

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

### Section 10, Pages 271 - 300

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Arn, the thirty-second governor of Kansas, serving from January 8, 1951 to January 10, 1955. Subjects in this box include floods, federal assistance, domestic emergency assistance and situation report, and Fort Hays State College. 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: September 1951-January 1955

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Edward Arn, Correspondence Files, Subject Files Box 57

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 309999

Item Identifier: 309999

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KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

*flood  
control*

October 24, 1951

Miss Minnie Cunningham  
122 South Noble  
Chapman, Kansas

Dear Miss Cunningham:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the prevention of another flood next year such as struck our state with such devastation this last July.

You may be assured that every possible effort will be made to prevent the recurrence of such disaster to our state.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter, I remain

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

(7) Chapman, Kans.  
Sept 29<sup>th</sup> 1957

Mr. Edward F. Arn  
Governor of Kansas  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor:-

I am writing you concerning  
flood control. I was in  
the flood this past July.  
The water, mud, muck, and  
the water mud muck, and  
muck got in my house  
ruined 5-9 x 12 rugs for  
and 2 linoleums. I had to  
have a new floor put in  
my bathroom, and buckled  
all my other floors. My  
arm I am crippled with  
arthritis and alone. I care  
for my self. What I want  
for you - do is - if  
there is anything on earth



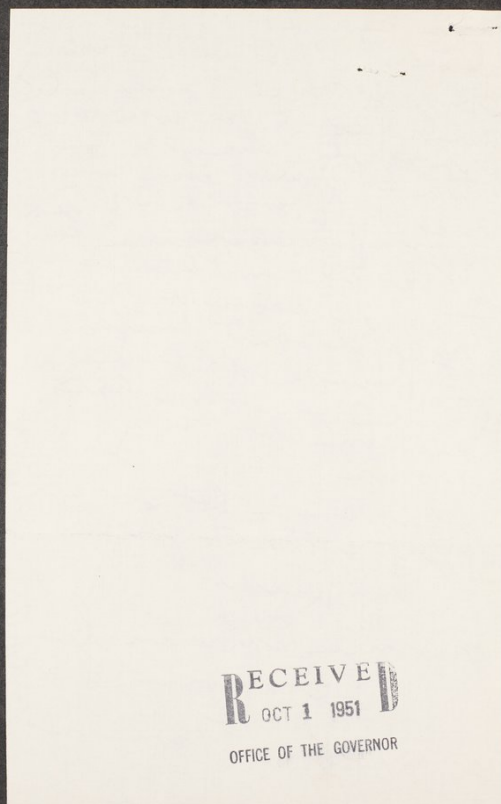
## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

you can do to prevent  
another flood next spring  
everyone will appreciate  
this a lot. I know I will  
appreciate this more  
than anything else in  
this wide world. 3/4 of  
my town (Chapman) had  
to vacate in this past  
July on account of that  
awful flood. I thought  
you would not care if  
I wrote you. This has  
made me so very  
nervous.

Thanks a lot for all  
of my bother to you.

Respect  
Minnie Cunningham  
Chapman  
Kansas  
122 S Noble.)

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57





## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

*Drainage*

October 24, 1951

Mr. W. R. Humbolt, Jr.  
Mulvane, Kansas

Dear Mr. Humbolt:

Thank you for your letter of October 17, regarding drainage districts.

I am referring your letter to the Water Resources Board and am confident they will be able to properly advise you and furnish you with the information you seek.

Happy to be of service to you, I remain

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

October 24, 1951

Miss Pearl Beeber  
Ottawa, Kansas

Dear Miss Beeber:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing  
your views on the various methods of flood control.

You may be assured that your suggestions will  
be given the fullest consideration.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter,  
I remain

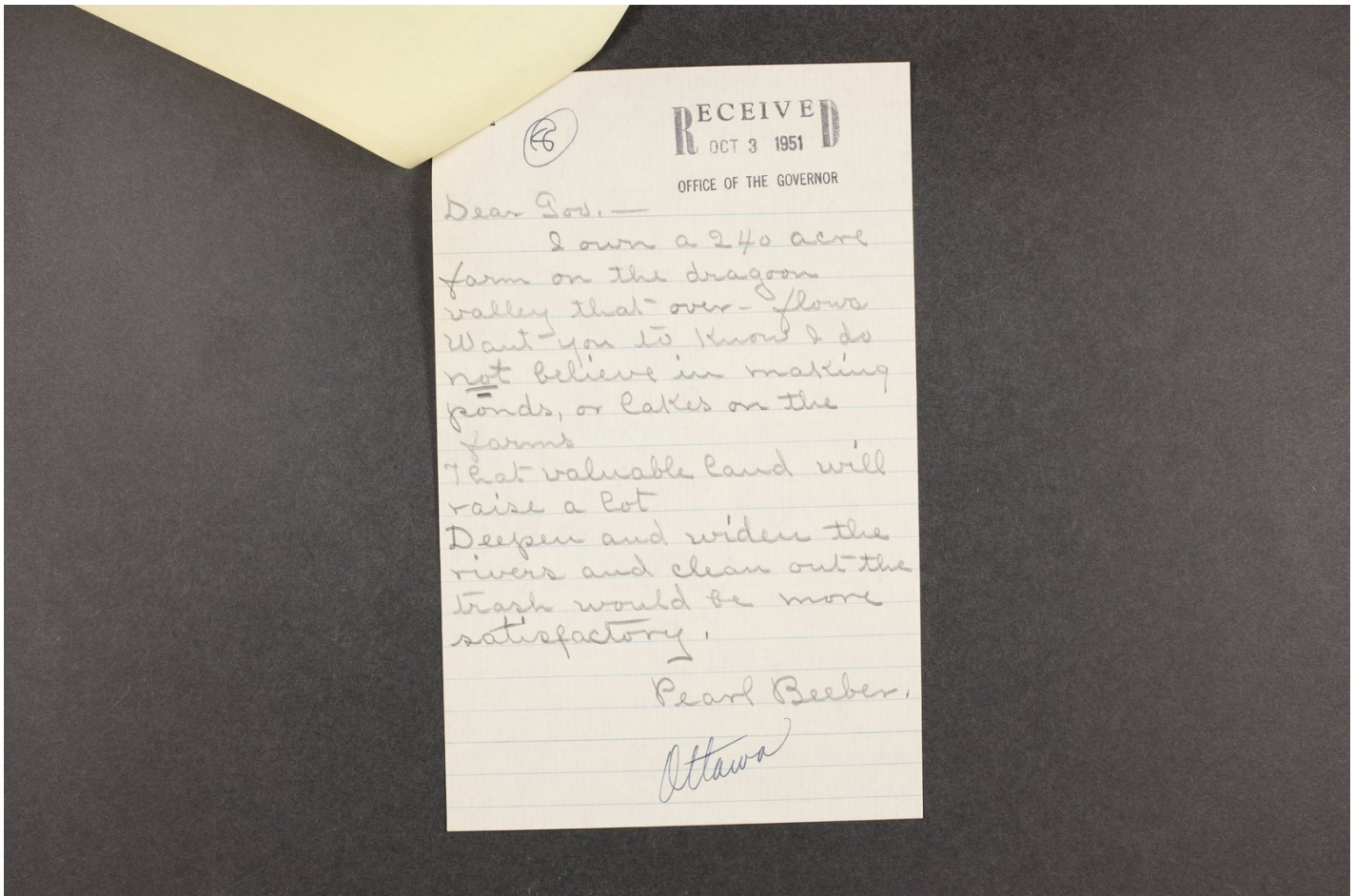
Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57





## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

201 E. 5th Street  
Florence, Kansas  
Oct. 2, 1951

Flood Control  
October 23, 1951

Gov. Edward F. Arn  
Topeka, Kansas

Mr. J. L. Williams  
201 East 5th Street  
Florence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing  
your views on the various methods of flood control.

You may be assured that your suggestions will  
be given the fullest consideration.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter,  
I remain

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Yours truly,

J. L. Williams

Republican Committee

State



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

RECEIVED  
OCT 3 1951

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

201 E. 5th Street  
Florence, Kansas  
Oct. 2, 1951

Re: Flood Control

Gov. Edward F. Arn  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sir:-

This letter is for the purpose of calling to your attention a matter that may be unknown to you or that may have escaped your attention in the uproar for lakes, ponds, etc. for flood control.

In 1939 we had a very unusual condition in our State. The Cottonwood River was frozen over and we had a flood. The ice blocks rose with the river and lined the banks. We then had another flood which washed these ice blocks down the river uprooting trees and choking the river channel.

These trees and brush are still in the river and the floods since that time have been progressively more disastrous. Formerly it was possible to go from Florence to Marion in a boat and that is no longer possible.

We think that if the river beds were cleared so that the water could get away that it would be of great benefit to us in lessening flood damage. We feel that the expense of this operation would be far less than the repair of bridges that this condition has made necessary.

Yours truly

J. L. Williams  
Republican Committeeman

JLW/dlw



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

*ret'd picture*

October 31, 1951

Mrs. Maxine Hensley  
1031 Kellam  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Hensley:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding assistance for your Father in the repair of his flood damaged home.

If as you say, the Red Cross will not assist you in this matter, permit me to suggest that you contact the Federal Housing Administration and it may be that they might be able to assist you.

Happy to be of service to you, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk  
Encl. 1

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

Topeka Kans.  
Oct 20-51

Dear Lisa (2)

My father lost every-  
thing in the July flood except  
his car and some furniture  
but because he was not  
living in his home at the  
time, the red cross says  
it is secondary in importance  
and will not even help on  
the loan which is against  
the place.

I have tried every way  
to reach some one for  
help and they tear me  
down flat. I lose their  
home and keepsakes and  
some furniture which  
they lost.

Will you advise me  
how or to whom I can



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

I can see for some  
help for them.  
This property was  
at 1422 Eugene St. His  
name Lara James.

Thank you.  
Marian Hensley  
1031 Kellam  
Topeka, Kans.

RECEIVED  
OCT 30 1951

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

October 31, 1951

Mrs. Fred Payton  
1314 Lake  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mrs. Payton:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning assistance to the victims of the recent devastating floods which struck our state.

Your suggestions are interesting, and you may be assured they will receive the fullest consideration.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

1314 Lake  
St. C. Mo.  
October 29, 1951

RECEIVED  
OCT 31 1951  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Sir,

I'm writing to you in hopes  
of helping many, many of the flooded  
families of this state.

Washington seems to be failing  
or has failed to help these people to  
regain their footing, after such a  
terrible catastrophe.

Since so many states have  
payed their veterans a bonus for their  
part in World War II, would it be to  
much to ask our state in this time  
of need to give our veterans their  
bonus? They have more than earned  
it and many are returning to fight  
again. I say help the G.I's in the  
flooded area and those others to go on!

Everyone talks of wanting to help, well  
if they do, this is something that  
should have been done several years ago  
since it wasn't, let's get busy and do it  
now.

Sincerely  
Gov. Fred Payton

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

October 31, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Richardson  
117 East 1st Street  
Junction City, Kansas

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Richardson:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding your flood-damaged home in Junction City.

Permit me to suggest that you contact the Federal Housing Administration and discuss your problem with them. It is possible that they may be able to be of some assistance to you.

Happy to be of service to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

117 E..i. St.  
Junction City Kans.  
Oct, 30, 1950.  
Edward R. Arn.  
Dear sir,  
I am writing you in regards to my home here in Junction City,  
I lost one home in the Flood in July and the other one was damaged.  
The red Cross was v ry nice to me to fix this one up, and the City  
gave lots to the ones who lost their homes, that they might rebuild,  
and the homes that did not go away in the flood are being moved to the  
new location, I have did my best to get them to move mine also as they  
gave me a lot. so now they tell me they cant pay for my house to be  
moved and they wont put no water in, and i have to have water to drink  
Will you please look into this matter for me and see that they move  
my house or put water down there for us.  
Please let me hear from you at once, and oblige,  
Mr. & Mrs Albert C. Richardson.  
Ps. they have moved Shomes already for the white and claim they cant  
move mine or dont have the money to do so.  
Please look into this for us as we are tax payers and are due  
some consideration. my husband is sick and i have this all to  
look after alone. he has been sick sence 1938.  
Thank you.

RECEIVED  
OCT 31 1951  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

November 7, 1951

Mr. Victor E. Hawkinson  
Randolph, Kansas

Dear Mr. Hawkinson:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing  
your views on flood control and prevention.

You may be assured that your suggestions, and  
all others concerning the prevention of such disastrous  
floods as recently struck our state, will be fully considered.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter, I  
remain

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

RECEIVED  
NOV 3 1857  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Hono Edw. F. Arn  
Lopaka Kansas

Dear Governor:

Am pleased that you and your  
guest from Nebraska were in  
attendance at the sub-committee hearing  
last Wed, to put some color to an  
otherwise tiresome procedure.

However, I regret that you do  
not exercise your influence  
to get our many "do well" agencies  
together.

If nothing else, why don't you  
advocate a Little Creek Dam, or  
if that is not crazy enough, you  
might help Ben Mac Pherson (H.C.'s  
friend) regenerate River Dam.

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

Or, help any other who prefers  
 to work down stream where  
 vicious floods gets more  
 occasion to institute Control.  
 Please don't take this as  
 sarcastic. But, please do  
 take a position.  
 For my own position, Flood Prevention,  
 is the goal thru watershed treatment,  
 a system of retention dams (which by the  
 way are dry dams as you mentioned)  
 in a watershed, can be designed  
 to to exceede the <sup>Flood Prevention</sup> capacity of a  
 present dry Arroyo blue print for any  
 of same area, so the Arroyo old  
 Linco's I always saying in conclusion  
 that a Big Dam down stream (or  
 up stream from it) being necessary, alot,  
 is All Hooey. Sincerely Victor E. Hawkins



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

November 7, 1951

Mrs. Ethel F. Chronister  
Route 1  
Badora, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Chronister:

Thank you for your letter of November 2, 1951. In answer to your inquiry, Douglas County has received an allocation under Public Law 875 for use in the rehabilitation of county and township roads and bridges damaged by the recent flood.

I am sure that your county commissioners and county engineer know of the requirements that must be met to enable your county to participate under this program, and I feel sure that if you would bring the matter to their attention they would be most happy to advise you that the roads in your particular locality were eligible to receive aid under this program.

From the pictures you enclosed, it appears that you have a most unfortunate situation to cope with. I have referred your problem to a federal representative of the Housing and Home Finance Agency who will undoubtedly call upon the county commissioners and county engineer within the next few days. Perhaps the federal representative will have more information regarding your particular situation.

Yours truly,

GOVERNOR

EFA:ig

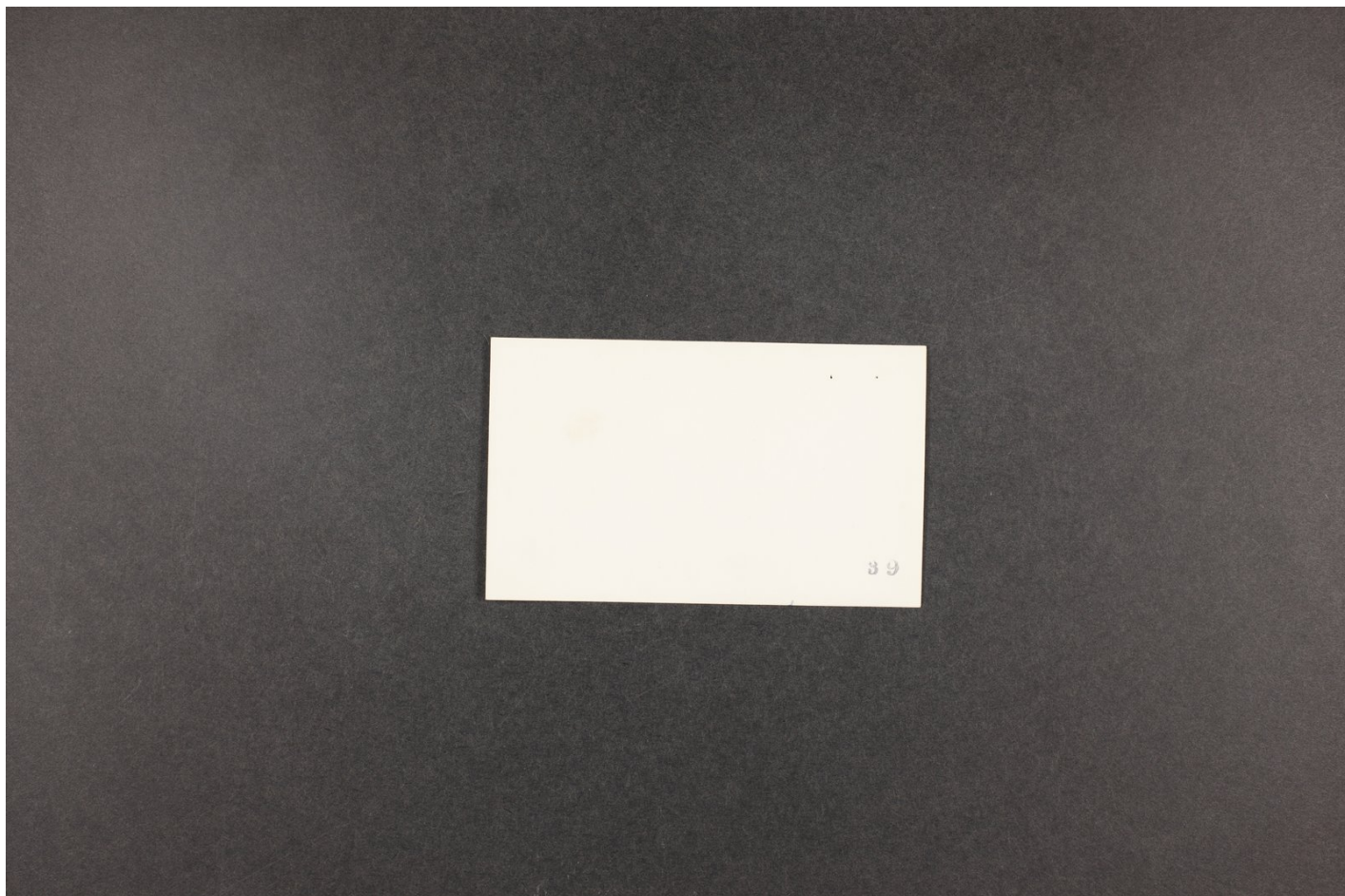
CC: Mr. J. I. Rice, County Engineer  
Mr. Elmer W. Guedahl, County Commissioner

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## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

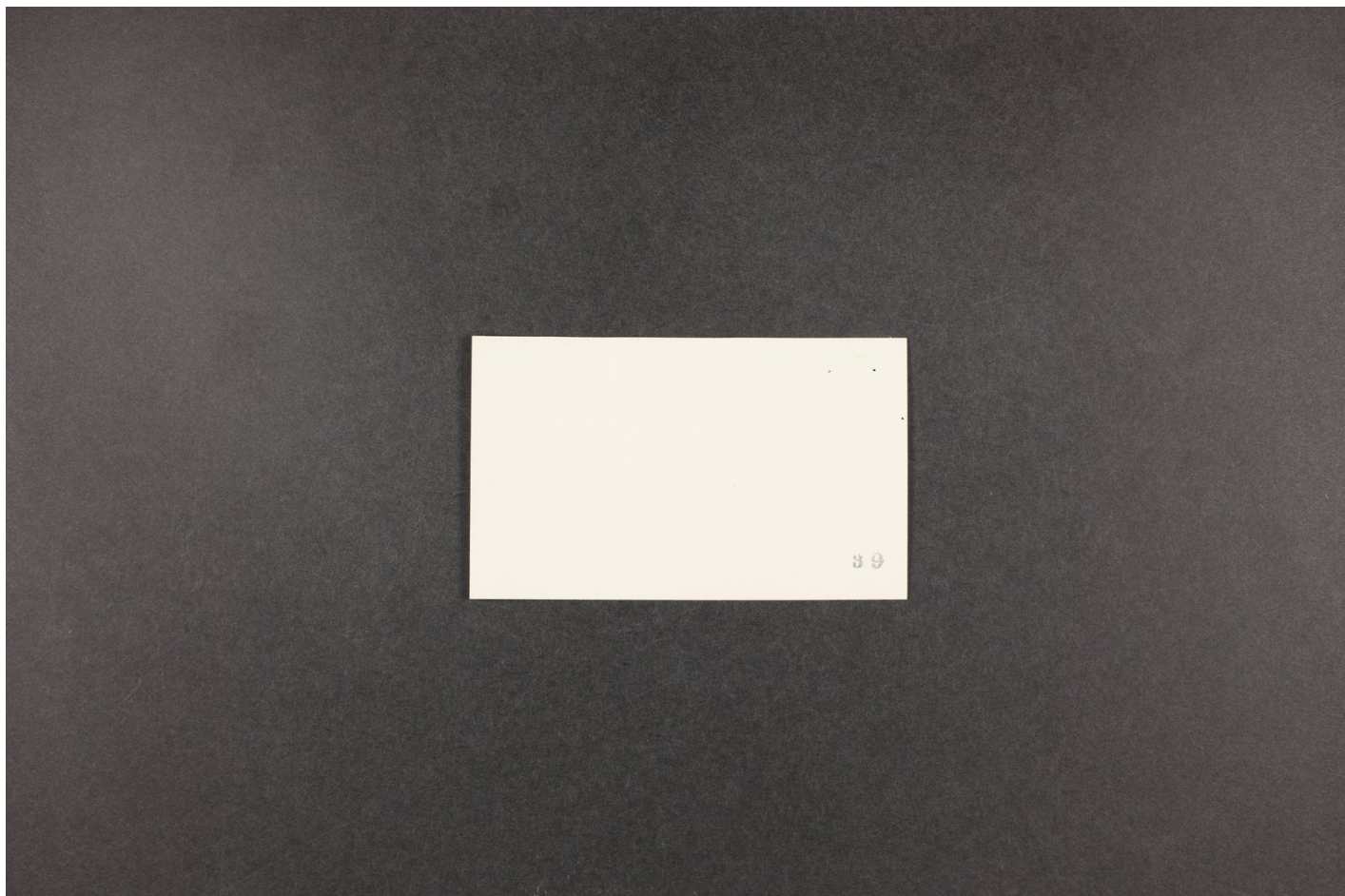


## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57





## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

Eudora, Ks.  
Nov. 2 1951

Gov. E. D. Arn.  
Topeka Kansas

RECEIVED  
NOV 6 1951  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Sir—

I would like to know why we should drive 32-34 miles in order to get our son to school when the school house is only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from our home. We are on a county road 5 miles east of Lawrence on No. 10 Highway +  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi South. I am sending you a picture of this road. The holes you see are No. 1 is 20-30 ft deep - 40 ft long + 25 ft wide. There are 3 others that are smaller ranging from 10 to 15 ft deep.



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

These holes in the road were  
caused by the flood and are  
in the road right in front of  
our house. In fact one of  
the holes have caved into our  
North drive way. It is impossible  
to use it. By turning short we  
can get out of our other driveway  
without falling in the hole.  
Now, have not the Douglas  
County commissioners receive  
money to be spent on roads  
in the flooded area? There is  
a road that goes around this  
water + road but they will not  
rock it. It would only make  
a detour of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mi. Now, Gov.  
Arn, there are people who

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

live on this County highway  
who have to drive 6-10 miles  
detour in order to get to  
highway No 10. so that they  
can get to the Sunflower  
Ordinance plant. The  
mail carrier who delivers are  
mail detours 10 miles.

Gov. Arn, want you see  
that the County Commissioners  
rock this mile of road so  
that the people in this  
community will not have  
to detour 8 to 10 miles to get  
to No 10 highway and we will  
not have to drive 32-34 miles  
a day in order that our son  
can go to school. If they would  
rock this detour it would be



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

only 3 miles to school. I have  
asked the County Commissioners  
personally & <sup>have</sup> written them  
3 separate letters and they  
ignore it. If this money  
had been given why have  
not our roads been fixed?  
July 13 was the day this road  
was washed out, I sat in my  
house & watched it go. The  
pressure was terrific. We  
have lost so much in this  
flood, it is a terrible thing  
to have this added expense.  
Won't you please <sup>or</sup> please  
do something about it. We  
have been listening to your  
talks & the amt of money

## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

given to the county, what  
in the world are our  
County Commissioners  
doing with it if they  
can't rock a mile of road.  
Gov. Arn you are the only  
one I know who <sup>can</sup> write  
to. My <sup>sunflower</sup> husband is going to  
work at plants, he will have  
to drive 6-8 miles just to  
get back to No 10 highway  
~~is~~ that he can ride with a  
neighbor. Won't you do  
something about it?

Thank you

Yours truly  
Mrs Ethel F. Chronister  
Endora Kansas

R./.



## Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 57

November 7, 1951

Mr. I. H. Hickman  
Post Office Box 104  
Kirwin, Kansas

Dear Mr. Hickman:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding flood control, in our state, and the Kirwin Dam in particular.

You may be assured that your suggestions and proposals will receive every consideration.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk