

SAMUEL W. FORDYCE JOHN H. HOLLIDAY THOMAS W. WHITE WALTER R.
MAYNE FRANK E. WILLIAMS BENNETT C. CLARK ELMER C. ADKINS ERVIN C.
HARTMAN NELSON W. HARTMAN C. P. FORDYCE RAYMOND E. LA DRIERE
FORDYCE, HOLLIDAY & WHITE 506 OLIVE STREET SAINT LOUIS
CABLE ADDRESS "FOLITE"

March 13th, 1931.

Hon. James A. Reed, Telephone Building, Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Senator:—

I was up at Jefferson City the other day and found there was a good deal of excitement going on about whether or not a Redistricting Bill for Congressional purposes should be passed by this session of the legislature. Of course, with the legislature being Democratic and the Governor being Republican it means that it will be impossible to have enacted into law a Redistricting Bill which will be advantageous to the Democrats, because Caulfield would not sign any such bill. Of course, the alternative is to have thirteen Congressmen elected at large this year, and if we carry the state next year we would then be able to district on our own terms and assure a much more favorable districting to any that we could secure while a Republican governor is in office. Moreover, I believe that it would be the most healthy thing that could possibly happen to the Party in this state to have Congressmen elected at large, as it would make a lot of fellows take an interest in carrying the state who have not for years taken the slightest interest in anything outside their own districts.

The truth of the business is that outside of Milligan and Romjue the delegation does not amount to much anyhow, and under the proposed Redistricting Bill Romjue is having his district taken away from him and given to Clarence Cannon, and Romjue is thrown over in Lozier's district along with Sam Major.

I do not know whether you agree with me in this diagnosis or not and whether you would care to mix up in it or not, but if you do agree with my view of the matter I believe that a word from you to Tom Pendergast might be determinative as to what will happen in Jefferson City.

With kindest regards, I am, Your friend,

BCC:MR