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THE FOOTMAN

Hirth Supports Judge Douglas

BY WILLIAM HIRTH

In Missouri Ruralist

It isn't often that I discuss partisan politics in these columns, but the battle which has been launched by the Pender- machine to get control of Missouri's Supreme Court, and in so doing to "teach Governor Stark a lesson," this situation presents such a remarkable example of political boss is gone mad that I desire to briefly state my views on the matter to my readers.

Judge Douglas is a man of the highest standing as a jurist and citizen so much so that in an ordinary campaign he would have no opposition, for it is generally conceded that he is an ornament to Missouri's highest court. Years ago our ablest lawyers eagerly sought Supreme Court membership, for in those days it was considered a great honor. When a man of the caliber of Judge Douglas is willing to serve on the Court the people should support him as a matter of course regardless of politics. But the big boss in Kansas City doesn't like him and likewise he has grown to hate Governor Stark, for these reasons he is moving heaven and earth to defeat Douglas through his "Cat's paw" Bill-ings. Mr. Pendergast is trying to get control of the Supreme Court, because if it may be remembered last winter Governor Stark demanded the approximately \$1,720,000 be returned to the policy holders and when this issue reached the Supreme Court, four of the judges including judge Douglas sided with the Governor's contention, while the other three were opposed, and that this decision caused wailing and gnashing of teeth in the Pendergast camp goes without saying.

Another thing that has a great deal of opposition to Stark by the machine was when the Boss desired that O'Malley be re-appointed as State Superintendant of Insurance. Stark refused to commit himself, and some months later when O'Malley insolent over the Governor's demands that the insurance funds impounded at Jefferson City be returned in their entirety to the policy holders, he fired O'Malley and about the same time he refused to appoint the kind of election commissioners Pendergast demanded at Kansas City—Stark had repeatedly said during his campaign that he was for honest elecstion and

he has made good his promise by appointing election commissioners who have removed thousands of ghosts from the notorious padded Kansas City registration rolls.

What we are observing in this instance is a case of a battle between two judges for a particular seat on the bench of our highest court but a contest between the Honorable Governor of our state and the notorious Kansas City boss. Kansas City undoubt- shall go in a large majority for Billings, St. Louis shall return just about the same percentage for Douglas, so it's up to the rural voters to make their own decision and after carefully studying all the facts draw their own conclusions.

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Club Meeting

The Democratic Equal Rights Club met last Friday and discussed some important business matters also appointed some of their members as spies on the different WPA projects in the county to report any case of intimidation or attempts to influence the WPA workers in the coming Primary Election. The members wish to express their regrets that they were not in a position to entertain one of the WPA Superintendants who seemed to be anxious to attend the meeting, but it was decided that he or any other official may attend meetings held, which may prove of great interest to them.

The matter was taken up of getting some of our unemployed members on WPA. It was decided that the fellow to see was Phillip Land, our City Clerk, who has been very successful in placing the unemployed on WPA projects in the past few months. We also know that when Phillip learns that our club expects these workers to be left free to vote as they please, that he will gladly co-operate with us regardless of orders from some of the Over lords. It was also agreed that it was proper for the WPA workers to pretend to favor certain candidates that they knew the Over Lords were obliged to support, in order that the workers might get this much needed employment.

A past experience of two years ago was related, at that time the government was paying rent on the Bagnall building for Berkley Hall and Raymond Yancey; chairs were provided also a desk for their feet and Yancey bummed his

cigarettes from the fellows who came in search of WPA employment. These two gentlemen were supposed to be the sole judges of who should get WPA jobs in the county and their entire stock in trade seemed to be "We haven't got anything for you today." among the many that were daily callers in search of employment was Al Hayner, commonly called "Dad" by his many friends who are numbered by his acquaintances. Dad had been without work for three months, shortly before the primary he happened to

meet a friend on the street who told him how to get the job done. He must promise to vote just so. Now "Dad" was voting the Democrat ticket when these would be politicians were wearing three cornered pants and he always voted as he pleased and did that year, but he was foxy enough to say, "Pm your huckelberry", so his card was sent direct to him with many others who were smart enough to say the same thing, and Berkley and Yancey were not even obliged to take their feet of the desk during the entire transaction.

In that same year things became so warm for Mr. Ritters- bacher that he visited the different projects in the county and told the workers they were free and could vote as they pleased. His name will probably go down in history far this as a second Abraham Lincoln—the year this bird and his henchmen are more desperate, they must deliver the goods or get kicked out, and that is why this club was organized to stop this "Monkey business".

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Political Announcements

COUNTY CANDIDATES

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1938

For Probate Judge

T. H. HARVEY

For County Collector

L. G. (Less) BOATRIGHT

CLIFF B. GOODWIN

W. M. (Bill) HUSTON

For County Clerk

CHARLEY PIPER

DAN LYNCH

For Circuit Clerk

PERCY M. BROWN

JOHN W. JOHN

For Recorder

L. R. MEAD

For Treasurer

H. C. (Pete) YOUNG

For Presiding Judge

G. R. HUTCHERSON

ROBERT L. HYATT

For Associate Judge (1st Dist.

C. B. (Boyd) DAVIS

For Prosecuting Attorney

LAMKIN JAMES

For Constable

(Marshall Township)

W. H. BRIDGES

BOYD E. HANES

For Judge Supreme Court

(Division One)

JAMES V. BILLINGS

Right now and until further notice most cities would rather have the measles than a population boom.

Say "I'm For Billings"

If you want to get work on the WPA
There's certain magic words you must learn to say.

Say, I'm for Billings

Then if after you get this work
You feel lazy and would like to shirk

Say, I'm for Billings

Or you might be late to work some day
Maybe would like to have a little more pay.

Say I'm for Billings.

If you want to get off early and go to town
And do a little meandering around

Say, I'm for Billings

Let the big shots think they're having their way
Until August the second that's election day.

Then to H - - - with Billings

For we'll pan handle enough to buy a jug
Then we'll each and all line up for Doug
And it's bye bye Billings

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