

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Section 9, Pages 241 - 270

These folders contain correspondence state agency files and subject files from the Governor Woodring collection. Some subjects included are the American Legion, American Red Cross, American-War Mothers, Betsy Ross Corps, Boy Scouts, Child Welfare, and Coal.

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Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Sept 27-1931

Governor Woodring
Topeka Kans.

Dear sir,

no this

Driver's License

I will have to ask you
to fix it so I do not have to
use one of those drivers licences
as Revelations the 13th chapter
and the 16th and 17th verses do
not permit Christians to do
business under numbers or
marks. I if you want to tax
my car or truck all well and
good but this Government
allows a man to serve God
according to the dictates of his
conscience, and I must have
my rights But I think it is an
outrage to compell even a higher
tax. These times when work is so
scarce, and all the talk is just
the unemployed to work and

Then take thear money they need
for thear families. and it will
put thousands out of work that
pick up a few dollare now
and then with thear troubles. I
must ask you for my rights
I have wrote mr Brewster
U.S. attorney all so and
will surley look for your
protection as well as his.
If you will read all of
Revelations I am sure you will
be considerate.

16 and 17 verses, and he caused all
both small and great, rich and poor,
free and bond, to receive ^a mark in
thear right hand or in thear forehead
and that no man might buy
or sell save he that had the mark, or
the name of the beast, or the number
of his name,

And verser 9th and 10th of C. 14
says, and the third angel followed
them saying with a loud voice.
If any man worship the beast
and his image, and shall receive
his mark in his forehead or in
his hand. The same shall drink
of the wine of the wrath of God.

Yours truly

C J Cannon

R No 8

Winfield

Kans

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

File

WINSTON G. RAMEY, M. D.
EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.
GLASSES FITTED.
PROTECTION, KANSAS.

Sept 26-'31

Gov. Harry H. Woodring
Topeka, Kansas
My Dear Governor,

Please have Mr. King
send me one hundred Driver's Application
blanks at once, unless he has
sent them within the last few
days. as I ordered them Sept. 22-'31
and have not received them.

Ford 9/26/31
y

Yours,
W. G. Ramsey.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

September 26, 1931

Mr. C. J. Curtis
The Curtis Agency
Osage City, Kansas

My dear Mr. Curtis:

While application forms for operators licenses were forwarded to you, as requested, I find that your letter has not been answered.

We should have informed you that completed applications, together with fees therefor, should be forwarded to your County Treasurer, in order to avoid confusion in the handling of funds in the Vehicle Department..

The Vehicle Commissioner evidently misplaced your requests for application forms in the large volume of mail he receives, as he knows of my desire that such requests be given prompt attention.

It was a pleasure to render this slight service; and if this office can be of any further service to you, please feel free to call upon us.

Assuring you that I appreciate your support and the information in regard to your father, I am

Sincerely yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Post

The Curtis Agency

Real Estate in All Its Branches
Business Investments

OSAGE CITY, KANSAS September 10th 1931.

Hon. Harry H. Woodring, Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

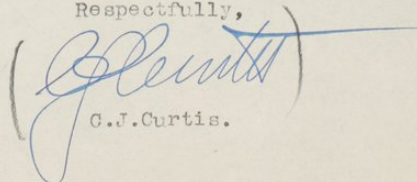
My dear sir:

I have written several letters to Mr. Victor L. King, State vehicle Commissioner, asking that he send me the necessary supplies, so that I could receive Applications for Automobile Drivers Licenses. I do not seem to be able to receive any reply from this gentleman.

I might say for your information that I was with the Citizens State Bank of this city for over 25 years, that I have been a Notary Public for over 20 years, that my father was a Democrat and I followed in his footsteps (take this last for what it is worth), and I believe I am capable of receiving and forwarding the the Honorable vehicle Commissioner, applications as above stated.

I will appreciate it if you will have someone look up the matter and see that I receive the necessary said supplies. Thank you.

Respectfully,


G.J. Curtis.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 6, 1931

Mrs. Walter Shearon
Lyons, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Shearon:

Replying to your letter of September 30, permit me to say that the law only requires that the application be sworn to before a Notary or some other officer authorized to attest such statements. The only fee the State gets is the 25¢ which goes to pay the expenses of the Vehicle Department. In many places the Notaries are giving their services freely. If you can find one to do that it is so much the better.

I note what you say with regard to married women holding County offices and requesting that I investigate. County officers are elected by the votes of the County and the Governor has nothing whatever to do with it. There is no reason why I should investigate the choice of the voters of your County, and such an investigation would be merely a waste of time since there is no way in which I could change the result.

Thanking you for your letter, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

720-E. ave. 8-
(17700)
Lyons Kan
Sept. 30. 1931
Mr. Harry Woodring, Hon. Gov.
Dear Sir.
Will you please
advise me if it is lawful for
Rice Co., to charge fifteen cents for
notary fees when applying for
drivers license. We never was
sworn at all, she just ask a
few questions.
Is this a just way to serve the
people? Why don't you also invest
● it and see why so many ^{married} women
are holding county offices when our
married unemployed men whom are
capable could use these salaries to
support families. I'd like a reply. Resp.
Mrs. Walter Shuman

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

The law only
requires that the appli-
cant swear to before
a Notary & if you can
get one to do it fine ok etc

① County officers are elected by
the ~~people~~ voters of the County & the
Gov. has nothing to do with
it & no reason to investigate
the choice of the ~~Gov~~ voters
of your county

HMM

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 9, 1931

*Prime Dept.
Vehicle Dept.*

Amos L Campbell
Manchester, Kansas

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I have your letter of October 6 in which you make application as a state officer in your community. There is no provision for anything of that kind there now and nothing in that line that is available. Should anything develop I will be glad to give your application consideration with others.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Nothing Available Now
 Manchester Kan Oct 6th 1931
 Gov Woodring
 Topeka Kan

Dear Governor I would like a job as
 State officer & I think we need one here as I
 dont think people pay much attention to laws
 I will handle a job like it for fifty dollars
 a month & am sure I can see that they
 get their drivers licence I ^{am} still Dep Shiffe but
 I dont feel like I can afford to force the law
 & pay my own expenses please let me know
 how you feel about it

Yours Respt
 Cmos H Campbell
 Manchester
 Kan

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 14, 1931

Photo Exhibit

Mr. T. J. Richardson, Cashier
Farmers State Bank
Circleville, Kansas

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Your letter of October 6 addressed to
Mr. Guy Helvering, Secretary to the Governor,
in regard to Miss Floy Brown was delivered to
this office.

Your interest in Miss Brown is fully
appreciated and she has been informed that she
may visit her mother at any time it may become
necessary, and that her position will await her
return.

With continued good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16



FARMERS STATE BANK



CIRCLEVILLE, KANSAS

October 5th. 1931.

Mr. Guy Helvering, Secty To Governor

Topeka----- Kansas.

Dear Mr. Helvering :-

I write you regarding Miss Floy Brown, a stenographer in one of the offices in the State house, I was not informed as to what office.

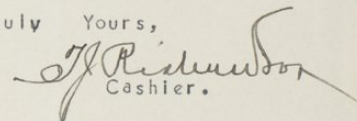
Miss Brown's mother, Mrs. N. A. Brown, who is now at the home of her son in Holton, Kas. and at the point of death, and Miss Floy is unable to be called at any time.

What I want to say is, if Miss Floy is called to her mother's bedside or in case of her death, taken away from her work temporarily, could she have assurance of again taking up her work?

The death of Mrs. Brown will entail considerable expense on her father, who will be left with two minor children and has recently lost his farm to the Federal Land bank at Wichita. I would be much pleased if you can assure me that Miss Floy can return to her present position should she be called away temporarily in the event of her mother's death?

The family are worthy people and entitled to the consideration of her employers under the present circumstances; and trust you can give matter your prompt attention and will thank you in advance for your kindness to both.

Very Truly Yours,


Cashier.

*Miss Brown says
her Grand parents were
behind this, but she would
appreciate a leave in
event of her mother's
death. Ross*

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 29, 1931

Honorable Robert M. Gruber
Mayor
Frontenac, Kansas

Dear Mayor Gruber:

Many thanks for your letter of October 15 relative to the appointment of Mr. Joe Sia as Deputy State Vehicle Inspector. I am happy to know that this selection meets with your approval and with the approval of the citizens of your community.

I am

With kindest personal regards,

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

OFFICERS:

ARTHUR LEFEVRE, Police Judge
PETER BICKEL, City Treasurer
JULIUS LAFORTE, City Marshal
I. W. DOPKING, Water Supt.

CITY of FRONTENAC

ROBERT GRUBER, MAYOR
J. C. LAVERY, CITY CLERK

COUNCILMEN:

JOSEPH VACCA
ED. EINHELLIG
MATT KNOLL
JOHN ZIEGLER
JOHN CORNELLA
LOUIS HEBENSTREIT
VALENTINE DELLADIO
A. H. ASHBACHER

Acknowledged
Frontenac, Kansas, October 15, 1931.

Governor Harry H. Woodring
Topeka, Kansas.

Honorable Governor:

I wish to complement you on your appointment of
Mr. Joe Sia of this city as deputy State Vehicle Inspector.

I sincerely believe that Mr. Sia will make a good and
competent officer, and I assure you that your selection meets
with the approval of the citizens of this city.

Yours Respectfully,

Robert M. Gruber
Mayor.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

THE INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION, INC.

GUARANTEE TITLE BUILDING

CLEVELAND, OHIO

TELEPHONE:
CHERRY 0958



November 11th, 1931.

The Honorable Harry H. Woodring,
Governor of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas.

Sir:

In our daily contact with the Motoring Public and the Automotive Industry, we have developed a taxation plan which we would like to present for the consideration of the State Legislative Groups. This proposal, which is outlined herein will prove very acceptable to all parties concerned, due to the fact that it embodies the following benefits: (1) provide a degree of relief in the existing unemployment situation, as well as (2) provide increased revenue for both the State and County. (3) Its adoption would relieve a percentage of highway accidents, thus providing a greater degree of public safety.

PROPOSED

It is generally conceded that the poorly conditioned used car with its attendant mechanical failures is responsible for an alarming percentage of highway accidents. Further, we believe, that in this economic crisis, the sale of used cars greatly exceeds the normal demand. In consequence this situation is more acute at this time than under ordinary conditions.

The thought that we have in mind is that if Legislation can be effected, so that used cars can only be re-sold to the public after having been certified and passed by a County Supervisor, the purchaser of the used car as well as the Motoring Public will derive an unquestioned benefit.

PUBLIC SAFETY

It is entirely reasonable to assume that the man buying a used car would be very glad to assume an additional ten dollars, which would be included in his contract. The certificate he would receive would assure him that the car was mechanically sound and fit for the highway and give him a greater confidence in his investment.

The detail machinery to handle this form of taxation is

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

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practically set up to function. Its adoption would simply mean that the Certificate of Inspection would have to accompany the transfer papers in passing title on the car.

INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

The points of inspection would be limited to the essentials such as: brakes, transmission, steering rods, wheel alignment, and the running gear. This sort of inspection could be handled in the space of one half hour; and, if properly handled, would eliminate the mechanical malfunctioning of used cars during that period when the new owner is becoming acquainted with the car operation.

REVENUE

It is suggested that the revenue received from this taxation be proportioned as follows: one dollar for inspection, four dollars and fifty cents for the County, and four dollars and fifty cents to go to the State. On this basis of proportionment, both the State and the County would receive the benefit of approximately 4,750 car transfers daily--in other words, a revenue of \$21,375 each, daily from this source. This calculation is conservatively based on the assumption that there is an average of fifty cars transferred daily in the ninety-five of the Kansas Counties. Annually this revenue would benefit both the County and State Treasuries to the extent of \$7,801,875.

EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

Analysing this proposal further, it is reasonable to assume that each County would employ an average of ten skilled mechanics to carry out this inspection program. On this basis the program would absorb 950 skilled mechanics in the State who are now numbered among the unemployed. These men could readily be paid on the basis of a dollar an hour and still leave sufficient margin in the one dollar inspection calculation to pay the complete administrative expense.

SUMMARY

Finally, may we sum up the entire proposal by stating that, in our opinion, this form of taxation would be welcomed by the purchaser of the used car, who under this program assumes the full burden for it. It would

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

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also provide a needed additional revenue to both the State and County. Further, the general public would find it very acceptable from the angle of public safety-- plus the partial relief in the employment situation.

In closing, may we emphasize that the position of this association is entirely altruistic relative to this proposal. The idea simply represents a constructive thought which has developed during the normal routine of our business. In passing it on for your consideration, we are doing so merely as a gesture of good will, prompted by a sincere desire to be helpful.

Sincerely yours,

A. B. Copeland
President.

A. B. Copeland - A. M. D.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

November 13, 1931

Miss Mary Lou Spencer
319 Walnut Street
Leavenworth, Kansas

Velie

Dear Miss Spencer:

I have your letter of October 11th 1931 relative to your application for a typist's position at the License Bureau and note you have given my name to Mr. King as reference.

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

COPY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

*Delivered
for*

November 18, 1931

Mr. Gene Sullivan
Atchison, Kansas

Dear Gene:

I have been much interested in your letter of November 14. Incidentally, it was quite a coincidence that you should write me on the same day that I appointed Winrow of Atchison, a Democrat, to the place formerly held by Morton, a Republican.

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

GENE A. HULL, EDITOR

J. E. RANK, MANAGING EDITOR

WILBUR C. HAWK, BUSINESS MANAGER

THE ATCHISON GLOBE

FULL LEASED WIRE
ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS

DAILY AND WEEKLY
BY THE GLOBE PUBLISHING CO.

MEMBER OF
AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

ATCHISON, KANSAS

November 14, 1931.

Governor Harry H. Woodring
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:-

I am writing you in regard to the application of Albert Morton, Atchison colored man, to be returned to his old position in the vehicle department, from which he was removed several months ago. He said that he discussed this with you and that you were not adverse to putting him back to work.

He was not taken out of service through any effort of mine, because I realized that as an employe under your administration he would be a big help in Atchison county in 1932. With him out of service he will be a big factor for us to contend with here, as he has a world of power among the negro voters.

My organization has been handicapped enough by internal strife among the Democrats here and I feel that if Morton is returned to serve it will be just a big worry off my mind as county chairman.

Had I been consulted in the matter, as a county chairman should have been, I would have been strongly against taking him out in the first place.

Sincerely,

Gene Sullivan
Gene Sullivan

Ans. I write a coincidence - your writing on 14th - for Atchison the 14th & I applied - Morton's address put to the place help a sign 11/14

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

W. H. W.

Atchison, Kansas,
November 21, 1931.

Governor Harry Woodring,
Topeka, Ks.

My dear Governor:

I want to express to you my appreciation
because of the appointment of Arazar Winrow
under the Vehicle Commissioner.

I think this is going to do a lot of good
here in Atchison. It meets with the approval
of every faction of the colored people. Of course,
with the exception of Albert Morton.

With very kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very cordially,

BPW-M

B. P. Wiggner

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

OSAGE COUNTY
KANSAS
Office of County Treasurer
Edward Wolfe, Treasurer,
Lyndon, Kansas.

November 25, 1931.

Mr. Victor L. King,
State Vehicle Commissioner,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. King:

I just read the item from Wichita in the Times this morning which I certainly do not agree with them. I want to say right now that this office has something else to do besides hunt up last year's registration for some bum that does not appreciate any service you might give them.

It seems that the Chamber of Commerce of Wichita has a great deal to say about how this Auto stuff is handled and while acting in the capacity of such an organization it would seem to me that an affair of this nature would be entirely out of order for a body of men of their capacity to even give any consideration.

I wish to say that there are plenty of other cities and Counties in this State to be considered and this is one County and County Treasurer that agrees with your plan on the 32 sale and I believe it will work out in good shape.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Edward Wolfe,
County Treasurer.

Everybody doesn't think we are wrong.

Victor L. King,
Vehicle Commissioner.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16



COPY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

November 27, 1931

Mr. Joseph O'Hare, Attorney
104 1/2 East 9th Avenue
Winfield, Kansas

Dear Mr. O'Hare:

Many thanks for your letter of November 26 calling my attention to the general dissatisfaction in your community with regard to the latest order of the Vehicle Commissioner. I agree with you concerning this matter in every particular and I am issuing a statement this afternoon which doubtless you will see in the papers before you receive this letter. While there are some grounds for the requirement under the 1929 Session Laws, it seems to me the law should have been put into effect prior to this year and only on due notice being given automobile owners that their registration cards must be preserved.

Thanking you for your interest,
I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

*Ans
I agree with
you from
using statement this
spring as per
H. H. W.*

JOSEPH O'HARE
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
104 1/2 E. 9TH AVENUE
WINFIELD, KANSAS

November 26th 1931

Governor Harry H. Woodring
Topeka, ^Kansas

Dear Sir:

There is very general dissatisfaction in this community with an order of the vehicle commissioner requiring motor car owners to produce ~~the~~ previous registration certificate, before one for next year will be issued to them; and in case they do not have the old certificate, they must pay the commissioner fifty cents for a duplicate.

This requirement is unreasonable, unnecessary and I do not believe contemplated by the registration enactment, and there is a general protest against the order.

These registration certificates issued heretofore, have not as a general rule been preserved by the car owners, as they were considered of no value after the license plate was delivered, and most of them became lost or destroyed. Nither the statute or any existing rule notified us they would have to be produced at a future application for registration.

Consequently if this new order is ^{adhered} to, and it be determined that it is within the power of the commissioner to impose it, then most of the motor vehicle owners will be obliged to pay the commissioner an additional fifty cents, which in the aggregate will be a large sum. This is unjust and wholly unnecessary.

The reason for the rule given is as unreasonable as the rule itself, being that the commissioner wants to be assured that the applicant is the actual owner of the car, in other words that he has not stolen it. ~~x in other words~~ we are all presumed to be car thieves until we have proven our innocence, which we can only do by paying the commissioner fifty cents.

The motor vehicle owners are certainly paying enough as it is without this additional burden. We pay our general valuation tax a registration tax, gasoline tax, drivers tax, many times several in the same family.

I do not believe the proposed requirement is legal, and is not with in the power of the commissioner to impose it, but whether it is or not, it is an unnecessary burden, and should not be imposed.

I trust you will consider this matter seriously and have the order vacated if possible.

At this time the people have taxation enough along with their other troubles without adding more. Very truly *Joe O'Hare*

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

November 30, 1931

Mr. W. J. Leatherman
Route 6
Hutchinson, Kansas

Dear Mr. Leatherman:

I have read your letter of November 27 with much interest. I heartily agree with you relative to the sufficiency of tax on motorists and also with regard to the Vehicle Commissioner's ruling on license receipts. As a matter of fact I had made an investigation of this matter at the time Mr. King's ruling was called to my attention, and had a statement prepared which would have met with your approval, but unfortunately the Attorney General states there is a law supporting King's ruling and that it has been in effect since 1929.

However, I find and hold there is no reason why any one should have to pay fifty cents to prove ownership. This easily may be done where the owner is known, even though the slip has been lost. Also, I have been advised that the Vehicle Commissioner has revised his order and has made it necessary only for the County Treasurer to satisfy himself as to whether the applicant really is the owner of the car.

On the other hand, there are many cars stolen and it was the intention of the law to protect yours and others by requiring proper transfers on the state records to accompany the sale of all cars.

I realize fully that motorists are taxed in many different ways, and also that general property taxes also carried must be reduced through a more equitable distribution of the tax burden which will force property now escaping taxation to carry its share. I long have advocated such measures and have not changed my stand in

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Page 2

Mr. W. J. Leatherman

November 30, 1932

any particular since my election.

However, I am not concerned that the duties of my office and my handling of them should be decided upon my desire to succeed myself, as you suggested. What I am more concerned about is doing whatever may be to the best interests of Kansas and its citizens, regardless of whether I or some one else may be elected Governor in 1932.

Thanking you for your interest, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Hon. Harry H. Woodring,
Governor of Kansas,
Topeka, Kan.

Dear Governor:

I notice in the daily press that Vehicle Commissioner King, whoever he is, has decreed that the Kansas motor car owner must produce his last year's license tag receipt, or verify ownership to his car, before he will be supplied with a new license tag when he applies for it next January 1.

This edict from a so-called commission head is going to cause lots of trouble to car owners, as well as expense, for Mr. King, or some one who assumes authority, has given it out that the ~~car~~ car owner will have to pay 50 cents for a duplicate tag receipt from the Secretary of State. Now no doubt there are thousands of Kansas car owners who have lost or misplaced their last year's license receipts and it will be a hard matter for them to find them in order to comply with this recent order from the vehicle department. It is alright to verify car ownership but this whim of asking for the legitimate owner's receipt and if he can find it tax him another 50 cents to get a duplicate is a step too far. People still rankle over the mix up the state had on the driver's license fee and they will not cool down quickly from the effects of this new ruling by some one who wants to assume he has dictatorial powers. Especially when you are advising the people to practice economy and cautioning governmental units to go slow in making levies for current expenses and get away from so much taxation. Is there any law to cover this ruling by Mr. King?

If there is no law to cover this question ~~it~~ it is about time you should take matters in hand and stop this foolishness of petty commission rule. And if you are sincere in your cautioning the people to use more economical practices in these depressed times you will step in and use your authority to suppress some of these ~~rule~~ rulings by commission heads and others who may be power mad.

The Kansas motorist has enough special tax to bear now as it is without some irresponsible person coming along and taxing another 25 cents or 50 cents for this thing and that. He had just as well say \$1 or \$10 and the car owner would have to pay. Some day you fellows are going to kill the goose that lays the golden egg to provide your livelihood. People like a change occasionally and only about

Route Six,
Hutchinson, Kansas,
November 27, 1931.

not concerned that the duties of my office should be decided upon by some one else as you suggest.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

Woodring--2

500 people thought you would be a change for the better last year. And I am afraid that unless you make good on some of your promises for a business administration and saving the taxpayers money you will find yhat this small margin will be wiped out next fall. People are not crying so much over legitimate tax levies as they are over these little tax extras that there seems to be little or no need for, that irks them and makes them mad and cry for a change. This 50 cents duplicate receipt fee is just one of them and you and Mr. King are going to hear of lots of mad people before the first of next January.

Now, Governor, if you really want to do the State of Kansas and its people a favor you will order that this edict of the vehicle department be not enforced. You had just as well exercise some of your authority as to let some underling beat you to it and show he is more powerful than his governor. You will also, if successful in succeeding yourself next fall, recommend to the state legislature that about an hundred of these petty commissions and commissioners be done away ^{with} and the power they exercise be placed in the hands of the governor, thus cutting thousands of dollars off the tax bill.

You will be doing the motoring public of Kansas a favor if you will recommend that their car license be reduced or else the personal property tax on automobiles be eliminated. We car owners pay too much money for what we get for permission to own that property. The car owner is hit three or four ways and when these little extras come along it makes them all "cuss" and ask questions. Then where is this 50 cents to go and for what is it to be used? Is there any law for it? Is there any real reason why it should be imposed on the car owner?

Governor, you will get closer to the hearts of the motor car owner of Kansas if ~~you~~ will take your pen in hand and write Mr. King that his order is obnoxious and that it is hereby cancelled. Show 'em once that you are against these petty "grafts" that are really burdensome.

With kind regards, and one who likes to see fair play, I am

Yours truly,

W. J. Leatherman

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 16

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF
VICTOR L. KING
MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

December 3, 1931

Hon. Harry H. Woodring, Governor,
State House,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor:

The letter which you received from Homer L. Cline, County Treasurer, Cherokee County, and referred to my Department received.

In answer will state, Chapter 81, Session Laws of 1929, provides that this Department is to furnish all forms for use in connection with the registration of automobiles. This Department has been working on revisions to this form for the past two or three months, but did not realize that any county would be ordering separate forms for their own use as far in advance as this county seemingly did. However, immediately upon finding out that one or two of the few counties that use this so-called Unarco register had placed their order, we called in the District Representative and furnished him with a proof of our form, and he immediately wired his own office to hold up all Kansas orders until they received this proof.

To our knowledge Cherokee County is the only county out of the 105 counties that have forms that are not in accordance with our new application form.

As this separate form is purely for the convenience of the county treasurer, if he desires to use this Unarco register system, we feel that it should be his duty to obtain such revisions as there might be before making his individual order. You of course are aware that this Department orders these forms from the State Printer every year in quantities amounting to two and a half million, and for this reason can furnish them at a much reduced rate from what the individual county has to pay.

*Advise
Cline
HMM
copy sent to
Cline 53*