

Jan. 17, 1936.

Hon. Harry S. Truman,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

CONFIDENTIAL

It is certainly fine of you to write me and give me the confidential advice relative to the campaign. Following your suggestions, I went over to Kansas City, and talked to Col. T. J. first, and then to James Aylward. I wired Jim P. the day before, and went to his office, but never was able to locate him. However, after talking to Jim Aylward, it was quite evident that he thought Bouchard would fit the picture a little better and that there could not be any criticisms, as he was not holding a State position so, confidentially, we have asked Col. Bouchard to serve, and he has agreed. This will make James Aylward and Bill Harvey and everybody happy, I think, and we are all set to go now.

Young Charley Aylward is acting as Vice-Chairman of the Western District of a little Finance Committee, which is working quietly to get together enough money to take care of stenographic help and all the necessary and unavoidable expenses of the Primary campaign. Gale Johnston, of St. Louis, met with Jim Aylward's hearty approval, and so we asked him to be Vice-Chairman of the Eastern District, and he has accepted. We also talked over with Aylward the matter of some centrally located man to act as Chairman, and Doc Simpson, of the MISSOURI HOTEL, Jefferson City, was finally decided upon, with an old Pike County boy for Treasurer, Judge Davis Biggs, Vice-President of the St. Louis Union Trust Company. It is going to make us a very fine set-up from the standpoint of uniting all elements throughout the State, as well as in St. Louis and Kansas City.

We are all working hard and, apparently, getting results. On my return from Chicago this

morning, where I attended a Nurserymen's Convention, I came through St. Louis and called Ledbetter on the phone

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and he had just returned from Kansas City, where he called on all the boys. I don't believe he saw T. J., but I think he saw the two Jims and Charley Aylwar, as well as the newspaper men. Confidentially, he told me over the phone that, while in Jefferson City, a well-posted Boone County Democrat told him that our friend B.H. would not carry a single town in Boone County.

On the advice of everybody, including T.J., we are not even mentioning his name; just ignoring him entirely.

Thanks for the suggestion of Urso George for the loud speakers. I will talk to Ledbetter and Bouchard about this Saturday. I am going down to St. Louis to talk things over with them at that time.

With kind personal regards, and with best wishes for the new year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

LLOYD C. STARK.

LCS.PMC