

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

Section 6, Pages 151 - 180

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Allen. Some subjects included are Livestock Commission; William McMillen; General Charles Martin; C. F. Menninger; Mental Hygiene; Migratory Bird Bill; Military Training, Compulsory, and Mining Examining Board.

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

J. O. HALL, PRESIDENT, HUTCHINSON

F. L. PINET, SECRETARY, TOPEKA

The Kansas State Teachers' Association

FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION ON NOVEMBER 6TH, 7TH AND 8TH, 1919, AT TOPEKA, SALINA, WICHITA, PITTSBURG
COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL AT TOPEKA, JANUARY 16TH AND 17TH, 1920

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS.

December 16, 1919

Governor Henry J. Allen

Topeka, Kansas

My dear Governor Allen:

Before proceeding to the theme which is to be the most lengthy part of this letter I wish, not only for myself personally, but for all the teachers of Kansas, to congratulate you on your wise and most effective manner of handling the situation in the interests of the people of Kansas in the recent difficulties over the coal strike. I am sure I can speak for the entire membership of The Kansas State Teachers' Association when saying that our Association, as an organization and as individuals, will do everything possible to aid you in perfecting any reasonable plan that will make impossible in the future any repetition of the recent troubles and difficulties. If we can assist you in any way, in any minute detail whatever, command us.

Since you have called the Legislature to meet in special session there results in the educational affairs of Kansas a situation about which as an officer of the State Teachers' Association I should like to ask your counsel and advice, if I may do so. As I see it we are in the midst of a real crisis in the educational affairs of Kansas. This is true not only from one but from a number of different angles. Possibly one of the most serious is that resulting from the fact that under present limitations a very great number of communities in the State can not raise sufficient funds, under the prevailing high prices, to

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COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL AT TOPEKA, JANUARY 16TH AND 17TH, 1920

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HUTCHINSON, KANSAS.

maintain their schools at a desirable standard of efficiency. There are, as your doubtless realize, many other angles to the present educational crisis but I shall not take your time now even to mention them. Suffice it to say that the thought has come to me that the special session of the Legislature might present an opportunity for asking that body to deal with some of the most urgent needs in the present crisis. I realize that the industrial situation which induced you to call the special session is in all probability uppermost not only in your mind but in the minds of nearly all, if not all, of the members of the Legislature as well.

The specific thing upon which I wish to ask your counsel and advice is whether or not, in your judgment, the educational interests of Kansas should ask for some action during the coming special session upon the most urgent educational needs, or whether, in your judgment, all proposed educational legislation should be postponed till the January 1921 meeting of the Legislature. I realize of course that you would not want to put yourself into any position which should in effect say that one kind of legislation should be enacted and another kind should not be enacted. However you undoubtedly have some feeling, and probably know something of the feeling of a number of members of the Legislature, as to whether the special session should deal with the industrial situation alone, as the last special session dealt with the amendment alone, or whether several lines of legislation should be considered. On behalf of the teachers of Kansas I

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COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL AT TOPEKA, JANUARY 16TH AND 17TH, 1920

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HUTCHINSON, KANSAS.

am asking you this question as we wish to be guided very largely by your wishes in the matter. With the industrial situation uppermost in your mind, and rightly so as we see it, we do not wish to put either you or ourselves in an embarrassing position by presenting matters which we deem of importance unless they are likely to receive real interest and careful consideration. And so we are very much interested in your feeling and attitude on this matter. I think I may say that if for any reason, such as the practical absorption of your time and attention in recent weeks by the industrial situation, you feel that you do not at this time feel your way clear to state definitely your own feeling in the matter and should like to consult with some of the leading school people of the State, I am sure any such persons you might ask to go to Topeka and talk the matter over with you at any time you might designate would be only too glad to conform to your wishes in the matter.

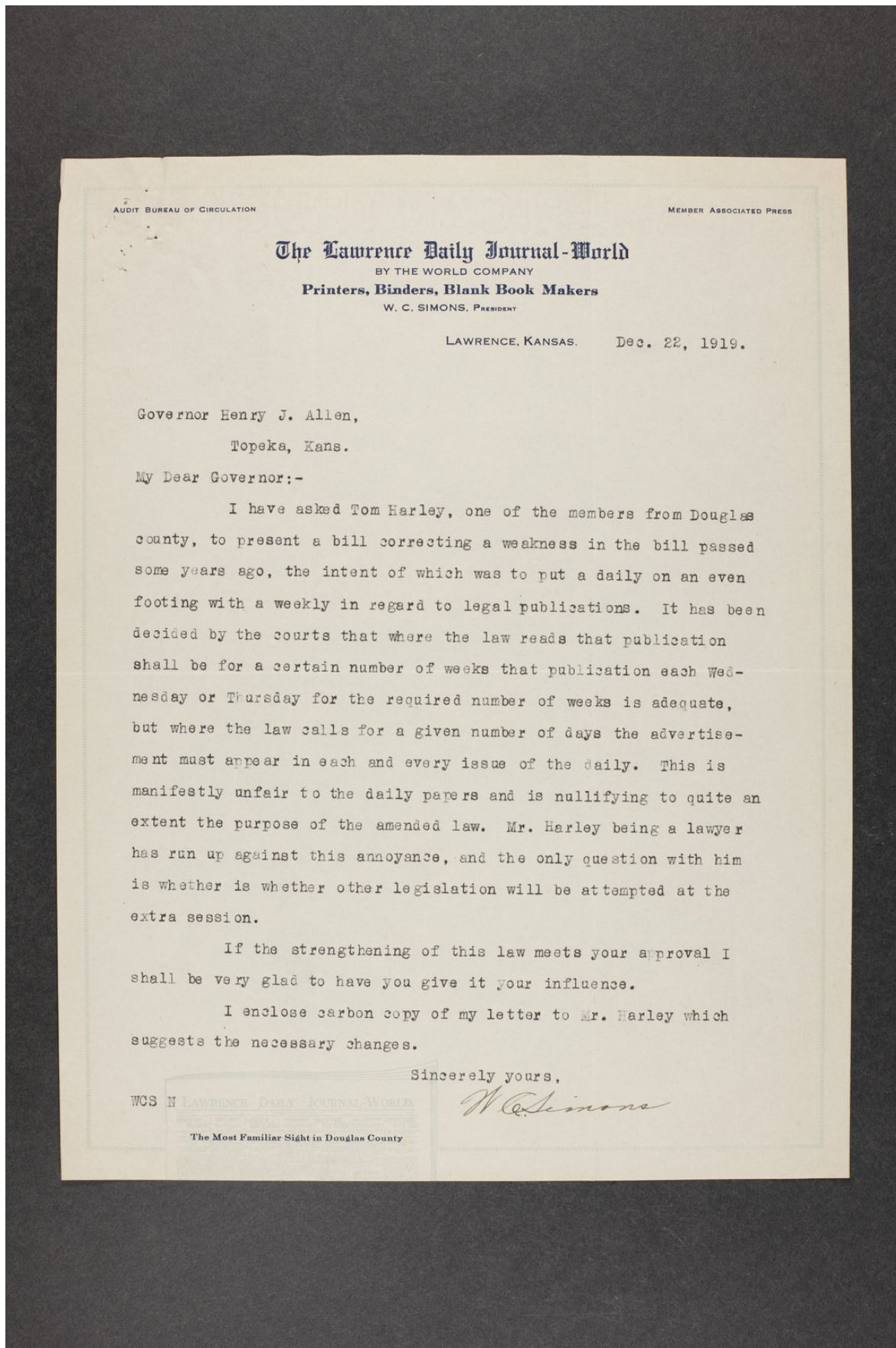
I shall indeed be most glad to hear from you at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

J. O. Hall President

The Kansas State Teachers' Association

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Dec. 12, 1919.

Mr. Thos. Barley,

Lawrence, Kans.

My Dear Tom:-

Referring to the statute that the publishers of daily newspapers of Kansas would like to have amended, I give you the following information and suggestions:-

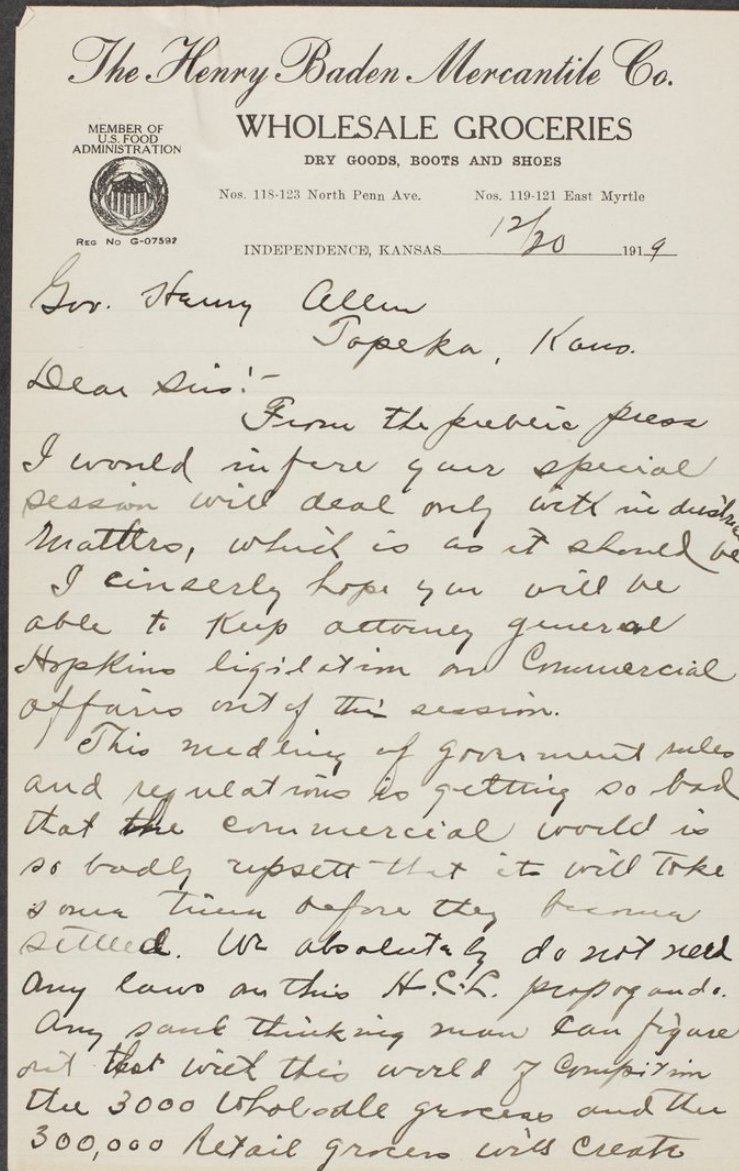
The law is found in McIntosh General Statutes of Kansas, page 1192, chapter 65, paragraph 6007.

I would have inserted between the third and fourth lines of paragraph 6007 the following:- "That all legal publications and notices of whatever kind or character that may by law be required to be published a certain number of days shall be, and they are hereby declared to be legally published when they have been published once each week in a daily newspaper for each week or fraction of a week embraced by the required number of days". This to be followed by the remainder of the paragraph as it now stands but with the following addition which is to follow the words "weekly newspaper" at the end of the first sentence headed "Provided" and preceeding "and provided further"--"Nor as preventing the publication in daily newspapers for each and every issue for ten, ~~twenty~~ thirty, or any other required number of days in cases in which the party making publication is willing to pay the legal charge for each and every insertion of the legal publication or notice".

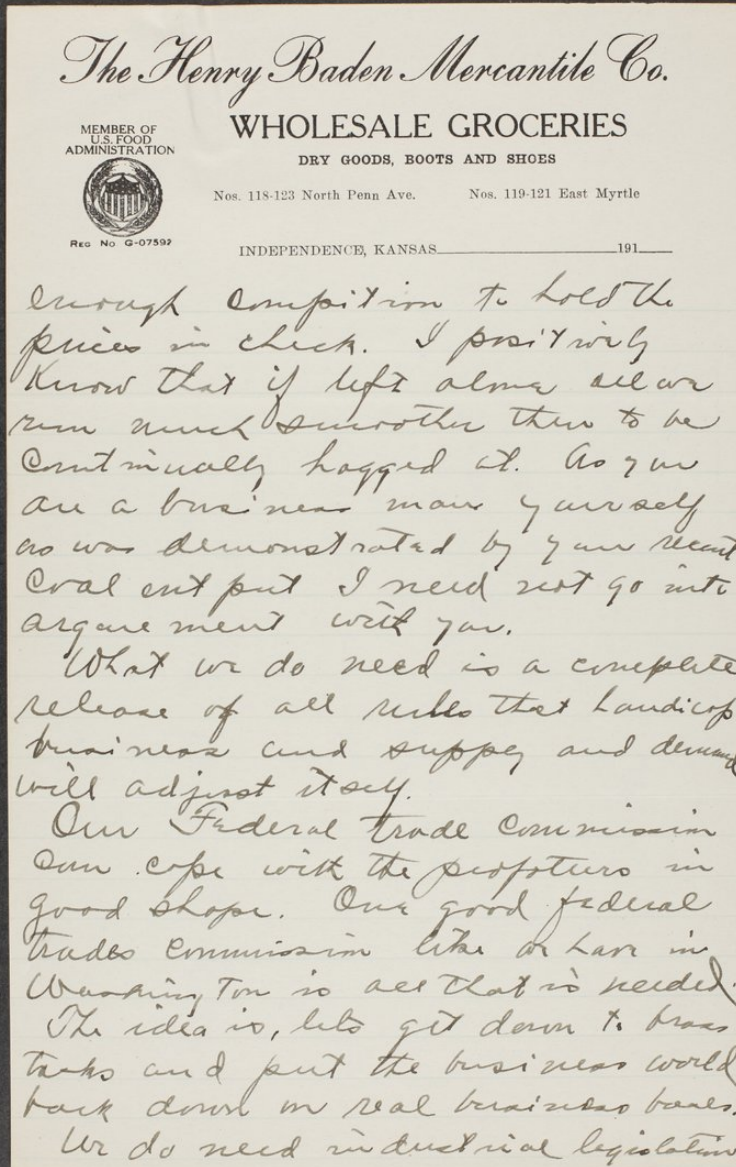
Yours sincerely,

H. J. A.

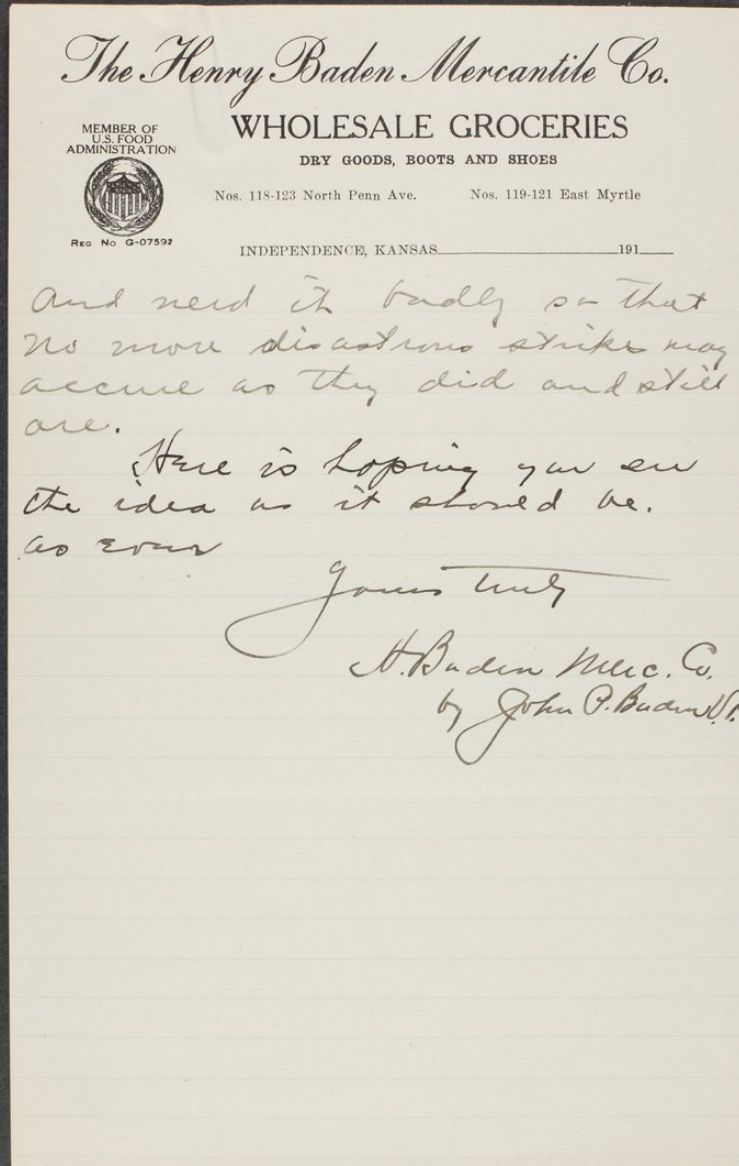
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J. R. GREATHOUSE, VICE PRESIDENT
HOPS WILLOUGHBY, CASHIER

R. W. McGRATH, PRESIDENT

HAROLD GREATHOUSE, ASST CASHIER
HAZLE FINDLEY, ASST CASHIER

THE COYVILLE STATE BANK

DEPOSITS PROTECTED BY BANKERS' GUARANTY FUND
A WILSON COUNTY DEPOSITORY

Fredonia, ~~COYVILLE~~ KANSAS Dec. 23, 1919.

Hon. H. J. Allen,

Topeka,

Dear Governor:-

I am handing you herewith letter from Omar H. Wright, Prest. of Second National Bank, Belvidere, Ills. who is helping to boom Gov. Lowden of Ills. for President.

The particular fact I wish to call to your attention is the 17 % reduction in State taxation.

It has been the regret of my life that I was not able to help the boys dig coal during the recent emergency. I fully approve your action in trying to obtain results pending the coal strike.

I do not anticipate any reduction in State taxation by the special session of the legislature.

On the contrary, I look for a genuine raid on the various treasuries of State, County and Township down to School Districts and road overseers.

The plea will be "High Cost of Living" on theory that present conditions will last always.

You probably have not forgotten that original salaries in Kansas were fixed after the civil war. Wilson County used to pay its Treasurer \$3000. per year and let him retain any interest he might receive on public funds. That was when Wilson County had less than 20,000 people. Our Co. Clerk received \$2500.00 and other officers in proportion.

Those high salaries did not bring the best men for the place. On the contrary; men who had leisure, such as our present I.W.'s often landed the best jobs, provided they had a good war record.

Office seeking became a real scandal until the Populist party placed salaries on a basis of what men were worth in other similar lines of work.

I predict that your special session will result in higher taxes and you will not be able, like Gov. Lowden, to say that you have reduced taxes 17 %.

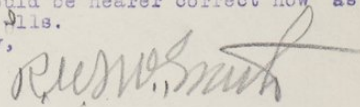
I predict that lobbies will be on hand claiming that living will go higher rather than lower and that the world will come to an end before the cost of living will get back where it was prior to 1914.

Your big job will be to keep down taxes. Not tax rates for the politicians will find ways and means for increasing values so that the rates may appear to come down.

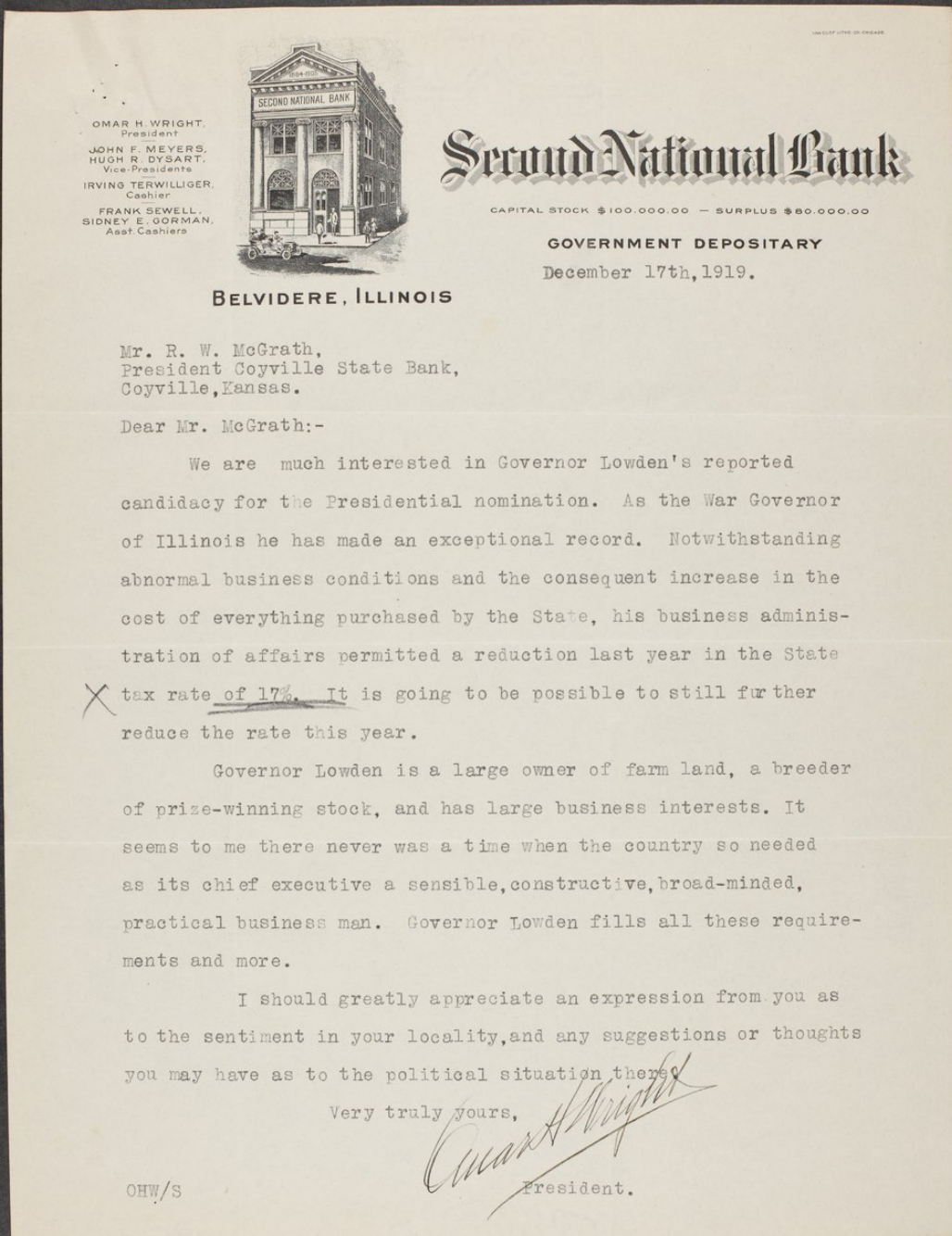
I doubt if vacant lots in Kansas can now be sold for their assessed values, owing to cost of labor and building material. Western Kansas lands are now valued for more than they are worth based on an average 5 % income for last 20 years.

Ills. lands have always been assessed at 20 % of supposed real value. Probably 10 % of real values would be nearer correct now as land values multiplying since 1914 in Ills.

Very truly,



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F. M. HARRIS
LAWYER
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
OTTAWA, KANSAS

December twenty sixth
Nineteen hundred nineteen

Henry J. Allen,
Topeka, Kansas,
Dear sir:--

I am writing to inquire as to the possibility of securing the passage at this session of the legislature of a bill which is of very great importance to this city. I read in some newspaper a few days ago that nothing would be considered except laws along the industrial lines, and perhaps some "emergency" bills. We do not know whether this statement is correct, and, if so, just how far the word "emergency" can be extended. The question we are up against is briefly as follows

As you know this city has for many years received its water supply for the Marais des Cygnes river. During most of the time the supply has been adequate but for the last few years we have been having trouble in that in certain seasons of the year the river becomes so low that there is not enough water to supply the city. Last year for several months the water was turned off in the mains during a portion of each day and there was grave fear that it would have to be turned off entirely. The situation was only relieved by a rain which came just when the end seemed to be reached. This year we are almost in the same situation. The commissioners here, as well

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LAWYER
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
OTTAWA, KANSAS

as all of our citizens, feel that something must be done to provide an adequate supply of water. The commissioners employed a firm of engineers to make a survey of this entire territory surrounding the city and report upon how the city could best relieve the situation. These engineers, whom I believe are entirely competent, and have had great experience, made a careful examination and have reported that there is no other source of supply except the river, and recommended the building of a dam a few miles west of the city for the purpose of forming a reservoir from which the supply could be obtained. The city proceeded under the authority of the laws of the state and secured permission of the Utilities Commission to the construction of the dam and the issuance of bonds to pay the expenses of the improvement. In the plans of the dam ample provision is made for the widening of the stream above and below the dam, the clearing of the banks, the construction of spill ways, so that the engineers report that the dam will not constitute in any manner an additional liability towards flooding the lands higher up. These plans were carefully checked over by the engineers of the Utilities Commission, and they confirmed this report of the city's engineers.

During the proceedings leading up to the securing of this permission from the Commission some of the farmers west of town became active in their opposition to

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F. M. HARRIS

LAWYER

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
OTTAWA, KANSAS

the dam They appeared before the Utilities Commission by their attorney and raised the objection that the dam would render their lands more liable to overflow, and this was considered carefully at that hearing, but upon the report of the engineers the commission held against them. A suit was then started in the district court here to enjoin the city from building the dam, nominally on the same grounds but with the additional reason that the city had not secured by condemnation the right to construct the dam and thus by raising the normal height of the water appropriate some of the lands of the farmers along the river. I think that they were right in this last contention and the city is now proceeding to condemn this right. Commissioners have been appointed which will meet early in January and assess any damages and these will be paid by the city and it hopes then to proceed with the work.

Feeling themselves beaten in these two efforts these same men have now secured signers to a petition asking the formation of a drainage district for a number of miles along the river west of town, and including the site of the proposed dam. They secured the requisite number of signers and the county commissioners felt required to call an election for the selection of directors of the district. They are proceeding under the drainage law of 1905, which provides, among other things, that the directors of the district have the power to absolutely control

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OTTAWA, KANSAS

the river and to order the removal of anything which impedes to any extent the normal flow of the water. It has been reported to me by men in the boundaries of the district that the men who circulated the petition told them that the purpose was to prevent the building of this dam and that they did not intend to spend any money with the improvement of the stream -- which is what the drainage law contemplates.

I am afraid that unless we can get some relief from the legislature this city may be prevented from securing this supply of water which we must have. Our idea would be to secure an amendment to this drainage act which would provide in substance that when it is, or became necessary, for any city to secure water from any stream and proceeded in the proper manner to secure that right, no drainage district should have the right to remove any dam erected by the city until the question as to whether it constituted a flood menace should be submitted to and passed upon by the Utilities Commission (or some other designated body) or that if a city desired to construct a dam which should be necessary to enable it to secure water it must first apply to this commission for permission and having secured that permission the drainage district should not have the right to order its removal -- providing, of course, it be constructed and maintained as ordered by the commission.

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LAWYER

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

OTTAWA, KANSAS

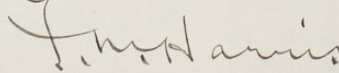
I am informed that a large number of other cities which have dams in rivers and creeks now (Ft. Scott, Winfield, Emporia, Garnett for instance) and under the law as it now exists it seems probable that the farmers along that river might have the right to force the removal of those dams and deprive the city of its water supply, even though the dam in fact constituted no additional flood menace.

If the legislature will consider a bill of this kind we will try to arrange to have one presented. I think you can readily see its great importance to this community and how it might become equally important to a lot of other towns.

I did not intend to write so long an explanation of this but it seemed that I could not explain it any other way, and we will appreciate very much your advice as to how to proceed.

You will understand that we do not want to be given the power to arbitrarily build anything in the river which might injure these people, but we also do not want them to have the arbitrary right to force us to remove a dam which competent men say will not injure them -- it is for this reason that I suggest the securing of the permission of some disinterested body.

Very truly,



Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14



State of Kansas

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TOPEKA

163

J. M. GILMAN
REPRESENTATIVE SIXTH DISTRICT
LEAVENWORTH, KAN.
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
CHAIRMAN RULES AND JOURNAL
CHAIRMAN REVISION OF CALENDAR
VICE CHAIRMAN AGRICULTURE
VICE CHAIRMAN STATE AFFAIRS
MEMBER RAILROADS

Leavenworth Mo Dec 27/19
Hon H. J. Allen
Topeka Kans.

Dear Governor, Because in times past I was associated with the teaching profession, I receive my full share of requests and statements concerning the needs of the schools, which I am always glad to receive and I am also glad to help in every way possible the cause of education.

The schools of Leavenworth (as well as all other cities in Kansas) are in immediate need of relief and I hope you will be able to include them in your message, so teachers will not be obliged to wait another year for relief. Leavenworth is not in my immediate district but I hope Judge Endres will not take exception to my writing you, under the circumstances.

Very truly
J. M. Gilman

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

Special session file

Kansas State Peace Officers Association

W. T. CLARK, PRESIDENT

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS Dec 29th 1919

Hon Henry J. Allen
Governor of Kansas;

Dear Governor; The Kansas State Peace Officers in their meeting at Newton Kansas Dec 8th, passed a resolution to try to secure a 10 year minimum sentence for any one stealing a Motor Car in the State this crime has become so frequent and the loss so great that it is positively a menace to society and entails more loss than Bank Robbers to the people of Kansas,

We feel that some more strenuous penalty attached to the commission of the crime would reduce in a large measure the commission of the offence and when one was apprehended it would at least prevent him from getting out in one year as the present statutes which fixes the punishment from one to five years,

I am aware Governor that this special session was called to take care of emergency matters, And we have no desire to load you up with additional burdens but we would greatly appreciate it if this matter could be brought up at this time a bill is being prepared by Sheriff Simmons of Wichita and Mr Morgan Co Attorney of Harvey Co and will if possible be presented at the coming special session,

Trusting you will deem this matter of enough importance to give it some attention, And wishing you a Happy and successful New Year

I am very respectfully

W. T. Clark

President Kansas State Peace Officers Association

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

N. Topeka, Kan., Dec. 31, 1919.

Mr. Clyde Reed,
Secretary to the Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Sir:

I am desirous of securing employment as stenographer during the special session of legislature, but as I am unable to have a personal interview with you before Monday forenoon, next, I am enclosing herewith a letter from Mr. Endres, which serves as a recommendation in my behalf.

Will be in Topeka Monday, January 5th, and will see you personally.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I am

Yours truly,

Anna K. Kimball.

R. F. D. #4.

Enc.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14



State of Kansas

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TOPEKA

BENJ. F. ENDRES, FLOOR LEADER
REPRESENTATIVE FIFTH DISTRICT
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
VICE CHAIRMAN JUDICIARY
MEMBER PUBLIC UTILITIES
LABOR
CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS
MINES AND MINING
EMPLOYEES

Leavenworth, Kansas.
December 29th, 1919.

Miss Anna K. Kimball,
R. R. # 4,
N. Topeka, Kansas.

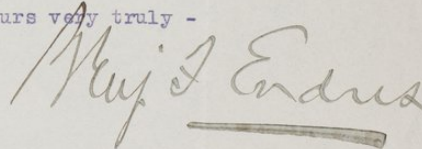
Dear Miss Kimball:--

Your letter of December 26th, informing me of your desire to be employed as a stenographer during the special session of the legislature, is received. In order to have a working force of stenographers in readiness, and to save time in their employment, the matter of selecting them has been entrusted to Mr. Clyde Reed, Private Secretary to Governor Allen and I would suggest that you take the matter up with him. You may say to Mr. Reed that you have rendered assistance at former sessions of the legislature and have given satisfaction.

What we will want are competent stenographers willing to do the work and I am pleased to say that you are not only a competent stenographer, but have at all times been courteous to the members and manifested an inclination to keep yourself employed. You are at liberty to show this communication to Mr. Reed if you desire.

Yours very truly -

BFE/GC



Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

FRANK L. TRAVIS, SUPERINTENDENT
DIVISION OF RATES AND INSPECTION
WILLIAM R. BAKER, ASSISTANT
DIVISION OF FEES AND TAXES

STATE OF KANSAS
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

WILLIAM J. BRYDEN, ACTUARY
DIVISION OF THE ACTUARY
EDWIN E. BROOKENS, CLAIM ADJUSTER
DIVISION OF CLAIMS

DIVISION OF RATES AND INSPECTION
TOPEKA

No. 20976 December 18, 1919.
FROM Superintendent of Insurance.
TO Clyde Reed, Secretary, Governor's Office.
SUBJECT: In re services Mrs. Gardner.

1. I have noted the letter of Mr. Millers addressed to you in reference to procuring the services of Mrs. Gardner who is an employee of this Department, during the special session of the Legislature, and have to advise you that under no circumstances can we get along without Mrs. Gardner's services in this Department as we are already short of clerks at the present time. Much as I would like to accomodate him, it is impossible for me to do this without disrupting the work of the Division of Claims in which she is the stenographer.


FRANK L. TRAVIS,

Superintendent of Insurance.

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Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14



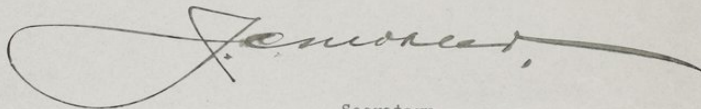
December 17, 1919.

Dear Mr. Reed:

Referring to Clarence Miller's request that we loan Mrs. Mohney for service during the Special Session of the Legislature:

We couldn't possibly do this until after our Board's annual meeting January 14-16, and possibly the work here may be such that it would not be possible to let her go after that even. It would be much better if arrangements could be made to get along without her at the session, but you may be sure we will be glad to do anything we may to assist if developments make that possible.

Sincerely,



Secretary.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

Honorary Appointment by the Governor.



To all to Whom these Presents shall Come, Greeting:

Know Ye. That I, W. R. STUBBS, Governor of the State of Kansas, reposing
special trust in the integrity, ability and patriotism of

of _____ County of _____

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

Clyde.
Miss Still is available, Mrs. Gardiner, who
is Curry's sister, is now in the Insurance department.

Crawford

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CLARENCE W. MILLER, CHIEF CLERK
SESSIONS OF 1917 AND 1918
TOPEKA, KANSAS 12/16/18

in Kansas City
Blyde Reed Sunday,
Governor's Office,
Topeka, Kansas,

Dear Blyde:-

I was very glad indeed to hear from you and to have your assistance in shaping things for the Special Session in anticipation of a short, profitable, effective session. Since you have let the ball down I respectfully suggest the following in furtherance of the preliminary and trust that you will not feel that I am loading you up too heavily.

The House ought to have not less than 12 or 15 good steno, and those committees to which bills will go also should have a steno. There will be need of a number of clerks, the old experienced ones are preferable, Blyde and I think we can secure some of them through correspondence ^{and} if you think it advisable, I will write.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

Ch #2.

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CLARENCE W. MILLER, CHIEF CLERK
SESSIONS OF 1917 AND 1919
TOPEKA, KANSAS

some of them x

The Journal Club, Chas. E. Currey and Howard Seale, are both Topeka boys and can be secured, I believe x Currey's sister, works for John Crawford on Commission, and I wish you would get in touch with her, and ascertain if Currey can not be depended upon, and he can see Seale for us. Miss Hill up in Mr. Crawford's office has been on the Journal Club for three regular sessions and can not be pulled, we should have her by all means. Then Mrs. Edith Mohr, with Mr. Mohr's office has served time on the State Steno, and would be invaluable, as you know of their two Steno. Probably we can borrow them two for the time. If we have the Journal Club face back the most important points are filled, and I would greatly appreciate the matter if you would look into this, Clyde and let me know, or if you are too busy, I can write them x I note the cooperation of the

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

CH 7

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CLARENCE W. MILLER, CHIEF CLERK
SESSIONS OF 1917 AND 1919
TOPEKA, KANSAS

Senate & House Employment Committee
and for that reason, I am writing you
more in detail. If we are fortunate
to gather a number of the more especially
technical positions and fill them with
efficient help, a big step will be
taken towards smoothness when the
machinery starts.

Do you think it advisable for
me to get in touch with the old ex-
perienced help at once and ascertain just
how far we may expect their service?


Kindly let me hear from you
Clyde, as I want to do everything
possible to start off at 2 P.M. Jan 5th
and shoot through the Governor's plan
trusting to his judgment that our enactment
the program as outlined, will be amply
strong to take care of every and every
emergency & plenty of teeth won't hurt.

Sincerely
Clarence W. Miller

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words), this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words), this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT 505 KANSAS AVENUE, NEW ENGLAND BUILDING, TOPEKA, KAN.

B15 10 1919 DEC 13 AM 11 30

MEADE KANS 1015 A 13

CLYDE M REED

SEC TO GOV TOPEKA KANS

WILL APPRECIATE IT IF YOU CAN SECURE TEN GOOD STENOGRAPHERS

W S GIBBONS.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

December 12, 1919.

Telegram

Hon. W. S. Gibbon,
Meade, Kansas.

~~My dear Mr. Gibbon:-~~

Several members, including Senator Pomeroy
~~of the~~ Senate Employment Committee, desire ~~that~~ we
secure skilled stenographers ~~before the~~ extraordinary session
convenes. Wire if you desire this done and ~~the~~ number of
stenographers ~~wanted~~. We will be glad to help you get
your skilled clerical force together so that delay may
be avoided after ~~the~~ session convenes.

~~Very truly yours,~~

Clyde M. Reed

Secretary to the Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

December 13, 1919.

Mr. Emmett D. George,
Council Grove, Kansas.

Mr. Clarence W. Miller,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

My dear Friends:--

I anticipate seeing your familiar faces around these parts in the near future. My purpose in writing you is to offer my services in getting together any material and employees you will need for the coming session. Members of both houses are suggesting that everything be in readiness so that the session can start work at once. One of the needs mentioned is for stenographic help, which is perhaps the most difficult to get together. Senator Pomeroy says that the Senate ought to have 4 Or 5 competent stenographers and probably the House will need a larger number. I wish you would let me know what I can do to aid you in every way possible. Everybody is hoping that we can have a short, quick, snappy session that will do some good work and not stay long enough to tire themselves and the people of the state.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 14

December 13, 1914.

Hon. B. F. Hagler,
Wichita, Kansas.

My dear Ben:--

I have yours of the 19th and am starting out to get some stenographers if we can. I saw Senator Pomeroy yesterday and he thought it a good plan for the Senate, and I telegraphed Bill Gibbons asking his desires. I have seen McDougall and ask him to get busy as you suggest.

Quite a number of the fellows are drifting in and I am starting out to talk a ten day session, limiting the introduction of bills to the first two or three days, and getting the agreement to adjourn within ten days from the time of meeting. I believe all necessary work of the session can be done in this time. There will be no big appropriation bills nor constitutional questions, nothing but the industrial court which ought to require a great deal of discussion. The committees and machinery of both houses are already to function and there is no reason why the Legislature cannot do more work in ten days than it does in 3 or 4 weeks of an ordinary session, so that everybody can go home with a good taste in their mouth with some credit to themselves, individually and collectively. If the session drags into 5 or 6 weeks so that the people get tired of it, every prominent man in the Legislature will be weakened instead of strengthened.

We will be glad to work with you in every way possible.

Very truly yours,