

STATE TREASURER: CONSCIENCE MONEY: How disposed of by
State Treasurer.

3-28
March 27, 1934



Honorable Richard R. Nacy
State Treasurer
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Sir:

Answering the oral request of Mr. H. S. Johnson as to what disposition you should make of a certain sum of money received by you as State Treasurer and which you term "conscience money".

"Conscience money" is defined in Webster's New International Dictionary to be:

"Money paid to relieve the conscience by rendering or restoring, usually anonymously, what has been wrongfully acquired or withheld, as a tax payment; such money paid into the United States treasury is called the conscience fund."

We have searched all the available digests and text-books and have been unable to find a decision on the question presented by you.

If Webster is correct in saying that a "conscience fund" is carried in the United States Treasury, we see no reason why you should not set up a like fund and deposit there-to such moneys as above referred to. The moneys in such fund could thereafter be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purposes as it might deem fit.

Very truly yours,

GILBERT LAMB
Assistant Attorney General,

APPROVED:

ROY MCKITTRICK
Attorney General.

GE:LC