

COPY

Joplin, Missouri, May 31, 1939 Route 1, Box365  
Governor Starks,  
Executive Mansion,  
Jefferson City, Mo.

Dear Governor:

I shall be very much pleased if you will tell me just what has been done (or may be done) relative to the matter of social security (old age pensions) Has the legislature passed a measure that conforms to the Federal statutes, so that the General Government will give dollar for dollar with the state?

Also, by the first of the year, there will be an increased number of pensioners. Has the legislature provided yet so that pensions will not be lowered?

I regret that I am ignorant on the above matters, and so are many old persons whom I have talked to, and we would like to know the status of matters in this regard.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) J. W. Thompson

P.S. "We heard your talk on Pendergast Sunday. I have only this to say relative to the police bill: Those members of the legislature who fail the people should, and I believe, will be marked for defeat at next election, for they know that P end his like in KC are thieves. I have about as much respect for Pendergast as I do for such members- for those who will vote to support him and the police system as now run in K.C. It is my understanding that the Jasper Co. member is a Pendergast man.

P.S. As to Truman: I believe the President is mistaken about him supporting administration measures. I shall never support Truman. He belongs to the K.C. ring; and even if he did not and was a staunch supporter of the administration, he is a weak member, and has but little force in the Senate.

I think I am a good Democrat, and certainly have no use for a traitor. For the same reason (because he did not support the administration) I do not like Clark. In other words, to get my support, I want a man to be a New Dealer. The President is right. He is the only president the United States ever had who always stood for the people. I admit he has made mistakes but they have been honest ones.

I regret that I do not like Clark, as he was a World War soldier, and that means much to me. I never did believe that Clark is going contrary to the President, voted his convictions. If he did, he has but little to support his claim for intelligence, But still, Clark is better than Truman at his best.

J.W.T.

Some of the papers say the legislators have received but few letters concerning the police bill. At any rate, I am sure they will hear from the people at next election. Glad you vetoed the County Supt. Bill. Hope the County Prosecutor Bill will be served same way.