, 1915.

Mr. Fred Brinkerhoff, Pittsburg, Kansas. Dear Mr. Brinkerhoff;

I appreciate very much your kindness in sending me the Pittsburg Headlight with the very interesting school news. Pres. Brandenberg also gave me several very interesting side lights in a recent visit with him.

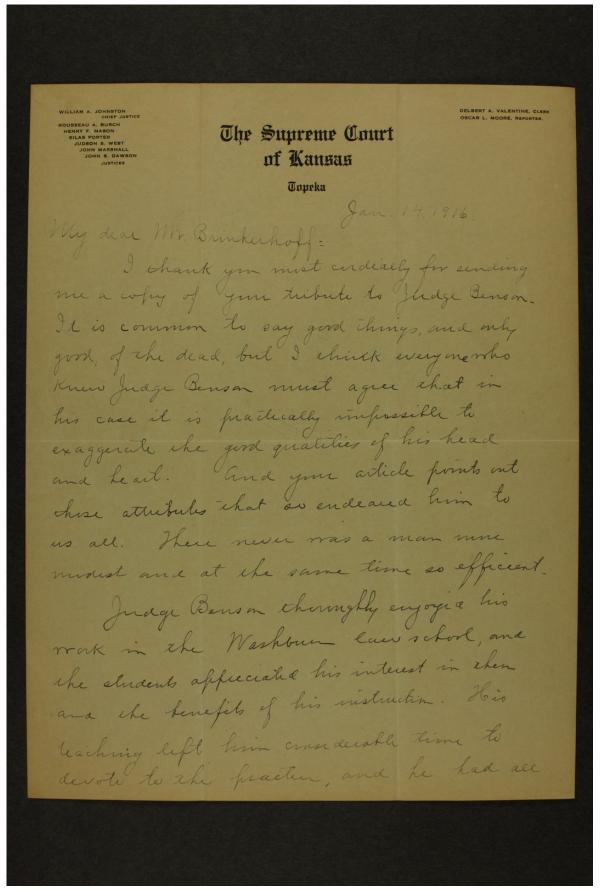
I congratulate you upon the excellent manner in which you handled that situation. All school men of southeastern Kansas rejoice at seeing Mr. Scott eliminated from the school situation of our district on absolutely general grounds believing that he injured school interests wherever he came into contact with them. It is a just verdict of the people of Pittsburg which carries those who have permitted him to dominate them with him.

I feel sure that the school interests of your city will be materially benefitted by the present change and those who led in making the change deserve very much credit.

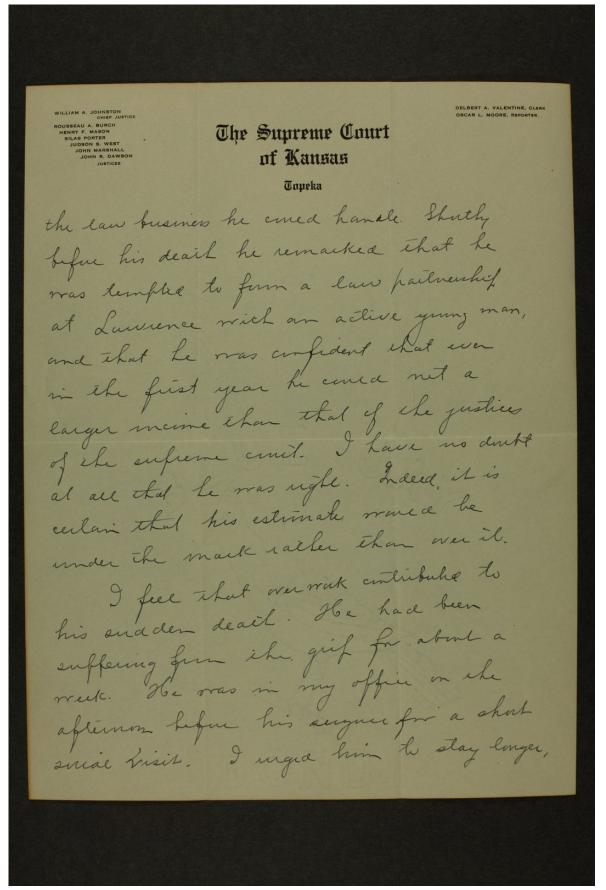
Yours sincerely

John Angles.

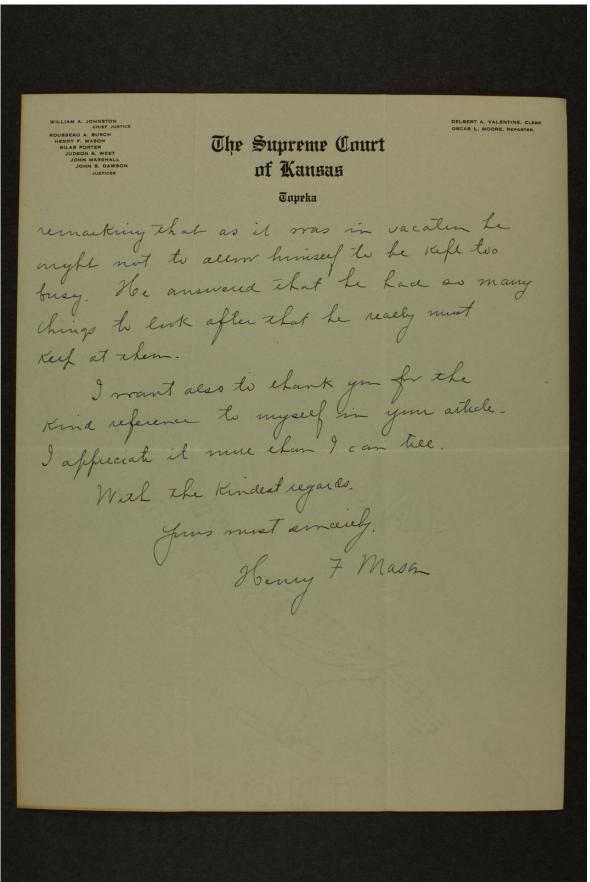




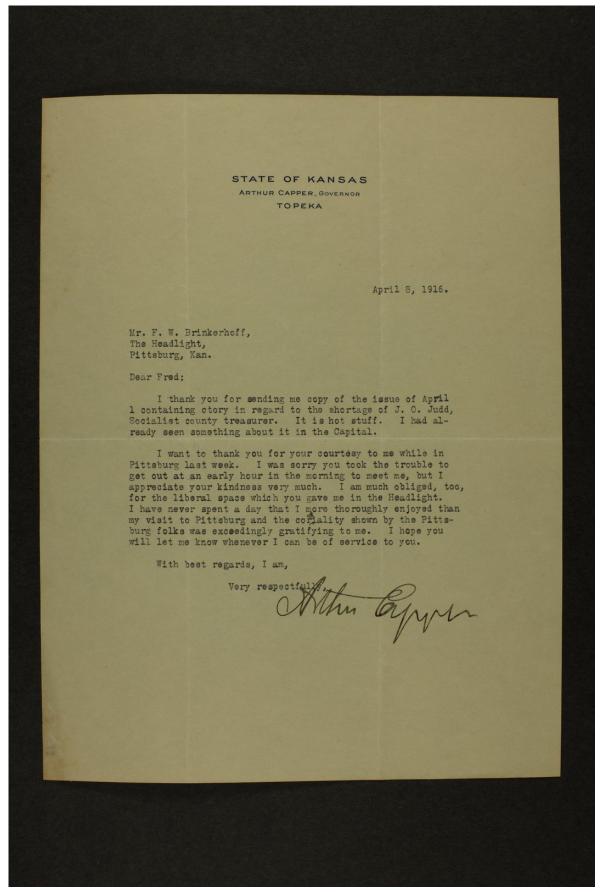




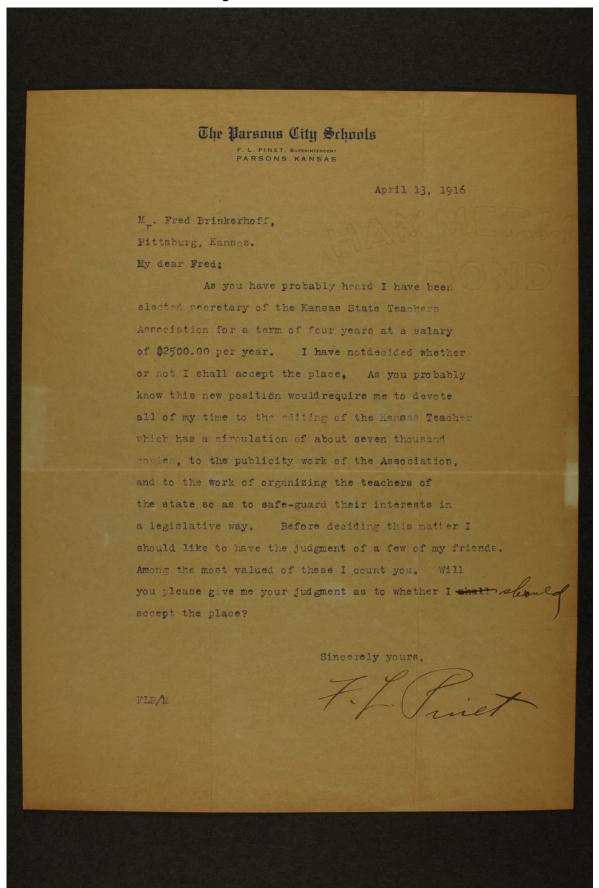




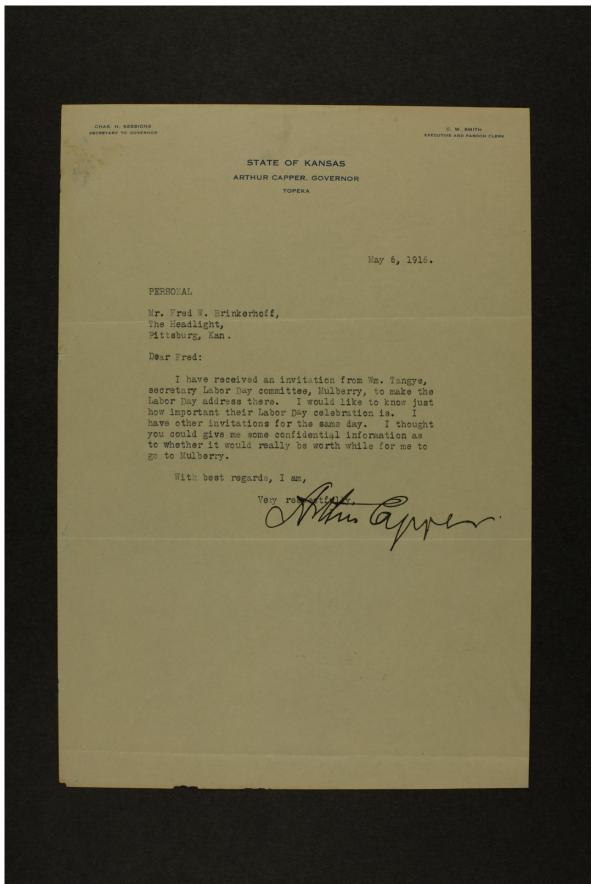














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CHAS. H. SESSIONS STATE OF KANSAS ARTHUR CAPPER, GOVERNOR May 23, 1917. Mr. F. W. Brinkerhoff, The Headlight, Pittsburg, Kans. Dear Mr. Brinkerhoff: I have your letter of May 21st in regard to Hampton Caffey. I am willing to give him a general parole in place of the parole to This general parole would September 1st. enable him to go to work and if at the and of a year his conduct had been good, he would We have never be entitled to a full pardon. issued full pardons until the prisoner has If this is been out on parole one year. satisfactory, let me know and I will issue a general parole to take the place of the September 1st parole. Very respectfully,