

Washington, D. C. May 17, 1934.

Dear Boys:-

Had another talk with Cochran today. I think he will be a candidate. He says his friends have made a survey of rural Missouri and found no sentiment for Truman and very little for Milligan. If Cochran runs he will sweep St. Louis, which will eliminate an important factor from the city groups on which Mr. Pendergast is said to rely for the nomination of Truman. Cochran insists that if he and I are candidates the race will be between us, in which conclusion I am not ready to concur, although I have very little information from the seat of war.

Wood and Harry Washburn claim that Milligan will not be endorsed organized labor. They are very friendly to me. I know this not only because of what they have told me but others have told me of Woods praise of me and expressed the hope that I get in the Senatorial race.

Duncan says that Milligan will have considerable strength in the old fourth or the old St. Joseph District; that while he has taken no part in the contest some of his friends have written him that many who formerly supported Milligan for Congress are now supporting Duncan and some seem to take it for granted that that will be the rule in that area, although Duncan says that while Milligan will have some strong support in Buchanan County, that he will have some strong opposition. Duncan says that Truman in his opinion will make no headway in St. Joseph. Maurice Murphy of St. Joseph was here yesterday and he said that Milligan would have more or less opposition all over his old District.

I am wondering if public sentiment has crystalized sufficient to form a worth while opinion as to the situation. Cochran insists that Truman will not continue in the race, but I am of the opinion that if he withdraws it will not be until after the time for filing declarations of candidacy. Of course, Truman may surprise us although he is without experience and training in subjects that a Senator is supposed to know something about. From present indications, Congress will adjourn during the first week in June, but no one can forecast the approximate date.

After talking with Shannon, who will be here tomorrow, I may 'phone or wire you.

With much love. Dad.