

The Call

Established 1919

Member A. B. C.

SERVING THE 940,845 NEGROES IN THE SOUTHWEST

PRINCIPAL OFFICES

KANSAS CITY, MO.

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TULSA, OKLA.

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

November 11, 1935

Mayor Lloyd C. Stark

Louisiana, Missouri

Dear Sir:

The enclosed editorial appeared this week in THE CALL of Kansas City and in the ST. LOUIS CALL. I believe present laws, if enforced, will bring to Negroes most of the things which in the past they have sought through special legislation of the civil rights type.

For Negroes, Missouri has two shortcomings which would disappear under strict enforcement of the law. One is in education. Whole areas within this state have no school for Negroes to attend. That results from a law which fixed fifteen as the number of Negro children within a school district before it was obligatory to provide them a school. By swapping laborers, a thing easy for the employing farmers to do, our children in many

sections of the state have had no schooling. Any law, fixing the requirements for Negroes in schools different from that for whites certainly violates good conscience if not the constitution.

Another shortcoming is the treatment of Negroes on busses, common carriers which have no right to handle passengers different from the railroads. They would stop immediately if asked to do so by the state board which oversees them.

I have no desire to plunge officials into the settlement of racial differences. But as long as the basic laws call for equality, we should try to elect officials who will enforce the law.

In 1928 I supported Frances Wilson. I had begun support for him in 1932 the week he died. I am well known to your chief endorser in this part of the state. I would like to know you better. May I come to you at Louisiana sometime before the primary election, bringing with me Negroes from other cities and talk over law enforcements?

I am in no hurry.

In the meanwhile I have ordered your name placed on our mail list for the next six months. I hope that you may find time to follow my efforts.

Very truly yours,

THE CALL

C. A. Franklin, Editor

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