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B. R. Williams

SHERIFF OF MACON COUNTY

Attorney at Law

Ex-Probate Judge

Macon, Missouri

January 18, 1936

Major Lloyd C. Stark,

1401 Georgia Street,

Louisiana,

Missouri

Dear Lloyd:

Your good letter came this morning, and some advertisement.

I have been planning on writing you for several days, but it is the same old

story—something doing all the time.

I took two days off the early part of this week, leaving early in the morning and driving to St. Louis by nine o'clock Wednesday morning, after a couple days of court, to a school on crime prevention and drove back late at night in order to get out what I could. Yesterday, I drove to Jefferson City and took a prisoner down and attended to some other business. Run into a storm and it made it very late getting home last night.

All the schools, churches, and picture shows, nearly, are closed here on account of scarlet fever. It has kept us all pretty busy.

Last week we had a four day murder trial and that kept me from attending the Jackson Day banquet at Kansas City and I am just trying to get myself settled down, now, to business. Got to get out an annual report of what the Sheriff's office has done and in the meantime keep up with some of the Democratic news of the state, and, of course, that keeps us stirring.

I see that Winters is announced, and that Bill Hirth, the so-called farm club leader of Columbia, is anticipating some reference message and especially on our good friend, Tom Pendergast of Kansas City. Naturally, we can expect some opposition from the Republicans. I was

[page 2]

#2.

much inclined to believe and hope that Hirth would stay out of it.

I am telling you this confidentially, Lloyd. There are a few Democrats in every county that are not going to vote the Democrat ticket, along the other hand with Republicans to take their place, and what the Supreme Court of the United States has done on the AAA, so, I am saying we have all got to get our shoulders to the wheel, and after the Primary has

won, things have got to be done. We will not carry this state, I am afraid, by a large majority, but that is our goal, however. But people are very fickle. As you say, over-confidence is dangerous in these times, and has wrecked many a voter.

I haven't just made up my mind yet what I will do in this campaign as to office. There are so many insistent demands from friends for me to run for Prosecuting Attorney.

It means a lot of hard work after it is over in this county. I feel no uneasiness of running the election in the Primary or the election in the Fall, but I have hit the ball the last three years with such tremendous effort, and I know the trying of law suits is a hard job and a lot of opposition to law enforcement, and I have had a lot of dealings with such fellows and still have it in this office. But I like the work. I like to fight, but a man must stop and think that when he gets in the neighborhood of sixty, that he must lock the thing square in the face. But Divine Providence has blessed me, and I don't think I can hold out one hundred years more. But, this one of the most anxious campaigns of my life, both national state and local. I am inclined to feel that we are going over the top in fine shape. But, my dear Sir, there is no time for sleep.

I notice the result of the Springfield meeting, and the articles in our paper of two or two and a half columns was very good. I intended to send you a copy of it, but it made a fine showing. As soon as I get a little time, I will look over all this matter you have sent me, and I hope you don't think I have written too much at length, but I must close.

With simplicity of highest regards, I remain

Yours respectfully,

B. R. Williams, Sheriff

Macon County, Missouri