

Washington, D. C. May 20, 1934.

Mrs. Katherine Halterman,  
Security Bldg.,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Halterman:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and I certainly appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing me and the friendly spirit that prompted the communication.

Of course, I am disappointed I did not receive Mr. Pendergast's endorsement for Senator, because from what he told me I think I was justified in expecting his unequivocal endorsement in the event Mr. Howell decided not to make the race. But I know that nothing is certain in politics and I accepted the blow with equanimity, believing that sooner or later Mr. Pendergast will conclude that I had the strongest claims on the Democratic party for the Senatorial nomination.

But it is alright with me and I am not going to fall out with Mr. Pendergast or anyone else because I did not receive the endorsement of the Kansas City organization. But for the life of me I cannot understand how Mr. Pendergast could hope to win with Judge Truman. Frankly, in my opinion, the Missouri Democracy will not take Judge Truman's candidacy seriously and with Cochran, Milligan and Truman in the race, the Judge will trail the others and Milligan's nomination absolutely certain.

In the first place, two-thirds of the Democrats in Missouri are in the rural counties. The agricultural classes believe they are entitled to one Senator. The cities have a Senator in the person of Mr. Clark. The rural voters will, in my opinion, never consent for both Senators to come from the cities, especially under present conditions when the agricultural classes are facing penury and peasantry and when they are discontented and disposed to look upon the industrial and commercial classes as largely responsible for their economic distress.

From the letters and telegrams that I have received, it is very evident that the reaction from Judge Truman's candidacy and Mr. Pendergast's endorsement has not been favorable and with Milligan, Truman and Cochran in the race it is simply a question of how large Milligan's majority will be. In my opinion, the great majority of Missouri Democrats are not satisfied with either of the three candidates.

I have made a pretty careful survey of this Missouri situation and believe that there is a state-wide demand for my candidacy and I am convinced that I can be nominated. I have proceeded very deliberately because I want to correctly appraise the situation. If I enter the race it will not be to help elect or help defeat some other candidate, but because I believe I can win the nomination. I will reach a decision in a few days.

I am physically in fine condition. Believe I can make a whirlwind campaign which, plus my extensive acquaintance throughout the state, will spell success.

Again thanking you for your interest and wholesome counsel, I remain

Sincerely,

L-T    Ralph F. Lozier, M.C.