

[page 1]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS
1940 AUG 5 AM 11 40

Crown Drug Company

EXECUTIVE OFFICES AND WAREHOUSE
2108-10-12 CENTRAL
Kansas City, Mo.

T.L. EVANS
President AND Treasurer

TELEPHONE HARRISON 5230

August 2, 1940

Board of Pardons and Paroles
Washington
D. C.

Re: Otto P. Higgins

Gentlemen:

I have noticed from the press that the above who was confined in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth has been up for hearing regarding a parole.

I desire to take this opportunity of telling you that I have known Otto Higgins for a period of at least the past twenty-five years. While I do not, in any sense, condone what Mr. Higgins has done, I do want to say that during the twenty-five years, I have had occasion to know him intimately and personally as I have done a lot of work in connection with our Chamber of Commerce, Safety Council and many civic affairs in which I have always had the help and support of Mr. Higgins. He was always an untiring worker, and of course, in my opinion always honest and trustworthy.

As Director of our Police Department, Mr. Higgins operated the force in such a manner that my company benefitted materially from the standpoint of obtaining insurance covering us for burglary and hold-up. For four years prior to his taking the position as Director of our Police Department, we were unable to purchase this type insurance because of our bad experience. After six months of the department operating under his supervision, this was reduced to such a minimum that we were again able to purchase this type insurance at a fair premium rate.

I have also had occasion to know Mr. Higgins intimately as I have been a director of our local Safety Council, a member of the Advisory Board of the National Safety Congress, and Mr. Higgins was a tireless worker in this organization and was very instrumental in bringing about the marvelous safety record which Kansas City achieved under his administration as Director of Police.

Knowing Mr. Higgins as I do, I am firmly convinced that he has learned his lesson, and since he has a business and would be able to again assume the management of same, should he be fortunate enough to obtain a release, I believe it would be only a short time until he would completely rehabilitate himself as far as being a good citizen is concerned. His business is printing and publishing, and in my business

[page 2]

-2-

I have occasion to know that his business could again prosper under his personal management.

If there are any other facts that you might desire in connection with considering the parole of Mr. Higgins, I would indeed be pleased to answer any communications.

Yours very truly,

T. L. Evans

President

TLE:JD