

CONRAD H. MANN
SUITE 1007-10 COMMERCE BUILDING
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Senator James A. Reed,
Kansas City, Mo.

October 2nd, 1930.

Dear Senator Reed:

You and I believe in Kansas City, not only in its present greatness but its future. I am convinced that we are on the eve of the greatest industrial and civic development in our history. With our ten year civic program in view, and our steady industrial growth; both coupled with our superb natural advantages, we have every reason to face the future with the utmost confidence.

However, our belief in our city - our city's real greatness - is today face to face with a genuine test. No gain comes without some price. Every growing city has its inescapable social problems - sickness, poverty, over-crowding, unemployment. Every city must meet these problems. In Kansas City this task is done largely through the Charities Fund.

Of course, the Fund is not new. It has proved its worth for ten years. But the challenge - the test which we face - is new.

The economic depression has created problems far beyond anything hitherto contemplated by the Charities Bureau. Other cities - Toledo, Cincinnati, Rochester, Youngstown - with conditions that make Kansas City look wonderfully prosperous, have recently faced their situations and have raised the funds they actually needed. Why? Because their substantial people had faith in their cities, recognized their responsibilities and increased their pledges sufficiently to meet the needs.

The time has come in Kansas City when we must have a new deal in this charity business. In spite of the great liberality of many of our leading citizens and business houses, it is a fact that as a whole our well-to- do have not carried their fair share of this responsibility. It is a further fact that this year we cannot rely on our wage earners to the extent we have in former years. It is simply impossible.

Whatever you may have done before, whether you have given gladly or reluctantly, whether you have tried to pledge the utmost possible or the least, will you not face the facts and meet them as one who believes in Kansas City and her necessary institutions? Smokestacks, great stores, beautiful boulevards, costly residences, fine public buildings, - we want them all. But human beings come first. And human needs must be met. Otherwise, all else will be in vain.

We are counting on you to help make this campaign successful. We cannot afford to fail.

Sincerely yours,
Conrad H. Mann