

Put
File to
B.H.S.

~~11/29/60~~

Bob Fib

12/12/60

November 25, 1960

Mrs. Albert Knopf, President
Ash Fork Woman's Club
Box 276
Ash Fork, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Knopf:

This is in reference to your letter of September 28th to Governor Fannin, as well as your letter of November 18th. Your first letter was referred to my attention at a time when I was out of the city, and I must hasten to apologize for the delay in my reply. We have had three very important series of meetings with the "Governor's Committee for Industrial Arizona", and this has kept me away from my desk. I felt, however, that I would be in a better position to answer your letters after these meetings.

The Governor, Barney Mergen of the Arizona Development Board and the newly formed (retired industrialists) "Governor's Committee for Industrial Arizona", under the Co-Chairmanship of Mr. Roland D. Feltman of Scottsdale and Mr. D. Edwin Gamble of Tucson, have been working very hard on a long range program for attracting selected types of industry in many smaller communities in the State that require some new boost to their basic economic income. Your town is not unlike many others in Arizona. They have problems in water; the community not being ready for industry in regards to sewers, paved streets, lighting, hospital facilities, recreation, etc. and particularly, in the need of a master plan for long range developing of these necessary facilities. It is axiomatic that "industry does not come to the community, but the community must go to industry", and this condition makes it mandatory to be "ready" for any new industrial plant or facilities before it starts to prospect.

Mrs. Albert Knopf
November 25, 1960
Page 2.

My job is that of a liaison representative between our office and the Arizona Development Board, and during the last eighteen months I have been in practically every community in the State that is large enough to support a chamber of commerce, talking about the matters I have just outlined regarding industrial development. May I suggest that through you or some organization within the community that you plan a meeting and invite Barney Mergen and myself, or possibly Mr. Feltman, to this meeting to discuss a plan for meeting the objectives you mentioned in your letters. If this could be set up sometime in January, I am sure we could either drive up or fly and spend an afternoon or an evening. At this meeting, all of your community leaders, important business people and various officials should be in attendance.

If this meeting is held, please remind me to discuss the Medcor plan. This is a group of doctors interested in establishing a medical facility in Arizona, but will require a great deal of capital on the part of the community or private persons to fulfill the obligations in connection with their program.

I apologize again for the delay in answering your first letter. In regard to your letter of November 18th, I think you know that Governor Fannin is in South America at a Governor's Conference and will not return until next week.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you and appreciate your sincere interest and that of the Ash Fork Woman's Club in trying to find a solution to your economic problems as a result of Santa Fe having moved out of your community.

Very sincerely,

Boyd H. Gibbons, Jr.
Special Assistant to the Governor
Industrial Development

blcc: Barney Mergen
Roland D. Feltman