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REPORT OF WILLIAM A. KITCHEN

July 20, 1936.

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

AT ODESSA:

Joe Lightner, the Mayor and Chevrolet dealer, says Stark is strong in Odessa; that there is practically no Hirth sentiment in this community; that there is no use spending any time looking over the situation for Stark in LaFayette County; that there is quite a little talk against O'Malley on account of the insurance settlement but he has not heard much about the fraternal situation; that there are no factions in Odessa and they all work together.

F.O. Gooden, associated with Lightner in the Chevrolet business, is a prominent Legionnaire, city clerk, and member of the School Board. He says that Landon is not having any effect on the veterans here; that Stark is in good shape at Odessa. Gooden will look after the campaign among the veterans in behalf of Stark. He took literature for distribution among the veterans.

E. M. Goodwin, committeeman, operates a Skelly Oil station on highway 50, at Odessa, says it is generally conceded that Stark will be the next Governor; that there are a few M.F.A. in the locality who will vote for Hirth but all of them are not for him; that the President is running strong in this community, will not lose any Democratic votes and a few Republicans will vote for Roosevelt. He says he has been making inquiry of people with Kansas licenses stopping at his filling station about Landon; that he is informed by a majority of these people that Landon will not carry Kansas and will not carry his own precinct; that the Kansas people do not seem to think much of him.

AT CONCORDIA:

Elmer E. Sagehorn, postmaster, says that Stark will run ten to one here ahead of Hirth. He says there are about fifty Republicans around the town of Emma, east of Concordia, who are going to vote for Hirth but they are going to make them sign affidavits so as to hold them in line for November. He says Stark is not as strong as he was because his workers are too overconfident; says there is a pretty active M.F.A. organization at Higginsville. He thinks the President will run away ahead of his ticket; that a lot of Republicans will vote for the President; that the Republicans will stay with the ticket on state matters; that the fraternal groups are working strong here against O'Malley. He said that L.E. Lyle of St. Louis, chairman of the fraternal group was in here; that Lyle had said that Barrett had promised to protect the fraternal groups and Hirth also has promised to do so; that Lyle is head of the Lutheran Benevolent Association; that the Lutherans will take no interest in the primary and will probably vote the Republican ticket in the fall; that the Lutherans here have about 700 votes; that the Lutheran minister here is a Democrat and through him he thinks he can slow the Republicans up considerably. He

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says that the fraternal situation is cutting quite a figure in this county.

While at Concordia I happened to meet up with Glenn Arterburn of Norborne, who is president of the Carroll County Democratic club. Arterburn was out working the district in behalf of Nelson for Congress and is likewise working for Stark and said that Stark knows this; that he was with him at Carrollton. However, he is primarily out for Kelson. He says the conditions are OK for Stark in Carroll County; that Dr. T. J. Stugg, at Carrollton, a very unpopular Democrat, is working for Stark but is making no votes for him; that Ernest Plummer, Norborne, is doing some work for Stark and this is not helping

any. He has a reputation for being a thief. He works a graft on helping put over W.P.A. projects and then selling machinery to the township board. If the board does not buy his machinery the road project is not approved. Arterburn says a Catholic priest named O'Brien works with Plummer; that O'Brien seems to control the W.P.A. projects through the St. Joseph office; that O'Brien's influence over the W.P.A. projects started through Dick Hendricks, who had to resign his Job in St. Joseph.

Gus Oetting, Commander of the American Legion post, says that conditions look good for Stark at Concordia. He says that a lot of Republican farmers will vote for Roosevelt. Oetting took veterans' literature for distribution among the veterans and he will look after Stark's interest among the ex-service men at Concordia.

SALINE COUNTY

AT SWEET SPRINGS:

W. C. Pelot, justice of the peace and world war veteran and Legionnaire, says that outside of the 20% of the German farmers who are Republican and another 10% who are M.F.A. Stark will get all the Democratic votes. He says that 80% of the Republicans are going into the primary to beat the Democratic ticket; that in November these Republicans will vote their honest convictions whatever that is. He says the township in which Sweet Springs is located is 60% Republican; that Roosevelt will get a lot of Republican votes among the Republican farmers; that the drier it gets the better for Roosevelt; that these farmers know that Roosevelt saved their skins and will stay with him; that the vote for Roosevelt should aid the state ticket; that Hirth is trying to impress on the people the Pendergast issue but this will not hurt Stark; that the Pendergast issue is not going over. He says that he thinks that Barrett knows that he is not in this campaign; that Barrett has George B. Harlan, editor of the Pilot Grove Record, Cooper County, to do his press agent work. At one time he was superintendent of the Confederate home, at Higginsville, and Cooper County representative; that Harlan is a lightweight; that he has heard no talk at all about the fraternal issue in and around Sweet

Springs.

AT MARSHALL:

Philip Land, city clerk, says that Hirth will get between 1500 and 1800 votes in Saline county; that certainly Hirth will not get to exceed 2000 votes; that the comment for Stark is very favorable; that Hirth was here on July 7th and gave Pendergast Hell but he got no applause; that the Pendergast issue is not going over; that the Republicans are very active in this county and that they are organizing Republican clubs in every township in the county; that they organized one at Marshall and got about 35 members while

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the young Democrats have 560 members; that Frank McGraw, county superintendent of schools is president of the young Democrats. McGraw was out of town. He is attending summer school at Columbia. He says that Hirth gave O'Malley Hell in his speech at Marshall.

Dr. P. C. Wilson, superintendent of the state school at Marshall says he has heard that the situation is not good for Stark in Ottawa, Boone, Audrain, Montgomery and Maries Counties. He says that Jeb S. Lucas, liquor inspector at St. Joseph can do some effective work in Ottawa County.

John W. John, Jr. city collector, says that the M.F.A. is pretty strong in Saline County.

Hugh A. West, mail carrier and very prominent in American Legion circles, says that the Republicans are organizing in this county more than ever. West is loyally supporting Stark and along with Philip Land will look after the campaign for Stark among the

veterans.

Dr. H. P. Conway is doing a lot of work for Stark. He says that the county candidates have hired a sound truck for their use in the county roundups; that Ben Terrell, a Republican, has been trying to hire the sound truck for Hirth; that he did speak over the sound truck at Arrow Rook on Saturday, July 18th; that he made a dirty attack on Stark and the Kansas City organization; that he put a stop to Terrell's talking over the sound truck on Monday, July 20th unless he paid for it; that he didn't pay for it and if he does pay for the truck at any time in the future he will see to it that a Stark speaker likewise speaks over the sound truck. He says Stark will carry the county by a big majority; that there are about 2000 M.F.A. votes in the county for Hirth; that he does not think the Republicans are going into the primary as usual due to the mixup in the two Barretts running for Governor. He thinks this will cause most of the Republicans to stay with the ticket to vote for Jesse Barrett; that 80% of the M.F.A. will go for Hirth; that the Democratic Hirth votes would stay with the ticket this fall; that Hirth is not strong enough to hold them. Dr. Conway says that Ruth Vawter, deputy circuit clerk, has organized her own Stark for Governor club and sold Stark buttons. She is at outs with the regular Saline County club which has 2000 members; that she says she will control patronage in Saline County. She withdrew from the big club and started out selling buttons on her own initiative. Dr. Conway thinks that Stark will get about 6000 votes in Saline County to 2000 for Hirth.

Clif Goodwin, president of the Goodwin Wholesale Grocery, says that Hirth will get a few of the farmers especially among the Republicans; that Stark made a fine impression at Marshall and all had a good word for Stark after his speech; that Stark is very strong in this county. Goodwin is chairman of the finance committee. He says that Hirth and his speech gave Hell to O'Malley T. J. Pendergast and the old age pension situation. The reaction to this speech was that if Hirth were elected he would turn the state into an M.F.A. this is not wanted by a lot of the farmers. He says that the farmers are feeling good toward the President.

AT SLATER:

There is quite a bit of factionalism at Slater but all seem to be supporting Stark.

Mrs. Harry Drisler, head of the W.P.A. at Slater; says that the

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President will run strong here; that she has a lot of colored folks working for her and they will vote the Democratic ticket this fall. Her husband, Harry, is head of the locomotive engineers' organization; that things look fine for Stark, however a few farmers will be for Hirth.

Mac Smith, druggist and Legionnaire, served overseas with the 309th Supply Company, does not like Mrs. Drisler. Mrs. Drisler as WPA head is hurting here; that another Smith named Mac D. Smith is putting out the word that if Stark is elected he Mac D Smith will be Labor Commissioner. However general opinion is that Stark's qualifications are good but if he is going to play to Mac D. Smith and the Drislars and furnish them jobs he will not be for Stark; that they are hurting Stark. However he says all the Democrats are lining up good, they have a perfect lineup; that only Hirth support is a few farmers; that one railroad man William Walden, is for Hirth, but that Walden has no strength; that Percy Brown, circuit clerk is doing more to hurt Stark than anyone else; that Brown who is campaigning for Stark is rather unpopular; says that people are talking the O'Malley situation quite a bit; that they are pretty bitter toward him; says that George Robertson, assistant insurance commissioner under O'Malley from Marshall is very unpopular in this county; that Robertson got his appointment through Jim Pendergast; that Robertson used to live on a farm adjoining the farm of Jim Pendergast's wife; that through this source Robertson got his appointment. Smith says he wants no job or any-

thing; that he is for Stark because he thinks he will make a good Governor. He promised to put out literature among the veterans on behalf of Stark; says he has a bunch of negroes who will go down the line for Stark.

At the suggestion of Smith I called on Rufus Thomas, a negro Legionnaire, and who is a Republican. Thomas told me that he could not commit himself at this time but he told me that I was the first department commander to ever call on him. He promised me this much that he would not hurt Stark any. Smith says that he can take care of Thomas. I will see Thomas later on in the year at some Legion functions and talk to him again. He is a past vice commander of the American Legion of the state - it being the custom to elect a negro vice commander each year. Thomas is very prominent with the negro Legionnaires in Slater.

Com P. Storts, attorney, thinks that Stark will carry the county strong. However he says there is no doubt that Hirth has picked up some votes recently.

Homer Rich, attorney and former probate judge (has a law office at Marshall) is a Legionnaire, served with 356 Infantry, 89th Division; says he hears remarks that Hirth vote will be a surprise; says he was impressed with the reception that Hirth received at Marshall; says the Pendergast issue is not having any effect except on those already against Pendergast; that Hirth is only peppering them up a little more; that the general feeling is that Stark had the nomination without the support of Pendergast; thinks that Stark will carry the county 2 to 1; that Hirth will get 2500 and Stark 5500 votes. He thinks that the Republicans will be Republicans this year and vote their ticket; that on account of the Sheriff's race he thinks a big vote will turn out; says the Republicans are now better organized than in the history of the county; that the President will run well in this county.

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Henry Kline, cashier of the State Bank of Slater, says that Stark is in good shape with the general run of the people; that Hirth is getting further along than he had thought; that Hirth's biggest cry is Pendergast. This is hurting with the followers of Hirth; that the people don't stop to think that Hirth is a demagogue; that the MFA is a political organization and the Republicans are working hard in this county; that all the business men are going for Stark although many are opposed to the President. The only Hirth support is the farmers and a few radical labor leaders in Slater; that he has heard nothing about the insurance situation; for some time there was some noise about the compromise settlement; he hears nothing about the fraternal situation at this time; that the President is OK in this community; that there is no organized opposition to him; that his banking associates here are OK for the President; that he knows of some executive officers of the First National Bank of St. Louis who are whooping it up for Roosevelt; that these men did not vote for him in 1932. Kline says he is close to this bank, doesn't know whether these men will be whistled down before the election or not but he named these men of the First National Bank of St. Louis who are supporting the President as F.C. Hunt, Vice president, W C Tompkins, vice president and Auditor, Frank Fuchs, outside representative. He says that Hirth got a good reception and had a large crowd at Marshall; that a lot of curious were there just to hear what he had to say.

AT GILLIAM:

Dr. J. H. Davidson, county chairman, says that quite a bunch of farmers around Gilliam are for Hirth; that Hirth will get a good big farmers' vote; that conditions are not as good here for Stark as he would like; he says that practically all the men in politics at Slater are for Stark; that Stark made a good impression at Marshall, that the audience there was mostly farmers; that Hirth is pretty strong among the MFA here; that New Frankfort precinct north of Gilliam is for Hirth; that there are about 75 votes in that precinct; that Hirth is having a letter read over the sound truck in these county roundups attacking Stark; that the attack on Stark at Arrow Rock Saturday night July 18, provoked

no applause. He thinks that the way to combat Hirth is for a good speaker to attend these roundups and we should expressly have a good speaker at Marshall on August 1 at the big roundup there; that the President is running well in this county but he knows of 4 or 5 old time Democrats that he will lose but that he will pick up several Republican farmers to offset any Democratic losses; says it will take a lot of work this fall to win; says that they have a good precinct organization in the county and about 200 precinct workers in the county all told; that Stark has a lot of good women workers in this county.

HOWARD COUNTY

AT GLASGOW:

W. B. Nivert, postmaster, says that things look very good for Stark that he will probably lose 150 votes in Slater; that this is top for Hirth in Glasgow; that the MFA is making some noise for Hirth; that he knows 2 of the directors of the MFA are for Stark; that the MFA only class of votes that Hirth will get; that the Pendergast issue is having no effect here; that the O'Malley issue is not making any impression at this time; that the people don't know enough about it to understand it; that the people around here know nothing

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but to vote the Democratic ticket; that the President is in good shape; that Roosevelt will duplicate his performance 4 years ago; that a few farmers who did not sign up with the AAA are sore; that conditions in Fayette and other parts of the county are in splendid shape; that it wasn't worth my while to go and that things have been perfect there since Stark left things in such good shape. He says he knows what he is talking about because he is all over at Fayette every few days.

J. W. Stevenson, Legionnaire, served in the navy, editor of the Glasgow Missourian,

thinks that Stark will lose some farmers' votes in this county; that Charles Brucks, manager of the Glasgow Co-op affiliated with the MFA is for Hirth; that he is very popular and people are voting for Hirth on account of Brucks. In Chariton County Rudolph Monnig, Manager of the Co-op, is doing some work for Hirth; that neither Brucks nor Monnig are doing any active work but people know they are for Hirth and on account of their popularity the people are voting for Hirth; that Monnig is a Republican while Brucks will line up for Stark this fall; that Brucks is a dyed-in-the-wool Democrat, thoroughly honest, well liked, very popular; that nothing can be done about these men supporting Hirth, Stevenson says that over-confidence is our greatest handicap this fall; he thinks the national ticket is in danger and we will have to work hard to win; he says that the merchants here resent Hirth's merchandizing scheme; that there is some resentment against the Pendergast group but this is not serious.

CHARITON COUNTY

AT KEYTESVILLE:

Dewey Hughes, Legionnaire and druggist, says that the situation for Stark is bad at Brunswick in Brunswick Township; says there is also quite a bit of strength for Hirth in Missouri Township, in the southwest part of the county and in Chariton Township south of Salisbury, This is due solely to the large MFA organizations in the county.

John Taylor, attorney and county representative, says that on a basis of 5000 votes being cast he thinks Stark will get 4000; thinks there will be from 700 to 1000 for Hirth and most of them will be the Republicans; he thinks Hirth will carry Brunswick Township as Brunswick is the home of the original MFA man; says nothing is being said about the insurance matter except in Salisbury; that the old pension situation is only thing causing any trouble. Taylor says of course everybody knows he was against the sales tax and when they estimated the number who would be eligible for the old age pension that every record they could get ahold of indicated only about 12,000 persons would be eligible in this state. However, some 89,000 have applied. He says it will be easy to answer Jesse

Barrett's attack on the old age pensions situation due to the fact that if these people are not being placed on the rolls as rapidly as Jesse says they should be, then Jesse is attacking the two Republications who are on the board* He says that a bi-partisan board passes on all applications; that there are two Democrats and two Republicans.

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John Taylor's advice was for me to stay out of Brunswick and let them alone; said I couldn't do any possible good and might do some harm; says he is staying out of there himself for that reason. I did not go to Brunswick.

O. L. Davis, legionnaire, postmaster, editor of the Chariton Courier, says that Hirth support at Brunswick is based on a tribute to Aaron Bachtel an old German farmer, who is a Republican and who conceived the MFA idea; that 80% of the MFA in the county are Republicans. He thinks Stark will get 3500 votes out of 5000 in the county. Davis says that last Saturday, July 18, he was at Glasgow attending a meeting of the Porterfield levy district, there were 36 present and 20 of the 36 were Republicans; that they all pledged themselves to support the President; they are for the President because they can get more benefits for the levy district than through any other source; they are satisfied with the treatment they have received from the national administration and are for it. These men are from Howard and Chariton counties; says there is no doubt about the Democrats gaining a lot of votes this fall for the President; says normally the Republican vote in Chariton County is 1800 and he thinks it will be about 800 this fall and that about 6500 votes will be cast.

Dewey Hughes said 98% of the veterans of Keytesville is for Stark and some few veterans who work for the MFA will be forced to vote for Hirth; that the veterans at Brunswick are keeping quiet because their employers forbid them getting out and talking

too much; says that at Bowling Green Township Democrats will gain more Republican votes this year than in 1932.

Leo Clavin, circuit clerk, says that Hirth will carry Brunswick and Chariton Township and will get some votes in Missouri Township. He thinks that Hirth will get 1000 votes to 4000 for Stark in the county.

W. B. James, Jr., druggist, says that Stark will run very strong here; that John Taylor's been making some speeches for Stark and that the only support that Hirth has is among the MFA.

George L. Robertson, attorney, class mate of mine at Missouri University, says that the MFA around Forest Green in the south part of the county are for Hirth; that those who are for Hirth cannot be changed; that they are sold on the MFA; they are good people and the best thing is not to stir them up; that there will be some protest vote against Pendergast; that this is growing a bit; says that when the local people from Salisbury go to Kansas City to get a job this irks some of them. He says that Stark will carry the county by a big majority.

Anna Belle Welch, committee woman says it is all stark in Salisbury, just a few MFA, scattered, for Hirth; that the Hirth sentiment is rather strong in Forest Green; that there is nothing to worry about at Salisbury; that there is some feeling in Brunswick about Stark ignoring Paul Prosser's death, some comment on this in Brunswick.

J. A. Collet, says the situation here is good for Stark, however there is considerable farm organization that is hard to estimate; that it is hard to estimate the strength of this element; that is for Hirth; that the republicans have no contest in which they are interested and will go into the

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primary and vote for Hirth. He expects about 700 Hirth votes in the county that not a single Democrat who takes any interest in politics will be for Hirth; that there is nothing to be done about the farm situation here; that there is no danger of Stark losing the county in the primary. Collet thinks Hirth will join Barrett if he thinks the Republicans are on the ascendency; he says that when he made his race for the United States Senate, Hirth was for him until he, Collet, refused to pay him what Hirth thought his paper support was worth; after that Hirth refused to support him.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

AT HUNTSVILLE:

Melville Evans, cashier of the Bank, son-in-law of J.A. Colett, says there are a few Hirth votes in this community; that nothing can be done to improve the situation for Stark. He says there will be no trouble getting the Democratic vote out this fall on a plea that if Democrats do not vote they will stand a good chance to lose.

AT MOBERLY:

Drs. J. F. and J. M. McLellan, dentists, father and son - the son, J.M. McLellan is a Legionnaire - they know of no Hirth strength except a few MFA and not much of that; that Hirth was here about three weeks ago and had a very small crowd; that there are some 500 to 700 Townsendites; that the President is strong in this county; that there is no Republican ticket filed in the county; that Dr. Sparrow, a prominent Modern Woodman, is circulating cards trying to get people to sign up pledging to vote the Republican ticket.

W. N. Stringer, attorney and county chairman says that Hirth will get less than 500 votes in the county; that Hirth has made a lot of people mad. The finest thing about Stark

is that he is not throwing any mud; that this has caused a lot of favorable comment.

William A. O'Keefe, secretary second district young Democratic club says that there is no opposition to Stark in Moberly.

John C. Atterbury, district manager, H.O.L.C. says the opposition if any to Stark is very quiet; that Tom Bodine of Baris, fell out with the state administration; that he once had a lot of influence in Monroe. However his health is bad and his mind is getting bad; that Bodine is really a pitiful case; that Hirth will only get a scattered vote.

Hon. Guy Pallen, in Unionville, is property appraiser of the H.O.L.C. and works in 33 northeastern counties; that in his travels he hears nothing but Stark; that a lot of the MFA are not supporting Hirth; that they do not like him; that there is no united support among the MFA for Hirth in any of the counties; that Stark will carry the counties; that he, Pallen, covers by a 2 to 1 vote or better. The outer edge counties of his district are Mercer, Grundy, Livingston, Carroll, Saline, Cooper, Morgan, Miller, Maries, Osage, Calloway, Audrain and Pike. All counties north and east of those counties above mentioned are in PAllen's H.O.L.C. district. PAllen stated that one thing Stark has to watch is the insurance situation; that he must get off right on this; that he must not open his head as to what he will do or not do; that people are beginning to find out about this situation and he considers it very dangerous.

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William Kelly, owner of the merchant's Hotel, says there is no Hirth strength to speak of.

M. B. Levy, formerly on the state committee 4 years says that there will be 6500 to 7000 votes cast in the county and he thinks Stark will carry the county 4 to 1; that the

assumption is that Stark will win and the natural inclination of a lot of voters is to vote for a winner. He hasn't heard much about the insurance situation; people think Stark is a man of his word; that his campaign methods are satisfactory since he has not placed himself on the defense; that the President is Ace high with the working people and the railroad people that Randolph County will at least return as big a majority in 1936 as in 1934; that the majority that year was 4800 which was more than the normal Democratic majorities.

J.K. VanCleve, manager, Moberly monitor Index, says that Hirth apparently picked up a little strength since he was here; says he has been hearing on the street that Hirth will run better than at first thought.

AUDRAIN COUNTY

AT MEXICO:

Fred Morris, President of the First National Bank told me that reports that Hirth will carry Audrain County are all wrong. He says that Hirth has no chance to carry the county; that the only thing that worries Morris is Barrett and the insurance situation; that the fraternalists here are stirring up quite a bit of fuss; that L.E. Warner, Missouri agent for the Modern Woodmen is raising a lot of Hell; that he is not sore at Stark but is sore at O'Malley; that he thinks Warner will vote for Barrett and he is a life long Democrat* Morris said that O'Malley used poor judgment in raising this mess at this time, Morris says he thinks he can keep Warner in line as long as he has not had any thing to drink. Morris says there will be plenty of people at the polls primary day working for Stark; that he doesn't think Hirth is gaining any strength and he still says that he thinks Stark will carry the county 3 to 1 the same as he told me on my previous visit to Mexico; said he told me on my last visit that if he missed his guess on Stark carrying the county 3 to 1 he will quit politics and says this statement still stands; says a lot of farmers are not for Hirth and never have been; that they know that Hirth is out to butter his own bread. Morris says he went to school with Hirth and is a close friend of his; says the situation looks

good in this county. Morris says people here do not like Pendergast any too well but would rather have him than Hyde and that bunch. Morris personally is strong for Pendergast because when he, Morris, made his race for national committeeman, Pendergast split the Jackson county vote and gave Morris one-half of it thinking this would be sufficient for Morris to win. However Morris lost by three votes. Morris thinks that Aylward with James P Aylward is getting in bad over the state on account of being attorney for O'Malley in the suits against the fraternal. Morris says that men are now being out off of the PWA and he says that of all times when men should be kept at work instead of being cut off that time is now. He was wondering if anything could be done about it.

I talked with Clarence Baker, circuit clerk, and he painted a different picture from that painted by Morris. He says that Edwin Pollard county collector, is working quietly for Hirth, this in spite of the fact;

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that he has a brother Raymond Pollard who is working in the State Grain Department in Kansas City; says that Edward Pillard is working on the sly and that Raymond Pollard is a strong MFA. This man Baker is afraid Hirth is going to carry Audrain County, however he says that Martinsburg is good strong territory for Stark; that the Hirth people are making louder noises in Audrain County than are the Stark people; that some people have been disgusted with Hirth's speeches but says Hirth has a greater hold on the county than was expected; that most of them are for Hirth because they are against Pendergast; that the appointment of O.B. Boyd in the liquor control department was a bad appointment and that this hurts and has caused people to turn against Pendergast; that the only thing to do is not to stir things up; says there is no danger of losing these votes this fall and better not make them mad now so as to keep them for the fall campaign. He says his belief is

that Stark will lose the county based on talk he hears around the court house and reports he gets from candidates who have been out over the county; that all candidates report considerable Hirth strength; that propaganda is going round that Stark will not carry Pike County; says Hirth is reported to have lined up the labor vote at the brick plant in Mexico; says he hears some propaganda going around that Stark does not pay his employees very good wages. Baker says he may be too scared but he always runs for office that way; that he heard Judge R.D. Rodgers is for Hirth and is a director of Fred Morris' bank. Baker says there is no chance to change the Hirth people with a club; that quite a few took offense at Hirth's remark in his speech when he said in effect that he was going to rule or ruin.

I was unable to see Dr. Paul E. Coil when I passed through Mexico on Wednesday afternoon, on my return from my trip through the eastern part of the state I again stopped at Mexico and saw Fred Morris. He told me that he had been checking up since I had seen him a few days previous and that he had not changed his mind about Stark carrying the county. However I did get to see Dr. Paul E Coil a few minutes. He says the insurance situation is bad in Audrain County; that there is no use in trying to conceal the fact; that there are 3000 fraternal policy holders in Audrain County and they are raising Hell; says the fact that Stark has remained silent on the matter will cost a lot of votes. However he is doing some work on this insurance situation on behalf of Stark; says O'Malley is a distinct political liability for Stark in this county. He says the insurance situation together with what strength Hirth has in the rural sections will make it hard on Stark in the primary. Dr. Coil is afraid that Stark will lose the county.

MONROE COUNTY

AT PARIS:

I conferred with Clarence Evans, Mayor, C. R. Noel, Ford dealer and Jack Blanton, editor Monroe County Appeal. I found these men on the golf course. They said that the only thing against Stark in this county is Bodine's influence which they discount heavily;

they said that Bodine started for Stark and then switched over to Hirth; they think Bodine is giving the Liberty League money; they say that the insurance situation is bad and that something should be done about it; that they have a mutual here that is interested in this insurance situation. However they say that Stark will carry the county 2 to 1 and they think that Hirth will not get over 1000 votes in the county. These

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men said that they will arrange to take Stark over the county when he visits there August 1st.

Carl Johnson operator of White Mule Oil station and adjutant of the American Legion Post, while not much of a politician in my judgment is very enthusiastic for Stark and I think probably he can do some good among the rank and file of the veterans. He took the veterans' literature and said he would be very glad to distribute it among the veterans and do all he can for Stark; says that Tom Bodine and Blanton are always on opposite sides of everything.

AT MONROE CITY:

Roy Meriweather, attorney, says that Bodine fell out with Jim Pendergast and Governor Park over some appointments; that Park appointed Jim Boyd to the public service commission and Boyd and Bodine are bitter enemies; that Bodine says he likes Stark personally but says he is controlled by Pendergast and that Stark is opposed to the fraternal; that Bodine has some following but does not believe he can carry the county for Hirth; that the principal support of Hirth in this county is the MFA; that Shelbina is the MFA headquarters for the northeastern section of the state; that Hirth got in bad with the farmers around Hunnewell; that he promised them a 10% rebate at the end of the year on purchases; that he failed to live up to this and this has made the farmers sore; that the

MFA at Shelbina is in financial difficulties; that some of the merchants at Shelbina gave \$500. each to get the plant located there and have given up hope of getting anything back; that Stark has a substantial advantage in Monroe City. However some few are against Stark on account of Pendergast; that the state superintendent of schools, Lloyd King, who comes from Monroe City will do all he can for Stark; that he doesn't hear much comment on the fraternal situation; that Bodine is grouping up this issue. He thinks it fine that Stark is going to tour the county on August 1st. Meriweather wonders why Bennett Clark hasn't been more active in behalf of Stark. He says he knows Clark can control Bodine; that Bill Fahey United States Marshall at St. Louis came up and visited Bodine and in the next issue of the paper Bodine came out for Hirth. However, Meriweather says, this may be a mere coincidence; that Hirth supported Clark for the nomination for Senator.

R. L. Hawkins, committeeman, says that there are only a few Hirth supporters in Monroe City; that the only kick against Stark is because Pendergast is supporting him; that there is no organized opposition to Stark in Monroe City; that the fraternal insurance situation is not discussed here; that Monroe County will go for Stark by a big majority; that he thinks Bodine's opposition to Stark will make Stark votes; that Bodine is sour, that his attitude is to rule or ruin.

Miss Anna Nolen, editor of the Monroe City News, stated that Bodine at one time had considerable influence but has lost it; that the insurance situation is stressed by Bodine to the effect that O'Malley is under Pendergast domination. Miss Nolen says this campaign is having no influence around Monroe City; that Stark will carry the county by a big majority; that it is wise and necessary for Stark to come into the county; that she doesn't hear of any Hirth support.

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Miss Nolen pointed out that Bodine my influence some of the Catholics on the south side of Monroe City; that Bodine plays to the Catholics. She says that Bill Fahey has always lined up with Bodine; that 300 catholic votes are in the township; that someone should do some work among these catholics.

SHELBY COUNTY

AT SHELBYVILLE:

Arthur Burk, mayor, stated that all the people in Shelbyville are for Stark; that Hirth has a big following among the farmers; that the farmers are split up and Hirth is not as strong now with the farmers as he was; that the farmers in this county are mostly Democrats; that some of the cranks think that Hell has been sent on in the form of a drouth for killing their little pigs.

NOTE: I heard a speech to this effect over the radio Saturday while driving between Fulton and Jefferson City.

Morris E. Osburn, attorney and county representative, classmate of mine at Missouri University, thinks that Hirth will get more votes than expected. He says that the Hirth people are working more than Stark's supporters; says there is no organization of effort for Stark; thinks there will be about 4500 votes in the county and that Hirth will get a maximum of 2000 votes. He thinks Hirth will be strong in Shelbina where there are 75 to 100 people working in the MFA plant; that he is convinced the Democrats will have to fight this fall to win. W. C. Hewitt, editor of the Shelby County Herald, says this is a strong MFA county and it is better not to wave the flag by organizing a Stark club. He thinks Stark will carry the county; however, it is a mere guess. He figures 4500 votes will be case and he thinks Stark will get a minimum of 2500 votes. He says Hirth's forces are not active and it is best for Stark's friends not to get too active. He says that Stark's forces are talking Stark gospel all the time. He says they have a good organization in Shelby

County and he, Hewitt, is called Tom Pendergast. He says there is some Pendergast feeling in Shelbyville; that Shelby County is the 5th largest MFA county in the state; that one of the strongest MFA men in the county is for Stark; that he is a driver of an MFA oil wagon; that this man, whose name Hewitt would not give me for obvious reasons, cannot get out in the open because he is afraid he will lose his job; says that the fraternal issue is not talked much here; that he has heard that the Modern Woodmen and Macabees are sending out 300,000 circulars asking the members to vote for Hirth and Against Stark; says that these circulars are printed at the Western Newspaper Union in St. Louis but this Union is for Stark, of course, this is commercial printing they are handling for the fraternal. Hewitt says he thinks O'Malley simply has to go, he is the biggest political liability we have; that the old line insurance companys are responsible for getting O'Malley onto the fraternal so that O'Malley will let them alone. Hewitt was talking something about the insurance referendum petitions. He made the remark that a number of Democratic newspapers over the state are broke; that something needs to be done to give

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them a little patronage and he made the remark "what is \$300000. to the State of Missouri?" He said the reporters for the St. Louis Star Times hounded him for about three hours for the inside story on these referendum petitions; that they finally offered him \$2400. for the information on the insurance code. My idea is that Hewitt is pretty much mixed up in this affair.

George C. Grant, attorney from Shelbina, dropped into Hewitt's office while I was there. Grant says there is quite a Hirth vote at Shelbina. He expects it to be pretty close between Stark and Hirth in that neighborhood; thinks some good talker for Stark would help matters a lot; that Hirth made quite an impression there. He thinks 4500 votes will

be case in the county in the primary; estimates that Stark will get 60 to 75% of all the votes in the county. There will be a big rally at Shelbina on Monday night before the primary and Grant and Hewitt agree that a prominent Stark speaker should be present and make a talk for Stark; and suggest that Floyd Jacobs of Kansas City be secured because Floyd is a good speaker, was born and reared at Shelbina, and is very popular in Shelby County. It was their suggestion that we try to get Floyd. At the suggestion of Mr. Hewitt I called on E. P. Thompson a furniture dealer. He is the most prominent Modern Woodman in the county. I noticed that Thompson was exhibiting a Stark poster in his place of business. Thompson thinks that Stark will sweep the county. He says that people like Stark's business ability. He says that Gardner made a good Governor; that he thinks Stark will make a Governor just like Gardner. Thompson says that he is clerk of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen; that he hasn't heard of any circulars being sent out against Stark.

NOTE: It might not be a bad idea for headquarters to write Thompson a letter thanking him for his support for Major Stark.

AT SHELBY:

Lane B. Henderson, attorney and Mayor, says that Hirth will get most of the MFA vote. He says that those farmers who don't like the MFA will vote for Stark; that the MFA is not half of the farmer vote in the county; that a big majority of the people in town, except those working for the MFA will vote for Stark; he thinks there will be 4500 votes cast in the county and that 2500 of them will be for Stark; that is his guess; says this is supposed to be a strong Hirth county due to the cold storage plant being located here; that the President will run well with the farmers; that the anti-Pendergast propaganda is hurting here; that O'Malley's situation is also hurting considerably; that people think the O'Malley matter is rotten and that O'Malley has made a damn fool of himself starting the fraternal matter in a campaign year; that a lot of Stark supporters are saying so; that a lot of people here don't like Hirth because he would be a worse boss than Pendergast. They say that Hirth has not done the farmers any good and is getting a commission on

everything; that most of the business men are for Stark, but are not saying much but will support Stark at the polls; that the business men are impressed by the fact that John B. McCoy who ran the cold storage and accumulated \$16,000, then along came Hirth and Ruby Hulen and ousted McCoy and a new man was put in his place; that the new man lost the \$16000. in ten months, and that hirth is responsible for this loss when he never had a

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share of stock but dominated things until the money was lost. This has hurt him with the people and they have the idea that Hirth will be quite a boss if he should get in as Governor.

Edgar P. Blanton, editor, Shelbina Democrat, son of Jack Blanton of Paris, is a world war veteran and was a pilot in the air service. He stated that he did figure that Stark would carry the county 2 to 1, but that he doubts it now; that this is a strong MFA county but a lot of the MFA people will not vote for Hirth, that there are about 175 employees in the MFA cold storage plant; that most of them will vote for Hirth; that the manager, Earl Burt is strong for Hirth and those employees will protect their jobs and vote for Hirth. The other MFA organizations here are the MFA oil company and the MFA produce company. All of these are to support Hirth along with their employees. The three organizations have about 200 employees. Out of about 5000 votes in the county, Stark should receive 3000; he says there are about 1500 votes in the township in which Shelbina is located and that Stark should carry the township by a small majority; that the Stark people at Shelbina cannot whoop it up too much on account of business reasons. He says that when Hirth spoke here he bore down heavily on the insurance situation but this is not a topic of general discussion. The general belief is that Stark will win and this will help Stark considerably.

L. L. Pressler, prominent Legionnaire, operates the American Railway Express, is a Republican. At the suggestion of Blanton I called on him. Pressler would not commit himself, stated he likes Jesse Barrett but wanted to think the situation over before committing himself. I think there is a possibility of getting his support this fall.

RALLS COUNTY

AT NEW LONDON:

R. W. Winn, who is unopposed for the nomination of state treasurer, has been sick since the week we visited southeast Missouri. When I told Winn about the reports that Hirth is cutting in on Ralls county, he declared that this is not true. However, he said that H. L. Pritchett, auctioneer and Legionnaire in New London is the only man putting up a fight for Hirth; said there was not a chance of Hirth carrying this county; that Stark will carry it 4 to 1; that all the leaders are for Stark; says there will be 900 votes cast in New London precinct and that Stark will carry the precinct 3 to 1; says MFA at Perry, Missouri, is for Hirth and outside that Hirth has no strength; that Stark will not lose as many votes in Ralls County as will be lost in Pike County; says that Hirth killed himself here and made his speech and declared that if Stark is elected it will be a long time before the Republicans can win; that if we elect Stark and St. Louis gets in the hands of Pendergast the Republican party will never get in power again in Missouri. In other words, Hirth is talking for the future of the Republican party in Ralls County. He says there will be 3500 votes for the Democrats in the county and that Stark will get at least 2500 that he cannot figure how Hirth will get as many as 1000 votes.

From New London, I went to Parry where I conferred with C. D. Balmer, City attorney, A. B. Young, druggist, O. D. Boulware, presiding Judge of the county court and Burney Fishback, editor of the Perry Enterprise. Balmer says that he has canvassed the county in his race for prosecuting attorney and he thinks Hirth

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will get from 500 to 700 votes and the rest will be for Stark. He says there are some Hirth votes in Perry and a few in New London; says that there is an MFA organization in Perry but some strong MFA people are not for Hirth; that there is a spot north of Perry that is for Hirth; that the Hirth supporters will be for the ticket this fall and that it is better to let them rest and not stir them up; that nothing can be done to change them.

A. B. Young, druggist and postmaster, thinks there will be about 3800 votes cast in the county and he thinks that Hirth will poll close to 1000 votes. However he says he may be putting it high for Hirth. There are 125 members in the MFA at Perry and he says some Republicans will vote for Hirth.

W. E. Boyd, Mayor of Perry, estimates that the Hirth vote will not exceed 400 in the county.

O. D. Boulware presiding judge of the county court says there are more Hirth votes in the county than there should be that there is nothing to do about it. He expects Hirth to poll about 1000 votes and he thinks there will be about 3600 votes case; says that Hirth cannot possibly get more than 1000 votes in the county. He says that the Pendergast stuff that Hirth is holloing is hurting Stark and he is afraid that some will vote the Republican ticket this fall on account of Pendergast; that the President will get a lot of Republican votes this fall and he knows a lot of Republicans who will vote for the President.

Burney Fishback, editor of the Perry Enterprise, said he supported Truman two years ago; that the only MFA organization in the county is at Perry; says Stark could do a lot of good if he would come in there and make a short talk nor over ten minutes; says the 200

MFA members are solid for Hirth; that he had heard the situation is rapidly changing in New London; that one lad here said Hirth will get 1700 votes in the county; that the Hirth men are working that nothing could be done about it unless they get some help; says the Hirth sentiment has sprung up so rapidly that it is distressing; that the fight on Pendergast is causing trouble ; that he cannot understand how the people can vote for Hirth when he is fighting Democrats and not Republicans; says that O'Malley has blundered in bringing up the fraternal situation and that O'Malley will cost the party thousands of votes this fall.

In view of the adverse report that I received at Perry I wrote from headquarters at Jefferson City a letter to Bob Winn at New London telling him that I had found the situation in Ralls County worse than he had pictured it to me and I suggested that he spend this week making a personal appeal among his friends in Ralls County in behalf of Stark.

AUDRAIN COUNTY

AT VANDALIA:

Will P. Amfahr, Legionnaire and Drygoods merchant says that the insurance business and the Pendergast issue is pretty strong in Audrain County. He thinks that Stark will have a hard time being elected after being nominated. Amfahr said that he and Stark were raised together in Louisiana; says the community around Vandalia is for Stark; that you do not hear much about the insurance matter in Vandalie but it is hurting some; that traveling men coming into

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his store are repeating to him that the insurance matter will hurt Stark considerably over the state. Amfahr says that the traveling men are reporting that the people are tired of Pendergast and are going to get from under the situation. Amfahr says the veterans of this neighborhood are lining up well for Stark.

W. H. Ellis, druggist, says that Hirth is strong around Vandalia; that the opposition to Stark outside of the MFA is based on anti-Pendergast sentiment. He says that Stark should emphasize the fact that he is controlled by no one. Ellis says that Stark and the whole ticket will have to work hard this fall to win.

Byron Shannon, farmer and Legionnaire, residing east of Vandalia says that some of the farmers are strong for the MFA and for Hirth; that they are saying in Pike County that Stark out the wages of his employees. Shannon says the situation for Stark in Vandalia is OK that his neighbors around him are about 50-50 between Stark and Hirth; says that where there is MFA it is strong for Hirth; thinks that the Hirth supporters will line up this fall and that very few will scratch the ticket; that many of them will do a lot of threatening but when the times comes they will vote the ticket straight.

ST CHARLES COUNTY

Hugh I. Holmes, postmaster and Legionnaire, served with the 11th Marines; says that Stark will carry St. Charles County that in Augusta in the southwest part of the county the leaders are for Stark but that the farmers around there are for Hirth. He says that on July 28th his group of Stark supporters from St. Charles will go into Augusta and make some speeches for Stark that the speeches will be of a constructive nature advertising Stark's merits; that Waldo Meyer, Legionnaire, at Augusta and Walter Flusmeyer, Augusta, Martin Herring, Augusta, head of the Democratic club, are supporting Stark but that they are not going to antagonize the people and so they will be able to hold them in line this fall. He says that Flint Hill will go for Hirth; that there are about 150 votes and that Frank Hanley, a Republican and secretary of the MFA in Darden is for Hirth; that the Hirth leadership in the county is largely confined to Republicans in the MFA. Holmes says that

Stark is strong in O'Fallon which is the biggest voting township in the county; that the Hirth filling station there went broke and Hirth has lost his grip, at O'Fallon; that the town of Wentzville is strong for Stark; that the farmers around there are strong for Hirth because the elevator at Wentzville is paying dividends; that Foristel is all for Stark; that all of the county east of O'Fallon is strong Stark territory; that if an election were held today the Democrats would carry the county but he said that the Republicans have a strong organization in the county; that it is the best they have ever had but in spite of that he thinks the Democrats will carry the county in November; said that they have a good Stark organization in St. Charles to get out the vote. Holmes is a very active worker for Stark and he thinks it a splendid idea to distribute the literature for veterans and he promised that he would personally look after this matter and thinks it will be very effective among the veterans especially those who served overseas.

D. Oty Groce, Legionnaire, served with the 5th Marine, 2nd Division, operator of Mobile Oil station, says that there is some Hirth support around Augusta on account of the MFA and that a group of Stark supporters are having a meeting in St. Charles Saturday night July 25th, to make arrangements for getting out the Stark vote; Groce doesn't think that Hirth will get 300 votes in the county. My personal opinion is he is wrong. He says a number of Republican farmers will go in and vote for Hirth but that the county agent crowd dominates

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this county and they hurt Hirth; that the Hirth strength in this county is confined to the MFA; that he personally knows only 3 or 4 people who are supporting Hirth; that a lot of Republican veterans are going to vote for Stark. He thinks that Stark will lend great strength to the county ticket this fall. He says that the insurance situation is above the heads of the ordinary voters and this is not being talked much at this time; that a few Republican farmers who refused to join the AAA are sore but they are more sore at

themselves than anything else because they used bad judgment. He has heard several Republican farmers say that they will vote for the President that it is necessary to keep the farmers reminded of their situation in 1932 as compared with their present situation that there is a little soreness in St. Charles on account of the WPA wages being too small. Guy Motley, Secretary of Lindenwood College says that every active Democrat in the county is for Stark and he thinks Stark will carry the county overwhelmingly; says the fraternal insurance situation is being talked some; that O'Malley made a mistake in stirring up this matter that he should have kept quiet; that this situation will have no effect in the primary but he does not know what effect it might have this fall. He thinks a short campaign this fall is the wise course; he thinks that Barrett has been shooting the fireworks too much and people will lose interest in his stuff long before the campaign ends in November; says that a lot of Republicans will vote the Democratic ticket because they are grateful for what the President has done for them; that he knows of some MFA men who talked for Hirth but confidentially have informed him that they will vote for Stark.

AT WENTZVILLE:

I was unable to see Charles Richards of the Missouri Typewriter Exchange and who is the leading Democrat of this town. Richards is very strong for Stark. He was in Jefferson County when I called at his home. I conferred with Mrs. Richards who is a personal friend of Major Stark and who is very enthusiastically supporting him. She gave it as her opinion and Mr. Richards' opinion that the Democrats will have to work hard this fall to win.

J. P. Cunningham, postmaster and Legionnaire, served with Battery A, 128th Field Artillery, says that Stark will run strong in Wentzville but there is quite a bit of Hirth strength among the farmers; says that the farmers will go pretty good for the President that they appreciate the crop relief they have received; that he knows a lot of Republican farmers who will vote for the President. He thinks the idea of distributing literature among the veterans is a splendid idea and he will personally look after the distribution of the literature in and around Wentzville.

LINCOLN COUNTY

AT TROY:

Omer H. Avery, attorney, class mate of mine at Missouri University, says that Stark will get 4 out of every 5 votes in Lincoln County; that there is no organization or talk for Hirth; that there is no MFA in the county; that the farm bureau is against Hirth; that all you hear around Troy is Stark that people are not paying much attention to the Pendergast issue; that people think

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Stark is not a Pendergast controlled candidate and he says that the vote gets out in this county at every general election that it will get out this fall especially on account of it being a presidential year; that the Republicans have pepped up considerably in the last 30 days.

J. E. Little, Silex, Missouri, located in the north central part of the county, stated that all is for Stark in his neighborhood; that you hear nothing of Hirth in his community.

John H. Wilson, former Sheriff, F. L. Eversmeyer, veteran employed by East Missouri Power Company, stated that Stark will sweep this town; that there is a waste of time to canvass a situation here for Stark.

B.R. Creech, President of the young Democrats and prosecuting attorney stated there is some scattered Hirth strength only in this county that Stark will get 85% of the vote and he thinks this is a low estimate; that he has had no mention to him of the

insurance situation; that people as a whole are pleased with the national administration.

AT ELSBERRY:

J.B. Ellis, 9th District Committeeman, stated that he knows of no outstanding sentiment for any one but Stark; that Ira Gibson son of John M. Gibson, travels for the John Deere Company and the Gibsons will support Hirth; that the Gibsons are reading the Kansas City Star and Bodine's paper and the Gibsons seem to think that Hirth is going places. Ellis does think that Hirth is picking up fast; that he hears that the Hirth strength is surprising around Kirksville; that this information comes from Mrs. H. R. Souders, vice chairman of the Democratic Committee and county superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Souders is attending summer school at Kirksville. Ellis says Lincoln County is a farm Bureau county and the farm bureau does not like Hirth; that the anti-Pendergast stories of the St. Louis papers are cutting in some; that the Democrats here are 100% against the insurance settlement and that the code business is fanning it more; you hear very little about the fraternal situation. He says that O'Malley is a distinct political liability that so far there is no existing outstanding Hirth sentiment in the county; that all like Stark; that the insurance settlement is very distasteful to the rank and file; that the fact that Stark will not commit himself on the O'Malley situation makes people think that O'Malley will continue as a superintendent of insurance; that people are not kicking about the sales tax but the failure to pay the old age pension is hurting. He thinks that old age pensions should be paid to all deserving cases as fast as possible and if this is done the situation will be eased.

W.B. Ellis says that Hirth will get a bigger vote than he at first thought and he thinks this will hurt the ticket this fall. He says the unfavorable things are O'Malley and Pendergast; that people are swallowing the stuff that the St. Louis papers are putting out. He thinks that Hirth will get about 300 votes in the county; that the Republicans are on their toes and think that they will win; says the Democrats will get a big vote among the WPA and they are going to set up a polling precinct at their camp for their convenience.

Jack Jones, Legionnaire and cashier of the Bank of Lincoln County says that all the Legionnaires here are Democrats except two who are Republicans;

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that all the Democratic veterans are for Stark; that John M. Gibson, former county judge who is without much influence is supporting Hirth; Jones will distribute the literature among the veterans.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

AT MONTGOMERY CITY:

I met up with Ernest Tate of Elsberry who is with the National re-employment service. He says he has a neice who is working for Hirth. However he is strong for Stark and he says the insurance situation is cutting in on Stark. He gave a nice report on the activity of Mrs. T. E. Crowder, committee woman at Owensville, Gasconade County. She belongs to some fraternal organizations and with the members of her lodge she has handled the situation in fine shape. It will be remembered that a few days ago I received a letter from T E. Crowder husband of Mrs. Crowder, offering his services in behalf of Major Stark and offering to handle the campaign among the veterans for Stark* Tate says that the Crowders are highclass people and have a lot of influence especially among the Republicans. Tate says that all of those with the national re-employment service are for Stark. Tate works in 10 counties.

H. E. Ball, postmaster says that Stark will get from 75 to 90% of all the votes in the county. Dr. Buell Menefee stated that he has collected the finances for Stark in Montgomery County; says that Hirth will get a good many votes in this county; that the

Hirth supporters are working hard but most of them are Republicans. He thinks Stark will carry the county about 5 to 1 that the Hirth support is confined to MFA; that the situation is fine in New Florence at the south end of the county; that Mrs. George Uptergrove introduced Hirth when he spoke at Montgomery City. In her introductory address she stated that if Hirth was not nominated they would beat Stark this fall. Hirth in his speech said that her statement is not true, that if the organization is big enough to beat him in the primary it was big enough to elect Stark in the fall. This speech was made on Thursday July 16.

Dr. Menefee says that most of the fraternal insurance people here are Modern Woodmen; that this organization is not well thought of here because it has frozen out a lot of people who had carried insurance in the organization a number of years; that the mainstay of the Modern Woodmen are against the fight on Stark; he says that if O'Malley would announce that he is not a candidate for re-appointment; that this would solve the whole insurance problem; that O'Malley is a distinct political liability; that the O'Malley situation will have some effect especially the matter of the settlement of the fire insurance cases. He thinks that the President will run allright in this county; that we may lose a few Democratic votes but this will be more than overcome by the Republican votes that will be gained; says there are some people who have invested a little in stocks are sqawking about the taxing of surplus funds of corporations. Dr. Menefee has names of all CWA, PWA, those who have received seed loans, all F.E.R.A. the feed loans; those who were given aid, the names of all the old age pensioners in fact the rosters of these organizations are in the hands of Dr. Menefee and he will organize in an effort to get all of these votes. This is a Republican county Dr. Menefee thinks the veterans literature will help win over some Republican votes and he will look after the matter of distributing this literature among the veterans.

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AT WELLSVILLE:

Fred Blattner, postmaster, says that Hirth will get a few votes here. He thinks Hirth will get about 20% and Stark 80% of the votes; that there is not much Hirth sentiment here and you hear of a person now and then who is for Hirth; that what Hirth strength there is has bobbed up in the last two weeks; that all Democrats of any importance are for Stark; that the insurance situation is a sore spot with some people but that so far he has not heard anything detrimental from the rank and file because Stark has not said whether he will retain O'Malley but the Democrats just passed this over. The President will get all the Democratic votes that the relief of Republicans will not change them; that they will vote for Landon. It looks like the Republicans are going to support Landon solidly; that the Republicans are extremely active while the Democrats are dormant. He thinks the Democrats must work this fall; that Stark's interests will be well cared for at Wellsville on August 4.

Mrs. Ola McMains, Secretary of the county data says the situation for Stark here is good. She says it is good among the railroad people, the town people and among the farmers that everybody thinks Stark will win in a walk.

Burney Richardson who operates a bakery and is a veteran prominent in Democratic circles was asleep Saturday morning when I was there, having worked all night Friday night. For this reason I did not waken him. I conferred with Mrs. Richardson who assured me that Mr. Richardson is doing all he can in behalf of Major Stark and I left the veterans' literature for Mr. Richardson to distribute. Mrs. Richardson said Mr. Richardson could be depended on to work hard among the veterans and other Democrats in behalf of Stark.

H. M. Moran, editor Wellsville Star, is a friend of Pendergast. He says that Stark will carry this county by a big vote; says that he has heard only of a few fanners who are talking for Hirth.

William A. Kitchen.