

Phoenix, Arizona,

October, 26, 1942.

Hon. Sidney P. Osborn, Gov. of Arizona.

State House,

Phoenix, Arizona.

Dear sir:

I very much regret to write you this protest as I have approved most of the things you have done since you became Gov. Dont get me wrong, I am not protesting as an agitator as some I know have done, but as a friend and supporter.

The subject is your request for the soldiers at Ft. Huachua to pick the long staple cotton. Would it not have been better to have asked that ALL U.S. soldiers located in Arizona be furloughed for that purpose? It has not been so long ago that you bestowed a hundred purse on the champion cotton picker at Eloy. He was white.

There is approximately as many white as colored soldiers in this state, and from the above it appears that whites are even better cotton pickers than colored. There are hundreds of colored soldiers in this state who know nothing about picking cotton, and I presume the same is true of white soldiers. Since your idea is to get the cotton picked make it all inclusive. Your failure to make it all inclusive is the basis of my protest. I think you will agree that this is no time to put forward segregated undemocratic ideas.

I have volunteered to pick cotton one day already, and expect to do more, but let us all do it together and not separately, there is and has been entirely too much of this segregated business already for the good of the country.

I am

Your friend and supporter



Wm. R. Smith,
#8 N. 15th. St.,
Phoenix, Arizona.