

COPY

June 26, 1940

Mr. Lloyd C. Stark

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I wrote you about Mr. Truman throwing my petitions off his desk then later on I said I was going to do all I could for you through the L.D.S. as Mr. Fry was given a job after being out all winter and I couldn't get out and work like I use to but Mr. Cato had filled for Sheriff and I wish the United Campaign Co. would support him. He was running independently he used to belong to the Rabbitt Club. I also said how I blamed our Mayor Mr. Sermon of laying us off but hadn't connected when to really lay the blame.

Well one day after I had hurt myself and was convelescing Mr. De Pugh came in our home he is Captain of this precinct. Although You'd never know it I've lived here 4 years and this was the first time he was ever here to see us. He was checking the precinct. I had others here to and in the course of conversation I asked him what my answer to him was 12 years ago when he wanted to run for Mayor and he repeated the exact words that I told him. "No you know our organization people and we have to support who ever they endorse but this is Mr. Sermon's third term. You better ask and I'll ask too, which I did on that very eve. I called Mr. Purcell and told him we were with them 100%. Then Mr. De Pugh called my attention the dispute over the finances of the constable's wife when she asked me to give her of the 35¢ for each suit he said she had you all nervous as she was demanding it. He said I believe it was that time she said something to Sermon.

Well right after that it was when I wrote you the first letter of course I blamed Mrs. Faunce, this DePugh had worked for me for 3 years and I could have sworn to his honesty. Well I wrote her and she wrote me back and said she would ask my pardon 100 times as she knew she had done wrong but she had never told that lie. Then Mr. Sermon

called at home in 1928 and told a driver of mine who was a friend of his to watch us as we were knifing the party. This man answered him saying, Rodge, that is a "damned lie" these people are straight. Well he was given the garbage contract through Mr. Sermons brother in law and had it up until a year or so ago.

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I belong to a club of 25 women called the Home Beautiful Club and they had a discussion about the garbage collecting in our town and appointed a committee to call on the Mayor and City Health Doctor and Mr. Cato our chief as he is a L.D.S. and they asked me to serve I refused saying, No, indeed for I know. I wouldn't visit the Mayor so right after that the collecting of garbage was changed and this man let c out.

I believed then there was some crookness afloat but I didn't say a word for this man was one of my workers too. I didn't think even then anything about it, will just after I wrote to you or it was on the same day I called on Mr. Joffee and asked him.

If it would be possible to have the United campaign to endorse Mr. Cato I just felt it was the thing to do. Mr. Cato doesn't know to this day I did but I see it all clearly now. I stepped in the City Hall one day and I said to the Mayor well I've been a long time finding out the lie you and Mr. Truman believed about us. I've told Mrs. Faunce to correct it right away. After 12 years and the next day or so Mr. DePugh filled for sheriff with Mayor Sermons endorsement against Mr. Cato. I didn't know until now that it was DePugh who really was the liar he doubled crossed me and blamed Mrs. Faunce. His wife was here polling this precinct and I told her to tell her husband. Mrs. Faunce admitted she did wrong about the money but she didn't tell the lie. I said tell Ralph I know now who did tell the lie and the same man lied again to get Sermons endorsement and I really know him and she seemed thunder struck and said I'll tell him. Now Sermon come out in the paper saying he is endorsing men for a new party its to roll the L.D.S. I know the Com. have endorsed Mr. McGuire. He is a fine man and is his first year out. I think I may have blamed Spencer Salsbury some when I was blaming Mrs. Faunce. I'm sorry there for he is alright only he has always avoided me some how and of course I was grooping in the

dark. Mr. Salisbury I guess has had lots of hard luck and I wouldn't cause him one bit of worry. I'm glad he has formed the Stark for Senator Club. You see I said our Mayor here is crooked. He has made plenty of mistakes and wouldn't take a blame just lays it on the other fellow living or dead. I know well, I was only going to write you a short note and here again I've written you a bible. I'd come to Jefferson City and talk personally to you but I've no car and \$15 a week doesn't stretch very far. You see the Mayor rolled the balls and Harry Truman threw them and I know he has thrown himself out. I wish I was stronger I'd truly get out and work. I've worried till I haven't

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slept for a week a full 5 hours. I want to tell everybody I attended a garden party and told all about Mr. Truman. There was about 30 present. I'm going 2 and 3 days a week making bandages for Red Cross and it helps me to think of something else besides the crooked mess in our beautiful town.

When I constantly read the things in our paper where Mayor Sermons ran supreme "Look what I've done". I know he isn't running and we can't do anything for 2 years. But we can have a decent Senator and a decent Governor in Mr. McReynolds and that is why I have so wanted the support of D. O. Cato. I know what a decent man he is.

Thanking you for your patience in reading these lengthy letters. I just feel I must write its as much as I can do and I want you to know I am sincere. Its not only because they threw us out its because we are decent Democrats.

Yours Mrs. L. M. Fry
404 N. Willis
Independence, Mo.

P.S.

If Mr. Fry had a regular job he and I would do all we can but we get a slip with almost every pay check to remember we cant take any active part in politics and we have been

so afraid. He is too old to get out of work again. and \$15 a week is a help. We can't think of paying off our mortgage but is help to keep us from baskets from our neighbors like last winter.