

Richard Perry Spencer
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Fayette, Missouri

February 1st, 1932.

Mr. Ewing Mitchell
Springfield, Missouri

My dear Ewing:

I have a letter from Gardner enclosing your letter.

I am very heartily in favor of the nomination of Roosevelt and think our delegation should be instructed for him for second choice. If this cannot be done I think it should be a hand-picked delegation.

Things have arrived at this state in Missouri. All the men prominent in state politics are "Yes" men and follow the leadership of Tom Pendergast because of his powerful organization there is Kansas City; and of course, in its final analysis Tom is dominated by Jim Reed, It would be a wholesome thing for Missouri democracy if every man selected by him were to be defeated at the primary, because if his selections go over, in the future men will not run at large for any office, but will spend their time maneuvering for Pendergast's support and if they fail to get it, will not run at all. I like Pendergast, he is a good democrat, a good Irishman and a faithful friend, but I am damned if I am ready to substitute his judgment for mine on the question as to who is best fitted for the offices in Missouri.

Let me hear from you from time to time. If the delegates are elected according to the old District lines you and I ought to be able to name the four from this district; I should like to go myself. If, on the other hand they are all to run at large, of course Tom Pendergast

and Jim Reed will pick them.

Yours very truly,
R. P. SPENCER