

SPEAS MFG. CO.

Marionville, Mo.

Jan. 13, 1936

MAJOR LLOYD C. STARK

1401 GEORGIA STREET

LOUISIANA, MISSOURI

My dear Major:

Politics, both State and National have been going around in circles at such a rate since I wrote you before that it has us old fellows on the side lines so dizzy we don't know whether we are "a foot or horse back."

The above should apply more to National than to State, though it was with much interest that I read Mr. Hirth's announcement in the Sunday papers a week ago.

It required a whole lot of space for Mr. Hirth to put over his excuse or apologies for entering the Governor race. I am sure he will not cut much ice, though he has quite a following amongst the Missouri Farmer's Association, which should be counteracted by independent merchants and business men all over the state. I have talked with several of my friends about Mr. Hirth's candidacy, and we have all come to the conclusion, as the Missouri Farmer's Association store trucks are not dividing up the roads now, keeping right straight in the center, if Mr. Hirth should get to be Governor, they would occupy all of our highways. We also reasoned that as you live in Louisiana it would be a great inconvenience for you to maintain the seat of government in Kansas City, so we are confident that you will move the seat of the State government back to Jefferson City or maybe Mexico or Bowling Green would be a more convenient place, though Springfield wouldn't be so bad.

Seriously, my dear Major, I am telling my friends that you couldn't afford to tell Mr. Pendergast that you wouldn't want his support, and that I am quite sure you will be the Governor after you are inaugurated; and naturally Mr. Pendergast, the good politician he is, would throw his support to the strongest man in the field. In other words, Mr. Pendergast undoubtedly knew the late Si Leland's of Kansas axiom, that, "If you can't beat 'em, jine 'em."

[page 2]

I will now adjourn politics and take up your time on something not so strenuous or nerve racking and something that will add years to our "journey through life". We have had our boats home scraping and painting at odd times, and rearranging some little details about the sail boat, so as to have them ready to launch as soon as we are reasonably sure of no more hard freezes. In other words, I want to get started early while we have some spring winds, as we didn't have winds enough on Lake Taneycomo lasy summer, after the floods and so on, to make sailing as interesting as I would desire. And I am looking forward to the time when I can prove to you my qualifications to assume the responsibilities of Bo'sn or Chief Quarter Master's Mate in the Missouri navy.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

S. P. LIDELL