

[page 1]

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SALINE COUNTY
Stark-for-Governor Club
Marshall, Mo.

Office of the Secretary
74 1/2 North Jefferson

October 12, 1936

Major Lloyd C. Stark
Louisiana, Missouri

Dear Major,

Enclosed please find pamphlet you requested, it is the latest outrage put out by the man Walden.

The records show that he has been arrested several times on different charges, among them, bootlegging and I think those records are now in the hands of the state committee. As I understand, certified copies have been made and sent in as I asked to be done.

Saline county is sure in one heck of a shape and I hope that I may be able to talk to you privately before you speak here the 19th. There are a few pointers that I think you should know before you speak and I believe you can turn the tide somewhat.

The Republicans are working on those on our relief rolls and it now looks as if almost all of them would vote the straight Republican ticket and, likewise, the Negro vote that was inclined to vote for us. They are putting out the idea that if Roosevelt is elected all relief rolls and WPA will be abandoned and Landon will increase the pay, etc.

Dan Nee was here Saturday and had no crowd whatever and was not advertised at all. I hope we can get more publicity for you but our committee doesn't seem to be able to get out enough publicity to get a crowd and I believe headquarters should try to see that more publicity is given to you speaking date here -- several days before the date.

We did have a good meeting here for the district meeting but that crowd was, in part, from other counties.

I don't want to seem to be an alarmist but it now looks like Saline county would give us the smallest majority in years except for the Al Smith fiasco in '28 and if we don't look out both Roosevelt and you will lose this county. That is a strong statement but it is my honest opinion and is shared by many of our Democrats here.

In years past, we have been able to carry the county

[page 2]

for all candidates endorsed by Mr. Pendergast but this year there is a bitter sense of antagonism to his organization and the only thing they have against you is his support and your refusal to take a stand on Emmett O'Malley. This is a strong fraternal insurance town and it is going to take some effort to get them in line for you. I think, however, that if you would make a statement that, though you have not promised any job -- nor promised not to make any appointment -- that you will be governed by the wishes of the Democrats of Missouri in making all appointments and not by the request of any organization or group of men that it may suffice. In other words, if you can get it before them that you don't intend to let the K.C. organization name your patronage without coming out and naming that organization, the rank and file will be satisfied and the organization will know

why you have made the statement.

As you know, I have always been with the Pendergast organization and I have fought for them but just now we must get it before the Saline county voters that you were not brought out by them and intend to be independent of them as governor, or I am certain that we will lose this county and it is not alone for your sake that I am worried, for I lived in Carroll county many years ago when we thought it couldn't go Republican and woke one day to find that it had and it has consistently remained so ever since. If Saline county should get out of line once it might do the same way.

Please don't think I am a calamity howler but it is a dangerous situation here and I want to do everything in my power to overcome the condition.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,
Henry R. Conway