

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

Section 3, Pages 61 - 90

This series is part of a bigger collection from Gertrude Ackerman. These documents represent participant lists, speeches and addresses, and correspondence from the 39th to 49th annual Kansas Day meetings. These documents included annotations throughout.

Creator: Ackerman, Gertrude

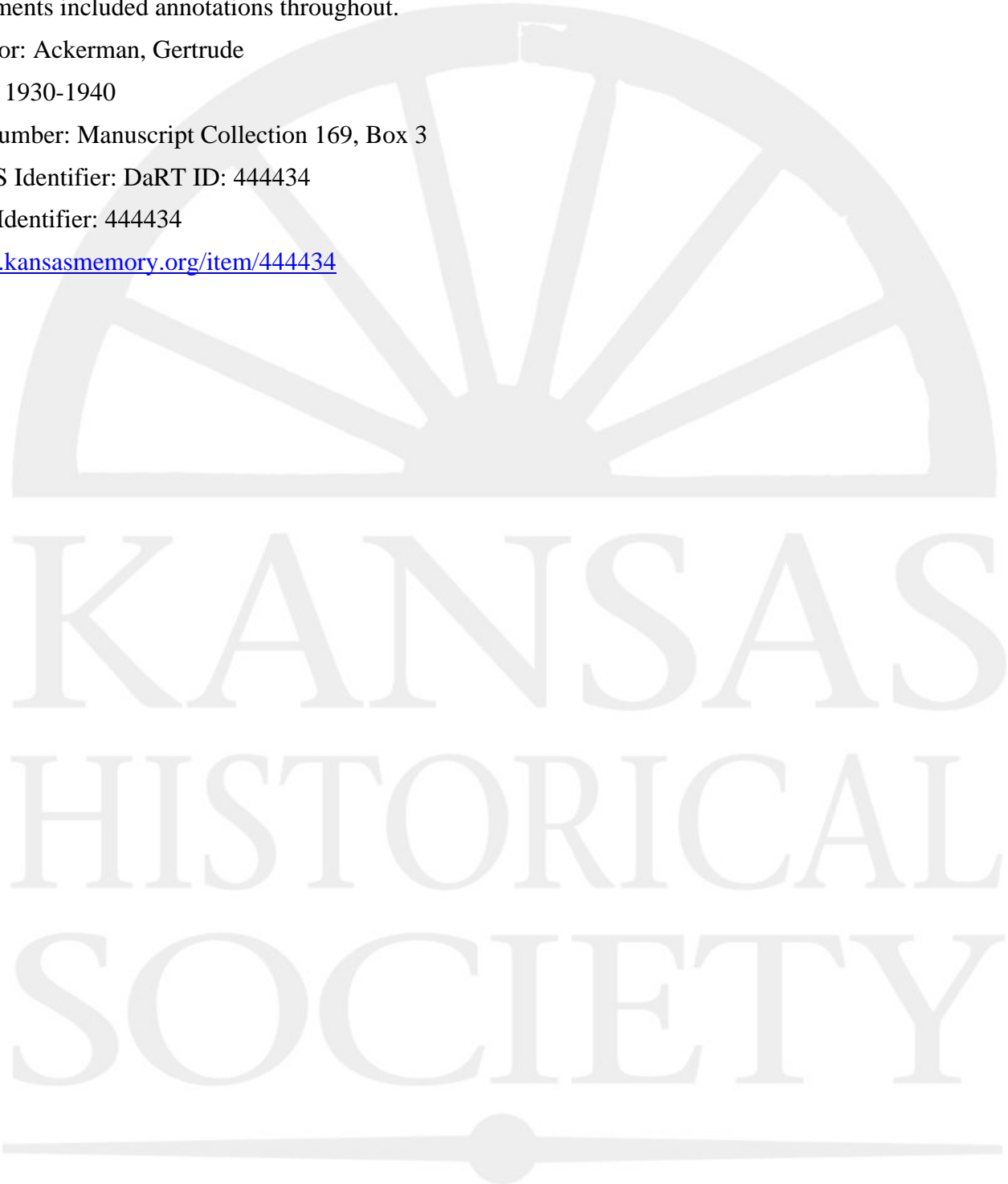
Date: 1930-1940

Callnumber: Manuscript Collection 169, Box 3

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 444434

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39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

Topeka, Kansas
July 18, 1941

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
2909 Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

I made another attempt to recover your Kansas Day Banquet Speech of 1930, and when going through some of the papers over in the Historical Building, I found the enclosed which I copied from the Topeka Daily Capital. Since they did not say it was in part, I am wondering if it might be the entire speech.[?] Some of the Kansas City papers carried the paragraphs that were taken from this same speech, and I checked them very thoroughly.

I am attempting to bring this compilation to a close as I would like very much to have it published before Fall and, of course, I need your speech for the year 1930.

No doubt, you will remember if this copy is the entire manuscript. However, if it isn't and will be all right with you, I will use the copy as enclosed.

I will appreciate very much hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours

Gertrude Ackerman

GERTRUDE ACKERMAN

GA:EM

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

June 15, 1940

Mrs. J. C. McKinney
Vice Chairman Lyon County
Republican Central Committee
Hartford, Kansas

Dear Mrs. McKinney:

I am making a compilation of all the Kansas Day speeches which have been delivered for the past forty years, and I would appreciate it very much if you would send me a copy of the address which you delivered at the last Kansas Day Banquet at the Masonic Temple.

Sincerely yours

GERTRUDE ACKERMAN

GA:DD

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings





39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

Topeka, Kansas
July 18, 1941

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
2909 Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

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I will appreciate very much hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours

GA:EM

GERTRUDE ACKERMAN

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

Jan 29, 1930

Colorado Springs, Colorado
October, 17, 1940

Miss. Gertrude Ackerman
State House, Topeka, Kansas
My dear Miss. Ackerman:

I have received your last letter concerning the talk which I made January, 29th ~~1930~~ or 30.

I do not now plan on being back in Topeka for some time. In fact I do not know when I shall be back.

It is so nice of you to hold back the printing of the book which will be published before Kansas Day in 1941, but I would advise you to go ahead and print excerpts as it is so uncertain just when I shall ever be back in Topeka.

If I could tell, or try to tell some one where to look for some papers which are in storage, I doubt if this particular one could be found.

I am not certain myself whether

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I have anything but excerpts
which were in the Kansas City
papers at that time.

There are excerpts among some
clippings now in the City library,
they are in envelopes of clippings,
marked "noted women of Kansas".

I cannot begin to tell you how
sorry I am, that I am unable to
furnish you with this material, but
it is impossible to do otherwise.

Of course I would like to see
my talk in print, and would see
that you had it, every word, if
I could.

This is just one of those things
which come up in one's life, that
cannot be helped.

I have not made it a practice
of keeping many papers, as I have
moved several times in the last
ten years.

Again, I am so sorry, and many
thanks for your kindness and thought
fulness, I am

Sincerely Yours
Mrs. W. H. Rutter

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

October 9, 1940

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
2909 Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

After receiving your letter on September eighth, I went over to the State Historical Building and scanned through the Osawatomie Graphic for January, 1930, in hopes of finding the full text of your fine Kansas Day speech. The paper mentioned the fine recognition which had come to Osawatomie in giving you a part on the evening program, but did not carry your address, or any other for that evening.

As you said in your letter -- "It is strange that anyone should want this so soon after placing all my goods and papers in storage, you know what that means perhaps!" Indeed I do. However, I have secured all the addresses for 1930, with the exception of yours. And I do feel guilty in being so persistent. Yet --

It is the plan to have these speeches, covering the fifty years of the clubs existence, put in book form, and I know you appreciate my wanting the full text of each person's speech if it is at all possible to obtain.

The first twenty-five years are about ready, and we would like to have it ready for next Kansas Day, the fiftieth anniversary of the Club. The second edition would come out just after Kansas Day for the reason that we have to wait for the speeches of January 29, 1941.

I will gladly wait if you are planning to be back in Kansas sometime before then, and I know you would rather have the full text of your address rather than the excerpts.

With kindest regards to you.

Sincerely yours

Gertrude Ackerman

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1930
Topeka, Kansas
September 4, 1940

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
Osawatomie, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

We are nearing the completion of our compilation of addresses. However, we are short of several, one of them being the address which you gave on January 29, 1930 and the subject of your address was "Green Prairies".

We had your letter of July 23 in which you said that on a later date perhaps you could send some clippings or the speech. We would prefer very much having a copy of the speech if it is at all possible.

We have heard from The Honorable Hanford MacNider and he enclosed his address. Bill Reilly has, also, sent the Toast to Kansas. We are looking forward to receiving the speech of H. W. Shidler of that year.

We would appreciate very much hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

GA:EM

Gertrude Ackerman



2909 Col. Ave.

1930

Colorado Springs, Colorado
September, 8, 1940

Miss. Gertrude Ackerman
State House,
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Miss. Ackerman:-

I have your letter of the 4",
in regard to a complete copy of the
speech which I gave on January, 29",
1930.

In my letter to you, I said,
that when I returned to Topeka, I
might be able to go through some
papers which I have stored and find
a little more than the clippings, as I
am now in Colorado and do not know
when I shall return to Topeka,
perhaps you had better just publish
the clippings which you now have, and
not hold up the publication of your
book.

It is a strange coincidence that
anyone should want this so soon
after placing all of my goods and

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papers in storage - you know what that means perhaps.

After ten years one does not usually have every thing on file, especially a woman, who must make a cleaning every so often.

I regret very much that I cannot supply you with this data, because I would like to have my talk printed in full, and then too, I do not like to disappoint you.

Perhaps the clippings will suffice and many thanks for your interest in the matter, I am

Sincerely yours.

Mrs. W. H. Rutter

(Mrs. S. S. White)

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

1930
August 2, 1940

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
Osawatomie, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

Thank you for your letter of July 24. I would appreciate it very much, if at some later date, you can work the clippings together and send me some sort of an address around the subject on which you talked the evening of January 29, 1930.

I have been very successful in being able, so far, to obtain the full text in most every case. Of course, there are a few that I haven't heard from.

When you run across the material that you suggested, I surely will appreciate it if you can send me something on the subject.

Sincerely yours

GA:EM

Gertrude Ackerman

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MRS. W. H. RUTTER
906 FILLMORE STREET
TOPEKA, KANSAS

Gawwatomie, Kansas

July, 24th, 1940

Miss. Gertrude Ackerman
70 State House.
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Miss. Ackerman:

I have received your letter concerning a complete copy of the talk which I gave before the Kansas Day Club, in January of 1930.

On April, 30th, I closed my apartment in Topeka, and destroyed every thing that I thought I would not care to store, and my talk went along with the rest of it.

I have some clippings, which are stored too, but if you should care to have them, I will send them to you at a later date.

These clippings are all different, and I might be able to piece them together, and get a full copy from them.

Thanking you for your interest in my talk, I am, sincerely yours
Mrs. W. H. Rutter (ne-S.S. White)

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Topeka, Kansas
July 5, 1940

Mrs. W. H. Rutter
Devon Apartments
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Rutter:

We are making a compilation of the addresses which were delivered at the various Kansas Day Club banquets over a period of forty years.

In this connection we find that you delivered the address entitled "Green Prairies" to the banqueters at their annual dinner meeting on the evening of January 29, 1930. You were then Mrs. S. S. White. The papers carried only excerpts of your address, and we are wondering if you might not have a copy of the complete speech some place in your files, and if so, would you be so kind as to send me a copy?

It is our plan to put these addresses into book form and would, therefore, appreciate having the full text of each person's address.

Will appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

Gertrude Ackermann
State House

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MASON CITY, IOWA
BOX 623

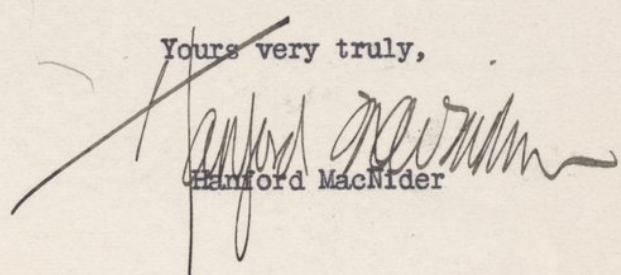
August Sixteenth
1 9 4 0

Miss Gertrude Ackerman
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Miss Ackerman:

We have finally run down
my remarks at Kansas Day in 1930.
In reading them over, I am afraid
they are not very constructive but
here they are for what they are
worth. Let me assure you, there
will be no heart breaks on my part
if they are not used.

Yours very truly,



Hamford MacNider

HM:KL
Encl.

39th - 49th Annual Kansas Day Meetings

August 21, 1940

Hon. Hanford MacNider
Box 623
Mason City, Iowa

Dear Mr. MacNider:

This is just a note to thank you
for sending us the copy of your Kansas Day address in
1930. We want you to know that we appreciate very much
your courtesy.

Sincerely yours

Gertrude Ackerman

GA-a



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MASON CITY, IOWA
BOX 623

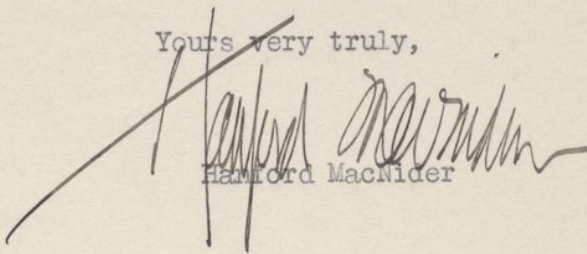
July Eighth
1 9 4 0

Miss Gertrude Ackerman
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Miss Ackerman:

We shall see if we can find a copy of my remarks at the Kansas Day Club back in our 1930 files, although no one in the office is certain now where those files may be, so it may take some little time. To be very frank with you, I don't believe they have any real importance, but I assure you we shall do our best to find them.

Yours very truly,


Hamford MacNider

HM:KL

1930

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Topeka, Kansas
July 5, 1940

Hon. Sanford MacNider
Mason City, Iowa

Dear Sir:

We are making a compilation of the addresses which were delivered at the various Kansas Day Club banquets over a period of years.

In this connection we find that you delivered the main address at the Kansas Day Club banquet, on the evening of January 29, 1930. The papers carried only part of your fine address, and we were wondering if you might not have a copy of your address, and if so, would you be so kind as to send us a copy?

Next Kansas Day will be the fiftieth anniversary of the Kansas Day Club, and we want to put these addresses, over a period of forty years, in to book form. Therefore, we would so much appreciate having the full text of each person's address.

Very truly yours

Gertrude Ackerman
State House

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Capital, January 30, 1931
Kansas Day Program, Masonic Temple -- Banquet Program

1931

PROGRAM:

Inovcation	Rev. Eric N. Hedeon	Topeka
Music	MEDIA GROTO CHANTERS	
President's Address	George Siefkin	Wichita
Toast KANSAS	Erett P. Scrivner	Kansas City
Introduction lady speaker	Mrs. James S. Patrick	Satanta
Address no copy obtainable	Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter	Topeka
Address	Patrick J. Hurley <i>copied</i>	
	SECRETARY OF WAR	

complete use newspaper article on McCarter

Officers elected at afternoon meeting:

President	Walter Neibarger	Tonganoxie
Vice-President	Nannie Bingham	Sabetha
Secretary	Frank Wilson	Topeka
Vice-Presidents:		
First District	Budrey Purcell Edith Heeney	Leavenworth Atchison
Second District	Alton Skinner Mrs. D. A. January	Kansas City Osawatomie
Third District	Guy Call Florence Stussi	Parsons Pittsburg
Fourth District	Robert Price Mrs. H. S. Ray	Lyndon Marion
Fifth District	J. P. Coleman Mrs. Jessie Beeghly	Junction City Abilene
Sixth District	Floyd M. Kagey Mrs. Ducile Relihan	Beloit Lebanon
Seventh District	Harold Payne Mrs. Will J. French	Kinsley St. John
Eighth District	Rolla Clymer Mrs. Daisy Howard	El Dorado Wichita

*See Siefkin
424 North Bank Bldg
Wichita*

Complete

*Mrs McCarter's daughter
Jennie is*

*Mrs Chas Baker
1831 East 16th Place
Tulsa, Okla*

*Have written Mrs
Patrick a note in
regard to
address*

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Fortieth Annual Banquet 1931, Masonic Temple Building
Journal, January 30, 1931, A. L. Shultz
KANSAS DAY BANQUET PROGRAM

.....The Kansas Day banqueters carried home the theme story of the meeting--that every mother's son in the state and in the nation must fight out his own destinies.

It was the fortieth annual banquet of the Republican dinner club of the state. Patrick J. Hurley, secretary of war, came by plane to tell the story of the fight to beat back depression. He was backed in his sentiments by every speaker on the program. But it was Patrick Hurley, of Oklahoma, who brought to banqueters of his sister state a picture of the situation facing a troubled nation and a worried world.

It was the first time a cabinet member ever came to talk to the Republican state dinner organization. Yet a man with a message never arrived at a more opportune moment. No greater speech was ever delivered before the famous club.
(See Hurley speech)

GEORGE SIEFKIN, prominent Wichita lawyer, and club president, was an easy, free wheeling presiding officer. Has own talk--short, snappy, and full of party loyalty--hit the bull's eye. Siefkin introduced the speakers. When time came for introduction of Secretary Hurley as the guest of honor of the Kansas Day Club, Siefkin presented John Hamilton, of Topeka, Republican State Chairman. Hamilton then introduced the secretary of war.

Erett P. Scrivner, of Kansas City, was the native son who responded to the toast of Honor, 'Kansas.' His tribute was worthy of a place among the many high type native son talks of former years.

There was the speech of Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter, the author, who represented the women of Kansas on the speaking program and was introduced by Mrs. Mae Patrick, of Satanta, woman vice-president of the club. Mrs. McCarter and Mrs. Patrick gloried in the record of the state, in her stand for sound principles, in her allegiance to the cause of prohibition and her demand for straight, honest thinking in affairs of government. Kansas will stand against fanaticism, Mrs. McCarter said, in the same measure she has stood behind her belief in constructive government and for equal rights to all.

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Jan 29 - 1931

Geo Dieffen, Wichita ✓

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

of a great principle which was to be fought for. It became
and has remained a power because it has been and is a party
of principles and achievements. While it could only exist
through men, some of whom had to be leaders, it has never
become the tool of any one man. It exists only because it

represents the best thought of the leading citizens of the
country. At this point on the program of the Kansas Day
Club, it is the privilege of the President to address
you. Let me assure you that the remarks which I shall
make are my own. No other person is entitled to credit
therefor. I assume personally and alone the full responsi-
bility. The Kansas Day Club, organized some forty years ago,

under conditions somewhat paralleled the conditions of today,
In the primary and election which have passed, we
have observed the effect of an independent upon the Republican
candidate. I use the word "candidate" advisedly; as I do not
refer to the Republican party. It may be well for us to re-
flect upon the lessons to be learned from the last year.

as or supported the cause of an individual. It has always
looked to The Republican Party, as a political institution,
has been in existence for nearly eighty years. It became
a party because of a great principle. It originated, not
in the mind of any one man, or in any single community, but
literally sprang into existence, originating in several
places many miles apart and with no other connection than an

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of a great principle which was to be fought for. It became and has remained a power because it has been and is a party of principles and achievements. While it could only exist through men, some of whom had to be leaders, it has never become the tool of any one man. It exists only because it represents the best thought of the leading citizens of the country. It progresses as fast as the country progresses. If the day ever comes when it ceases to advance, or when one man or a group of men can honestly claim to control the party, then on that day the Republican Party will die.

The Kansas Day Club, organized some forty years ago, under conditions somewhat parallel to conditions of today, has at all times been constant in one thing; the promulgation of the principles of the Republican Party, and the support of Republican nominees. So far as I know personally -- so far as I have been informed, the Kansas Day Club has never sponsored or supported the cause of an individual. It has always looked below and beyond the candidate to the platform upon which he stood. It has received and sponsored a man because he was a Republican nominee. It has denied its support because he affiliated himself with another political party. It has held to the theory that our government is a bi-partisan government -- a government by political parties, and that an

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attempt to hold an individual responsible for his actions is a fleeting and futile thing. It holds that responsibility must be placed upon the sponsor of the candidate; upon his party. The sole test of the party and this Club has been that the candidate or nominee has declared his belief in the principles of the Republican party. In the days gone by when a Republican was a Republican and party leaders had other methods of determining qualifications, this single test of Republicanism was quite sufficient. But a new day has dawned.

It is not to be unexpected that in this day of "ballyhoo" advertising, when every manufacturer strives for standardization and nearly every advertiser for the superlative in promises, that these principles should be applied to public matters. Pick up at random any newspaper or magazine and you will find it literally crammed with advertisements, among which there are many which promise the ultimate in results exceeding even the fondest dreams of the originator or inventor. The customer purchases hoping for the best, but knowing that in the great majority of instances that he is being deceived. He drinks the medicine, eats the food, smokes the cigar or cigarettes, reads the books, drives the automobile, lives in the house, sleeps in the bed and uses the tooth brush

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and mouthwash sold to him, fondly hoping that he will derive the benefits or pleasures therefrom which the advertisers promise. That he is disappointed in the results does not in the least discourage other purchases brought about by the same methods. At all, he proves his independence in thought and

action by attempting and oftentimes accomplishing the defeat of the Republican nominee. Unfortunately, the same methods have been and are being applied to public offices where competency, sincerity and common honesty should be the first requisite. Apparently these qualifications, while an essential in political advertising, have no more foundation in fact than have many of the advertisements of merchandise. We have thrown down the bars within the Republican Party and permitted the self-seeking office-holder to advertise his quack remedies and to use our party to promote his own selfish ambitions. The party no longer seeks a competent man for an office. There is a group of candidates for every position and from the field there usually emerges an independent who, using the banner of the Republican Party, has promised improvements upon the principles of that party to such an extent that he receives the nomination. He has promised everything to everyone, calling on the party for its assistance only when he becomes the nominee, but using its name as a guarantee for his fitness and tell the voters that he is an independent and desires election as such. While I disagree with him in his theory

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that the government is one of independents and hold to
for the office sought. When he is defeated, he still re-
mains the independent that he was before he sold the good
name of the Republican Party and taking with him such fol-
lowers as he has convinced that he has the power to cure all
or correct all, he proves his independence in thought and
action by attempting and oftentimes accomplishing the defeat
of the Republican nominee.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not urging that
we standardize thinking or acting by members of the Republican
Party. What I am saying is that there are certain well-defined
and recognized principles of the Republican Party which are
known to everyone and which any office-seeker should adhere to
if he seeks favor from and support of the Republican Party and
uses the name of such party for his own aggrandizement. I do
not seek to deny him the right to ask for any office. I say
only that the Republican Party is for Republicans and that those
who do not desire to be Republicans after the primary should
not be permitted to use that name before.

I am speaking of independent candidates for office.
I do not mean thereby to reflect upon the independent who has
the courage to run as an independent, to stand upon his own
feet and tell the voters that he is an independent and desires
election as such. While I disagree with him in his theory

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that the government is one of independents and hold to the through that it is a bi-partisan government, I can at least admire his courage in telling the world that he is an independent and seeks office as such. My particular reference is to the independent who, under the name of an independent Republican or progressive Republican, uses our party to advance himself into office. To my mind, prefixes to the word "Republican" are unnecessary. I have been called a progressive Republican or an independent Republican by newspapers who were friendly. I have been damned as a "stand-pat Republican" or "reactionary Republican" by those who are unfriendly. I appreciate neither designation. I am a Republican, and to me, that is all-sufficient. Concerning the so-called prefixes, it has been said that "The first sure and almost unmistakable evidence that an office seeker is an independent is his declaration that he is a progressive. That can almost always be taken as a statement that he desires to use his political party for the purpose of elevating himself to an office, but that he does not intend to be bound by any party pledges".

The Republican party does not need men of this character. The platform upon which they must stand, if nominated, is the platform of the Republican Party -- not the platform of a progressive, independent, stand-pat, reactionary, or

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what have you. If a man is unwilling to abide by such a platform, then he should take his pet hobbies and extravagant promises and sell them to the voters if he can, but we should not be permitted to sell them under a label which tells the world that the medicine offered was manufactured by the Republican Party.

To me, it is clear that we must shortly adopt one of two courses. The first would require a fulfillment of promises of a candidate, no matter how foolish, or extravagant the promise may be. We have permitted an agent to use our name -- it is a good name, to which a promise means performance -- he has made pledges and promises in our name; as his principle, we should make such promises good. But to fulfill such promises means political bankruptcy of our party, and the actual bankruptcy of our government. We cannot pay such penalty.

The second course requires the discharge of the agent who has exceeded his authority. It means that we must promptly disavow the words and acts of the candidate who has taken it upon himself to make unauthorized promises in our name. This means that we must make the independents without our party conform to the principles and ideals of the party, or we must purge our party of them. When this is

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done -- when political quackery is abolished from within --
we will return again to the fundamental principles of com-
petency, honesty, and efficiency in our party and in our
government. I submit that the Republican Party and the Kansas
Day Club could have no higher aim.

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Capital, Jan. 30, 1931-----In his opening address, George Siefkin, President of the Kansas Day Club, reviewed the birth and development of the Republican party, told of the birth of the Kansas Day Club, and what it has always stood for and paid his respects to those who are Republicans when they win the nomination for office and are independents when they lose. He said he had respect for a candidate who ran as an independent and said he was an independent. But to work the Republican party for an office and then turned against it when he lost out. He said in part --

"The Republican party does not need men of this character the platform upon which they stand, if nominated, is the platform of the Republican party, not the platform of a progressive, independent, stand-pat, reactionary, or what have you. If a man is unwilling to abide by such a platform then he should take his pet hobbies and extravagant promises and sell them to the voters if he can, but we should not permit him to sell them by false and misleading advertising. He should not be permitted to sell them under a label which tells the world that the medicine offered was manufactured by the Republican party.

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"The second course requires the discharge of the agent who has exceeded his authority. It means that we must promptly disavow the words and acts of the candidate who has taken it upon himself to make unauthorized promises in our name. This means that we must make the independents within our party conform to the principles and ideas of the party or we must purge our party of them. When this is done--when political quackery is abolished from within--we will return again to the fundamental principles of competency, honesty, and efficiency in our party and in our government. I submit that the Republican party and the Kansas Day Club could have no higher air."

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Journal, January 30, 1931

Hyphenated Republicans were condemned by Siefkin, in his address to the banqueters. He said he had no quarrel with the independent candidate who had the courage to stand upon his own feet and tell the voters that he is an independent and desires election as such, but that he has no use for office seekers who, as independent, uses the Republican party to attain his end -----

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, George Siefkin, Wichita (in part)

"While I disagree with him in his theory that the government is one of the independents, and hold to the thought that it is a bipartisan government, I can at least admire his courage in telling the world that he is an independent and seeks office as such. My particular reference is to the independent who, under the name of independent Republican or progressive Republican uses our party to advance himself into office....The Republican party does not need men of this character. The platform upon which they must stand if nominated, is the platform of the Republican party, not the platform of a progressive, independent, standpat, reactionary or what have you. If a man is unwilling to abide by such a platform, then he should take his pet policies and extravagant promises and sell them to the voters if he can, but we should not allow him to sell them by false and misleading advertising. He should not be permitted to sell them under a label which tells the world that the medicine offered was manufactured by the Republican party."

Mr. Siefkin suggested two remedies for the condition. One was to compel the hyphenated Republican candidates to fulfill their pledges no matter how extravagant or foolish they might be. The other was to "discharge the agent who has exceeded his authority."

Address, Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter, Topeka. (in part)

Kansas women stand solidly for prohibition, Mrs. McCarter, told the members of the Kansas Day club at the annual banquet at the Masonic temple, Thursday night. She asserted that they would never consent to giving up the victory they had won through so many years of hard struggle.

She traced the history of Kansas and dwelt entertainingly upon its romantic features, predicting that the real Kansas poem and novel had not yet been written.

Mrs. McCarter as a warning of the damage that might result from such practice, chided those who bolted their parties in the last election, asserting good naturedly that "we may trumpet like an elephant, or bray like a donkey, but we must not ba- s-a like a goat."

Mrs. J. S. Patrick, of Satanta, retiring vice-president of the club, urged Kansas Republican women to "keep the signal fires burning until the next election."