

1942

## Correspondence between T. Melden, George C. Stokes, and John Shary

John Harry Shary

George C. Stokes

Pearl Perry Stokes

Tim Melden

Leon H. Brown

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Creator**

John Harry Shary, George C. Stokes, Pearl Perry Stokes, Tim Melden, Leon H. Brown, J. F. Ewers, and Hollis Rankin

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" 11

Streator, Ills.

Nov 1 1930

Mr T.E.Melden,  
Mission, Texas.

Dear Mr Melden , -


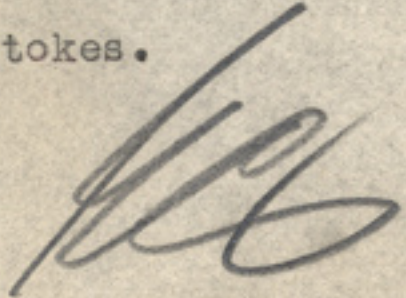
Herewith my ck for One Hundred Forty seven & 88/ 100 hard earned Dollars for flat rate water rent . As I pay this bill I would impart the information that these close fitting Hooveric days of prosperity are not so much appreciated as was promised in the gala days of the campaign which gave Herb the Fat his present none too pleasant position .

If you have been following the narrative of Mr Kelley of the Department of the Interior and have seen great Hoover's reaction you will sympathize with him just as I do . He is fat and he is mad as a fat man only can be mad , every ounce of him is mad, every square inch of him is mad , all mad , riproaring gloriously magnificantly unanimously and simultaneously mad , red hot boiling bubbling fothing mad , so mad in fact that he is tearing at his own vitals and giving off stink balls of no mean proportions , some of us fear for the safety of the Grand Old Parrottry with the air full of this poisonous gas and what would the beloved commonwealth do without the Confiscation Party ? How could we be so properly trimmed bilked ravished despoiled of pelf and dreams by another agency ? It is true that the Democrats have tried once or twice but they never were able to give us such a clean shave as this modernized , progressive , forwardlooking , public welfareing Public healthing , public banking , public farming , cooperating orderly marketing bunch of later day porch climbers , snoopers and smellers ; all hail the Grand Old Parrots , may the dread psittacosis which threatens the rookery be eradicated by our redblooded horse doctors and bug chasing freaks .

Say , if there is any good grape fruit down in that Magic Valley send along a crate for me to Streator and trust me for it , there is still a good chance that I will pay , in the mean time with highest esteem to your good self Mr Shary and the whole Rotariwanian crew of Mission , even Tom Sammon and Greg Wood and eke the good Judge Bishop I intend to remain

Yours for pure milk

Geo.C.Stokes.



Nov. 6, 1930

Mr. Geo. C. Stokes,  
Streator, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 1st enclosing check for flat rate, receipt for which is herewith enclosed.

We are also shipping you a case of grapefruit, although this is not yet as nice as it will be two or three weeks later, however, it will probably taste good, as it is superior to Florida or Arizona fruit that you have probably been getting in your market.

We note your remarks in reference to the Republican Party. It looks as though Illinois had redeemed itself by electing a good Democrat to the Senate, and that several other sections of the Country showed their faith in the Democratic Party by reducing somewhat the Republican majority in Congress.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours truly,

TEXAS CITRUS FRUIT GROWERS EXCHANGE

THM/r

74

*pure milk*  
*Geo. C. Stokes*

Streator, Ills.  
Oct 16. 1931

T.E.Melden, Esq.,  
Mission Tex.  
Dear Melden ,-

Here with my checks for \$55.45 and \$147.88 for School tax and irritation tax respectively. Even in these days of culture and refinement it may be wise to caution the use of these funds in ~~the~~ thrifty fashion. Our miracle president seems unable to work the expected and longed for fermentation of sentiment and we sink into pessimism mayhap unsung, who can say?

The one thing which today seems favorable is the Chinese Japanese war, even my hired man sees what possibilities for loaning this desired and detested catastrophe may afford a hard pressed administration. Even without a recognized position in the League of Nations we may be able by dint of super engineering to get into the fray. Well of course there are the rich coal mines near Kaiping which erstwhile were governed by the able Dr Hoover and maybe they are yet? He sayeth not a word but Stimson seems perturbed and actions betimes speak louder and more to the point than do mere words. We must save those mines, no matter what the cost, be it in blood or dollars, they must not be lost to the heathen, our noble president must still possess them.

It is noted that you do travel much. Why, when you come this way, may you not honor me by a call? Should be delighted, of course there is not so much to offer which is legal, still there are Mabel's bricks, some of them are said to turn to wicked beverages in spite of all which may be done by human care to avoid. Acres and acres of corn but not a drop to drink.

Yours for pure milk

Geo.C.Stokes.

*Geo. C. Stokes*

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O  
October 19, 1931

Mr. George C. Stokes,  
Streator, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Acknowledge receipt of your letter enclosing your remittance for \$147.88 covering flat rate on Lot 282, and also your check for \$55.45 covering school taxes on the above lot. We herewith enclose your receipts properly marked paid.

Read with a great deal of interest your account of the conditions and noticed that you have not become any more of a Hoover supporter than you were prior to his election. The poor man seems to be in an awful lot of trouble and the only consolation that I find out of this is that certainly the Democrats are not heading this administration.

My time spent in Illinois this past summer was limited to one day. Surely would like to have had an opportunity to spend a day saying hello, and the next time I go north will certainly avail myself of that pleasure.

With very kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

TMM/r  
Enclo

Streator, Ills.  
Jan 19, 1935

Dear Mr Shary ,-

HERE HERE good friend , what are you doing to me ? I will pay you that flat rate water rent as soon as I can and I am very grateful to you besides for the leniency you have shown me . Sould have written you and thank you long ago , please forgive my neglect . Of course your attorney Blalock can make me expense and aggravate the case but he cannot get money now for I dont believe there is any money in the world . If there is anything I can do in the matter to relieve you and make you safef than you are I will be delighted to do it , if you will instruct but we do not need an attorney to go between us . The debt is a lein on the parcel of land which could not be avoided in any case . Of course that does not give you money to carry on with but what am I to do , I cannot find the money in these chaotic times.

Never would I have believed that this wonderful country of ours could come to such straits . What with birth day parties and pensions and all around loving kindness for all, danged if I see what such independent chaps as we are ,find as an excuse for living . The droughth and the chinch bugs and the Triple A took everything I could rake together last season . The corn hog mischievousness cost me \$1946. last year on hogs alone . But it is not farming alone that suffers , every line of effort in the country is strictured so that business is but one continuous torture and squeeze. I noe that the Supreme Court has by its decision in the oil case intimated that the whole howling mess of loving kindness is unconstitutional but that will not stop a people hell bent on suicide who constantly cry out that the constitution might have been suitable for the excart age but in the age of flying dervishes it is obsolete . Never have I heard it said that the English Magna Carta was obsolete nor did the Dutch ever declare against "the Great Privilege " nor the Joyeouse Entrance " , but on every hand we hear our people complain of our Constitution . The Fathers erected in fear and trembling every safe guard against human folly which could be conceived . The worst mistake they made was the phrase , " promote general welfare " , such a declaration is so loose that most anything has been driven through it by one excuse or another. As for the pensions of course a nation devoted to enslavement ought provide some protection for the worn out slaves . To pass such a law will completely enslave the people , who can doubt ?

Well be that as it may and perhaps you do not agree but I know you will not be offended by frankness . Please tell me what to do to make you feel safe in carrying that unpaid account till I can pay you . I am sure you know that I want to pay just as much as you desire to receive and that you need your money but I just cant do it and nothing can be made by either of us in a court wrangle , only the law fraternity reap rewards out of that sort of thing and I will settle with you just as freely man to man as I can be made to do by court decree. I should have written you before I know but you will forgive me .

Mr John H. Shary  
Mission ,

With very kindnest regards

George O. Stokes

George

*NGL*  
*Overman*

Mission, Texas, January 28th, 1935.

Mr. George C. Stokes,  
Box 356,  
Streator, Ill.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Received your letter of the 19th on my return home. I have been in the East, and during my absence this notice was sent to you by Mr. Blalock. If I had been home and seen your name on the list, I would not have turned this account over to him, but the United Irrigation Company has gotten right up against it. So many people owe them flat rate that we don't know where in the world to find money.

Of course, there are a lot of fellows who always ride you, but those who are honest and doing their best and cannot pay, you know it has been my custom for many years to stay with them until I cannot go any further.

So, we discussed the matter here some two or three weeks ago and decided that something had to be done. So, I gave my consent to turn them over to an attorney for collection, on these boys who were so badly in arrears and paying no attention to our notices, and where they are about to outlaw, we, of course, must bring suit to protect our lien.

According to your statement, you are three payments behind. If you can possibly help us out with one payment, we won't bother you for another year on the other two, and if you will send the check in in the next 15 days, sending it to me personally, I will get the interest waived for you. Also we must pay 5% additional as you know for attorney fees, but we will have to stand that.

We actually need the money badly, or I wouldn't ask you to help us out, knowing your financial distress. So, my dear boy, do the best you can and when I hear from you and I will then request Mr. Blalock not to bring suit.

Hope things will come your way, and with all best wishes, I am

Yours truly,

JHS-N



Streator , Ills.  
Feb 16 1935

Mr John H Shary  
Mission , Tex.

Dear Mr Shary ,-

Your most generous offer of the 28th ult. as regards my arrearages in flat rate water rate deserves a much better answer than it is possible for me to make at this time . I have delayed acknowledgment in the hope that I might work out some way in which I can pay you at least a part of the money I owe and which I know you do need badly for of course you cannot carry these charges for an indefinite length of time , neither could the Bank of England with all its strength . If I could pay I hope you will believe that I would not ask remittance of interest as you suggest but would insist on paying the whole amount as per contract but I cannot do a thing about it now except that if you will direct me a way to make you feel more secure I will follow your instructions to the letter .

As it seems to me , we are at a most critical point right now and few know which way the tide will turn . As it seems to me the Administration are about to receive a very pronounced adverse opinion from the Supreme Court but I think that the effect of such a pronouncement is pretty well discounted . Possibly I am very wrong , but it does seem to me that if I were to enter into a contract for a period of years , whereby I was to give my Government a fat steer and was to receive in exchange a calf per year and later a fat cow that I would be much disappointed if my Government insisted on satisfying the contract with a jack rabbit , instead of the cow agreed upon . It is hard for me to understand by what sort of argument based upon the Primal Law this Administration or any other can set aside a definite contract so well understood as this bond transaction was and is to this day . Whatever effects , bad as they may be , an adverse decision would cause , nevertheless , I think the matter of protection of contracts is vital and that if the Government may cancel or abridge them , then no confidence in security can obtain . Well we will probably know Monday what kind of medicine we are to take .

I was too slow to see what sort of a trip the Prairie Farmer were contemplating . It seems that if we had contacted them earlier we might have sent them via the Valley . However I fear the frost has made this an inopportune time for a survey . After all though , a buyer should know what he is buying and even with danger of frost and it cannot be avoided anywhere in the U.S.A , the Valley has great wealth and a wonderful future . These days of aggravation and torture cannot last much longer , there is sure to be an upswing . Even though it be admitted that man has little ability for intelligent guidance , yet the very inherent value of this wonderful country will force a betterment .

Tell me frankly what I must do "to be saved " . I hope that this coming Fall will find us all better off and more able to meet our obligations but you know how silly promises are , based upon hope they are worthless .

Kindest regards Geo.C.Stokes.



Mission, Texas, February 20th, 1935.

Mr. Geo. C. Stokes,  
Streator, Ill.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Received your letter of the 16th. While the Supreme Court case is over and while it is not in accordance with your views personally, I believe you will feel better about it as it turned out under all circumstances. It has eliminated a tremendous disaster that would have likely followed although, I know not just what would have happened.

It came out according to my predictions as made. The risk of a great disaster to our nation undoubtedly was considered by the majority of the court and now we find ourselves paying our bills with the same old dollar just as we did before and things ought to move along under more settled conditions.

It surely would have raised hell with us if all taxpayers all over the country would have had to pay and redeem their bonds in gold with an additional 60% on every dollar, pouring more capital into the hands of Wall Street, while institutions that would have been stuck with this enormous penalty - whether they be railroads or what, they would have had to raise their income somehow and it would have come out of the public to pay this difference. So, after all, I am pleased about it.

Now in regard to your financial condition. No use to further discourage you how hard it is to do this. You expressed it yourself and your honesty of purpose in recognizing it and offering to do your very best is certainly commendable, and I am therefore sending this letter to the United Irrigation Company and advising them not to bother you about your flat rate until next fall or winter when I hope you will be able to send us some reasonable amount on same.

With kind personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

JHS-N

Dictated by not read.

74  
WGC  
Streator, Ills.  
Feb 26.1935

Mr John H .Shary  
Mission , Texas .

Dear Mr Shary ,-

Thank you very much for your all over nice letter of the 20 th which exhibits again your great generosity . There are not so many men in this sorry old world who take the time from their busy lives to contemplate the plight of the tortured and aggravated debtors , ("the shorn lambs") , and so ameliorate terms that at least hope remains . It was your vision and superior energy which played the major part in the development of the Rio Grande Delta ; yours was the true pioneer spirit , joyously struggling with the unknown in catch as catch can battle from day to day as did Vasco Da Gama and Ferdinand Magellan , Christopher Colon and the rest . As it seems to me , you have been handicapped all of the way you have gone and yet you have never shown defeat nor even the shadow of fear . When finally that Valley does emerge it will be because of your indomitable will and perseverance.

As you point out I am over ruled by the Supreme Court in the gold matter and it is true that from the standpoint of temporary gains and losses it is best so and as for the future it must take care of itself . There are many other things on the fire and it seems to me that much of the New Deal will be declared out and the rule of common sense will prevail . Our Congress are warned to be a bit more cautious . There are two ways of bringing the desired parity , either we can hold the inflated valuation of public service companies such as rail roads and utilities , steel , flour ~~distributing~~ distributing agencies , at the present notch and force the value of raw products up to the same level , or we can proceed to let the water out of big business and bring the value down to the level of natural resources . It has been my theory that it best to let the air out of the flying balloons of big business and so start over again . Take salt for instance ; 20 years ago salt sold for 75 cts to 115 cts per barrel of 280# now we pay 100 cts per 100# and everyone knows there is no shortage of salt , there is salt in abundance everywhere . Right up above Mission 75 miles , there are hills of it . This salt racket , for surely racket it is , takes away in small amounts from every living being in the country ; there are hundreds of other gangs of pirates besides the salt barons and as it seems to me they should be dealt with forcably .

Anyhow , I thank you very much, good friend , you may be sure that I will reciprocate with every bit of strength I have .

Yours very truly

Geo.C.Stokes



*from  
get  
Stokes's*

Streator, Ills.  
July 27.1939

567.07  
428.20  
1431.85  
2477.12

Mr John H. Shary  
Mission, Texas.

Dear Mr Shary .-

Will you please advise me what irrigation service is now due against the lot 282 . I have been in such circumstances that I could not meet the payments for some time . I would also like to know what the school taxes are on the tract .

Again as I suggested to you some time ago I would like to turn that lot over to you on your own basis . Break the bad news to me gently for it is now very warm weather here .

So many things have happened since last I talk ed with you or exchanged letters with you that one knows not wher to begin . I will but say that I wish as always that Garner had been at the other end of Penn Ave. and I will add that many here think the same today . The corn crop prospec~~t~~ is reflected in the market ; let us weep for Wallace and a tear or two for our selves . His plans will bankrupt the country and bring on civil war eventually .

Tell me my good friend Shary , what can you do to relieve me of the property at Mission , I should like a little change out of it say something toward a case of Johnny Walker , what can you do for me .

Yours very truly

Geo. C. Stokes

Geo

August 5th., 1939

Mr. George C. Stokes,  
Streator, Ill.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 27th. Please pardon my delay in answering, but I asked Mr. Straw to check up on this property as to taxes and so forth and he submitted the report today.

The taxes on the property are, of course, many years in arrears- mostly since 1932.

The State and County taxes from 1932 to 1938 amount to \$567.07, and it is possible while this settlement is going on you could get same adjusted at a saving of from \$100.00 to \$150.00, but, of course, this is only a guess on Mr. Straw's part.

I am having these kind of battles myself and everyone else who has been going through this terrible situation of distress. Taxes are pushing up continually instead of being reduced, and scarcely a day goes by that I do not get a notice to appear before some Equalization Board to show why my taxes should not be raised.

Sharyland school still sticks to the 50% rate of twenty years ago and has not raised values. Of course, we are hard up as the devil, but it will be over my protest that the Board tries to raise the rate or taxes.

The school taxes amount to \$428.20 and I could scarcely ask the board for a reduction on these taxes, as we would have to do it down the line for every ody and we simply cannot.

Your irrigation taxes amount to \$1431.85, which includes interest to 8/10/39, amounting to \$396.69. Now if you could get that paid up, since I have been absorbing a loss of about \$1600.00 a year for the last three years, it will help us out materially, and, of course, I will give you a liberal discount. You can forget the \$396.69 interest as I know you need such help.

Now the trouble about this flat tax matter is that the 1932 tax will have to be paid before the 10th. of the month, as under our credit arrangements we would be obliged to bring suit to keep

#2.

it from being barred by the Statute of Limitation, so wish you would please remit that right away. I would surely hate to sue a good friend of mine but I am powerless in the matter.

As to taking on your land or selling it that is just impossible at present. I own more land than I can possibly pay taxes on, unless we get back to the old times when land was a good investment and earned enough at least to pay taxes and leave something for milk.

Now, Mr. Stokes you have a good piece of land but your trees have been badly neglected and Roy says it looks like only about four acres of your trees left, the balance of the land being farmed. There are two small Mexican shacks on the northeast corner.

Please let me hear from you promptly about this matter, and if we can help you out any on the State and County taxes by going over to the Court House shall certainly be glad to do so.

In reference the 1933 flat tax of \$147.88, of course, I know you would not take advantage of an honest debt on account of statute of limitation running on this amount.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely

JHS:LB

Hollis Rankin & L. A. Smith: Please hold up judgment on the item below until you hear from me. If she is even interested in paying the State & County and School taxes without our flat rate, that would help all of us itself. In the meantime please learn the very least you can settle for and I will try to collect it for you. Please give me these figures as soon as possible.

June 25, 1942

(Leon H. Brown)

398  
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Mrs. Geo. C. Stokes  
Route #2  
Streator, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Stokes: In re: Lot 282, JHS SubDiv., 36.97 acres  
Pearl Perry Stokes, Owner

Learning that judgment was to be taken June 29th against above premises at Edinburg, Texas, by the State & County and in which suit Sharyland Independent School District is an intervener, and that you would probably lose above premises, I today talked to attorneys for both the State and County and School District, who agreed to hold up judgment a reasonable time until I could hear from you and advise with them relative to payment by you of taxes and flat rate on above premises. If judgment was taken June 29th, the property would thereafter be sold at sheriff's sale, and unless you paid the taxes and bought it in you of course would lose title to premises.

In order to assist you in holding premises, if such is your desire, we are willing to make a drastic cut in what you owe for flat rate, and attorneys for the State & County and School have both told me they would be willing to make a substantial cut if you desired to pay same. I will get their figures for you, if you write me you are interested, and ask them to make as drastic a cut as possible in view of what we are willing to do, and will advise you, if you write me you are interested and want to take advantage thereof.

As you probably know, 10 years flat rate, of \$147.88 each year, plus 10% interest, beginning with flat rate due October 10, 1932, is past due on premises, a total of \$1478.80 principal, and interest due thereon to June 1, 1942, brings the total of flat rate and interest up to the sum of \$2242.94, which would pay flat rate up to that to become due October 10, 1942.

As a special proposition for immediate acceptance and payment by you, we hereby offer to accept the sum of \$591.52 as payment in full of flat rate up to October 10, 1942, which is waiving almost three-fourths of what you owe, and accepting a little more than only one-fourth. This waives \$1651.42. Such a drastic cut is offered only because it may be the means of letting you hold title instead of losing it in suit already filed.

I understand the State & County taxes are \$510.00, and the Sharyland School taxes are \$605.97. If you are interested in paying them if they will make a drastic cut, write me and I will get their best proposition, on which the school board and the county commissioners will have to act. Am sending copy of this letter to the attorney for the school board and also for the State & County, who informed me they would be glad to await your reply to this letter, and if you are willing to pay the taxes, they will try to get a substantial cut for you and advise you, before taking judgment. Please let me hear from you by return mail.

Very truly yours,  
Atty.

FOR UNITED IMMIGRATION COMPANY

LRB/j

cc-L. A. Smith, Mission  
Hollis Rankin, Edinburg

UIC  
Geo. C. Stokes bond  
Lot 282 file

CORPORATE BOND

BACK COVER

Streator, Illinois,  
June 28, 1942.

United Irrigation Company,  
Mission, Texas.  
Attention Mr. L.H. Brown:

Dear Mr. Brown: In reply to your letter of June 25 relative to back taxes and water rent due on Lot 282 JHS SubDiv., I wish to say that I would be glad to accept your offer of \$591.52 to settle the claims of the United Irrigation Company against the above described tract, if the State and County and the Sharyland School will vote to make a like proportionate reduction in their tax claims.

Thanking you for the reduction in behalf of the water company and for your letter to me explaining the matter of the stay of judgement, I am,  
Yours very truly,

*Pearl Perry Stokes*

Mrs. Pearl Perry Stokes.



OFFICE OF COUNTY AUDITOR

B. F. MCKEE  
COUNTY AUDITOR

D. C. HOGAN  
FIRST ASSISTANT



B. D. COOK  
ASSISTANT

A. KENNETH REIS  
ASSISTANT

EDINBURG, TEXAS

July 3, 1942

Leon H. Brown, Atty.  
Mission, Texas.

Dear Mr. Brown:

Hollis Rankin and I heartily agree in granting you the pleasure (?) of forwarding the inclosed tax statements on Lot 282, Shary tract to Mrs. Pearl P. Stokes. The statements show the amount of original taxes and the amount to settle the 1941 and prior years taxes to the State and County.

We appreciate your offer to collect the State and County taxes along with your account, and wish you success.

While our reduction of taxes is not so drastiv as that of the U.I.C.'s, we are giving a very fair discount.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W.H. Kilgore".

W.H. Kilgore

July 18, 1942

37  
148  
592

Mrs. Pearl Perry Stokes  
(Mrs. George C. Stokes)  
Route #2  
Streator, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Stokes:

In re: Lot 282, John H. Shary Subdiv., 36.97 ac

As per my letter of July 1, I have finally secured all figures on your state and county taxes and school taxes, just recently the school tax amounts. You hope to get satisfactory reduction and pay all of same at once.

The figures of school and state and county are, of course, in as lenient a reduction as United Irrigation Company, as I pointed out in my letter they could not be legally, but they show a substantial reduction, being nearly one-half by state and county and nearly one-fifth by school, which is the hardest to get out as they are not cutting any ordinarily, and need badly every dollar due them. Those two, however, represent a saving of about \$500.00, so I am sure you will want to send your checks at once. The saving of \$500.00 on school and state and county plus nearly \$1,050 flat rate, makes a saving for you of more than \$1500.00.

Figures on original taxes are as follows:

	<u>Present Taxes</u>	<u>Adjustment Offered</u>
Sharyland School, 1932-41 (inc.)	\$613.31 613.31	\$504.61
State and county, 1932-41 (inc.)	812.55 812.55	422.07
United Irrigation Company flat rate due 10/10/32 to 10/10/42	1,651.42 2242.94	591.52
	<u>\$2,077.28</u> 3668.80	<u>\$1,518.20</u>

\$2150.60 saving  
\$1559.08

With such a saving above, being \$559.08, and you last chance for reduction, I am sure you will want to take advantage of it. The state and county and United Irrigation Company figures are definite, and L. A. Smith, attorney for Sharyland School, is sure the school board will approve his taxes, but they must pass on them. Figures are for payment in July, so I suggest you send them direct your checks, or if you sent the three checks to me made out to United Irrigation Company, Sharyland Independent School District, and Clay Everhard, Hidalgo County Tax Collector, I will deliver your checks and secure receipts, and won't deliver your school check until they are ready to approve and give you receipt, and will get the suit dismissed which was filed by state and county for foreclosure.

3077.28  
1518.20  
1559.08

3668.80  
1518.20  
2150.60

EDINBURG, TEXAS

September 9, 1942

9-10-42  
Kellie agreed to  
hold up judgment  
for us to get title.  
JHR

Mr. León H. Brown  
Attorney at Law  
Mission, Texas

In Re: E-593, State of Texas  
vs. George C. Stokes, et al

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that the above entitled number and cause has been called for trial on Monday morning, September 21, 1942 at 9:30 A.M.

Please make your arrangements to be present at that time. I am very anxious to dispose of this case, when the same is called for trial.

Very truly yours,

WAITE & KERN

BY J. H. Rankin

HHR:eas

Strickland, Ewers & Wilkins

Lot 282, JHS SubDiv. 36.97 ac - Pearl Perry Stokes, Owner (R 2,  
Streator, Illinois)

September 10, 1942

Attached hereto is foreclosure abstract originally dated September 22, 1941, and rechecked on November 22, 1941 and on March 5th and on September 10, 1942 with no change.

Will you please file foreclosure suit against the property at once for flat rate. Flat rate statement is attached showing nearly \$2300.00 flat rate and interest due, of which principal is \$ 1478.80

Today Hollis Rankin agreed to hold up taking judgment on a suit the State & County and Sharyland School District has pending until we try to get title, and he and Mr. L. A. Smith are agreeable that the offer made to Mrs. Stokes for adjustment of their taxes be offered us, plus a little interest since accumulated of course, and we assured Rankin and Smith that if we got title, we would pay the State & County and School taxes if they allowed that offer to stand in our favor. We are sorry Mrs. Stokes did not take advantage of our lenient offer to discount nearly \$600.00 principal and interest. We thought a buyer was going to handle it once but he did not.

Note on the back of the copy of skeleton abstract the notation by Clifford Peterson about Louis M. Cantu and wife being on said land, and saying they were renting through Gregg Wood. I know of no claims by Gregg Wood and you may want to join him unless he tells you he has no claims. I don't know if Cantu is still on the land but can find out if you desire.

Brown

LHB/j  
cc-W. H. Kilgore  
Hollis Rankin  
L. A. Smith  
UICo

D.F. STRICKLAND  
J.F. EWERS  
J.E. WILKINS

LAW OFFICES  
**STRICKLAND, EWERS AND WILKINS**  
MISSION, TEXAS

October 15, 1942.

United Irrigation Company,  
Mission, Texas.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with authorization from Mr. Melden, we have settled with Scott Ford the case of United Irrigation Company vs. Pearl Perry Stokes involving Lot 282, Shary Subdivision.

We enclose check of Scott Ford which covers four years flat rate ending October 10, 1942, together with half of the interest thereon, amounting to a total of \$665.14. We also enclose check of Fred Theis for \$147.88 which covers the current flat rate beginning October 10, 1942.

Will you please authorize the dismissal of this suit and send us a certificate showing all flat rate paid up to and including October 10, 1943?

Yours very truly,

STRICKLAND, EWERS AND WILKINS

By



JFE:EM  
Enc.