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WATSON, ESS, GRONER, BARNETT & WHITTAKER  
DIERKS BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
TELEPHONES VICTOR 3132

October 26, 1937

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Mr. Jesse W. Barrett,  
Attorney at Law,  
506 Olive Street,  
St. Louis, Missouri,

Dear Mr. Barrett:

I have your letter of October 23rd. I was very glad to hear from you and glad to get your views concerning the course the Republicans should take in the coming spring

election in Kansas City. I have been preaching for some time that we should have a fusion ticket for this coming city election and I am glad to see that a number of leading Republicans concur in my views. I have had frequent conferences with a number of Democrats who want to join in a citizens' movement to throw out the present city government and I believe we will be able to accomplish that result in the next election.

You ask for my opinion about the election board. I know the gentlemen designated are all high class men and their integrity cannot be questioned by anyone, and I think their appointment meets with the approval of all good citizens regardless of party affiliations. The only fear the good citizens of this town now have is that the present new board will not accept. They were all drafted without any consultation beforehand by the Governor. Their appointment was as much of a surprise to them as it was to the general public. However, I am in hopes that they will consider the public demands and yield to this general

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demand that they serve as our next election commissioners.

I have been working for some time on a plan to have an equal number of Republican and Democratic candidates for councilmen of the city, advocating that a Democrat be nominated for mayor and I am in hopes that this program will go through. I have been quietly working for some six weeks on a list of names to recommend to the election commissioners for judges and clerks in the various precincts of the city. If I have anything to say about the matter. I am going to urge that the new commissioners discard the old judges and clerks and give us a new deal all around. Of course there were some honest judges and clerks and we have a pretty fair line on those that were against the fraudulent registration in the last election. I see no objection to appointing those judges and clerks who have demonstrated their honesty and good faith.

I am firmly of the opinion that the indictments that are now being questioned in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals will be held to be good. I am sure that there was a violation of the federal law and that the offenses charged were committed against the federal law. I agree with you that it is one of our tasks to keep the public's attention fastened upon the reappointment of Mr. Milligan as United States District Attorney. I think there will be developments in the near future that will certainly neutralize any objections that Mr. Truman may make to Mr. Milligan's confirmation. I note what you have done in getting editorials in the St. Louis Post Dispatch, and the Kansas City Star has had some excellent editorials in favor of Mr. Milligan and will put up a very strong fight for his reappointment. I think the sentiment for his reappointment is universal among all decent, respectable citizens of this city.

I will be glad to have your advice any time as to what is the best course for our party to pursue in the state as well as in the city of Kansas City. I have engagements here on Friday that will detain me so that I cannot attend the Republican gathering at Springfield, but I hope that it will be a great success in reviving the spirits of the Republicans in this state. I hope I may be able to see you in the near future and discuss these matters more fully.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

I. N. Watson

INW:HWC