

First Ward
Republican Headquarters
Kansas City, Missouri

DR. RAY B. HORTON
COUNTY COMMITTEEMAN

April
Twenty-second
1934

Hon. Guy B. Park
Governor of Missouri
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Governor:

I have just read in the Kansas City Star a vitriolic statement by Mr. Arthur Curtis, Republican State Chairman, against your proposed bond election and his reference to Mr. T. J. Pendergast.

I note former Governor Caulfield has issued a carefully worded statement alleging partisan politics and predicting defeat of these bonds at the election for this reason.

Probably Governor Caulfield and Mr. Curtis think that it is just a coincident that their statements should be issued simultaneously, nevertheless, they plainly indicate their position and that of their friends relative to this bond program. Knowing of this opposition as you now do you should strengthen your organization to meet their opposition, which includes the many misunderstanding taxpayers to such a bond issue. I think the latter foe is the real element of danger against the success of your proposed bond election combined with strictly partisan and personal political opposition.

I am confident that these gentlemen do not know Mr. Pendergast personally since they seem to derive a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction in their continuous political attacks upon him. I have know him personally and intimately for many years and know him to be a man of far greater integrity and honesty than either Governor Caulfield or Mr. Arthur Curtis. While Mr. Pendergast and I differ politically, in the many years I have known him he has yet to ask me to do one single thing against my party, in fact Mr. Pendergast is a man who knows I would resent any suggestion that I be disloyal to my party in any manner, shape or form, however, in such instances as the proposed bond election which is for the welfare of the State's unfortunate people who must seek the hand of our State Institutions for their Welfare, it will be my pleasure to aid in such a cause. I will shortly call the County Committee members of this County who are aligned with me and ask them to give their full support to this cause, also I will call Messrs. Jesse Martin and Harvey Roney, Republican members of the Jackson County Election Board and ask them to support this program. From all indications the other faction of the Republican party here, combined with the Youth or Fusion Movement, will be against your Bond Election program. I will get in touch with friends in

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Hon. G. B. P.

Southwest Missouri and particularly Senator Lon Kelley and my father of Pineville and have them support your proposed Bond Election, as well as my friend, Circuit Judge Emory E. Smith and his friends of Monett, Missouri. I was responsible for Judge Smith's election this year as President of the Young Mens Republican Association of Missouri and I am confident he will gladly do some active work in behalf of this cause.

I would suggest you send for Mr. Becker and discuss this program with him. He has been in the hospital for 10 days or more but is out now. He can give you valuable help on this program, particularly through the many newspapers, one in each County of the State he

controlled when he was Secretary of State, through the printing of the Constitutional Amendments. I am sure Charlie will do this and I know he has a way of helping on a program of this sort through his various political connections in the State which should be very helpful.

With warm personal regards and best wishes, I am

Very sincerely,

Ray B. Horton

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