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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

March 22, 1940

Mr. Ewing Y. Mitchell
Springfield, Missouri

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

Acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 21st with its enclosures, which I am returning herewith as per your request.

It was very interesting the way Mr. Hirth wrote about this situation. I am inclined to believe that he is under obligations to Phil Donnelly until such time that Donnelly is not the logical man.

I agree with you that McReynolds will make a better candidate than Donnelly, and I would rather leave it that way. But if McDaniel has the opposition of Governor Stark and Hirth, I don't believe that McDaniel can be nominated because the people of Missouri are more boss conscious, machine conscious and Anti-Pendergast conscious than they have ever been before. You will remember that the St. Louis vote for Douglass, and it was an united vote, was only about the amount that Douglass beat Billings; and if McDaniel will not get 100%, as Douglass did, adding to this the additional feeling over the State against Pendergast and his former allies or present allies it strikes me that the people would vote against any such candidate. For that reason, I believe that Allen McReynolds has as fine a chance as anyone else, if he receives Stark's and Hirth's support to be candidate.

I am afraid you put it a little strong to Mr. Hirth about my intention to run for Attorney General several months ago. As a matter of fact I had never made any such plans at that time and to be frank with you, am financially unable to seek any State office as far as that is concerned.

Incidentally I think the United Campaign Committee or the Reform group will sweep this City, April 2nd.

Yours very truly,

FREDERICK E. WHITTEN

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