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Mr. Lloyd C. Stark,  
Louisiana, Missouri.

Dear Major:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 24th and am sorry that I did not meet you when you were in Southeast Missouri. I trust that before the campaign gets to the exciting stage that I may have the pleasure of a personal contact with you.

I have known you, of course, for a good many years, and am pleased to say that your friends and neighbors quite generally speak well of you, and I notice that the press is treating you very kindly and I should therefore say that the outlook for your nomination at this time is very bright.

It only lacks, so far as I know, the official okay of the distinguished gentleman in Kansas City who rules the democracy of his city and State with an iron hand. I am not saying this in criticism but simply as a practical, well known fact. I think the Kansas City organization and the State administration, which are now practically one, will control the next primary election and that unless you can get that endorsement you will be up against a stone wall.

I am not in sympathy with the politics of the country as it is now run, and that is one of

the reasons that I retired from active participation in politics in 1932. I have made democratic speeches in every campaign beginning with the general election of 1890 down to the present time, and I have always gloried in the principles of the democratic party, and hated the machine regularity of our republican opponents which with the use of money usually triumphed over us, but now that our fellows have captured the citadel and perfected a machine of their own, which makes the republican practice look like child's play, I cannot find myself in sympathy with that because it seems to me that it destroys individual initiative and ambition. I am therefore simply sitting on the side lines watching the procession go by without ambition to do anything or be anything. I have a lively interest, however, in the country and hope to see democracy finally triumph, although I will admit that is kind of a dim hope.

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It is rather early to declare one's self as you never can tell what one of your fool friends will take a notion to run for office and I have always had the courage to stand by my friends, win or lose. You may rest assured, however, that I am friendly to your interests and that unless some friend of mine who has a call upon my loyalty pushes himself into the picture, I shall take pleasure in supporting you for the nomination.

With best wishes and personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Ralph Wammack

RW:J