

RESOLUTION

We denounce as subversive and destructive of popular government the political system in Kansas City which records upon the books of registry a fraudulent pad of tens of thousands of names; which appoints four election commissioners recreant and faithless to their official oath; selects dishonest and treacherous judges and clerks of election; commandeers trained gunmen to terrorize honest judges and clerks and to prevent qualified voters from exercising the sacred privilege of franchise; which intimidates and coerces thousands of business and professional men; fosters and protects dives and dens, the breeding ground of election repeaters; colonizes floaters and establishes a chain of pay-off stations in furtherance of a conspiracy to debauch the ballot; foists upon the people a corrupt and viscious Police Department, many employees of which prey upon the public and protect thousands of violators of election laws; elevates to high office pliant weaklings who trade political servility for the fruits of stolen elections; cultivates a system of wholesale registration with the unbelievable spectacle of placing more than eighteen thousand names upon the registry by orders of the Circuit Court; encourages official arrogance; cheats, slugs and murders its way to an alleged victory; pollutes the very fountain-heads of justice — all directed to the malicious purpose of defeating the will of the majority, the corner stone of American Government, and which resulted on March 27, 1934, in transforming an election into a contest between ballots and bullets, to the ever-lasting disgrace of Kansas City; and

WHEREAS, the Republican party has consistently advocated and worked for honest elections as the surest guarantee of perpetuating popular government,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(1) That we, a body of Republicans and other patriotic citizens in a public meeting assembled desire to perform our part in an effort to crush this system. To that end we repudiate one Ray Horton as a Republican and a Committeeman from the First Ward and charge him with treachery to the party because of his many acts in aiding and abetting the Lazia-McElroy-Pendergast machine.

(2) We deplore the placing upon the books of registry more than eighteen thousand names by orders of the Circuit judges. We invite them to support a movement for honest elections by adopting rules of court and by urging appropriate legislation which will close the door to this form of fraudulent registration.

(3) We demand that the Governor, irrespective of the influences which selected and promoted him, take the first official step in this movement by immediately removing from office all four election commissioners of Kansas City, two of whom were appointed by him as Republicans without the endorsement of the Republican organization. We demand that the Governor replace them with a real bipartisan Board of four members, as contemplated in the Statute, who will neither be under the influence of any invisible political power nor become derelict of duty or faithless to their official trust

(4) That we reconsecrate ourselves to the public duty of wresting our local

government from the control of the public enemies and turning it back to the people.

(5) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded forthwith to the Governor of Missouri.

ADOPTED: April 7, 1934.

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