

April 18, 1938.

Mr. Albert P. Newell,
414 Green Street,
Ogdenburg, N. Y.

Dear Albert:

It was, indeed, a delight and pleasure to get your letter of April 15th.

I appreciate what you have to say. I have no interest in this political situation in Kansas City, except that of a resident, citizen and taxpayer. Our city is suffering in a business way, and in every other way, from the strangle-hold that has been obtained upon it by a bunch of men that operate a system that is primarily for their own benefit. Of course, if everybody else could get along, at the same time, it would be allright. They judge how business is by their own business, which is usually very good, because they have more or less of a monopoly on all public work, and a lot of other things and then they finance the system through gambling and other concessions. It is hurting all other classes of business and keeping people away from here. But it seems the majority like it and if that is what they want, I guess I can stand it, although it grates on my nerves, a good deal, to just be a subject. There are so many ramifications and connections that the system has, with people, that they control the votes. I do not think politics should have anything to do with it. In fact, the Democratic Organization here is merely a vehicle for the situation. In some other cities the so-called Republican Party is the same vehicle.

I was talking to some men, today, who were kicking themselves because they did not do differently, even in the recent election, because they find that the destruction of property was stopped, only temporarily, and has been resumed, now, and a lot of these business men are wringing their hands and do not know what to do to get protection, etc.

I am glad you wrote me. I see Mr. and Mrs. Burnap, every once in awhile. They are fine people.

Whenever you are out this way, be sure and look up up. We would be mighty glad to see you.

By the way, I am a grandfather, now. My daughter, Serena, has a fine, bouncing baby girl, about two months old. My son, Sam, graduates in June from the Yale Law School, where he is having a fine record. He is to speak at the Yale Law School banquet, in New York City, on April 29th, as representative of the Law School.

Again thanking you for your letter and with kindest regards, I am

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Yours very truly,
[Ellison A. Neel]