

For release 3 P.M. August 6, 1938.

New Florence, Missouri, August 6. - Speaking today at the annual Reunion of Montgomery County Old Settlers, Jesse W. Barrett, former Attorney General and R-publican Nominee for Governor in 1936, said:

"Just two years ago, speaking at this reunion, I told you that the Pendergast machine was trying to seize control of all Missouri, but Governor Stark was saying, 'Pendergastism is a thread-bare issue'. He knows far better now, and the recent primary vote shows what you think about it now. Some of you doubted when I told you of the wholesale vote thefts in Kansas City, but the convictions in the Federal Court have confirmed every word I said. Maybe you doubted my charge that there was a direct alliance in Kansas City between politics and crime, but Governor Stark has recently exposed the rackets by which half of the gambling profits are paid to the political ring. All my campaign statements were true, and they are now proven true. I only wish I had taken out a copyright on my speeches. Think of the royalties Lloyd Stark would have to pay me for using those speeches all through the recent primary campaign!

"Governor Stark has won a brilliant victory and has distinguished himself for gallantry and courage. We had every reason to fear that he would be a Pendergast Governor, for he was the Pendergast candidate and was nominated and elected by the aid of Pendergast votes and methods. Lloyd Stark, however, had natural decency and honor and after his election, when he found out what Pendergast expected and required of him, it was too much to stand. He broke with the boss and has now beaten the boss. I feel like cheering every time he chucks a Pendergast appointee off the payroll, but I still think I could have done the same thing with better right and more grace. I know I would have done the job more promptly, for I promised to fire every Pendergast appointee the day I took office, and I will wager that Governor Stark wishes now that he had done the same.

"We owe a lot to a good Governor. The office is not a plum nor a prize. It is four years of hard gruelling work, and the Governor who does his duty must sacrifice comforts, friendships, income, sometimes health; in fact, must sacrifice everything except good name - and there are plenty of people who want to deprive him of that too. The Governor who shows honesty and courage is entitled to support and praise.

"I wish we could say as much for Senator Clark, but he let Lloyd Stark fight the battle alone. Clark was busy making speeches about keeping America out of war, feeling sure that could cause no argument, and knowing, too, that there is no particular foreign war into which there is the least likelihood of our being drawn. All the while, the war in Missouri against Pendergast was the war that Senator Clark really wanted to keep out of. I am not forgetting the splendid courage Senator Clark showed in the United States

Senate. I only wish he had equal courage on the stump. He stood heroically against the plan to pack the Supreme Court, against the reorganization bill and against the other Roosevelt measures which were aimed at the very heart of the American Constitution and American institutions. In the Senate he said these measures were unsafe, unsound and un- American. Why does he not say so on the stump? He was right in the position he took and he could prove that he was right, but he owes it to our people to show them why he was right instead of now half apologizing for that opposition by his praise of Roosevelt." [*text stricken through*]