

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

### Section 15, Pages 421 - 450

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Harry Woodring. Some subjects included are coal, Cowley County State Lake, drought relief, economic conditions, and extraditions.

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1931-1933 : Woodring)

Date: 1931-1932

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Henry H. Woodring, Correspondence, Subject Files, Box 17

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 310107

Item Identifier: 310107

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## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 2, 1931

*card*  
*67*

Hon. A. Messenger  
Pittsburg  
Kansas

Dear Asa:

Many thanks for your letter of September 19 which was on my desk when I returned home from the American Legion Convention at Detroit. I was glad to have the information and I am sure it will come in handy on numerous occasions in the future.

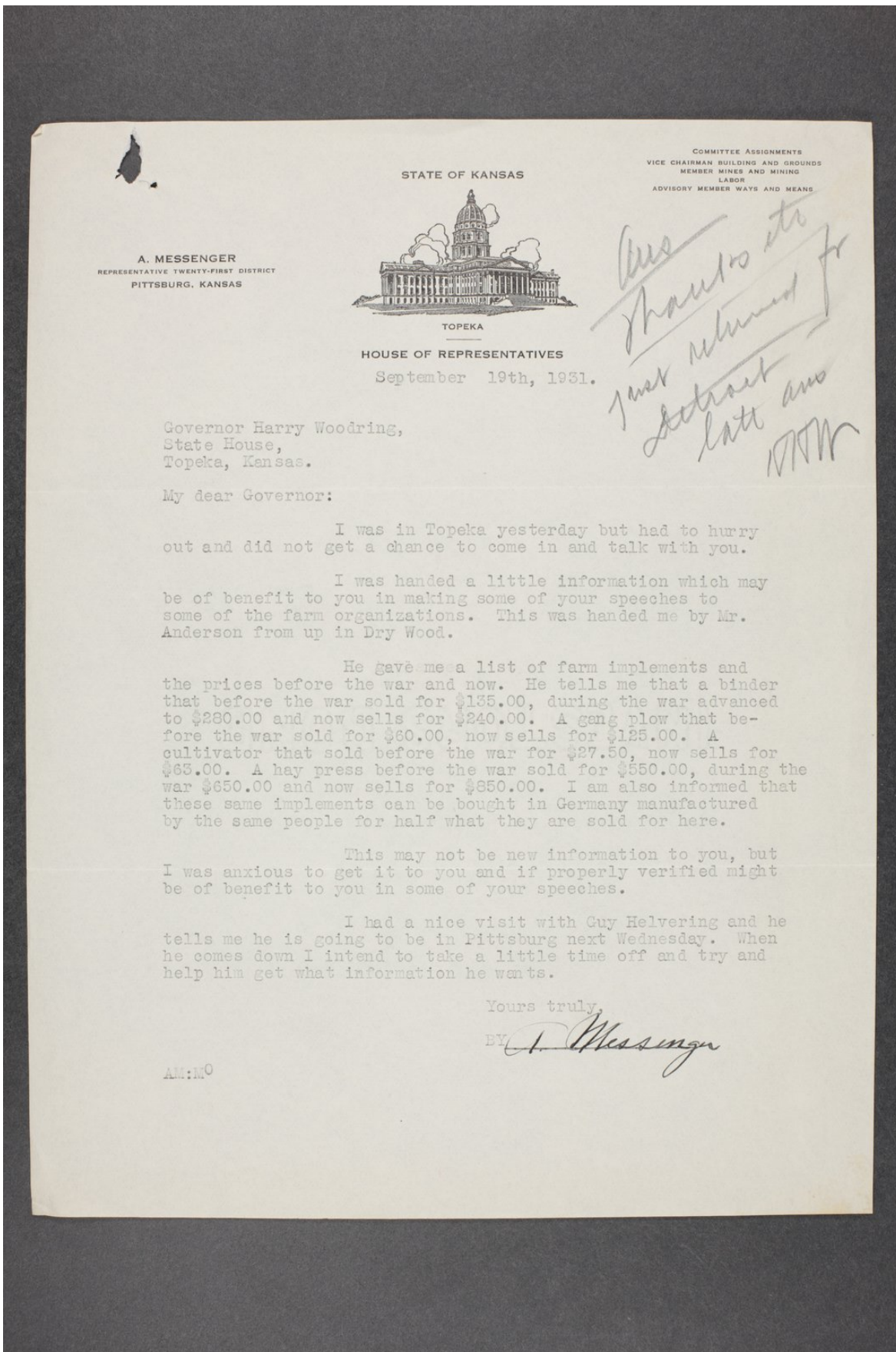
Sorry I did not get to see you when you were in Topeka and hope I will be in the next time you are in town.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



A. MESSENGER  
REPRESENTATIVE TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT  
PITTSBURG, KANSAS



STATE OF KANSAS

TOPEKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 19th, 1931.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
VICE CHAIRMAN BUILDING AND GROUNDS  
MEMBER MINES AND MINING  
LABOR  
ADVISORY MEMBER WAYS AND MEANS

Governor Harry Woodring,  
State House,  
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:

I was in Topeka yesterday but had to hurry out and did not get a chance to come in and talk with you.

I was handed a little information which may be of benefit to you in making some of your speeches to some of the farm organizations. This was handed me by Mr. Anderson from up in Dry Wood.

He gave me a list of farm implements and the prices before the war and now. He tells me that a binder that before the war sold for \$135.00, during the war advanced to \$280.00 and now sells for \$240.00. A gang plow that before the war sold for \$60.00, now sells for \$125.00. A cultivator that sold before the war for \$27.50, now sells for \$63.00. A hay press before the war sold for \$550.00, during the war \$650.00 and now sells for \$850.00. I am also informed that these same implements can be bought in Germany manufactured by the same people for half what they are sold for here.

This may not be new information to you, but I was anxious to get it to you and if properly verified might be of benefit to you in some of your speeches.

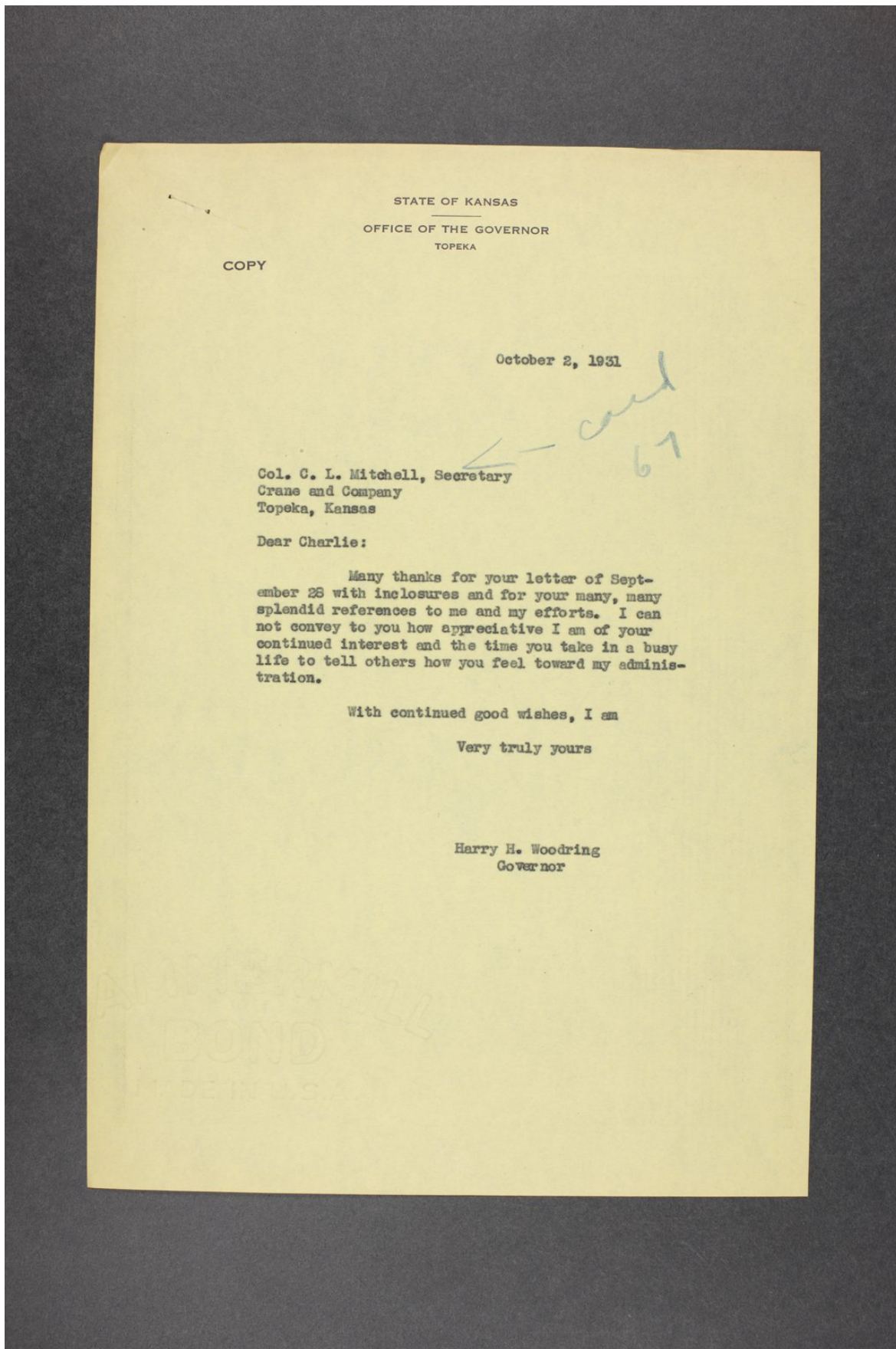
I had a nice visit with Guy Helvering and he tells me he is going to be in Pittsburg next Wednesday. When he comes down I intend to take a little time off and try and help him get what information he wants.

Yours truly,

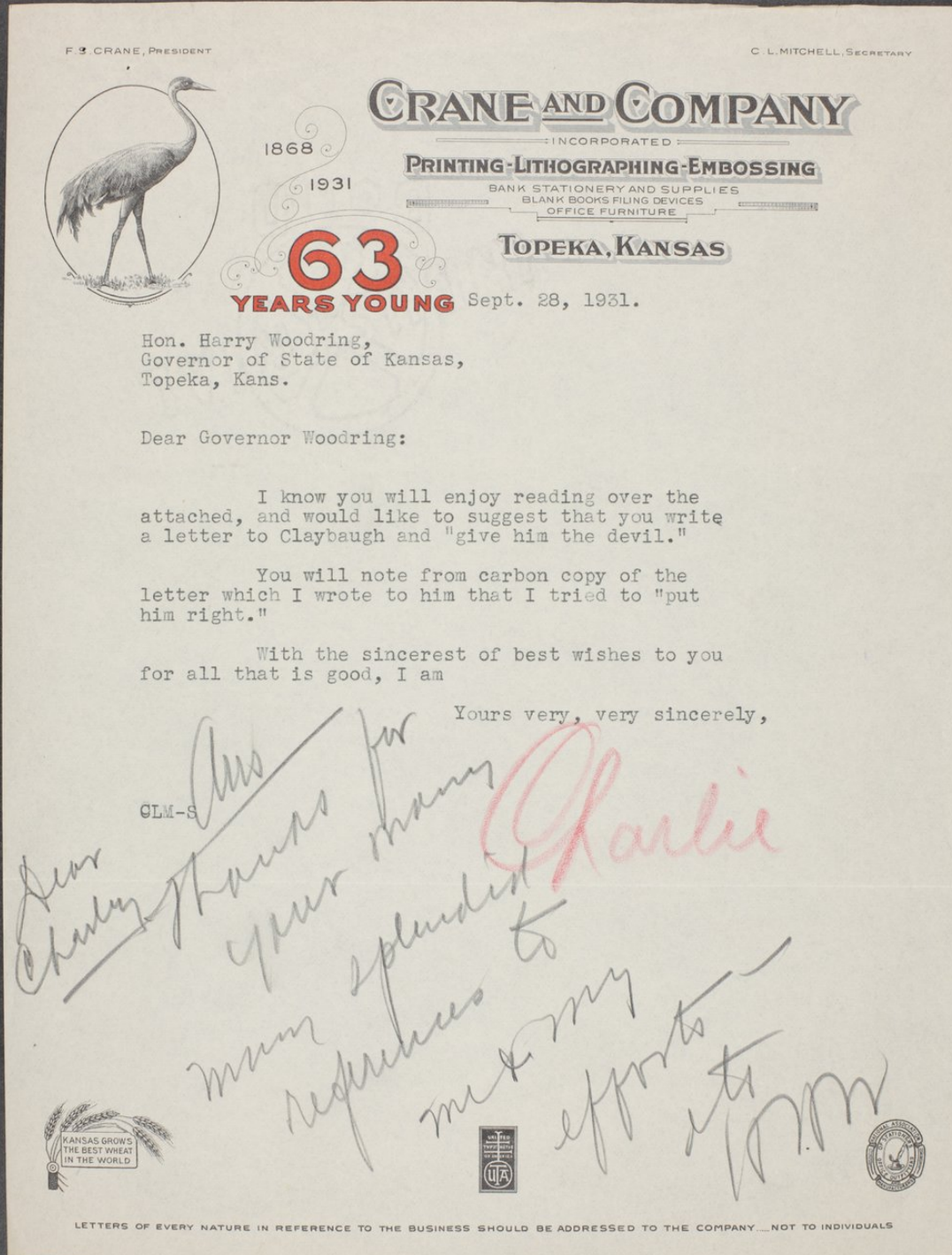
BY *A. Messenger*

AM:K<sup>0</sup>

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

Sept. 22, 1921.

Mr. C. W. Claybaugh, Editor & Owner,  
The Pretty Prairie Times,  
Pretty Prairie, Kans.

Dear Mr. Claybaugh:

Have just read with interest the copy of the "South Reno Dept." which you so graciously sent to me, and I would not be human if I did not appreciate your treatment of this follow up letter of ours.

You have one statement though that I was "Aide to Governor Woodring" and if that wonderful Democratic Governor of ours finds out that you have accused him of having appointed an old stand-pat Republican to his staff, he will have good and sufficient reason to keep you from approaching the pie counter for the next year or three.

Understand please, that any stand-pat Republican would have a right to be proud to be asked to serve as an Aide to any Governor, whether he be a Democratic Governor or a Republican Governor.

I had the privilege of serving two wonderful men and I enjoyed the privilege very, very much.

Governor Woodring has appointed some wonderful young fellows for his Aides and they are more than making good.

You see it is this way, C.W., I am a "has been" and have sense enough to know it.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

#2.

There are a whole lot of people who really belong to the great army of "unburied dead" politically who still think they are cutting ice, but "it is all in their heads." I will do what I can to keep the Governor from finding out about this article of yours for I know that you do not want to get "in bad" with the powers that be.

Laying all joshing aside, I do appreciate your kindly treatment of this letter of ours in the first column of the very front page of your newspaper, and I hope I may some day have the opportunity of expressing to you more forcibly my keen appreciation of this exceptional courtesy on your part.

Yours very sincerely,

CRANE & COMPANY.

BY

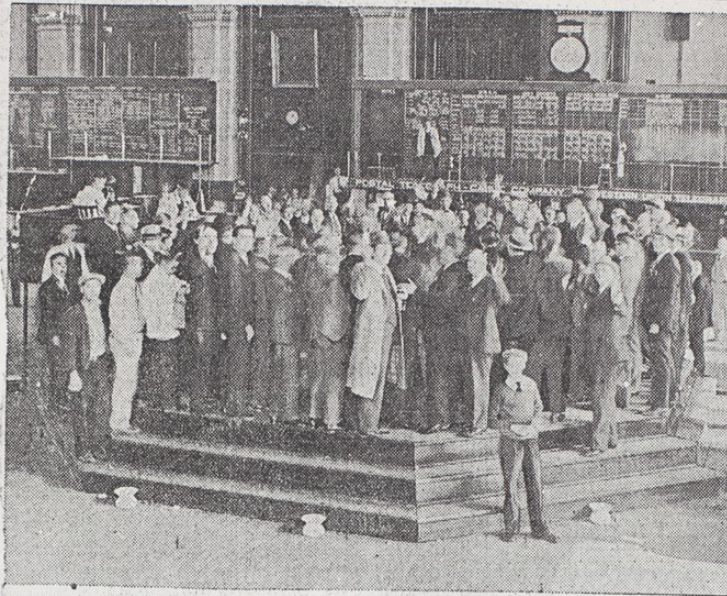
CLM S

Secy. & Sales Agr.

## AN TRYING FORCE WAR, INA SAYS IN EW APPEAL

munication Calls

## HAPPY DAYS HERE AGAIN AS WHEAT SOARS



"HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN" on the trading floor of the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange with prices soaring once again and bidding brisk in the oldest grain market in the United States. Photograph shows the crowded pit yesterday as the rampant bulls for the second successive day shot wheat and corn prices up to new high levels for the year. For almost two years during the depression the pit was a desolate and almost deserted place, but now it is crowded each day and the volume of trading the past two days has surpassed the aggregate for months previous.

## Murphy Is Named School Board Head in Upset Election

Elevation of Dean of Body  
Comes as Surprise to  
Many.

In a caucus yesterday afternoon members of the Board of Education elected Richard Murphy, dean of school board members, to be president of the board which governs public schools.

Murphy's selection came as a surprise and upset precaucus reports to the effect a majority of the board's twelve members had indicated their intentions to promote Myrt A. Rollins, vice president, to the position. In most caucuses in the past it has been customary to elevate the vice president to the presidency.

### Entirely Unexpected.

The result of the caucus was entirely unexpected by some board members as Murphy, who previously had served as head of the board, was not a candidate for the position and had no aspirations.

## Wholesale Houses Report Decided Increase in Buying

Many Lines Benefit from Upturn in Grain  
Prices and Better Outlook for  
Oil Industry.

Increased buying has been reported by the wholesale houses in St. Louis during the past four days, especially from among small retailers who supply rural sections and those located in the oil regions of Oklahoma and Texas.

The improvement is said to have resulted largely from the upturn in grain prices, with the better outlook for the oil industry and the advent of cooler weather also important factors.

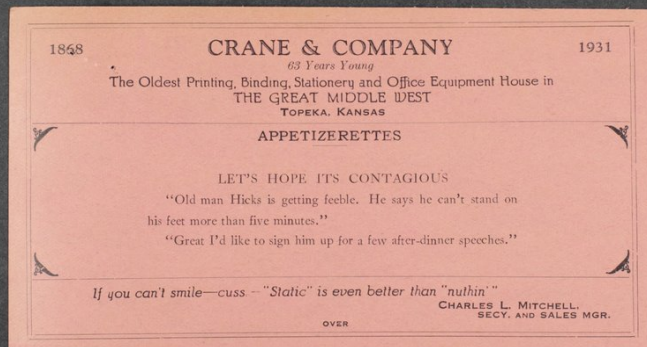
Officials of the large downtown department stores here said there was a perceptible pickup in buying during the past ten days also, although not quite in keeping with the wholesale

## Grain Prices Pushed to New Levels with Active Trading Here

Optimism Rules as Gains  
Indicate Improved  
Conditions.

The bulls held away again in the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange yesterday and for the second successive day

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

If you have any good jokes or "stories"—(Parlor or Esthetic) send 'em in for our

*"Appetizerettes"*  
*Bulletins.*

Better mark 'em "Personal" I guess.

CRANE & COMPANY  
TOPEKA, KANSAS

CHARLES L. MITCHELL,  
SECY. AND SALES MGR.

OVER

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 2, 1931

Mrs. Serena Cleveland  
Route 3  
Mankato, Kansas

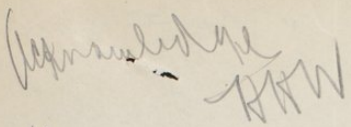
Dear Mrs. Cleveland:


Many thanks for your letter of September 16 which I have read with much interest. I am inclined to agree with your suggestions for relieving the present economic situation and thank you most sincerely for them. I am filing them for future reference.

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

  
 Harry H. Woodring  
 Dear Gov.



Sep 16-1931

Having written you a letter in June on social conditions; and rec'd your letter in return for which I appreciate very much and thanks for same. I did not expect you to be able to change gossip. But it could be a help to you, to cope with these conditions; As no doubt they are everywhere. I have been reading hard times every day. All see them, but seem to think a dole will help. No it only takes from the hard working rainy day saver, no start for real commercial wheels roolting. No profession needs the equipments that a farmer does to earn his wages. I do want to tell this to some one who is in some authority. Enof to spread it; so Democrats. Will get the honor; and no squabble about that. I now select you for that purpose. (If you see it advisable to do so.) Farmers sell more then they buy back in foods but has to spend that balance in trade to equipments. There for is the chief consumer of factory made ware. He now needs everything new horses; mtg; lifter; lumber; iron & steel ware. So start farmer out with money for his crops; he can buy & will buy; for he never was so in need of tools to work soil with. This will empty factories, ready for new. Start all wheels going on full time. So labor can buy food & clothes, over.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

<sup>perpetual motion.</sup>  
 a Carpenter only needs a tool chest, to earn his wages. a painter a brush. An officer a pen, and typewriter, give farmers a chance, and they can hire carpenters, masons, etc., and start lumber camps, on full time. iron mines & foundries. also cotton used in clothing they can buy. and soon exhaust ware houses supplies, all wheels running. on full time and wages; only way to prosperity for farmer must provide for all. Allsing the same song, its hard to try, and only loose ones home for having tried, to buy one. How can a country flourish with all its people discouraged? This his tension is on. The soldiers needed lots of letters from home to encourage him to do his best, and so the common people needs a little encouragement to keep on keeping on. I see they have lots of money idle, make the rich who buys grain, give more for it. Hog & cattle prices up, up. These tax reductions are well end, but its not nessary, if farmers got more for their ware; taxes are not too hi. Nor goods either, or foods, as the factories too got to have end to pay help and up-keep of factories. It goes around and around. everybody busy and happy; now I have noun this for a long time. That maybe I could have spoken over radio myself, but seems it is not to be. But I do not wish Republicans to get the honor, I shall leave it to your judgement as to how, and when you speak of it.

Very Cordially

Serena Cleveland.

Mankato Kans.

R 3.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 2, 1931

Mr. T. W. Morse  
2008 Bolles Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Ted:

Your letter of September 19 was on my desk upon my return from the Legion Convention at Detroit. I have read it with a great deal of interest.

I might say I am working over in my mind a plan for future use of which I know you will approve.

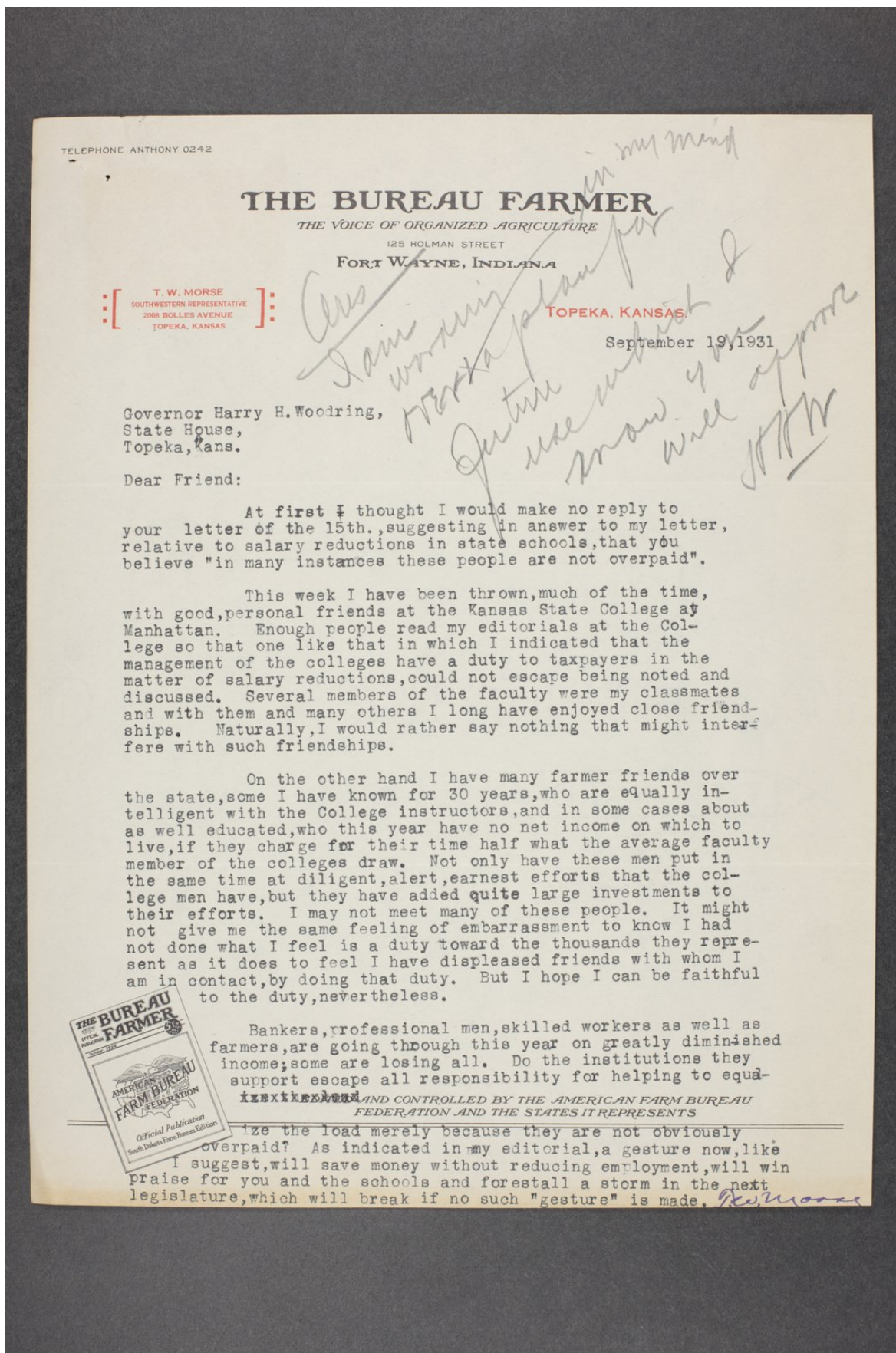
Let me thank you for your suggestions and also for your continued interest.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

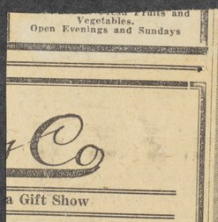
## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



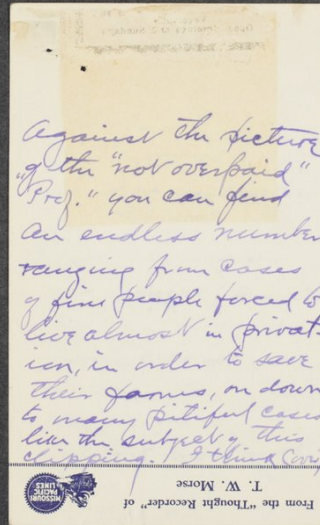
## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

A SUICIDE OVER DEBTS  
Belleville Farmer Leaves Wife  
And Seven Children.  
Belleville, Kan., Sept. 18.—(A. P.)—Percy M. Seaman, 53, committed suicide last night by hanging in a tree on his farm southwest of here. The body was found by neighbors today.  
Financial troubles climaxed by notice of foreclosure of a mortgage was given by relatives as the cause of his act. He left a note addressed to his widow and seven children. It was written June 18.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

(2)  
there are some fine  
instructors in the  
colleges who would  
thank you as long  
they live. Should  
you initiate a move-  
ment which put  
them in the way of  
playing a humane &  
sportsmanlike part in  
helping bear the  
general burden of dis-  
tress this year. Ted.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 6, 1931 67

Mrs. Blanche Cresson  
Scammon, Kansas

My dear Mrs. Cresson:

I have read your letter of October 2 with much interest for I sympathize with the miners in their present situation, and I realize the deprivations which the wives and children are called upon to suffer. It has given me much concern and I am sure that other public men are as earnest in their efforts to arrive at some solution of the problem. I am hopeful that some plan may be found to put the miners to work at a living wage. This alone with other unemployment problems will be considered by the Governor's Unemployment Commission.

The depression has affected not only the miners but workers in other lines as well, and also the farmers and merchants. Until agricultural is back on a firm basis and labor has been restored to its normal purchasing power through ability to work and earn a living wage, there is no line of endeavor which will reflect prosperity.

I thank you for writing me and assure you that we are doing everything in our power to bring about relief to which I know you are entitled.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

Uninhabited  
 + had with interest Scammon  
 I am hopeful that by law to Kansas  
 some plan may be made  
 to put the mine  
 Governor Woodring  
 Dear sir  
 I see so much about  
 this unemployment and  
 hard time why don't the  
 Government take the mine  
 over like they done in time  
 of War and put a fix price  
 like the did on the oil.  
 Here the operators have let  
 their mine go so some  
 men take it over have  
 men buy shares in the  
 mine then the head men  
 say they don't make any  
 money then work the mine  
 for .33 cent a ton I no because  
 my husband work in a  
 mine. Now No 9. Hamilton

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

at Cherokee want the men  
to work for 91 cent a ton  
when they sign the con-  
tract for 4 years for \$1.25 a ton  
all mine supplies don't go  
down any powder is still  
at \$2.00 Now do you want  
a man to make a living  
on what they get now  
half go for expenses.  
Why don't you stop the steam  
shovel for a while and let  
the deep mine work there  
then the strip mine don't  
employ very many men they  
are the one that have put  
Kansas where it is today  
look like there would be  
some thing to do right

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

away if you dont there  
will be more trouble there  
there is now winter is facing  
the people with out nothing  
how do you suppose we  
mothers are going to send  
out children to school  
with out underwear and  
a stomach empty do you  
ever think how many  
little children go with  
only bread for there meal.  
where this is a country  
with plenty.  
My husband and son who  
soon will be 21 havent  
work since January we  
have eaten what little we  
had and made debt to but

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

God only no when they be  
paid.  
It sure take Mr Hoover a  
long time to find and end  
to unemployment why if  
he wanted to he could do it  
with his eyes shut you  
big men get your pay right  
along so dont worry while  
us mother have a lot to  
worry where we are going  
to fix for our next meal  
when there is nothing.  
I could tell lots more but  
there no use I guess it  
dont help any.  
Yours truly  
Mrs Blanche Cresson

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 7, 1931

Henry E. Davis  
Route 1, Box 6  
Haviland, Kansas

Dear Mr. Davis:

I am in sincere sympathy with the position of the farmers and recognize the conditions as keenly as any one could. I realize also that until the farmers are restored to their former position Kansas can not expect any permanent prosperity.

However, I know of nothing I can do which would prevent the things of which you complain. I have no authority to change the terms of a contract which was made in good faith even though conditions have changed since it was signed. The situation is one which calls for the best thought of all of us, not only public officials but private individuals as well. We are exerting every effort to bring about a solution of this problem. This is largely up to the federal government which alone can relieve the situation.

I appreciate your writing me and also the confidence you exhibit in me. My regret is that I can not write you more encouragingly. I assure you I am giving the matter much thought and am doing my part to relieve the farmers and others as much as possible by keeping down state expenses to a minimum. It is true that is but a small part of the total but it all helps. Thanking you for writing me, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

Ans  
I am in  
sympathy with the farmers &  
the condition of nation  
recognizing that now is - fall  
Kaviland. Kans. Sept-28-1931. JMW

Governor. Woodring  
Topeka. Kans.

Dear Sir-

I am writing you for information  
and appealing to you for mercy for honest  
hard working farmers who have worked  
early and late in developing our state  
short crops have come, and the products  
of the farm that is put on the market  
does not bring enough to pay expenses  
of raising it. How can the man that  
had to borrow money to put his crop in  
pay back this money borrowed at the  
banks, had to give the banks mty on  
his stock and also on his crops  
The banks are now compelling the man  
to meet his obligations. Farmers here in  
this part or now being closed out  
by the mty Co and banks losing  
their homes and stock. that they have  
work hard for, and facing the winter with  
their families with nothing to go on  
How can our statesman that the farmers  
help put in office by their vote

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

2

stand by and let the Mortgage Co  
commence foreclosing because his Debt  
and Tax are not paid and also stand  
for the Bank's notifying him that his  
note is now due and demands his  
money or his grain or stock to be sold to  
meet his obligation

For Haven sake, can't you do something  
and give the man a chance to come  
out of the depressing times  
Have you any authority that  
you can use to prevent the  
Mortgage Co and Bank from closing  
the farmers out. It is not  
the farmer's fault that times are such as  
there now are now.

Kindly write me at once about this  
matter

Yours Henry E Davis

Route No 1 Box No 6  
Haviland  
Kans.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 7, 1931

67

G. Wheeler Smith  
Victor Star Route  
Beloit, Kansas

Dear Mr. Smith:

Many thanks for your letter of September 13, with enclosed copy of the Beloit Daily Call containing the resolutions adopted at a recent meeting of the Mitchell County Tax Payers Association.

I have read both with a great deal of interest. I was impressed especially with the very constructive ideas expressed in the resolutions and feel that the membership of your association is to be congratulated upon the thorough manner in which it has approached a question that is vital to all of us. The resolutions display a splendid understanding of the situation and an earnest desire to work out a solution of the problems confronting us.

Again thanking you for your letter and, through you, the members of your organization, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

*Thanks a  
very construction  
meeting HMR*

Victor Star Route,  
Beloit, Kansas.  
Sept. 30th, 1931.

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

Dear Mr. Woodring:

Enclosed please find a  
page of the Beloit Daily Ball,  
which contains the resolutions  
adopted at a recent meeting of  
the Mitchell County Tax Payers  
Association.

The tax payers of Mitchell  
County have held two general  
meetings and a meeting in each  
township and the town of Beloit.  
These resolutions are an outgrowth  
of these meetings.

I thought you might be interested  
in knowing what the people of Mitchell  
County are thinking on the tax



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

2.  
question.

The Association will hold  
another meeting at Beloit on  
the 21<sup>st</sup> of October at 2 P.M.

I am

Very truly yours,  
G. Wheeler Smith.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 17

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

October 7, 1931

Mr. Jas. E. Farrell, Secretary  
Tonganoxie Community Club  
Tonganoxie, Kansas

Dear Mr. Farrell:

Many thanks for your letter of  
October 1 conveying as it does a resolution  
adopted by your organization.

It is most heartening to one in my  
position under present conditions to know that  
his attitude has the support of such sterling  
citizens as go to make up the membership of  
your club. Coming from all lines of endeavor  
they present a cross section opinion which I  
find fairly represents that of residents of  
other parts of the State. While there has been  
some agitation for an extra session, agitation  
which I feel sure has been inspired, I truth-  
fully can say a majority have expressed the  
same opinion as that conveyed by your club in  
its resolution.

With kindest personal regards and  
trusting that you will convey my deep apprecia-  
tion to the members of your organization, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor