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Stark-for-Governor Organization

FINANCE COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

2036 RAILWAY EXCHANGE BLDG.

TEL. CHESTNUT 2082

ST. LOUIS

March 2, 1936.

Major Lloyd C. Stark

1401 Georgia St.,

Louisiana, Mo.

Dear Major Stark:-

In accordance with telephone conversation with Mrs. Stark this afternoon, I told Mrs. Kammerer to go ahead with arrangements for dinner which the St. Louis County Democratic Women's Club is planning to give in your honor, on Wednesday evening, April 1st, at the Norwood Country Club. She said they expect to have five or six hundred people there. I told her the dinner must be open to all democrats, regardless of whether they are members of their club or not. They will probably have one other speaker, but have not decided yet who it will be. Tickets will be \$1.50 each.

I talked to Colonel Bouchard and learned that his trip to Kansas City was satisfactory, although he did not see Jim Pendergast. There is nothing wrong with the situation there, and all of them are for you, although they do not think we can raise much money in Kansas City. I told him that was a minor consideration, just as I have told Charlie and Jim Aylward. The main thing is to have their hearty co-operation, and I think Bouchard has improved matters by conferring with them. Incidentally, he does not think it advisable, or at least not necessary, for you to go to Kansas City right away. Jim Aylward advised against the appointment of committees, and Bouchard seems to agree with him. I think we should meet this week end, in St. Louis, and make the final decision as to how the campaign is to be carried on.

Dr. Osborne who has been filling the mail with letters pertaining to the appointment of Frank Monroe of Sedalia, as finance chairman for Pettis County, got hold of Bouchard and poured his troubles into the Colonel's ears. Among other things, he said that it had been stated in Sedalia that Bouchard had authorized or instructed Frank Monroe to collect funds for your campaign from Federal employees. This, of course, is an absolute untruth and Bouchard is denying it in letters to Monroe and others. I hope that Sedalia mess will simmer down of its own accord, but if Osborne continues to carry on as he has been doing, it will be necessary for Bouchard or me to go to Sedalia and try to solve the problem. As in other places, they are all for you, but are at daggers points toward each other.

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----#2 Major Lloyd C. Stark.

We are going ahead with the appointment of the county finance chairmen agreed upon at our conference Saturday. Colonel Bouchard says there is no objection whatever in Kansas City to our continued operations along that line, but cautions to avoid mistakes such as the appointment of Monroe for Pettis County. This appointment, as you probably know, was made at the suggestion of Andy Murphy, and I feel sure that it was made in good faith and belief that Monroe was the best man for the job. I did not know him

personally and never heard of his WPA connection until after the appointment was made. I think the trouble there is largely due to Dr. Osborne and his particular following.

Enclosed find two proofs of the campaign card,- one with cut on the right hand side, and the other on the left. Please let me know which you prefer. Proof of printed matter to go on back of card is also enclosed for your final approval.

I ordered 10,000 additional copies of the biographical sketch with addition of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to the organizations to which you belong. They will be sent direct to Louisiana. I also ordered 5,000 letterheads and 5,000 envelopes from Waldman & Company, to take up the \$50.00 donation they made to the campaign fund in trade, and will have them print 10,000 four page folders with article re-produced from the Louisiana Press Journal concerning support of the Nursery employees, which I think will make effective propaganda nearly everywhere. The heading I am putting on it is -

"NURSERY EMPLOYEES PLEDGE SUPPORT TO LLOYD C. STARK"

The rest of the article is re-produced directly from the Press Journal with a credit line and words "Issued by Stark-for- Governor Organization, 2036 Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Missouri" and the union label, of course. I will send you proof of above.

Ed Orr told me Sunday that Dr. Digges has set Boone County quota at \$500.00 and thinks he will raise it. It will be done quietly and without ballyhoo.

Today's cash receipts amounted to about \$500.00 including \$316.00 collected by Clarence Evans in Monroe County, \$100.00 sent in as a personal contribution by Dr. L. Brandon of Poplar Bluff, and \$55.00 additional pledges collected by Otto Schoen and Pleas Malcomb. All reports are encouraging and satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. LEDBETTER, SECRETARY.

WML:B

P.S. Just received a check for \$100.00 from Wm. J. "Boots" Brennan, 4162-A North Euclid Avenue. I think this is due to Miss Steffan's influence as well as his liking for you. Write him a nice letter.