

J. W. EMORY

LENA EMORY

EMORY'S MARKET

GROCERIES, MEATS AND PRODUCE

East Prairie, Mo.

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June 5, 1938

Governor Lloyd C. Stark

Jefferson City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Lines are sharply drawn in the case of James M. Douglas and James V. Billings of which you know I stand one hundred per-cent for your friend Douglas. The situation now is the most acute in Mississippi County that I and others have decided that beyond a doubt we need a Douglas Club of some sort to handle the political situation in this county. The so-called "Pendergast

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machine" is well organized and if it clicks, as in the past, there is no doubt in my mind but what James V. Billings of Kennett will receive seventy-five per-cent of our votes. I know we have a short time and a hard fight in sight.

A group of my friends are very anxious and willing to give their time and money to support your cause and are asking your advice and who we can contact unquestionably for Judge Douglas and yourself. We will need literature and information and that we want mailed to East Prairie, Missouri

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to the Douglas Club in care of me.

Our County committee is not functioning. They now stand decided four to three in favor of Billings. Mr. David Bright of East Prairie, Mo.; Mr Harry Roberts of East Prairie, Mo; and Mr. E.

C. Davis of East Prairie, Mo. are the main “triggers” of the Pendergast machine in East Prairie and south and they are one hundred per-cent “Pendergastites.”

At Charleston, our county seat, the Pendergast machine consists of Danforth Joshlyn, our present representative, Mr. Simpson, your road commissioner, P. D. Davis, and Jimmie Brown, head of W.P.A.

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project in this county, of which we have at present twenty-one hundred votes. In the past they have been voting them one hundred per-cent. That “block of oats” will go to Billings [*text stricken through*] unless in some way we can break the power of that machine and our opinion is that you should by all means put the “pressure” on Mr. Simpson, your present road commissioner, and have him for once put on the spot and deliver the goods of which you are deserving.

Mr. Simpson has been told by the machine that they expected him to stand by and for them and I can't see in my mind how he can serve two masters. I know that he has told you he is for you

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just what he has promised the Pendergast Machine is unknown to me. All of these vital questions are for you to solve and for me to help and I am willing to do all I can. Your letters will be held strictly confidential in our club head quarters. You solve your own problems as you see fit. We will be closely in touch with your state head quarters and head-quarters at Charleston and other state clubs. We'll carry on a hard-fight straight campaign and go down the line for judge Douglas, yourself, and your administration.

Yours very truly,

J.W. Emory

East Prairie, Mo.