

January 24, 1934.

Hon. Charles M. Howell,
Commerce Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir and Friend:

Mrs. Halterman wrote me expressing a hope that I would become a candidate for the United States Senator in the event you decide not to enter the race. I have written her at length explaining my views, and as I am short of stenographic help, and as my stenographer is

leaving for the day, I have requested her to show you my letter. As I stated the last time I saw you, I do not believe you can be nominated, nor do I think anyone from Kansas City can hope to win this senatorial nomination.

It looks as though Senator Reed is determined to enter the race, but certainly Mr. Pendergast cannot afford to put his great organization behind Senator Reed. At the present time Reed is an avowed enemy of the Roosevelt administration, and the people of Missouri will not nominate Senator Reed although his candidacy would defeat you or any other Kansas City man.

A year ago Mr. Pendergast told me that if you would not run, he would support me against anybody and everybody else in the state. I do not think Reed's gesture should change Mr. Pendergast's attitude, and I believe I am entitled to his support if you are not a candidate. I am writing Mr. Pendergast to that effect. The story seems to be well authenticated that Clark will support Milligan, but I do not think that he will fight me as hard as he would oppose you.

Now, you and Mr. Pendergast have it in your power to send me to the United States Senate, and I believe you will do this if you conclude to get out of this race. I do not think that Mr. Shannon has the ghost of a chance, and I know of no reason the Pendergast organization should tie up with Shannon or sponsor his candidacy.

Yours sincerely,

RFL-cm

M.C.