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SEDALIA, MISSOURI

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January 28, 1936

My Dear Major-

As I had intimated to you that there was some dissention in the Party here, I feel that you should know just what the situation is.

There has been a great deal of falling away on the part of the local leaders from Judge Monroe, which begins as mere loss of leadership and has finally become aggressive opposition.

He had handled Harry Truman's campaign and had been entrusted with the Kansas City organization's affairs in this county. Where he took over the WPA office he forgot his loyalty to both and proceeded to buildup a wood organization. He is now completely out of the organization's confidence and trust and the same applies for Truman's. As late as six weeks ago both suggested his removal from office and he remains there only through grace on the part of Matt Murray.

His conduct of the office has not been conducive to harmony in the party

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or to a good feeling toward the party or the organization on the part of the citizens who are right thinking. His continued drunkenness and other abuses have made it appear that anything that could be said in discredit of the Kansas City organization was hardly enough for the reason that he announced that he was not a Pendergast lieutenant but a captain.

During the past few years I have built up the confidence of the public in the organization. Various stiff necked leaders had fallen in line but of late they have been holding up the WPA office as a complete and horrid example of organization work. I could only deny our intent.

The candidacy of Henry C. Salveter is a revolt against the Wood-Monroe crowd. I joined it to direct the attack in a manner less injurious to the organization or to the harmony of the Party. I consulted T.J. before I went in (through John G. Madden as I was unable to be in Kansas City at the time set) and have his approval of my position and his mentality in the early part of the fight.

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I will receive sufficient patronage to build up my man immediately at least I am so assured by competent authority.

If we could clean out the office in question we would destroy the possibility of factions in Pettis County and would exonerate the organization in this of fourteen counties. We do not meddle in Federal Patronage beyond expecting fair treatment and clean, capable, efficient men.

The bearing of this on your interest is as I see it only thus – I was afraid that you might place your intents in the hands of Judge Monroe and as he is a discredited and dismissed and disavowed key man of the organization who has lost and is losing influence it would be disastrous. There will be a strong centralization of power around Salveter who will support your cause to the fullest. The entire situation leads to the conclusion that a delay in deciding on any one to look out for your interests here is safe.

Pardon my unreadable long hand I did not care to dictate this, for I am assuming active duty with and for the Organization in this County. Believe me

Yours faithfully
Charles D. Osborne