

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

Section 3, Pages 61 - 90

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Arn. The subject of this box is floods. Starting on July 13, 1951, one of the most costly floods in Kansas' history swept down the Kansas River valley into the Missouri River basin. The Kansas River valley had flooded before but not with this magnitude and damage. During the period of July 9-13, some areas in the Kansas River basin received 18.5 inches of rain. The eastern half of the basin averaged 8 inches.

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1951-1955 : Arn)

Date: July 1951-September 1951

Callnumber: Governor Edward Arn correspondence, Box 56

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HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

Hon. Edward Arn - Page 2.

July 17, 1951.

Simpson, Glasco, Delphos, Minneapolis, Bennington, Niles, Solomon and Abilene. Our executive committee will have a meeting here Thursday night, and it is our plan to have an engineer from the Reclamation Bureau at Indianola, Nebraska, present. Anyone representing the State who wishes to be here, or if you wish to have a representative here, we will be more than glad to have them present and to bring suggestions and ideas for our success.

Thanking you for any interest you may show in this matter, and with best personal regards, I remain

Yours very truly,

L. A. McNalley
L. A. McNalley.

LAMc:ead

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

flood control

July 25, 1951

Mr. Everett E. Erhart
Stafford, Kansas

Dear Everett:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, regarding the matter of flood control for the State of Kansas. Due to the same flood conditions which prompted your letter, it was delayed in reaching this office.

You have done a splendid job of summing up the situation from every angle and your letter means much to me. Certainly all of us need wisdom and guidance in the momentous decisions which must be made in the near future.

Our first great problem of course is the relief and rehabilitation of the thousands of citizens who suffered direct loss in the flood, and the ways and means to solve it. Along with this problem is the restoration of highways, bridges, water supply, sewer systems and similar needs of the public welfare.

Interrelated with all of this immediate program is the determination of what can be done to prevent another such terrible catastrophe. This is going to take the combined thinking and sincere effort of all of us to attain the best possible course among the highly diverse and complex interests and opinions over the state.

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

Mr. Everett E. Erhart
Stafford, Kansas

July 25, 1951
Page two

I thank you for your suggestion of an Advisory Board,
and you may be assured that this plan, and many others will
be given my fullest consideration.

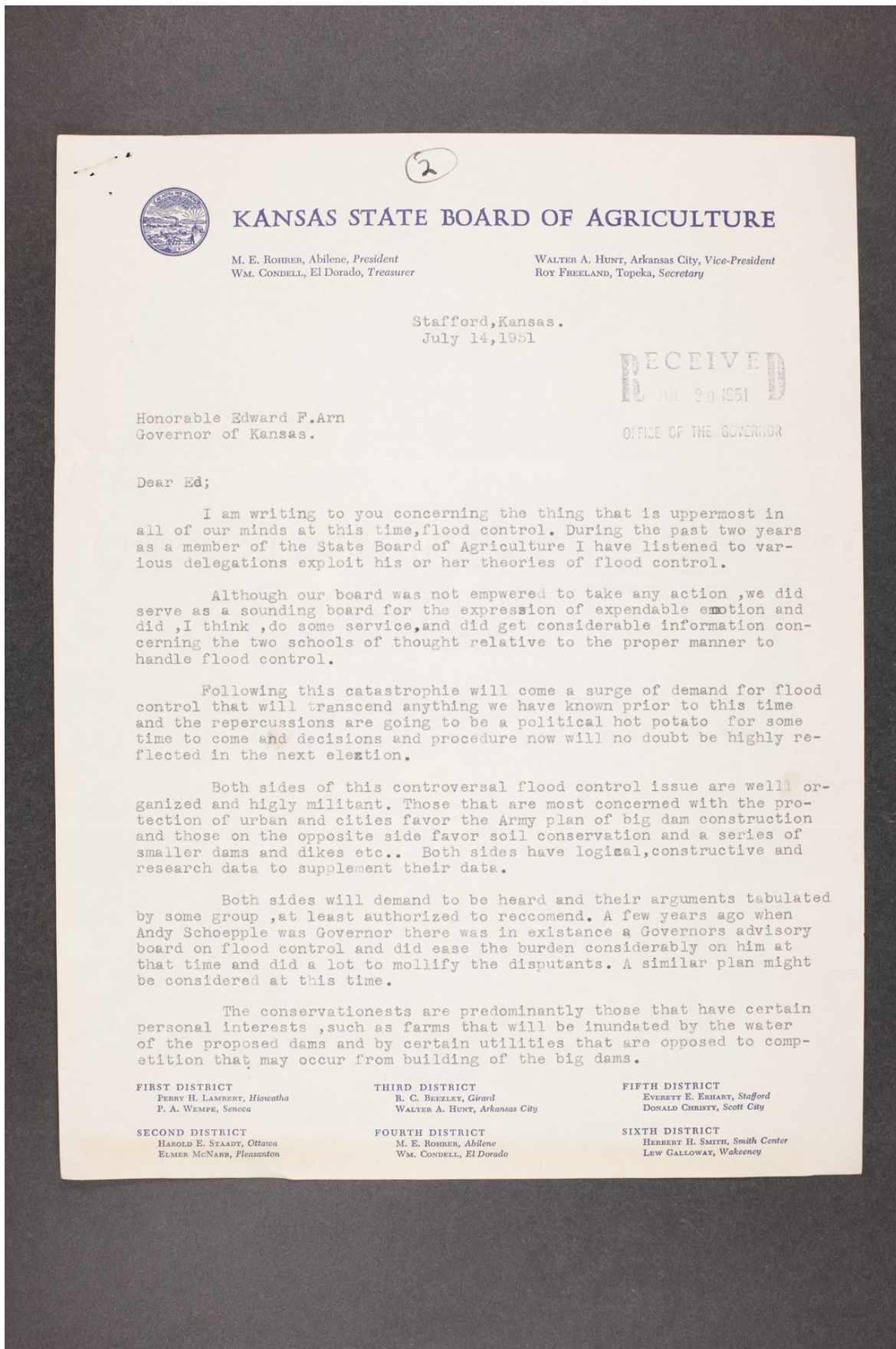
Appreciating your interest in this matter of such vital
concern to all of us in Kansas, I remain,

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files



Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

E.F.A. pg.2

This group may seem in the minority but they are very vociferous and have gathered into the fold a great many sympathetic people who have become sold on their arguments. They have a really substantial following.

I believe that a great deal of this opposition could be overcome by a concerted effort to have appraisal of that land made higher than is normally done, with consideration being given to hardship, inconvenience and sentimental values. This is of course almost impossible for Army engineers to absorb and yet it is a human frailty that we would all probably have if we were in similar circumstance, as we would have our land taken and would be dispossessed with land going at market value and land below the dam doubling or trebling in value. Yet the increased cost of land acquired for purposes of storage of water even under inflated values would be quite nominal as compared with the overall cost of the dams.

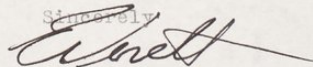
If a plan such as this could be improvised it would do much to alleviate the opposition that is sure to develop as plans for flood control is developed and would greatly lessen the tension generated by the opposition force.

There can be little doubt that flood control now will be a major issue with the citizens of Kansas and it would seem to me the sooner a comprehensive plan of study and procedure is inaugurated the more effective it will be and if the gesture of sympathetic listening is made available to all interested parties the narrower will be the breach that may develop.

It was my privilege, because of the happenstance that I resided in an area not directly adjacent to flood endangered land, to consider this problem from an unbiased view point and I must say that one could not help but recognize the virtues of both sides of the problem. And I am sure that an effort to aid both parties will pay off big dividends in accomplishment and conciliation as well.

Please forgive me for even intimating that I can offer any suggestions that you do not already have because I know you have plenty of capable advisors, but just thought that I might let you know how one layman reacted to information that is sure to make tomorrow's headlines.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Everett E. Erhart

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

flood control

July 25, 1951

Mr. Leo C. Eckart, Pres.
Chamber of Commerce
Post Office Box 473
Humboldt, Kansas

Dear Mr. Eckart:

This will acknowledge receipt of a copy of the resolution adopted by the Chamber of Commerce by the city of Humboldt, Kansas, regarding the matter of providing proper flood control on the Neosho River and its tributaries.

You may be assured that this phase of the problem of providing flood control for the entire state will receive the deepest consideration.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter which is of such vital concern to the welfare of our state, I remain,

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

From: *Leo C. Eckart*
Box 473
Humboldt (4)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, during the period of July 11, 1951, to this date, an unprecedented flood struck the city of Humboldt, Kansas, and the Neosho River valley and the valleys of its tributaries causing hardship and suffering in said city and damaging the public service facilities and property of said city by weakening the walls of the pump pit, moving the clear water well and breaking the connections between said clear water well and the pumping facilities, the filters and pumps of the water system of said city, and overflowing the sewer purification facilities of said city and destroying crops, livestock, machinery, and buildings in the Neosho River valley and the valleys of its tributaries to the extent of millions of dollars.

WHEREAS, the Neosho River valley and the valleys of its tributaries has been struck by numerous floods in recent years which have caused great and irreparable damage and such floods are becoming more numerous from year to year.

NOW THEREFORE, by it resolved by the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Humboldt, Kansas, in meeting duly assembled that the United States Congress be memorialized of these facts and requested to pass legislation providing for the erection of proper dams upon the Neosho River and its tributaries to properly control the flood waters so that the public health and welfare of the residents in and along the Neosho River valley and the valleys of its tributaries may be properly safe-guarded and protected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Hon. Andrew F. Schoepfel, Washington D. C., the Hon. Frank Carlson, Washington D. C., United States Senators from Kansas; the Hon. Edward F. Arn, Governor of the state of Kansas, Topeka, Kansas; the Hon. Errett P. Scrivner, Representative from the Second Kansas Congressional District, Washington D. C.; the Hon. George Aiken, Member of the Agricultural Committee of the United States Senate, Washington D. C.; the Hon. Clifford R. Hope, Member of the Agricultural Committee in the House of Representatives, Washington D. C.

Passed this 20th day of July, 1951.

Leo C. Eckart

President of Chamber of Commerce

Attest:

Howard E. Morrison

Secretary

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF KANSAS }
COUNTY OF ALLEN } ss:

I, *HOWARD E. MORRISON*, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Humboldt, Kansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed by the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Humboldt, Kansas on the 20th day of July, 1951.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of July, 1951.

Howard E. Morrison

Secretary of Chamber of Commerce
Humboldt, Kansas

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

RUTH P. TAICHERT
SANTA FE COUNTY
HOME ADDRESS
403 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



COMMITTEES:
MEMBER:
EDUCATION
ENROLLING & ENGROSSING
OIL & GAS
IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE
RULES & ORDER OF BUSINESS

State of New Mexico

House of Representatives

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

Santa Fe

July 25, 1951

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1951

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Edward F. Arn
Executive Offices, State Capitol
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor Arn:

Your State and mine having suffered unprecedented losses this year...yours from flood; mine from the worst drouth in 100 years - it seems high time that nation-wide, co-ordinated efforts be begun to utilize the forces of nature and to quit waiting for further devastations to strike!

The enclosed copy of a letter which I wrote to Mr. Charles Cannon, Chairman of Appropriations, United States Congress, indicates some of the courses of action which seem to me to be of paramount importance. I submit it to you for your consideration.

The seeming general inability to consider each State as an integral part of the Nation; the apparent inability of too many officials at Federal level to realize that the survival of the Nation depends upon the productivity and prosperity of the individual States, has produced the results of UNcoordinated planning from which we now suffer.

Many people of these United States have long been aware that they could make themselves a potent factor in their government IF they could only become organized - as have specialized lobbyists. Certainly, there is now more widespread awareness of the NECESSITY for organized planning and action.

A great deal of information IS available, even now, as to the potential improvements, reclamation and conservation of our waters. It just has not been widely known about. And, there has been no sufficiently large ORGANIZED group of states working in cooperation with each other to bring the necessary pressures to bear on governmental officials at Federal level to force cooperation with those agencies which have been trying to obtain funds for such projects.

Certainly, many of the Representatives of our respective States, in both Houses of Congress, have been trying - as members of relatively small groups of legislators, and as individuals, to bring about improvements for their States. BUT, the problems confronting us all are of

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State of New Mexico

House of Representatives

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

Santa Fe



Page 2.

such magnitude; and, a unified, integrated, co-ordinated PUSH for governmental actions which would benefit EACH state-as-a-whole is an approach so long overlooked - and so long over-due, it will require MUCH effort, on the part of MANY people, to launch such a program for governmental improvement.....But the job CAN be done!!

An example of such attempts in coordinated study and planning: For the first time in history, 27 Agencies, Federal and State, have been studying water-reclamation-conservancy problems of the Arkansas-White-Red Rivers area. The States participating are New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana. The Reclamation Service; Soil Conservation Engineers; Army Engineers; The Department of Agriculture, among others, are participating from Federal level.

Similar studies must be made of the water resources in ALL the states which suffer periodic flood and drouth losses.

Expensive? CERTAINLY!! But NOT so expensive as the losses sustained by the people of our respective states when floods and drouths occur!

Private industry pipes oil and gas across the nation. WHY, in the midst of so much NON-constructive spending, cannot the PEOPLE of these United States demand some CONSTRUCTIVE spending which will immeasurably increase the productivity of the Nation-as-a-WHOLE?

With water which flood-torn States canNOT use, our starving Western States could blossom into a hither-to undreamed of productivity. And surely, the very survival of this Nation depends upon the solvency and development of EACH State.

The States which suffer the worst damages from drouth and flood have relatively little representation in Congress. And, in addition to being unable to solve these problems on a State level - principally through lack of funds, - these States, if now working in very careful coordination, canNOT exert sufficient pressure to bring about the action which is so drastically needed to prevent further destruction of the precious natural resources of the Country.

Would you please give these matters your careful consideration and see what ideas you can discover for the furtherance of such a combined effort? It has seemed to me that a conference, called by

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SANTA FE COUNTY
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SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



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State of New Mexico
House of Representatives
TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE
Santa Fe
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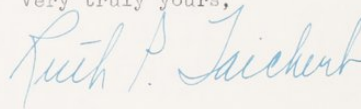
Page 3.

the Governors of the affected States, might be a proper beginning.

It is my hope, as one who has sworn to up-hold the interests of the people of New Mexico and the Nation, that you - and each of us - will find ways of organizing-for-PROGRESS and SURVIVAL, NOW. Toward that end, I am writing this letter to you - and to the governors of other afflicted States, with the hope of stimulating coordinated action which may bring about, through our combined efforts, effective measures to cope with the problems of drouth and flood which so many of us share.

Thanking you for giving this your serious consideration, I am

Very truly yours,



rpt/jw

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

RUTH P. TAICHERT
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COMMITTEES:
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RULES & ORDER OF BUSINESS

State of New Mexico

House of Representatives

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

Santa Fe

C - O - P - Y

July 20, 1951

Hon. Clarence Cannon, Chairman
Appropriations Committee
United States Congress
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cannon:

As a member of the New Mexico State Legislature, I have studied closely the Reclamation and Conservation problems of my state...and the general problems of the entire nation. For, certainly, one canNOT have sufficient understanding of problems at any level, if he has no knowledge of how the PARTS fit into the whole structure.

Conservation, regulation and distribution of water constitutes a primary problem in national survival. I know, as you must also know, that people cannot survive without food. And, without productive land adequately watered, food cannot be produced.

It was with heavy heart that I sat in the Gallery of Congress on June 12 and 13 and saw your subcommittee on appropriations kill the amendments of each and every state requesting funds with which to combat floods and drought. It appeared to me then, as it does now, that a committee of five men were more interested in 'politics' than the welfare of the individual states: each a part of the nation's structure.

A bill has just been rushed through appropriating \$25,000,000.00 for emergency flood relief in Kansas and Missouri...a mere 'drop in the bucket' when compared to losses suffered. Yet the tragedies of Kansas City (and elsewhere) could have been PREVENTED by wise expenditure of funds, on such things as adequate dams, reservoirs, hydro-electric power plants, canals leading to the water starved West, etc.

New Mexico is now suffering the worst drought in 100 years! And the losses are staggering. But, when heavy rains do fall in New Mexico, flash floods of unbelievable proportions occur. Yet your subcommittee denied the plea of New Mexico's Representative in Congress for the sum of \$900,000.00 for continuation of the work already begun on the Middle Rio Grande Reclamation and Conservancy Project!!

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

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TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

Santa Fe



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More than 57,000 acres of valuable timber land has burned in New Mexico forests this summer. Cattle and sheep losses are mounting in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Colorado and Utah - to mention a few.

Navajo Indians are limited to ONE pail of water daily - for all household and washing purposes. Springs and streams are drying up; underground water tables are going lower and lower. Santa Fe, oldest Capital City in the United States, and Albuquerque, New Mexico's largest city, are on strict water rations.

These conditions can only be remedied by the United States Congress making funds available for flood prevention and water conservation!

It is high time that the Congress of the United States got down to the business of conserving ALL of America's natural resources and thus stimulate productivity. In short, help the individual states to prevent floods: help them to prevent devastating drought damages through providing chains of ADEQUATE water storage facilities, ETC.

AND, toward this end, also PASS a Federal Law which controls rain-making attempts!

I urge you, and each of your colleagues, to cooperate with New Mexico's representatives in both Houses of Congress - and those of other sorely afflicted states - in bringing about, under an Emergency Act, an adequate program for meeting this State's needs for survival, as well as the survival needs of other states.

As the PARTS of these United States grow, develop and prosper, so does the total nation!

Very truly yours,

Ruth P. Taichert

rpt/jw

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

File

The Kansas Soil Conservation and Flood Control Association

RAYMOND WEGNER, President, Ozawkie

P. H. SAUBLE, Vice President, Cedar Point
WILLIAM AVERY, Treasurer, Wakefield

MRS. EDITH MONFORT, Secretary, Reading
MRS. J. C. McKINNEY, Publicity Chairman, Hartford

Reading, Kansas,
July 26, 1951.

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1951

Governor Edwin F. Arn,
Office of the Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor:

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

One day Governor Val Peterson of Nebraska, acting as chairman of the Missouri River State's Committee, stood before a huge tense crowd at the big flood control meeting in Kansas City and wept tears over the poor flood victims of the disastrous Kansas and Missouri floods.

The next day he sold those same flood victims down the river for hydro-electric power!

It has just this moment been announced over the radio that Governor Peterson has petitioned the Senate Appropriations Committee in Washington in the name of yesterday's meeting urging an immediate start on the comprehensive program for the 105 dams proposed by the Army Engineers in order to lessen the flood threats in the future.

But the governor urges that not too much emphasis be placed on flood control in order that there might be hydro-electric power!

Now anyone knows that storage that is kept full for power will not be empty to hold flood waters when they come.

This is precisely the turn events took in the Tennessee Valley where reservoirs authorized by Congress for flood control were found by the Hoover Commission to be operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority for power instead with the result that the Tennessee valley today suffers greater flooding than it did in the days before the big dams.

It should now be clear to all persons that Pick-Sloan like Missouri River Valley Authority is a skid into socialism by way of public power.

This writer attended the Kansas City meeting and heard the people pleading for flood control not electric power. She understands now why the governor avoided answering her question as to why the water detention program for flood control of the Department of Agriculture was excluded from the agenda. It does not store water for power. It merely controls floods!

The only way the people can be certain that a flood control program will not be converted in the future to a public power program is to construct the kind that cannot be so converted.

Sincerely yours,

Edith Monfort

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

July 26, 1951

Honorable H. W. Hickert
Representative, 107th District
Bird City, Kansas

Dear Hank:

Thanks very much for your letter of July 22.

As you say, just how the state will render aid and assistance to the sufferers of the disastrous floods is quite a question. While a number of people have expressed the thought that something should be done, to date, there have been no concrete proposals as to just what and how.

You may be assured that when the need arises, I will certainly call upon you for your assistance and cooperation.

Thanks again for your offer to help.

Cordially,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

H. W. HICKERT
REPRESENTATIVE 107TH DISTRICT
CHEYENNE COUNTY
BIRD CITY, KANSAS



STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER CITIES OF SECOND CLASS
LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT
LIVESTOCK
STATE PARKS AND
MEMORIALS

July 22nd 1951

Hon Edw A Arn, Governor
Topeka / Kans
Dear Governor- Have been discussing
flood relief with local constituents
and the opinion seems to be that
perhaps the State should assist
in some manner,
How best to accomplish the
matter is quite a question.
However wish to assure you
that I will be glad to cooperate
in anything you may decide
upon

Res Your
Blank

RECEIVED
JUL 25 1951
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

flood control

July 26, 1951

Honorable Wayne E. Lambert
City Manager of Arkansas City
Arkansas City, Kansas

Dear Friend Lambert:

Thank you for your letter of July 23, enclosing a copy of your letter mailed to Senators Carlson and Schoepel, and Congressman Myron George, regarding the matter of flood control for your area.

You may be assured that every possibility will be explored to obtain a workable solution to the problem of preventing the recurrence of such disaster as recently struck our state.

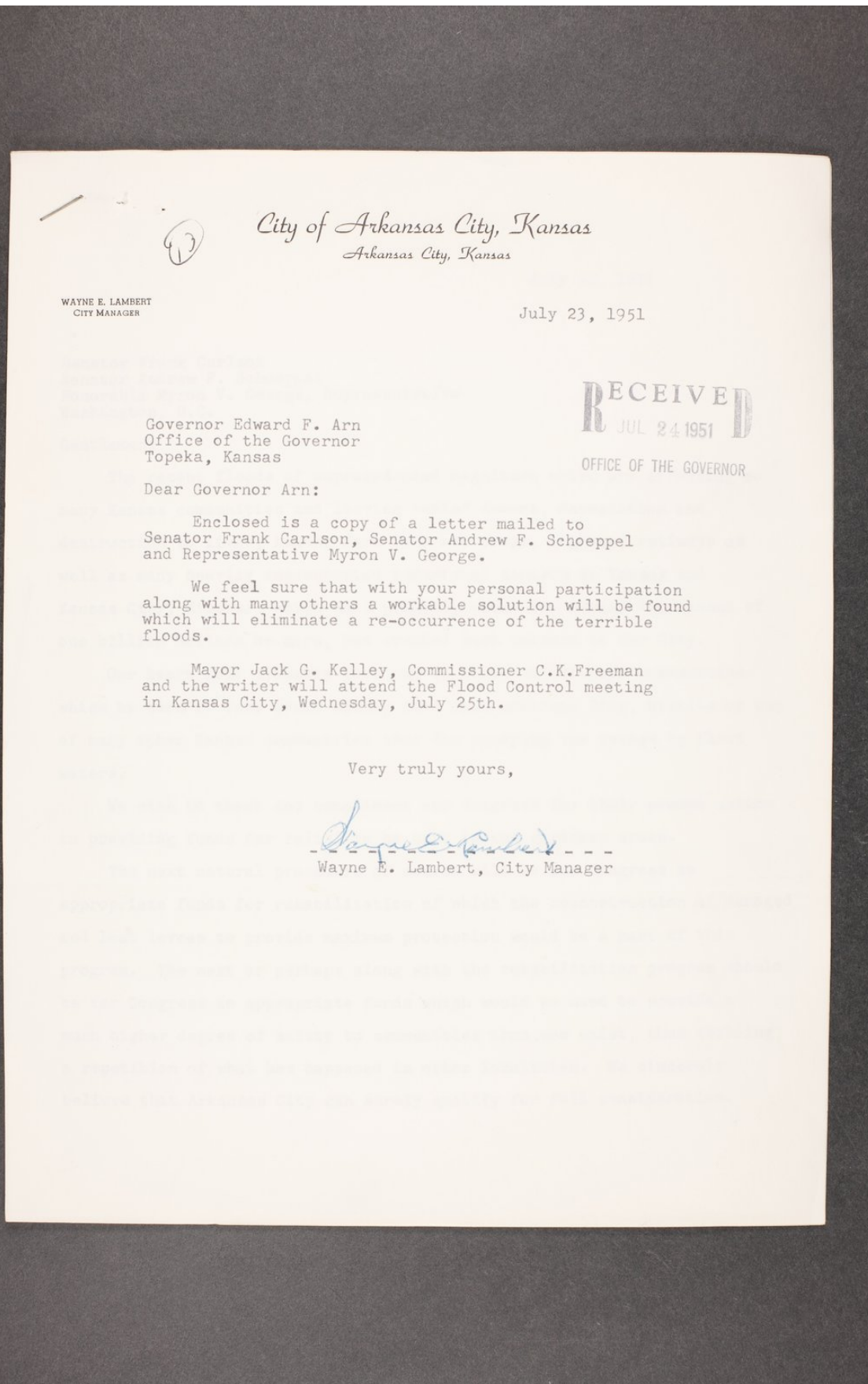
Thanking you for your interest in this matter which vitally concerns our state, I remain,

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files



City of Arkansas City, Kansas
Arkansas City, Kansas

WAYNE E. LAMBERT
CITY MANAGER

July 23, 1951

Governor Edward F. Arn
Office of the Governor
Topeka, Kansas

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1951
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

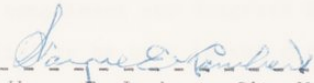
Dear Governor Arn:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter mailed to
Senator Frank Carlson, Senator Andrew F. Schoeppel
and Representative Myron V. George.

We feel sure that with your personal participation
along with many others a workable solution will be found
which will eliminate a re-occurrence of the terrible
floods.

Mayor Jack G. Kelley, Commissioner C.K. Freeman
and the writer will attend the Flood Control meeting
in Kansas City, Wednesday, July 25th.

Very truly yours,


Wayne E. Lambert, City Manager

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

City of Arkansas City, Kansas
Arkansas City, Kansas

July 18, 1951

WAYNE E. LAMBERT
CITY MANAGER

Senator Frank Carlson
Senator Andrew F. Schoeppel
Honorable Myron V. George, Representative
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

The recent floods of unprecedented magnitude which are affecting so many Kansas communities and leaving behind damage, devastation and destruction to lives, homes, farm land and crops, highway, railways as well as many heavily concentrated industrial centers in Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri which will probably reach the staggering amount of one billion dollars or more, has created much concern in our City.

Our heart felt sympathy goes out to those unfortunate communities which by turn of fate could easily have been arkansas City, Wichita or one of many other Kansas communities thus far escaping the ravage by flood waters.

We wish to thank and compliment our Congress for their prompt action in providing funds for relief to be used in the stricken areas.

The next natural procedure of course will be for Congress to appropriate funds for rehabilitation of which the reconstruction of damaged and lost levees to provide maximum protection would be a part of this program. The next or perhaps along with the rehabilitation program should be for Congress to appropriate funds which would be used to provide a much higher degree of safety to communities than now exist, thus avoiding a repetition of what has happened in other localities. We sincerely believe that Arkansas City can surely qualify for full consideration.

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

City of Arkansas City, Kansas
Arkansas City, Kansas

Page 2

WAYNE E. LAMBERT
CITY MANAGER

Geographically we are very badly situated from the standpoint of flooding because of the Arkansas River flowing along the west and south side of the City while the Walnut River flows along the east side merging a short distance to the southeast of the City. The Walnut River over topped its levee in 1944, flooding a major portion of our industry as well as some residential areas. The levee along the Arkansas River was barely saved by many hours of sand bagging and other work. Had a break in this levee occurred, the City's water facilities would have been flooded as well as the remaining industrial area along with a large section of residential property.

This year July 1st the Walnut River reached a flood stage of 28.85 which was only one and one-half feet below the crest of the levee. Over topping did not occur due to the low stage of the Arkansas River which is a most unusual condition as the two rivers generally crest at a comparable stage in intensity.

It is estimated that a levee failure could easily result in damages up to \$20,000,000.00. We have tentatively set an amount of \$250,000.00 as being the funds required to meet our needs, however, preliminary plans and estimated cost will be submitted in the near future along with a report revealing suggestions for improvements to Arkansas City levees prepared by the Corps of Engineers U. S. Army, Office of District Engineers, Tulsa District, Tulsa, Oklahoma, upon which the preliminary plans and estimated cost will be based.

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

City of Arkansas City, Kansas
Arkansas City, Kansas

WAYNE E. LAMBERT
CITY MANAGER

Page 3

Will be glad to furnish any additional information desired in support of your decision to appropriate sufficient funds for Arkansas City.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Jack G. Kelley

Mayor Jack Kelley

C. K. Freeman

Commissioner C.K.Freeman

E. S. Berry

Commissioner E.S. Berry

George Templar

State Senator George Templar

Nell Renn

State Representative Nell Renn

O. A. Shields

President-Chamber of Commerce
O. A. Shields

Wayne E. Lambert

City Manager Wayne E. Lambert

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

Flood Control

July 26, 1951

Mrs. Ruby M. Johnson
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Your most interesting and thoughtful letter arrived in my office while I was attending the flood control meeting in Kansas City. Your letter means much to me, and I want you to know how much I appreciate the spirit in which it was written.

As you probably are aware, the views which you hold regarding the matter of flood control were ably presented to the meeting in Kansas City, and I am certain that they, and all the other complex issues involved in the matter of providing flood protection for our state will receive the deepest consideration before a determination is made as to how to provide the best all-around solution to this problem. As you say, it will only be the guidance of the All Mighty that such can be solved.

Appreciating your interest in this problem which so vitally concerns the welfare of our state, I remain,

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk



Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

(18)

Randolph, Kansas
July 21, 1951.

Governor E. N. Arn
Topeka, Kansas

RECEIVED
JUL 25 1951

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Governor Arn:

I am thankful that we live in a country where one may appeal to those in authority for an understanding and listening ear. Because of this privilege I write to you in behalf of those of us who will be displaced persons. Randolph is just a few miles above the site of the Tuttle Creek dam.

I know that General Pick is in authority and that he insists that Tuttle Creek dam would have prevented the terrible disaster in our major cities, but why was he not truthful in his radio addresses? Why did he say that Manhattan would have been bone dry if the dam had been in unless he wanted to falsely impress those who did not know that (1) locally heavy rains amounting to about 9 inches on top of Manhattan's already water soaked soil would not leave the city bone dry. (2) The Kaw, Republican were high and the water began entering Manhattan from the South. A merchant of Manhattan who had 9 feet of water in his store told how the flood waters went toward the North. If the Blue had caused the flood the waters would have been flowing southward. (3) The Blue was not high at the beginning of Manhattan's flood and this Wednesday (July 18) I heard a river stage report from Manhattan saying that the Kaw stood at five feet above flood stage. The Blue had been within

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

its banks since Sunday and then on Wednesday was seven feet below flood stage here. (4) I heard a report from Fort Riley saying that theirs was the highest flood stage since fifty years ago. Then how could General Pick's statement be true?

General Pick also said that the Kanopolis Dam was working perfectly. Yet the flood waters along the Smoky Hill river were kept up for a long period of time in order to lessen the water in the dam. Salina has had floods this year and so has Junction City. A few weeks ago a radio broadcast told of how the engineers at Kanopolis were opening the flood gates so often that the irate farmers below the dam said they would much rather take a chance with nature than have that water always coming.

General Pick surely had enough things he could say truthfully to strengthen his point so if he can tell untruths easily because he is in authority how can we know that other things he says are true? How can we know that a smaller dam located farther upstream on the Blue would not be just as effective and more money would be available to help other cities flood-control their streams? How can we know that giving up these fertile farms and seeking homes someplace else is going to work out for the best for the greatest number of people? How can we know

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

that this huge dam will be better than many small ones? Ottawa, Hays, Fort Riley, Junction City, are some of the flooded cities the dam would not have helped. And would not a dam on the river by Kansas City also called the Blue have helped avert water there?

We have been flooded out too year after year and we too would like flood control above us so that the wonderfully fertile soil here could be saved and kept in production. Young farmers just starting on their farms and not having them paid for yet — will they receive enough compensation from the government so that they will be able to begin again some new place? Will the government just seize our property?

I feel that General Pick is disausted and bored with farmers as with scum of the earth. Mr. Hook refers to us as a few selfish farmers. But can you see the heaviness in the heart of each one who has to leave everything material he has worked all his life to build up. his friends and neighbors are scattered, his church community gone. It is quite an adjustment. That is why I write asking that the governors when they meet will be led by God to serve the most people in the best possible way and that as few people as possible will have to move out. As for me, my work is not in this area, but everything I love and tie to are here. The flood destruction was awful. It must not happen again. So our prayers are with you the planners that your planning will help all of us.

Yours sincerely,

Ruby M. Johnson.

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

(18)

Randolph, Kansas
July 21, 1951.

Governor E. N. Arn
Topeka, Kansas

RECEIVED
JUL 25 1951
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Governor Arn:

I am thankful that we live in a country where one may appeal to those in authority for an understanding and listening ear. Because of this privilege I write to you in behalf of those of us who will be displaced persons. Randolph is just a few miles above the site of the Tuttle Creek dam.

I know that General Pick is in authority and that he insists that Tuttle Creek dam would have prevented the terrible disaster in our major cities, but why was he not truthful in his radio addresses? Why did he say that Manhattan would have been bone dry if the dam had been in unless he wanted to falsely impress those who did not know that (1) locally heavy rains amounting to about 9 inches on top of Manhattan's already water soaked soil would not leave the city bone dry. (2) The Kaw, Republican were high and the water began entering Manhattan from the South. A merchant of Manhattan who had 9 feet of water in his store told how the flood waters went toward the North. If the Blue had caused the flood the waters would have been flowing southward. (3) The Blue was not high at the beginning of Manhattan's flood and this Wednesday (July 18) I heard a river stage report from Manhattan saying that the Kaw stood at five feet above flood stage. The Blue had been within

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

its banks since Sunday and then on Wednesday was seven feet below flood stage here. (4) I heard a report from Fort Riley saying that theirs was the highest flood stage since fifty years ago. Then how could General Pick's statement be true?

General Pick also said that the Kanopolis Dam was working perfectly. Yet the flood waters along the Smoky Hill river were kept up for a long period of time in order to lessen the water in the dam.

Salina has had floods this year and so has Junction City. A few weeks ago a radio broadcast told of how the engineers at Kanopolis were opening the flood gates so often that the irate farmers below the dam said then would much rather take a chance with nature than have that water always coming.

General Pick surely had enough things he could say truthfully to strengthen his point so if he can tell untruths easily because he is in authority how can we know that other things he says are true? How can we know that a smaller dam located farther upstream on the Blue would not be just as effective and more money would be available to help other cities flood-control their streams? How can we know that giving up these fertile farms and seeking homes someplace else is going to work out for the best for the greatest number of people? How can we know

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Yours sincerely,

Ruby M. Johnson.

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

Mr. Chester W. Anderson
26 July 1951

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26 July 1951

Mr. Chester W. Anderson, Regional Engineer
Communities Facilities Service
511 Fidelity Building
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Confirming the recent conversation in your office, I am following the advice of Mr. Foley and yourself that further allocations to the State of Kansas from the funds provided by Public Law 875, 81st Congress, and Public Law, 82nd Congress, would require an application therefor by the State of Kansas.

As you know, the original allocation of \$275,000 was provided as a means of immediate relief to the cities, counties and other governmental subdivisions to get them started on their clean-up program prior to the final approval of Public Law 80.

Now, pending further investigation of the need by cities, counties, school districts, and so forth for a final allocation, another interim allocation will be necessary to keep the program going. I suggest and hereby make application on behalf of the State of Kansas for an additional allocation of \$750,000 which I sincerely believe to be a minimum amount necessary for immediate allocation to the several communities.

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Mr. Chester W. Anderson
26 July 1951

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A survey is now being made by men from your office and from the State Sanitary Engineering Department of the Board of Health as to the exact needs of such communities and from information I have received from them, it would indicate that an immediate allocation of \$500,000 is necessary to continue the program with respect to cities alone. In addition to that, several counties have similar needs and no allocation whatever has yet been made to county or school district units of government.

I trust this letter will serve as an appropriate application and if any further procedure is necessary, I welcome and will be grateful for advice and suggestions of Mr. Foley or yourself or from whomsoever you may delegate that function.

I appreciate sincerely Mr. Foley's cooperation and that of his staff, including yourself, Mr. Howard, Mr. Van Ornum and others of your organization.

Respectfully,

Governor

P.S. May I express my appreciation also to all of you for your assistance and cooperation at the flood relief and flood control meeting held in Kansas City yesterday.

efs-ar

Governor Edward Arn correspondence, subject files

