

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Edward Arn. Some subjects included are flood, Big Creek Watershed Association, Strawn Dam, Toronto Dam, and the Tuttle Creek Dam. 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: January 1951-January 1955

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Edward Arn, Correspondence Files, Subject Files Box 59

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

January 5, 1953

Mrs. Charles E. Kerr
1233 Pearce
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Kerr:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the
flood control problem in Kansas.

We believe that the independent survey will be
available before too long.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

7 Dec. 26-1952
1233 Pearce
Wichita Kans.

Hon. Edward Arn, Governor
State House
Topeka, Kansas.

RECEIVED
DEC 29 1952

Dear Gov. Arn:

The editorial in this week's Saturday Evening Post called attention to your leadership in the flood control problem.

Mr. John Short of the AWRBIA C Agriculture Dept. Rep. in a speech here Nov. 9 said "This may sound strange coming from a so-called 'bureaucrat' but get control back in your own hands. Give greater grass-roots impetus to all phases of soil conservation, water management and flood control in leadership and finances." He also said "If Kansas passes the watershed legislation as outlined by Mr. Chandler Jarvis, State Chamber of Commerce, there is no question about it - this state will be the leader in efforts to solve our water problems."

Sen. Schoepfel asked last spring that a watershed management demonstration be "guinea-pigged" in Kansas. That I would like to see in the Blue Valley

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Before Tuttle Creek is built. I believe in flood control but not at some one else's expense if there is any other way.

Honest flood control projects are one thing and navigation and hydro - electric dams are something else again.

The Blue Valley has gained national publicity. Big dams could be built if the watershed plan does not do the job but once the Big Dam floods the valley - it is gone.

I am anxiously waiting for the report of your independent survey and hope both the state and national Republican parties adhere to their watershed planks.

Sincerely

Ethyle P. Kerr

(Mrs Charles E Kerr)

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Flood

January 12, 1953

Mr. A. W. Bender
Holton, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bender:

Thank you for your recent letter and the enclosed clippings on the subject of flood control. Please be assured that at the first opportunity, I will study your suggestions closely and give them my fullest consideration. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for bringing your thoughts and views on this matter of such a concern to all of us to my attention.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

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The Reader Comments

Letters received for this column will be published as soon as possible after receipt and should be restricted to 200 words in length. Anonymous letters will not be published, but the writer's name will be withheld if requested. Publication in this column does not imply endorsement of the letter by the Recorder nor suggest that the paper is in agreement with the writer's comments.

ENGINEERS' MISTAKES ON FLOOD CONTROL

Sixty-five years ago my physical geography taught that the Mississippi river bed was higher in places along its course than the adjacent land. Levees had been built year after year higher and higher to confine the river to its channel. It gradually filled up, as all rivers do, and levees had to be raised. That evil practice is still carried on by engineers to the detriment of our rivers. Causing overflows by the breaking of levees, involving great destruction to life and property.

This fall we visited White Cloud and went up two or three hundred feet, back of the town, on a high bluff, and had a view for miles the landscape of the Missouri Valley and river. As far as we could see hundreds of jetties relatively close together lined the valley side of the river extending, it seemed, one-third way across the stream.

Imagine how these jetties collect trash and retard the flow of the stream depositing mud and sand on the bed of the river filling it up and cutting down the capacity of the channel, besides causing ice jams in late winter that cause overflows.

All these years engineers have foolishly and insanely fought the rivers instead of aiding their use and capacity to carry flood waters.

Big dams will serve the same purpose in making streams shallower and destroying the rivers carrying capacity of flood waters. Besides striking a severe blow to the state in removing thousands of acres of the very best producing land from the tax rolls, and production, permanently. And too the awful calamity that will fall upon hundreds of communities, towns, homes, churches, schools, and the desecration of thousands of graves in many cemeteries and the exodus of many of our finest families from our state.

We have proof every day that we cannot fight nature. We brag how we have conquered the air with large fast flying air ships. Yet think of the broken bodies strewn over land and sea caused by lightning, rain and snow storms, wind and fog.

We dote on the marvelous construction of Grand Cooley, Hoover dams, yet an earthquake or an internal upheaval could destroy them instantly and it can be possible, as well as probable.

Book learning is all right as long as it does not conflict with God's laws of nature.

Strange isn't it, that—men supposed to be smart, don't know it?

People in Kansas are interested in whether our congressmen will further support Big Dam Foolishness. To not oppose, be absent, or neutral, on their part will be construed as favoring socialism and Federal Big Business that has proven in many contracts to be shot-through by graft and waste.

A. W. BENDER.

The Reader Comments

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Have You Any Answers?

I. Is there a more paramount question for our state legislature to consider next month than the one to prevent big business from destroying thousands of acres of our most productive soil in Kansas by the construction of eighteen or twenty big dams, when a plan already proven to be much better and economical for flood control is offered by the Agricultural Department, and endorsed by expert engineers?

II. Isn't it time our state legislature protects our State's Rights instead of surrendering them to the socialized tendency of our Federal government?

III. Are not Truman, the Army Engineers, Kansas City, and the Union Pacific railroad Co., responsible for Congress in giving the green light to big dam foolishness?

IV. Where does Kansas come in, are we suckers?

V. Can't our state legislature prevent cities from constructing a sluice way to converge and funnel flood waters through the city to protect those who have encroached on the river's right-of-way?

VI. Are the cities not guilty of slowing down flood waters miles above the city and is forced out over thousands of acres of fertile fields and homes that otherwise would not have been flooded had the flood had ample water-way through the city?

VII. Are not the cities liable for

obstructing flood waters and causing unnecessary damage to others?

VIII. Doesn't this and the dumping of all kinds of waste and trash into rivers come under the jurisdiction of our state legislature?

IX. We read where Topeka dumped some of the mud left in homes, yards, and streets back into the river. Would it not have been more sensible to dredge some of the mud out of the river—instead of dumping more into it?

X. Isn't it a fact that a person, group of people, or industries who settle on the river's right-of-way do so at their own risk, and are not entitled to Red Cross funds?

XI. Are they whom the Bible says that build their house on the Sand? "And the rains descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell and great was the fall of it."

XII. Government — big business has seemed to have been very popular judging from the graft that has been disclosed in so many contracts, and many men of modest means have become millionaires.

Haven't we had enough?

A. W. BENDER.

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RECEIVED
JAN 8 1953

Holtan Kans 1-6-53

Governor Arn,
Topeka Kans.

Dear Governor:- I am
enclosing a clipping I
hope you will read.

Are we to lay down
and let big business and
the cities along our rivers
who have taken possession
of the low right-of-way of our
rivers going to demand the
destruction of our very best
productive soil in order
to protect ~~these~~ ^{them} who self-
ishly settle in these low
places at their own risk?

Can you demand some
legislation to protect these
vital interests of the state
when it is not necessary to

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surrender them to the people
that prove they have done
nothing to help flood control
but make it worse by
narrowing up the channel
through their cities?

Sincerely

Al W. Bricker

Stratosphere

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DOMESTIC SERVICE		WESTERN UNION		INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram		1211		Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL			FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER			VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM
W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT					
NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

TOPEKA, KANSAS
29 JANUARY 1953

MAYOR RICHARD ROGERS
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

PLEASE CONVEY MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITIZENS OF MANHATTAN FOR THE NATIONAL RECOGNITION WHICH HAS COME TO THEM FOR THE RAPID AND COMPLETE REHABILITATION OF THE COMMUNITY FOLLOWING THE TERRIBLE RAVAGES OF THE NINETEEN FIFTY-ONE FLOOD. YOUR AWARD BY LOOK MAGAZINE AS ONE OF TEN ALL AMERICA CITIES IS ABUNDANTLY DESERVED. THE CITIZENS OF MANHATTAN, THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THE COLLEGE AUTHORITIES AND STUDENTS HAVE TRULY PROVEN THEMSELVES ALL AMERICAN.

EDWARD F. ARN
GOVERNOR
STATE OF KANSAS



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition, unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeatable message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeatable-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines.

2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the actual loss, not exceeding in any event the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount the sender of each message represents that the message is valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Except as otherwise indicated in connection with the listing of individual places in the filed tariffs of the Company, the amount paid for the transmission of a domestic telegram or an incoming cable or radio message covers its delivery within the following limits: In cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where the Company has an office which, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, is not operated through the agency of a railroad company, within two miles of any open main or branch office of the Company; in cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, the telegraph service is performed through the agency of a railroad company, within one mile of the telegraph office; in cities or towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants in which an office of the Company is located, within one-half mile of the telegraph office. Beyond the limits above specified the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will endeavor to arrange for delivery as the agent of the sender, with the understanding that the sender authorizes the collection of any additional charge from the addressee and agrees to pay such additional charge if it is not collected from the addressee. There will be no additional charge for deliveries made by telephone within the corporate limits of any city or town in which an office of the Company is located.

5. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

6. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in the case of any message except an intrastate message in Texas where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission, and in the case of an intrastate message in Texas the Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within ninety days after the cause of action, if any, shall have accrued; provided, however, that neither of these conditions shall apply to claims for damages or overcharges within the purview of Section 415 of the Communications Act of 1934.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

10-42

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DOMESTIC SERVICES

FULL RATE TELEGRAMS

A full rate expedited service.

DAY LETTERS

A deferred service at lower than the full rate.

SERIALS

Messages sent in sections during the same day.

NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2 A.M. for delivery not earlier than the following morning at rates substantially lower than the full rate telegram or day letter rates.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

FULL RATE (FR)

The standard fast service at full rates. May be written in any language that can be expressed in Roman letters, or in secret language. A minimum charge for 5 words applies.

LETTER TELEGRAM (LT)

Overnight plain language messages. Minimum charge for 22 words applies.

VICTORY LETTER TELEGRAM (VLT)

Overnight plain language messages to armed forces overseas. Minimum charge for 10 words applies.

SHIP RADIOGRAM

A service to and from ships at sea. Plain or secret language may be used. Minimum charge for 5 words applies.

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Dams

February 2, 1953

Mr. Fred C. Germann
Haven Hollow Farm
Manhattan, Kansas

Dear Mr. Germann:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent letter in which you report that some persons have attributed certain statements to me concerning the matter of big dams. Let me assure you that I have never made any such statement as you mention in your letter. The idea that I have done so arises either from misunderstanding or from deliberate misstatements concerning my position on this subject.

Also I would like to take this opportunity to state that I am quite confident that the flood survey commission will render a complete and impartial opinion concerning this subject which is such a vital concern to all of us.

Thanking you again for your interest, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

G. F. GERMANN
Haven Hollow Farm
Home of Quality Durocs
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

Ed
January 24, 1953

RECEIVED
JAN 28 1953

Gov. Edward Arn
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor Arn,

Ever since your commission was appointed to study the overall flood control problem in Kansas there have been suspicions of politics entering in. After being one of a group to call on you I felt that you were sincere, and have expressed that opinion to a number of people. Bits of information have indicated your commission favorable to us.

I was therefore disturbed two days ago to hear through reliable people (from outside the Blue basin) that when asked recently if you were going to use your influence to stop big dam foolishness, your reply was to this effect. The big vote is in the cities such as Kansas City and as they want the big dams why not go along with them.

I fully realize that sometimes there are misunderstandings. For

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Haven Hollow Farm

Home of Quality Durocs
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

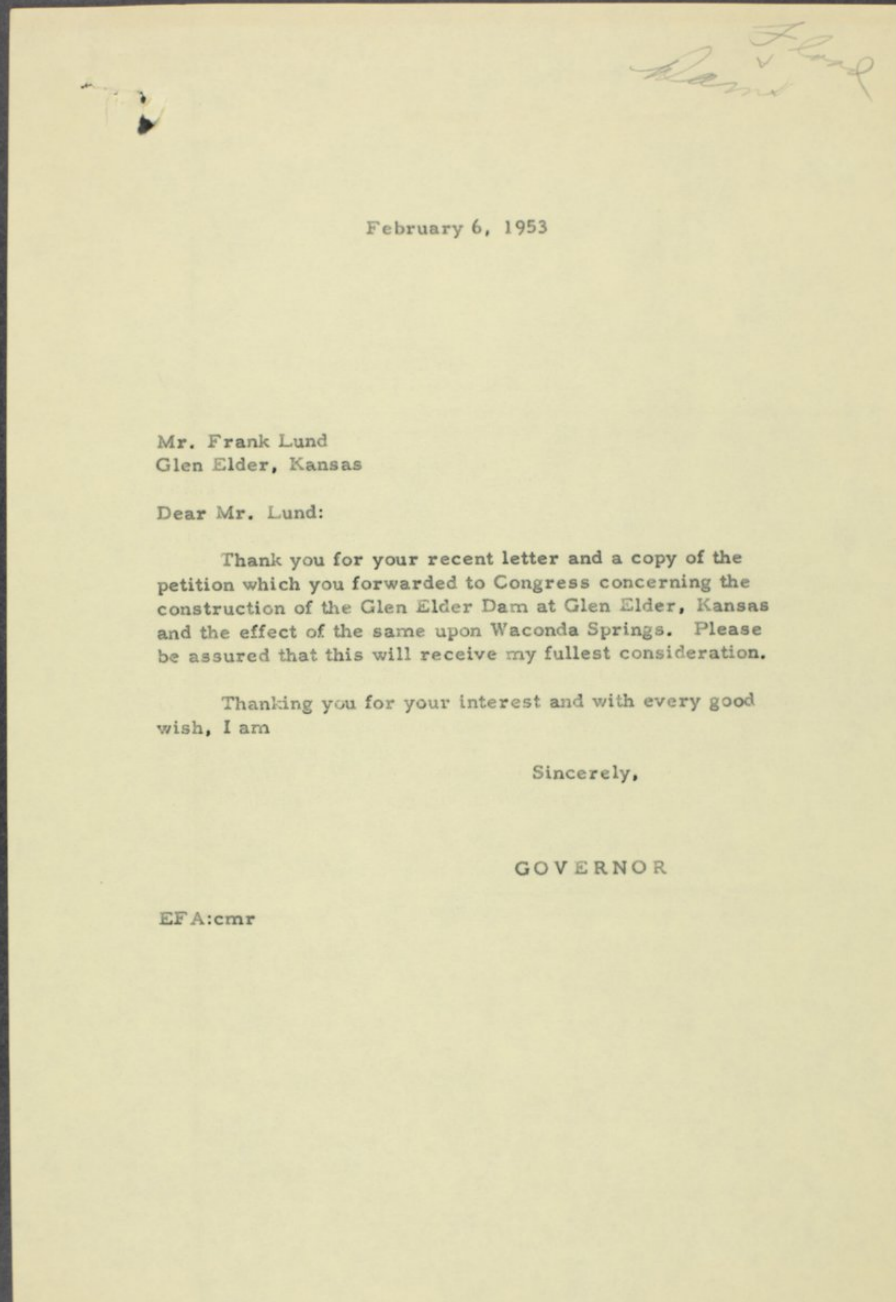
FRED C. GERMANN

this reason I am writing you,
because the story may spread
and bring resentment toward you.
You may want to clarify or repudiate
this.

We are convinced that Mr. Citizen,
the voter even in Kansas City doesn't
care about the big dams, but it is
instead some politically powerful
industrialists. The last election
gave ample evidence of what
aroused citizens can do.

Sincerely yours
Fred C. Germann

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2-4-53

FEB 5 1953

Gov. Ed. Arn,
State House, Topeka, KS.

Dear Governor:-

The Glen Elder Chamber of Commerce ask you, our Governor, to use your influence in protest to the construction of the Glen Elder Dam at or near Glen Elder. We believe the destruction of fertile farm land, the homes and business in the towns and valley that would be inundated will be far more than the benefits derived. We believe that more benefit can be obtained at less cost and to more people by the Watershed System. We ask that you use your influence, as Gov. to bring this program up for consideration. We have just completed the signing of a petition of protest and have nearly one thousand-one hundred (1100) signatures from residents

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

PETITION

To the Honorable Senate, House of Representatives, and the House
Appropriations Committee of the United States:

Gentlemen:---The undersigned householders of the Counties of Mitchell
and Osborne, State of Kansas, all residing in the vicinity of the proposed
Glen Elder Reservoir, on the Solomon River, in Mitchell County Kansas, do
hereby petition you to refuse the appropriation of funds for the
construction of said Glen Elder Dam for the following reasons:

We feel this project would not be of any progressive, productive, or
beneficial value to this area or any surrounding areas, but instead a
burden to the nation's taxpayers who are already burdened down with taxes.

It would displace approximately 259 improved farms in Mitchell County
Kansas with a population of 686, together with at least one town,
approximate population 600, and possibly another town with a larger
population. It would cause the removal of five cemeteries, one railroad,
U S Highway 24, and Highway 9, with numerous county and township roads.
It would take out of production approximately 90,000 acres of land with
an annual income loss to the nation of \$3,000,000.00. This we feel isn't
good business in itself, not for the community or the nation as a whole.

Yet we feel the biggest loss of all would be the inundation of the
famed Wacanda Springs. We ask you give this your careful consideration.

Dated this

day of

A.D. 195

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2
of Glen Elder. Cawker City and vicinity. which shows the people here are opposed to the dam.

We ask you to give this your consideration

We also, would like to have Waconda Springs be made a National Monseumnt to the plains Indians. It is probaly the most Historic wonder Kansas has and should be pre-served.

We are enclosing a copy of the petition we used in our protest to the dam.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Lund.

Chr. Inf. Comm.

Chamber of Commerce.

Glen Elder.
Kan.

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

COPY

Flood
FEB 16 1953

February 13, 1953

James W. Porter
State Senator
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sir:

During the diaster of the flood we were advised that taxpayers would be relieved of such taxes and penalties that would accrue during the period that the properties would be unusable or put back in tenantable condition.

We have not up to the present time received any advice as to how this will be taken care of.

If you have a program underway, we would like very much to know how to obtain a copy of the bill and how this relief will be taken care of.

Respectfully Yours,

F
KANSAS SAND COMPANY, INC.

Fred J. Kuhne

FJK/ml

*Recd for
Friedrich*

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Flood

February 18, 1953

Mr. Wallace R. Vawter,
Chief Field Representative
Bureau of the Budget
417 New Customs Building
Denver 2, Colorado

Dear Mr. Vawter:

Please find enclosed copy of the preliminary report on Flood Protection in Kansas River Basin which was requested by you on your recent visit to our office. This report was made available on Monday, February 16, 1953.

On Friday, February 20, 1953, there will be released a report of the Missouri Basin Survey Commission prepared on the recommendation and request of the Federal Government. I presume you either have a copy of this report or have access to same since it is a government project.

Happy to be of service to you, and with best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Enc.
WRG:D

WALTER R. GAGE, JR.

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Flood

February 18, 1953

Mr. F. G. Edwards,
Assistant County Engineer
Jefferson County
Oskaloosa, Kansas

Dear Mr. Edwards:

This is in reply to your letter of February 16, 1953, wherein you request written confirmation of the allocation made to Jefferson County under the provisions of Public Law 875, as amended, for the rehabilitation and restoration of facilities damaged or destroyed by the July, 1951 flood.

The balance of the allocation made to Jefferson County under this program is \$60,438.54. It is our understanding that claims against this amount will only be for the repair of the Lecompton bridge. Of course, I am sure all parties understand that only eligible items can be claimed against this amount, the eligibility of such items being determined by representatives of the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency.

An extra signed copy of this letter is enclosed which may be forwarded to the Douglas County officials if you so desire.

If we may be of any further service to you or if there is further information which you desire, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

WRG:D

WALTER R. GAGE, JR.

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Office of
JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
Oskaloosa, Kansas

February 16, 1953


Mr. Walter R. Gage, Jr.
Office of the Governor
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Notice for invitations to bid on lumber for the proposed Lecompton bridge repair. The specifications are taken from the plans and may differ somewhat from those which I gave you before.

Would you please send us a statement showing the amount of funds allocated to Jefferson County for the Lecompton bridge repair? The Douglas County officials want something in writing to show that H.H.F.A. has a definite amount for this project. Please send us two copies so that we may forward one to Douglas County.

Yours very truly,



F. G. Edwards
Assistant County Engineer

FGE:dp
encl

RECEIVED
FEB 18 1953

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

February 19, 1953

Mrs. G. W. Kerchavil
1316 North Van Buren
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Kerchavil:

I have your recent letter requesting a donation for your church in replacing the furnace lost in the 1951 flood. As you probably can realize, I receive a great number of such worthy requests and inasmuch as I do make regular contributions through various agencies, I have found it prohibitive to answer individual requests.

Trusting you will be successful in your efforts, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

RECEIVED
FEB 13 1953

(4) Can't

Topeka, Kansas
2/12/53

Dear Sir:-

I am working for my church which was in the flood. We put in a furnace on F.H.A. plan. I would appreciate anything you would give me toward helping up. If you give me a donation, I will kindly appreciate it, & make check out to St. Mark's A.M.E. Church.

Thank you kindly

Mrs E. W. Herchavil
1316 N. Van Buren

~~Ph. 33668~~
Ph. 33668

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

E. Arn

February 19, 1953

Mr. H. C. Jacobs
532 North Broadway
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

Thank you for your recent letter stating your views with regard to the building of dams as a means of flood prevention. Since writing your letter, I am sure you have seen the press reports of the Survey Committee which I appointed some time ago. Their conclusions and proposed means of control are definite in accord with my own personal beliefs.

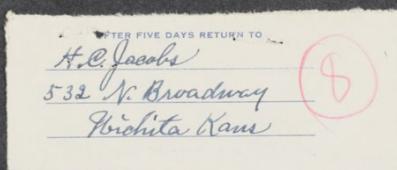
Thanking you for your interest and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Wichita Kans Feb 12-53

Gov Ed Arn Topeka Kans,

Dear Gov:

I notice in the papers you favor
The construction of more dams,
And I notice Judge Wertz stating
in building dams should be ^{to} the
greatest good for the greatest number
alluding to the Tuttle Creek dam.
Now this greatest good for the greatest
number I want to know from
what standpoint that view is taken.
In case the Tuttle Creek dam is built
how are they going to keep the silt
from filling up the reservoir or lake.
Here our little lake at Godard has
already more than 12 ft of silt in it.
I was raised on the banks of the
Mississippi north of Keokuk.
When that dam was before the people
The argument was it would prevent
floods and it would develop a
great power plant. This was over forty
years ago. They have the power plant
but the river has been filled with silt
many years. Gov has dredge boats
there dredging continually to keep a
channel open for the boats.

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Building this dam ruined many fine farms 20 mi up the river. Several years ago the Mississippi was flooding and nearly as high as the flood of 1852. How did that dam prevent flooding. I remember dams breaking. The Johnstown flood and others. To build a dam is only temporary relief. How can water be impounded when the lake is filled with silt. The property owners have lost their farms forever. The great mistake these humans make is to build cities and homes in flooded areas. Of course it is so one money spender and sports to go fishing advocate the spending our money for dams. I remember well three quarters of a century ago most of Iowa prairie were covered with lakes duck ponds. The system then was to drain these ponds to get the water off. Now to prevent floods is not to hold water back but to widen straighten streams build canals to carry surplus water away. I was in K.C. in 1903-1904 now this last flood there the first in nearly 50 yrs. Does it make sense to ruin forever these fine farms to prevent a flood every 50 yrs. In 50 yrs silt will fill the lake then where will the dam prevent floods. Think this over these army authorities only think of now not if it will help the future. Yours truly H. C. Jacobs

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

I had

February 19, 1953

Mr. A.E.S. Danner
Newton, Kansas

Dear Mr. Danner:

I have your recent letter commenting on flood control and offering suggestions thereto. As you know, I appointed a special survey committee to study the Kaw River Basin and that report is now available. I am sure since the writing of your letter you have read about this report in the press, and as you will note many of the suggestions in your letter were identical by those made by the committee.

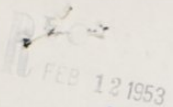
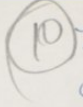
Thanking you for your interest, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



 Newton Kansas
 Feb 11-1953
 Hon Edward F. Arn:
 Dear Sir:
 I would like to tell you
 how this flood control looks to
 me.
 There are enough big dams built
 already, to demonstrate, how well
 they control floods. They are alright
 for irrigation & power, like the Hoover
 dam, where they do not destroy
 valuable farm land, cities, homes &
 cemeteries, And when the government
 can afford to build them. But for
 flood control, in my opinion, they
 are a failure. Besides the cost to
 build them, and buy out those
 valuable farm lands, would
 pay for the flood damage.
 Instead of big dams use those
 huge appropriations, to buy land
 on the hills and high ground
 near those flooded towns, build
 comfortable homes on the high

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ground, & move² those that lost
their all, free of cost to them. Also
instead of using those huge app-
ropriations for the Tuttle Creek
dam and the other big dams planned
for the Kaw river watershed, use it
to build small dams; By the hun-
dreds; On all the small creeks of
the water shed. And terracing all
the sloping plowed land.

This plan would furnish work
for hundreds of small construction
companies and could be accomplished
in one year, instead of many
years. It would not only be
more of a flood control than big
dams, But instead of destroying
our valuable farm land and homes,
it would benefit the whole nation.

My wish is that this adminis-
tration would make a demonstration
of the Kaw river watershed. It
would benefit all the people,
damage none, and be more of a
flood control than big dams.

The farmers cannot do this in
many years; Even though

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

many of us here, it would benefit us much. Besides for example; On my farm of 160 acres there could be three small dams built that would hold practically all the water that would fall on their watersheds and would destroy but little, valuable ground. But only one of them would benefit me, by furnishing water for my stock. The other two will never be built by me, but would gladly donate the sites in the interest of flood control. I do not live on the Kaw watershed, & am not writing this for personal gain.

But the new deal had their fling at big dams, big expense, big damage, and little benefit.

I would like to see this administration try the more sane, sensible and less expensive plan.

Yours respectfully
A. C. Danner