

April 1, 1938.

Hon. I. N. Watson,
Dierks Building,
Kansas City,
Missouri.

Dear Mr. Watson:

When you can find time, I shall be interested in your comment on this week's election. I know it disappointed you, but I am equally sure that you are not discouraged.

To me, it was no surprise, as I had heard many predictions of the result. Yet, here was the first opportunity of that metropolis to enjoy a secret ballot, to know that each vote would be honestly counted, and to express its pent-up resentment against a corrupt machine. Campaign funds should not have been needed, nor even organization. Just the chance to strike the blow should have been enough to have brought an overwhelming majority to the polls. I think one must conclude that Kansas City has what she wants, and wants what she has. The big business men, of course, are fearful that their special privileges might be disturbed by a reform crowd, and the loser classes feel a dependence on the organization for protection, charity and other favors. It is discouraging to those who believe that the majority of people want good government. One has to hold to that thesis, however, and hold to it we will. Personally, I intend to do all I can to keep the issue before our people.

After writing you about the campaign funds, I got in touch with Arthur Curtis and found that he had gone into the matter with some care. I suppose you also found that he had had the matter up with certain Kansas City men, and I was not able to add anything to his information.

I am still hoping that the Federal prosecutions may reach higher than they have so

far.

May I tell you again how much I admire the work you have been doing?

I hope you are well and enjoying every good fortune.

With best regards,

Cordially yours,

JWB/CH