

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

### Section 16, Pages 451 - 480

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Harry Woodring. Subjects covered are financial aid requests, foreign affairs, governor's messages, and interstate commerce.

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## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

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Salaries and wages will not have to be lowered. The efficiency of the institutions will not be effected. I am calling upon the Board of Administration, the Board of Regents, the Board of Managers, the State Business Manager, the Budget Director and State Accountant to cooperate with me in carrying out the voluntary reduction in expenditures. I am calling a joint conference of all of those mentioned at an early date to consider the plan of reduction herewith submitted.



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

Kansas faces another unfortunate situation - the natural result of low farm prices.

The lowest prices in many years for farm products in this agricultural state and the prices for crude oil and other commodities produced in Kansas has struck a blow to the assessed valuations of all personal property in Kansas. As a result our net aggregate assessed valuations of all property for tax purposes in Kansas shows this year a decrease of over 250 million dollars. This decrease of values, figuring the same state levy rate as last year 1.43 mills, means a loss of over \$450,000 in tax revenues for state purposes. The legislature meeting early this year made appropriations based on a budget prepared <sup>upon</sup> ~~with~~ prices and values of November, 1930.

But today prices have declined. The farmer, instead of <sup>receiving</sup> ~~getting~~ 60 cents for his wheat as estimated at the time the legislature was making its appropriations, finds himself receiving less than half that price or 25 to 30 cents per bushel and other prices in comparison. The economic situation has effected all business interests, the merchants, the railroads, the laborer, all corporate interests and all citizens of Kansas.

An economic emergency exists. The taxpayer will find it harder in December this year to raise and pay his taxes than at any time in almost forty years. As Governor, I must take cognizance of this crisis and insist that the state tax rate not be raised even though our valuations have decreased 250 millions of dollars. I am asking the state levy be maintained at 1.43 mills. However, to do this we must cut all state expenses below the appropriations made by the legislature. Business is faced with the same emergency and is reducing expenditures. Every business house is shaving every possible item of expense in an effort not to cut salaries or add to unemployment. It is the duty of those handling public funds to cut the same corners.

The state government must do likewise, cutting out all unnecessary expenditures of items that can be delayed and reducing costs of maintenance and supplies. These reductions can be made if all institutions and departments will voluntarily work for strict economy. We have carefully gone into each and every fund and know where the saving can be effected.



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

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Salaries and wages will not have to be lowered. The efficiency of the institutions will not be effected. I am calling upon the Board of Administration, the Board of Regents, the Board of Managers, the State Business Manager, the Budget Director and State Accountant to cooperate with me in carrying out the voluntary reduction in expenditures. I am calling a joint conference of all of these mentioned at an early date to consider the plan of reduction herewith submitted.



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

*July 27 1920*

The main object of my eastern trip was to have a personal conference with Henry L. Doherty concerning the gas rate situation in our territory served by the Cities Service subsidiaries. The conference was a part of negotiations which have been under way since a few weeks after my inauguration.

During the campaign, in which I visited 94 counties in Kansas, I came to know and realize the popular revolt against excessive domestic gas rates. Immediately after taking office, with this in mind, I initiated a legislative program which had as its objective giving the state the means and power to make a determined fight for rate revision and to give the present Public Service Commission increased power to continue its valuable and splendid service to the Kansas people. At the same time we were preparing to fight, I started negotiations which had as their objective a peaceful settlement. As a business man, I have always preferred negotiation to litigation. I also have found that the average business man will be reasonable in a controversy if he finds he has the wrong view of the situation. In our last legislative session we appropriated \$100,000 to the Public Service Commission to carry on a determined fight for lower gas rates, but I desired, if at all possible, to save this money for the tax payers of Kansas. So I speeded up the negotiations by asking the Doherty interests to send an authorized representative to Topeka to discuss with me the gas rate situation. This was done and negotiations followed which made advisable my trip East for a conference with Mr. Doherty. In this conference in Washington, D. C., on Friday, I presented our case to Mr. Doherty and our tentative proposition for the settlement of this controversy. I pointed out to him the inequalities of the gas rate structure in this territory and emphasized the necessity of an immediate decrease in rates in line with general price reductions. I also made it plain that the people of Kansas have been forced to accept reduced prices for their products; that their income was decreased and that public opinion would not tolerate continued high prices for the commodities they had to purchase, including natural gas.

I emphasized the fact that Kansas would continue the fight

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for lower rates with all the resources of the state and with all the power of an aroused public opinion to a final, successful conclusion, and that an immediate voluntary reduction would be more conducive to the prosperity and good will of his companies than a reduction forced by a long legal and legislative battle.

I was very much pleased by our reception and by the attitude of Mr. Doherty. He is personally very human and likeable and convinced me that he wished to have the good will of the Kansas people. He stated that he had been kept very busy with the critical condition of the oil industry and general economical conditions, and that he had not given the gas situation in Kansas his personal attention. He expressed concern at the picture which I presented and promised to give the proposition his immediate attention. He expressed the opinion and the hope that we could negotiate a settlement of this controversy along the lines I suggested which would satisfy the people in the territory his companies serve.

As a result of the conference, I am hopeful that the gas rate controversy in our territory may soon be settled and the \$100,000 appropriation saved the taxpayers of Kansas.



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### STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR WOODRING

*File*

64  
I am not concerned in the Vice Presidential nomination and none of the articles which have appeared have been printed with any knowledge or encouragement on my part.

I have started a program of tax and economic reform in Kansas which I want to see through. In the next campaign, I expect to devote my effort to this tax and economic program in Kansas.

My interest in the national economic situation and the part I have taken and will take in the solution of the economic problems of the nation are prompted solely by my desire as Governor of Kansas to do everything in my power to advance the prosperity of my State as a unit of the great Midcontinent Agricultural section, including its vast natural resources.

I feel that the people of Kansas elected me for the purpose of carrying out a program such as I have outlined in the foregoing and this shall occupy my undivided interest and be regarded as a paramount duty during my administration.

I feel it entirely within my province as Governor to call attention to the serious problems which confront Kansas and the agrarian West and to speak in no uncertain terms for a correction of the inequalities with which we have been burdened. I expect to continue insistently to call attention to the fact that today the Midcontinent States are selling practically everything they produce below the cost of production while they are compelled to buy in a market which is receiving government aid and subsidy, with resulting relatively higher prices.

Again I repeat my chief interest is in carrying out a program to advance the economic interest of my native state and to this undertaking I am wholeheartedly devoted.



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

WESLEY E. DISNEY  
FIRST DISTRICT OKLAHOMA

*File*  
*no ans*

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

June 25th, 1931

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SECRETARIES:  
W. T. CROZIER  
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
A. F. JORDAN  
ATLAS LIFE BUILDING  
TULSA, OKLA.

Hon. Harry Woodring, Governor,  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Governor Woodring:-

I received your letter containing the gentle rebuke for my not having kept my word about the material for speeches I was to send you. I enclose some of it, with the sincere promise to forward more a little later. The copied editorial furnished to me sufficient material for a lot of thought, and I hope it will be a corresponding benefit to you.

Before very long, I hope to be at Topeka and have a lot of interesting conversation with you.

With personal regards, I am

WED/M

Very sincerely yours,

*Wesley E. Disney*



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

July 29, 1931

An additional response to the desire of the Public Service Commission and myself for reduction of utility rates has come today from the Nathan L. Jones interests of Salina. The particulars are related in the statement given below.

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

"Additional reductions in utility rates in Kansas have been secured as a result of negotiations between the Public Service Commission and the Western Light and Power Corporation and Western Natural Gas Co., both of Salina.

"Recent conferences crystallized today in the presentation of a new schedule which reduces electric rates in 42 cities and towns in Kansas, and gas rates in several others. Under the electric rate schedule, the maximum rate will be 10 cents per kilowatt hour, as compared with existing rates as high as 15 cents in some instances. In some of the larger towns, the rate will scale down as low as 4 cents. Reductions will average 11 to 18 per cent.

"The small consumer will be benefitted as well as the larger user, in every instance, the saving varying from 25 cents per month up, depending on the amount of energy used.

"Only a few cities are affected by the new gas rates introduced. Wherever a service charge has prevailed, this charge is being eliminated. In no instance will the minimum charge exceed \$1.00, whereas in some instances the minimum has been \$1.50 and \$2.00 per month. Caldwell, which is served by the Western Natural Gas Co., already enjoys a rate below the usual rate for cities of that size. Anthony rates are not affected because the Western is paying 40 cents at the city gate for gas purchased from a pipe line, and this does not permit of a reduction.

"We feel gratified with the splendid response and cooperation received from Nathan L. Jones in behalf of the Salina companies. The new rates, going into effect in September, will benefit thousands of citizens while not impairing the worth of the investment in these properties".

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At the instance of independent oil interests and because of the threat of opening up the field further, the Public Service Commission today took steps to shut down all production in the Ritz-Canton field. Following a conference between Governor Harry H. Woodring and Thurman Hill of the Public Service Commission, Governor Woodring issued the following statement:

" I am in full accord with the efforts made by Governor Murray of Oklahoma and Governor Sterling of Texas to force the price of oil to \$1.00 per barrel which I consider the minimum price it should bring considering the domestic supply and demand. We are taking this action in order not to jeopardize the Midcontinent situation."



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A reduction in electric rates for 42 towns in Kansas was announced today by the Western Light & Power Corporation, through Nathan L. Jones, of Salina, President of the company, who conferred with Governor Harry H. Woodring and the Public Service Commission regarding the matter. The towns to be benefitted are:

Alexander	Cullison	Nashville	Viola
Anson	Danville	Ness City	Wilmore
Argonia	Drury	Norcatour	Zenda
Arnold	Freeport	Norwich	
Bazine	Hardtner	Penalosa	
Bluff City	Hazelton	Perth	
Brownell	Hunnewell	Pretty Prairie	
Byers	Kiowa	Ransom	
Caldwell	Mayfield	Sawyer	
Cunningham	McCracken	Sharon	
Clayton	Medicine Lodge	South Haven	
Coldwater	Milan	Spivey	
Conway Springs	Milton	Utica	

The rates will apply beginning with September meter readings, according to Mr. Jones, and will benefit the small consumer and laboring man principally.

Under the new rate schedule, the highest rate to apply anywhere on the company's system in Kansas is to be ten cents per kilowatt hour. This means a reduction of from one to five cents, in some instances, on the base rate, and when the change becomes effective, the rates will be practically standardized in the 43 communities served at retail in Kansas.

"In accordance with the desire of Governor Woodring and the Public Service Commission to bring about utility rate reductions wherever possible in keeping with present conditions", said Mr. Jones, "we have just completed an analysis of our electric rates and the probable effect upon our revenues of various reduced rate schedules.

"In a situation of this kind", continued Mr. Jones, "We must of course consider not only our consumer patrons, but also our investors who hold securities of the holding company, Western Power Light & Telephone Company. We cannot ignore the matter of dividends due them upon their investment, for that would impair the flow of new capital which is so necessary to the constant growth of the utility industry. With the industry devoting much thought to farm electrification, and the rapid adoption of such energy for

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farm usage, vast sums of new money will be required to furnish adequate transmission facilities and generating capacity. Money goes freely only where there is reasonable assurance of dividends. Such dividends can properly come only out of earnings. Our job is to furnish the best service we can at lowest rates consistent with fair and reasonable earnings."

"The constructive way in which the Governor and the Public Service Commission have conducted themselves and the negotiations relative to our rate matters, have created in us a feeling of business confidence toward them. Our negotiations have culminated in our going all the way in the matter of reducing rates to the lowest level consistent with good service and a reasonable return on the capital invested, so that our thousands of investors are protected and will receive regularly the proper hire for the use of their money."

"The fact that our State officials do meet with us on a clean cut business basis and the great results recently obtained by the State wide reductions in rates being made without delay or long drawn out hearings to be paid for by taxpayers should be evidence that the best results are obtained by business methods and confidence."

"I think it should be a matter of satisfaction to thousands of people who have investments in Kansas utilities to know that their business is being regulated with careful thought and business judgement and that the management of the utilities are able to meet the demand for lower rates.

"Gas consumers in several cities and towns served by us are also to receive benefits through elimination of all service charges or reductions of the monthly minimum, in accordance with the wishes of state authorities, in all towns where the minimum exceeds \$1.00 per month."



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STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

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COPY

Kansas has every right to feel honored by having the privilege of entertaining the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ which will meet this year at Wichita. Certainly, I, as Governor, deem it a signal honor to be permitted to welcome those representatives of the Church who will be assembled within the borders of the State, coming as they do not only from all sections of the Union, but from other countries as well. It is a pleasure which is comparatively new to Kansas for it is only within a few short years that its cities reached that stage in their development where they could entertain such a large gathering. We are proud of the fact that such an organization as yours has chosen a Kansas city for your 1931 meeting.

Kansas is a state of Christian people who will be glad to extend to your delegates from near and far a greeting brimful of midwestern hospitality. May I express the hope that the International Organization of the Disciples of Christ may be so well pleased with this convention and the manner in which they are entertained that its officials and members will want to return again and again to the Sunflower State.

Again bidding you a most hearty welcome, I am

Very truly yours

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

August 25, 1931

Mr. Willard E. Shelton, General Manager  
Christian Board of Publication  
The Christian Evangelist  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Shelton:

Your letter of August 10 requesting a word of welcome for the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ became mislaid during my absence from the city. I am inclosing herewith a short statement which you may use if it does not reach you too late.

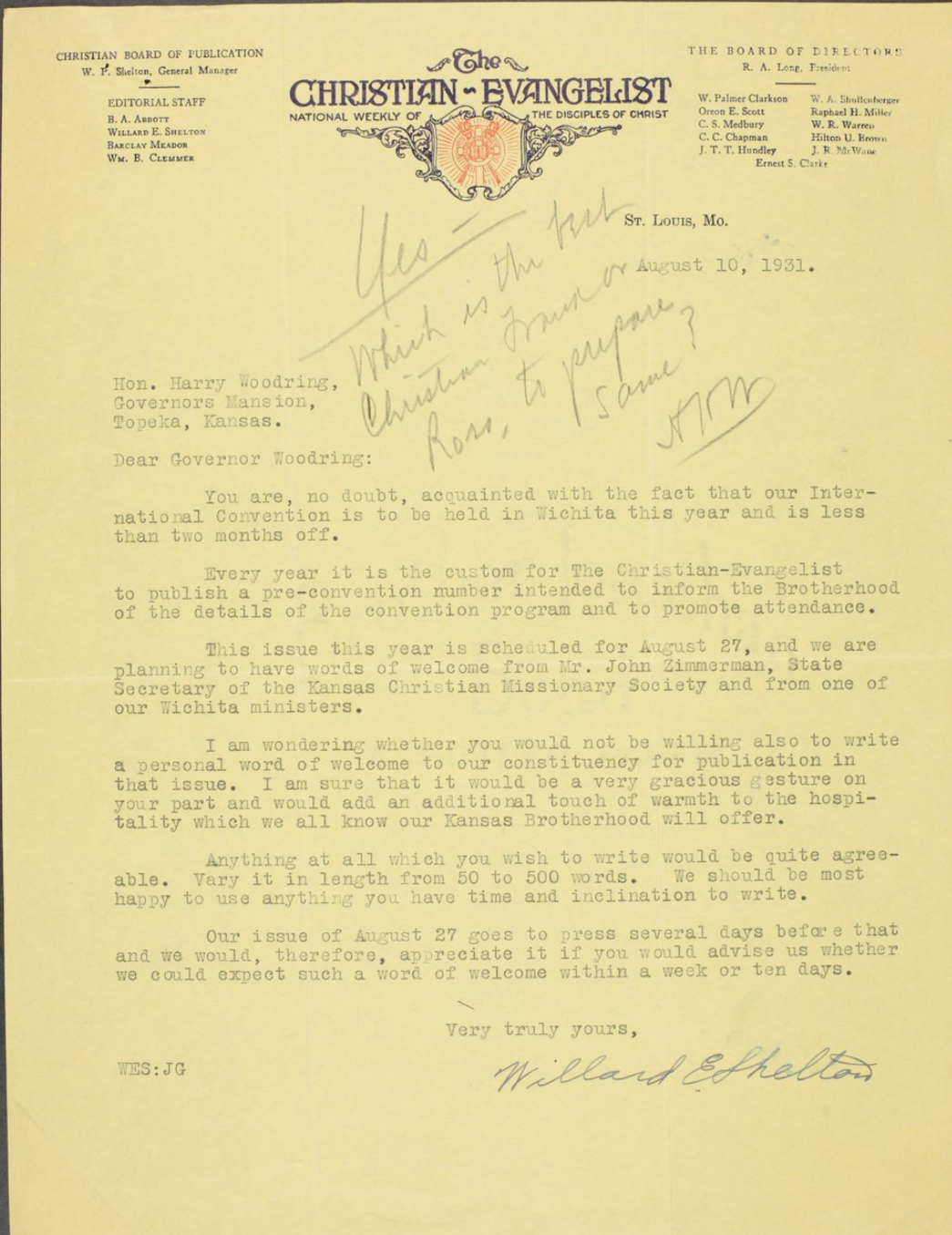
With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

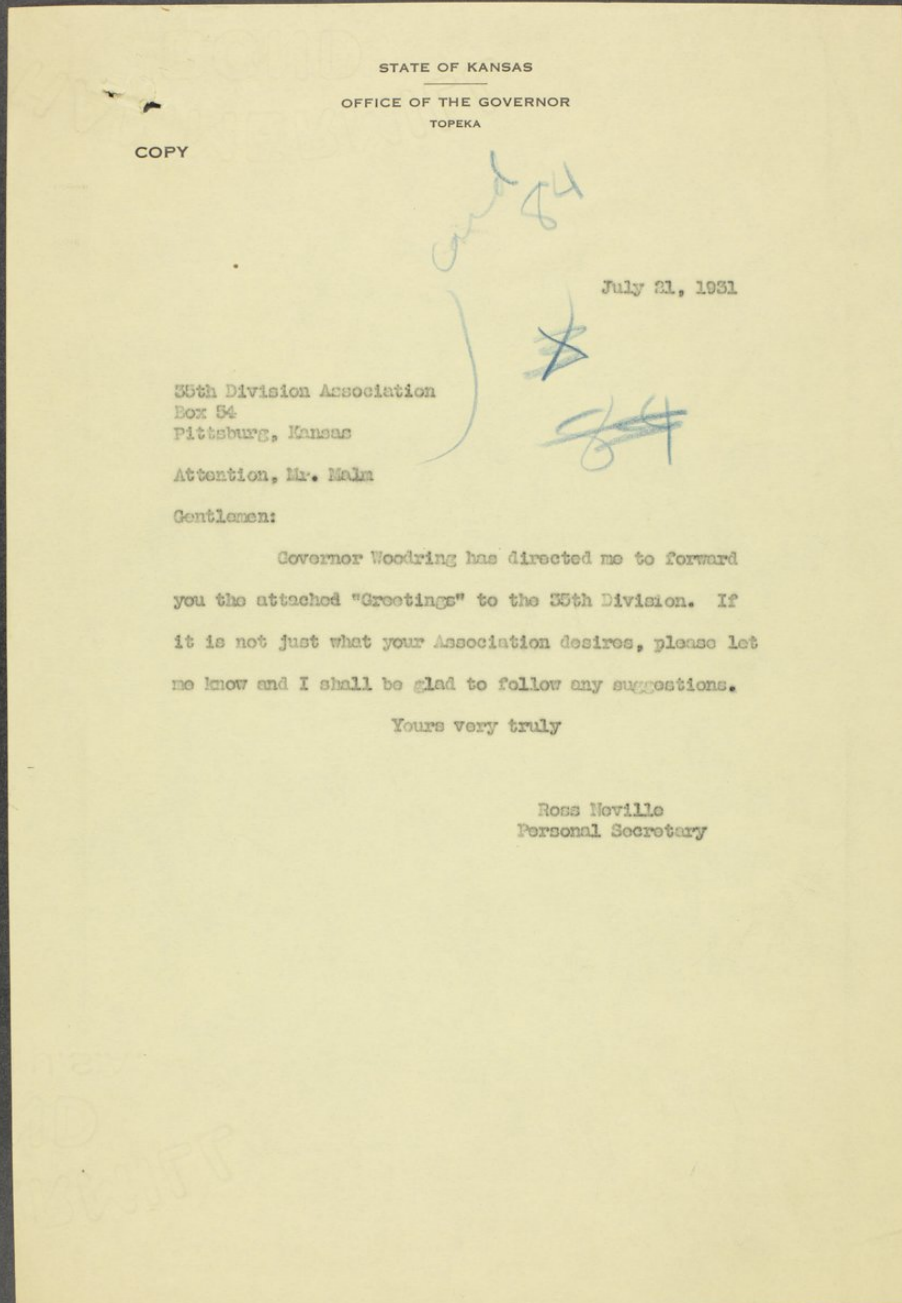
Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



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## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19





## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

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STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

GREETINGS, 35TH DIVISIONARIANS! I extend my heartiest  
congratulations to the veterans of the 35th Division whose  
deeds of valor and sacrifice will ever remain a cherished  
memory to the red-blooded citizens of Kansas and Missouri.  
With a deep appreciation of your valiant service to our  
country, I hope you may enjoy a successful reunion in the  
city of Pittsburg, Kansas.

Sincerely yours

HARRY H. WOODRING  
Governor of Kansas

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

August 11, 1931

Hon. D. J. Sheedy  
The Probate Court  
Fredonia, Kansas

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Dear Judge Sheedy:

In response to your letter of August 6,  
I am enclosing you copy of my Phillipsburg speech,  
and also copy of my "Panic of Plenty" speech, some  
of which was included in the Phillipsburg address.

With kindest personal regards, and thank-  
ing you for writing, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

OFFICE OF  
The Probate Court

OF WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS

D. J. SHEEDY, PROBATE JUDGE

FREDONIA, KANSAS

Aug. 6, 1931.

Hon. Harry H. Woodring,  
Governor of the state of Kansas,  
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:-

The Kansas City Times of August 6th quotes you as saying at the Phillipsburg Rodeo that "Common sense and individual genius rather than paternalism offer the way out of the present day panic of plenty".

I shall be pleased to be favored with a copy of your speech delivered at Phillipsburg.

Thanking you in advance for complying with my request, I am,

Yours respectfully,

DJS-MD

*D. J. Sheedy*

*Dear Judge Sheedy  
Send him  
copy - also  
of same  
of Phillipsburg  
speech  
HMM*

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

August 24, 1931

Mr. Louis B. Greenberg, Editor  
Jewish News  
303 Produce Exchange Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Greenberg:

Your letter of August 21 just was called to my attention. I am hoping that this short statement will reach you in time for your purpose.

The opening and dedication next Sunday of the Menorah hospital, erected in Kansas City by the Jewish Memorial Hospital Association at a cost of one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars, will mark the establishment of a splendid memorial to the liberality and sense of helpfulness to the public generally characterizing the Jewish community of Kansas City. The fact that it is to be nonsectarian and that one-fifth of its capacity is to be set aside for charity patients serves to emphasize the high intentions which prompted the movement culminating in the formal opening of the institution.

It is a fine thing and I am pleased to congratulate Kansas City that it is the home of such an organization and such a Jewish people. At the same time, I find much pleasure in congratulating those responsible for the successful culmination of a splendid idea.

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

THE KANSAS CITY  
**Jewish News**

303 PRODUCE EXCHANGE BUILDING

TELEPHONE HARRISON 8083

KANSAS CITY, MO.

August 21, 1931

Governor Harry Woodring,  
Capitol Building,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor:

We are writing to request from you a statement upon the occasion of the opening and dedication of the Menorah Hospital, to be published in our special Dedication Issue which goes to press Tuesday, August 25. This newspaper is a weekly English-Jewish publication, and our many readers in the Southwest will be anxious to know what the Governor of the State of Kansas has to say on this occasion.

You will be interested in knowing that the recently completed Menorah Hospital, erected in Kansas City by the Jewish Memorial Hospital Association at a cost of a million and a quarter will be officially dedicated Sunday, August 30, with ceremonies appropriate to the occasion. You perhaps have read reports of this hospital, the funds for which were raised by popular subscription from members of the Jewish community of Kansas City.

This hospital will be non-sectarian so far as its operation is concerned, both non-Jewish patients and physicians being welcomed. Many prominent non-Jewish physicians are numbered on its staff. Twenty per cent of its capacity is being set aside for charity patients.

In construction, this hospital is modern throughout, possessing many of the features not to be found elsewhere, in view of the recent erection of the institution. Its equipment is most thorough, and medical authorities who have inspected the hospital attest to the fact that it represents the last word in hospital construction.

Thanking you for your kind courtesy in this matter, and trusting that we may have the privilege of presenting your statement in our Dedication Issue, for the pleasure of our readers, we are,

Very cordially yours,

THE KANSAS CITY JEWISH NEWS  
By *Louis B. Greenberg*  
Louis B. Greenberg, Editor.

lbg:ff

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

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August 29, 1931

Mr. Clarence E. Shepard  
412 Huntzinger Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Shepard:

I thank you most sincerely for your delightful letter of August 29 and for your words of commendation of my speech at Baldwin. It is most pleasing to know that men like yourself approve of what the administration is trying to do during these most trying times.

I know your son very well which is all the more reason why I appreciate such a letter from his father.

With continued good wishes, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

*This is generous to  
reply. I know your son very well.*

CLARENCE E. SHEPARD, ARCHITECT  
412 HUNTZINGER BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Aug. 29. 31

My Dear Gov. Woodring:

Being a citizen of  
Johnson Co. Kans and the son  
of an early settler in  
Clay Co. I want to tell you  
how very much I appreci-  
ate your speech at Baldwin.

We certainly feel that in  
you, Kansas has a Gov.  
who will lead us safely  
thro this trying time. I whole-  
ly concur heartily in  
just what you say.

Very truly yours  
Clarence E. Shepard.

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

44  
August 31, 1931

Mr. Willard E. Shelton  
The Christian-Evangelist  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Shelton:

Replying to your letter of August 27 permit me to say that I am very sorry I was unable to get my statement off in time for your pre-convention number. I was afraid it would reach you too late.

It will be perfectly all right with me for you to hold it and use it at such a time as may be convenient.

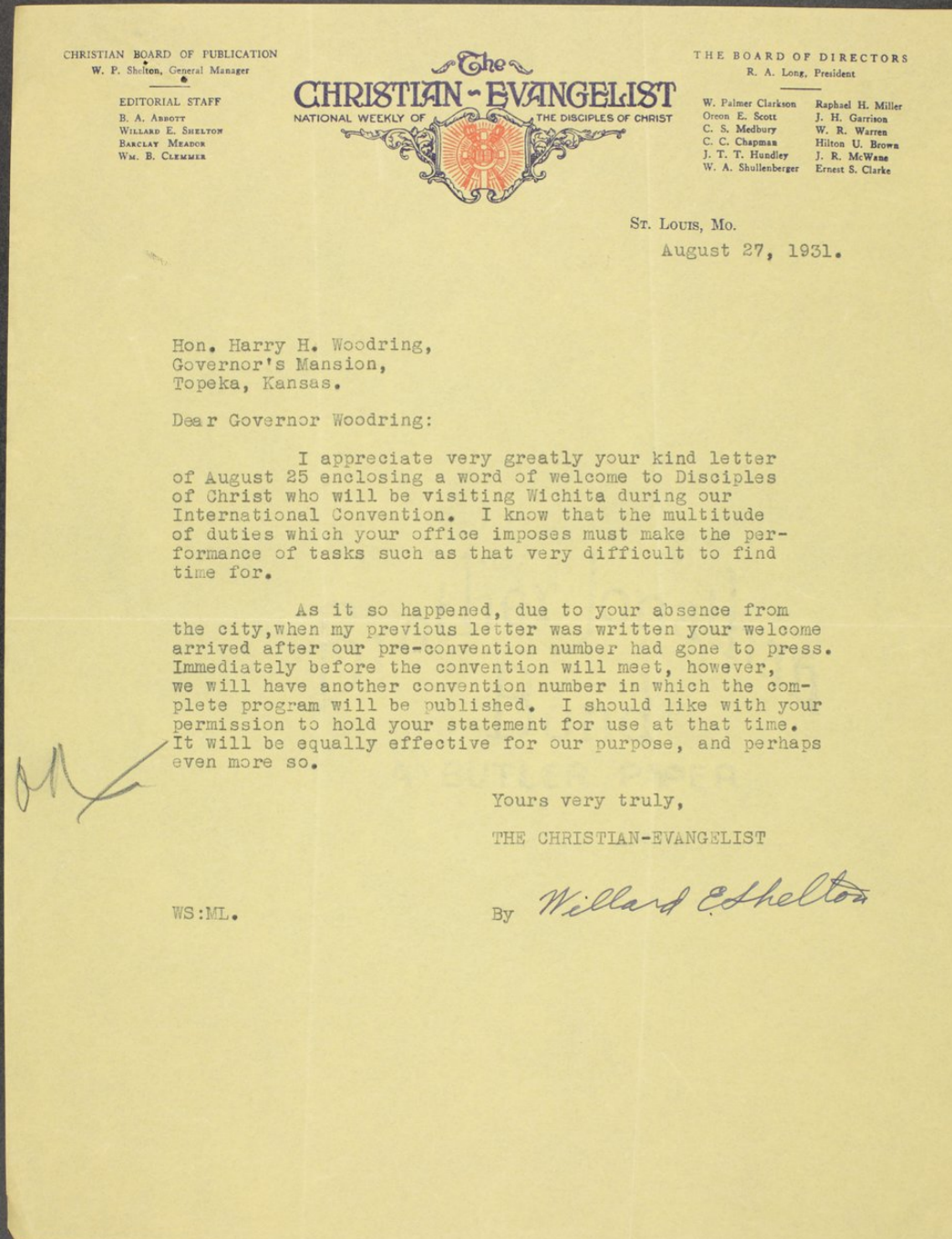
With continued good wishes, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



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## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

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August 31, 1931

Mr. C. O. Nelson  
Chanute, Kansas

Dear Mr. Nelson:

I thank you most sincerely for your letter of August 28 and for your generous commendation of my attitude toward public questions and present day problems. It is most heartening to one occupying the position of Chief Executive of the State to know that he is receiving the support of men like yourself in his efforts to fill that position acceptably.

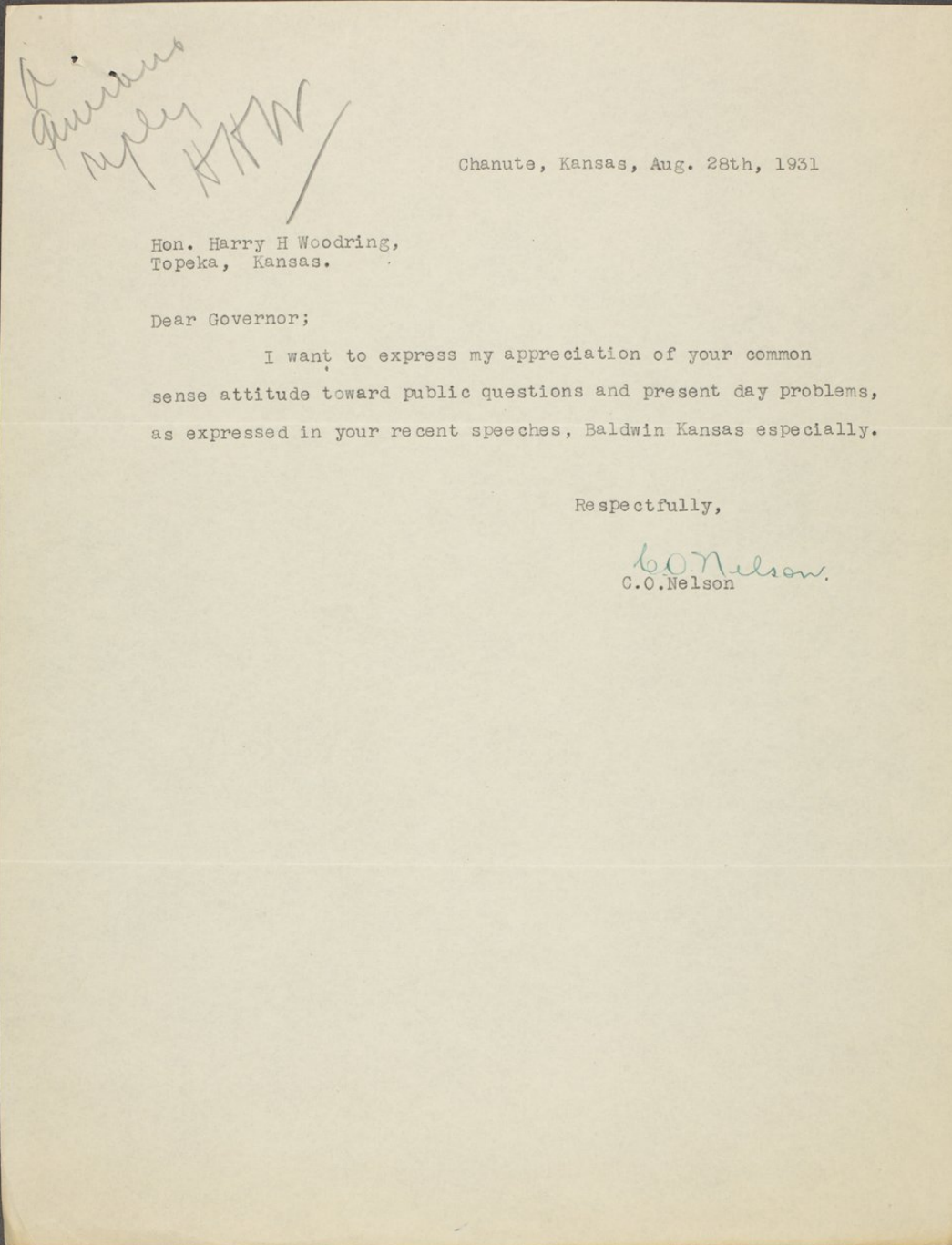
With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19



Chanute, Kansas, Aug. 28th, 1931

Hon. Harry H Woodring,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor;

I want to express my appreciation of your common sense attitude toward public questions and present day problems, as expressed in your recent speeches, Baldwin Kansas especially.

Respectfully,

*C.O. Nelson*  
C.O. Nelson

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TOPEKA

COPY

September 18, 1931

Mr. John P. Ribic, President  
Croatian Fraternal Union  
1841 State Avenue  
Kansas City, Kansas

My dear Mr. Ribic:

I have been much interested in your letter of September 16 containing, as it does, such information with regard to the Croatian Fraternal Union of America and Junior Order of the C.F.U. I also am pleased to know that the Union has adopted the policy of printing one section of its official paper in English and of organizing English speaking local lodges. This feeling is enhanced with the knowledge that such a lodge has been organized in our own State at Kansas City to be known as "Jayhawk Lodge No. 734 of the Croatian Fraternal Union", of which you are president.

I feel that your people are to be congratulated upon this program and that it is full of possibilities for splendid work to be done through the organization, both for America and for the Croatian-Americans who make up this membership. I am sure your people through their loyalty to their adopted country will gain much and contribute still more through their association in this organization.

I congratulate your leaders upon adopting a plan of organizing and building up English speaking lodges believing that it will add very materially to the benefits and influence accruing both to the members and to the Nation of which they now are a part.

With kindest personal regards and assuring you that I appreciate your friendliness and



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#2

esteem most highly, I am

Very cordially yours

Harry H. Woodring  
Governor

## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

*Handwritten notes:*  
 Must  
 yes - write  
 a good I this  
 Splendid work - that  
 can do  
 this org. can do  
 back for Army & for the  
 Croatian-Americans  
 "Jayhawk" Lodge No. 734  
 10/15/31

**CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION**  
OF AMERICA

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, September 16, 1931

Honorable Harry H. Woodring  
Executive Offices  
Statehouse  
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Governor:

The Croatian Fraternal Union of America, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Junior Order of the C.F.U. are the lodges formed by and for the Croatian people of the United States, and have a membership of about one hundred thousand. The organization's official publication is "Zajednicar", about two thousand copies of which are distributed in Kansas City, Kansas.

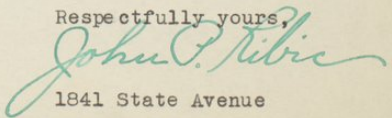
With the reduction of immigration into this country, the Croatian Fraternal Union, which has used the Croatian language exclusively in both its lodge meetings and its paper, in order to maintain its membership, and in order to reach the young Croatian people in the United States, has adopted the policy of printing one section of its paper in English and organizing English speaking local lodges. One such was organized in Kansas City, Kansas last year. It is the only English speaking Croatian lodge in the State of Kansas. It is known as "Jayhawk Lodge No. 734, of the Croatian Fraternal Union." It happens that I am president of this local lodge.

*yes*

Incidentally, this program may be, and is expected to be, a very practical means of more complete Americanization of my people. As a legionnaire and American citizen, I am heart and soul in the work of boosting the membership of the English speaking lodges. A letter of appreciation and commendation of this program from you, which will be published in the national magazine, would, I feel, be of great benefit in stimulating interest of my people, not only locally, but nationally, in these English speaking lodges.

Should you favor our building English speaking lodges, I shall consider it an honor to have a letter on the subject from you, which I shall gladly forward to the Editor of our official organ "Zajednicar" for publication in the English speaking section of an early issue.

Assuring you of my friendliness and esteem for you and your program for the people of Kansas, I am,

Respectfully yours,  
  
 1841 State Avenue

JR:LL



## Governor Harry H. Woodring, Correspondence Files, Box 19

### STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR HARRY H. WOODRING ON THE TRI-STATE OIL CONFERENCE

I am delighted with the success of the Tri-State Oil Conference held in Austin. I am joining Governor Sterling of Texas and Governor Murray of Oklahoma in my approval of the united efforts of the Mid-continent States in their appeal to Washington to order curtailment of foreign oil importations to back up the conservation efforts of the large oil producing states.

I am in receipt today of word from Governor Seligman of New Mexico informing me the President wires him that the appeal of the Independent Oil Producers Association for federal curtailment of imports has been laid before the Tariff Commission. This is a distinct concession from the former attitude of the administration, inasmuch as those in power previously have been more concerned, apparently, in the welfare of the oil industry of Venezuela than for American independent operators.

The Midcontinent oil producing States have been unable to reconcile the request of the President's Conservation Board to curtail and shut in American oil production and at the same time permit daily increasing imports from foreign countries.

Our Tri-State Committee left Saturday night from Austin, Texas, for Washington to urge help and aid from the Administration through Secretary Lamont. The committee will request the administration to back up the oil producing states in an effort to save a great natural resource, and one of the greatest industries of the nation,--oil.

Now is the time the Federal/<sup>Government</sup> can aid and cooperate most effectively.

The Mid-Continent oil producing states challenge the double standard policy of any administration, that champions protection and high tariff, for the products of the Eastern and Atlantic seaboard states and denies that same policy and protection for the products of the Middle West. Regardless of partisan politics, that plan no longer will be tolerated by our people of this section.

I hope the oil producing states will continue to demand more concern for the American oil industry, including the millions of men employed thereby, and less for that of Venezuela.

(Thurman Hill, member of the Public Service Commission,  
is a member of the Committee.)