

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25

### Section 14, Pages 391 - 420

These folders contain correspondence with Governor Woodring on the topic of unemployment for the years 1931 and 1932.

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directly to these local communities, there arises no need of new surveys or additional administrative staffs and every dollar goes directly to relief. Under a local plan, it would be possible to arrange not only college games but high school games, and it would appear that a fund far in excess of that from a few college games would be secured.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25

### ANSWER TO LABOR PROPOSAL

The proposal of organized labor in Kansas for meeting the present unemployment situation has received thoughtful consideration by the members of the executive committee of the Governor's Committee for Employment. ✓

By the suggestions contained in its proposal organized labor in Kansas has indicated its sincere desire to actively support the state-wide movement for employment which can be successful only insofar as it secures the full endorsement of individual citizens and representative organizations throughout the State. The executive committee, inconsidering the proposal submitted by the Labor Leaders of Kansas, is impressed with the sincerity that prompted its framing and desire to commend all who had an active part in the deliberations which preceded its adoption.

The executive committee agrees with organized labor that the people of Kansas should not wait for a Federal program of unemployment relief. ✓ To do so would be contrary to the best traditions of local independence as well as in direct opposition to the guiding principles of organized labor. The unified program for a state-wide drive for employment set forth by the Governor's Committee is one that all who are interested in solving our unfortunate situation can support and should, therefore, have the specific endorsement of the labor organizations in Kansas.

The task of assuring an orderly development of the policies set forth by the Governor's Committee is one in which every law-abiding citizen of Kansas may readily join. Through the local community organizations, this localized plan of action is the logical reply to the present unemployment situation. The members of the Governor's Committee are anxious to drive home the necessity of organizing for the employment program in each Kansas community. In this respect the active cooperation of organized labor can do much to make the employment program effective.

The Governor's Committee and the local committees organized under its



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supervision are EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEES devoted to the specific purpose of devising ways and means of securing employment for Kansas citizens. This committee is not a charitable organization although in cases of absolute necessity the committee will cooperate fully with charitable organizations in alleviating suffering and distress.

The Committee believes that the responsibility for providing work for Kansas labor rests primarily with the people of Kansas. It is opposed to the placement of this responsibility upon the State as such action is one step nearer to making the workman an object of charity. From the point of view of American organized labor, even the suggestion of a semi-dole system is absolutely untenable. The whole of the proposed program is to provide employment for honest, self-respecting citizens.

Reductions in governmental expenditure are taking place all over the country. The specific proposals for legislative action as outlined in the third section of the labor proposal likely would encounter determined opposition from many quarters. As regards the proposal that an adequate appropriation be made for the creation of relief work (Proposal A), it is the opinion of the executive committee that the individual communities, through voluntary contributions, will provide more generous funds than will appeals to the Legislature at the present time. The Governor's Committee has previously gone on record as favoring the construction of public works already planned or for which funds are now available.

Regarding the proposal to secure additional funds by increasing the present gasoline tax from three cents to five cents per gallon (Proposal B). The Governor's Committee, after consultation with recognized experts in this field, has reached the conclusion that such a procedure would operate to reduce the total revenue derived from this source and would, therefore, tend to defeat the attainment of the objective desired. Moreover, the gasoline tax is already 'earmarked' for highway construction and the receipts devoted to this work are matched dollar for dollar by appropriations from the Federal treasury. Any alteration in the



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utilization of the receipts from the gasoline tax would deprive the State of Kansas of Federal assistance which obviously materially increases the total money available for the provision of employment within the State. Since the Highway Commission, after considerable difficulty, has recently secured from the Federal Government permission to control the awarding of contracts so that expenditures will be used in employing Kansas labor, it would seem the part of wisdom to allow any funds so derived to be used as at present.

The function suggested in the proposal for the creation of an emergency relief board (Proposal C) is provided for in the Committee's program by the organization of local committees under the supervision of the Governor's Committee.

The proposal to institute a five day week and a six hour day on municipal and state work (Proposal D) would necessarily curtail the prosecution of public work. Additional funds to prevent such curtailment would not readily be provided by public authority in the light of present conditions. (In effect this proposal would entail a wage increase which would doubtless alienate the sympathy and support of a large group of employers who are now actively cooperating in the efforts of the Governor's Committee to maintain wages at the highest possible levels. )

The Authorization of the issuance of three year bonds (Proposal E) in case of failure of the above proposals, or the alternative of State scrip (Proposal F), are not necessary to accomplish the purpose intended. The County Commissioners under Section 39-304, Revised Statutes of Kansas, 1923, are already duty bound to properly provide for the relief of distressed persons resident within their counties.

The active support and cooperation of organized labor in Kansas is requested in bringing about an equitable distribution of employment throughout the duration of this period of emergency. Such an attitude will do much to eliminate any unrest and will go far toward lightening the inevitable necessity for some dispensation of charity.

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The executive committee recognizes that the issues here set forth may be susceptible to honest differences of opinion. It desires a full and a frank consideration of each issue for the purpose of arriving at the most expedient and practicable solution of the unemployment problem. It welcomes honest suggestions as it is only by thoughtful consideration of all such that a workable program of employment for Kansas will be evolved.



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25

COPY

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

February 18, 1932

Honorable Asa Messenger  
Pittsburg, Kansas

Dear Mr. Messenger:

I spoke to the Governor about the charity basketball game and told him what your people in Pittsburg were willing to do in the way of taking care of expenses of the University of Kansas team ~~and~~ etc., providing that it would consent to play the game either before or after the regular schedule. He suggested that I ask you to write him a letter stating just what you would do and the benefit you believe would accrue from such a game, so that would give him a new basis from which to work with the director of athletics at the State University.

Very truly yours

Frank E. McFullan  
Secretary to the Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25

M. G. JOHANSON...Secy.-Manager  
J. W. MAXWELL. Financial Advisor

Established Feb., 1921  
Saves lives, cheats Death  
It's a beacon light during the dark days of poverty.  
Always giving the NEEDY a chance.  
Endorsed by every force for good.  
Member of Council of Charities

### Life's Journey

Life is like a journey, taken on a train,  
With a pair of travelers at each window pane.  
I may sit beside you all the journey through,  
Or I may sit elsewhere, never knowing you.  
But if fate should mark me to sit by your side,  
Let's be pleasant travelers; it's so short a ride.

### Life

Milk in the cooler and bread on the shelf,  
And shoes for pattering feet;  
A roof made secure over dear little heads,  
And women kept off of the street;  
Blankets at night when winds blow cold,  
And a fire kept going warm.  
The doctor and nurse and hospital bill,  
And shelter in time of storm.  
Kiddies in school and the mother at home,  
And not in a factory or store;  
A father's love projected for years,  
His voice from Eternity's shore.  
A light in the night of the widow's grief—  
The key to the college gate—  
Conqueror of Worry, Want and Crime—  
Great-powered Maker of Fate.  
Ease for the aged, and self-respect,  
Success-making habits for all.  
The thing that is right for every man,  
The answer to Duty's call;  
Builder of character in ways of Thrift,  
Conservator of human worth,  
A torch shining bright on the Mountains of Hope,  
For the fear-driven children of earth.  
—Authors and Publications Unknown.

### For Every Day A Christmas Thought

A little boy was playing in the snow  
With other lads. He looked so pale and thin  
I thought he must be ill. And so drew near  
And saw him, brave with smiling eyes, look up.  
And give me back a manly, "How are you?"  
But he was dressed in rags and out of one  
Poor broken shoe were pushed two cold, red toes.  
In the gray dawn along the icy street  
A slender girl was hurrying to her work.  
A twisted foot upheld one poor, thin leg  
And she was thinly clad and pitiful.  
Will Christmas be a happy time for these?  
I wonder. And I feel that even they  
Will thank the Heaven above us for the joy  
Of life and love in this dear world of ours.  
But what a pity that these things should be,  
And what a blessing that the work we do  
Helps every day the whole year through  
To bring the world more happiness and cheer.  
—B. N. Mills.

What's the use of doing a kindness if you  
do it too late?

## The Millionair Club, Inc.

(The Welfare Worker)

412 MAIN STREET ELIOT 6026

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON March 7th, 1932

Harry H Woodring,  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor:

### THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT SOLVED

The following outline, DOES NOT affect those who are now employed.

The plan suggested below, deals exclusively with the JOBLESS

A specific example will illustrate the solution.

Let's say that Mr.A. needs another employee at a wage of \$4.00 per day, and let's say that he has 1,000 workers to choose from, each one equally competent.

If now Mr.A. employs ONE WORKER on full time, there are yet 999 out of work. But, if Mr.A. employs TWO WORKERS on HALF TIME, dividing the pay into two equal parts, there remain but 998 out of work. But Mr.A. HAS STARTED SOMETHING.

Now then, if Mr.B. and Mr.C. and the rest of the EMPLOYERS "GO THOU AND DO LIKEWISE", you can readily see that in a not so little while, all the jobless would be working and spending, stimulating business, creating prosperity. The thought thrills.

Is "A half of a loaf, better than no loaf"? Is it better to have the JOBLESS of the nation on HALF TIME, rather than on BREAD-LINES. Especially where this can be accomplished, not with higher wages, but with MORE WAGES.

If employers would accept this idea and put it into practice generally, normal times would soon return, everyone would be "back on the job", and with work comes that joy of spending, followed by ever increasing happiness.

What do you say? Shall we try it? May I hear from you?

M G JOHANSON, MANAGER  
THE MILLIONAIR CLUB, INC  
412 MAIN ST., SEATTLE, WN


*Mess Johnson*

"And shall I keep giving again, and again?  
Oh, no, said the angel; his glance pierced  
me thru.  
Just give till the Master stops giving to you."



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STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 23rd, 1932.

A. MESSENGER  
REPRESENTATIVE TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT  
PITTSBURG, KANSAS

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

No answer  
phoned  
L. E. Garrison

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

My dear Governor:

On my return from Nashville, I found a letter on my desk written by Mr. McMullen, dated February 18th, in which he suggests that I write you a letter regarding the basket ball game we have asked to have played in Pittsburg for charity purposes.

I believe you are aware of the fact that we have a hard problem to contend with as far as the unemployment situation is concerned.

You no doubt, know along about the first of last year The Graves Farm Loan Investment Company went into the hands of the receivers. At the same time The Pittsburg Building and Loan Company, while they have not closed their doors, had better be in the hands of receivers than the condition they are in. A little later The Pittsburg Mortgage Investment Company went into the hands of the receivers. Now we have the First National Bank closed and no prospects of any of them opening, but the prospects are that several business houses will be closed before another six months rolls around. You can see I have one of the hardest problems to contend with as far as raising money is concerned that one could expect to get into.

Things have been moving along fairly well in the way of supplying a few groceries, but we do not meet the situation as it should be met. We are, therefore, very anxious to have this charity game played in Pittsburg to try and raise money for that purpose.


Mr. Brandenburg is out of town and will be for several days yet. However, I was talking with Mr. Weede, who has charge of the Athletic department at the College and he informs me that they would be willing to send the school bus to Lawrence to bring this team down and also return them home. We can also see that they get their meals after arriving here, so they would be to no expense, whatever.

We have a house with a seating capacity of about

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A. MESSENGER  
REPRESENTATIVE TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT  
PITTSBURG, KANSAS

STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

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2800. However, at the Maryville game, there were about 3300 witnessed this game. They have not had a complete tab on account of a lot of students being admitted on their activity tickets, but I am satisfied we could have a capacity house at \$1.00 per.

We are going to have a charity show at the Shrine Temple the night of March 2nd. We have a pretty good organization working to sell tickets for this entertainment and are planning a very elaborate entertainment with no expense, whatever. All of the proceeds to go into this charity fund. The orchestra, the building and all of the talent is donated. I am just wondering if it would be possible for you to be present at this entertainment and give a short address, thinking it might be a good time to do a little campaign work and make a good hit in this territory.

If you could see your way clear, and this date is not filled, would be glad to have you come down, and I will run some special advertising along that line, if you will give us this consideration.

Our Shrine Temple will seat about 3600 people and I believe we will have this building filled to capacity.

In addition to the failures of some of the financial concerns that I have mentioned, you are undoubtedly aware of the condition of the coal industry here. We also have some brick yards, pottery plant and the Dickey Clay & Tile Works that have been shut down for some time. The Kansas City Southern shops, also located in Pittsburg, worked only three days last month.

The United Iron Works and Pittsburg Boiler & Machine Company have not been working full capacity, for as you know, they furnish equipment and repairs for these mines. The building business is at a stand still. We have a planing mill and lumber yard that has not made expenses this winter, so when you take all of these things into consideration, you will realize why we are asking for assistance from you in our program for our show and also for the basket ball game to be played in the near future.

Trusting that you will answer favorably in both instances,  
I am,

Very truly yours,  
BY *A. Messenger*

AM:MO



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**Postal Telegraph**  
THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

RECEIVED AT \_\_\_\_\_  
STANDARD TIME INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Commercial Cables Mackay Radio All America Cables

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
OLY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
OLY	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
RA	RADIOGRAM

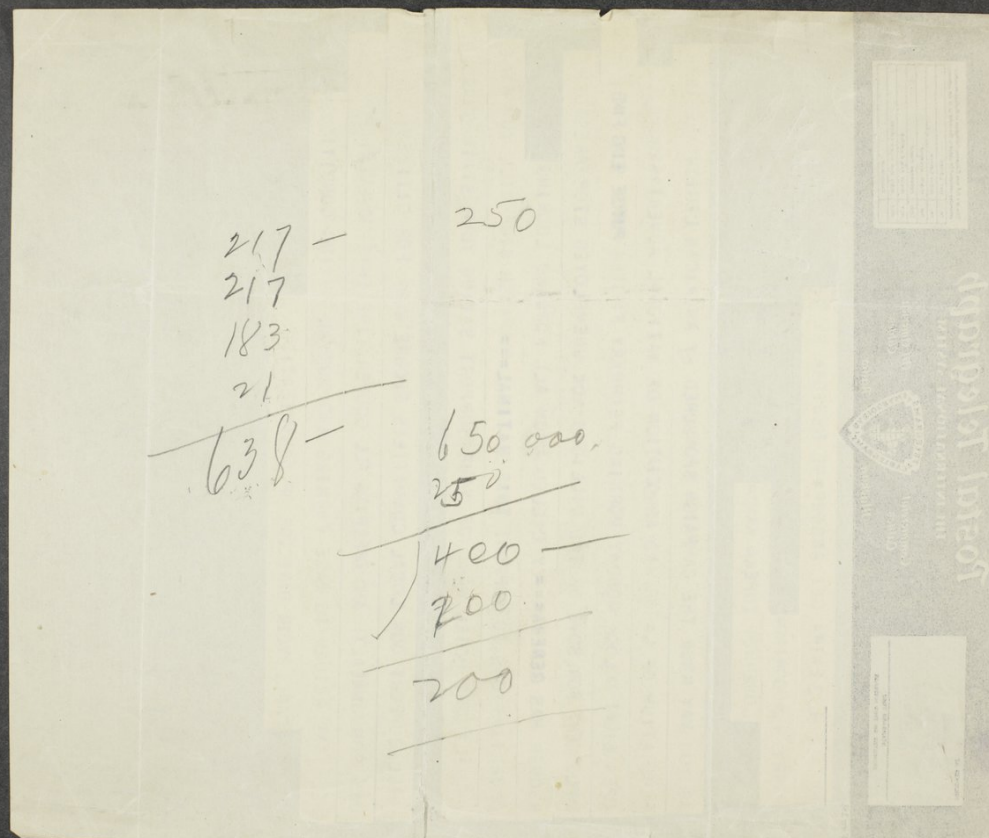
Form 16L

K8 102 NL 2 EXTRA GET ANSWER=BE NEWYORK NY 8  
HARRY H WOODRING=  
GOVERNOR TOPEKA KANS=

*Chief Camp No. 101*

AS YOU MAY KNOW THE CAMPAIGN SPONSORED BY AMERICAN LEGION AMERICAN  
FEDERATION OF LABOR AND ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL ADVERTISERS WILL  
OPEN EIGHT OCLOCK MONDAY MORNING FEBRUARY FIFTEEN PURPOSE BEING FIND  
EMPLOYMENT FOR SOME OF THE MILLIONS NOW UNEMPLOYED STOP PRESIDENT  
HOOVER HAS GENEROUSLY CALLED UPON ALL FORWARD LOOKING  
ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT THIS NATIONAL CAMPAIGN STOP WILL YOU WIRE  
US BILTMORE HOTEL WORD OF YOUR SUPPORT SAYING YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT  
WILL SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMITTEES SECURE WORK FOR CITIZENS OF YOUR  
OWN COMMONWEALTH AND OFFERING ALL COOPERATIVE THIS MOVEMENT FOR SELF  
HELP AND RETURN TO WAGE EARNING AND NORMAL BUYING CONDITIONS=  
CARL BYOIR DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATION

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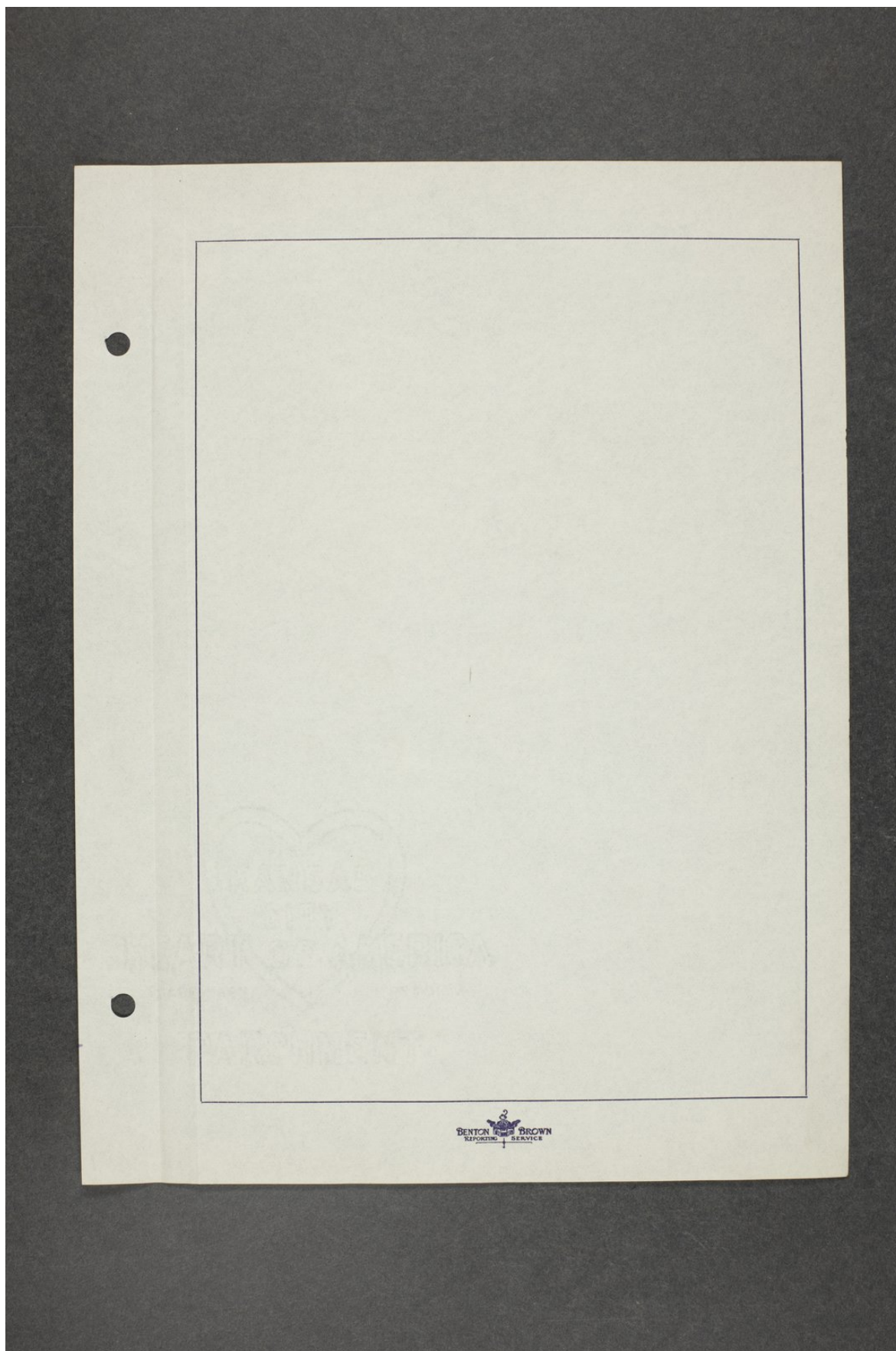
Proceedings of  
Western Conference  
National Employment Commission  
of  
The American Legion

7/6/32

KC Mo

  
BENTON BROWN  
REPORTING SERVICE  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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PROCEEDINGS

WESTERN CONFERENCE  
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION  
of  
THE AMERICAN LEGION

February 6, 1932  
Huehlebach Hotel  
Kansas City, Missouri

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### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

February 8, 1932

The First Conference of the Western Region of the National Employment Commission of The American Legion convened at ten-thirty o'clock in the Music Room of the Hotel Huehlebach, Kansas City, Missouri.

H. L. PLUMMER (National Vice Commander, The American Legion): Ladies and Gentlemen: If you will please come to order, we will open this meeting of the Western Regional Conference of The American Legion National Employment Commission.

We have presiding at this meeting a man who presided at the opening meeting of The American Legion back in March, 1919, in Paris. He has come here this morning from Chicago, showing his great interest in this great plan of The American Legion. He is giving considerable of his time and thought in the carrying out of this employment program.

I believe we may consider this rather an historic gathering, when we consider the fact that here, thirteen years after the organization of The American Legion, we have the same gentleman presiding with us today.

I am happy to be able to introduce to you this morning Past National Commander of The American Legion, General Milton J. Foreman of Chicago. (Applause)

... The assembly rose to its feet ...



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General Milton J. Foreman  
Past National Commander of The American Legion

Thank you.

It is a very great privilege to be permitted to preside over this gathering. The presence of this personnel demonstrates the deep interest the men and women of the Legion of this Region have in the great American problem.

In the same way in which we responded to the call in the World War, The American Legion has responded to its country's need, and leads in this tremendous rehabilitation movement.

The general plan is known to you. I will outline it very briefly and I will ask Mr. Plummer to give you the details. I think very few people realize, until they give it a great deal of thought, the situation by which we are confronted all over the United States. We realize that it is a great problem when we think that our country, which gave so freely of its best blood and of its treasure, should be confronted with a situation where it cannot feed and employ its people who are willing to work.

As usual, The American Legion has come forward with a plan. It is a plan which is based upon the thing that The American Legion is based upon - national service, service to God and Country.

In pursuance of that, the National Commander

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called a Conference of the heads of the great centers of activity, to be held in New York. The question of: What to do, was discussed, and there The American Legion presented the plan which was adopted. It is for the purpose of carrying it from section to section and mobilizing the man-power and the woman-power of The American Legion and the people generally that these Regional Conferences are called.

Nobody needs to guess what this Region will do. It is merely a matter of organization. The entire United States is united for one purpose - securing employment for its idle and putting them upon a self-respecting, self-supporting basis again. The only question is how that can be done. It is a worthy work.

I do not know whether you are familiar with the names of the men who are giving their time to the general committee or not. Upon these men rests the duty of mobilizing the various big industries - upon us lies the duty of making effective, crystallizing, and directing their activities. These are the names of the men who are giving so freely of their time to the National Employment Commission of The American Legion:

General W. W. Atterbury, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad,

Kermit Roosevelt, President of the International Mercantile Marine,



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Marshall Field 3rd. I can say Marshall was a good soldier, because I raised him. (Laughter)

Colby M. Chester, President, General Foods Corporation,

General James G. Harbord, President of the Radio Corporation of America. You all know General Harbord.

Colonel Oscar M. Fogg, Consolidated Gas and Electric Company,

Palmer E. Pierce, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey,

George L. Berry. We all know the head of the Pressmen's Union.

Percy Tetlow, Mine Works,

Edward J. Sullivan, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen,

George S. Long, Mayerhouser Lumber Company,

Louis J. Kanitz, Continental Motors,

H. V. Engle, Anaconda Copper Company,

Colonel Charles T. H. Johnson, Consolidated Textile Mills of New Jersey.

These men reach out through their channels into every industrial region in the United States, and are

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their time, their attention, and their thought to making a success of the greatest civilizing movement that this world has ever seen effected. It is not the purpose of this Commission to find permanent solutions or remedies. That is beyond our purview, it is beyond our time. That is a matter for deep legislative thought and action. Our purpose is to duplicate what we did in the World War - bring order out of chaos. If we made the world safe for democracy, we will try now to make America safe for ourselves.

Nobody knows, who has not given it direct thought, the unrest which prevails in the large centers of population. Nobody can apprehend what might happen in these centers if relief employment and direct relief is not afforded. So true is that that the City of Chicago, by voluntary subscriptions, raised twelve million dollars for relief work, and yesterday an appropriation of twenty million by the state became effective. With seven or eight hundred thousand human beings out of employment, and with the weather such as we are apt to have, and are having, we have a problem that permits of no delay and no shilly-shallying.

That this Region will meet its share of responsibility in this emergency, nobody who knows the history of this Region will question.

Following are the Regions which have already been organized:



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The Mid West Region was organized in Chicago. It has completed its organization, and is well on its way toward accomplishment of its purposes.

The New England Region has organized in Boston. The Eastern Region has organized in Philadelphia.

The Southern Region has organized in Birmingham. The Western Region, of course, has organized in Kansas City, as you know.

The Pacific Region will organize in San Francisco. That organization will be effected on the 9th of this month.

The general plan, as I said before, is to secure the cooperation of employers, to get them, if possible, to increase their personnel. The general aim is to urge them to add ten per cent to their employed force. If they are absolutely unable to do that, then as much as they can do, even down to a single person added to their force. That applies not only to the factory, but to the store, and into domestic labor. That will absorb a very, very fair proportion of the million whom we seek to put into employment.

The next thing which may be necessary is the shortening of the working hours, so that a larger number may be employed. In considering this problem, we regard not only the man who labors with his hands, but the white collar man

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and also the women. Women present a problem which is as acute as any problem that was ever grappled with.

The next plan is the Rochester plan, which, as Mr. Reynolds pointed out, really is a Legion plan. This plan contemplates getting the inhabitants of the cities, towns, villages, and farms to have work done which is lying dormant, for example, painting, cleaning up, building, and domestic work, sewing, book cataloguing, and innumerable other things which need to be done and should be done. I was talking to a man from Chicago who was in my office and he said, it had occurred to him that for a long time he had been contemplating having his books catalogued and that he would have that work done at this time. He found employment for three very capable young women in Chicago, for a month at least, in cataloguing his very extensive library.

This problem can be solved by everybody pulling together. Think of The American Legion, more than a million strong, mobilized and driving forward, each man taking his responsibility, and then think of what the result will be. No man can say us "Nay", and after the Zero Hour, which is the fifteenth of February at eight A. M., we will see that The American Legion once more, as is its habit, has achieved its objective.

That is a habit with The American Legion, and in presiding over this meeting, I need not urge you to organ-





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ize in this reservoir of American liberty that you represent, for I know that you will, and that your influence and labor will penetrate into every home, every shop, every factory, and every business house.

I now will ask Mr. Plummer to give you some of the details with which he is very familiar. I am here only for the purpose of filling a chair. (Laughter and applause)

H. L. Plummer

National Vice Commander, The American Legion

General Foreman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I will give to you, as briefly as possible, a resume of what has been constructed, if you please, in the nature of organization, to carry out this plan.

Ever since the National Committee met in New York on the fifth day of January, there have been at work a great many forces throughout America to mobilize the war-time organizations to assist The American Legion in putting back a million men to work.

Mr. Carl Byoir is Director of coordination and organization, under the National Commander. Mr. Byoir was associate chairman of the Committee on Public Information during the war. He has called in various war-time groups that were associated in putting across the registration for the draft and the Liberty Loan campaigns.

The American Federation of Labor is represented

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by its Vice President, Mr. Matthew Woll, in working with us to carry out this plan. The plan has the full indorsement of organized labor. Mr. Woll states as follows:

"Our nation has enough trains, there is enough capital and there is enough consumer need to end depressions forever. The objects of the campaign are in full accord with the program of labor. We go into this campaign as a war to the finish. There will be no backing up. As we went into the World War to insure freedom forever, we go into this war against unemployment to make that freedom live in every American home."

In addition to the American Federation of Labor, the National Association of Advertisers has cooperated to the fullest extent with the Legion in the set-up of this plan. Mr. Lee H. Bristol, the President of Bristol-Meyers Company, is a Legionnaire. He is President of the National Association of Advertisers, and is using his entire organization and force throughout America to carry this plan through to a successful finish.

Mr. A. C. Pearson represents the magazine publishers of America, some six hundred odd national publications. He has organized them to assist in carrying on the campaign.

Mr. Kerwin H. Fulton has organized the twelve hundred independent billboard plant owners to carry the message, and to work with us.



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Mr. William H. Hewitt is directing the foreign language newspapers of the United States in carrying out the plan.

Mr. Frank Case, who had charge of the artists during the war, and the drawing and painting of the various Liberty Loan pictures, has his entire war-time staff at work painting the pictures which will be carried in the magazines and on the billboards.

Mr. Frederick Murphy, publisher of The Minneapolis Tribune, is chairman of the division of news, and has organized the three thousand daily papers throughout the country to carry the message of this campaign.

Mr. Charles Spencer Hart is in charge of the motion picture work.

That will give you a bit of an idea as to the organization work which has been done - of the ground work which has been laid - up to date for the purpose of assisting you in carrying out this great plan. We want to put men back to work and we want to do it effectively. We believe the best method of producing the desired result is to secure the same patriotic, mass action of everybody simultaneously throughout the nation as we did during the time of the war.

Whether it be down in Picayune, Mississippi, or over in Albuquerque, New Mexico, or in Kansas City, where ten or fifty men go back to work on the fifteenth day of February,

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it may make little difference to any particular city, or to any particular country cillage, or any particular region, but when we have the telegrams in from 10,400 posts of The American Legion on the night of February 15, and when we consolidate those returns, the same as election returns are consolidated, and carry on the front page of our three thousand newspapers a two-column, four-inch box notice, which the newspapers have agreed to give us, setting forth the figures for your locality in a statement tabulated in the New York headquarters the national total result - 350,000 or 780,000 men went back to work on this day - we believe it will make a great deal of difference to the country. The notice will give the names of firms, location, and number of men put back on the job.

That news will be flashed over the wires. Your newspaper will carry it. It will be broadcast over the radio to the people. We believe the psychology alone of that action will have a tremendous effect.

In addition to that field of broadcasting the results, producing the results, and giving them to you, we have set up a great national net-work, the greatest that has ever been set up in radio. The various national advertisers who are sponsoring fifteen minute programs on the air, have come through and have said, "We will cooperate with you. We will give you one minute of time on each of our fifteen minute programs every day of the week, every week of the month, until



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this thing is carried out." We have arranged, in this way, for the building up of the greatest radio audience in history during this campaign. Not only will industry get the news of its own results, but the Legion posts and Legion men and women throughout the country will know what is being done and they will receive their orders during these brief minute broadcasts during the day. Up to this time, we have over sixty such fifteen minute periods, which have been given to us for each day.

The last Regional Conference will be held Tuesday in San Francisco. This will complete our regional organization under the National Employment Commission.

We are asking you Legion men, the department commanders, the adjutants, and the chairmen, to carry this message back to your department. We are asking you to call in the Legionnaires and put them to work on this job so that victory may be achieved.

Following the ninth of February, the National Commander will take the air on a great broadcasting program, broadcasting the orders for Zero Hour and the general plan, and will appeal to the people generally and to employers of labor in particular to help carry out the plan. For instance, every fifteen minutes during that week, an announcement will be made to this effect - this is being done to build up that radio audience - this announcement will be made:



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"Every employer of labor who is interested in seeing a return of prosperity, tune in on this station Friday night at nine o'clock."

The next fifteen minutes another announcement comes over the air:

"Every man who has a job, who is interested in keeping that job, tune in on this station next Friday night at nine o'clock."

The next fifteen minutes another announcement will be made:

"Every man who is out of work and who wants to go back on the job, tune in on this station next Friday night at nine o'clock."

In that way we hope to build up the greatest radio audience for that broadcast that has ever been known, so that on the Zero Hour, at eight o'clock on the fifteenth of February, we can go out into every hamlet, village, city and town of the United States and find there the local Legion committee, which the local commander is serving as chairman, and, with him, newspaper men, local organizations, men representative of industry, the representatives of the Auxiliary and the various luncheon clubs, and they will get the names of the firms cooperating and the number of men put back to work, which are the results for which we are working. I am sure this will go a long way toward achieving victory.



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That is the preliminary program. There is much to follow, of which you will be advised. We are asking for your cooperation; we are asking for your expressions at this meeting as to the best means of carrying out this program.

I want to thank you very much for the time that you have given me here, and I want to give to you - to this group - the greetings of the National Commander, who is in Washington today, called there by order of the President in regard to this very proposition. Doubtless you saw a release in this morning's newspaper relative to Commander Stevens' conference with President Hoover yesterday. There will be more news which we hope to announce to you before this meeting adjourns.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN FOREMAN: Suggestions and advice on how best to carry out this plan are invited from this meeting. Pursuant to that, Mr. Donald W. Stewart, Department Commander of Kansas, will give us the benefit of his views.

Donald W. Stewart  
Department Commander of Kansas  
Independence, Kansas

General Foreman, Ladies and Gentlemen: The Department of Kansas is like the rest of you. We are here to learn and I do not know that we have any views to express. I have been working with this plan in my own post, with the