

TIMES PRINTING COMPANY
PRINTERS LITHOGRAPHERS STATIONERS
PHOTOGRAPHERS PHOTO-ENGRAVERS

Publishers of THE BOWLING GREEN TIMES

Telephone 38

BOWLING GREEN, MISSOURI

July 19, 1938

Hon. Lloyd C. Stark,
Governor of Missouri,
Jefferson City, Mo.,

Dear Governor Stark:-

In calling you on the telephone this afternoon, it was not my purpose to solicit an advertisement for Judge Douglas.

The situation was simply this. I had received information which I considered authentic that at the last minute the Billings forces were going to make a concerted effort to carry Pike county for Billings in order to discredit you in your own county.

Among other things, display advertising was to be carried in the newspapers of the county, being handled by the Barrons Advertising Agency in Kansas City, in the last issue before the election.

In order to offset this effort I felt that you should have this information so that you would be aware of just what was afoot and could be prepared to meet it in whatever way you deemed best.

I am informed on reliable information that some of the other newspapers in the county have had some pressure put on them not to take a hand in this race and they have discussed this matter with me, however this newspaper has not been approached as we

have been carrying articles concerning Judge Douglass and it probably was assumed to be useless.

There is an undercurrent in the county among former office holders who have served in state positions to praise you as a Governor, but to slyly insinuate that the party is being injured by your disagreement with Pendergast. This, of course, is the most subtle propaganda which could possibly be used.

Page Two.

I believe, of course that Judge Douglas will carry the county upon your recommendation, unless something unforeseen happens, and this was my purpose in calling you this afternoon, as I am quite sure you know me well enough to know that I would not call you merely to sell an advertisement in my newspaper to Judge Douglas.

This paper believes that you are right in your opposition to Pendergast and that in so doing you are rendering the democratic party a splendid service and if, to maintain our respect as a party, it should be necessary to disrupt the party, it is much better than to permit a cancer to devour us slowly but surely.

I cannot believe the purging of the democratic party from this element will result in any permanent injury, but do believe it will be much stronger in the long run.

Pardon this long letter, but I wanted you to have the facts and if there is anything I can do here in the county, please feel free to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Bonham E. Freeman.

bef/o

Treat this letter confidentially and do not put too much reliance in pg