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EXCHANGE BANK BUILDING

PLATTE CITY, MO.

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Hon. Guy B. Park,

Jefferson City, Missouri.

Dear Governor Guy B. :

I just had an argument with one of my brothers about the attitude you took in your speech concerning the faction headed by Pendergast in Kansas City. I think you was right, and he thinks otherwise. He says you hurt the party. I think it was it was the proper time and the proper thing to say, and it had a quiting and good effect out over the State, especially with those who were ready to believe any thing against Pendergast that might be published by the Kansas City Star and other Republican papers; it certainly shut up the "yappers" in Kansas City who had started out to organize an independent party for the next City election; they have laid down, at least for the present.

We all understand there are some barnacles fastened to every political party, or organization, but any fair inteligent man will admit that the party does not condone their acts, or indorse what they might say or do. Mc Elroy is fool when it comes to what is best for the Democrat Party--what to say and what not to say, but he is a wizzard when it comes to finance, and business. The Council gives him a free hand when it comes to business. Well, that is that.

Next week again throws you into the den of lions and "nit-wits". Our majority in the House and Senate is unweildly, and it is hard to control or properly direct them in any kind of progamme. Most of the House Members are very very mediocre--limited in experience and intelligence, and these latter are so egotistical they can not or will not receive advice from anyone. They are simply accidents, and you will just have to worry

along with them.

In looking back over the history of this State—the different Governors and their administrations, I am sure no one of them ever had the problems and responsibilities to shoulder and confront that you have, and you have not shirked a one of them, but have come out from under with flying colors. The matter of taxes for revenue in a time of depression like we have is a serious thing and should be considered from every angle. To my way of thinking, the small sales tax would be the best, and most equitable, but I can see the other side of it and perhaps there is a better way to be presented to the Legislature. already groaning under land 8nd property tax, and it would be suicidal to advocate raising of money in that way.

There is a chance that an attempt will be made to make liquor bear the burden, but there is danger in setting the tax too high, all of which I know you will watch

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carefully and try to have the tax placed where it will not be too great a burden. I believe the beer tax should be raised, and also to cover the entire product of the breweries sold in the state and out of the state. Hard liquor, of course, should bear a substantial tax, but not so high that the price of liquor would be too great, and permit the bootlegger to get a ready sale for his cheap product. It occurs to me that hard liquor and beer should not be permitted together, except perhaps, in Hotels and long established restaurants, and in no case should restaurants or places along the highways outside of incorporated towns be allowed to handle either whisky, wine or beer, They have gotten along fine with beer alone, but when you put the two together, out from under proper official control, I can see a big bag of trouble. Anyway, there is no good reason why every little filling station along the highway should handle either beer or whiskey.

I feel sorry for you when I think of that legislature camping on your door step till Christmas. There are times when I think a "one-man-legislature" would be better, and certainly much cheaper for the tax-payers, but I suppose that will never be. You must depend upon the capable men and leaders to keep the "nit-wits" in line, if

possible, and above all see that the whiskey and beer lobbyists are kept from the floor of the Senate and House, and exposed publicly at every opportunity. They are an abomination of the face of the earth, and the only way to reach them is by public exposure. The saloon men and the lobbyists brought about prohibition, and its consequent evils, and they should not be heard again.

I hope liquor will be controled absolutely by the State, in the scheme to be submitted to you by the Legislature, and in that case, a Board of Controle provided for, to carry out proper supervision. And while we 8re on that subject, lets pause just a minute; Should such a Board be created, I would not have the heart to turn down an appointment of chairman thereof, should it be offered me. That does mean that I will be an active applicant and have my friends cover you up and annoy you with a multitude of letters or interviews, but since I am coming out from under my infirmities, and in case you decide to call me, I will be like Barkis, and say I am "willin'. I think I could fill the office acceptably, and with credit to you and the State. Up to the present time, I have turned a deaf ear to many of our mutual friends, who thought I should ask you for something, for number of reasons--first because I was not physically fit, [MS. torn] did not wants to be just a pensioner; second, because there was nothing that had not been asked for by a thousand others, and I did not want to add to your many, many troubles. To me, it was disgusting to see the multitude of applicants swarming after you asking for a place, regardless of their fitness, or political consequences.

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to you, or the party. All they wanted was a job--regardless.

I know if this Controle Board he created, there will be numerous applicants for the place, and if you think best, or if pressure is made so hard that you can't ignore it, do not hesitate to place the appointment elsewhere. I will not growl or grumble, but will understand and continue to support you just as always. I think my suggestion is unique, in that there is no such Board, and may never be, and there may never be occasion to

appoint anyone, and there is no other office that I want. I am not going to mention the matter to any one, so you will not be bothered by me or my friends in the future.

I think you made a happy and wise selection when chose Allen Thompson as your Secretary. While he may not be as wise, politically, as old Sam, he has quite an acquaintance over the State, and is a good mixer, and a good business man.

I think I ought to bring this rambling letter to a close by saying "hold that line with the nit-wits", get them off your hands as soon as possible, and continue in making us the same good Governor. It has often been said the office of Governor is a mans' political grave yard, yet that is not true. If he has made a good Governor, and has ability above the average, you can't keep him down.

With the very best wishes to you and Mrs. Park, and Henrietta, who I see by the papers, is soon to be Mrs. Krause,  
I am,

Sincerely Yours,

A. D. Gresham