

To The Voters

To the Editor of the Slater News-Rustler and Citizens of Missouri:

I have been criticized by two of Slater's "Stark-Pendergast" henchmen, one a brakeman or conductor, and the other an engineer, and both seem to be formerly of Louisiana, and who claim to be life-long friends of Lloyd Stark.

R. MacD. Smith, the brakeman, at one time received a minor appointment through some of his Pike county political friends, and served a short time as some kind of a compliance man in the N. R. A. Evidently the Democratic party did not find him so hot as he was soon back with his lantern and switch key working as a brakeman and still finds the railroad a pretty good place to work.

He tells that if Lloyd Stark is elected as Governor that he (R. MacD. Smith) will be Labor Commissioner in Missouri, which position pays a neat little salary, almost equal to the Governor, so it is no wonder he seems a little bit fluttered about me exposing the deplorable conditions around the Stark nurseries.

He told you about Lloyd Stark on the NRA Board in Washington, D. C. I conceded that he was and that he also succeeded in getting the nursery industry in the whole United States' exempt from the Code so that he could work his help in the various branches of his nursery throughout the states with long hours not permitted by the Code, and he did not have to raise their pay, claiming that the nursery business was an agricultural enterprise.

Engineer H. P. Drisler is the other critic and a politician who has stood in one spot and dealt out more cards on election day than any other man in Missouri. He would naturally resent his Pike county friend being exposed for the simple reason that his wife (Mrs. Drisler) holds a position as head of the W. P. A. Sewing Room in Slater, a relief project, while many capable and deserving women in the Community are in dire need and their poor children often go to bed hungry and are badly in need of clothing and of medicines.

This condition has been protested and even in Washington, I am told you can find this protest in the Congressional Record, but through Pike county or some other political influence she still holds this good paying position and wears fine clothes while Mr. Drisler is running an engine at a salary equal to or probably larger than any bank official in Saline County.

I haven't any correction or apology to make about the letter I wrote concerning our candidates for governor, and I believe you are all intelligent enough to know that it is the truth that hurts them.

A vote for Mr. Hirth, Democratic candidate for Governor will be a vote against the Pendergast machine and election frauds.

Yours very truly,

William Walden

Dated August 3, 1936.

Member Lodge No. 18, B. of L. F. and E.
Slater, Missouri.