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PHONE VICTOR 8220

JOHN S. BATES

LAWYER

KEITH & PERRY BUILDING

KANSAS CITY, MO.

February 4th, 1936.

Hon. Jesse W. Barrett,

506 Olive Street,

St. Louis, Missouri.

Friend Jesse:

I read with much interest your announcement as a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor. I am enclosing you a couple of clippings from the local press, one a very favorable editorial comment from the Kansas City Times. I feel sure that the local situation can be handled so that you will carry Jackson County. One article in the press mentioned Homer Mann's support of Mr. Winter. Personally, I do not consider the support of Homer Mann of much consequence. I have no differences whatever with Mr. Mann and like him personally, but have always considered his influence amongst the rank and file of workers to be at a very low ebb. He is a faithful hard-working Republican, but the boys who deliver the votes do not, and for a number of years, have not felt inclined to follow him.

I have spoken to a great many here in Jackson County and elsewhere over the State the past several months with regard to your candidacy, and no one has ever had anything to say detrimental to same. After the announcement of Mr. Winter I did hear a number of comments antagonistic to his nomination. The one thing you must steer clear of locally is that of being the candidate of the Young Republicans. That seems to be one

thing that Homer is trying to inject into the campaign.

I know, and have preached, and intend to continue preaching

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the fact that you can carry from seventy-five to one hundred thousand more votes in the November election than can Mr. Winter. In my opinion the Republican nomination is equivalent to election. I have spoken to a number of country Democrats, having recently returned from a trip to West Plains, Missouri, and they are antagonistic to the domination of State affairs by Tom Pendergast. The big political blunder made by Pendergast was his nomination of Mr. Stark one year prior to the primaries. I am sure that Stark will be your opponent, and this only makes it so much more imperative that you be the candidate in that you have all the virtues of Stark and then some.

I assure you of my hearty support for the nomination, and shall ever keep busy boosting you among my friends locally and over the State. Expect to write many letters to active Republican friends of mine over the State, and expect to cover Southwestern Missouri where I was born and raised, and over which district I have many friends scattered, who no doubt can yield much influence in your behalf.

You no doubt recall when I tried to get you to enter the campaign for governor in 1928 I told you that it was a Republican year. In my opinion this is a Republican year, and if all goes well within the ranks of the party I feel that the Presidential landslide in November will help to carry the entire State ticket.

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I trust that we will be able to get a strong list of candidates with you for the election in November.

With best personal regards and best wishes for a successful campaign, I am,

Yours truly,

John Bates

JSB/G

Enc.