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GROVER CHILDERS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUITE 300 SHUKERT BLDG.
KANSAS CITY. MO.

PHONE Victor 8206

January 13, 1940.

Honorable Lloyd Stark,
Governor of Missouri,
Executive Office,
Jefferson City, Mo.

My Dear Governor Stark:

Not receiving any reply to my last two letters to you, I began to feel that you think my suggestions aren't necessary. I know the opinion of some of your close advisors on my judgment. I know that you get expressions of opinion on occasions which make you feel that you should question my suggestions. But notwithstanding all that, when I feel that I have definite knowledge that a certain course will be followed in matters affecting you and your administration, I hope to continue to write you my suggestions. You may continue doing as you have in the past, use them when you feel they are useful. I have nothing to gain in seeing you thrown overboard, and having pledged my support to you, and having openly endorsed your program with my friends and the citizens of Kansas City, I have nothing to gain by you being thrown over.

Knowing as I do who your personal advisors are, and knowing your close contact with Mr. E. G. Crow, one of the most astute politicians living in Missouri today, I know that if the Kansas City Machine succeeds in getting rid of you, it will be by some oversight on

the part of your very capable advisors, and over your own good judgment. However, I am going to write you the following situation:

I have received quite authentic information that the present program of the Kansas City Machine is to get you and Milligan into the Senatorial race, then throw their support behind Milligan and to beat you in the primaries--and if Milligan should be nominated; then they will throw their support to the Republicans at the fall election, and beat Milligan. They'll get rid of both of you at one stroke. That is good politics on their part, and they play that brand of politics.

You understand as well as I do, the Pendergast contacts throughout the state. You know the party leaders hostile to you in the various counties. You and I both know the strength of the court house bunch in each county. The local machine has contacts in every section of the state. I think it's the above situation that makes Senator Truman so cocksure.

I have believed all along that you will be on the National ticket. I feel now that safety for the continuation of the program inaugurated by you

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means that you must get on the national ticket! With Milligan in the race for senator and you on the national ticket, it would leave a united front for the Roosevelt program in Missouri, and one that the Pendergast machine cannot overcome. A very dangerous situation will come about with you and Milligan both in the Senatorial race. With Milligan dividing the vote with you, the entire Roosevelt forces in Missouri may receive a serious set back. I judge the President is advised of this situation. If you have not learned of their program, (and I cannot conceive of your not having information of the Pendergast proposed strategy) and if it should be overlooked in national circles, the combined forces opposing you could be in a position where they might throw you overboard. But, of course you know your plans. I think you may pardon me for calling your attention to the facts as I have learned of them. I sincerely hope that you will not feel me presumptuous in calling this situation to your attention.

Sincerely as ever,
Grover Childers

GC:IT