

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Section 5, Pages 121 - 137

This file includes subject correspondence relating to law enforcement, which is part of a bigger collection of the Governor's correspondence.

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Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Clyde Reed

September 30, 1930

Honorable William A. Smith
Attorney General
Building

Dear General Smith:

This will authorize you to take charge of the case of the state of Kansas versus Maple, in Sedgwick County. I understand Mr. Maple is under arrest, and this will authorize you to take charge of the subsequent proceedings.

Very truly yours,

Governor

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

CLASS OF SERVICE	DESIRED RATE
TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1206 A

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

TOPEKA KANSAS SEPTEMBER 30 1930

MR ARTHUR BREWSTER
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
LASSEN HOTEL
WICHITA KANSAS

HAVE AUTHORIZED ATTORNEY GENERAL TO TAKE CHARGE PROSECUTION

STATE VERSUS MAPLE

CLYDE M REED

PAID
CHG GOV OFFICE
TELEGRAM

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS



Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For one-half the unrepeat message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeat message and paid for as such in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeat-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.
2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.
5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.
7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.
9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY
INCORPORATED
NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

CLASSES OF SERVICE

TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The stand-

ard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rates for this special Night Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be in language of country of origin or of destination, or in French. This class of service is in effect with most European countries and with various other countries throughout the world. Full particulars supplied on application at any Western Union Office.

CABLE NIGHT LETTERS

An overnight, low-rate service for plain language communications. The language of the country of destination may be employed, if the Night Letter service is in operation to that country. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours if telegraphic delivery is selected. Delivery by mail beyond London will be made if a full mailing address is given and the words "Post London" are written after the destination. Rates vary according to country of destination; minimum charge based on 20 or 25 words.

WEEK-END LETTERS

At still lower rates. Similar to Night Letters except that they are accepted up to midnight Saturday for delivery Monday morning, if telegraphic delivery is selected. Rates vary according to country of destination; minimum charge based on 20 or 25 words.

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Atty Gen. Lee
In re
Mrs. Nelson

May 13, 1930

(9)

My dear Mrs. Evans:

I have yours of the 12th concerning the visit of Mrs. Nelson and yourself to the office. I was considerably embarrassed over the outcome. You will recall that I invited the Attorney General to participate with the agreement of Mrs. Nelson, but I did not anticipate the discussion would take so vigorous a turn nor that Mrs. Nelson would be so vehement and include in matters for discussion the violation of the prohibitory and other laws, which had never been even remotely suggested in connection with this case.

Once Mrs. Nelson made the statement she did, there was nothing the Attorney General could do except to ask her to be specific and give complete information as to the persons and circumstances. When she declined to do that, there was nothing I could do except to ask her to give me the information, and I am very sorry that having volunteered the preliminary information herself, she declined to complete her statement.

It is difficult for a Governor to overrule the Attorney General in a matter of this kind, which has to do with law enforcement and the policy of dealing with officers and alleged law violators.

Reports of mistreatment of men in custody by officers in charge are not very frequent in Kansas, though I have read and heard more or less about such matters. When the Attorney General tells me he has had an investigation made and did not find basis for interference on the part of the state, I must attach full faith and credit to that statement unless it is clearly shown he is in error.

I am sorry that Mrs. Nelson permitted herself to be diverted from the main point and started a discussion of alleged law violations, and then refused to complete her statements, which she voluntarily began.

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

-2

Without questioning her good faith in the matter,
I think you will agree that such an outcome ~~raises~~
raises a question of the weight to be attached to her
views upon other subjects.

Cordially yours,

Governor

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

CLINTON J. EVANS
LAWYER

405 COLUMBIAN BUILDING
TOPEKA, KANSAS

May 12th, 1930

Hon Clyde Reed, Governor.

Topeka, Kansas ,

Dear Governor;

I want to make a statement in reference to my accompanying Mrs Nelson to your office.

I have known Mrs Nelson for some years and believe she is a very sincere and public spirited woman. I did not know about her charges in respecti to the non enforcement of the prohibitory law.

She had told me about the claim of the abuse of the boy charged with stealing. As I understand her she herself saw the bruised back of the boy and claims that the investigation also showed that he had been severaly beaten. It seems admitted too that the stenographer who took the testimony on the hearing refused to give her a copy. I sympathize with her interest in the boy. I can see no possibility of any selfish purpose in her efforts.

I went to your office however because she urged me to go and not because I thought you could be properly urged to overrule the Attorney General, although I still retain a strong impression as to the merits of her charge of cruel treatment.

I want to say However that I think she made a mistake in making her charges about the non enforcement of the prohibitory law.

I think she would have been wise to have limited herself to a discussion of the treatment of this boy. I think she will be right in carrying that question to the constituency of these officials in Douglas County but wish to repeat that I think she was not wise in going outside the question, the one question of ill treatment of the boy in her interview with you, if indeed it was proper to appeal from the Attorney General to you in a case of that kind.

Very Sincerely ,

Ella M Evans
(Mrs C. J.)

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Atty General
(9)

March 20, 1930

Mr. Luther Croycroft,
Bucklin, Kansas

Dear Mr. Croycroft:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of March 18, addressed to Governor Clyde M. Reed, reporting the lack of proper law enforcement in Ford County.

Governor Reed is at this time in Phoenix, Arizona, where he expects to remain two or three weeks for his health. Upon his return to the office, your communication will be brought to his attention. In the meantime, I am taking this matter up with Attorney General W. A. Smith. Both Governor Reed and Attorney General Smith are very much concerned about a situation such as you have reported. Governor Reed has given special attention to law enforcement matters, and under the direction of the Attorney General, has been able to assist in a material way to have the prohibitory laws of our state and nation enforced.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Mr. Adams of Osage County, which contains information that likely will be of interest to you. State law enforcement officers are limited in number and they are busy taking care of reports such as yours. I am sure the Attorney General will be glad to check conditions in Ford County as soon as he has a man available. At any rate, the Attorney General will have before him the information contained in your letter.

Thanking you for your interest and this report, I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

March 20, 1930

Attorney General W. A. Smith,
BUILDING

Dear Captain Smith:

Governor Reed is in receipt of the enclosed communication from Luther Croycroft, Bucklin, Kansas, reporting lack of proper law enforcement in Ford County.

We have advised Mr. Croycroft that we were taking the matter up with you, and that the information contained in his letter would be given to you for consideration; that both Governor Reed and yourself are very much interested in the enforcement of the prohibitory laws, and that we felt sure that at the earliest opportunity you would have the matter checked up there.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor

WGW ET
Encl.



Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

WILLIAM A. SMITH
ATTORNEY-GENERAL

ASSISTANTS
JOHN G. EGAN
W. C. RALSTON
ROLAND BOYNTON
WALTER T. GRIFFIN
R. O. MASON
ARTHUR S. BREWSTER
R. M. KIMBALL, CHIEF CLERK

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL
TOPEKA

City General
In re
Sedgwick Co

November 1, 1930.

(7)

Hon. C. M. Reed, Governor,
Building:

Dear Governor:

In conformance with your letter of recent date I have conducted an investigation into the condition of law enforcement in Sedgwick County, especially with reference to the office of Mr. Charles Ohrvall, Sheriff and Mr. William J. Wertz, County Attorney, and I herewith report to you that I have found no evidence of misconduct that would warrant the filing of an ouster suit against either one of these officers.

Very truly yours,

William A. Smith
Attorney General.

WAS:B

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Memorandum

Yes you wrote
Mrs Clark.
I sent it to
Lawrence -
& not returned
J

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

February 1, 1930

Memorandum

Mayor Lawrence
Wichita, Kansas

The attached is self explanatory.
Please read and return with your comment.

CLYDE M REED

In re: Mrs. Jay A. Clark
3130 Jeanette Ave.,
Wichita, Kansas

Law enforcement



Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Law Enforcement

Executive Department

CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS

OFFICE OF
MAYOR

Feb. 4, 1930.

Free
(9)

Gov. Clyde M. Reed,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Gov. Reed:

Your letter concerning the complaint
of Mrs. Jay A. Clark received.

I took this matter up with Chief of Police Wilson
and he will give you the complete file of information.

Please permit me to say that these people do not live
in The City of Wichita. The robbery committed was in Wichita
however and of course we wish to stop any crime we possibly
can whether in the City or County, however I think the facts
in this case will show neglect and carelessness upon the part
of the Mother.

Should you desire any further information or action
after you have received the facts from the Police records
please let me know and we will do all in our part to assist
you.

With kindest personal regards I am,

Sincerely Yours,

Chas. S. Lawrence

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

POLICE DEPARTMENT

WICHITA, KANSAS
BERT C. WELLS, CITY MANAGER



O. W. WILSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

IN REPLYING KINDLY
REFER TO NUMBER A-20487

February 4th, 1930.

Hon. Clyde M. Reed,
Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

RE:
Mrs. J. A. Clark,
3130 Jeanette Ave.,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Sir: -

Mr. Chas. A. Lawrence, Mayor of this city, turned over to me the letter sent to you by Mrs. J. A. Clark. For your information I am giving you the investigation reports of the officers assigned to the case she refers to:

"Answered call to the AVI depot where the above reported that someone had taken \$35.00 and a small purse from her pocketbook. Lawrence said she had come to town to get her father's check cashed. The check was for \$43.75. She paid a \$7.00 bill at the Kansas Gas & Electric Co., and went to the AVI to get the interurban to her home. She put her things on one of the benches in the waiting room, taking a nickel from her purse to telephone. She went to the phone booth and when she returned to get money for her ticket she found the small purse had been taken from the pocketbook. We questioned and shook down Orange Green (c) 1004 E. 10th and Boots Gray (c) 850 E. 9th. Both these negroes are working as red caps and bootblacks in the station. We found no money on them. Boots Gray had passed near where this girl's things were on the bench. Floyd Gee (13) 1324 Jackson, who works in the news stand at the station said a young man had also been in the station. We found this young man, Walter Kenison, (21) 5801 Armstrong, at Kress Store. We questioned and shook him down but found nothing. Believe the two negroes could stand more questioning in this case."

/s/ Officers Smith & Lewis
1-21-30 7:00PM

Maurice Gray was later arrested:

"Please be advised that I investigated this case at AVI and that I arrested Boots Gray (c) 850 E. 9th and Captain W.O.





Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Hon. Gov. Clyde M. Reed, #2.

Lyle had him booked Grand Larceny, Hold for State Warrant in regard to this case. He was questioned by Captain W.O. Lyle, Detective Lon Fugit and myself, but wouldn't admit this theft. Later he was questioned again by Detective Lon Fugit and released. Nothing more to be done at present."

/s/ Detective Snorf
1-26-30 2:30PM

We feel confident that this bootblack is responsible for this theft, but we are not in a position to prove it.

On March 6th, 1929 this same girl was reported lost by her mother. The officer obtaining the description from the mother stated that this girl was thought to be a mental case. The disposition of this case is given in the following report by the investigating officers:

"Harry Sefton of the Orpheum Theatre called us that "There was a little girl there at the Orpheum Theatre who did not want to leave when the show was over. We investigated and found it to be the girl reported lost under this number. We took her home and talked to her parents about trying to keep her at home after this."

/s/ Officers Yeager & Foulk
3-7-29 12:45PM

We are unable to find any record of a report made by Mrs. Clark relative to a man following her daughter six weeks ago. I believe these facts speak for themselves and I will permit you to draw your own conclusions regarding the case. I am returning herewith the letter addressed to you from Mrs. Clark.

Very sincerely yours,

O. W. Wilson,
Chief of Police.

OWWhy

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

Phone Dug 5936J 3130 Jeannette Ave
R1 P O Box 130

1/24/30 Wichita - Kans

Hon. Gov. Reed

Law Enforcement

Dear Sir

No doubt - this letter may not -
mean any thing but it appears young
girls are not safe on Wichita streets
about 1 Mo ago a man followed my little
girl 12 years of age I reported it to police
but nothing done on Tues Jan 2/30
I send my little girl down to the firm
where my husband is employed to get
his check and while in the R. & D. station
she was robbed of \$34⁵⁰ & the police gave
her car fare home I cannot afford to lose
this money & it has left me penniless
I have been with the flu, and as there
no law in Kansas where children of
minor age have not even the protection
of a Matron in these railroad Stations
Our girls are not safe on the streets -
or when sent on errands, all my hus-
band people were & are heavy tax payers
as there no way that their future
Wichita women can be protected

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

my husband. worked 14 hours a day in order
to let us have this money & then a
chuld. with any police protection was
robbed in broad day light I called
the Press of the A.P. & he was very un-
concerned about it & said He did not
see where the A.V.I. was responsible
for the robbery ^{not withstanding it happened on their property} one night while I had
come in off a train from Htch. Kans.
If I had not had my husband near
me I would have been approached by
a rough looking person I want to say
Gov Reed. this is one of the worse stations
in Wichita for such happenings & I think
you ought to know about it. I know
one of your Co Commissioners Robert Marshall
a fine. Honest Conscience ~~for~~ person
but Gov. Reed. I told ~~Bob~~ I had lost money
^{stolen} & told him. He offered me what assist-
^{his office would furnish} which was very kind. Gov Reed. what
we want & need. her is protection for our
young girls & I think it is coming to us
from the Police Chief & Com. won't take
a hand you as Gov. of Kans. ought know
about it. Gov Reed. I may also lose

Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, law enforcement

my home as I had this money to make
a payment on my home I am buying
on payments like all poor people as
through ill luck I am back 3 months
but this 34 would of helped a little
now what will be done I am at a
loss for I am buying this home off
H. L. Marsh 1703 W. Vassar all these facts
you can investigate.

Awaiting your early reply.

I am Respectfully & Sincerely
Mrs Jay A Clark.