

Speas Mfg. Co.

Marionville, Missouri

July 30, 1938

His Excellency, Governor Lloyd C. Stark

Jefferson City, Missouri

My dear Governor:

Permit me to congratulate you and commend you on the stand you have taken and the vigorous work you have done in behalf of Judge Douglas, the Democratic party of the State of Missouri and your fight for true Democracy. My idea of Democracy, my dear Governor, is not the Pendergast machine-made kind and your expose of the Kansas City machine has been of great value to the State of Missouri whether we lose or win the fight for Judge Douglas.

With the unlimited money behind the Kansas City machine, with the absolute disregard of truth, decency and honor in their publications, speeches and methods, with the WPA administrator in the state taking men and women from employers and giving them lucrative positions on the WPA so as to vote them, with all the State Departments, except your Departments, scouring the State in behalf of the Kansas City machine (I have seen more Jefferson City automobiles around this part of the country in the last two or three weeks than I have ever seen in the last twelve years, including your Jefferson City Chief of Police, Mr. Ward Mackey, who has been campaigning in Lawrence, Stone and Barry counties for Billings for the last ten days or two weeks, bringing a list of prominent Democrats with him from Jefferson City) so, in view of the above, it would be a miracle if true and decent Democracy would prevail next Tuesday. Regardless of the results, you have retained your self respect, honor and a clear conscience. "You have fought a good fight and you have kept the faith" for decency in politics.

I was much chagrined that I was compelled to be away from home and my office here when you were in Aurora and Marionville last Thursday. It was matters over which I have no control which took me away, for you see, in common with Jack Garner, I am working for a living now.

Most sincerely,

S. P. Lidell.

SPL:BM

P. S. Mr. Lee G. Jackson, of Kansas City, Missouri, came in our office as we were writing the above. He asked me to add a postscript and say that he is for you 100%; he also said that he was confident that Judge Douglas would carry Kansas City, which to me sounds almost too good to be true.