

Fort Scott - Kansas

July - 20 - 38.

Governor Stark

Jefferson City, Mo.

My Dear Governor;-

Being a native of Missouri I am naturally interested in the state. I admire the stand you have taken against the Pendergast rule in Kansas City , It is a wonderful thing to have a Governor who is really Governor and will not permit Pendergast to give you orders what to do , That has been the trouble in the past as other Governors that Missouri have had , have not had the courage and the nerve to stand for right , Fraudulent votes that have been cast at elections in K.C. during past years have make Kansas City a city of shame to many residents of other states.

Many poeple of the great State of Missouri do not know how far reaching this man Pendergast's power is , This little city is only four miles from the Missouri line , Just across the line there have been several Liquor establishments have been doing a record business , They are patronized to a large extent by residents of this city , They have been known at time to have gambling room in connection.

I am enclosing you a clipping out of a paper in reference to a man by the name of Bunn , who is a Fort Scott resident , he has been very prosperous , a year ago or more he killed a man in his place of business , the man was a liquor salesman from Joplin he got free of the trouble , I think his license was taken away , but in a shorttime was returned to him as he is operating now on a larger scale than ever before.

The information I want to give you is that some time ago a Liquor Salesman called on him to try to sell him but Bunn informed him that he could not give him an order as he had to buy all his liquor from the Pendergast Wholesale Liquor Co. in Kansas City and that he did not dare sell any other , Because by his handling only Pendergast Liquor he could do most anything he wanted to and get away with it , but if he dared handle any other he would be punished . That is why Pendergast controls votes out in the State. I just thought I give you this information for what good it may or may not be. I am a friend of yours , have met you , but am not signing my name to this letter for fear it might fall in wrong hands in some way. some day I will give you my name. until then I will say .

Your Friend

A HUNG JURY IN BUNN TRIAL AT NEVADA, MO.

Nevada, Mo. —A 12-man jury in circuit court here late yesterday refused to award \$10,000 to the Maryland Casualty and Insurance Company which through a widow, Mrs. Harry White, brought suit against John Bunn, liquor dealer, as an outgrowth of the death

of Mrs. White's husband over a year ago.

The jury reported to the court that it could not agree on a verdict and was discharged after deliberating from 3:10 to 5:30 o'clock. Reports were that half of the jury favored returning a verdict of \$1 and costs and the remainder a verdict of no damages. No petition asking a new trial or other legal action had been filed today.

White died after being wounded by what officers said was the accidental discharge of a revolver in the Bunn liquor store near the Kansas line. He was a Joplin, Mo liquor salesman. Bunn was exonerated at an inquest. The widow was said to have received a settlement, but was named a party to the suit just tried. The shooting occurred January 12, 1937.