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Congressman Ralph F. Lozier 1414 House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lozier:

Ralph Junior was in the office last Saturday telling me that he had had a conversation with you the night before over the telephone about the senatorial race. As I recall it now, he stated in substance that you were afraid that the St. Louis papers, together with the Kansas City Star, would oppose your candidacy because you would be backed by the Pendergast organization. He talked over with me the advisability of talking to Mr. Roy Roberts, managing editor of the Kansas City Star. I advised him that I had to be in Kansas City Monday anyway and I would be glad to talk to Mr. Roberts if I could make an appointment. Accordingly, I called Mr. Roberts and made the appointment for 11:00 Monday. Ralph Junior and I were both of the opinion that a conference could do no harm and that it might help some.

I had a very pleasant ten minutes visit with Mr. Roberts. He stated to me at the start of the conversation that neither he nor any member of the Star staff could at this time make any pledge in the Senate race. He said that Mr. Aylward was one of the attorneys for the Star and while he did not think that Mr. Aylward would run, that George Wallace was of the opinion that he would run. However, he did state that it was his understanding that Aylward would make an announcement one way or the other within a week. I then asked him to give your candidacy very serious consideration in case you decided to enter, and the substance of his reply was that he had known you for many years and admired your ability and courage, and said that personally he would very seriously consider the support of your candidacy in case you decided to enter. He made no commitment as to what effect the Pendergast support would have. I found him personally

very friendly, but, of course, he would make no commitment at this time.

I then went to the office of Mrs. Halterman, thinking that perhaps she had talked to Mr. Howell after his return from Washington. I found that she was anxious to talk to me about your candidacy and was very much interested in it. She also stated to me that Mr. Howell had a talk with Mr. Aylward and also Congressman Shannon and both of them told him definitely that they would not run. She then volunteered the information that if you decided to get into the race that she thought you would have no difficulty in getting it reasonably financed.

I was in Columbus Saturday to attend the memorial services in honor of the late Dean Park of the Missouri Law School. It was a very excellent meeting and a good many lawyers from over the state were present. I saw Lue there and we discussed the senatorial situation as we ate at the banquet and I had quite a conversation with Kenneth Teasdale of St. Louis. Kenneth, as you know, is one of the leaders among the younger group of Democrats there and he is very much interested in your candidacy. He told me that none of the St. Louis leaders liked the way that Senator Clark brought out Milligan and that none of them was consulted before the announcement was made. Furthermore, they do not like the fact that Clark was trying to select his own colleague in the Senate and in this way attempt to dominate all federal patronage in the state. I also talked with John Dalton, Marshal of the Supreme Court, whose home is in Dunklin County, and confidentially he does not think that Mr. Meredith will file if you should decide to get in the race. I discussed with Lue the advisability of somebody getting busy right away to ascertain how Igoe, Judge Dan Taylor, Mayor Dickmann and Charley Hay would be with reference to your candidacy. I am today taking the liberty of writing Russell Dearmont to see what reaction I can get there.

I talked to John Barker in Columbia Saturday and he does not think that a Kansas City man can be nominated. His view of it is that if a Kansas City man runs that Milligan will be sure to be the nominee. He said also that with you in the race that he did not think the late Kansas City election would have any effect whatever in the campaign.

There seems to be a general impression throughout the state that Mr. Barker is right and that no Kansas City man can be nominated because any man they would choose there would be active in the last city election. However, this does not seem to apply at all

to Kansas City support of an outstate man. Personally, I do not see how Milligan is in the position to raise any issue of boss support for the reason that he sought for and accepted the Pendergast support two years ago. Now the strength of his candidacy depends upon the support of one man, namely, Senator Clark.

I realize that the decision you will have to make is a very difficult one, but I feel that you cannot delay it very long. At least I do not believe it should be delayed very many days after Aylward definitely announces his position. From what I can hear in Kansas City it is their very definite understanding that Aylward will not run.

As to the newspaper support, my guess would be that the St. Louis Post Dispatch and St. Louis Star would oppose anybody that the Pendergast organization would support. I may be wrong in this, but as you know that organization has been the aversion of Curtis Betts for many years and the attitude has been similar. However, with Milligan seeking and accepting that support two years ago, I don't see how they could consistently oppose you for accepting it now. Of course, both of these St. Louis newspapers opposed Senator Wilson for Governor for the nomination. I do not know how much influence they had, but as you remember Senator Dearmont carried St. Louis. That was before there was any such thing as a Democratic organization in St. Louis, however, such as they have now.

Those whom I have talked to think you can get the nomination provided you can get the right line-up in St. Louis. The general feeling is that that is the key to the situation.

If you decide to make the race for Senator, wire us right away and it won't take us very long to organize a Lozier for Senator Club.

Please pardon the length of this, but I wanted to try and give you as near an accurate view of the situation as I found it as is possible.

Very truly yours,

SRT/rw

P. S. You will be interested in knowing that the talk around Columbia is that the Board of Curators of the University is giving very serious consideration to the appointment of Judge Atwood as Dean of the Law School in the place of Dean Park who recently died.