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RADIO TALK BY MAJOR LLOYD C. STARK

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR,
OVER STATION K S D, ST. LOUIS,
MONDAY, NOV. 2, 1936, 4:45 to 5:00 P.M.

My friends: We have come to the end of a strenuous political campaign. Victory-- Democratic victory— is in the air, and in a little over twenty-four hours I believe we Democrats of Missouri, as well as those of the nation, will be preparing to celebrate another glorious victory. It is not out of place in these final moments of the campaign to say that I have enjoyed the campaign; enjoyed traveling about and meeting the people of the state, discussing the issues of the day with them and learning from them direct what they are thinking about and what they want done.

Politics is a game of give and take, and I want to say that in this campaign I have tried to give, as well as take, confining myself to the facts and the records. All this has been done in a spirit of sportsmanship and fair play, and I want to say right here that, win or lose, I have no sore spots, no grudges to settle, and when elected, (as I fully and confidently expect to be,) I shall be governor of all the people, rich or poor, regardless of party, creed or color.

What are the issues of the campaign, my friends? My opponent, Mr. Barrett, insists there is but one issue, that being an indefinite something which he calls "Pendergastism". On that issue alone he has made his campaign, ignoring his candidate for president, Gov. Landon, and the other candidates on the Republican state ticket, in a desperate effort to filch Democratic votes for himself, until it became almost a Rep party scandal and threatened disruption of the Republican organization. The effort to stamp me as the candidate" has failed miserably because the facts are otherwise. For, while I have the support of the great Democratic organization in Kansas City, so have President Roosevelt and the other candidates on the Democratic state ticket, and they are all as much "Pendergast candidates" as I.

"The fact of the matter is, my nomination was brought about by a movement which started in the rural districts, and which had gained unbeatable proportions before the city politicians took any serious notice of it whatever. The Kansas City organization

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The K.C. Organ decided to give me its support on October 16, 1935, and the St. Louis party leaders declared for me the following day, but 60 days before that a careful poll of

Democratic county chairmen and Democratic newspaper editor revealed that I was the choice of 80 per cent of the out-state or rural Democrats)—and do not forget that nearly 60 per cent of the Missouri Democratic vote comes from rural Missouri outside the large cities.

"Just to show you what the prevailing sentiment was at the time, I am going to quote from editorials, which appeared in St. Louis newspapers about the time of the Kansas City indorsement of my candidacy. I quote an Editorial from the St. Louis Star-Times of Oct. 17, 1935:

"Thomas J. Pendergast would not be boss and political dictator of Kansas City if he could not tell offhand which way the political winds are blowing. Republicans have made it plain that Pendergast's control of state government will be the chief issue in next year's governorship campaign, and that this same issue offers the best chance for a Republican comeback. In this dilemma Mr. Pendergast, with the acumen of a successful political boss, declares himself for the one governorship aspirant--Major Lloyd C. Stark--against whom charges of Pendergast control are least likely to be made and can be most successfully denied.

"It did not take the shrewd Kansas City boss long to decide between possible loss of state control at Jefferson city, or helping a man to go in as governor whose personal record makes boss control unlikely. Pendergast was against Major Stark four years ago and dictated another selection. This year it is Boss Pendergast climbing upon the bandwagon, rather than Major Stark soliciting and accepting Pendergast support. The promptness with which St. Louis leaders of opposing factions have ratified this choice confirms that view.

Major Stark is unquestionably the Democratic party's best bet among all_ the governorship aspirants who have so far appeared. His record as citizen and business man, and as an artillery officer in the World War, uphold a belief that if he is nominated, and elected, Pendergast nor anyone else can use him to the disadvantage of the state. Men trained in the traditions of Annapolis Naval

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Academy, as he has been, who have left the service, and renewed their obligations by going to the fighting front in a bloody war, are not likely to be forgetful of their path as civil officers, or their duty to all the people as against the politicians and bosses. It is conceivable that Major Stark, simply on his qualifications as citizen and business man might have won the nomination without active Pendergast aid. That Pendergast volunteers to give this aid is no reflection on Major Stark. The Republicans will have to look long and go far to match this candidacy.

On the same date, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch said, editorially:

"It happens that Major Stark is a candidate of unusual promise. Worthy scion of a

famous Missouri family, he is the head of one of the world's most celebrated nurseries; he was graduated with honors from the Annapolis Naval Academy; his war record is one of distinction; he is a man of large affairs who has shown a deep interest in public service."

"I do not quote these words in a self-laudatory spirit, friends but only to remind you what the newspapers all over the state were saying in October, 1935. I am the same Lloyd C. Stark I was at that time, and I say to you again that, if elected, I shall be your Governor in fact, as well as in name. St. Louis will get a fair deal from me, and you may dismiss the hob-goblin of 'Pendergastism', or threatened control of St. Louis by Kansas City, as merely a Republican myth. It simply isn't true and it isn't going to happen. I shall go into office without having made a promise to any individual, group or organization except to give each and every one a fair deal".