

[page 1]

Macuire Coal Company  
Wholesale and Retail  
Boatmen's Bank Building,  
Broadway & Olive. Saint Louis

Aug 25th 1936.

Dear Mr Stark

Knowing you only by name, I take the liberty of sending this message, to say that we are going to support you, and our good president F.D.R. to the fullest extent of our capacity, which of course is limited. I have come to this decision, because I believe you are the strongest candidate running and furthermore, do not like that tactics of your opponent. His efforts to make the public believe that you are a puppet of the Pendergast regime are too ridiculous for words, and no one who has ever followed your career would give his statement consideration. The statements he makes concerning our present board of election commissioners may have merit, but it will be time enough when you will have been elected Governor, to appoint the right kind. This should be done because good citizens cannot condone the acts of unscrupulous ward healers who fill the registration books with phoney names, and who when the primary elections are held have their crooked henchmen vote slips which have on same the names of people who for various reasons they know will not be at the polls. I saw this done many years ago, when I was a delegate to the convention

[page 2]

8/25/36

that nominated my old friend S. W. Cobb for Congress, a personal friend of Grover Cleveland. Crimes of this kind are severe blows to our form of government, and are blows at the very foundation of our Constitution. Imprisonment for life is not too severe a punishment for the fellow who commits such a villainous act.

Your lifes work has partuculary qualified you for the position of governor of our state, because Missouri at this time needs a substantial citizen, and business man, one well versed in Agricultural art. The record shows that were it not for the increase in the populations of Kansas City, and St Louis, the state would have shown a loss, indicating that many young people have deserted the farms, for the cities, thereby cutting down the amount of necessary farm products, and increasing the number of unemployed in the lager communities. Many of these good young people are failures, in the cities. Another thing important is to know that most of the slush funds payed to committee men for the purpose of furthering the interest of a candidate goes out of circulation, instead of being spent to

[page 3]

8/25/36

the use for which it was intended. My sincere anxiety to see good men in office prompt me to write this letter. I am not a politician, and have no axe to grind. We will make an effort to secure supporters for you wherever possible, because I believe you are the kind of a man our state needs, and would give the people a business like and dignified administration. Hoping that you will be elected by a large majority and also that our President who is a humanitarian, a splendid executive and pleasing personality, will be retained in the White House, so that many of the

reforms he has inaugurated can be carried out to completion. Judging from indications such as RR and trucking loadings, bus activity, increased sales of merchandise, etc, our wonderful country is on the eve of prosperity, and it would be a pity for the republican party to elect its candidates, thereby getting credit for the work and well laid plans of a splendid democratic administration.

Very Truly Yours.

Charles Maguire