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H. R. CONWAY. M. D.
MARSHALL. MO.

June 13, 1936

Major Lloyd C. Stark
239 East High
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Major:

I trust that you will keep this letter entirely confidential but after talking to a number of your level headed supporters, we have decided that it were best that you know the conditions here.

The Democrats are split into several factions in this county -- especially in Marshall and Slater.

In Marshall the Percy Brown— Frank McGraw -- Clarence Rittersbacher crowd, who claim to represent the Kansas City Organization and who are in control of the WPA patronage here, have caused a great deal of discord and though they waited for the Pendergast endorsement before supporting you, are now trying to make it appear that they are the "all powerful" with you and the rank and file of Democracy are good and sore at them and anyone they support too actively.

There is also a fairly strong anti_Pendergast faction that is for you but only because they have been led to believe that you received the endorsement of Mr. Pendergast because you were too strong for him to buck.

There are two factions among the women -- one led by the present township

Committeewoman, Mrs Tom Vawter, who is declaring publicly that anyone who wants patronage will have to get it through either her daughter or herself and incidentally, the daughter asked that her name be taken from the roll of the Saline County Stark-for-Governor Club and is selling buttons with the apples on them and declaring that it is the only official Stark-for-Governor Club. The other womans' faction (the stronger) is against those.

The Womans' Jefferson Club have the same factional fight -- one against Mrs Jones and Mrs Vawter and one for them.

Then at Slater there are about the same factions,

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as Mrs Drisler has likely told you.

The Young Mens Democratic Club headed by Frank McCraw now, have invited you to be here June 27th and there is a big row on about the committee appointments to receive you, etc., and things are in a terrible uproar.

The Saline County Stark-for-Governor Club have kept out of all those fights and are just working for your candidacy and no others.

Realizing all this, we wonder whether oh not it would be wise for you to wait until after the Primary to come to Saline county.

The Young Mens Democratic Club, of which I am a member have asked me to write you urging that you come the 27th and I am on the reception committee, but I feel that your being here before the Primary will stir up strife and may cause the loss of some votes but after the Primary we will need you to hold those weak-kneed Democrats in line far Roosevelt and then all scramble for preference in your primary will be over and the factional fights discarded.

You will carry this county over-whelmingly, whether or not you come but that is the situation as we see it and frankly, the ones with whom I talked are like myself -- trying to keep in the background, making no claims for authority in your campaign and friendly to all factions.

I will be in Sedalia the 20th and hope I can get a few minutes alone with you.

Hoping that you will keep this letter entirely confidential, I am

Sincerely yours,

H. R. Conway