

Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25

Section 19, Pages 541 - 570

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

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

Date: 1931-1932

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Henry H. Woodring, Correspondence, Subject Files, Box 25

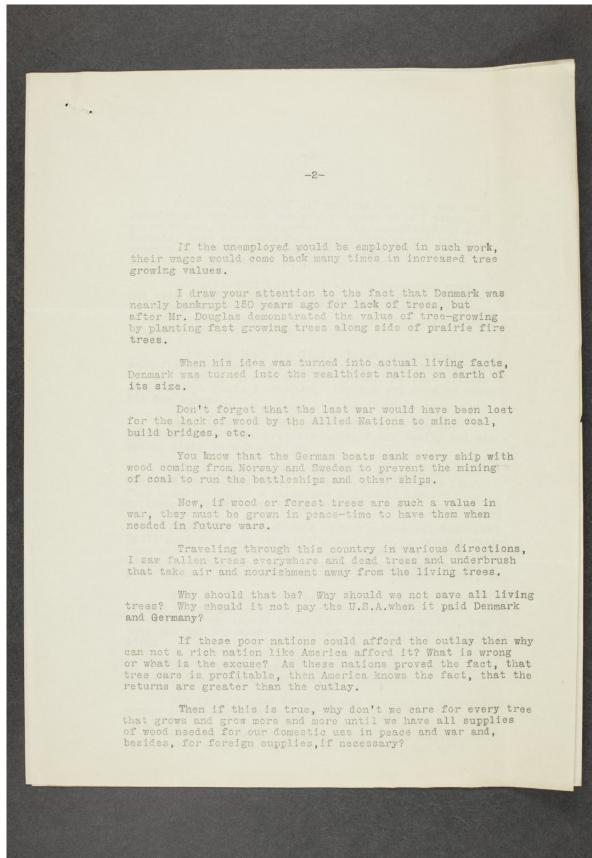
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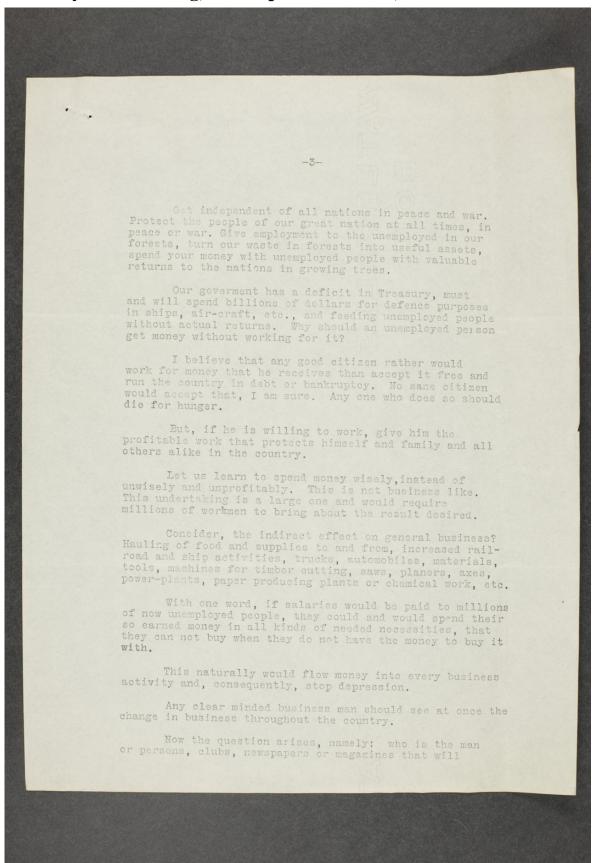
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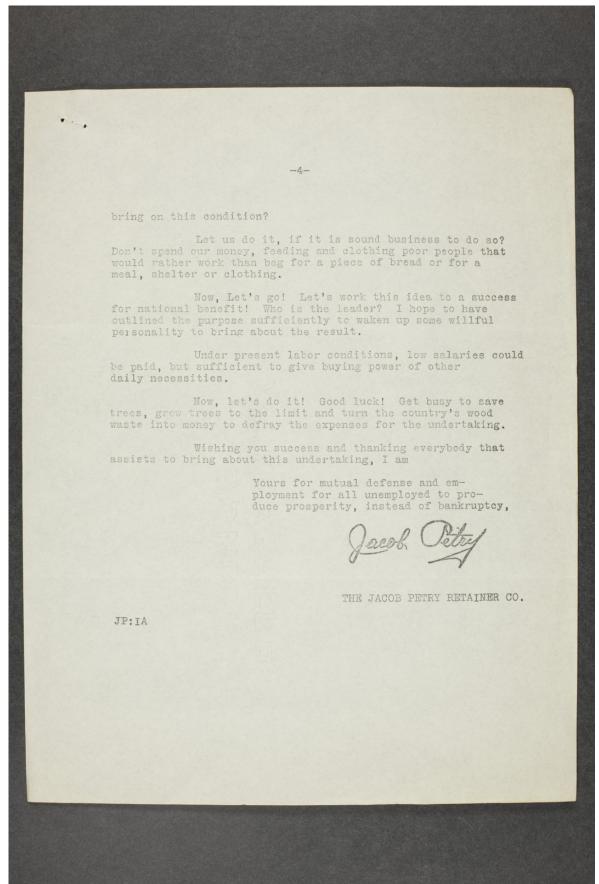












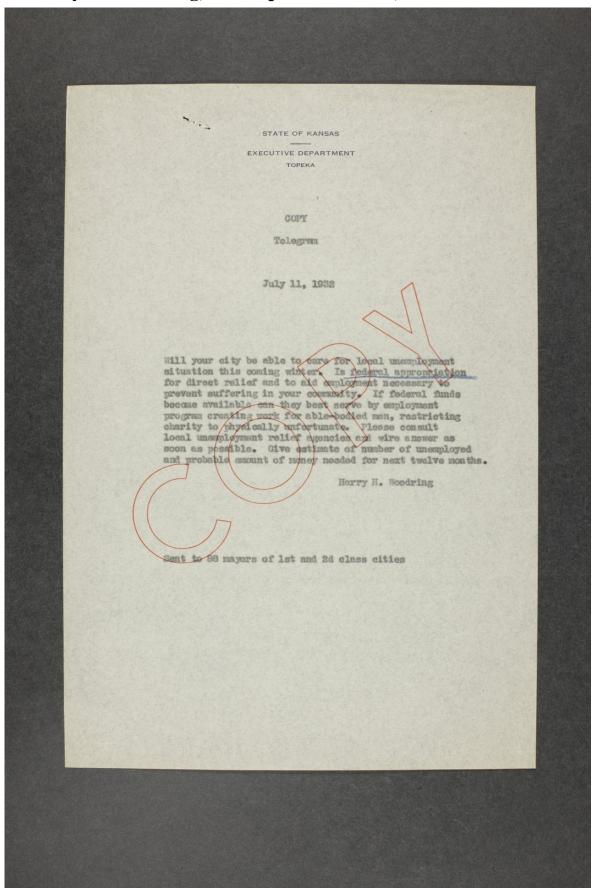


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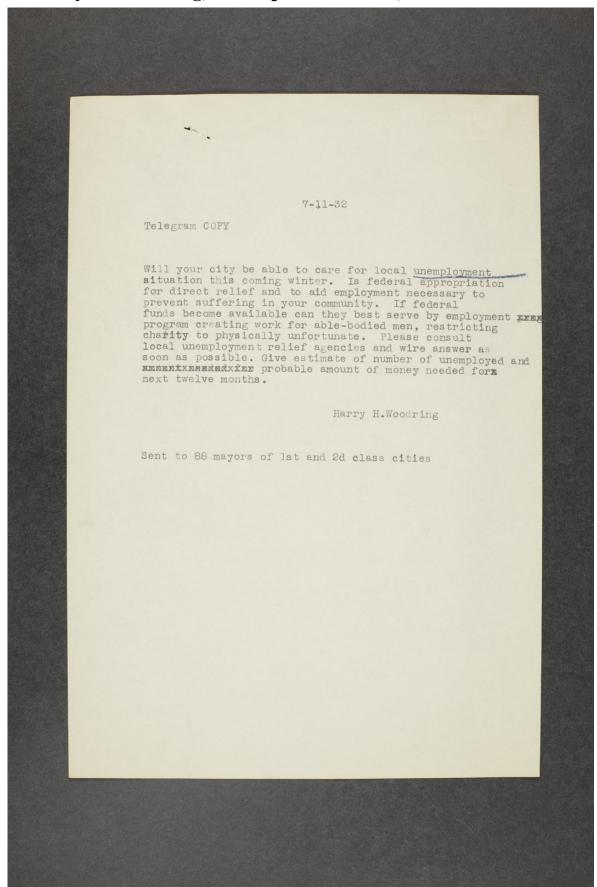
I wish to comment briefly on a press statement quoting Harry Burr, Assistant Federal Director for the U. S. Employment Service, as objecting to the appointment of E. L. Jenkins, Secretary of the Topeka Federation of Labor, to the relief committee I have appointed for the handling of the \$2,750,000 relief fund, and objecting because the state federation and railroad brotherhoods were not consulted. I presume Mr. Burr is speaking for both the federation and the brotherhoods.

For his information, I consulted several in regard to these appointments whom I could rely upon as giving me counsel and advice free from any political commiving or trickery. Mr. Burr who receives \$2100 per year salary from the federal government for the purpose of devoting full time to the U. S. Employment Service and as I understand an additional salary from the state federation of labor to take care of their work has continually since his appointment as assistant federal director criticised almost every act of this administration. This surely does not represent the federal department of labor in their aims and ideals in relieving unemployment. In view of the fact that when the republican president appointed a committee for the purpose of relieving unemployment, this democratic governor appointed a non-partisan committee who did everything within their power to bring the republican president's program to a successful conclusion. I have no apologies to make for my appointment of Mr. Jenkins on this committee, believing him to be one of the finest and highest types of labor representative in the state. I also appointed L. E. Goodrich, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, on this committee so that all classes of organized labor would be represented. I hope Mr. Burr does not imply that either of these two gentlemen are not of the highest type in character and ability.

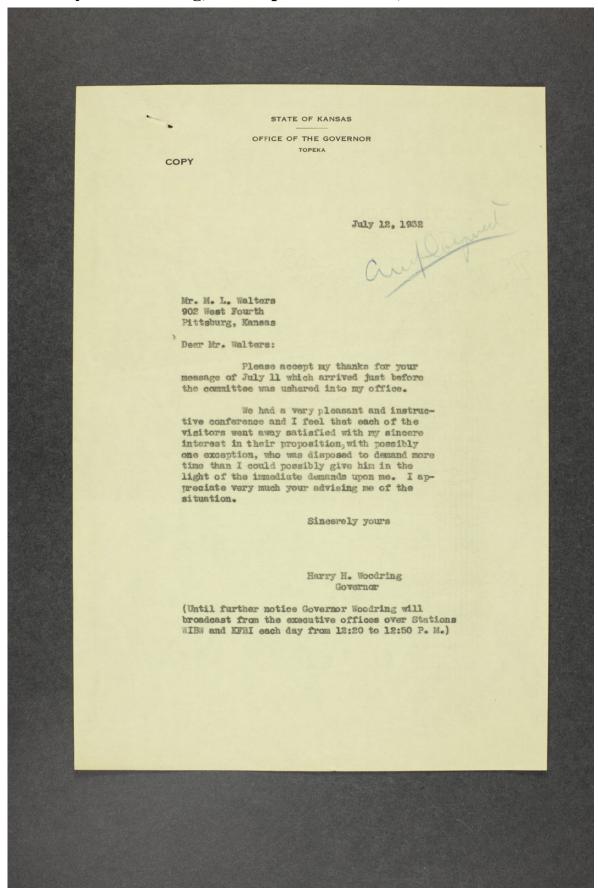




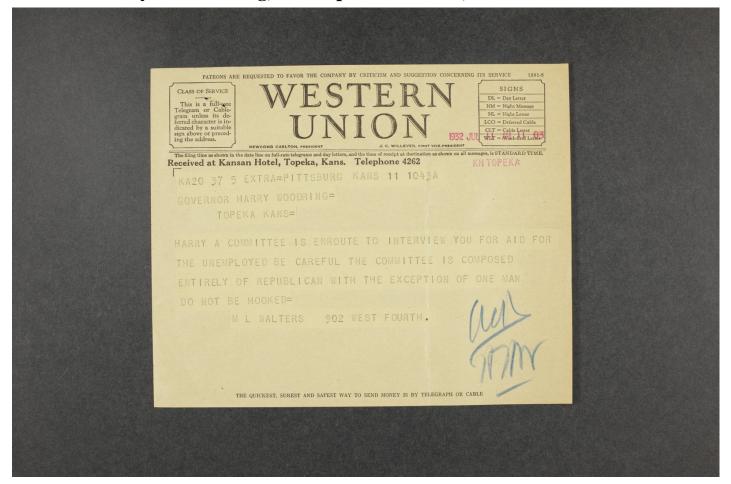




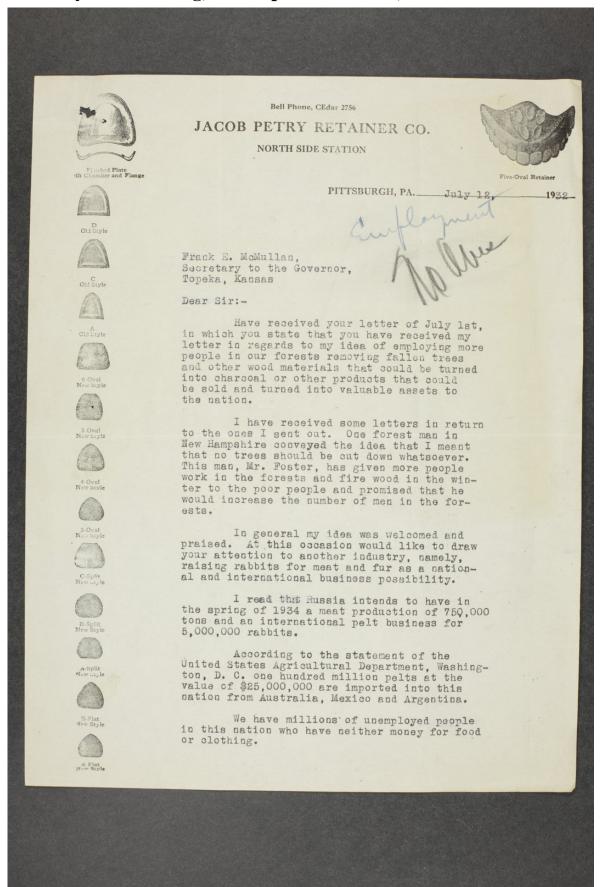




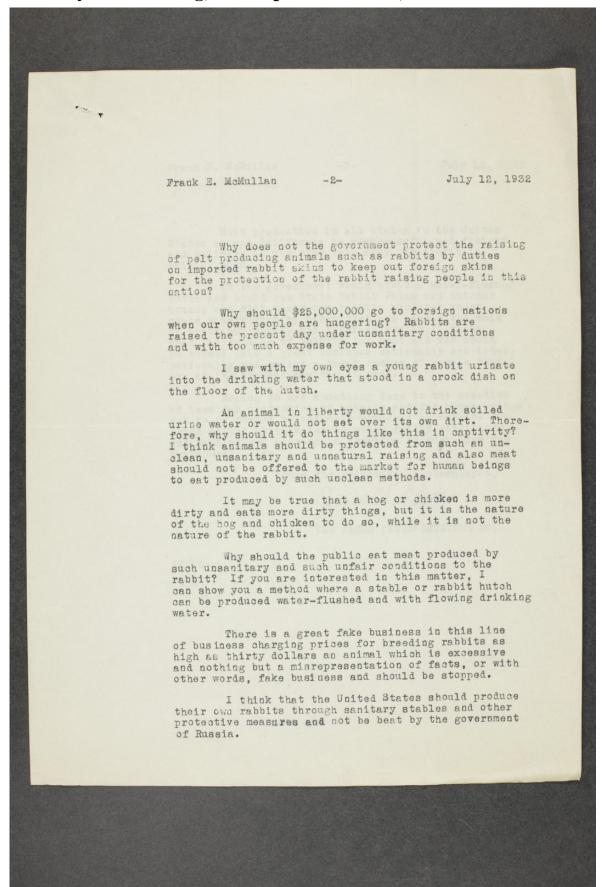




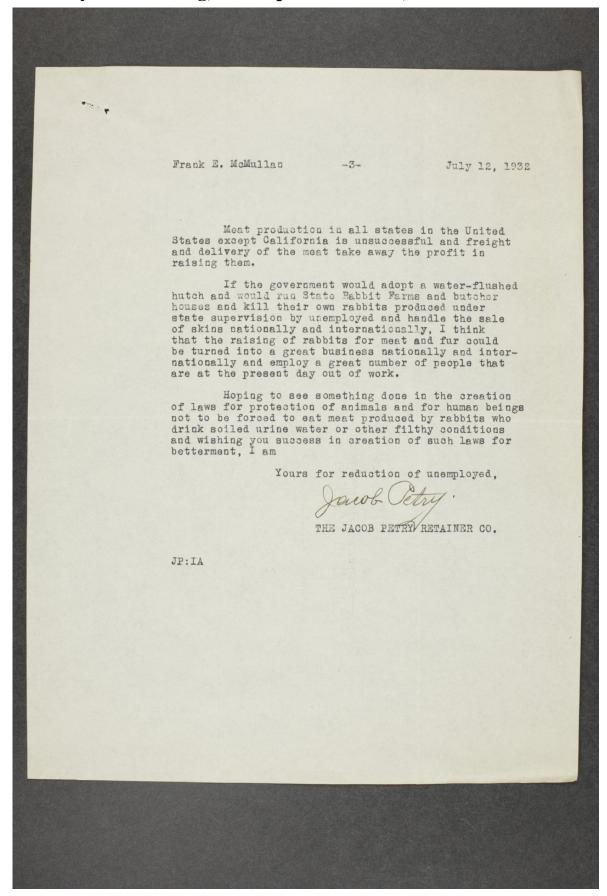




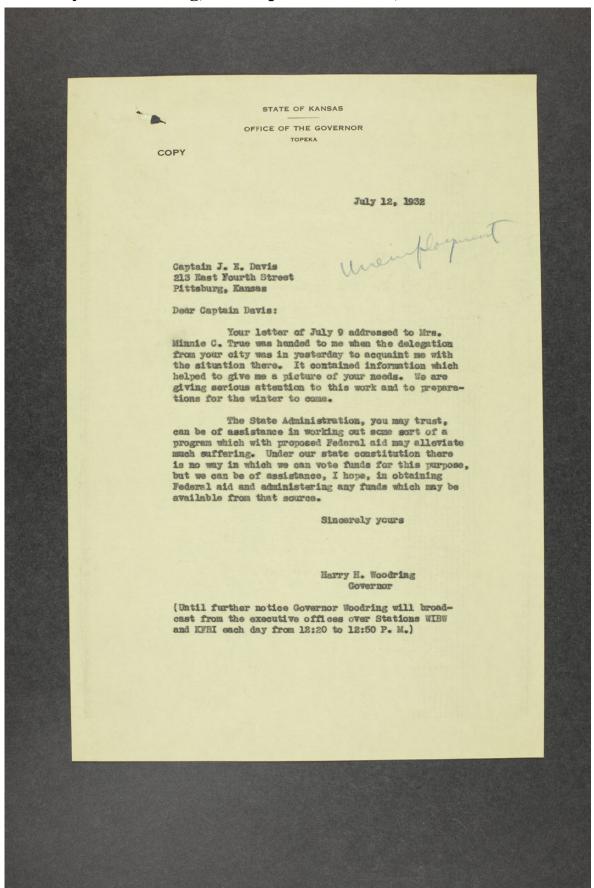




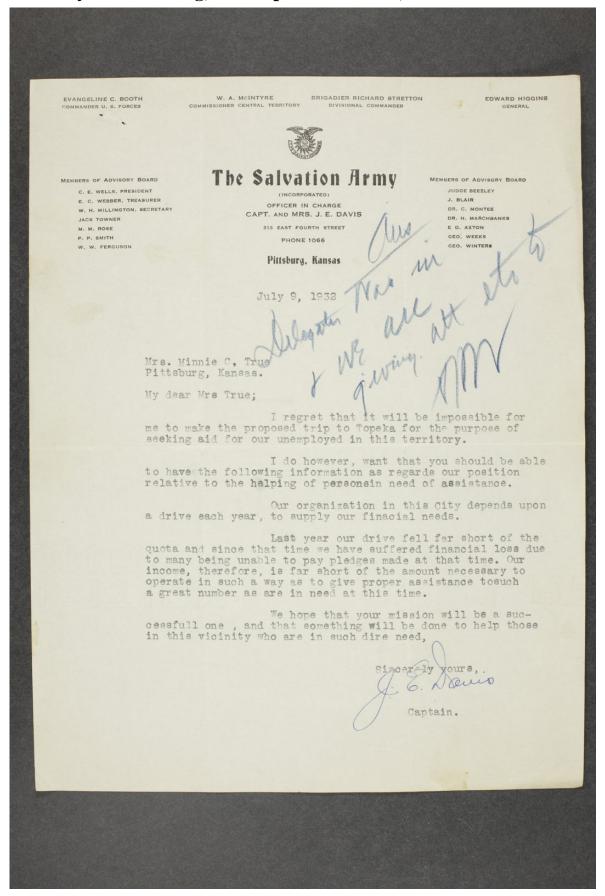






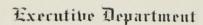








Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 25



OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER July 12, 1932.

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

Dear Sir:

In reply to your telegram to Mayor H. D. Cottman, relative to the unemployment situation in Wichita; I believe that the local governing bodies could take care of the unemployment situation in such a way as to prevent suffering, although the load will be much heavier this coming winter than it was last winter. If other communities receive Federal funds we, of course, will expect our portion and will be glad to assist in any way we can in the equitable and proper distribution of such funds. We are sold on the idea that all aid to ablebodied men and women should be given through made-work or employment and that charity should be carefully restricted to those physically unfortunate.

Last winter we had approximately three thousand men, heads of families, who needed and were given some help. This year we expect to see this number increased to forty-five hundred to five thousand. We estimate the number of unemployed, including those who have some employment yet not enough to support their families, as between six thousand and seventy-five hundred. Approximately Three Hundred Thousand Dollars will be needed for made-work and charity.

Personally I am not in favor of the Federal Government spending large sums of money for relief work, feeling sure that each community can best take care of its own situation. If there are any communities absolutely unable to take care of the needy, relief should be given in much the same manner that the Red Cross steps in and takes care of all disasters.

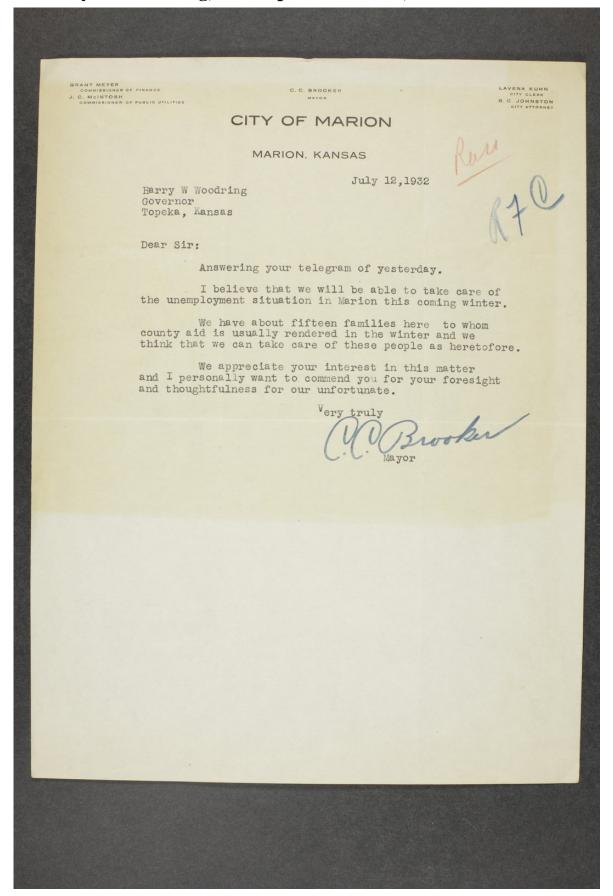
Sincerely,

BERT C. WELLS CITY MANAGER

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