

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Section 23, Pages 661 - 690

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Woodring. Some subjects included are farm organizations, federal government, and federal relief.

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

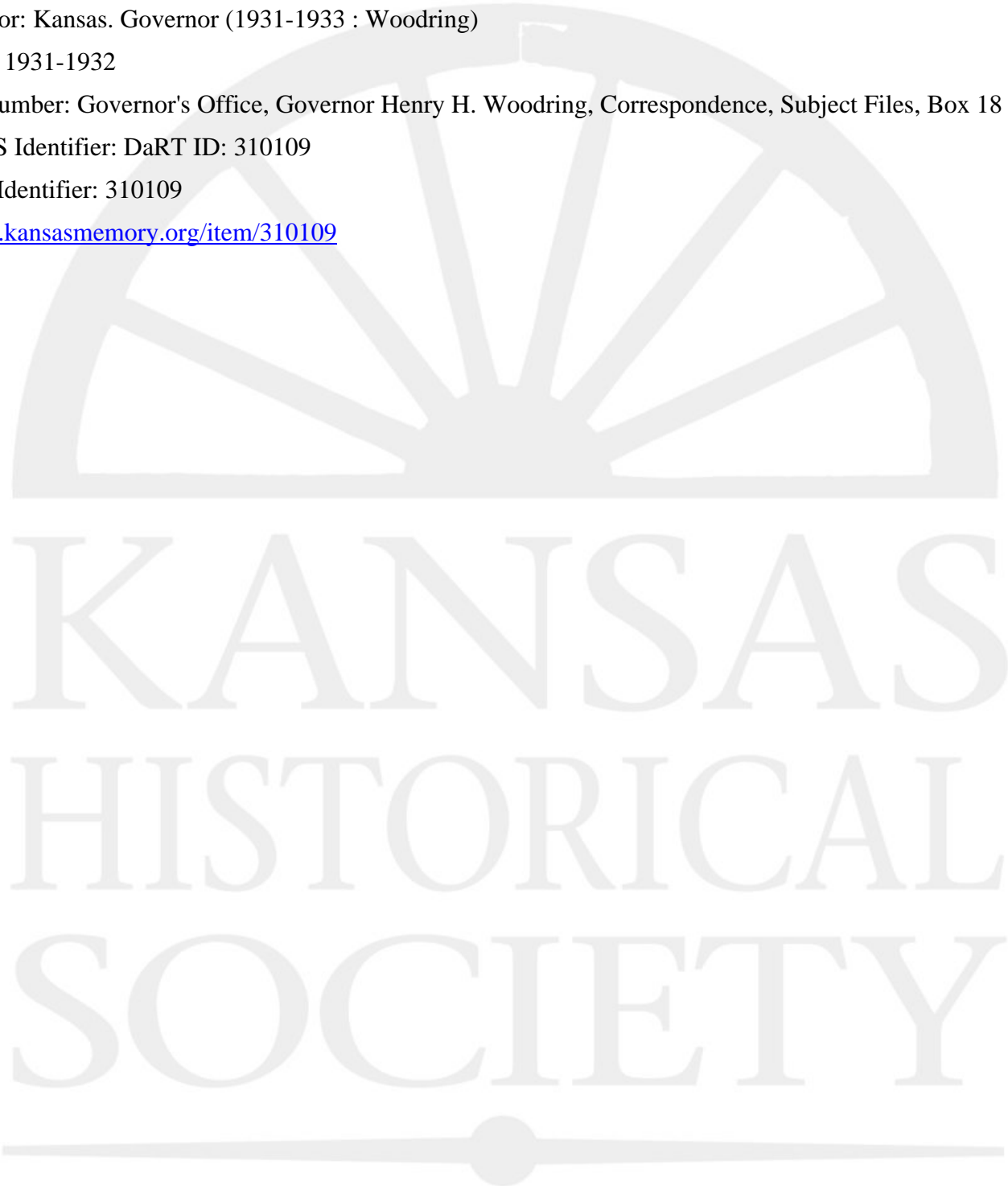
Date: 1931-1932

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Henry H. Woodring, Correspondence, Subject Files, Box 18

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 310109

Item Identifier: 310109

www.kansasmemory.org/item/310109



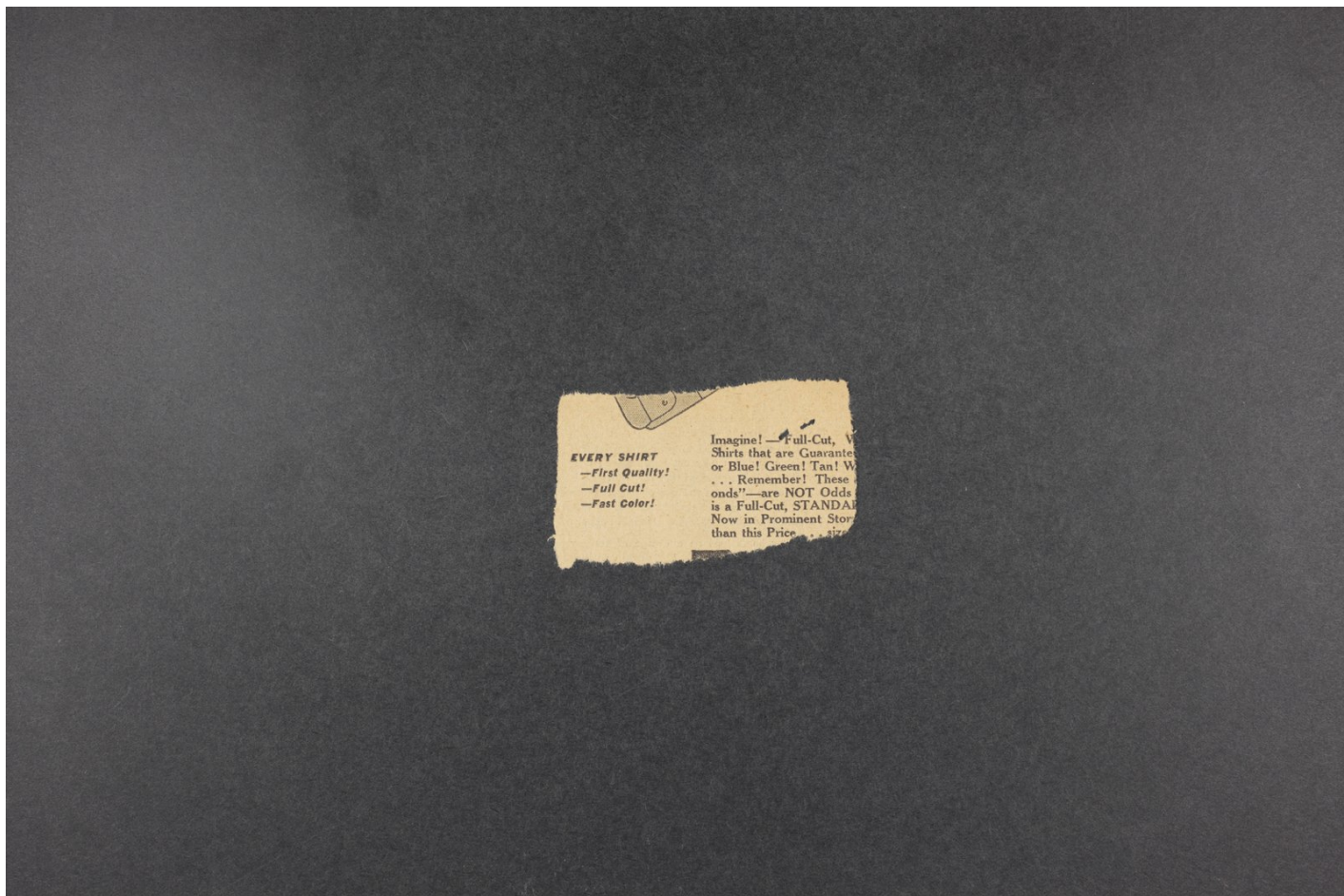
Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

weather? May he not learn another lesson of caution, from the birds?

The Farm Board's recommendation that one in ten dairy animals be killed to prevent overproduction of dairy products may not be as bad as it sounds, when it is remembered that many thousands of dairy cows do not pay for the feed they consume and never have, even in periods of high prices. The problem would be to sacrifice the right animals.

who is held on a charge of robbery
St. Louis man on which

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



EVERY SHIRT
—First Quality!
—Full Cut!
—Fast Color!

Imagine! — Full-Cut, V
Shirts that are Guaranteed
or Blue! Green! Tan! W
... Remember! These
onds! — are NOT Odds
is a Full-Cut, STANDARD
Now in Prominent Store
than this Price . . .

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

DECIMATION OF DAIRY COWS URGED BY U. S.

Farm Board Report Says
Overproduction of Milk,
Low Prices Loom.

By Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, October 22.—Dairy farmers are urged to destroy one-tenth of the country's milk cows to prevent overproduction, in a report submitted to the Farm Board.

The report, prepared by the Dairy Advisory Committee, an agency of dairy co-operatives, points out that herds have been increasing for four years, which eventually will lead to large surpluses and low prices despite recent increases in prices.

In addition to asking each farmer to eliminate one cow out of each ten, the committee also suggested that all low-producing cows be culled and sold for slaughter and that additional heifer calves be weaned.

The committee adopted resolutions commending co-operative marketing of dairy products, and urging milk distributors to buy from co-operatives.

Adoption by the Farm Board of this proposal would mark a new attempt by it to curtail overproduction through destruction at the fountain head. Its proposal that one-third of the cotton acreage under cultivation be turned under was rejected by the South.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



Governor Harry H. Woodrington, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Egypt asked (Washington) permission to
send delegation to discuss Cotton
they refused but offered to listen to
ours on what Cotton the government
now holds on

I feel that they realize a world
understanding is necessary, the South
should inform them to their table
also inform Belgium is experimenting
with long staple Cotton in Congo
is worth considering

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 24, 1931

Miss Geneva McCoy
1301 South Evergreen
Chanute, Kansas

Dear Miss McCoy:

I hope you will pardon me for not answering your esteemed favor of September 27 more promptly. I am not sure that I can answer your letter to your satisfaction, but the fact is I am of the opinion that the hysterical efforts of the few is a detriment to the 4H organization and agricultural interests of Kansas.

There is none of us who is not in favor of lower taxes and of curtailing governmental expenses to a minimum at this time. However, efficiency should not be destroyed and neither should positions be disturbed which are necessary to the well being of any line of endeavor. I am inclined to believe that the matter finally will be worked out to your satisfaction and that the 4H club activities will not be destroyed.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Charito Han.
Sept. - 27 - 1931

Dear

I am a 4H club girl 15 years of age. I live in Nessco County. The Home Demonstration agent is Miss Lela Jane Patton, the county Farm Bureau agent is Mr. Lester Shepard.

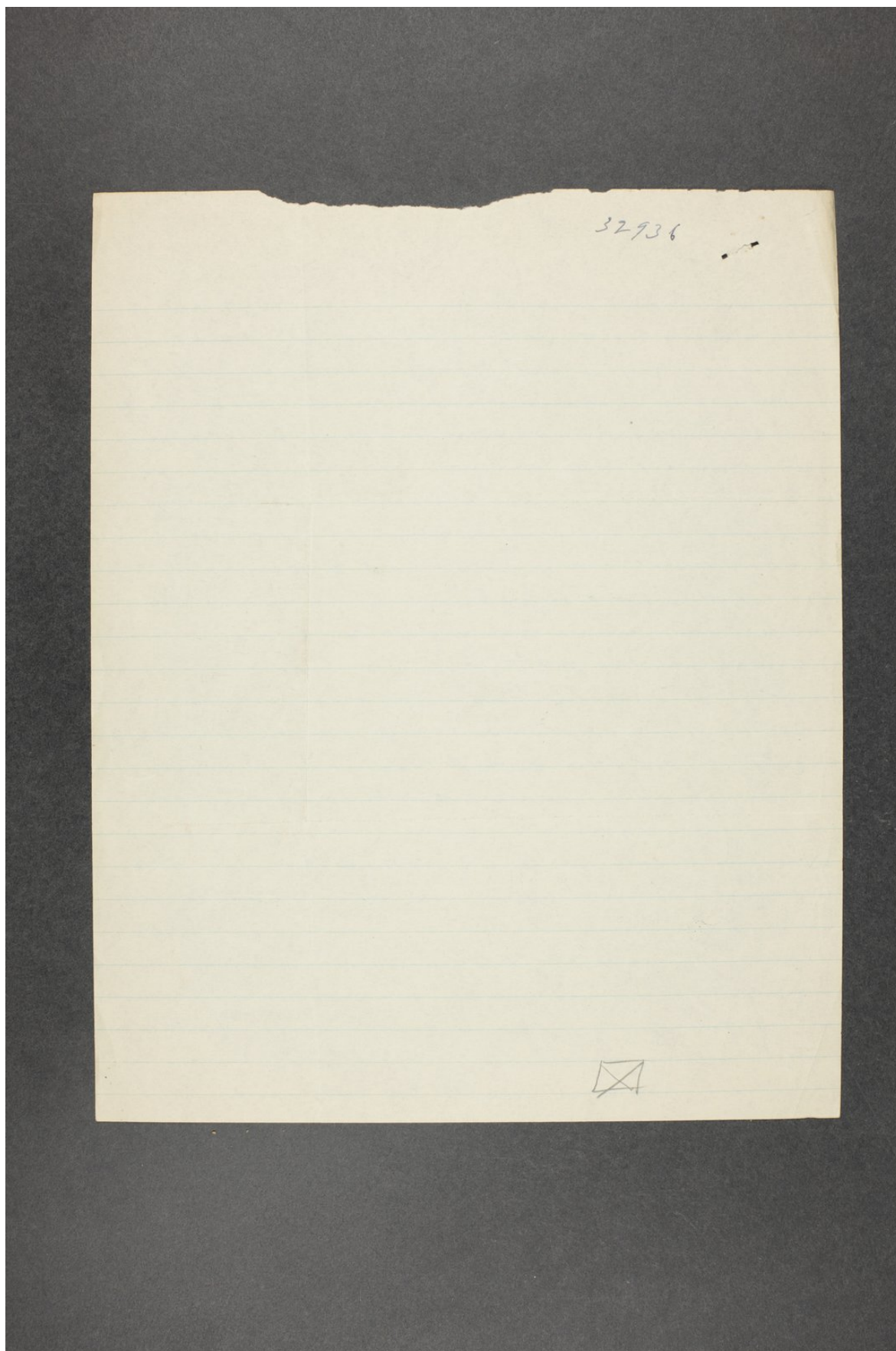
The people of Nessco County are trying to put out the agents, to make the taxes lower. Will it make the taxes lower and how much? I have worked hard for the 4H club and have won trips to Manhattan and ^{to} different camps. I have won 19 demonstrations and judging contests at fairs.

Is there anything I could do to help keep the agents in office for the benefit of the younger people and also the country.

I remain
Sincerely,
Geneva Mc Kay
1301 So. Evergreen
Chanute
Kansas

161 Ans. of the
I am of the
opinion that the
system of agents of the
few is a detriment
to the 4H. org. &
all farming
interests of
Ks. H. H. W.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 26, 1931

card 75

Mr. Joy Hammett
Manhattan, Kansas

Dear Mr. Hammett:

I am in receipt of your letter of October 10 in which you suggest a junior corn husking contest in rural high schools of Kansas and that a Governor's prize be offered to the winner. I am inclined to agree with your suggestion, provided it is not too costly. The Senator, you know, is worth dollars where I own cents. I would be pleased to talk the matter over with you at any time you may find it convenient to call. However, it might be well for you to get in communication with my office before coming to Topeka so as to be sure I will be in the city.

Many thanks for your kind expressions and continued support. I assure you it is highly appreciated during these troublesome times and I am happy to know that my efforts meet with your approval.

With kindest personal regards, I
am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Ans. Declined to
agree with you
not too costly
The Senator is worth
dollar to where I
know onto
H.H.W. Manhattan Ks
Oct, 10, 1931
The Governor, Harry Woodring.

My Dear Governor:

Out here in Pottawatomie County
we are still with you, as I remember it we filed
up a majority for you in spite of W.B. Dalton and
the Hamilton cohorts.

It occurs to me that as we are about to enter
the Annual Corn Husking Contests as Sponsored by
the "Kansas Farmer". As you know we have the
Senators Prize of 100 for the best Corn Husker in
the adult class.

Now what I want to propose is a junior
contest for the best corn husker in the Rural High
Schools of Kansas. I would suggest that a Governors
Prize would not be amiss and the Governor that
starts the precedent would no doubt be rewarded
in some manner. If you are interested we could
take the matter up with Mr. Gilkeson of Kansas Farmer
and work out details. No doubt the junior contests could be
put on in conjunction with the adult contest.

Please let me know your reaction at an early date

Yours Truly

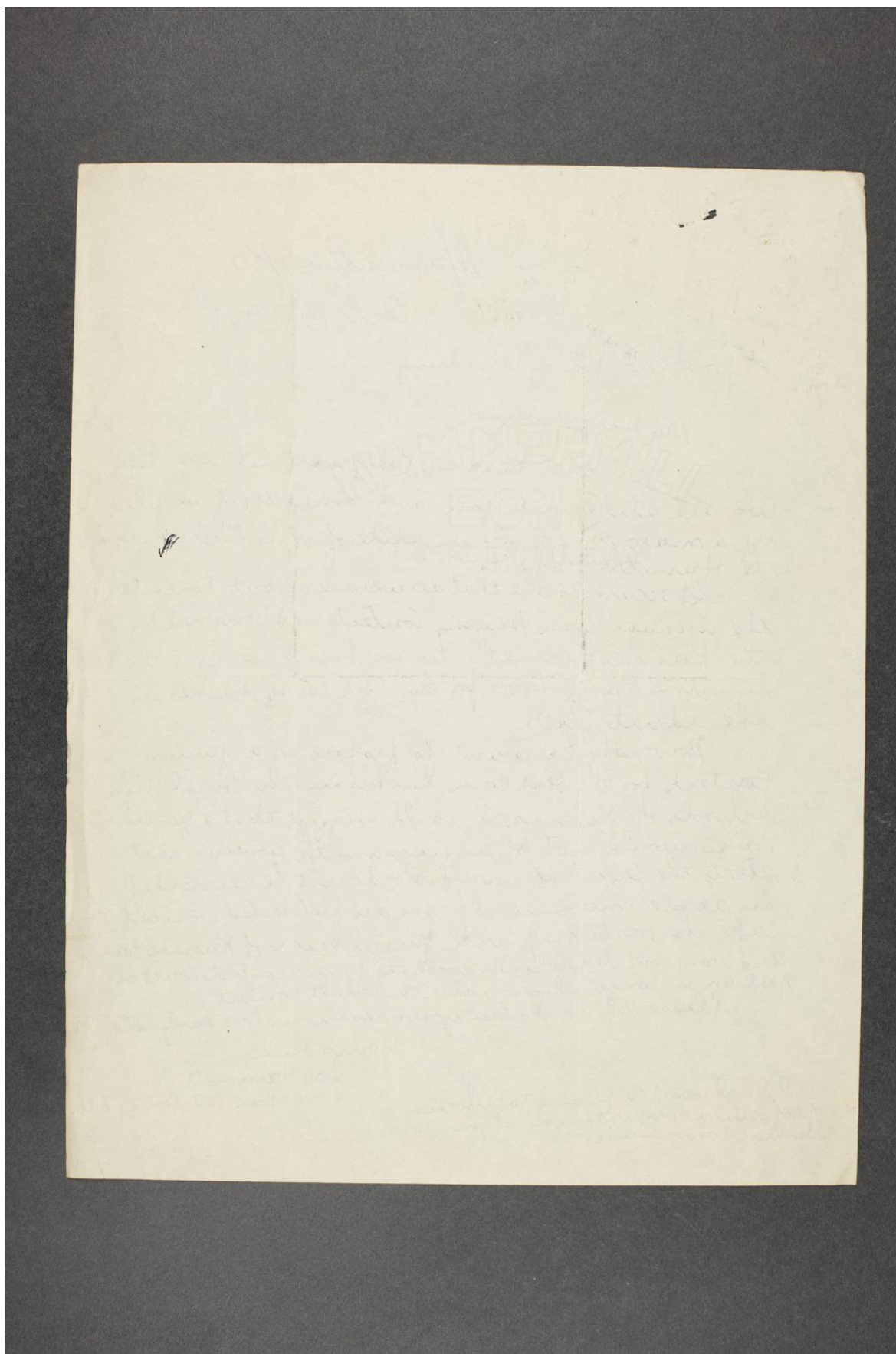
Joy Hammett

Co. Pres. Pott. County F. U.

P.S. I would be pleased to talk this
proposition over with you at your
earliest convenience.



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 26, 1931

75

Honorable Wm. H. Murray
Governor of Oklahoma
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

My dear Governor Murray:

I have your letter of October 22
which I have read with much interest and which
I am expecting to read again when I can give it
more consideration.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
OKLAHOMA CITY

WM. H. MURRAY
GOVERNOR

October 22, 1931

Unmailed
only
hm

To His Excellency, Harry Woodring
The Governor of the State of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas

Esteemed Sir:

Information from Bankers and others, which appears to be entirely reliable has lately come to me to the effect that the Farm Board probably does not actually hold a surplus of wheat and cotton of anything like the proportions generally represented and believed to be in its possession. To the contrary, it tends to show that the Board, instead of withholding such wheat as it really purchased from competition with the wheat owned by farmers, the purpose for which the act creating it was passed, has actually stored it in the elevators of milling concerns and permitted them to mill it under contracts which merely require them to replace the wheat when called upon by the Board. Wheat thus milled and not called for of course does not constitute an actual surplus, but its reported existence continues to hold down the price, while this method, if it has been used, has practically withdrawn a large part of the consumption from the market and thus has greatly reduced the price.

It is further stated that the Board has stored large amounts of its cotton in eastern factory cities where the cotton is easily accessible to spinners, and has offered and sold it to the spinners for delivery from time to time as required by them at fixed prices and on such terms of credit as the spinners desired, thus removing these spinners from the general market and destroying the demand for the farmer's cotton.

This most amazing information recalled to my mind statements attributed to the then President of the Board about a year ago, when he was alleged to have testified at a hearing of the Senate Committee on Agriculture that the Board then had practical control or monopoly of the American Wheat situation and that it could, at its will, place the price of wheat at any figure it desires. Members of the Board further stated to the Committee that it had bought and sold grain and cotton on the exchanges and

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

-2-

and had used a very large sum of public money for the purpose; that on the 22nd day of November, 1930, in order to keep the price of wheat from advancing, the Board stepped into the market and sold 3,500,000 bushels of wheat on the Chicago Exchange; that the Board did not wish to see the price of wheat advance but, on the contrary, desired to see wheat kept so low as to make it economically possible to be fed to hogs and live stock instead of corn. (See House Journal Vol. 74, Part 2, Pg. 1472.)

Even when the above statements were made the farming industry was in a bad way; wheat was selling at a little more than a dollar per bushel and cotton at a little more than ten cents per pound. But today wheat is less than thirty cents and cotton is less than five cents, and the farming industry is in a state of utter ruin. Thousands of homes are becoming lost to their owners through foreclosure of mortgages in default of payment of debts contracted when farm products would sell for enough to pay for producing and leave something to apply on the debt. Now the cost of production is more than can be had for the product. Every business and industry dependent on the farm is bankrupt and prostrated. Apparently the Farm Board has had its way about the price of wheat, and of cotton as well.

If the information I have referred to is true, this sudden striking down of the farming industry is clearly explained and amounted for. Nobody but the Farm Board knows exactly, or to what extent, it is true; and it refuses to divulge the facts.

and cotton
Much of the 1931 crop of wheat is still in the hands of the farmers who produced it. If the burden of a false surplus could be removed, the price could advance while the farmers and their communities could still profit from such an advance.

A short time ago when these allegations came to me, I called upon the Board to make known what amount of wheat it actually has in storage and where it is stored. The Board declined to give the information, but the Associated Press credited the President of the Board, Mr. Stone, with a statement which essentially admitted the truth of my information, that some of the wheat was stored with millers under contract to replace same when called upon.

I then sent a request to the President of the United States to require the Board to give that information to the public. My only reply was from the President's secretary informing me that my request had been referred to the Farm Board.



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

-3-

This information is extremely pertinent to present conditions and certainly is such information as the people have every right to know.

If the Board can be induced, or compelled, to make known how much of the people's money they have actually invested in wheat and cotton, when it was invested, where the produce was stored and how much is yet in storage and where, one of two results will be immediately affected, to-wit: If all the wheat and cotton understood to be held as a surplus is now in actual storage, the suspicions of the public regarding the Board will be dispelled, confidence restored in a great arm of the government and the market will adjust itself to whatever level is in keeping with the facts; or, if the Board has permitted these millers to use the grain owned by the public and thus made it unnecessary for them to buy from the farmers and there is not in actual existence such a surplus of wheat or cotton as is generally believed, then the inevitable result will be an immediate recovery of the market price to a point far above what it is now and the farmers can receive the benefit from what they have left of this crop.

I write to inquire if you will use whatever means you think most effective to secure a full, complete and accurate report of the facts so vital to the people of your state and mine.

I suggest that you immediately write or wire the President to require the Board to furnish the information at once, and will appreciate an early communication advising me of your views on the matter.

I am directing a similar letter to the Governors of all wheat and cotton producing States, and am sending copies of same to Senators and Representatives in Congress.

With Salutations and highest regards, believe me ever,

Yours very truly,

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 27, 1931

75

Mr. Wm. H. Smith
Strawberry
Nevada

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have your letter of October 12 relative to western Kansas. I am not very well posted as to what land in that part of the State is worth, nor am in position to give you the information you request. However, if you will write to John Fields, President of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita, Wichita, Kansas, he will be able not only to tell you about the land in that part of the State, its value, etc., but also might be able to tell you of farms which that institution has for sale and how they may be procured.

Trusting that this may be of some service to you, I am

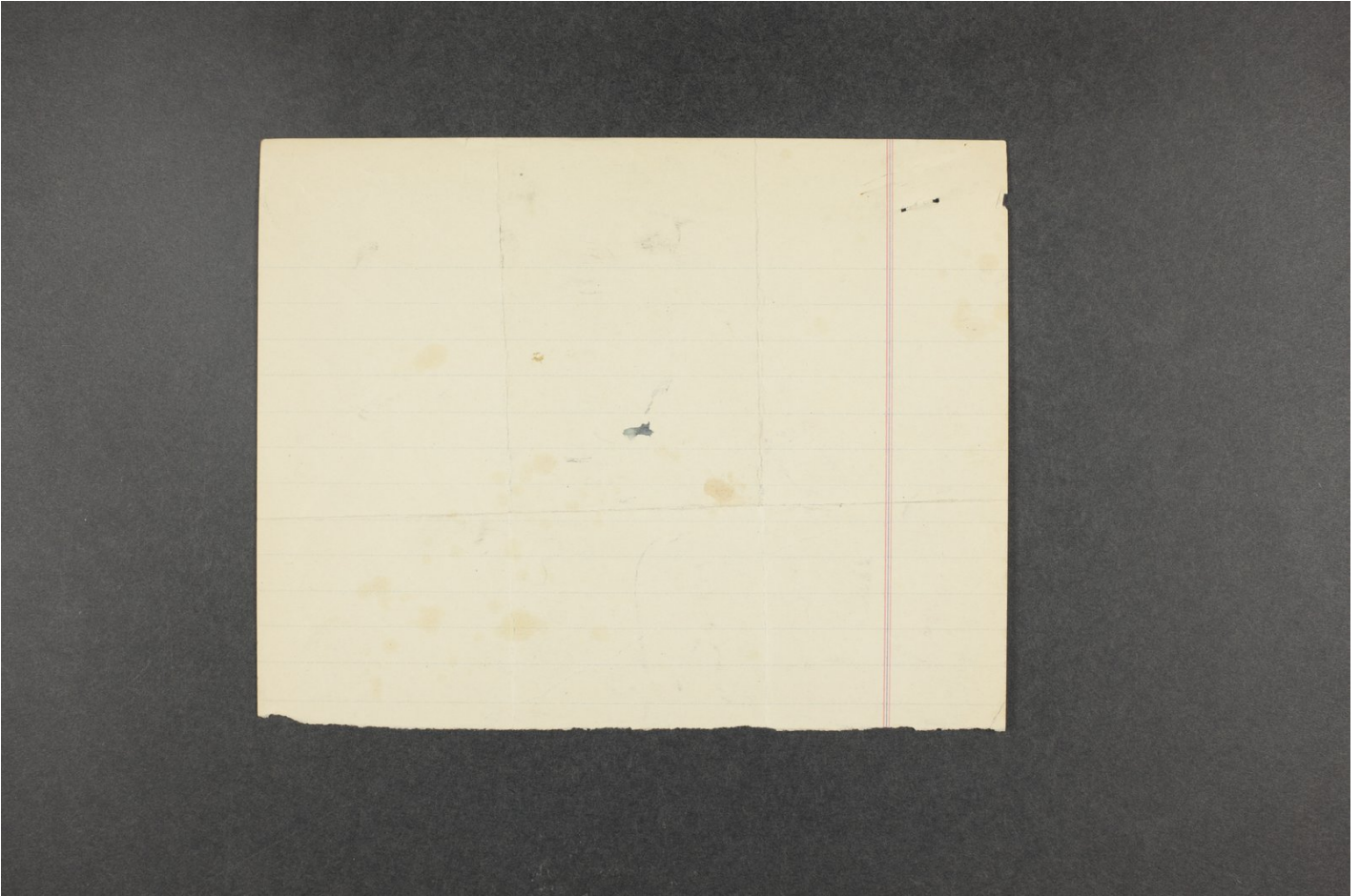
Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Strawberry 10/2 - 31
Governor of Kansas
Dear sir
I write for a little information if you
can inform me about the western part
your state does black sage brush grow
there and what is land worth an acre
there any information you can give me
will be thankfull for
we here in Nevada are having very dry
weather can't get any moisture and
if no good to quick & heavy more harm then
good
Yours respectfully
Wm H Smith
Strawberry White Pine Co Nevada

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

October 30, 1931

Mr. Charles A. Schmidt
Sunset Heights
Lenexa, Kansas

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Many thanks for your letter of October 27. It gives me much pleasure to accept your congratulations upon the part the State played in opposing the 15% raise in freight rates. It is good to know such things are appreciated by men like yourself and to know that we continue to have your good wishes.

Trusting that we may continue to deserve them, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

*A genuine
reply*

Sunset Heights,
Lenexa, Kansas.
October 27, 1931.

Hon. Harry Woodring, Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

Sir:

You and the state administration
are to be congratulated in having
had a part in the successful opposition
to the 15% ^{rate} rate hike plea before
the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Wishing you the same success
in your other undertakings, I am

Yours very respectfully,
Charles A. Schmidt.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

COPY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

75

November 3, 1931

Mr. J. M. Forshee
The Granada Land Company
Granada, Colorado

Dear Mr. Forshee:

I have your letter of October 29 which I have read with much interest. There might be something to your conclusions with regard to the possible cause of the low price of wheat. I will be happy to consider it further.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

The Granada Land Co.

SOUTHEAST COLORADO LANDS

J. M. FORSHEE LICENSED BROKER

GRANADA, COLORADO

Oct. 29 1931.

Honorable Governor Woodring,
Topeka Kansas,
Dear sir:-

I see from the papers that some of the Governors are interesting them selves as to the cause of the low price of wheat, but I dont think they are getting at the seat of the trouble; it seems to me that the trouble all lies in the short selling of futures by the Board of Trade, I have watched thir opperations for over a year and it seems as if they have it in for the Farm organization and are ruining our markete purposley, I wish you would look into it and see if we cant get Congress to take this right of short selling of futures away from them, that is where they are not handling the actual grain but is only a gambling proposition, this is what is ruining our markets, I think if we can get away from this our markets will come back; I hope you will investigate this.

And oblige,

J. M. Forshee
Adm. Sec. Woodring
to [unclear]

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

COPY

November 7, 1931

75
Mr. Chas. H. Stenberg
325 Wilmoth Avenue
Ames, Iowa

Dear Mr. Stenberg:

I am in receipt of your letter of
November 4 which I have read with much interest.
Let me assure you I appreciate your interest.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

*Adm. 100-100000
only*

Ames, Ia.
Box 327
Nov. 4, 1931

Hary Woodring, His Excellency,
Governor of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas,

Sir:

Allow me to address you on a wheat belt farm relief stabilizing measures which has also been addressed to Governors of other wheat belt states.

Having studied agricultural economics intensively I have evolved a plan for control of large estate farms and other agricultural stabilizing measures.

Will you join in a conference of governors of the wheat belt states to consider this great problem of your constituents? I believe it is within the province of the governors to formulate this plan and place it before Congress to secure needed legislation.

It will require highly organized planning along economic lines with the backing of the highest statesmanship to secure adequate legislation for agriculture in the coming session of Congress.

Vast interests adopt a modern method of establishing large farm estates and virtually subjecting farm people to a state of servitude. And the principal products of the State will be disposed of outside of the State at half value as compared with products produced under American standards of prosperity. Farm labor will be thrown into other industries for their principal means of support and thus augment the unemployment situation in all industries. Also gradually reduce the population of the wheat belt states.

A conference of this kind would serve as a great impetus in putting over any legislation contemplated by agricultural representatives. And would command a great influence in shaping the legislation desired. We need a comprehensive agricultural program that will command the united support of all farm interests and having sound principles that will leave no basis for attack by diverse interests. This conference should appoint a field committee and a legislative committee to carry out and develop the foundation plans laid down by the conference. The committee from Iowa appointed and headed by Governor Dan W. Turner apparently secured action in the line of finances.

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Governors of great states are vested with sovereign powers of psychological phenomena in molding the policies of a nation which no organization possesses. in addition to sovereign powers of State which may be extended thru committees.

Corporate Farming

This development is destined to set the standard, to all intents and purposes, of farm labor, grain markets and standards of living, lowering our agriculture to the standards of the lowest foreign countries unless brought under adequate control. It is of immediate vital importance to the prosperity of the wheat growing states in all lines of industry to secure legislation in the coming session of Congress to offset this development.

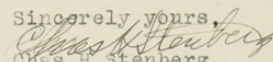
This plan is of sound fundamental principles that will not clash with the courts. It provides conditions which will enable the efficient private farmer of sufficient means and ability to operate the farm on the most advanced and economical methods in practical usage to set the standard of agricultural prosperity. This will mean assured prosperity for the agricultural regions in all lines of industry.

The policies of the control of the corporate farming development is adaptable to be incorporated with the Federal Farm Board statutes. This is accomplished without any reference to corporate farming by the conference or in the plans.

This plan will draw support from all quarters for equalization fee and adequate appropriation legislation.

At the coming session of Congress when the equalization fee and other farmers measures will be debated from many quarters will be the best opportunity to incorporate the corporate farm control measure. It will be more difficult to secure action on this at any other time.

Trusting I may hear from you at your earliest convenience in regard to this matter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Chas. H. Stenberg,
Retired Farmer and Agr. Economist
Present residence
325 Wilmoth Ave. South
Ames, Iowa
Phone--1891J--C.W. Person

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

My Farm Relief Planning is indorsed by
State Representative Fred Nelson, Nevada, Iowa, Master
Farmer, member of the Board of Directors of the Farmers
Grain Dealers Association of Iowa.

CHS:PR

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

COPY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

November 7, 1931

15

Mr. Wm. L. Aaron
Room 41, Masonic Home
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Aaron:

Many thanks for your letter of November 5 and your suggestion that mature sweet corn prepared in accordance with your directions makes a good breakfast food. I think I shall accept your invitation to try it at the first opportunity, since you assure me it will not injure a Democrat even though it might not help Mr. Hoover.

Thanking you for your letter, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring
Governor

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

OK

Masonic Home Nov. 5, 1936

Dear Governor

Referring to my letter Oct 12
your reply later wish to say on breakfast
cereals, that mature sweet corn such
as Stowells Evergreen can be parced
like coffee, the outer hull shaken and
blown off then ground like corn meal
add cream (it furnishes its own sugar)
and you have a better breakfast food
than Post or Quaker Oats ever made
In large quantities it can be roasted
in a coffee roaster (revolving cylinder)
and milled, but every farmer can do
this home, and have a delectable
nutritious food fit for an invalid or
a prize fighter.

You are invited to try it
because it will not injure Democracy
it might not help Hoover

Yours truly
H. L. Aaron
8 Hom. Wichita Room 41

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

Lawrence Kan. 11-10-31

W. H. S. 15

Gov. Harry Woodring,
Topeka Kan.,

Dear Sir: I had some correspondence
with you last May in regard to a
plan to help the small farmers make
better home for themselves & families,

& at which time in your letter
you expressed a willingness to help
carry out such a plan.

I am still ready to go ahead with
it all but the backing & I will furnish
a part of that.

This is a worth while proposition
as it would be the means of many
better homes & better living conditions
for many country families, & there
are many that need improvement.

Hoping you will feel it your duty
to help out these farmers in giving
them a training & a chance to earn
& buy homes for themselves.

& Hoping to hear favorably from
you soon.

I am

1109 Del. St.

Lawrence
Kan.

Yours Truly
H. A. Puckett



Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 18

W. H. Woodring

15

Ames, Iowa
Box 327
Nov, 10, 1931

Harry H. Woodring, His Excellency
Governor of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas.

Sir:

Received your letter of Nov. 6th and I wish to thank you for your interest and very prompt reply.

I wish to inform you of the specific proposals I have in mind, confidentially until further developments. Provided however, if you should see fit to take action to promote these and other possible farm stabilizing measures, I shall appreciate such steps. *I would hope to receive recognition.*

It is obvious that the largest producers of wheat provocate most to the oversupply problem. For that reason it is just that they should bear the largest burden and expense in handling the surplus. To this end I would propose a graduated equalizing fee. As for instance; a farmer tilling 800 acres or less might be levied one cent per bushel. Larger farms would be levied a sufficient amount on a graduated scale, to *de*fray all expenses and losses in handling the exportable surplus. The fee would of course be deducted from the price on wheat going into commerce.

It has been said that a straight equalizing fee would place the heaviest burden of handling the surplus on the large producer. However in analyzing the situation carefully, I would say that the greatest handicap would fall on the family farmer. It is the marginal difference between cost of production and the selling price which determine the advantages and disadvantages, not the gross amount. He has a family to support out of his earnings, also gasoline taxes for the family car, school support, etc. The corporation farming have only the lowest obtainable wages to pay. The equalizing fee has the effect of lowering the price of wheat to the producer and consequently hits the family sized farms most severe. Furthermore it will be necessary to lay down specific regulating measures relative to administration of all matters concerning the handling of the exportable surplus in order to forestall any evasive loopholes either on the part of the growers or the chief executive. Or to make the stabilizing operations subject to regulatory measures of congress or the wheat belt states in the case of wheat operations.