

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Section 4, Pages 91 - 120

Glenn Dale Stockwell Sr. (1901-1964) was a life-long resident of the Blue River Valley. He lived in the vicinity of Randolph and Leonardville, near the area flooded by Tuttle Creek Dam. In 1951, Glenn Stockwell became president of the Blue Valley Study Association and began coordinating opposition to the Dam. After heavy rains caused major floods in Kansas in 1951, advocates of Tuttle Creek pushed for its immediate funding and construction while opponents also intensified their efforts. The earliest item is a 1944 letter from the Corps of Engineers outlining the history and current status of the Tuttle Creek project. Other early items relate to the activities of the Blue Valley Study Association under the leadership of J. A. Hawkinson. The bulk of this correspondence, however, dates from the time Stockwell became president of the group in July 1951. Quite varied, it includes letters from conservationists, industry supporters, Kansas politicians, U.S. Congressional leaders, and the Eisenhower administration, among others; letters of advice from Stockwell; and carbon copies of letters sent by his co-workers.

Date: 1944-1957

Callnumber: Glenn D. Stockwell Coll. #81

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 305572

Item Identifier: 305572

www.kansasmemory.org/item/305572

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Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

THE KANSAS SOIL CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION

September 8, 1951

Dear Member:

So much is happening!

The Bureau of the Budget has recommended funds for commencing a number of Reclamation projects in Kansas including Lovewell Dam, Kirwin Dam, and Glen Elder Dam, all of specific concern to those members of our Association. Careful and immediate attention should be given this situation. Members of those areas should assemble all available information and bring to the next meeting which will be soon.

On August 16, the Subcommittee on Deficiencies and Army Civil Functions submitted a report called Investigations of Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program calling for more accurate cost estimates. Copies may be obtained from your congressmen and are well worth your attention.

Communication from the office of Clifford Hope, dated August 27, states that the Subcommittee on Flood Control of the House Committee on Agriculture will hold hearings this fall

on the Missouri River Basin program, as developed by the Department of Agriculture; that at least one of the hearings would likely be held in Kansas; and that other river basins would likely be included in the hearing.

Senator T.C. Hennings, Jr. Missouri, has introduced a bill calling for a review board to study the flood control and water resources of the Missouri Basin. The usefulness of such a committee would depend on whether the opinions and conclusions depended on previous convictions of the committee or were developed as a result of the study. But it is a good move in the right direction.

Senator Andrew Schoeppel has announced that he favors no power connections with Kansas projects. That could be a tip for Tuttle Creek, I believe.

Flood control hearings are to be held in Washington immediately on the end of the House recess September 12, according to radio.

I am sending you a copy of my reply to Gov. Val Peterson. If you like it, I suggest you ask your local editor to print all or part as you like.

Writing letters is arduous but remember it is a way of placing your opinions in the hands of congressmen and that was never more important than now.

Sincerely,

Edith Bonfort



THE KANSAS SOIL CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION

September 10, 1961

Perhaps the most significant happening in flood control for Kansas since the big flood is the organization of the Editors Interchange Council of the two state area of Kansas and Nebraska as an outgrowth of the meeting at Lincoln, Nebraska, on August 11.

In case you missed the item last week the following are members: Ken. R. Chapman, Manhattan, Bill Meyer, Lawrence, Whitely Austin, Salina, Oscar Stauffer, Topeka, Elving Herbert Jr., Hixson, Marcelius Purdick, Wichita, Dwight Payton, Overbrook, Byron Guice, Marysville, H.B. Turner, Waterville.

This is a fine representative group. But they need further cooperation and support. Do what you can to interest your local editors to join this movement.

Very truly yours,

Keep your secretary informed of your local situation and your needs.



Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

P. O. Box 713
Lincoln 1, Nebraska
September 10, 1951

Mr. Glen Stockwell, President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

It occurred to me that you might be interested in the attached paper that was given by Melvin O. Steen at the North American Wildlife Conference in San Antonio, in 1947. Some of the figures quoted are relative appropriations for Soil Conservation Service, and the civil functions for the Corps of Engineers are of course out of date in 1951. I have taken the privilege of inserting the 1952 fiscal year figures in red pencil at the bottom of page 5. I thought you would be particularly interested in the statement beginning about the middle of page 5.

Since this paper was given officially at the public meeting, I am sure there would be no question of the propriety of quoting any part of the paper, anywhere, either in print or in a meeting, should you care or have occasion to do so.

I have been much interested in getting the data from the U. S. Geologic Survey River gauge at Randolph, Kansas. The figures are not available for public distribution at this time, but Mr. Spiegel of their Topeka office, indicated to me this data would be available within a matter of weeks.

Since the Corps of Engineers have said so forthrightly that Tuttle Creek Dam would have had a significant effect in reducing the flood damage in Kansas City, Topeka, Manhattan, etc., I thought it would be very interesting and probably worthwhile to compare the maximum discharge of the Kaw River at flood crest at Kansas City in second feet, with what the river gauge showed at Randolph, Kansas. I recall having seen in the paper a statement attributed to the Corps of Engineers that the Kaw was discharging 660,000 second feet at its maximum flood stage in June. I understand now that there are those who think it should be revised upward. I doubt very much whether the Blue will show much more than 6200 to 6500 and probably less than this at Randolph. It, therefore, would appear very strange to conclude that even if the entire inflow of 6500 second feet were being detained how the Tuttle Creek Dam would have had much effect on a flood that was discharging 600 to 700,000 second feet.

I think the more exact data that can be obtained and placed before the proper people the better will be the chances of getting a sound and accurate decision on this whole matter of flood control with particular reference to whether Tuttle Creek should or should not be built. In my present official capacity as employee of the Soil Conservation Service, I am somewhat handicapped in what I can either write or say publicly; but in the interest of what is best for the country and the people generally, I shall be most happy to dig up information, facts, and figures for the use of your association at any time I can. So don't hesitate to call on me if there is a chance I can perform any such service at any time.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Jones
A. E. Jones

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

THE KANSAS SOIL CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION

September 11, 1951

Yesterday Raymond Wegner and I met in Topeka and conferred on the problems of the Association.

1. Mr. Wegner suggested I repeat the suggestion that each unit be preparing their case for presentation to the Agriculture Committee when it meets in Kansas this fall. There might not be much time in which to work after the date is announced.
2. We both urge that you write the House Appropriations Committee commending the critical investigation of the Corps of Engineers Civil Works program - which criticizes the inadequate planning and unreliable estimates of Corps projects - and urge that the Committee stand pat on its original proposition of no money for new projects or for planning new projects this year, and that the Bureau of Reclamation projects be brought under the same scrutiny and the same restraints.

I had the pleasure of meeting and talking with the Rev. Milton, R. Vogel, Jr., executive-secretary of the Kansas Council of Churches, in Topeka yesterday. The state council is taking up the problem of flood control. One more voice is raised in the interests of sound flood control. Our Association will be exchanging conferences with them.

The scope of our activities has grown so tremendously beyond anything we were able to envision at the time of our organization a year and a half ago that it has taken on proportions rapidly outgrowing the abilities of the officers to encompass it in what may be reasonably called "spare time" from one's personal responsibilities. Added to that growth - which is the finest thing for the movement - the personal situation of our president, Mr. Wegner, who finds himself now without any help on his farm, and the Association is faced with a serious problem of how to carry on the work.

3. At times we have discussed the possibility of raising the funds to hire an executive secretary. We must not imagine that we can shift the responsibility to a paid representative and go our personal ways. We must still fight our own battles. This was well expressed by our congressman Ed Rees in a remark to the Howard Woodbury family some time ago when he said that congressmen would rather listen to a farmer "with a little mud on his boots" than any slick tongued paid lawyer. However there is a lot of organizational work and preparatory work that could be directed by someone who would be paid to do the job and therefore able to give it the detailed time that is so difficult for anyone to give on a volunteer basis.

Otherwise responsibilities will have to be divided over more of the membership.



RILEY COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Manhattan, Kansas
September 11, 1951

Hon. Frank Carlson
United States Senate

Dear Senator Carlson:

The Board of Supervisors of the Riley County Kansas Soil Conservation District in the interest of flood control wish to express their feeling in regard to methods of control. The District as an organization dedicated to conserving our greatest natural resource - the land, feel that flood control must include the conservation of soil not only to be physically effective but in the interest of the nations economy.

We recommend that priority be given to programs that are designed on a watershed basis to take care of water where it falls thereby reducing runoff and at the same time hold the soil in place-soil that is needed to produce the food to feed a growing nation. Money invested by the federal government in this type of program is a non-expendable investment, because the benefits will be reaped by our future generation whereas types offlood control embodying only large dams will not return the nation any benefits from the soil.

Upstream Flood Control where it has been used in the Midwest has proven very effective. We urge that in the national interest appropriations for flood control of this type be given first priority.

This letter was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors at a meeting held September 11, 1951 at Manhattan, Kansas.

Very truly yours,

C. A. Grumbaker, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

COPY

September 12, 1951.

Mr. Ned L. Larson
Atwater, Minnesota.

Dear Mr. Larson:

This will acknowledge your letter of September 5 favoring a complete watershed program for the Blue River Valley instead of the proposed Tuttle Creek Dam for the purpose of flood control.

It is my understanding that Congressman Hope of the House Committee on Agriculture has urged that a sub committee under the chairmanship of Representative Poage of Texas be created to look into the problem outlined in your letter. Assurance has been given Mr. Hope that the Committee will review the situation which confronts the residents of the area.

Sincerely yours,
Fred Marshall, M.C.

September 14, 1951.

Mr. Ned L. Larson
Atwater, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Larson:

This is in response to your recent letter concerning the Tuttle Creek Project in Kansas. I have noted carefully the comments you make.

Because of your observations, I have made a particularly careful inquiry into this matter. The situation, actually, is that the Project was authorized back in 1938 and also again in the Flood Control Act of 1944. To date, \$260,000 for planning of the Project has been appropriated; the planning has been concluded, and the Project is now ready for construction.

The Senate, in connection with an appropriation for the Project, approved the budget request of \$3,000,000. This item was contained in the Civil Functions Appropriations bill. This bill will shortly come before the joint conference committee for adjustment of Senate-House differences. As a member of the conference Committee, I can assure you that we shall give attention to this item, and I shall have in mind what you say.

Sincerely yours,
Edward J. Thye, U.S.S.



ALBERT M. COLE
1ST DIST., KANSAS

RALPH A. PATTERSON
SECRETARY

COMMITTEE:
BANKING AND CURRENCY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1951

Mr. Glen D. Stockwell

Randolph, Kansas

Dear Glen:

I mailed to you today, under separate cover, the hearings and committee report of the Senate Appropriations Committee on the Civil Functions appropriations. These are the hearings that Mrs. Lungren requested by telephone today.

H.R. 5215, committee report of which you requested by wire on September 4, is a supplemental appropriations bill, which has been passed by the House, but has not been considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee thus far.

Sincerely yours,


Albert M. Cole, M. C.

AMC:pc



MYRON V. GEORGE
3d DISTRICT, KANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
216 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1951

COMMITTEE
PUBLIC WORKS
CONSOLIDATION OF FORMER
COMMITTEES ON
RIVERS AND HARBORS
FLOOD CONTROL
ROADS
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
WATER POWER AND DAMS

Mr. G. D. Stockwell, Sr., President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

This is to acknowledge receipt of copy of "Valley Outlines Views on Flood", which appeared in "The Topeka State Journal," Friday August 31, 1951. I have studied the contents of this article and expect to discuss with the members of the House Public Works Committee the recommendations outlined therein.

As you no doubt know, both the House and Senate Public Works Committee authorized the Tuttle Creek Dam many years ago. Several of the members who took this former action are still on these committees. I do not know whether they will be willing at this time to reconsider their earlier affirmative action.

As I have stated on many occasions, I am interested in the flood control problem for all of Kansas, but I do represent the southeast corner of Kansas, which is primarily concerned with the Neosho, Verdigris and Arkansas River watersheds. Our rivers in that section have been out four times this year and have over-flowed twenty times in the last ten years. I am vitally interested in seeing that something is done to protect the river valleys in the Third District of Kansas.

As stated above, I shall call to the attention of the committee the contents of your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Myron V. George
Myron V. George

MVG:gyr



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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

September 12, 1951

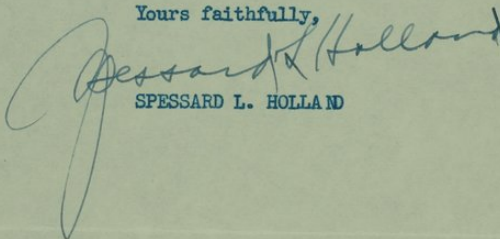
Mr. G. D. Stockwell, Sr., President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

Thank you kindly for your letter of recent date regarding flood control. I am glad to have this expression of your views and appreciate your writing to me.

With cordial regards, I remain

Yours faithfully,



SPESSARD L. HOLLAND

SLH/g

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A. LEE PARSONS, CLERK

United States Senate COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

September 13, 1951

G. D. Stockwell, Sr., President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear friend Stockwell:

I am in receipt of your communication urging a restudy of flood control methods and giving me your views on flood control.

After serious and exhaustive study, I am convinced that no one plan - standing alone - will do the job. I think it will take a combination of all types, that is, dam projects, soil conservation, dykes, terracing, etc. in order to prevent a recurrence of the recent devastating flood damage.

On August 15, 1951, the Senate passed the following appropriations, based on the recommendation of the Army Engineers and the Bureau of the Budget:

Tuttle Creek	\$5 million
Toronto	\$3 million
Hutchinson	\$1.9 million
Wichita	\$500,000

(In addition Wichita had available for that project \$1,250,000 which the Army Engineers considers to be available on the Wichita project in addition to the \$500,000)

This does not mean that consideration will not be given to other key projects too, in the flood areas in Kansas, either on the tributaries of the Kaw or the Neosho, Verdigris, Cottonwood and Marias de Cygne, but I cannot tell you now what projects would be approved for planning money or for implementation. That is going to depend upon the strong priorities that should be given with reference to the devastating effect of these last two or three floods and I hope you will understand.

Personally, I cannot see any of the Kansas structures being built or utilized for power purposes. To do this, in my humble opinion, would ruin the flood control phases of these dams and would take far more land out of cultivation.

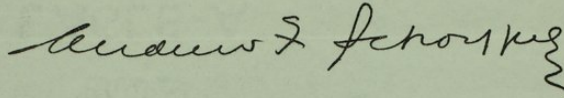
I supported the Pick-Sloan plan when I was Governor of Kansas, when it was first started. I was also in favor of combining all the factors necessary to utilize it to the greatest possible extent.

- 2 -

We must do something to alleviate these floods and I want you to know how I honestly feel about it even though some may disagree with me. These disagreements are honest differences of opinion, and each is entitled to his own - but we must move ahead.

Thanks for writing me.

Sincerely,



P.S. In addition to the appropriations listed above, on August 30, 1951, the Budget Department advised the Congress that the President recommends supplemental funds for the Bureau of Reclamation for construction of:

Kirwan Reservoir	\$3.2 million
Planning funds for Webster, Wilson and Glen Elder	\$1.8 million

AFS

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Excerpts from speech of Senator Andrew F. Schoeppel on the Floor of the Senate, September 12, 1951:

"****Mr. President, I am wondering when the Congress will take action on those measures. We rush through important measures in this body, and that also happens on the other side of the Capitol Dome. All those measures are important, of course. The other day we passed a bill authorizing the appropriation of \$7,500,000,000 for Europe. We are now considering a most important bill, appropriating \$61,000,000,000 to protect the national security and to provide for defense.

Important as are those bills, I am firmly convinced that our domestic difficulties are equally important. In my judgment, the authorization of the appropriation of \$7,500,000,000 was no more important than is the rehabilitation of those who live within a great area who so recently suffered a disaster of catastrophic proportions caused by the floods.

Press reports indicate that representatives of foreign nations are presently in our Capital. Recently they have been here seeking relief for some of their difficulties. Do I think they are entitled to any more consideration than the folks at home? Candidly, I do not. I could recount the aid we have given to other foreign peoples and projects, and quickly. The present session of the Congress is expected to come to a close, as some think, around October 1. I wonder whether it is the intention of those in charge of the agenda of the schedules providing the times at which various measures shall be taken up for consideration to allow the bill providing aid for the flood sufferers - important as I think this bill is - to remain in committee unacted upon. It is important to the people of the affected areas. It was sufficiently important that the President of the United States made a tour of inspection of the devastated area, following which he sent a message to the Congress. I am sure that he, with all the rest of us, expected expeditious handling of the matter, and that it is the intention of those who have the responsibility of channeling this proposed legislation, to take some positive action as rapidly as possible, and before this session closes. I think it no more than fair to ask, WHEN WILL IT BE DONE?"



KENNETH MCKELLAR, TENN., CHAIRMAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Washington, D. C.
September 13, 1951

Mr. G. D. Stockwell, Sr.
President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

I was very glad to have your recent communication. Although I am sure you do not expect me to answer it in detail, I do want you to know that I appreciate having your views as such expressions are most helpful to us here in the Senate.

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Thye, U.S.S.

EJT:wej

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
506 Rudge Building
Lincoln 8, Nebraska

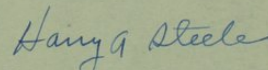
September 14, 1951

Mr. G. D. Stockwell
Leonardville, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

I am sending you, under separate cover, six copies each of the two reports requested in your letter of September 9.

Very truly yours,



Harry A. Steele
Agricultural Economist





ALBERT M. COLE
1ST DIST., KANSAS

RALPH A. PATTERSON
SECRETARY

COMMITTEE:
BANKING AND CURRENCY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

14 September 1951

Mr. Glen D. Stockwell
Leonardville, Kansas

Dear Glen:

Today, I have a request from you under date of 9 September in which you ask for the report of the sub-committee on Civil Functions of the War Department.

You should have this report by now, since I mailed it to you on the 12th, at the request of Mrs. Lungren. I did use Randolph as a mailing address. So, if you do not have them, you might check the Randolph post office.

I am returning the three dollars you sent to me.

Sincerely,

Albert M. Cole
Albert M. Cole, M.C.

AMC/p



BEN F. JENSEN
7TH DIST., IOWA

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

September 14, 1951

Mr. G. D. Stockwell, Sr., President
Blue Valley Study Association
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

I was pleased to receive your letter with
attached data in regard to Turtle Creek Dam.

You may be sure that I shall make a thor-
ough study of this matter in due time, after which I
will state my position clearly and definitely.


Sincerely yours,

BFJ:MIB

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

1617 N. Vassar Ave.
Wichita, 14, Kans.
Sept. 18 - '51

Dear Mrs. Longren: Enclosed find a few four-leaf
clovers, enlisted for the success of your cause.
Also, a questionnaire which, among
all of you, you may be willing
to fill out and return to me.



I'm getting out six today to as many editors -
me the N.Y. Herald-Tribune - so I may get a chance
or two to strike a blow where it counts.
It was heartening to meet ~~you~~ red-blooded patriots
such as yourselves.

Cordially,
Mrs. Bloss Isely (Neuquente Denver)

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Randolph, Kansas
Sept. 24, 1951

Mrs. Bliss Isley,
1617 N. Vassar Ave.
Wichita, 14, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Isley:

Mrs. Albin Longren handed me your letter with the questions and asked that I answer it.

Question 1.- It is hard to say how many people we have reached with our "educational" program. We distributed over 7,000 copies of printed matter at the fairs and interviewed at least three times that many individuals. We Our contacts thru the newspapers are wide and we are receiving constant calls for material about upstream water control. It is a chain reaction, we furnish material to a contact who spreads the material around, then we get further inquiries from those secondary contacts. I would say that we have had our material read in three fourths of the state and have sent it into about 10 other states.

Question 2- The program for the Missouri River Basin authorized by Congress in the 1944 Flood Control Act, the Rick-Sloan Act, is not a comprehensive river basin control program. It is only an orderly control of water after it has run off the land and has become a part of the flow of the river. We feel that a comprehensive water control plan must start on the land where the water falls, through land use measures and structures designed to secure as much absorption as possible. Any excess water should then be detained by retention dams in small watercourses and allowed to drain out slowly. Dikes and levees should be provided on the main stems used to protect selected areas. Proper flow-ways should be provided in the main stems to allow a natural discharge. Dry flood control dams on main stems should not be used until a proper evaluation and app utilization of the upstream works is made. Finally, zoning ordinances should be enacted to zone the flood plains. Relocation may be the cheapest flood protections to many low lying areas. We want a proper evaluation placed on the cost and benefit of each operation to see that the cost is not greater than the benefit. This review should be placed in the hands of a board separate from the planners of a project.

Question 3- The farmers have co-operated with the Corps of Army Engineers in their surveys and planning previous to the inclusion of the Tuttle Creek appropriation in HR Bill 4386. The farmers have realized that there must be surveys and plans formulated previous to appropriation in order to determine the feasibility of a project. The farmers did object to having the Army Engineers move personnel and equipment into the dam site at the critical time when the appropriation was before Congress. On August 26 Mr. W.H. McNich was told by an Army Engineer representative that the appropriation had passed Congress. The A.E. was was attempting to secure a permit of entry onto Mr. McNich's land. The general impression they tried to give was that the fight was over and the Engineers were ready to move in and start work.

Question 4. - We kept no account of the number of letters written. The leaders furnished lists of names and material. The names were of Senators, Congressmen, special committees of Congress etc. The people were encouraged to write their own feelings. Naturalness and spontaneity were stressed. Special groups of writers were assigned definite subjects with the material and punch line furnished, they phrased their own letters. We depended upon the sincerity and not the numbers to count.

Question 5- The Blue Valley Study Association had an educational exhibit at the Manhattan, Kansas M-H Fair, Blue Rapids, Kansas Fair, Topeka State Fair and Hutchinson State Fair. They also maintained an office in the Randolph, Kansas city hall where name lists, clippings, and other material were available.

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Mrs. +sley-2

Question 6- The question of a dry dam is answered in # 2 above. We want an honest flood control plan. If, after an honest review of the recent flood and with proper evaluation and utilization of other measures of control, a dry flood control dam is found to be economically feasible, then it should be built.

Question 7- We feel that Tuttle Creek Dam is Kansas City's dam. It is proposed to maintain a large permanent pool. The Army Engineers' code on this dam is labeled FC, C, PP, N, flood control, conservation (Fishing), pollution prevention and navigation. The Valley people feel that Kansas City's insistence on a multipurpose dam is purely selfish. Pollution control and navigation instead of an honest flood control. The permanent pool in the proposed Tuttle Creek reservoir would cover approximately 22,000 fertile acres that could be saved from destruction if only flood control was desired.

Question 8- In view of the fallacy of placing a dam at the mouth of the Blue River with 280 miles of unprotected ~~river~~ river above it with 51,000 square mile of watershed, facts that makes the dam of doubtful value in flood control, then the origin of the idea must lay in the permanent pool. The city to benefit mostly from the permanent pool is Kansas City. Who in Kansas City has been the most outspoken advocate of the dam? Willard J. Bridenthal, Kansas City banker and prominent developer of some of the mud flats for industrial sites. Much has been said about the farmer plowing up hillsides and making a misuse of land but there is no greater misuse of land than when they use a flood plain for building purposes.

OUR STAND:

Previous to the '51 flood the Blue Valley was accused of simply blocking Tuttle Creek dam. After viewing the vast destruction of the flood, the people realize that it will require a new approach to flood control. The recent flood was caused by rains that fell principally below the sites of the proposed Pick-Sloan dams. To control such a flood requires more than a "silly row of dams above a valley full of local water". If we are going to see our valley sacrificed we do not want it to be in vain. We want an honest flood control plan that will give protection to the entire watershed, not a partial protection to a few downstream. We maintain it is moral and criminal negligence to allow people to rebuild in the flood areas without a proper warning of the dangers from the repetition of a the '51 flood.

You may quote from the above letter and use it as you wish
Yours truly,



[Sept. 24, 1951]

2 - Mrs. Bliss Isley

This review should be placed in the hands of a board separate from the planners of a project.

Question 3. - The farmers have co-operated with the Corps of Army Engineers in ~~their~~ ^{their} surveys and planning previous to the inclusion of the Tuttle Creek appropriation in HR Bill 4306. The farmers have realized that there must be surveys and plans formulated previous to appropriations in order to determine the feasibility of a project. The farmers did object to having the Army Engineers move personnel and equipment into the dam site at the critical time when the appropriation was before Congress. On August 26, 1951, Mr. W. H. McAnich was told by an Army Engineer representative that the appropriation had passed Congress. The Army Engineer was attempting to secure a permit of entry onto Mr. McAnich's land. The general impression they tried to give was that the fight was over and the Engineers were ready to move in and start work.

Question 4. - We kept no account of the number of letters written. The leaders furnished list s of names and material. The names were of Senators, Congressmen, special committees of Congress, etc.. The people were encouraged to write their own feelings. Naturalness and spontaneity were stressed. Special groups of writers were assigned definite subjects with the material and punch line furnished. They phrased their own letters. We depended upon the sincerity and not the numbers to count. ^{a number of} ~~Several~~ personal letters have been published in several metropolitan papers, including the Washington Post, the Denver Post and the Kansas City Star.

Question 5. - The Blue Valley Study Association had an educational exhibit at the Riley County Fair, Manhattan, Kansas, the Marshall County Fair, Blue Rapids, Kansas, the Kansas Free Fair, Topeka, Kansas, and the Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, Kansas. They also maintained an office in the Randolph, Kansas, city hall where name lists, clippings, and other material were available.

Question 6. - The question of a dry dam is answered in #2 above. We want an honest flood control plan. If, after an honest review of the recent flood and with proper evaluation and utilization of other measures of control, a dry flood control dam is found to be economically feasible, then it should be built.

Question 7. - We feel that Tuttle Creek Dam is Kansas City's dam. It is proposed to maintain a large permanent pool. The Army Engineers' code on this dam is



13 - Mrs. Bliss Isley

labeled FC, C, PP, N, flood control, conservation (fishing), pollution prevention and navigation. The Valley people feel that Kansas City's insistence on a multi-purpose dam is purely selfish. ^{Pollution} ~~Pollution~~ control and navigation instead of an honest flood control. The permanent pool in the proposed Tuttle Creek reservoir would cover approximately 22,000 fertile acres that could be saved from destruction if only flood control was desired.

Question 8. - ~~In view of~~ ^{The} fallacy of placing a dam at the mouth of the Big Blue River with 280 miles of unprotected river above it, with 51,000 square miles of watershed, ~~this too~~ makes the dam of doubtful value in flood control. Then the origin of the idea must lay in the permanent pool. The city to benefit mostly from the permanent pool is Kansas City. Who in Kansas City has been the most outspoken advocate of the dam? Willard J. Breidenthal, Kansas City, Kansas, banker and prominent developer of some of the mud flats for industrial sites. Much has been said about the farmer plowing up hillsides and making a misuse of land but there is no greater misuse of land than when they use a flood plain for building purposes.

OUR STAND:

Previous to the '51 flood, the Blue Valley was accused of simply blocking Tuttle Creek Dam. After viewing the vast destruction ~~of~~ the flood, the people realize that it will require a new approach to flood control. The recent flood was caused by rains that fell principally below the sites of the proposed Pick-Sloan dams. To control such a flood requires more than a "silly row of dams above a valley full of local water". If we are going to see our valley sacrificed, we do not want it to be in vain. We want an honest flood control plan that will give protection to the entire watershed, not a partial protection downstream. We maintain it is moral and criminal negligence to allow people to rebuild in the flood areas without a proper warning of the dangers from the repetition of the '51 flood.

You may quote from the above letter and use it as you wish.

Yours truly,

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Randolph, Kansas
Sept. 24, 1951

Mrs. Elias Isley:
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Isley:

I am enclosing some material for you. Mr. Pfuetze of Randolph is also sending material to Mr. Isley. I stepped into leadership of the Blue Valley Study Association in July after hearing a committee who had attended the Senate C Comm. the hearing in Washington report. They reported that there was no chance to stop the appropriation. I realized that the flood was unusual in that the rain fell in the Kansas River watershed not on the main tributaries and that the Kansas River was cresting from Kansas City to Salina almost simultaneously. Such a flood could not be controlled by conventional means. I felt that if this fact could be brought to enough people that a new approach to flood control would result. We still do not know if we will stop Tuttle Creek appropriation but I do feel sure that there will be a change in our flood control laws within a short time. I have slanted the campaign to show the defects of the Pick-Sloan plan with a view of securing a complete watershed plan. Tuttle Creek was incidental. This has been hard for many local people to follow. They do not realize that it was impossible to kill Tuttle Creek Per se. One had to favor something bigger and better. Put the Tuttle Creek dam advocates on the defensive.

Now for your off the record questions: I feel that Truman's attitude is influenced because K.C. is his home town. He left a way out for himself when he requested the appropriation by saying that we should have a MWA or overall plan. Kansas City has been trying to get Tuttle Creek dam for over 13 years but have been blocked. The hysteria of the flood gave them the chance to railroad it thru congress. I feel that Roy Roberts engineered the meeting in K.C. on July 25. And was that a steam roller. I sat and looked at the billions of capital on the stage and decided that a group of Blue Valley swedes could give them a damned good fight.

Governor Arn was simple caught in the undertow. He made his out in saying that he was interested in rehabilitation. He wanted flood control only and would not name the way. Senator Carlson was Kansas City's fair haired boy that did the talking and was their special pleader in the Senate.

The Army Engineers, with them it is almost a personal feud. They have long resented the fact that a group of residents of the Blue Valley had stymied them. They have layed low for years waiting until a big flood. The trouble now is that the flood was too big. One of their top men chided our group in July while they were leaving the Senate hearing by saying "well, we have you licked now." Kansas City and the Engineers realize that if they do not get the dam now they will never get it. That is why the heat is on.

The two day meeting in K.C. last week of the Breidenthal group is probably an outgrowth of the statement Sen Pick made in his talk in K.C. July 25 in which he said that an organization should be set up to work for the Pick-Sloan plan. I have followed the organization of the local units in hopes of tying it to his remarks. Personally I would like to "bust" him on his statements he has made this summer.

I am a farmer living on the upper edge of the flood pool and might not be flooded. I have a long time lease on my farm and have put into practice land use measures that have stopped erosion and floods on my ground. I am a graduate in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State College, 50 years old married with three married children, I had a grand son born this month and I would like to see him grow up to farm the land I do. He was named Albert Lee Stockwell after my father who helped organize and received the first loan from the Federal Land Bank at Wichita. We are of New England decent and do not believe in destroying one property to provide a doubtful benefit to other property.

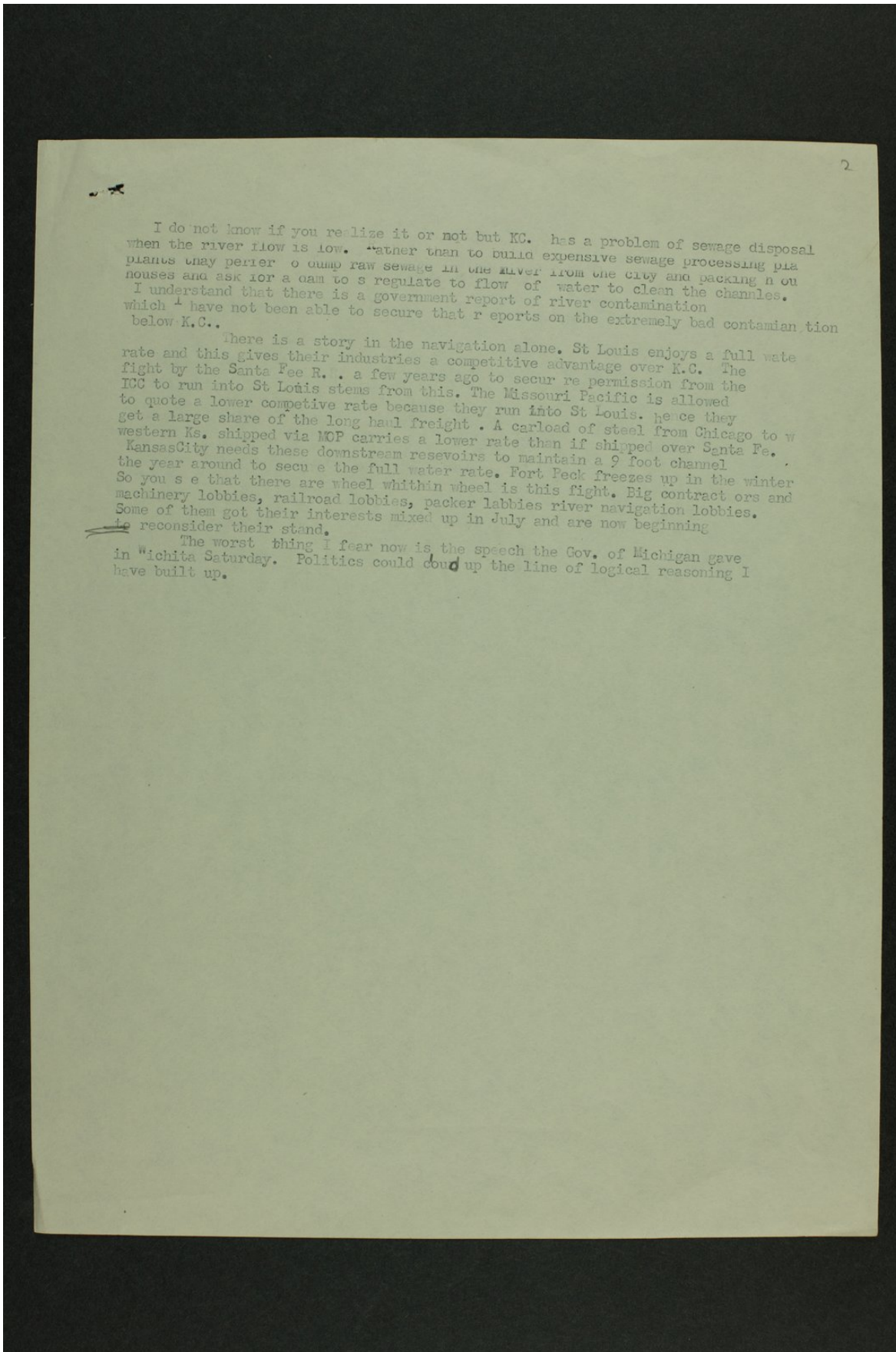
Picture

Thank you for your kind interest
Glenn D. Stockwell

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

My wife, whose grandfather homesteaded the farm
in 1847, ~~was the~~ Property in such families
was homesteaded with the idea of providing a family
home for centuries. The family farm in Germany
established in 18th century, ~~is still producing~~ still
remain in a branch of the family ~~and~~ produce more
to day than it did when her father left Germany in
the 1840's

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence



I do not know if you realize it or not but K.C. has a problem of sewage disposal when the river flow is low. Rather than to build expensive sewage processing plants they prefer to dump raw sewage in the river from the city and packing houses and ask for a dam to regulate the flow of water to clean the channels. I understand that there is a government report of river contamination which I have not been able to secure that reports on the extremely bad contamination below K.C..

There is a story in the navigation alone. St. Louis enjoys a full water rate and this gives their industries a competitive advantage over K.C. The fight by the Santa Fe R. a few years ago to secure permission from the ICC to run into St. Louis stems from this. The Missouri Pacific is allowed to quote a lower competitive rate because they run into St. Louis. Hence they get a large share of the long haul freight. A carload of steel from Chicago to western Ks. shipped via MOP carries a lower rate than if shipped over Santa Fe. Kansas City needs these downstream reservoirs to maintain a 9 foot channel the year around to secure the full water rate. Fort Peck freezes up in the winter. So you see that there are wheels within wheels in this fight. Big contractors and machinery lobbies, railroad lobbies, packer lobbies river navigation lobbies. Some of them got their interests mixed up in July and are now beginning to reconsider their stand.

The worst thing I fear now is the speech the Gov. of Michigan gave in Wichita Saturday. Politics could cloud up the line of logical reasoning I have built up.

Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

Randolph, Kansas
September 25, 1951

Mrs. Elsie Isley
1617 N. Vassar Avenue
Wichita 14, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Isley:

Mrs. Albin Longren handed me your letter with the questions and asked that I answer it.

Question 1. - It is hard to say how many people we have reached with our "educational program. We distributed over 7,000 copies of printed matter at the fairs and interviewed at least three times that many individuals. Our contacts through the newspapers are wide and we are receiving constant calls for material about upstream water control. It is a chain reaction. We furnish material to a contact who spreads the material around. Then we get further inquiries from those secondary contacts. I would say that we have had our material read in three-fourths of the state and have sent it into about 10 other states.

Question 2. - The program for the Missouri River Basin authorized by Congress in the 1944 Flood Control Act, the Pick-Sloan Act, is not a comprehensive river basin control program. It is only an orderly control of water after it has run off the land and has become part of the flow of the river. We feel that a comprehensive water control plan must start on the land where the water falls, through land use measures, and structures designed to secure as much absorption as possible. Any excess water should then be detained by retention dams in small watercourses and allowed to drain out slowly. Dikes and levees should be used to protect selected areas. Proper flow-ways should be provided in the main stems to allow a natural discharge. Any flood control dams on main stems should not be used until a proper evaluation and utilization of the upstream works is made. Finally, zoning ordinances should be enacted to zone the flood plains. Relocation may be the cheapest flood protection to many low-lying areas. We want a proper evaluation placed on the cost and benefit of each operation to see that the cost is not greater than the benefit.



2 - Mrs. Miss Riley

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Question 3. - The farmers have co-operated with the Corps of Army Engineers in their surveys and planning previous to the inclusion of the Tuttle Creek appropriation in HR Bill 4386. The farmers have realized that there must be surveys and plans formulated previous to appropriations in order to determine the feasibility of a project. The farmers did object to having the Army Engineers move personnel and equipment into the dam site at the critical time when the appropriation was before Congress. On August 26, 1951, Mr. W. H. McNich was told by an Army Engineer representative that the appropriation had passed Congress. The Army Engineer was attempting to secure a permit of entry onto Mr. McNich's land. The general impression they tried to give was that the fight was over and the engineers were ready to move in and start work.

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Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

12-1-33 - Mrs. Bliss Isley

Labeled PG, G, PP, N, flood control, conservation (fishing), pollution prevention and navigation. The Valley people feel that Kansas City's insistence on a multi-purpose dam is purely selfish. Pollution control and navigation instead of an honest flood control. The permanent pool in the proposed Tuttle Creek reservoir would cover approximately 22,000 fertile acres that could be saved from destruction if only flood control was desired.

Question 8. -- The fallacy of placing a dam at the mouth of the Big Blue River (with 200 miles of unprotected river above it, and with 51,000 square miles of watershed, makes the dam of doubtful value in flood control. Then the origin of the idea must lay in the permanent pool. The city to benefit mostly from the permanent pool is Kansas City. Who in Kansas City has been the most outspoken advocate of the dam? William J. Breidenbach, Kansas City, Kansas, banker and prominent developer of some of the mud flats for industrial sites? Much has been said about the farmer plowing up hillsides and making a misuse of land but there is no greater misuse of land than when they use a flood plain for cultivating purposes.

OUR STAND:

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Yours truly,



Randolph, Kansas

September 25, 1951

Personal

Mrs. Bliss Isley

1417 N. Vassar Avenue

Wichita 14, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Isley:

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2 - Mrs. Bliss Ledy, Personal

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There is a story in the navigation alone. St. Louis enjoys a full water rate and this gives their industries a competitive advantage over K.C. The fight by the Santa Fe RR a few years ago to secure permission from the ICC to run into St. Louis stems from this. The Missouri Pacific is allowed to quote a lower competitive rate because they run into St. Louis, hence they get a large share of the long haul freight. A carload of steel from Chicago to western Kansas shipped via Missouri Pacific carries a lower rate than if shipped over Santa Fe. Kansas City needs these downstream reservoirs to maintain a nine-foot channel the year around to secure the full water rate. Fort Peck freezes up in the winter. So you see that there are wheels within wheels in this fight. Big contractors and machinery lobbies, railroad lobbies, packer lobbies, river navigation lobbies. Some of them got their interests mixed up in July and are now beginning to reconsider their stand.

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Glenn D. Stockwell correspondence

3 - Mrs. Miss Jody, Personal

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I am a farmer living on the upper edge of the flood pool and might not be flooded. I have a long-time lease on my farm and have put into practice land use measures that have stopped erosion and floods on my ground. I am a graduate in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State College, 50 years old, married with three married children. I had a grandson born this month and I would like to see him grow up to farm the land I do. He was named Albert Lee Stockwell after my father who helped organize and received the first loan from the Federal Land Bank at Wichita. I am of New England descent and do not believe in destroying one property to provide a doubtful benefit to other property.

My wife, whose grandparents homesteaded the farm in 1887, is of German descent. Property in such families was homesteaded with the idea of providing a family home for centuries. The family farm home in Germany, established in the 18th century, still remains in a branch of the family, producing more today than it did when her father left Germany in the 1880's.

Thank you for your kind interest.

Yours truly,

enclosures

P.S. The Women's Auxiliary are arranging to provide pictures.