

COPY

Washington, D. C. February 18, 1941

Honorable Roger T. Sermon Mayor

Independence, Missouri

Dear Roger:

Appreciate very much your letter of the Fourteenth, and I am thankful for your courtesy to Henry Gould.

I don't know him, but the fellow who wrote me about him is a good friend.

I am terribly sorry about the mix-up in the county. If there ever was a boy who needs help and assistance it is George and I think you can give him that help and assistance.

The difficulty with the employment situation is Mr. Kirby, and I wrote him a letter the other day that I think will take his hide off. If he wanted to be cooperative in this matter I think we could get everyone in at the plant in whom we are interested.

George badly needs somebody to talk to who hasn't a personal axe to grind and who will give him advice for the county as a whole and not for any personal improvement or build-up, and you could do that better than anybody I know if you just would.

I don't know what has become of but I think with the situation here as it is there is no possibility for my coming out there end staying three months in order to straighten the situation out. But I believe I could do it in thirty days and I would have you satisfied and everybody else. If I was where I could sit down and talk to you once a week and talk to George that often, we wouldn't have this situation. He has been pulled and hauled at by everybody, and every little fellow in the county tells him that you're crazy, and Jim's wrong and that I never did have any sense.

Les has never had the kind of job where he' had to talk to more than two people at once, and I think he needs sympathy and I think you can give it to him.

Sincerely yours,

Harry S. Truman

HST/ro