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June 21st, 1935.

Hon. Ewing Y. Mitchell,  
Department of Commerce,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

I have noticed with a great deal of interest events in the last sixty days which have concerned your office, and the controversy you are having with Secretary Roper and certain of the powers that be in Washington.

For your information, I was one the candidates for Councilman in the city election in 1934, and as one of the advisors of the National Youth Movement took an active part in the campaign to rid Kansas City of the Undemocractic and Unamerican forces that hold the city in its control. I am a life long constitutional Democrat. You might remember the fact that I was one of the spokesmen of the Citizens campaign, and as a result of my

experience in that campaign, I think I understand part of your difficulties at least. Your contribution to our campaign was one of the greatest assets we had, and I can't help but feel that your attitude toward the Pendergast machine in Missouri is responsible for part at least of your difficulties in Washington.

I admire you for your frankness and your sincerity in your fight, and wish to say that it is a common topic of conversation in Kansas City that the power of the Kansas City machine is being felt in Washington. You have a great many admirers and well-wishers among respectable Democrats who are hopeful that you are able to bring to light some of the abuse of which you complain, and anything that I can do in the way of aiding you, I would be glad to do so.

If the Senate of the United States is sincere in their desire to get to the bottom of the difficulty as far as the Kansas City part is concerned, they should and will conduct part of their investigation in this locality.

As a Democrat I am deeply concerned as to the future of the Democratic party unless party can clean house and rid itself of such sinister influences as exist in Kansas City, it is bound sooner or later to meet defeat, and a defeat which will result in the party of Jefferson passing from the political

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picture. Socialism, Bossism, and gang control have no part in Democratic or American Government, and those of us who have a true concern and regard for the history and accomplishments of the Democratic party cannot help but look with alarm to the future of the party. The short-sightedness of the job seeker, the spoils advocate, and a leadership which looks only to a temporary advantage is sure to result in the complete destruction of the Democratic party.

Let me congratulate you again for the part that you have played, and wish you every success.

Yours sincerely,

F. E. WHITTEN

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