

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Section 27, Pages 781 - 810

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

May 6, 1953

Mr. J. P. Maurin
Mid-West Oil Company
50 to 60 South James Street
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Maurin:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

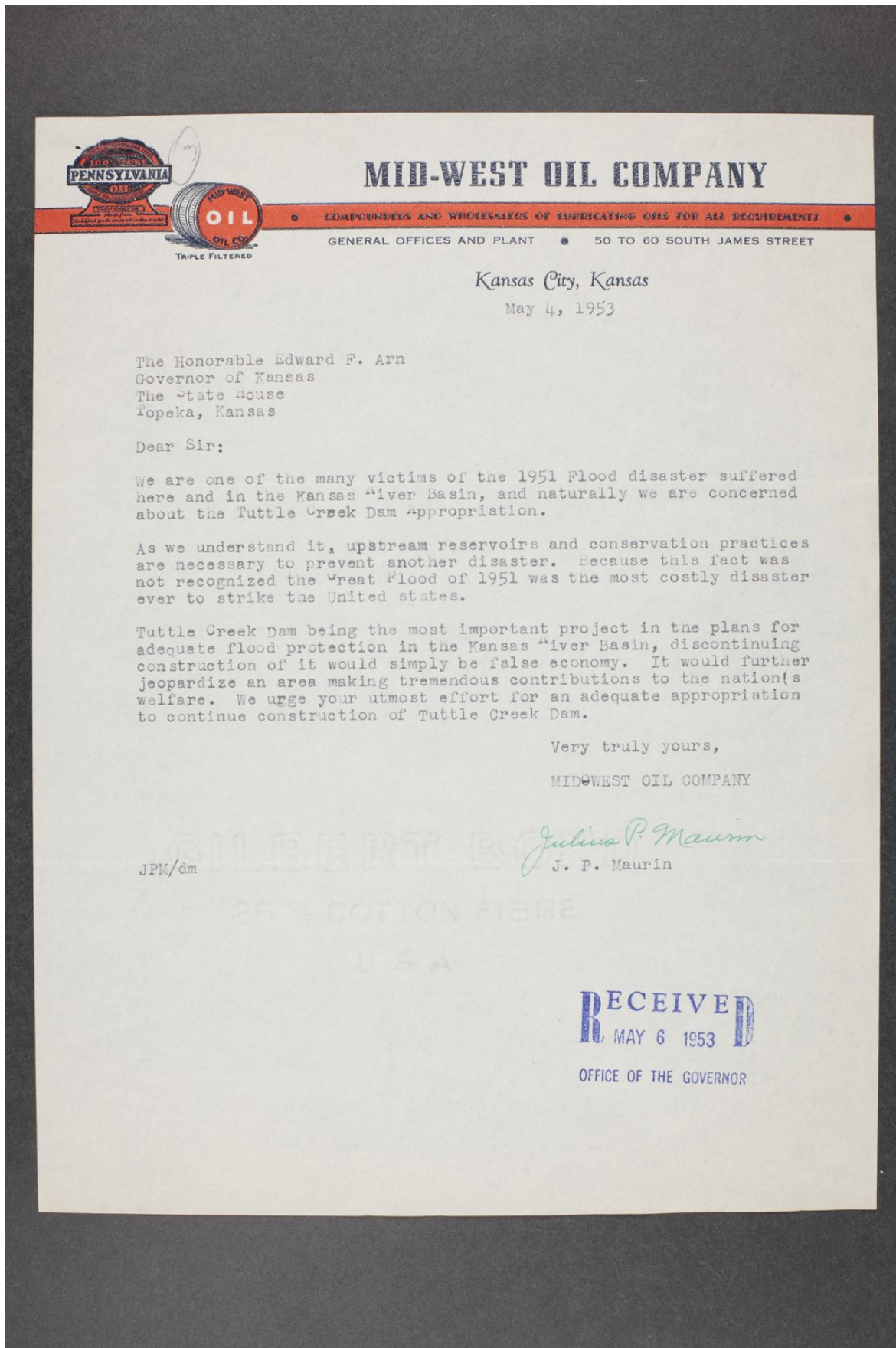
With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

May 6, 1953

Mr. Charles J. MacGowan
International President
Brotherhood of Boilermakers
570 New Brotherhood Building
Kansas City 11, Kansas

Dear Mr. MacGowan:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

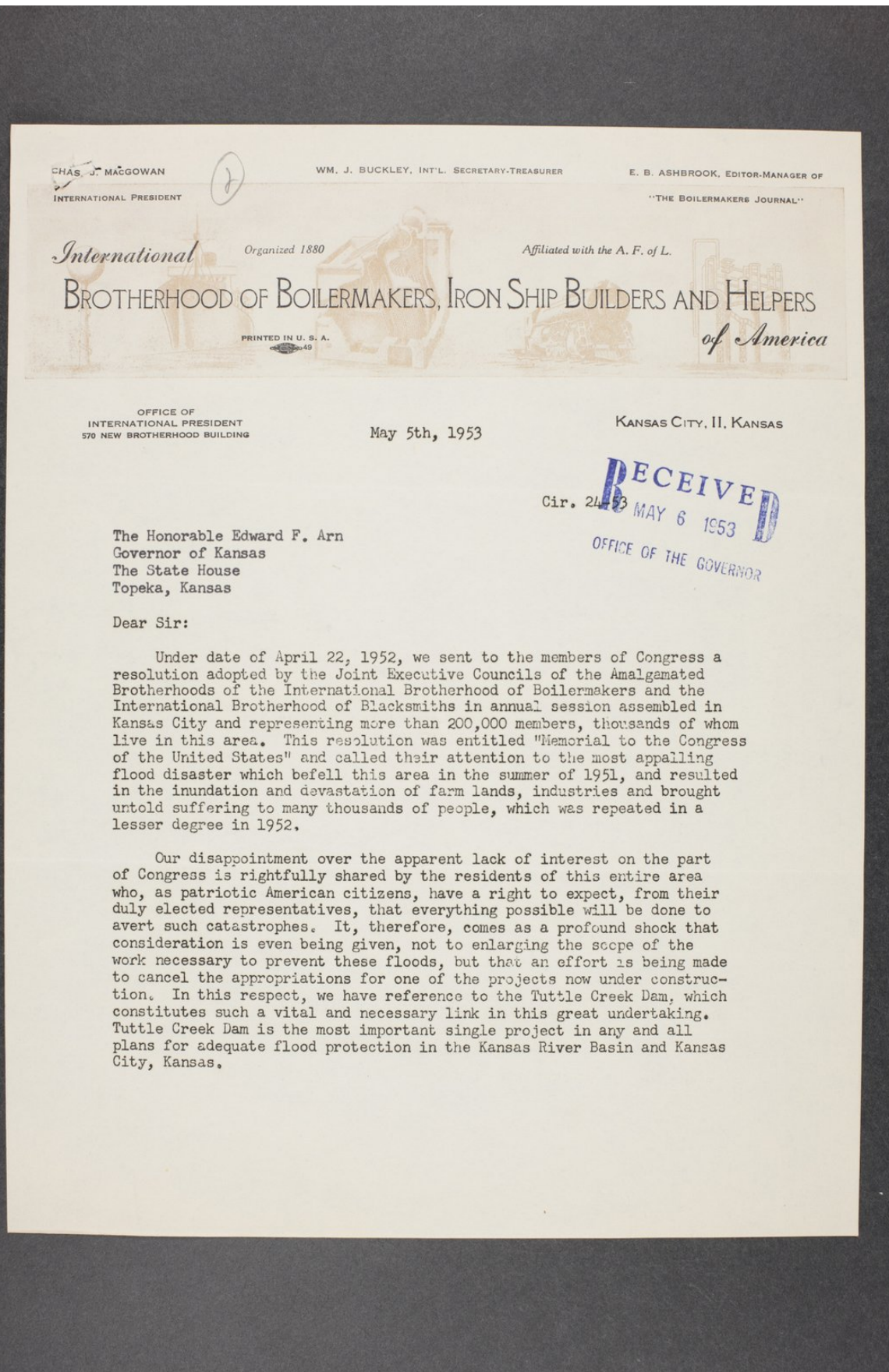
With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Page #2

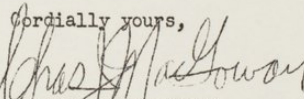
May 5th, 1953

Discontinuing construction of this Dam would be nothing short of willful neglect and false economy, since it would not only leave the people in this basin to the mercy of torrential floods but it would jeopardize the industrial expansion of this area which has been making such an outstanding contribution to the nation's welfare. It is indeed unfortunate that an organized minority, because of purely selfish interests, is attempting to make the nation and Congress believe the reservoir system is the wrong way to prevent and control floods on the Kaw River. If these reservoirs had been built years ago the great flood of 1951, which was the most costly disaster to strike the United States, would either have been averted or definitely minimized.

As a member of Congress the people of this area are counting on your support for the continuation of the Tuttle Creek Dam. Political differences must be submerged in the interests of the people so that the cherished hopes of many thousands in this area for the future may be maintained and the specter of reoccurring floods bannished forever.

Our approach to this problem does not involve other fringe issues, such as irrigation, generation of electric power or any other question, but wholly and completely our demand is that you please assist in restraining the devastating flood waters of the Kansas River.

In behalf of the many thousands of members of our Amalgamated Brotherhoods residing in this area who are vitally interested in and will be affected by this decision and in the interest of the community at large, I remain

Cordially yours,

CHARLES J. MacGOWAN
International President

CJM:EP
oeiu#4afl

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

*For
T. C. Cook*

May 6, 1953

Mr. C. L. Gleason, President
Frank Purcell Walnut Lumber Co.
12th and Kaw River
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Gleason:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

With every good wish, I am

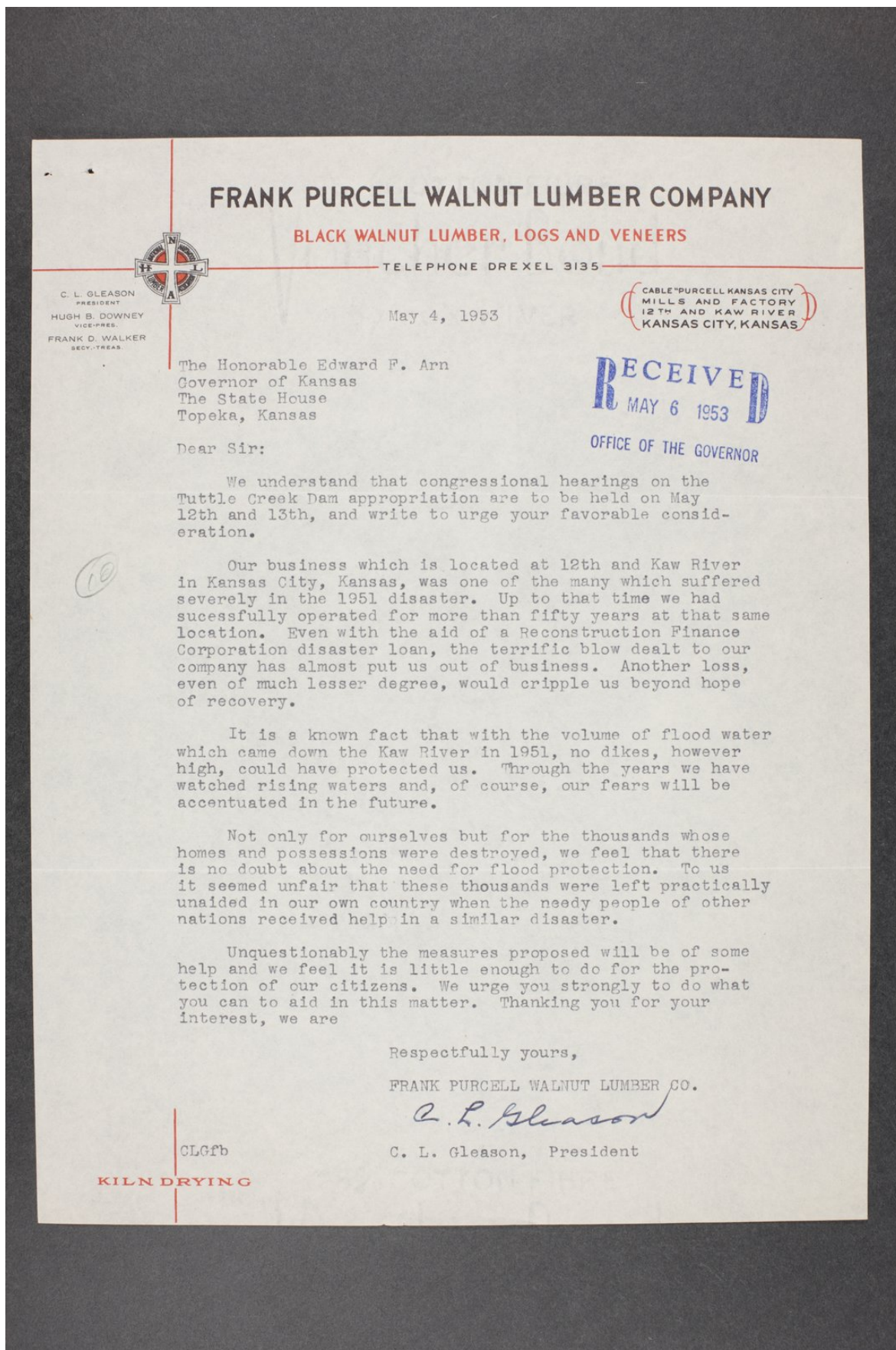
Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

*You
Thank*

May 6, 1953

Mr. L. J. Canfield, President
Inter-State Moving & Storage Co., Inc.
Eighteenth and Minnesota
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Canfield:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

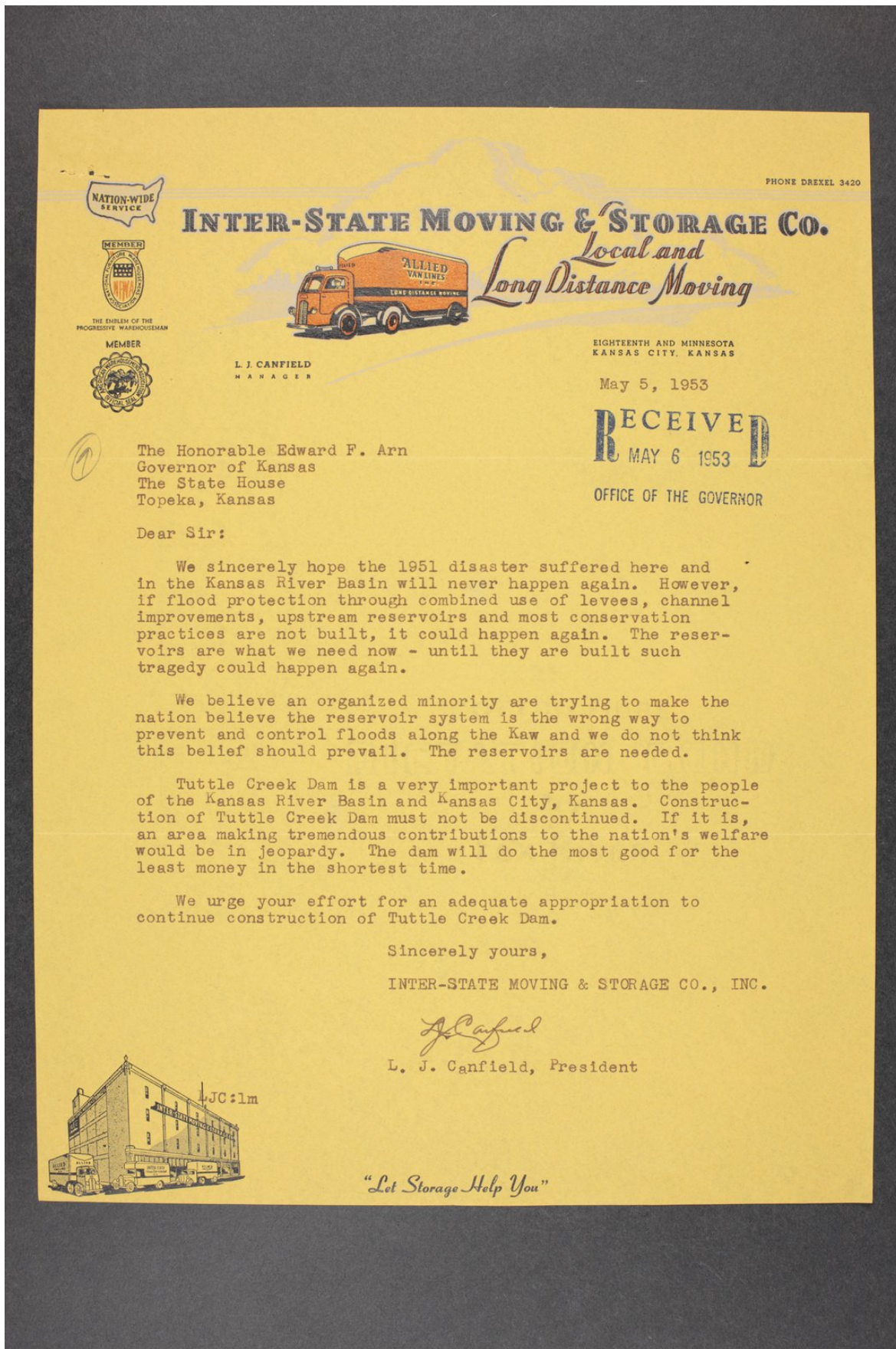
With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

*For
J. Ark*

May 6, 1953

Mr. Harry O. Tinklepaugh
Tinklepaugh-Lind Insurance
731 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City 1, Kansas

Dear Mr. Tinklepaugh:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

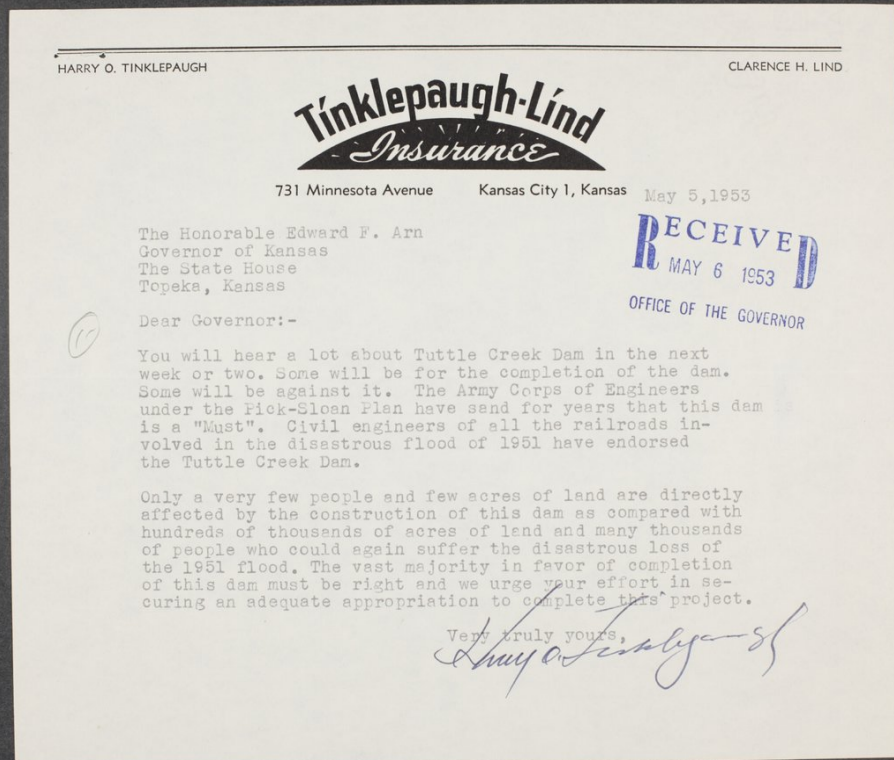
With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

May 7, 1953

Mr. A. Reed Wilson
1320 McGee
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

A. REED WILSON
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

4 May 1953

The Honorable Edward F. Arn
Governor of Kansas
The State House
Topeka, Kansas

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1953
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

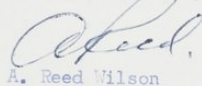
Dear Governor Arn:

Although a native born Missourian and a resident of Kansas City, Missouri, I am interested in flood control generally for this area. Specifically in the construction of the Tuttle Creek Dam. Had the Missouri River been bank full at the time of our 1951 flood, results would have been much more disastrous.

As a member of the Kansas City, Kansas Chamber of Commerce and having business as well as other interests in the State of Kansas, I want to make a definite plea for continuance of construction of the Tuttle Creek Dam. Several agencies and investigating committees have approved the Army Engineers' plan of flood control in general. There seems to be adequate reasons to carry out this plan, the most important project being the Tuttle Creek Dam.

I want to go on record as urging that adequate appropriation be made to continue construction of the Tuttle Creek Dam. In the belief that this project is for the best interests of the majority throughout this area and for the Nation as a whole, I plead your support also.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,



A. Reed Wilson

ARW:es

P.S. With this letter comes my very best personal wishes and goodwill.

A.R.W.

1320 Mc Gee

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

May 7, 1953

Mr. George J. Siebers, President
George J. Siebers Insurance Co.
205 Security Bank Bldg.
Kansas City 1, Kansas

Dear Mr. Siebers:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

George J. SIEBERS & Co., Inc.
INSURANCE and BONDS



205 SECURITY BANK BLDG.
KANSAS CITY 1, KANSAS
TELEPHONE FAIRFAX 2200

May 5, 1953

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1953

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The Honorable Edward F. Arn
Governor of Kansas
The State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor:

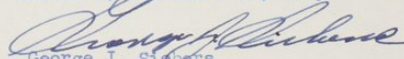
As one of the many in our vicinity who has suffered and seen the terrible disastrous results of the 1951 flood, I would like to express my views on the Tuttle Creek Dam.

The Tuttle Creek Dam in my estimation is a very important spoke in the wheel of flood protection not only for Kansas City, Kansas, but the other cities in the valley, as well as the not to be forgotten farmer. Why a selfish interest of a minority organization is trying to influence the minds of our governing people on the necessity of the reservoir system is beyond my understanding. It would be false economy to discontinue the construction of this dam.

I sincerely trust that you will give this matter your serious consideration when confronted with this matter.

Very truly yours

GEORGE J. SIEBERS & CO. INC.


George J. Siebers
President

GJS/cc

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

May 7, 1953

Mr. Charles Carter
Carter Advertising Agency, Inc.
912 Baltimore Avenue
Kansas City 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Carter:

On behalf of the Governor who is attending the Governor's Conference in Washington called by President Eisenhower, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning flood control.

Please be assured that it will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

In the meantime, I know he would want me to express his appreciation of your thoughtfulness and interest in advising him of your views on this subject.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

CARTER ADVERTISING AGENCY, INC.
912 BALTIMORE AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 5, MISSOURI

HARRISON 1356

May 6, 1953

The Honorable Edward F. Arn
Governor of Kansas
The State House
Topeka, Kansas

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1953
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Governor Arn:

My purpose in writing you is to direct your attention to and urge your support of a project - vital to every person living in this area - on which Congressional hearings will be held in Washington on May 12 and 13. This project - the TUTTLE CREEK DAM - is the most important single project in any and all adequate flood protection plans for the Kansas River Basin and adjoining territory.

The 1951 disaster suffered here and in the Kansas River Basin must never happen again. Unquestionably, the adequate means of flood protection here is through combined use of levees, channel improvements, upstream dams and reservoirs and conservation practices.

The dams and reservoirs are what we need most now. Because they had not been built, the flood of 1951 was the most costly disaster ever to strike in the United States. Until they are built, such tragedy can happen again and again.

It is within your realm of power - and that of our Kansas Congressmen and members of affected Committees, to prevent a recurrence of such wanton devastation. The TUTTLE CREEK DAM appropriation must be approved. Your support of this project is a "must" for our people, and will be deeply appreciated by the thousands of citizens living in overflow areas. Thank you for your active support of this legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Carter

Charles Carter

CC:es

Re: 1025 No. 25th St.
Kansas City, Kansas

MEMBER : NATIONAL ADVERTISING AGENCY NETWORK

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

May 21, 1953

Tuttle Creek

Mr. L. D. Wadsworth, President
Wadsworth Homes Inc.
2949 Chrysler Road
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Wadsworth:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing your views on Tuttle Creek Dam. Please be assured that they are of extreme interest to me and deeply appreciated.

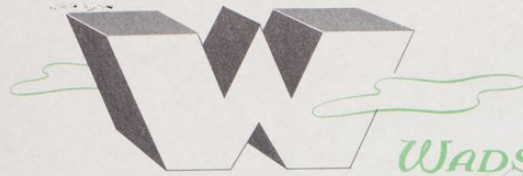
With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



WADSWORTH HOMES INC.

TELEPHONE ATWATER 9805

2949 CHRYSLER ROAD

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

May 11 1953

The Honorable Edward F. Arn
Governor of Kansas
The State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor Arn:

We are in the flood area with a potential loss of approximately \$500,000. without recourse available.

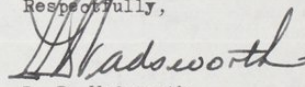
Upstream is a limited number of people whose homes would be flooded by Tuttle Creek Dam. These people will be paid full value for such loss.

How do you think they would feel if they were subject to flood loss without recourse?

Should a limited few who can't lose, block steps to protect thousands now facing full loss?

There is only one answer regardless of the clamoring of an "abused" minority

Respectfully,


L. D. Wadsworth
President

LDW:ew



ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF NATIONAL HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION FAIRFAX INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

September 21, 1951

Miss Pauline Peterson
Lindsborg, Kansas

Dear Miss Peterson:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing your views on flood control for the state of Kansas. In all sincerity, let me tell you how much I appreciate your interest in this problem.

Of course, as you know, the matter of over-all flood control is a function of the Federal Government and Congress. Although the powers of my office are extremely limited in such matters, I assure you that every possible effort will be made to effect a complete water-shed program that will take into consideration all of the many phases of this problem.

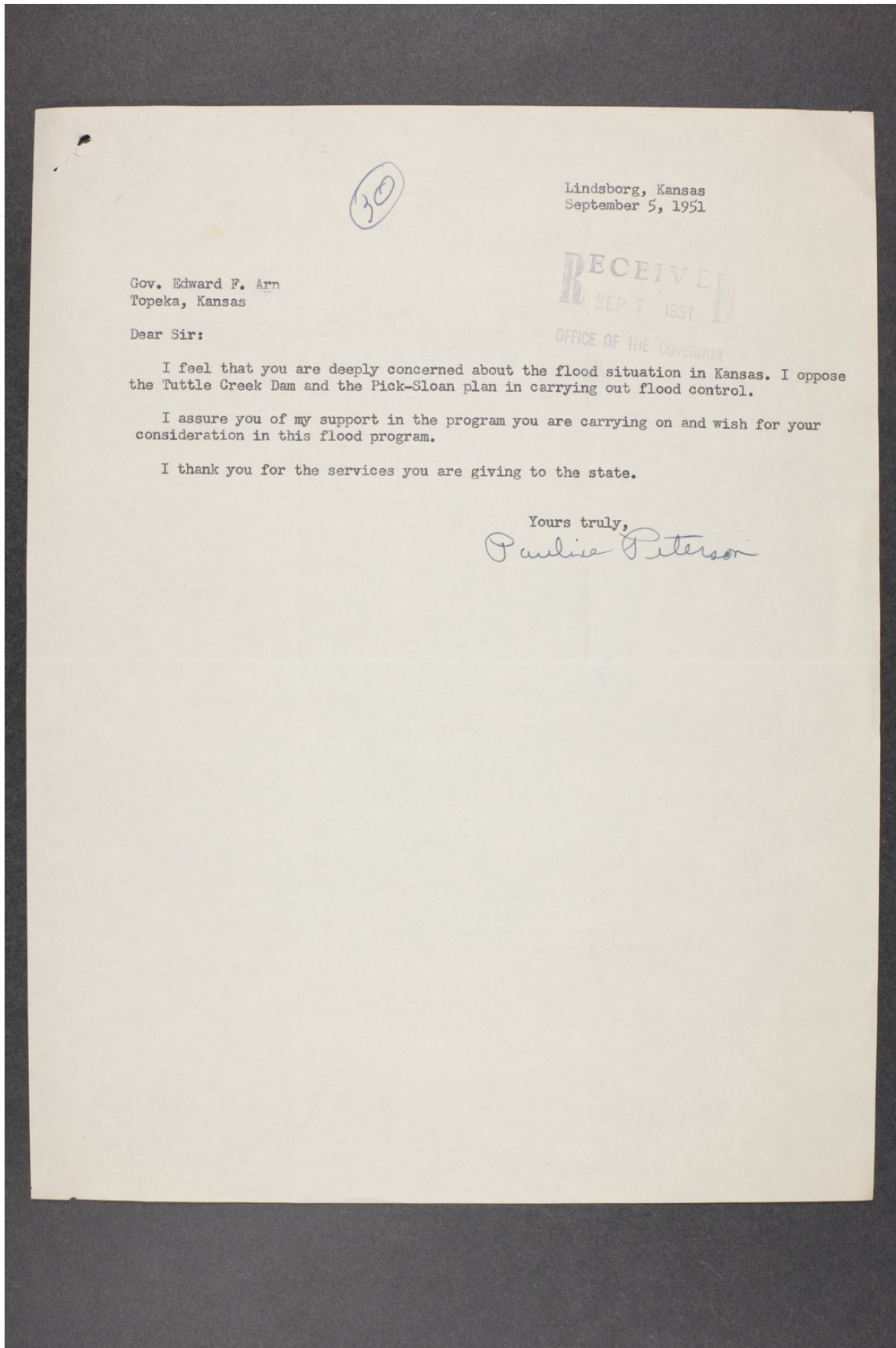
Thanking you again for your interest in this matter of such vital concern to our state, I remain

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR

EFA:fk

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Lindsborg, Kansas
September 5, 1951

Gov. Edward F. Arn
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sir:

I feel that you are deeply concerned about the flood situation in Kansas. I oppose the Tuttle Creek Dam and the Pick-Sloan plan in carrying out flood control.

I assure you of my support in the program you are carrying on and wish for your consideration in this flood program.

I thank you for the services you are giving to the state.

Yours truly,

Pauline Peterson

RECEIVED
SEP 7 1951
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

August 18, 1952

Mr. Paul Schmitz
Alma, Kansas

Dear Mr. Schmitz:

In the absence of the Governor, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter concerning the construction of the Tuttle Creek Dam. You may be assured that this matter will be brought to the attention of the Governor upon his return to the office, and I am confident he will give it his fullest consideration.

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

Sincerely yours,

ED CHAPMAN, JR.
Sec'y. to the Governor

EC:cmr



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

RECEIVED
AUG 12 1952 (10) Alina Kansas
Dear Gov. Arn, I am writing to know if there
could be any steps taken to prevent the construction of
the Tuttle creek dam on the Blue river. It seems to
me the people of Kansas ought to have something
to say instead of the army engineers having it
all to say. The building of this dam will ruin one
of the most fertile and productive valleys in the
entire nation. The engineers care nothing about the future
of Kansas and if they continue to build such dams in
Kansas the heart of agriculture is ruined and the
future of Kansas is blank. The Blue river has as yet
never done a great deal of damage in flood time as 80%
of all flood water in the Kaw river in '52 came from
the Smoky Hill, Republican, Solomon and Saline rivers.
If the army engineers would recommend detention dams
(dry dams) on the tributaries, and soil conservation to hold
the water when it falls until it all drains out
would meet with 100% approval and there would
never be any flooding of the big rivers as they would
never get more than bank full and very little land
would be ruined and it would not cost near as
much of the taxpayers money as the big dams. Could
you as governor and the Kansas delegation in Washington
stop this issue for the time being to let the people of
Kansas express their views of the future of Kansas instead
of Kansas being partly deserted. Very truly yours
Paul Schmitz

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

18 August 1952

Mr. Bill House
Attorney at Law
Cedar Vale, Kansas

Dear friend House:

I appreciate your nice letter of August 9. I am in entire accord with everything you say concerning the proposed Tuttle Creek dam. I don't know whether you missed it or not but I have on many, many occasions before the Congress and before meetings of the flood control groups, Missouri Basin Agency meetings, et cetera, stated that the paramount factor in flood control was a watershed treatment and soil conservation program which would retain the rainfall on the uplands and upper tributaries where it fell.

I did, of course, say that I was not qualified to say that any particular large dam should or should not be constructed but that we should not go to that expense and inconvenience to people living in the valley until, as a last resort, it was determined that such construction was absolutely essential to flood control; that I realized the necessity of a comprehensive program involving perhaps some large dam construction, the building of dikes and levees particularly in municipal areas and certainly an adequate soil conservation, watershed treatment program.

I call attention to the present confusion and difficulty being caused by the fact that the Corps of Army Engineers go off in one direction with their program, the Soil Conservation Division of the Department of Agriculture going off in another direction and the Bureau of Reclamation in still a third direction --- with no

- 1 -

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

Mr. Bill House

- 2 -

18 August 1952

coordination among any of them. Now I understand that Congress has appropriated money for the Tuttle Creek dam and as you suggest in your letter, I doubt if anything can be done to change the picture.

Although I am not in a position to release it at this time, I can tell you confidentially that I have asked the Kansas Industrial Development Commission to use a nominal amount of its funds made available for research and to try to get an independent engineering authority to make an independent survey. I do not mean by that that they would start out from scratch and make an entirely new survey for themselves, because time will not permit it; but that such an independent engineering agency could acquire engineering reports from a half-dozen or so public agencies and private industries and coordinate the facts and figures therein contained and perhaps come up with a suggestion that might be valuable and advantageous.

Both the watershed group and the proponents of the big dams seem to be in accord with the advisability of such an approach. I cannot say at this time just how it will work out but I do hope within the next several days we can accomplish something in this respect.

You mention that it would be well for me to drive up the Blue Valley. I have driven over that area many times and I am quite familiar with it; and as I say, I am in full accord with the statements contained in your letter. You ask that I give the matter consideration. I have done so and I am doing so and would be pleased to have any concrete suggestions which you might have to offer as to what a Governor or any other state official might be able to do under the circumstances.

Anytime you have occasion to be down this way, I would be happy to have you stop by the office for a visit. Meanwhile, with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

G O V E R N O R

EFA-cr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

BILL HOUSE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
CEDAR VALE, KANSAS

August 9, 1952

RECEIVED
AUG 13 1952

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Ed Arn
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor:

I read in the paper where work is to begin on the Tuttle Creek Dam on the Blue River. Having been along the valley last fall and seen the beauty and richness of it, I would be avoiding my responsibilities as a citizen and resident of our state if I did not voice my sincere opposition to this program of converting this valley, along with many others, into a huge basin of unproductive water.

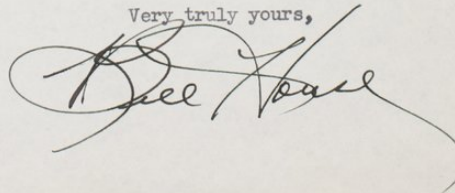
I have watched with growing concern the continual push of federal agencies to spread their destruction throughout this and other states. The only basis for such a program is flood control, but the figures show that the Blue River contributed very little to the Kansas City flood. As for rural losses resulting from the flood, they are part of the risk taken by those in agriculture, and this year's crops along the Kaw prove that a quick comeback is certain. And down through the years the floods have created the finest land in Kansas.

Would it not be better to move residential sections of the cities to higher ground where they would be forever free of the threat of floods, and leave the best farm lands of Kansas to be tilled by the people who have thus far produced so abundantly? Do we have to destroy every valley in Kansas so that industry can reach into the lower reaches of the Kaw and Missouri bottoms, rather than expand into areas above flood level? I am certain that the entire program is dead wrong, that we are only preparing for greater disasters to come by promising protection that we can never be sure of giving.

I hope that you will load your family into the car and drive up this valley in the near future and talk the matter over with them. Sometimes the best advice comes from within your own family and after all, Kansas is their heritage. The people that are to be driven out of this valley are the people that have made Kansas what it is today, and we all know that it is a poor trade that replaces them with the parasitic, bureaucratic members of the federal army.

Please give this your consideration, because already it may be too late.

Very truly yours,



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

March 24, 1952

Mrs. Harold Rohrer
Route 2
Junction City, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Rohrer:

Thank you for your recent letter setting forth your views on Tuttle Creek Dam. You may be assured that your thoughts on this subject are of extreme interest to me and deeply appreciated. However since it is possible you haven't had the opportunity to read my full statements setting forth my position in regard to this proposed project, I am enclosing herewith a copy of my statement as given to the Congressional Committee, which recently heard testimony on the construction of this dam.

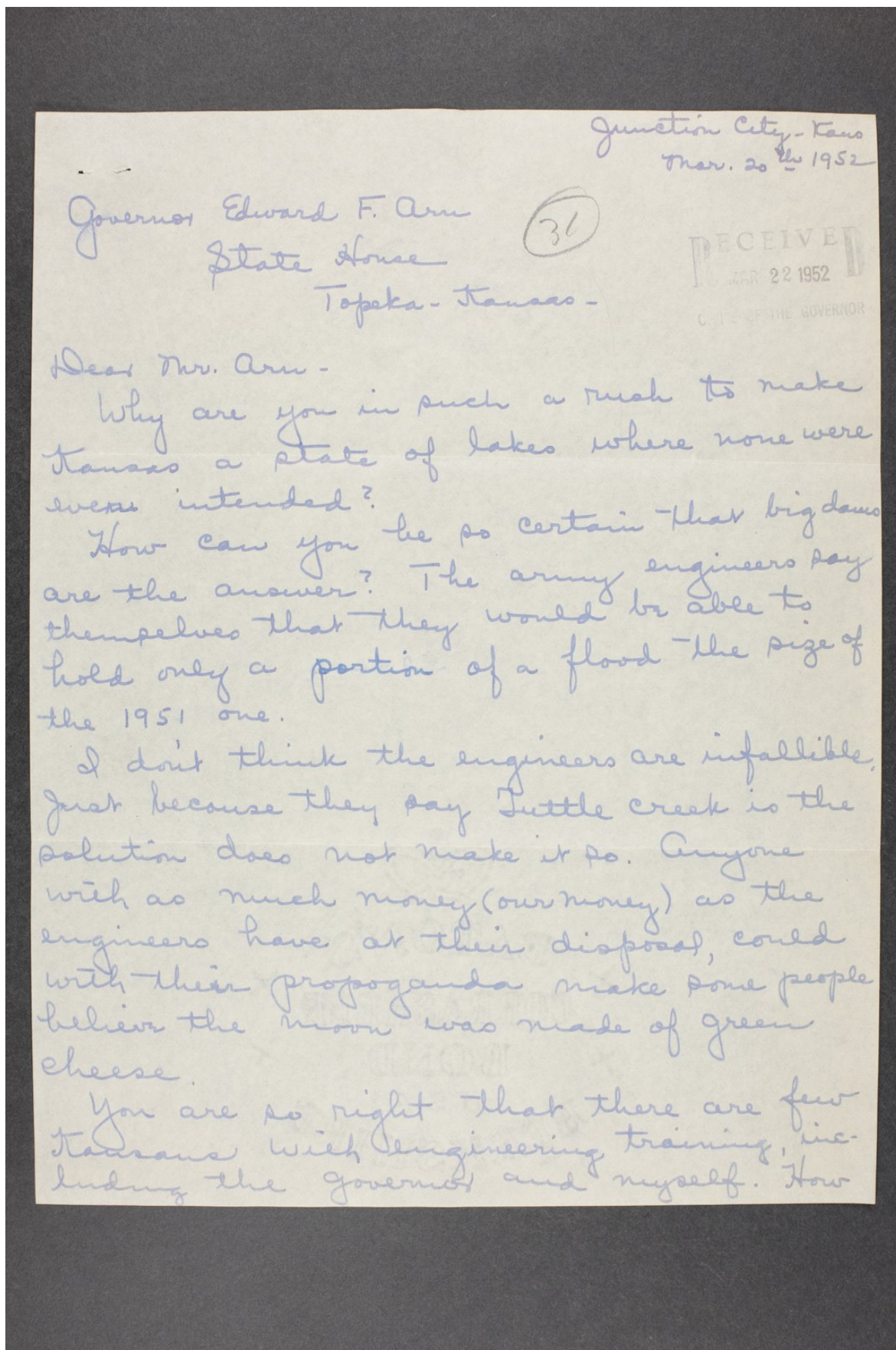
Thanking you for your interest in this matter, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

GOVERNOR

EFA:cmr

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59



Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

do you get your information? I get mine from engineers who are just as smart as the army ones.

We, of the Clark's Creek Geary county watershed would like to have sufficient money so that we could prove to Kansas City and Topeka that we can have flood control and still keep our land to produce the food we so badly need. If we can control even 50% of the floods which come occasionally no one will be hurt very much.

If the proposed dams on the creeks of Kansas go in, hundreds of thousands of acres of the best land will be under water from now on. On our watershed alone 3000 acres will no longer be able to produce wheat corn, dairy products and meat.

Do the people in the cities think that food comes off the shelves in grocery stores or that milk comes in the bottle?

I think it is high time the people of the cities and towns think some of cooperating with those of us who make it possible for them to eat three square meals a day.

I love this Kansas soil with my whole being and will not sit in upon the rape of my state without struggle. Yours Truly Helen M. Robert (Mrs. Harold)

Governor Edward Arn, correspondence files, box 59

