# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home

**Section 3, Pages 61 - 90**

This file includes subject correspondence relating to the Mother Bickerdyke Home. Topics in the correspondence cover but is not limited to affidavites, sexual harrasment and administration. This file is part of a bigger collection of Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence.

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1929-1931 : Reed)

Date: 1929-1931

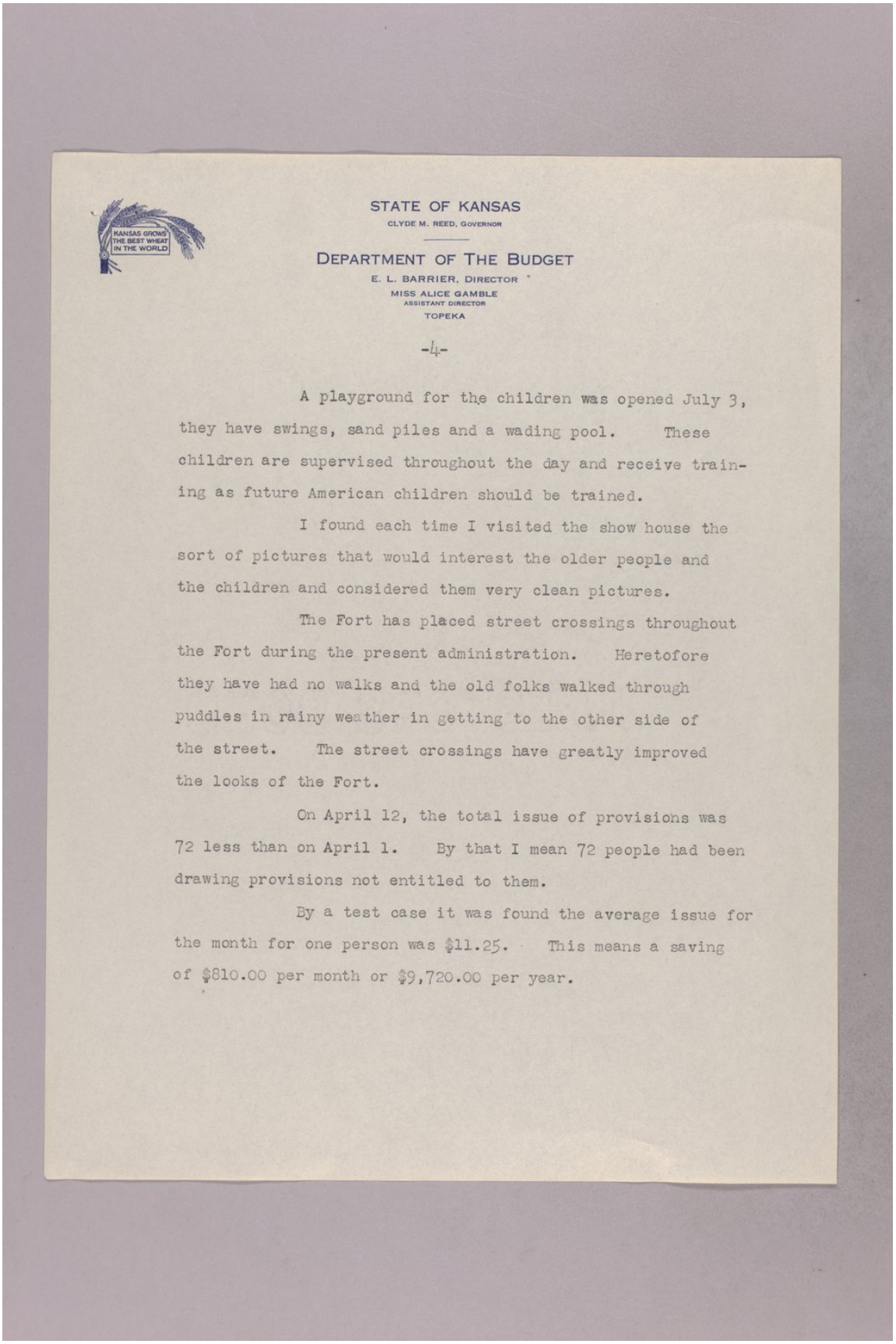
Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Clyde Reed, Correspondence Files, Subject Files Box 19 Folder 16

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# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



STATE OF KANSAS
CLYDE M. REED, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE BUDGET
E. L. BARRIER, DIRECTOR
MISS ALICE GAMBLE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TOPEKA

-4-

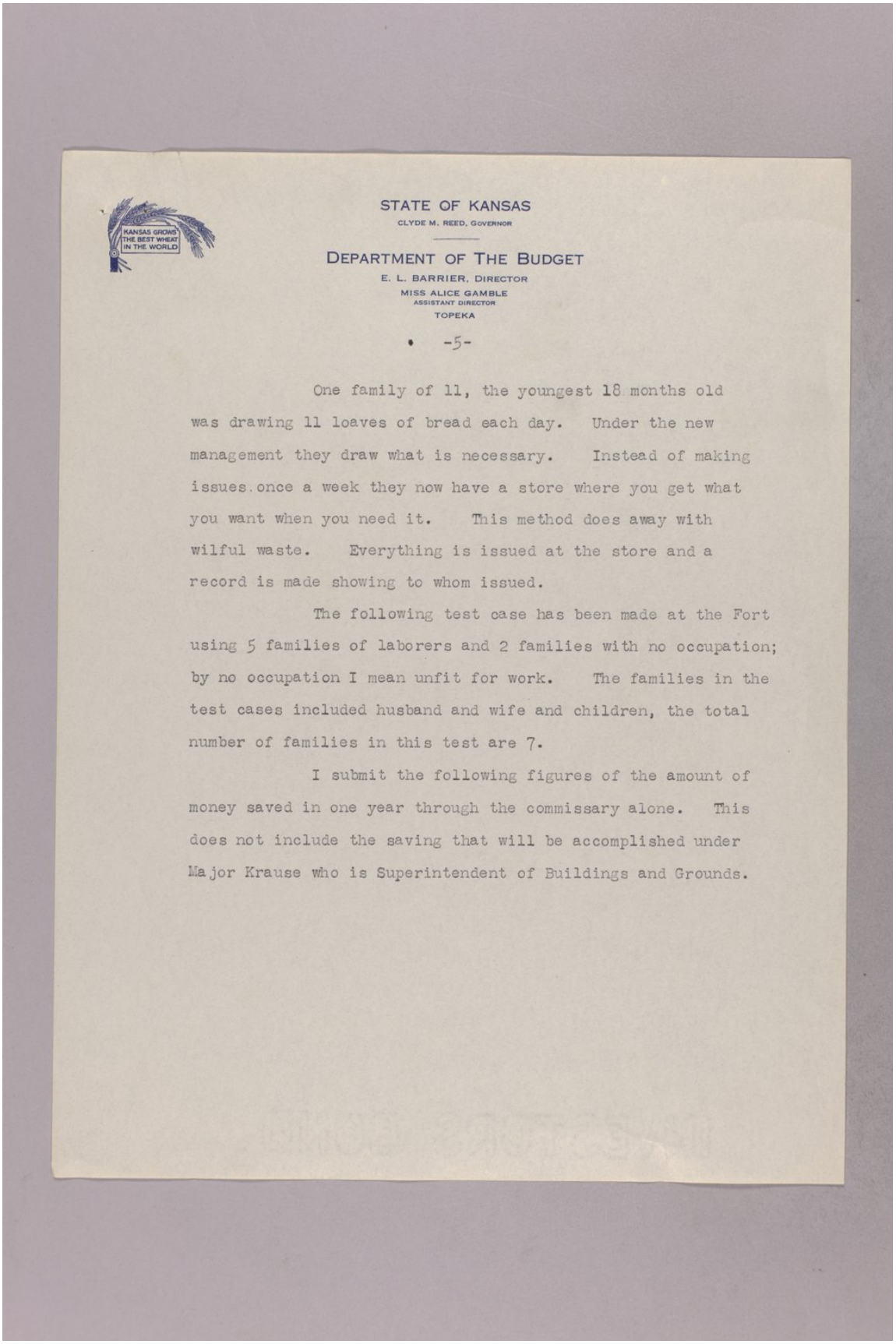
A playground for the children was opened July 3, they have swings, sand piles and a wading pool. These children are supervised throughout the day and receive training as future American children should be trained.

I found each time I visited the show house the sort of pictures that would interest the older people and the children and considered them very clean pictures.

The Fort has placed street crossings throughout the Fort during the present administration. Heretofore they have had no walks and the old folks walked through puddles in rainy weather in getting to the other side of the street. The street crossings have greatly improved the looks of the Fort.

On April 12, the total issue of provisions was 72 less than on April 1. By that I mean 72 people had been drawing provisions not entitled to them.

By a test case it was found the average issue for the month for one person was $11.25. This means a saving of $810.00 per month or $9,720.00 per year.



STATE OF KANSAS
CLYDE M. REED, GOVERNOR

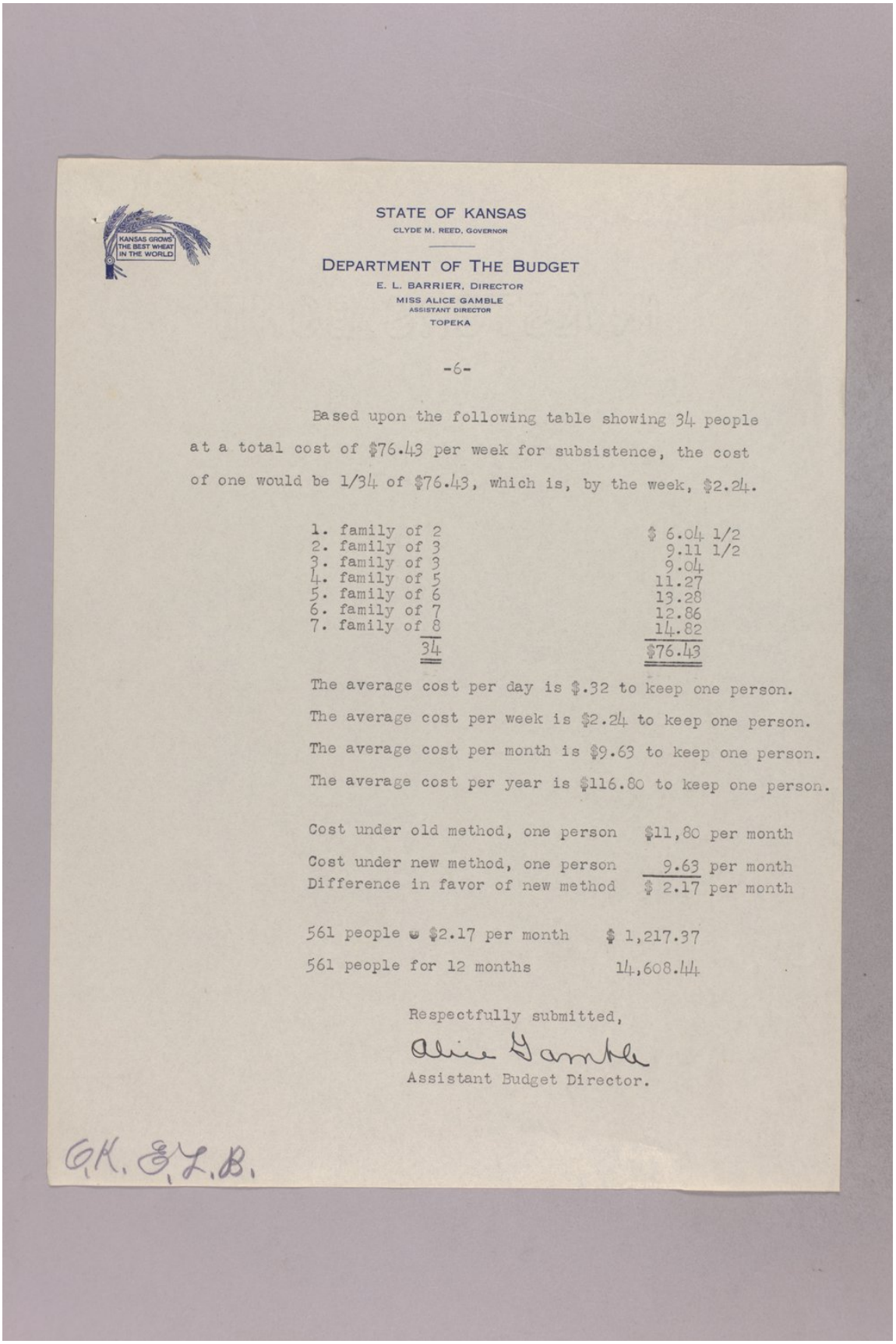
DEPARTMENT OF THE BUDGET
E. L. BARRIER, DIRECTOR
MISS ALICE GAMBLE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TOPEKA



One family of 11, the youngest 18 months old was drawing 11 loaves of bread each day. Under the new management they draw what is necessary. Instead of making issues once a week they now have a store where you get what you want when you need it. This method does away with wilful waste. Everything is issued at the store and a record is made showing to whom issued.

The following test case has been made at the Fort using 5 families of laborers and 2 families with no occupation; by no occupation I mean unfit for work. The families in the test cases included husband and wife and children, the total number of families in this test are 7.

I submit the following figures of the amount of money saved in one year through the commissary alone. This does not include the saving that will be accomplished under Major Krause who is Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.



STATE OF KANSAS
CLYDE M. REED, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE BUDGET
E. L. BARRIER, DIRECTOR
MISS ALICE GAMBLE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TOPEKA

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Based upon the following table showing 34 people at a total cost of $76.43 per week for subsistence, the cost of one would be 1/34 of $76.43, which is, by the week, $2.24.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. family of 2 | $ 6.04 1/2 |
| 2. family of 3 | 9.11 1/2 |
| 3. family of 3 | 9.04 |
| 4. family of 5 | 11.27 |
| 5. family of 6 | 13.28 |
| 6. family of 7 | 12.86 |
| 7. family of 8 | 14.82 |
| 34 | $76.43 |

The average cost per day is $.32 to keep one person.

The average cost per week is $2.24 to keep one person.

The average cost per month is $9.63 to keep one person.

The average cost per year is $116.80 to keep one person.

| | |
|---|---|
| Cost under old method, one person | $11,80 per month |
| Cost under new method, one person | 9.63 per month |
| Difference in favor of new method | $ 2.17 per month |

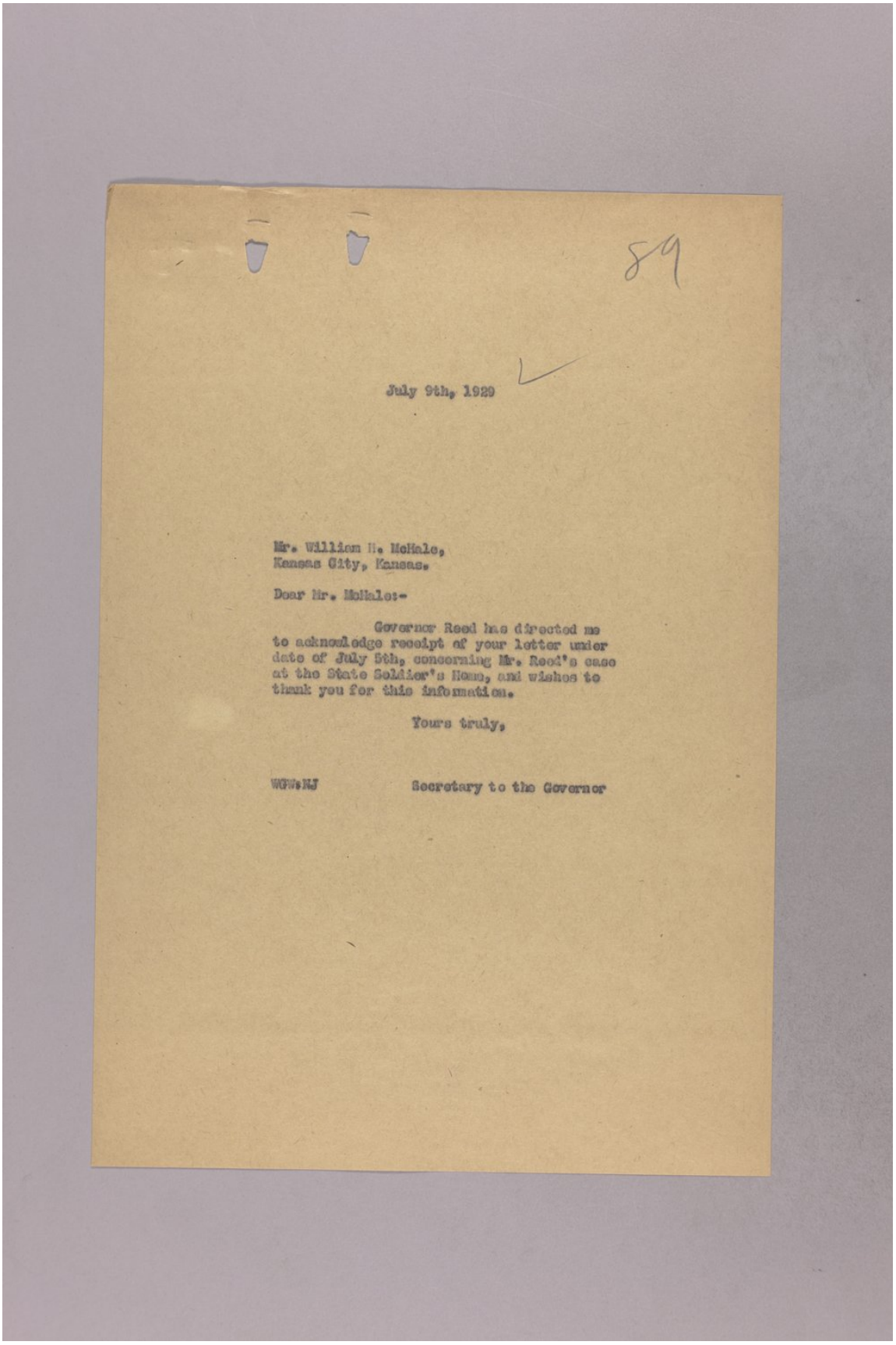
| | |
|---|---|
| 561 people @ $2.17 per month | $ 1,217.37 |
| 561 people for 12 months | 14,608.44 |

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Gamble
Assistant Budget Director.

G.K. & L.B.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



89

July 9th, 1929

Mr. William H. McHale,
Kansas City, Kansas.

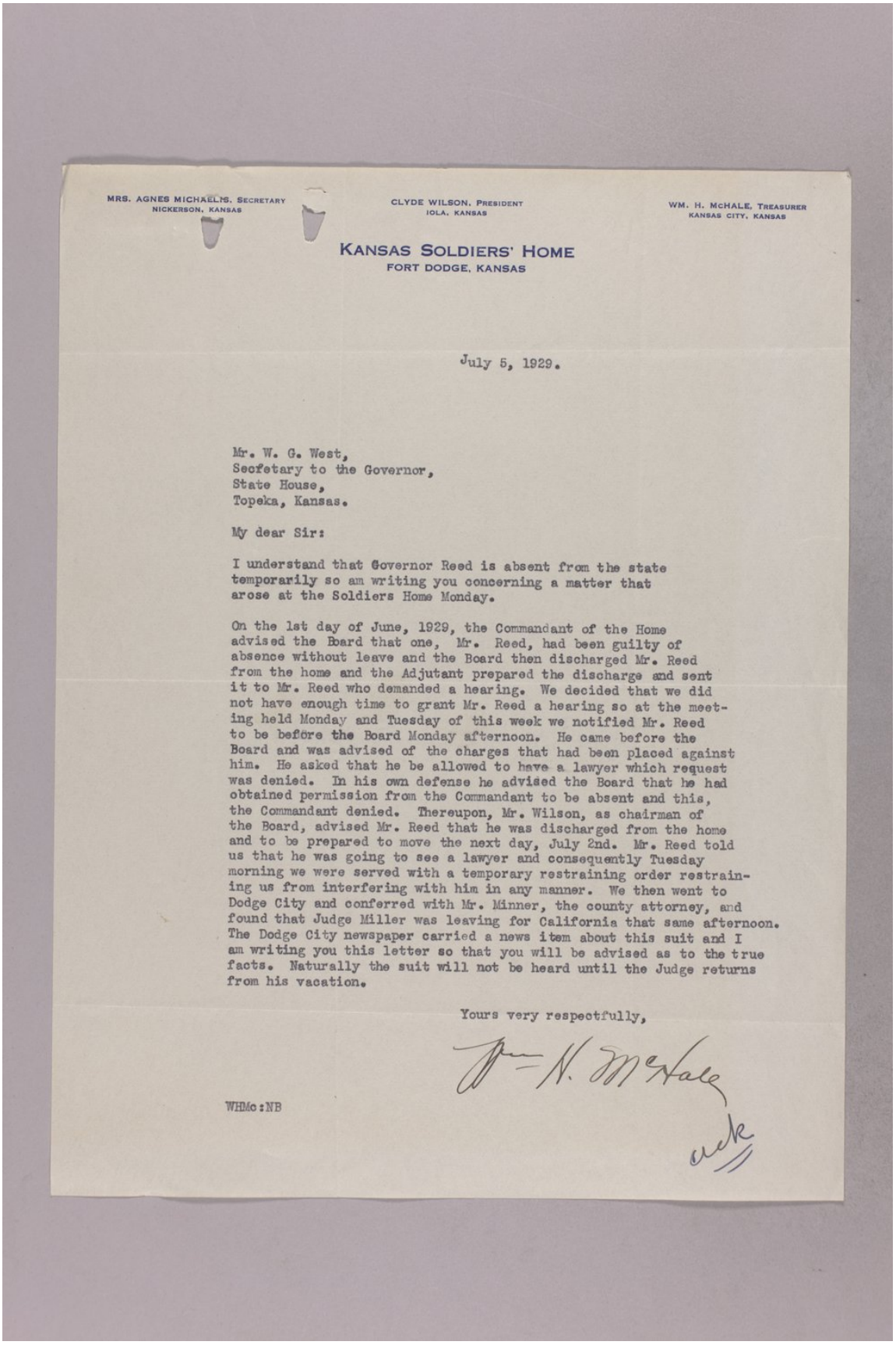
Dear Mr. McHale:-

Governor Reed has directed me to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of July 5th, concerning Mr. Reed's case at the State Soldier's Home, and wishes to thank you for this information.

Yours truly,

WCW:MJ Secretary to the Governor

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



MRS. AGNES MICHAELIS, SECRETARY
NICKERSON, KANSAS

CLYDE WILSON, PRESIDENT
IOLA, KANSAS

WM. H. McHALE, TREASURER
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

KANSAS SOLDIERS' HOME
FORT DODGE, KANSAS

July 5, 1929.

Mr. W. G. West,
Secretary to the Governor,
State House,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Sir:

I understand that Governor Reed is absent from the state temporarily so am writing you concerning a matter that arose at the Soldiers Home Monday.

On the 1st day of June, 1929, the Commandant of the Home advised the Board that one, Mr. Reed, had been guilty of absence without leave and the Board then discharged Mr. Reed from the home and the Adjutant prepared the discharge and sent it to Mr. Reed who demanded a hearing. We decided that we did not have enough time to grant Mr. Reed a hearing so at the meeting held Monday and Tuesday of this week we notified Mr. Reed to be before the Board Monday afternoon. He came before the Board and was advised of the charges that had been placed against him. He asked that he be allowed to have a lawyer which request was denied. In his own defense he advised the Board that he had obtained permission from the Commandant to be absent and this, the Commandant denied. Thereupon, Mr. Wilson, as chairman of the Board, advised Mr. Reed that he was discharged from the home and to be prepared to move the next day, July 2nd. Mr. Reed told us that he was going to see a lawyer and consequently Tuesday morning we were served with a temporary restraining order restraining us from interfering with him in any manner. We then went to Dodge City and conferred with Mr. Minner, the county attorney, and found that Judge Miller was leaving for California that same afternoon. The Dodge City newspaper carried a news item about this suit and I am writing you this letter so that you will be advised as to the true facts. Naturally the suit will not be heard until the Judge returns from his vacation.

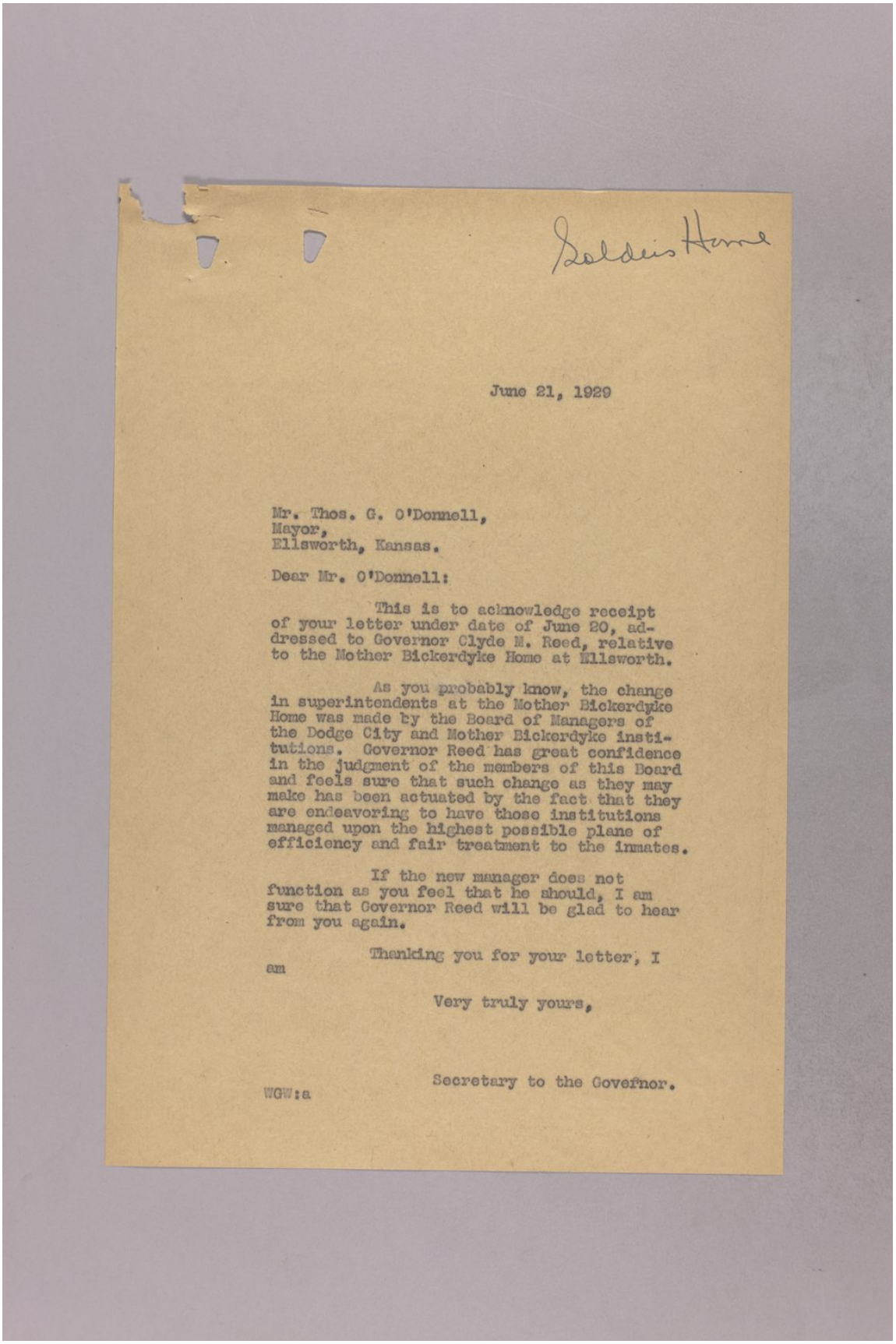
Yours very respectfully,

Wm. H. McHale

WHMc:NB

mck

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Soldiers Home

June 21, 1929

Mr. Thos. G. O'Donnell,
Mayor,
Ellsworth, Kansas.

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of June 20, addressed to Governor Clyde M. Reed, relative to the Mother Bickerdyke Home at Ellsworth.

As you probably know, the change in superintendents at the Mother Bickerdyke Home was made by the Board of Managers of the Dodge City and Mother Bickerdyke institutions. Governor Reed has great confidence in the judgment of the members of this Board and feels sure that such change as they may make has been actuated by the fact that they are endeavoring to have those institutions managed upon the highest possible plane of efficiency and fair treatment to the inmates.

If the new manager does not function as you feel that he should, I am sure that Governor Reed will be glad to hear from you again.

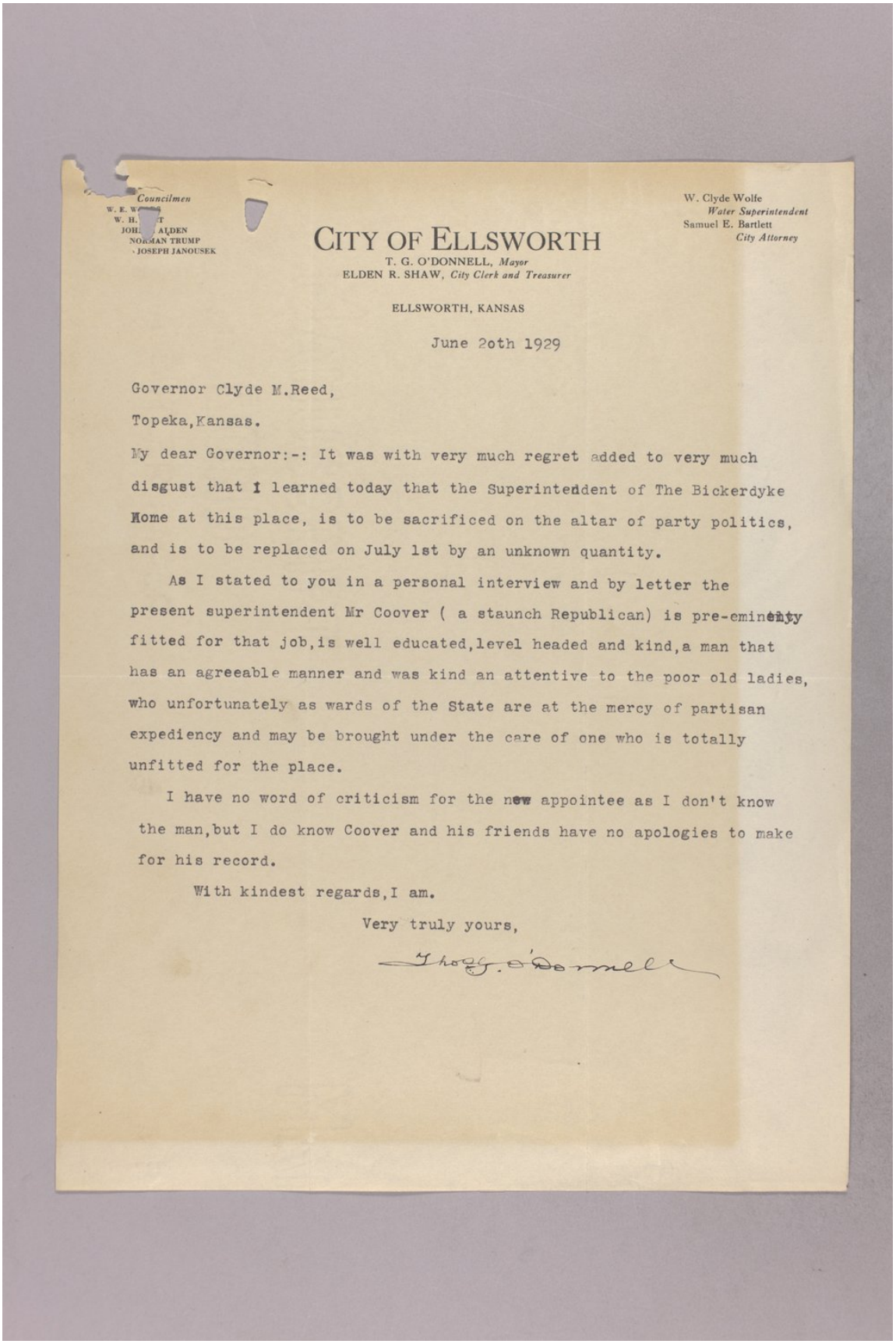
Thanking you for your letter, I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor.

WGW:a

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Councilmen
W. E. W[illegible]
W. H. [illegible]T
JOH[illegible] ALDEN
NORMAN TRUMP
JOSEPH JANOUSEK

CITY OF ELLSWORTH
T. G. O'DONNELL, *Mayor*
ELDEN R. SHAW, *City Clerk and Treasurer*

W. Clyde Wolfe
*Water Superintendent*
Samuel E. Bartlett
*City Attorney*

ELLSWORTH, KANSAS

June 20th 1929

Governor Clyde M.Reed,

Topeka,Kansas.

My dear Governor:-: It was with very much regret added to very much disgust that I learned today that the Superintendent of The Bickerdyke Home at this place, is to be sacrificed on the altar of party politics, and is to be replaced on July 1st by an unknown quantity.

As I stated to you in a personal interview and by letter the present superintendent Mr Coover ( a staunch Republican) is pre-eminently fitted for that job,is well educated,level headed and kind,a man that has an agreeable manner and was kind an attentive to the poor old ladies, who unfortunately as wards of the State are at the mercy of partisan expediency and may be brought under the care of one who is totally unfitted for the place.

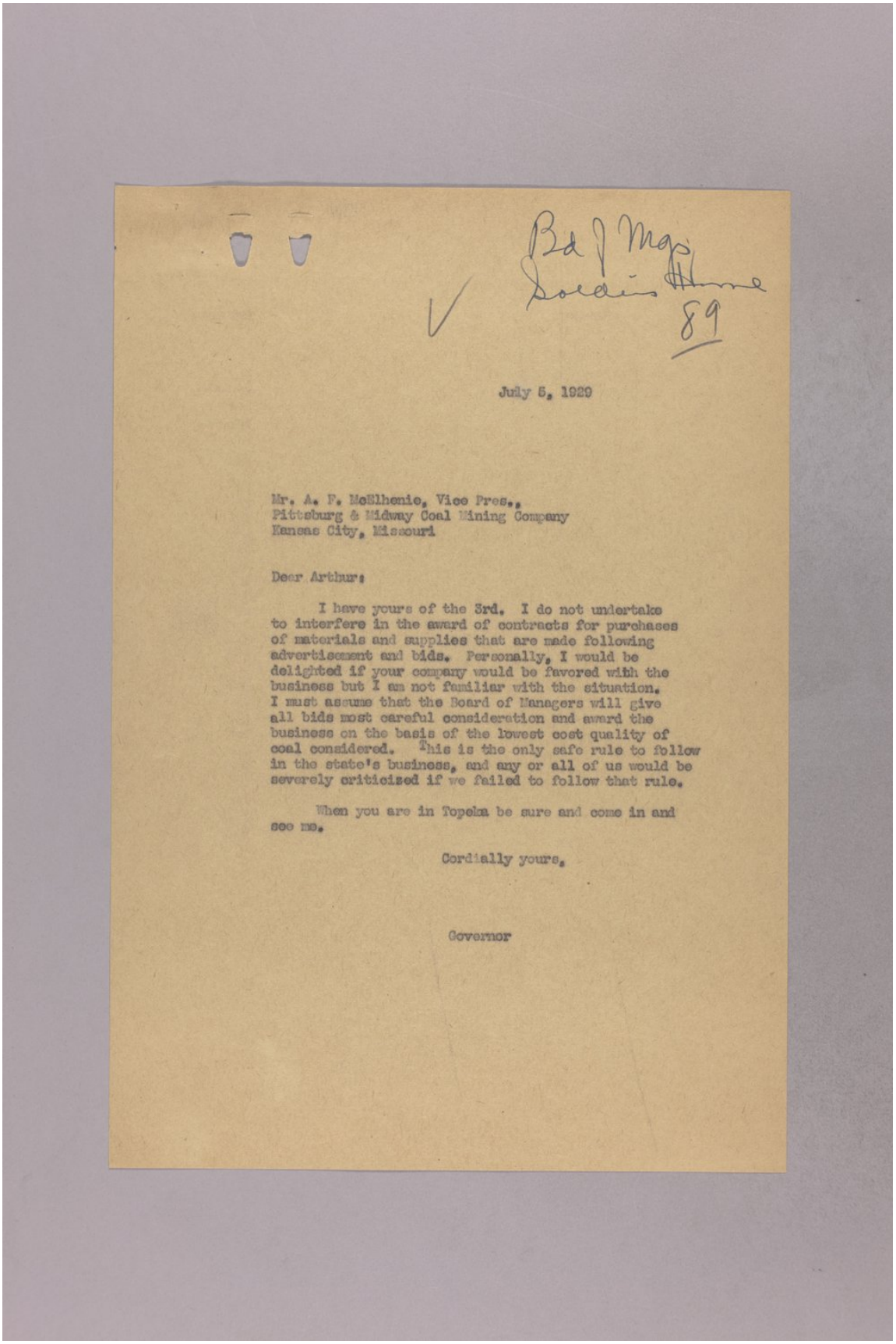
I have no word of criticism for the new appointee as I don't know the man,but I do know Coover and his friends have no apologies to make for his record.

With kindest regards,I am.

Very truly yours,

Thos. G. O'Donnell

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Bd of Mgrs
Soldiers Home
89

July 5, 1929

Mr. A. F. McElhenie, Vice Pres.,
Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Company
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Arthur:

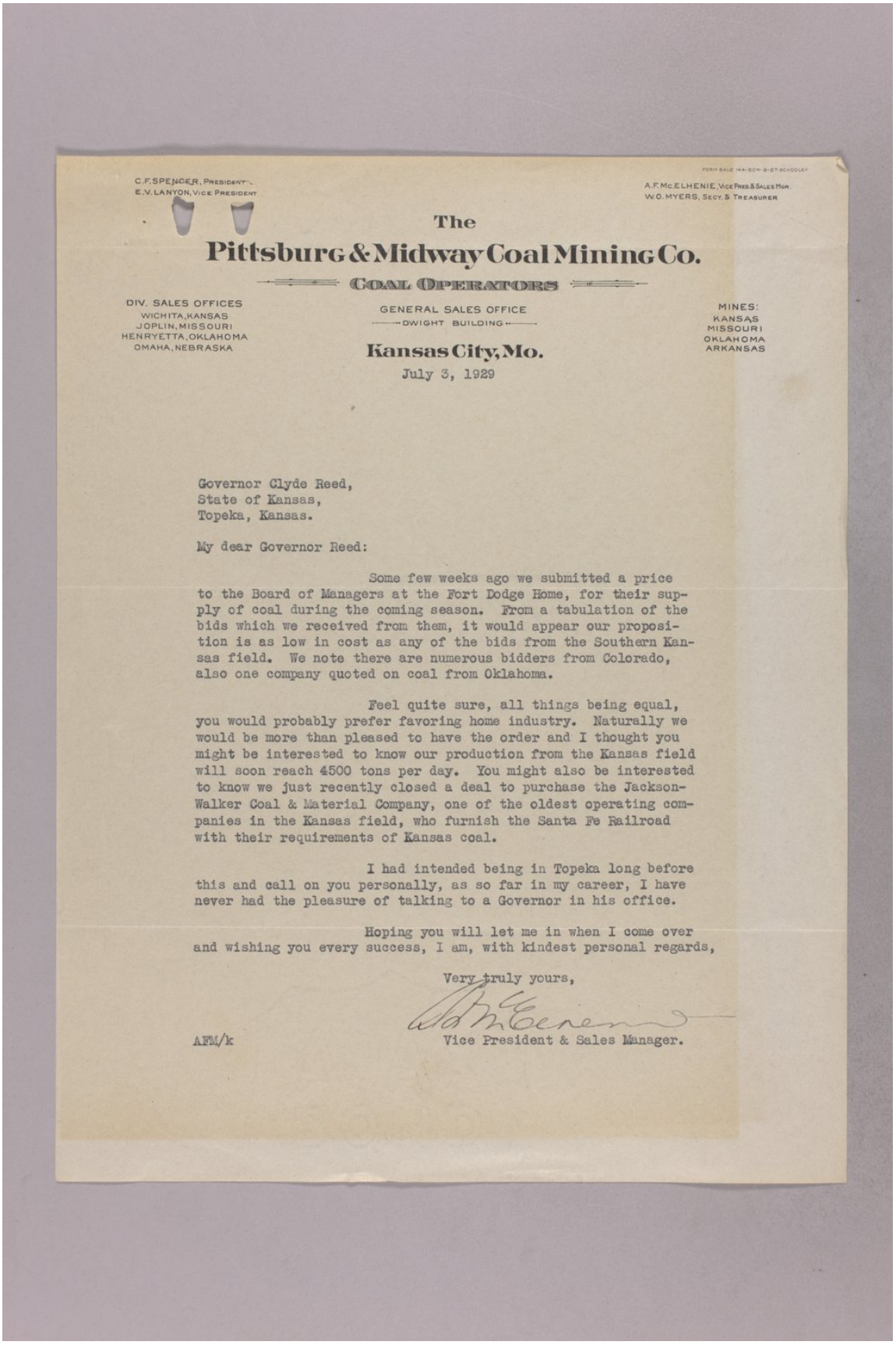
I have yours of the 3rd. I do not undertake to interfere in the award of contracts for purchases of materials and supplies that are made following advertisement and bids. Personally, I would be delighted if your company would be favored with the business but I am not familiar with the situation. I must assume that the Board of Managers will give all bids most careful consideration and award the business on the basis of the lowest cost quality of coal considered. This is the only safe rule to follow in the state's business, and any or all of us would be severely criticized if we failed to follow that rule.

When you are in Topeka be sure and come in and see me.

Cordially yours,

Governor

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



C. F. SPENCER, PRESIDENT
E. V. LANYON, VICE PRESIDENT

A. F. MC. ELHENIE, VICE PRES. & SALES MGR.
W. O. MYERS, SECY. & TREASURER

The
**Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Co.**
COAL OPERATORS

DIV. SALES OFFICES
WICHITA, KANSAS
JOPLIN, MISSOURI
HENRYETTA, OKLAHOMA
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

GENERAL SALES OFFICE
DWIGHT BUILDING
**Kansas City, Mo.**

MINES:
KANSAS
MISSOURI
OKLAHOMA
ARKANSAS

July 3, 1929

Governor Clyde Reed,
State of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor Reed:

Some few weeks ago we submitted a price to the Board of Managers at the Fort Dodge Home, for their supply of coal during the coming season. From a tabulation of the bids which we received from them, it would appear our proposition is as low in cost as any of the bids from the Southern Kansas field. We note there are numerous bidders from Colorado, also one company quoted on coal from Oklahoma.

Feel quite sure, all things being equal, you would probably prefer favoring home industry. Naturally we would be more than pleased to have the order and I thought you might be interested to know our production from the Kansas field will soon reach 4500 tons per day. You might also be interested to know we just recently closed a deal to purchase the Jackson-Walker Coal & Material Company, one of the oldest operating companies in the Kansas field, who furnish the Santa Fe Railroad with their requirements of Kansas coal.

I had intended being in Topeka long before this and call on you personally, as so far in my career, I have never had the pleasure of talking to a Governor in his office.

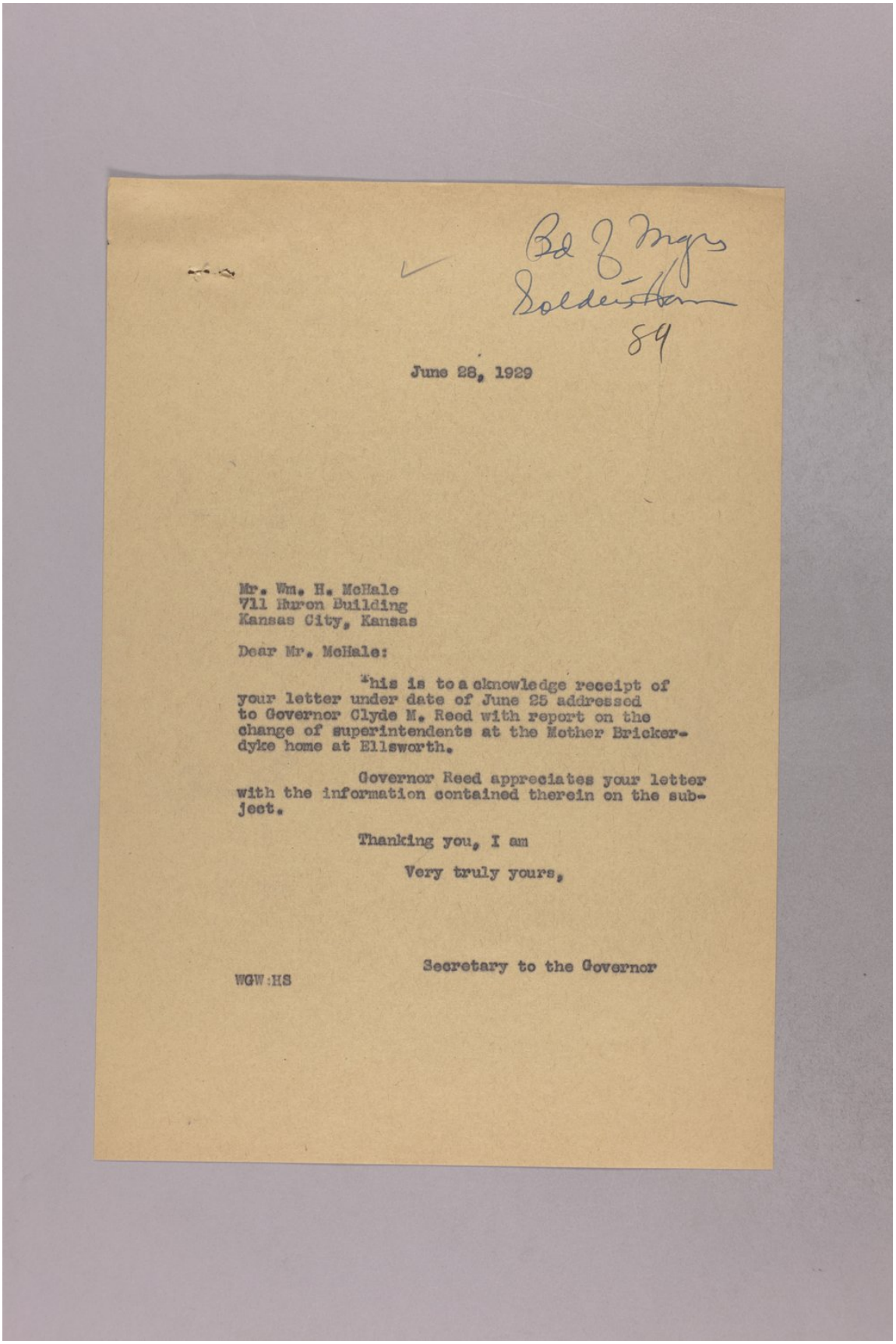
Hoping you will let me in when I come over and wishing you every success, I am, with kindest personal regards,

Very truly yours,

AFM/k

Vice President & Sales Manager.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Bd of Mgrs
Goldenstam
89

June 28, 1929

Mr. Wm. H. McHale
711 Huron Building
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. McHale:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of June 25 addressed to Governor Clyde M. Reed with report on the change of superintendents at the Mother Bickerdyke home at Ellsworth.

Governor Reed appreciates your letter with the information contained therein on the subject.

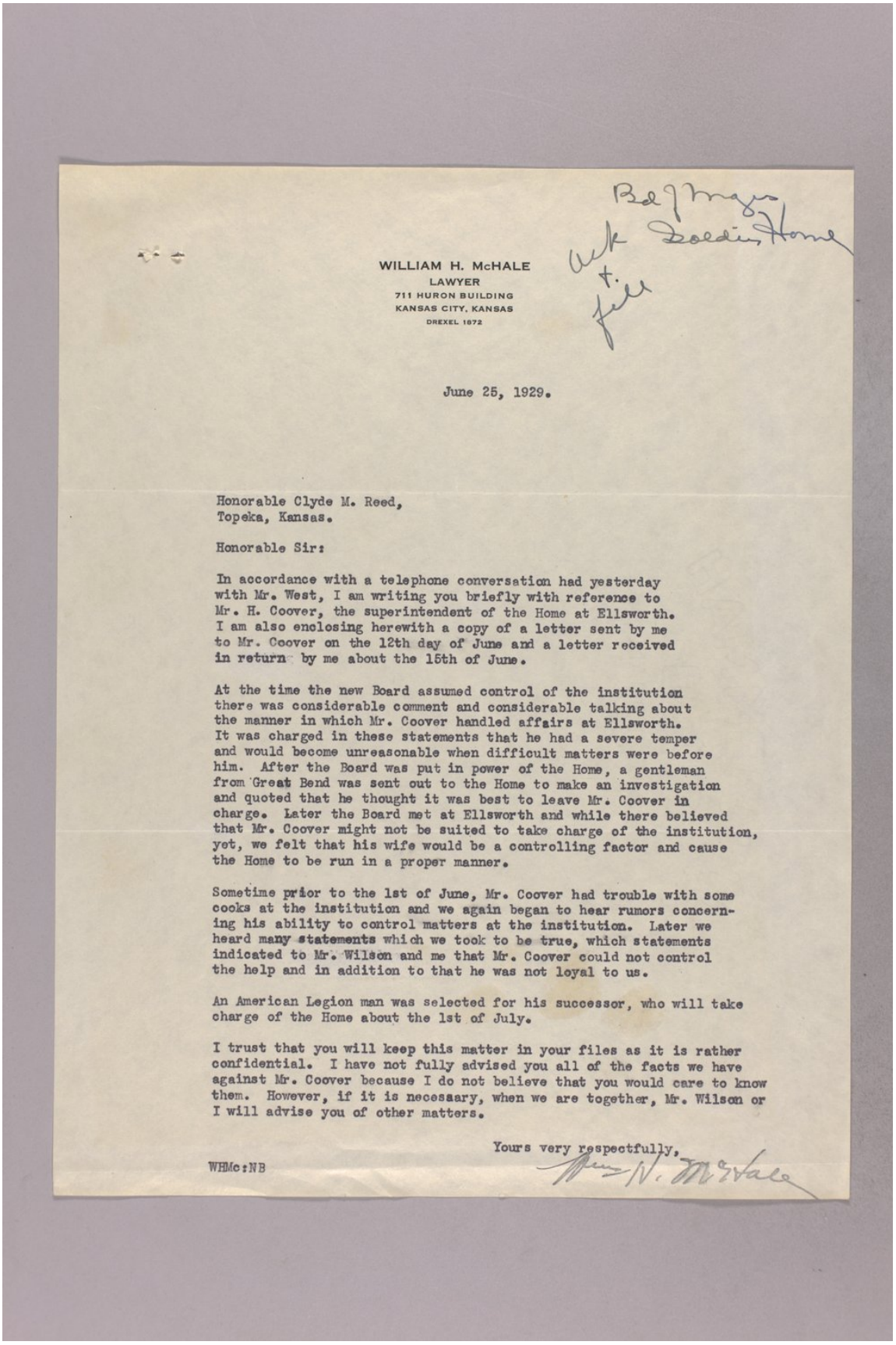
Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor

WGW:HS

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Bd Mgrs
Mk Soldiers Home
t.
file

WILLIAM H. McHALE
LAWYER
711 HURON BUILDING
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
DREXEL 1672

June 25, 1929.

Honorable Clyde M. Reed,
Topeka, Kansas.

Honorable Sir:

In accordance with a telephone conversation had yesterday with Mr. West, I am writing you briefly with reference to Mr. H. Coover, the superintendent of the Home at Ellsworth. I am also enclosing herewith a copy of a letter sent by me to Mr. Coover on the 12th day of June and a letter received in return by me about the 15th of June.

At the time the new Board assumed control of the institution there was considerable comment and considerable talking about the manner in which Mr. Coover handled affairs at Ellsworth. It was charged in these statements that he had a severe temper and would become unreasonable when difficult matters were before him. After the Board was put in power of the Home, a gentleman from Great Bend was sent out to the Home to make an investigation and quoted that he thought it was best to leave Mr. Coover in charge. Later the Board met at Ellsworth and while there believed that Mr. Coover might not be suited to take charge of the institution, yet, we felt that his wife would be a controlling factor and cause the Home to be run in a proper manner.

Sometime prior to the 1st of June, Mr. Coover had trouble with some cooks at the institution and we again began to hear rumors concerning his ability to control matters at the institution. Later we heard many statements which we took to be true, which statements indicated to Mr. Wilson and me that Mr. Coover could not control the help and in addition to that he was not loyal to us.

An American Legion man was selected for his successor, who will take charge of the Home about the 1st of July.

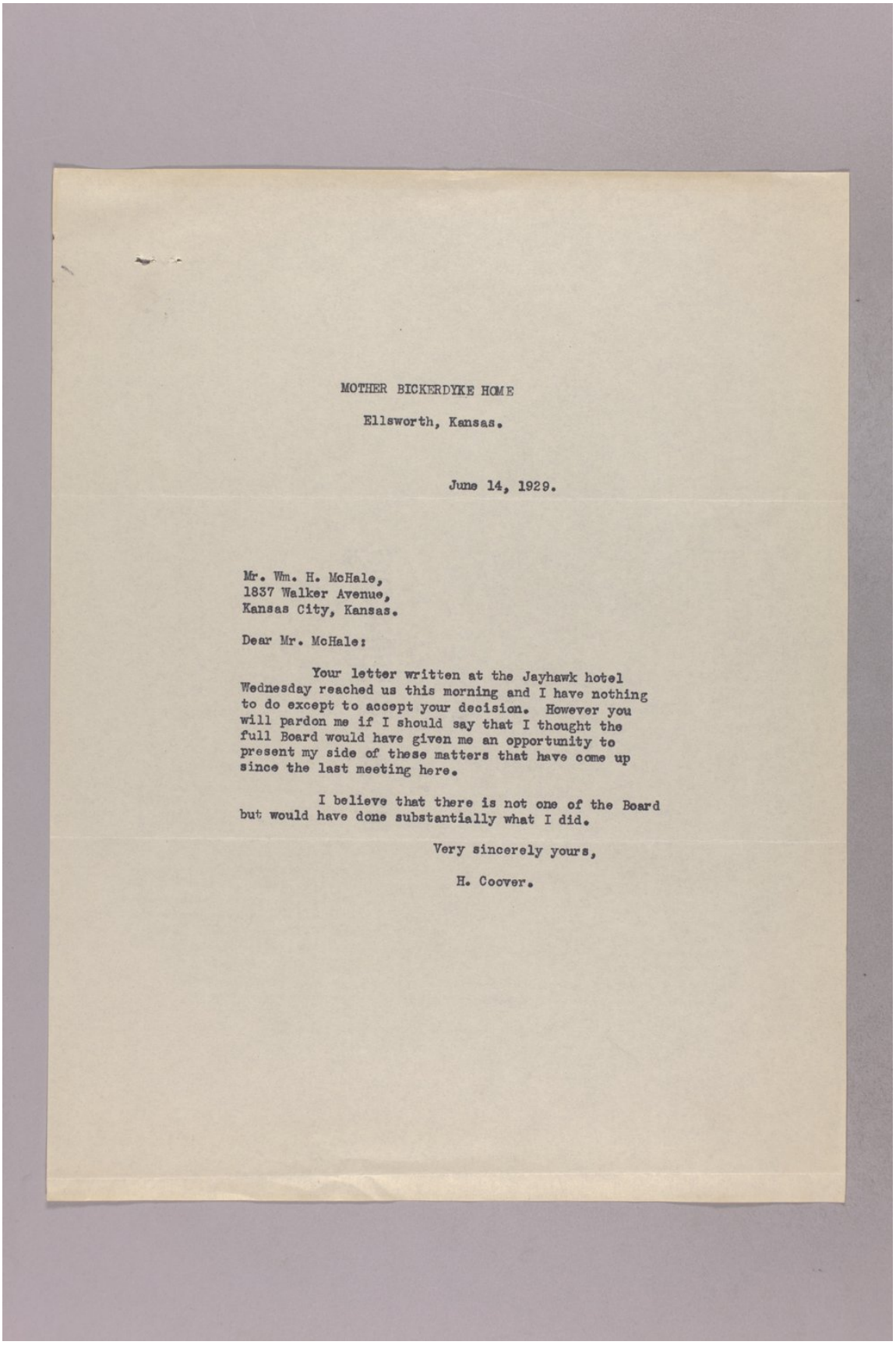
I trust that you will keep this matter in your files as it is rather confidential. I have not fully advised you all of the facts we have against Mr. Coover because I do not believe that you would care to know them. However, if it is necessary, when we are together, Mr. Wilson or I will advise you of other matters.

Yours very respectfully,

Wm. H. McHale

WHMc:NB

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



MOTHER BICKERDYKE HOME

Ellsworth, Kansas.

June 14, 1929.

Mr. Wm. H. McHale,
1837 Walker Avenue,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mr. McHale:

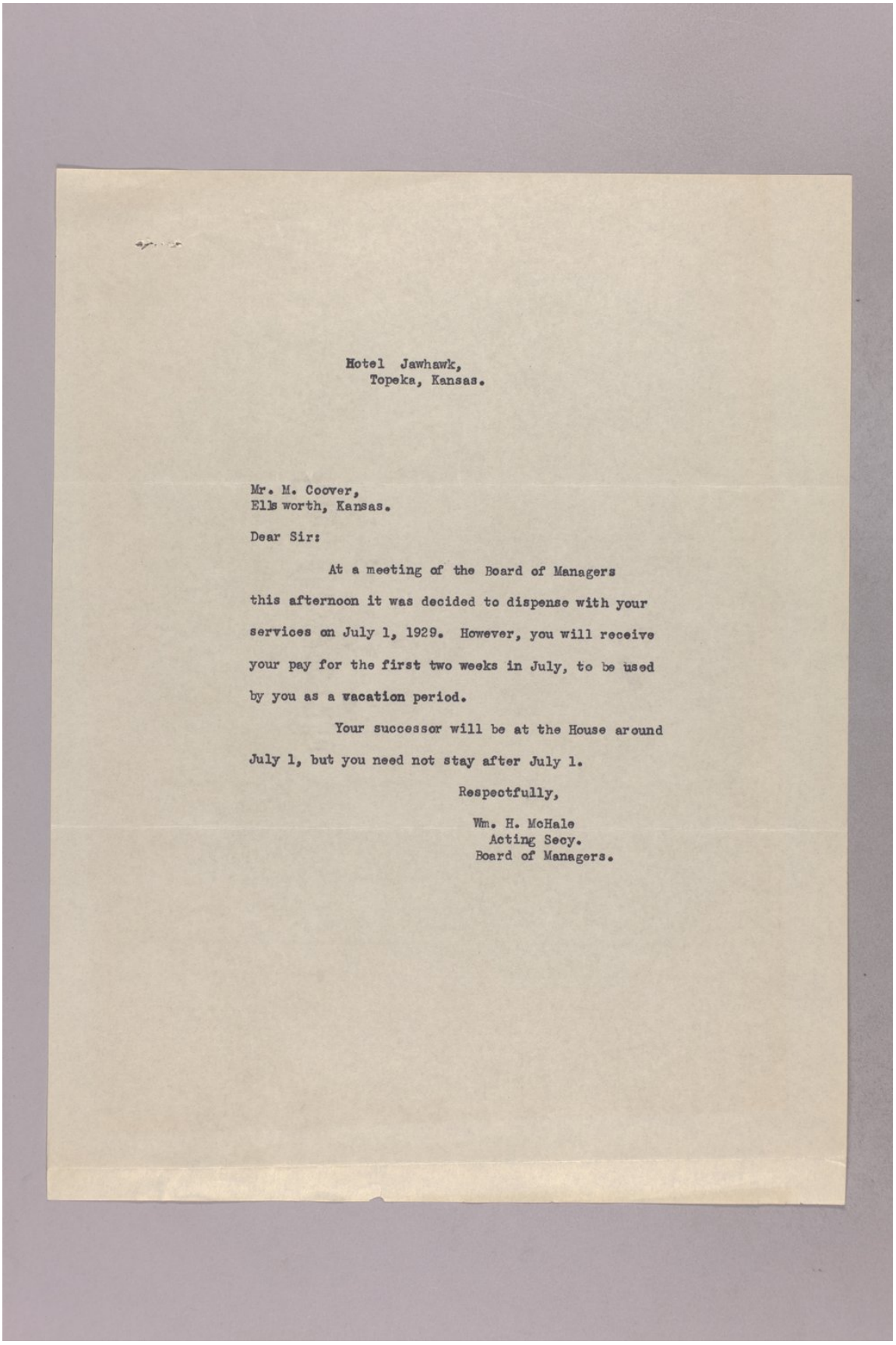
Your letter written at the Jayhawk hotel Wednesday reached us this morning and I have nothing to do except to accept your decision. However you will pardon me if I should say that I thought the full Board would have given me an opportunity to present my side of these matters that have come up since the last meeting here.

I believe that there is not one of the Board but would have done substantially what I did.

Very sincerely yours,

H. Coover.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Hotel Jawhawk,
Topeka, Kansas.

Mr. M. Coover,
Ellsworth, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

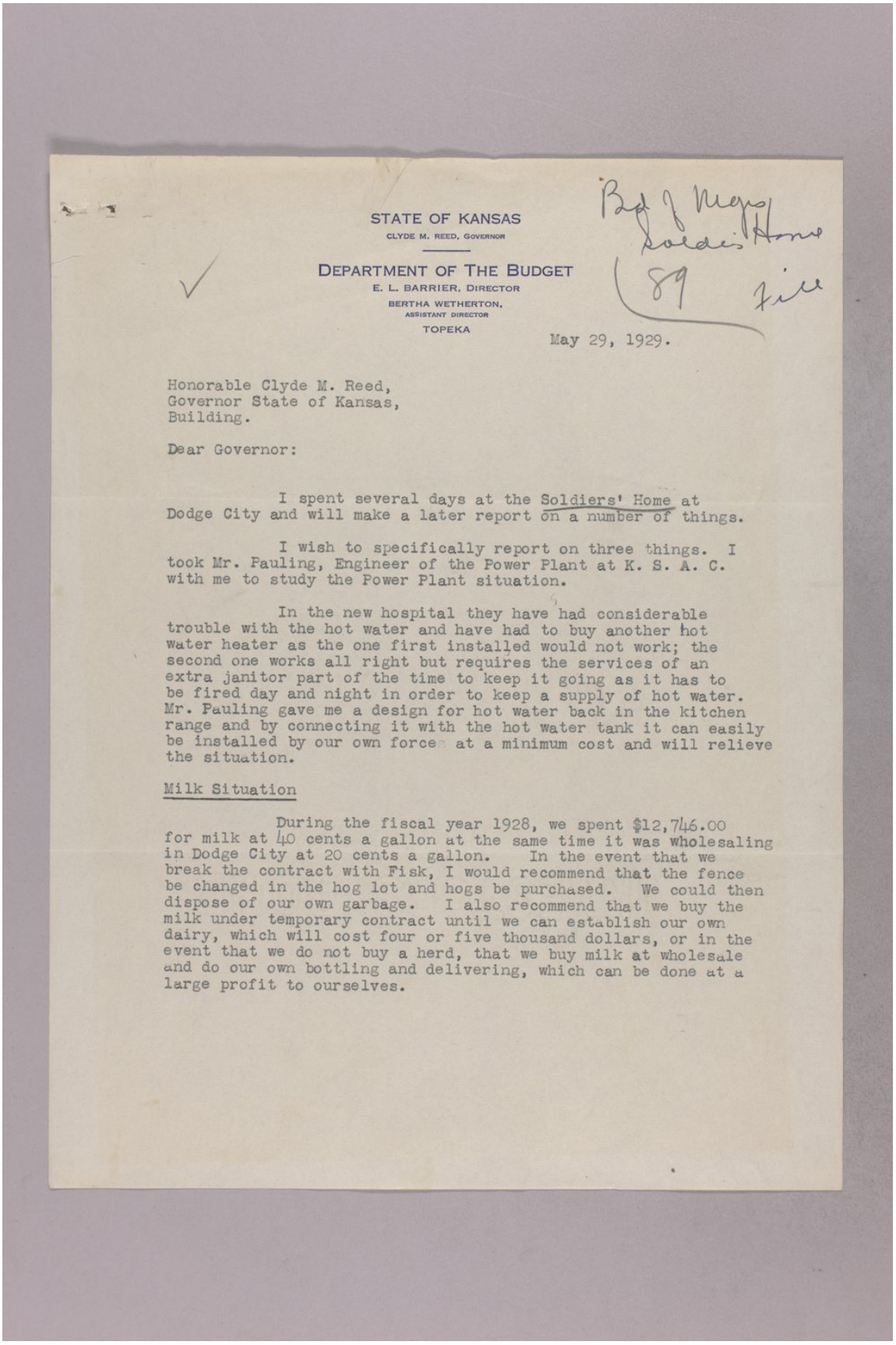
At a meeting of the Board of Managers this afternoon it was decided to dispense with your services on July 1, 1929. However, you will receive your pay for the first two weeks in July, to be used by you as a vacation period.

Your successor will be at the House around July 1, but you need not stay after July 1.

Respectfully,

Wm. H. McHale
Acting Secy.
Board of Managers.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



STATE OF KANSAS
CLYDE M. REED, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE BUDGET
E. L. BARRIER, DIRECTOR
BERTHA WETHERTON,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TOPEKA

Bd of Mgrs Soldiers Home
89 file

May 29, 1929.

Honorable Clyde M. Reed,
Governor State of Kansas,
Building.

Dear Governor:

I spent several days at the Soldiers' Home at Dodge City and will make a later report on a number of things.

I wish to specifically report on three things. I took Mr. Pauling, Engineer of the Power Plant at K. S. A. C. with me to study the Power Plant situation.

In the new hospital they have had considerable trouble with the hot water and have had to buy another hot water heater as the one first installed would not work; the second one works all right but requires the services of an extra janitor part of the time to keep it going as it has to be fired day and night in order to keep a supply of hot water. Mr. Pauling gave me a design for hot water back in the kitchen range and by connecting it with the hot water tank it can easily be installed by our own forces at a minimum cost and will relieve the situation.

Milk Situation

During the fiscal year 1928, we spent $12,746.00 for milk at 40 cents a gallon at the same time it was wholesaling in Dodge City at 20 cents a gallon. In the event that we break the contract with Fisk, I would recommend that the fence be changed in the hog lot and hogs be purchased. We could then dispose of our own garbage. I also recommend that we buy the milk under temporary contract until we can establish our own dairy, which will cost four or five thousand dollars, or in the event that we do not buy a herd, that we buy milk at wholesale and do our own bottling and delivering, which can be done at a large profit to ourselves.

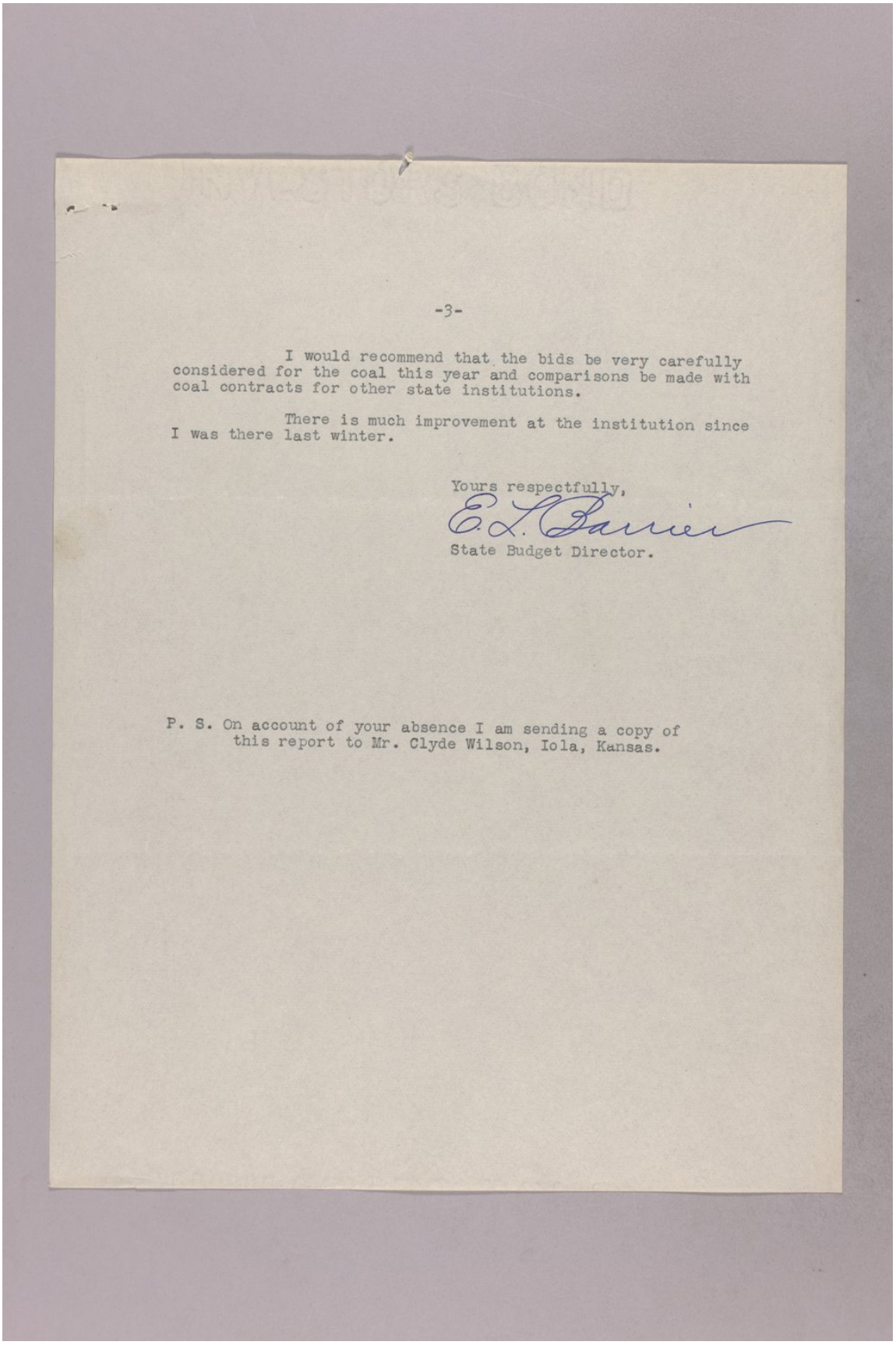
Coal Situation

The last public letting for Cherokee coal was on July 1, 1925. This coal to be delivered at Fort Dodge at $7.81 a ton. I find no contracts or specifications on file, only a statement in the minutes that it was Cherokee nut. I am of the opinion that we got mine run nut, which I would call nut and slack, under that contract and that we have gotten coal of poor quality from many different mines. Mr. Pauling tells me that he is able to get much better results from the Cherokee slack which they buy at the Agricultural College at $1.65 f. o.b. mine, than we are getting from the nut run coal which at the present time is costing us $3.00 at the mine and which until last October cost $4.00 at the mine. As soon as I am able to get them from the railroad companies I will furnish freight bills showing original shipments of coal during the last four years, and from what I have been able to learn, I do not think we got very much Cherokee Nut coal, and there is no question but what we were "skinned" both on the coal and the price. The contract in 1927 was let to the Smith and Leavitt Coal Company of Pleasanton, Kansas. I cannot find evidence of any bids on the same.

We have a delivery truck to haul coal at the institution but the practice has been to ship coal in and a man in Dodge City had a contract to deliver it at $1.00 per ton and he sublet this contract to another man at $.75 per ton.

Our domestic coal was all delivered last year in one lot. About 3,672 tons, as I remember it, was delivered at one time in September which necessitated it being hauled by a contractor and was dumped on the ground then rehauled during the year to the different cottages.

The Institution Management has a plan at present to use the old lumber from the school building and build coal bins, about one for each four houses. When this is done the coal should be ordered and hauled by the institution truck directly to the cottages. The proper handling of this coal as it is shipped in will save us $5,000.00 a year in haulage and drayage alone. The domestic coal which we have received has been good coal. The steam coal has not been good.





I would recommend that the bids be very carefully considered for the coal this year and comparisons be made with coal contracts for other state institutions.

There is much improvement at the institution since I was there last winter.

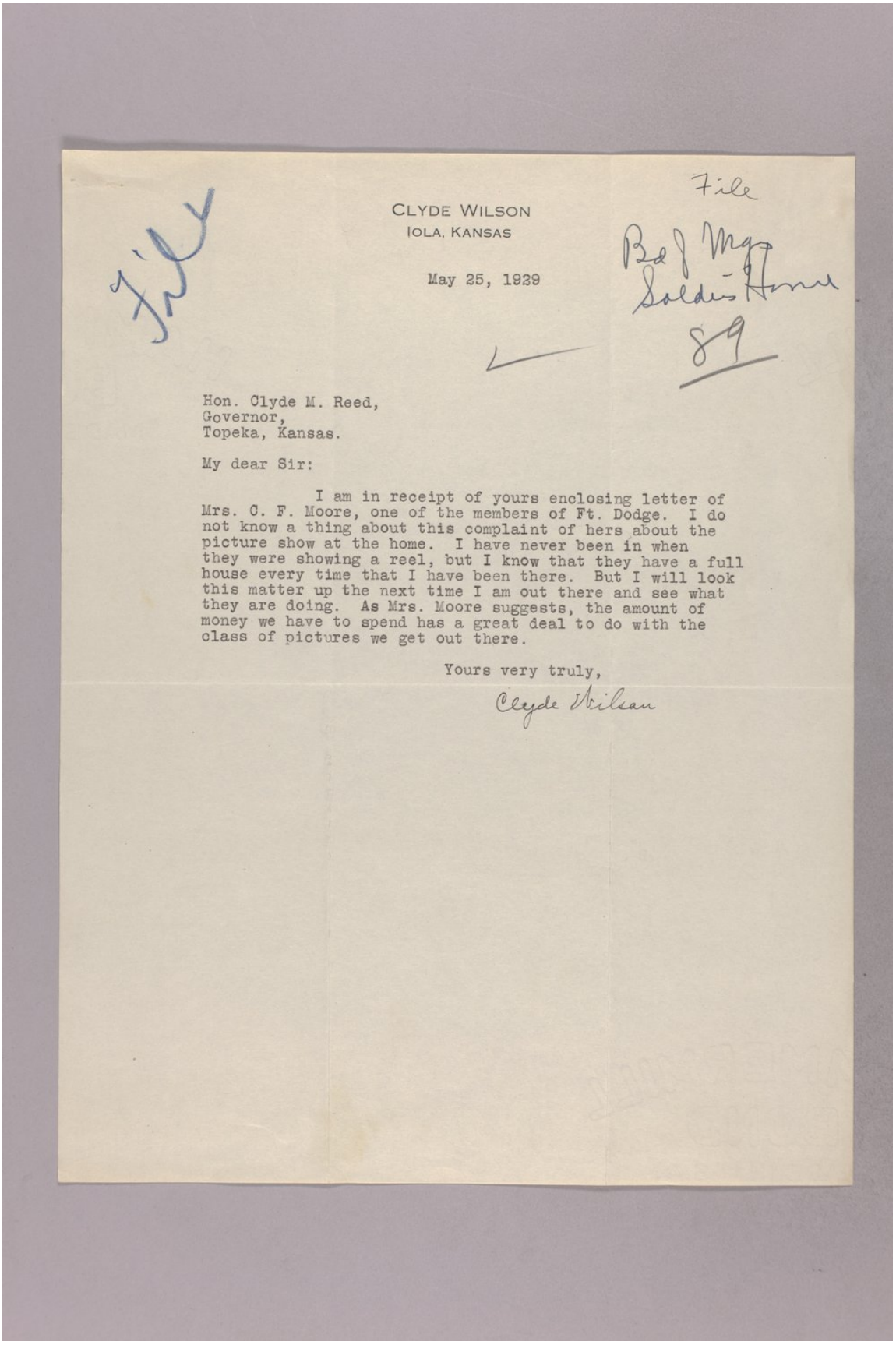
Yours respectfully,

E. L. Barrier

State Budget Director.

P. S. On account of your absence I am sending a copy of this report to Mr. Clyde Wilson, Iola, Kansas.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



CLYDE WILSON
IOLA, KANSAS

May 25, 1929

File
Bd of Mgrs
Soldiers Home
89

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

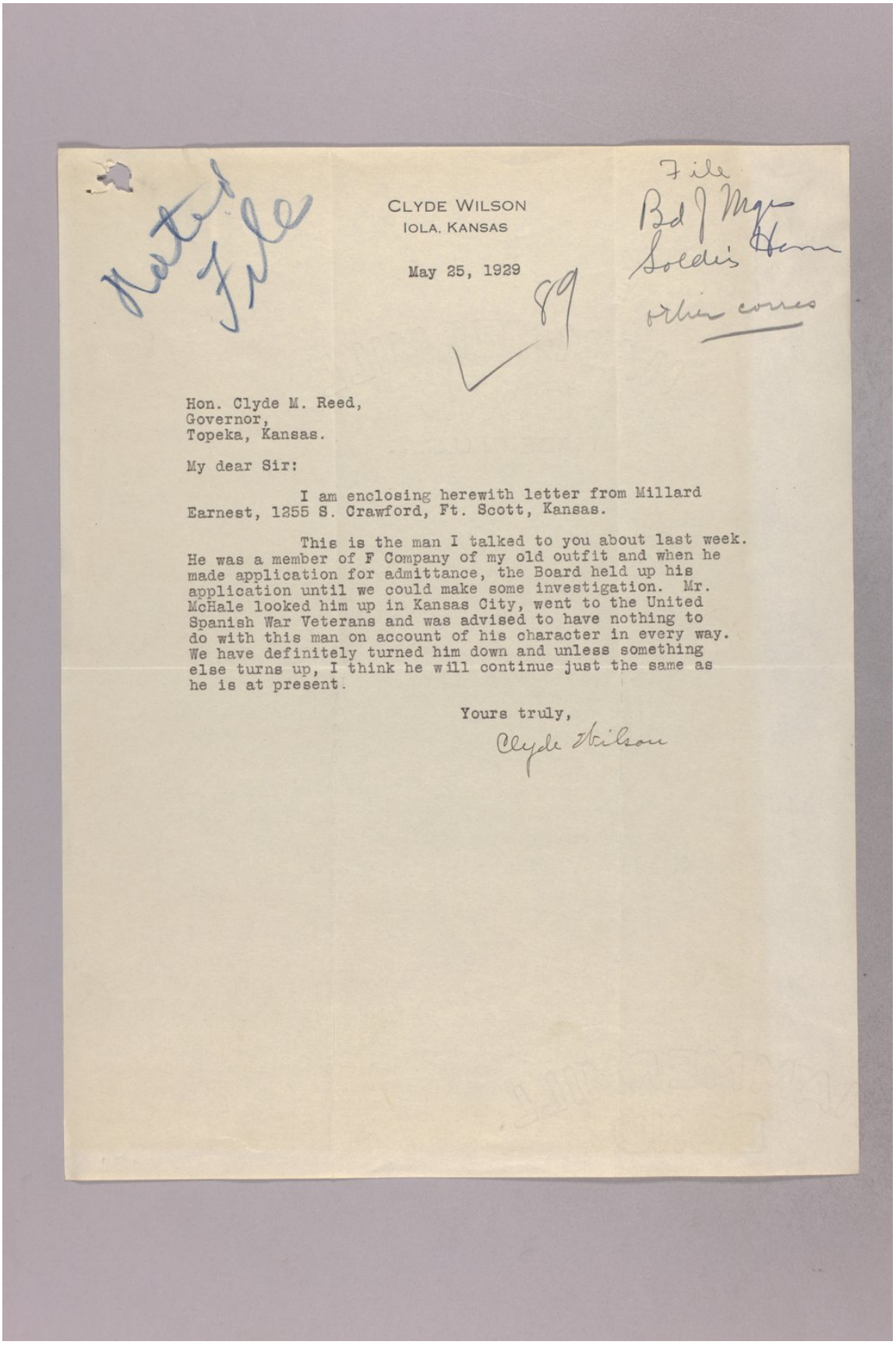
My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours enclosing letter of Mrs. C. F. Moore, one of the members of Ft. Dodge. I do not know a thing about this complaint of hers about the picture show at the home. I have never been in when they were showing a reel, but I know that they have a full house every time that I have been there. But I will look this matter up the next time I am out there and see what they are doing. As Mrs. Moore suggests, the amount of money we have to spend has a great deal to do with the class of pictures we get out there.

Yours very truly,

Clyde Wilson

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Retain File

CLYDE WILSON
IOLA, KANSAS

May 25, 1929

89

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Bd of Mgrs
Soldiers Home
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Hon. Clyde M. Reed,
Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

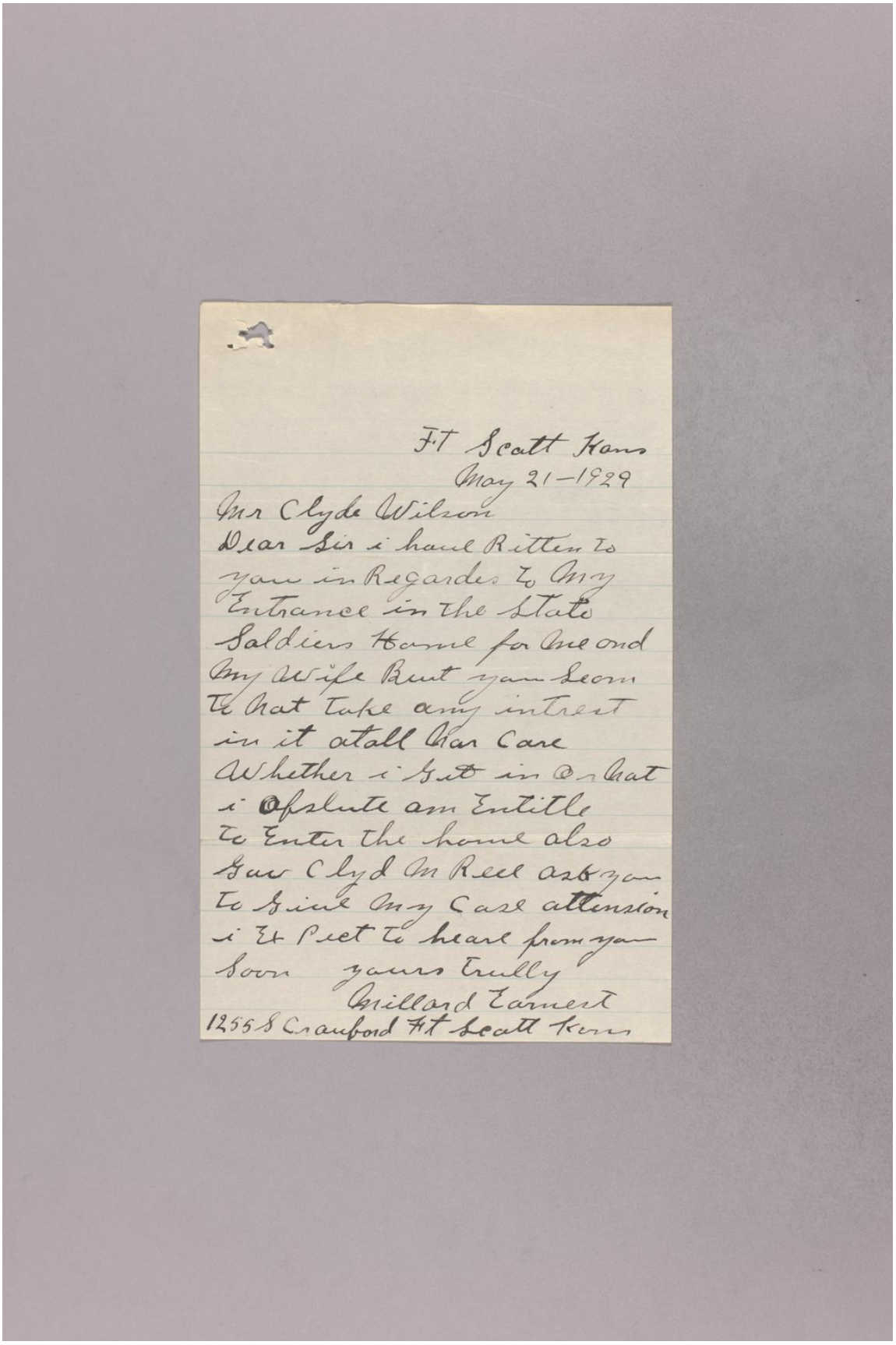
My dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith letter from Millard Earnest, 1255 S. Crawford, Ft. Scott, Kansas.

This is the man I talked to you about last week. He was a member of F Company of my old outfit and when he made application for admittance, the Board held up his application until we could make some investigation. Mr. McHale looked him up in Kansas City, went to the United Spanish War Veterans and was advised to have nothing to do with this man on account of his character in every way. We have definitely turned him down and unless something else turns up, I think he will continue just the same as he is at present.

Yours truly,
Clyde Wilson

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



Ft Scott Kans
May 21—1929

Mr Clyde Wilson
Dear Sir i have Ritten to
you in Regardes to My
Entrance in the State
Soldiers Home for me and
my Wife But you Seem
to Not take any intrest
in it atall Nor Care
Whether i Get in or Not
i Absolute am Entitle
to Enter the home also
Gov Clyd M Reed ask you
to Give My Case attension
it Is Best to heare from you
Soon yours Truly
Millard Tarnert
1255 S Crawford Ft Scott Kans

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home

E F Weeman. 89

May 24, 1929

Mr. Clyde Wilson,
Iola, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I wish to thank you for your letter of May 23rd enclosing papers in regard to E. F. Weeman who wishes to be admitted to the Soldiers' Home at Dodge City, Kansas.

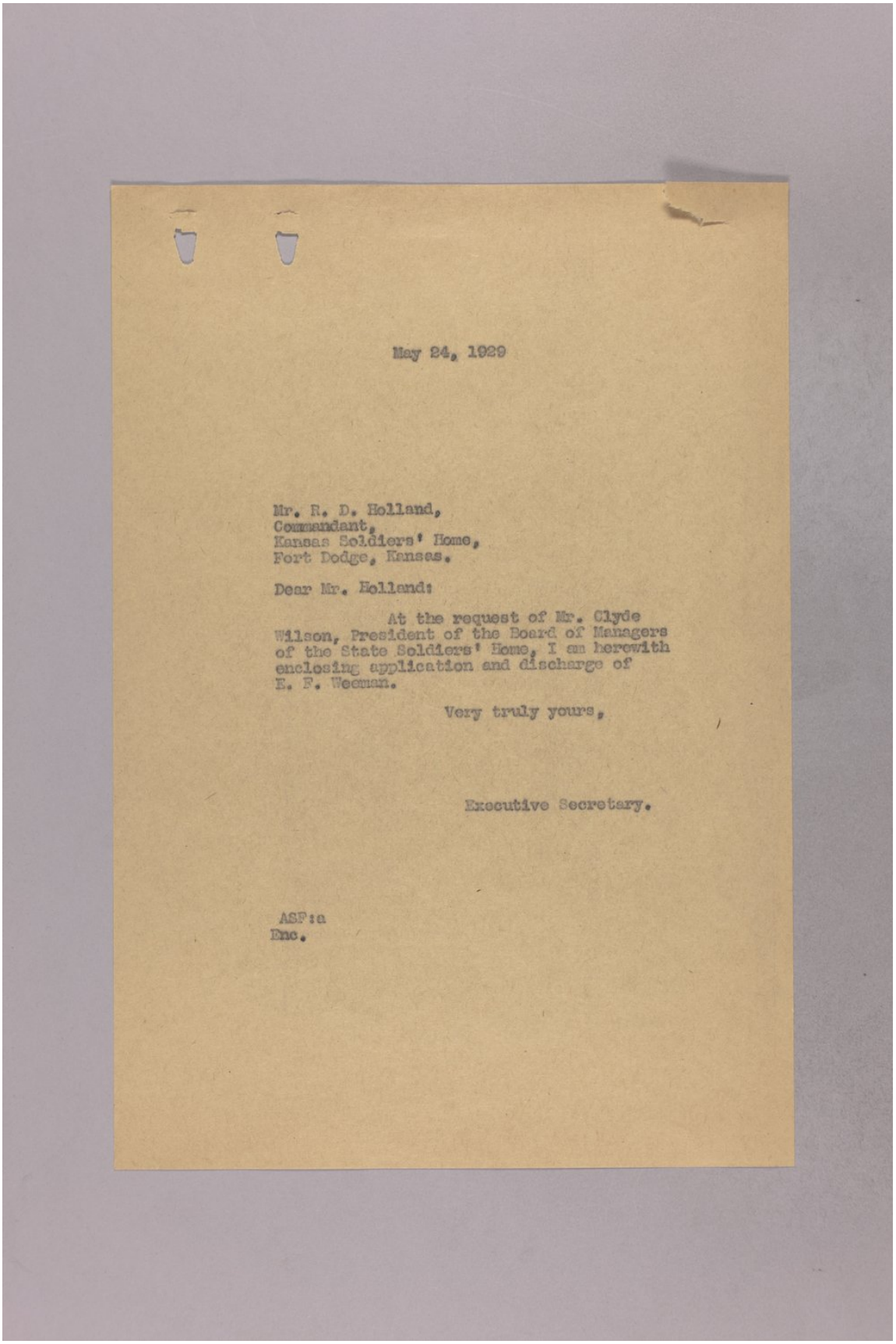
I am returning the application and discharge of Mr. Weeman to Mr. R. D. Holland at Dort Dodge, Kansas.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

ASF:a

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



May 24, 1929

Mr. R. D. Holland,
Commandant,
Kansas Soldiers' Home,
Fort Dodge, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Holland:

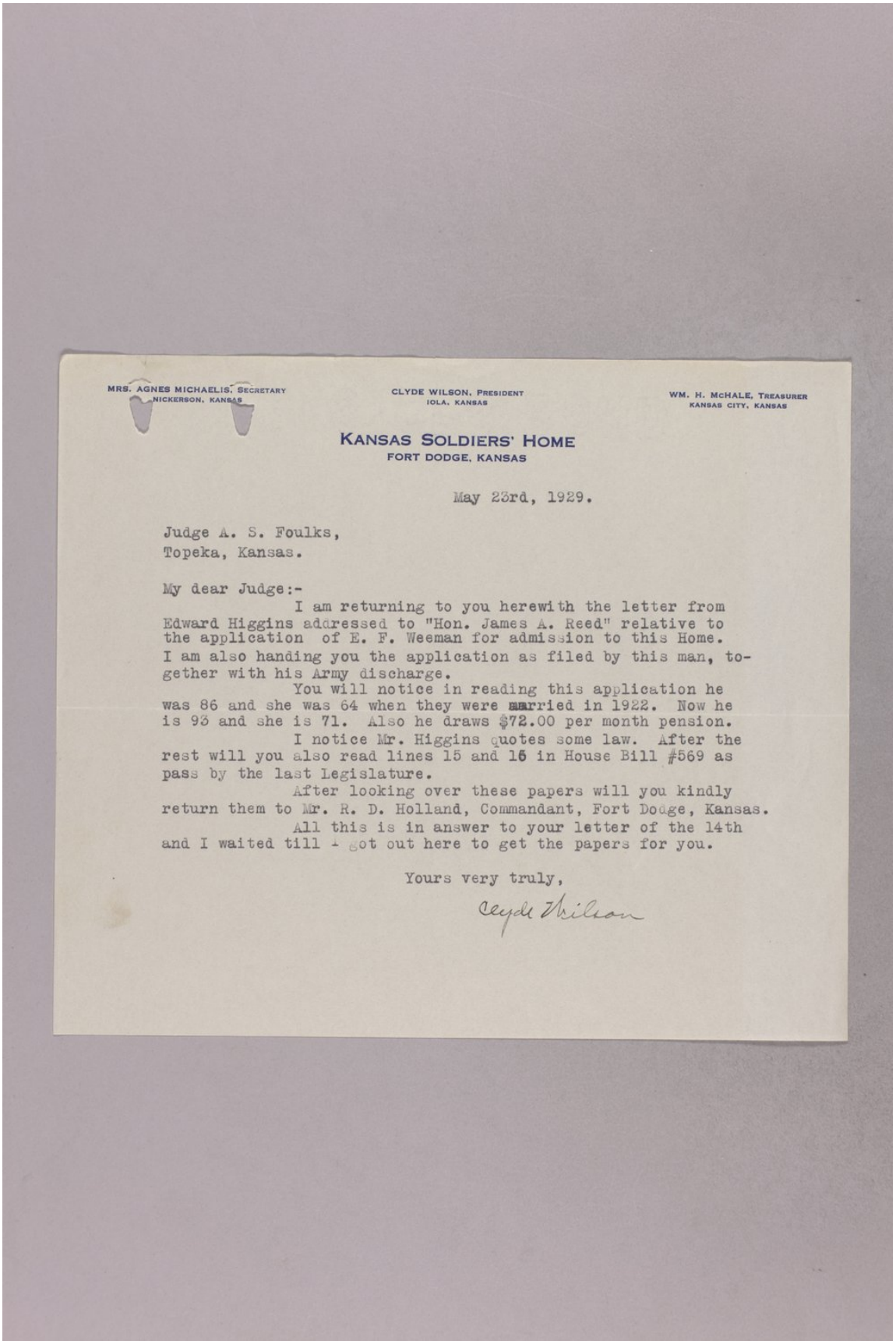
At the request of Mr. Clyde Wilson, President of the Board of Managers of the State Soldiers' Home, I am herewith enclosing application and discharge of E. F. Weeman.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

ASF:a
Enc.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



MRS. AGNES MICHAELIS, SECRETARY
NICKERSON, KANSAS

CLYDE WILSON, PRESIDENT
IOLA, KANSAS

WM. H. McHALE, TREASURER
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

KANSAS SOLDIERS' HOME
FORT DODGE, KANSAS

May 23rd, 1929.

Judge A. S. Foulks,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Judge:-

I am returning to you herewith the letter from Edward Higgins addressed to "Hon. James A. Reed" relative to the application of E. F. Weeman for admission to this Home. I am also handing you the application as filed by this man, together with his Army discharge.

You will notice in reading this application he was 86 and she was 64 when they were married in 1922. Now he is 93 and she is 71. Also he draws $72.00 per month pension.

I notice Mr. Higgins quotes some law. After the rest will you also read lines 15 and 16 in House Bill #569 as pass by the last Legislature.

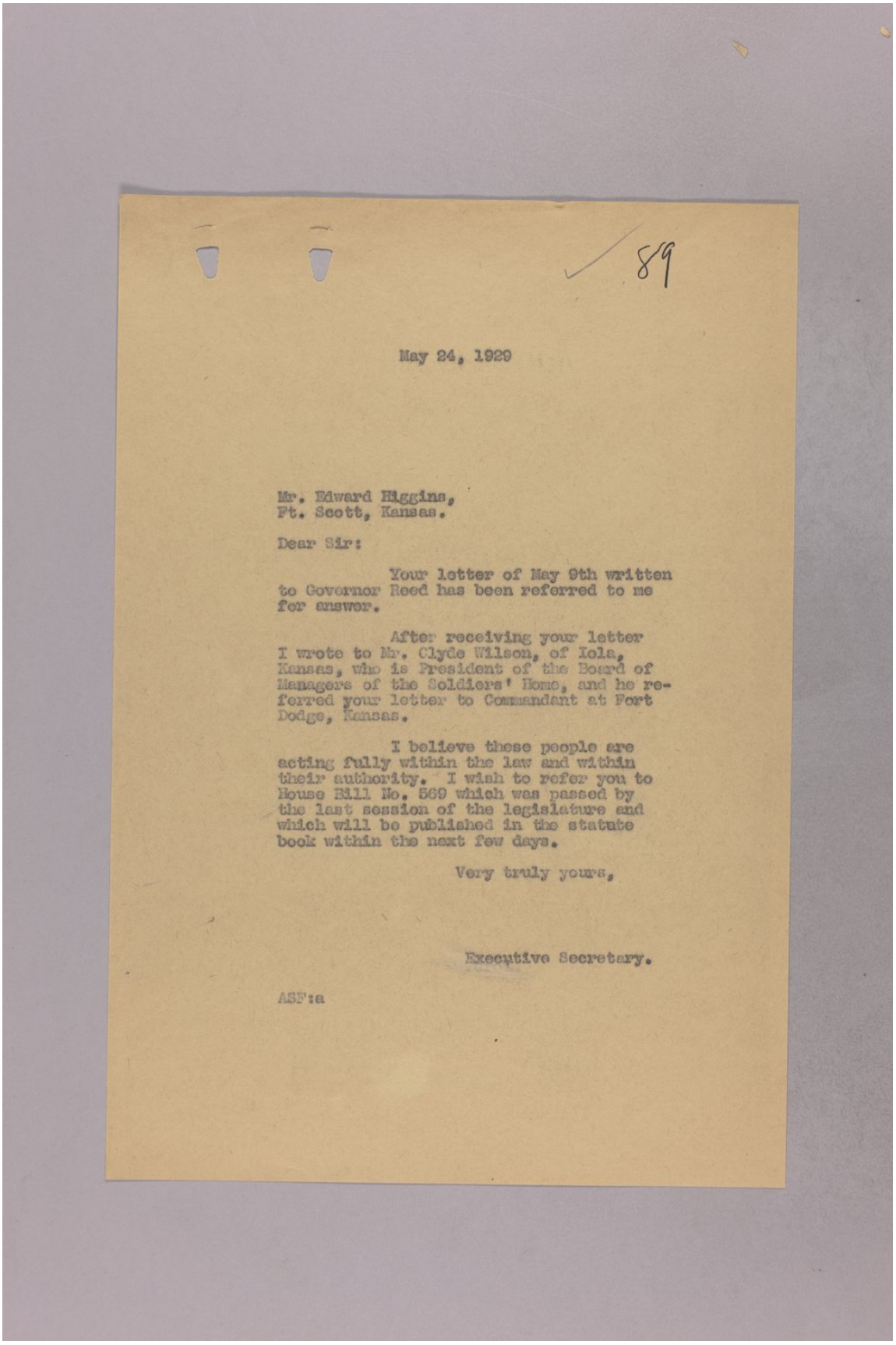
After looking over these papers will you kindly return them to Mr. R. D. Holland, Commandant, Fort Dodge, Kansas.

All this is in answer to your letter of the 14th and I waited till I got out here to get the papers for you.

Yours very truly,

Clyde Wilson

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



89

May 24, 1929

Mr. Edward Higgins,
Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of May 9th written to Governor Reed has been referred to me for answer.

After receiving your letter I wrote to Mr. Clyde Wilson, of Iola, Kansas, who is President of the Board of Managers of the Soldiers' Home, and he referred your letter to Commandant at Fort Dodge, Kansas.

I believe these people are acting fully within the law and within their authority. I wish to refer you to House Bill No. 569 which was passed by the last session of the legislature and which will be published in the statute book within the next few days.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

ASF:a

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home

Ft.Scott,Kansas,
May,9th,1929,

Hon.James A.Reed,
Governor of Kansas,
Topeka,Kansas,

Dear Sir:

I am this day writing you relative to the matter of Veterans and wives being admitted to the Kansas State Home at Ft.Dodge,Kansas, It appears that there has been some new rules laws or regulations put into effect since the year 1925,of which I have a copy at hand, And refering to Section 17 which states that all Honerably discharged soldiers,of the war of the Rebellion,War with Spain,Philippine Islands and Boxer uprising,Or of the late World War,having been a Resident of the State of Kansas,for Two years next preceeding the date of application to said Home,And who do not have the adequate means of support or Disabled by disease,wounds,old age or otherwise,shall be admitted,

No wife shall be admitted to said Home as a member unless she has attained the age of Fifty (50) years,and has been married to him previous to January,1st,1908,Except in special cases where the wife of the applicant as a confirmed invalid,And that he needs the contsant care and attendance of said wife,and this to be established by a legal practicing Physician of the State of Kansas,

I have in mind here a case that I would be pleased to call to your attention;Mr.Ebenezer F.Weeman of this City Ninty Two(92) years of age with his wife made application to the Soldiers Home Ft.Dodge, some time ago,He was recently advised that Two Affidavits must be furnished the management in order that he and the wife be admitted, One to the effect that his wife was required to constantly attend him think of it a man at the age of 92 years being required to make such an affidavit,When he is totally unable to walk but a short distance without the assistance of another person,Then the other Affidavit was for his good wife,that she would make affidavit that upon the death of her husband she would immediately vacate the Home,

May I ask if you know of any such Laws or Rulings that cover this matter, and if so, would you sustain that kind of an unjust ruling made by the management of the Home,It appears to me that in the name of God this thing is rottin and I would surely appreciate you making an investigation at a time when convenient,and get this matter lined up so that justice may be fully recived by the Veterans and their Widows seeking assistance in this way,pleased to hear from you soon,

I am Yours Very Sincerely,
Edward Higgins
Pension Atty - Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Received May 9, 1929

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home

File ✓

89

The Kansas State Teachers Association

F. L. PINET SECRETARY

Topeka, Kansas

May 17, 1929.

Governor Clyde M. Reed,
State House,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor Reed:

Mr. Clyde Wilson has just presented to me the plan he has for helping the school children at the Dodge City Soldiers Home and has asked me to communicate to you my reaction of his plan.

I wish to say that I went over the plan with Mr. Wilson quite carefully and that it appeals to me very much. In my judgment it is a much better plan than the plan which has obtained heretofore.

I feel sure that Mr. Wilson's plan will be more economical to the state in dollars and cents than the present plan. In addition, I think a great deal will be gained by giving these children the better school facilities which Dodge City has to offer and that it will mean much to these children if they can have contacts with other children who come from homes rather than from an institution.

Sincerely yours,

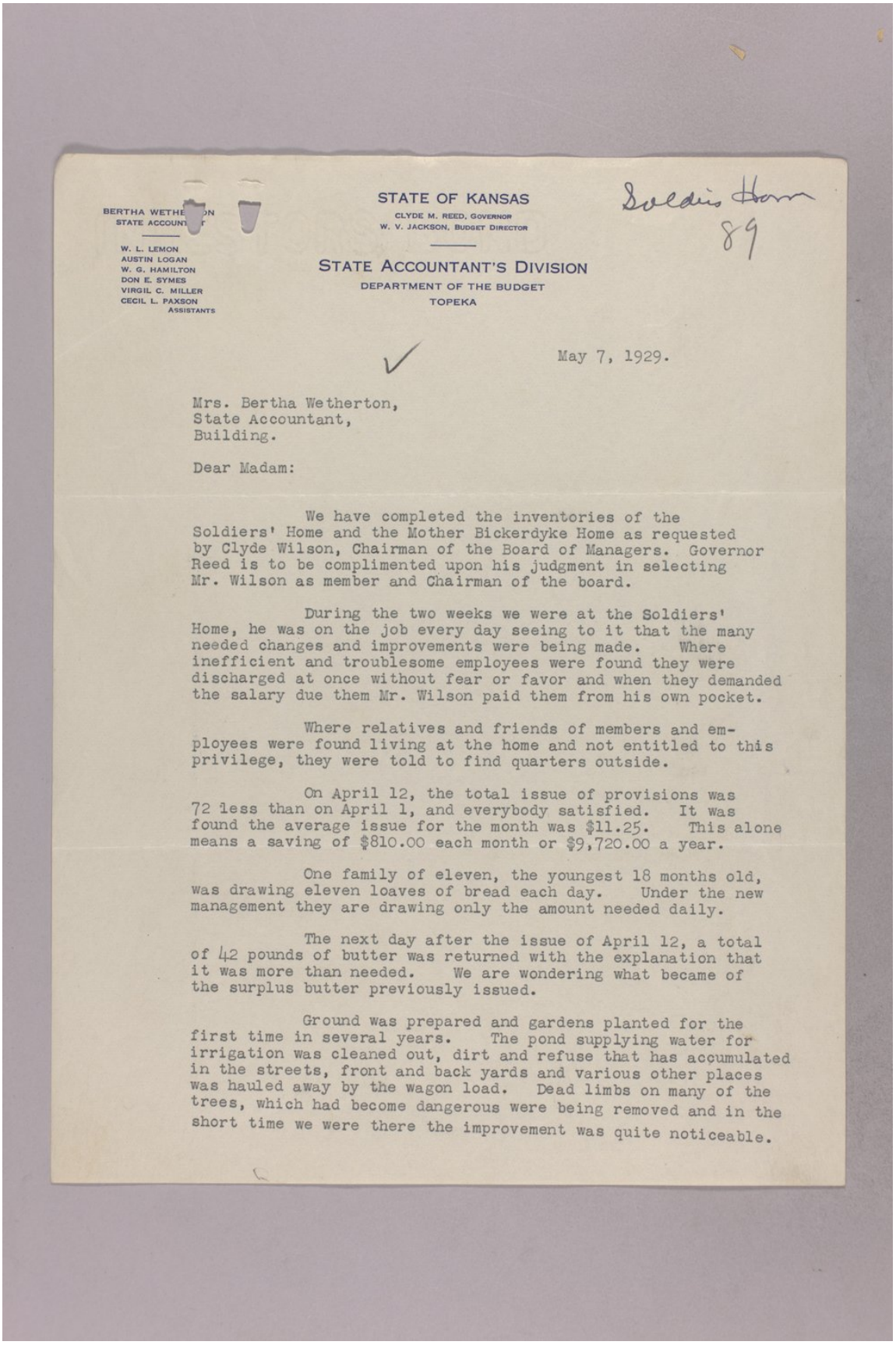
F. L. Pinet

Secretary.

FLP-GM



# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



BERTHA WETHERTON
STATE ACCOUNTANT

W. L. LEMON
AUSTIN LOGAN
W. G. HAMILTON
DON E. SYMES
VIRGIL C. MILLER
CECIL L. PAXSON
ASSISTANTS

STATE OF KANSAS
CLYDE M. REED, GOVERNOR
W. V. JACKSON, BUDGET DIRECTOR

STATE ACCOUNTANT'S DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF THE BUDGET
TOPEKA

Soldiers Home
89

May 7, 1929.

Mrs. Bertha Wetherton,
State Accountant,
Building.

Dear Madam:

We have completed the inventories of the Soldiers' Home and the Mother Bickerdyke Home as requested by Clyde Wilson, Chairman of the Board of Managers. Governor Reed is to be complimented upon his judgment in selecting Mr. Wilson as member and Chairman of the board.

During the two weeks we were at the Soldiers' Home, he was on the job every day seeing to it that the many needed changes and improvements were being made. Where inefficient and troublesome employees were found they were discharged at once without fear or favor and when they demanded the salary due them Mr. Wilson paid them from his own pocket.

Where relatives and friends of members and employees were found living at the home and not entitled to this privilege, they were told to find quarters outside.

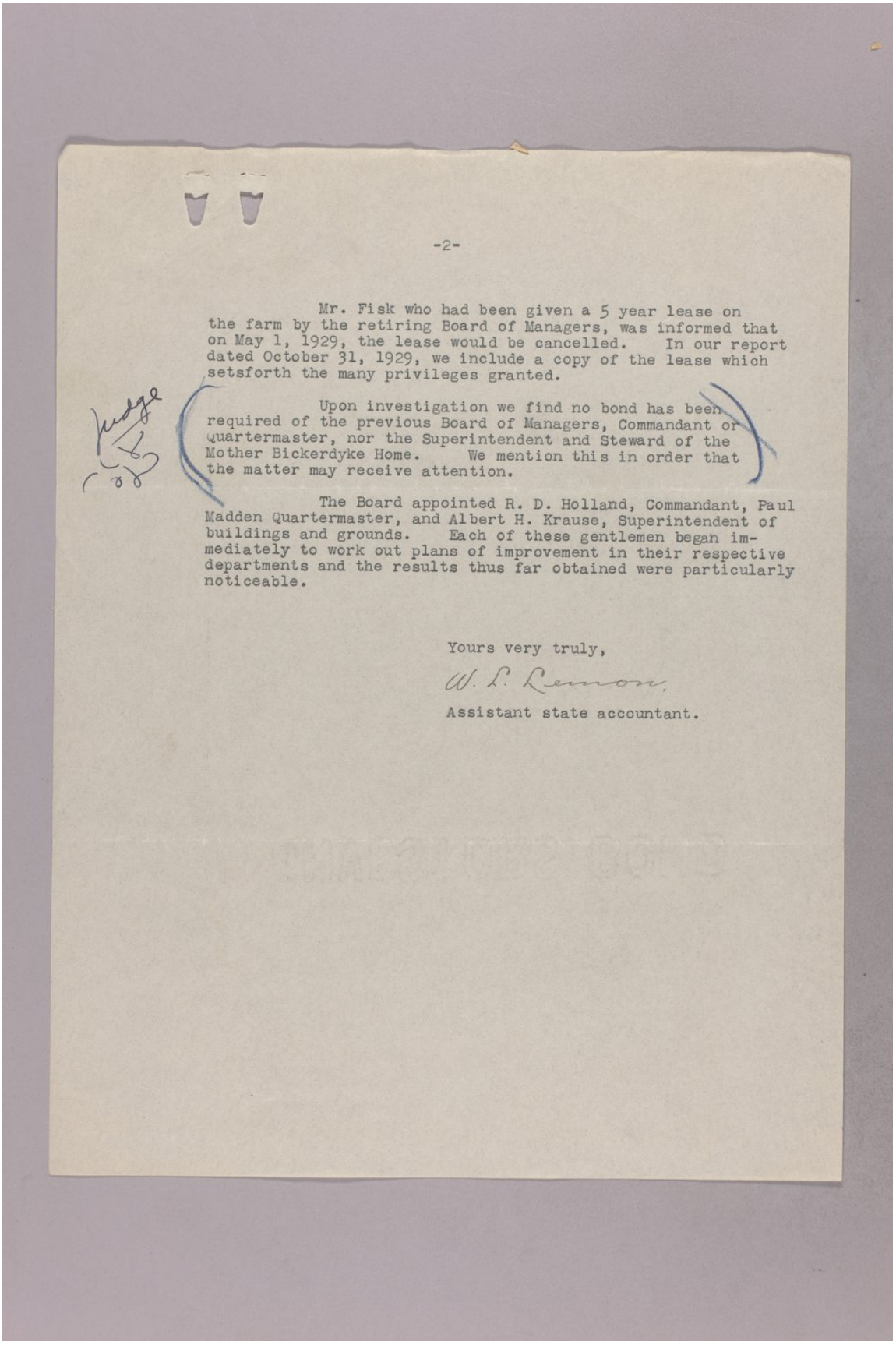
On April 12, the total issue of provisions was 72 less than on April 1, and everybody satisfied. It was found the average issue for the month was $11.25. This alone means a saving of $810.00 each month or $9,720.00 a year.

One family of eleven, the youngest 18 months old, was drawing eleven loaves of bread each day. Under the new management they are drawing only the amount needed daily.

The next day after the issue of April 12, a total of 42 pounds of butter was returned with the explanation that it was more than needed. We are wondering what became of the surplus butter previously issued.

Ground was prepared and gardens planted for the first time in several years. The pond supplying water for irrigation was cleaned out, dirt and refuse that has accumulated in the streets, front and back yards and various other places was hauled away by the wagon load. Dead limbs on many of the trees, which had become dangerous were being removed and in the short time we were there the improvement was quite noticeable.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home





Mr. Fisk who had been given a 5 year lease on the farm by the retiring Board of Managers, was informed that on May 1, 1929, the lease would be cancelled. In our report dated October 31, 1929, we include a copy of the lease which setsforth the many privileges granted.

Upon investigation we find no bond has been required of the previous Board of Managers, Commandant or Quartermaster, nor the Superintendent and Steward of the Mother Bickerdyke Home. We mention this in order that the matter may receive attention.

The Board appointed R. D. Holland, Commandant, Paul Madden Quartermaster, and Albert H. Krause, Superintendent of buildings and grounds. Each of these gentlemen began immediately to work out plans of improvement in their respective departments and the results thus far obtained were particularly noticeable.

Yours very truly,

W. L. Lemon,

Assistant state accountant.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home

89

May 16, 1929

Mr. A. E. Howe, Commander,
Frank C. Armstrong Camp No. 3,
United Spanish War Veterans,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Howe:

Governor Reed has directed me to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of May 15 in regard to the State Soldiers' Home at Ft. Dodge and the Mother Bickerdyke Home at Ellsworth. Governor Reed wishes to thank you for the splendid report you have given him concerning work of the new Board of Managers for these two institutions. He is glad the Frank C. Armstrong Camp No. 3 have approved of the Governor's stand in matters regarding these two important state homes.

Thanking you, I am

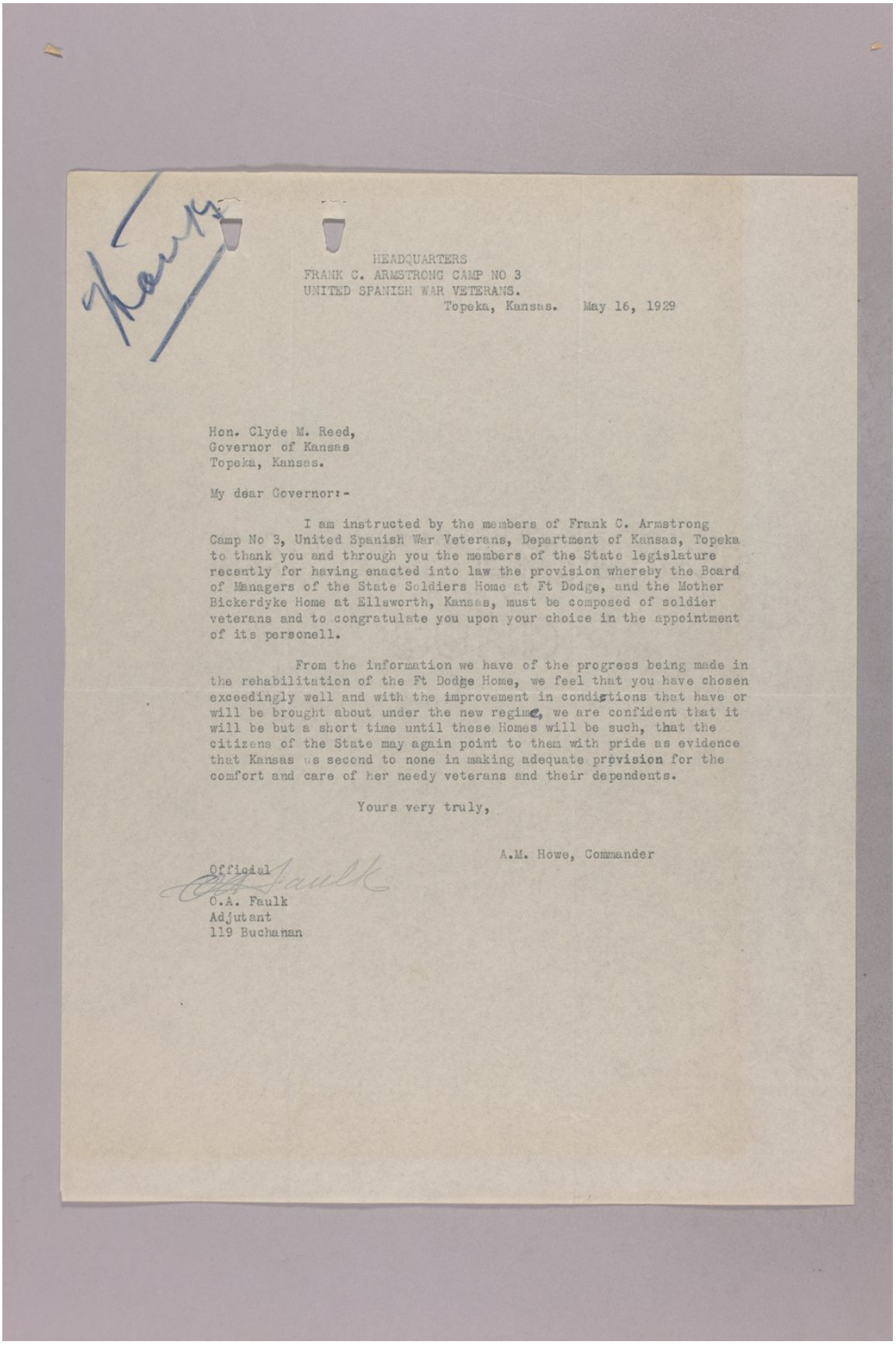
Very truly yours,

WCW:GJY

Secretary to the Governor.

Copy to O. A. Faulk, Adj.,
119 Buchanan St.

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



HEADQUARTERS
FRANK C. ARMSTRONG CAMP NO 3
UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS.
Topeka, Kansas. May 16, 1929

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

My dear Governor:-

I am instructed by the members of Frank C. Armstrong Camp No 3, United Spanish War Veterans, Department of Kansas, Topeka to thank you and through you the members of the State legislature recently for having enacted into law the provision whereby the Board of Managers of the State Soldiers Home at Ft Dodge, and the Mother Bickerdyke Home at Ellsworth, Kansas, must be composed of soldier veterans and to congratulate you upon your choice in the appointment of its personell.

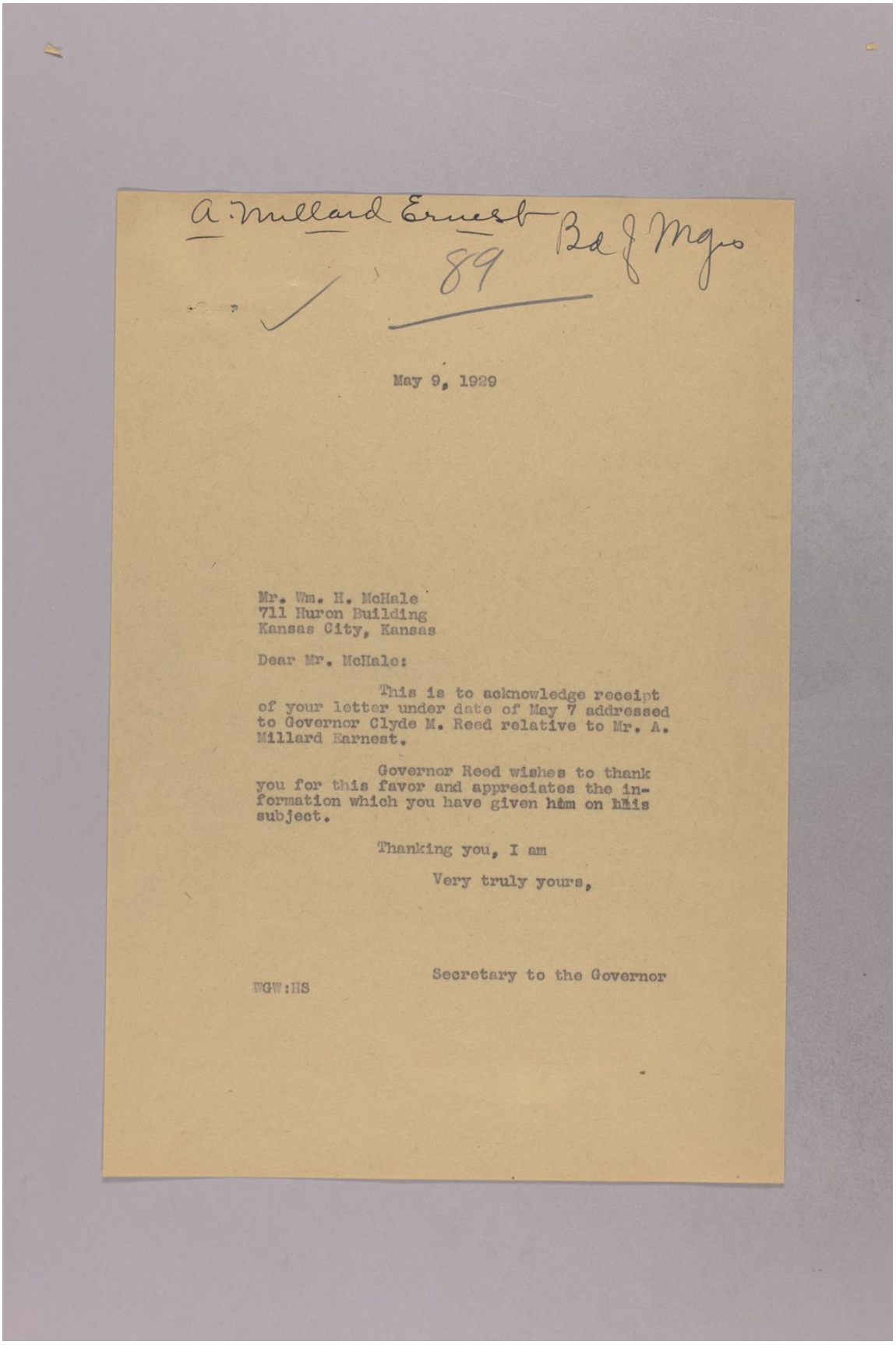
From the information we have of the progress being made in the rehabilitation of the Ft Dodge Home, we feel that you have chosen exceedingly well and with the improvement in conditions that have or will be brought about under the new regime, we are confident that it will be but a short time until these Homes will be such, that the citizens of the State may again point to them with pride as evidence that Kansas is second to none in making adequate provision for the comfort and care of her needy veterans and their dependents.

Yours very truly,

A.M. Howe, Commander

Official
O.A. Faulk
Adjutant
119 Buchanan

# Governor Clyde M. Reed correspondence, Mother Bickerdyke Home



A. Millard Ernest Bd of Mgrs
89

May 9, 1929

Mr. Wm. H. McHale
711 Huron Building
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. McHale:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of May 7 addressed to Governor Clyde M. Reed relative to Mr. A. Millard Earnest.

Governor Reed wishes to thank you for this favor and appreciates the information which you have given him on his subject.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Secretary to the Governor

WGW:HS