

# St. Sylvester's Church

Rev. P. Leo, O. S. B., Pastor

Ottenheim, Kentucky

Waynesburg, Ky.,

Jan 12, 1926

R. F. D. No. 1

The Hon. Chas A. Hardin

Harrodsburg, Ky.

Hon and dear Judge.

Your kind favor to hand, and thank  
you ever and ever so much.

I did not wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy  
New Year, in the expectation of a present or  
donation, but out of the mere esteem I have  
for you. But as long as you sent, this, rest  
assured, that I will not act foolishly, but  
shall make good and proper use of it.

Thanking you again

Very respectfully

Father Leo O.S.B.

So, next month will be the trial, of Ferdinand Schnitzler  
from here. It, surely will be a - loud - one.

He does not belong to my congregation. None  
of my people have or want anything to do with  
it. This man he wanted me to write to you  
Judge, but, I, certainly, say - no -



ALBERT B. CUMMINS, IOWA, CHAIRMAN.  
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JOHN BRIAR, CLERK.

## United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE COMMERCE

January 23, 1920.

Judge Charles A. Hardin,  
Danville, Kentucky.

My dear Charlie:-

I am in receipt of your favor of recent date endorsing Miss Emma Hays for appointment as postmaster at Stanford, Kentucky.

Of course you know without my telling you how glad I am to do anything in my power for you and your friends, and when the Post Office Department submits a list of eligibles for the appointment of a postmaster at Stanford, I shall be delighted to carefully consider all that you have said touching Miss Hays fitness for the place.

I shall also remember your interest in Mr. Theodore Reynolds in the appointment of a postmaster at Waynesburg, Kentucky.

With kindest personal regards,  
I remain,

Sincerely your friend,




W



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Telegram	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Receiver's No.
Check
Time Filed

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

WASHINGTON, D.C. Friday Night.  
January 23, 1920.

Dear Judge:-

Called here by wire from the Senator last night because all the rest of his office force was down with flu. Mighty hard to leave the sick at home, and for other reasons wanted to remain longer in Ky., but was bound to come. Have just gotten in after a strenuous 30-hour trip (wires down) and have not as yet had a talk with the Senator. Elwood Hamilton was on my train as far as Frankfort last night. He showed me the tentative list of eleven. Surely a good crowd to take hold, if they will get sufficiently interested to "come across". Hamilton told me that Harry Sommers had suggested me as the man to take hold of the publicity bureau. there. I told him I didnt think I was up to it, and for the present would a little rather just be the Washington representative of Bureau and committee. I will do any thing that you and the Senator want me to do, that is best for you and for him. Dreadful amount of sickness here, but dont think the flu cases are of the severe type they were last winter.

Write me a line and let me know what has been done as soon as you do any thing, definite.

With high regard for yourself and Mrs. H., I am  
As ever.

*Geo. L. W.*



## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, THIS IS AN UNREPEATED MESSAGE AND PAID FOR AS SUCH, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message, beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.
2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for any mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of this message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of FIFTY DOLLARS, at which amount this message is hereby valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing hereon at the time the message is offered to the Company for transmission, and an additional sum paid or agreed to be paid based on such value equal to one-tenth of one per cent. thereof.
3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the Company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.
5. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.
7. Special terms governing the transmission of messages under the classes of messages enumerated below shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all foregoing terms.
8. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY  
INCORPORATED  
NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2.00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

### DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard Night Letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special "Day Letter" service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. Day Letters shall be written in plain English. Code language is not permissible.

C. This Day Letter may be delivered by the Telegraph Company by telephoning the same to the addressee, and such delivery shall be a complete discharge of the obligation of the Telegraph Company to deliver.

D. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day

Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

### NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2.00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special "Night Letter" service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

B. Night Letters shall be written in plain English. Code language is not permissible.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.



J. N. CAMDEN.  
VERSAILLES, KENTUCKY.

May 20, 1920.

Judge Chas. A. Hardin,  
Harrodsburg, Ky.

My dear Judge:

I wish to acknowledge with very great appreciation the receipt of your letter of recent date, which I had not received before going to Louisville, and which I found on my return home last night.

I wish to assure you that I am very deeply gratified at its tone and kindly expressions.

Again expressing my deepest appreciation of your kindly consideration, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*J. N. Camden*



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May 17th., 1933

Judge Charles A. Hardin,  
Chairman,  
State Executive Committee,  
Seelbach Hotel,  
Louisville, Kentucky

My dear Judge:

In view of the call which you have issued for a meeting of the State Committee to consider the advisability of rescinding or changing that part of the resolution adopted on April 16th., fixing the qualification of voters who may participate in the county conventions on June 9th., I am taking the liberty of writing to you upon that subject.

I have hesitated to do so, because no member of the Committee which is charged with the responsibility of deciding this matter has requested my views directly, and because also it is usually more easy and more pleasant to stay out of a controversial matter than to plunge into it.

But in view of the fact that I was present at the meeting of the Committee which issued the call for the state convention and adopted the resolution in question, and conferred with numerous democrats about the general situation in Kentucky, and expressed my views in a general way before the Committee and in an appeal which I addressed to the Democrats of the State touching the coming convention and election, I feel that in justice to myself and to the committee and to the people of the State generally, I should not follow the course of least resistance by remaining silent.

My recollection is that there was no very detailed discussion of any part of the resolution prior to the meeting of the Committee. Some time during the morning the resolution was brought into my room, where a number of Democrats were gathered. It was handed to me to read, and presuming that everybody else had read it, I started to read it to myself. Somebody suggested that I read it aloud, which I proceeded to do. It contained a provision fixing the vote in the State election last year as the basis of representation in the State convention. I called attention to the fact that the party law stipulated that the vote at the last presidential election should be the basis of representation in all State elections, and this correction was accordingly made.

When the paragraph now in controversy, fixing the qualification of voters in the county conventions was read, I inquired



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whether it was in the usual form, and was told that it was in the language of the statute applicable to primaries. That explanation seemed to be satisfactory to everybody present, and there was no further discussion of it or reference to it, except later in the public meeting of the Committee, at which time Mr. Robinson and Mr. Klair engaged in a discussion of the merits of that part of the resolution.

I refer to these circumstances merely to emphasize the casual way in which the matter came up and was discussed at the previous meeting of the Committee.

When the Kentucky legislature passed the general primary law in 1912, it is my recollection that it contained the provision which it now contains stipulating that a voter in a primary election in either party must have supported the nominees of that party in the last previous election. But whether it contained that provision at the beginning, it soon became a part of the primary election law, and was made applicable to all parties alike.

The language in that particular, among other things, is as follows, "And no person shall be deemed to have affiliated with said party in whose primary he seeks to vote if he voted against the nominee or nominees of such party at the last general election." It then goes on to state that in cities requiring registration, the voter must be registered as affiliating with the party in whose primary he seeks to vote.

The law also provides that no person can become a candidate for nomination in such a primary unless he or she comes within the qualification above referred to.

The rules governing the Democratic Party in Kentucky adopted at the last state convention held in Lexington in 1934, and also at numerous previous State conventions, stipulate that no man or woman can become a precinct committeeman, or committeewoman, unless he or she voted for all the nominees of the party at the last previous general election.

All these provisions in the law and in the party rules were undoubtedly adopted for the purpose of inspiring loyalty to the nominees of a party, and for the purpose of preventing men or women who had not supported the party nominees from enjoying the honors which the party might confer.

Therefore, from a purely legal, academic and technical point of view the resolution now in controversy was undoubtedly justified, because no one can consistently contend that there is any good reason for prescribing a different qualification for voters in a party convention from the qualification fixed for the same voters in a party primary.

However, the trouble with the present situation, it seems to me, arises



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out of the fact that the primary law itself, in this regard, has never been observed or enforced, and in my opinion no serious effort has ever been made either to observe it or enforce it as to the voters themselves, and I doubt whether it has been done even as to candidates for party nominations. While I think we may assume that during the sixteen years which have elapsed since this law was passed thousands of voters in both parties have from time to time voted against some nominee of their respective parties, I doubt whether as many as a hundred men in all that time have been actually challenged for that reason by the officers of primary elections. And this is no doubt true in spite of the fact that the election officers have the power under the law to swear any voter in a primary as to his previous party loyalty as well as his future intentions.

I recall that in 1917 there was a very heated primary contest in Graves County for the office of Sheriff. The nominee won over his nearest opponent by only a dozen votes. There was great opposition to him in his own party after he was nominated, and as has been my custom for many years in all counties when requested, I went into that county and campaigned for the whole ticket, including the candidate for sheriff. I carried with me a copy of the Kentucky Statutes which barred from a future primary any voter who voted against any nominee of his party. I read it to the audiences, and appealed to them in every way that I could think of not to disqualify themselves from participating in future primaries by voting against any nominee. But in that county which is overwhelmingly Democratic, the Democratic nominee was defeated and his Republican opponent was elected by nearly twelve hundred majority.

So far as I know, there was never any effort made in that county to bar from future primaries any of these Democratic voters who voted against the nominee for sheriff.

In 1920 Senator Beckham was defeated for re-election to the Senate, and this result was undoubtedly brought about in part at least by the refusal of some Democrats to vote for him. This was a most regrettable mistake, to use a mild term. But I do not believe in the next primary or in any future primary any voter was barred from voting by reason of that election.

In 1924 the County of Henderson, which is generally regarded as strongly Democratic, and which had theretofore always registered a large Democratic majority, went Republican by several hundred. This was due to local conditions, as a result of which Senator Stanley lost the County by several hundred majority, and I believe John W. Davis, Democratic nominee for President, lost it by about the same vote. Such a result can be accounted for only on the theory that many hundreds of Democrats voted the Republican ticket for President and United States Senator.

Yet, so far as I am aware, in the primaries the following year, no voter was barred from participation because of his vote in the previous election.



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In 1926 in my race as the Democratic nominee for United States Senator I lost Henderson County by several hundred majority, which was undoubtedly due to the fact that some Democrats voted against me. While I regretted it, I felt then as I do now that it was due entirely to local conditions which I could not avoid.

Under the primary statutes which I have quoted, none of these Democrats would have been eligible to vote in the primary for state officers in 1927, if the question had been raised. But it was not raised, and so far as I know nobody was prevented from voting on that account, and I have no doubt that all candidates for state offices were willing and anxious to secure their votes in the primary, whether they voted for me or against me in the previous November election.

In 1930 Senator Beckham lost Kenton County, which is generally regarded as a Democratic County. In 1936, as a Democratic candidate for United States Senator, I lost that County by something like 2,700 majority, and I lost the Sixth Congressional district by about the same vote. This was beyond question due to the fact that several thousand Democrats in that district voted against me. Fortunately, my majorities in other parts of the state overcame these adverse majorities.

But in the state wide primary for state officers in August 1927, the following year, notwithstanding the fact that many hundreds of voters, if not many thousands, had disqualified themselves under the accepted interpretation of the primary law, I do not think any voters were denied the right to participate in that primary on the ground that they had voted against a Democratic nominee the year before.

Similar conditions, to a greater or less degree, could be recited in other parts of the State, from time to time, in both political parties. I have mentioned these few, because I was more or less concerned with them, and I have not mentioned them in order to justify or palliate the habit of voting against a nominee, or for the purpose of criticising the failure to attempt to apply the test set out in the statute, but for the purpose of emphasizing the fact that the statute which by its terms denies to a voter the privileges of the primary when he has voted against one of his own nominees is a dead letter, and has been a dead letter for all practical purposes since its enactment, and will continue to be a dead letter, because it is impossible to enforce it even where election officers have the right to swear voters, and as a matter of fact no serious effort has ever been made either to observe it or enforce it.

If such a provision has been practically and almost universally ignored in primaries for which it was made specifically applicable, the question which I think we must consider now is whether it ought to be invoked at the present time in the selection of delegates to a State and National convention having to do with the nomination of a candidate for President.



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According to my own mental processes, I have given this matter most serious thought since the Committee previously met. I have tried to divest it of all personal interest, prejudice or possibility of advantage one way or another. I have been unable to escape the conclusion that it would have been better not to have used the language involved in the resolution over which the controversy has arisen. In the light of our previous history in such matters, to which I have only partially alluded, I do not believe the provision would have been insisted upon if these matters had been discussed, and I say this in spite of the fact that I assented to it in the rather brief and casual discussion to which I referred in the early part of this letter.

No man in Kentucky regretted more sincerely the defeat of Senator Beckham last November than I; and I doubt whether anyone labored more earnestly than I did to elect him; and the same is true of his defeat in 1920. I joined in the general resentment at the methods which produced it, and I still feel it. I have not reached the belief I now entertain about the resolution in question because I think party disloyalty ought to be condemned, or encouraged; but I have come to this view in part at least because of the attitude which has been exhibited toward such matters in the past.

I may say that in my opinion the number who would be barred from participation under the resolution has been greatly over-estimated, even if it could be enforced to the letter. For at the worst, only a few thousand Democrats can be said to have voted for the Republican nominee against Senator Beckham. But there is one phase of the matter to which I think nobody has referred, but which is entitled to consideration.

Senator Beckham led his ticket something like 14000 votes. We cannot presume that this vote represented Republicans who voted for him and failed to vote for the other Democratic candidates. In every state election, under normal conditions, the head of the ticket obtains a larger vote than other candidates, because many voters through oversight, or mistake, vote for the head of the ticket and nobody else, probably thinking they have voted the whole ticket. This is done not because of opposition to others on the ticket, but is usually the result of haste or negligence. While this does not account for all the votes which Senator Beckham received over his colleagues on the ticket, it does account for a considerable number of them.

In my opinion the resolution as drawn would bar from the coming conventions all those who voted for him alone and for any reason failed to vote for the other candidates; for I do not think it could be consistently contended that those who voted for the other candidates but failed to vote for Beckham should be eliminated, but that those who voted for him and failed to vote for the other candidates should be admitted.

I have already made this letter much longer than I had intended. I am offering these suggestions for such consideration as the Committee may think



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them entitled to. If I were present, and were called on to express my views, they would be substantially as I have given them here. In numerous private letters, received from the State, I have been asked to express my opinion upon this question. I have also received requests from newspapers to give my opinion about it. But I have felt that whatever I might wish to say ought to be said to the Committee which is charged with the responsibility of acting, and my excuse for writing this letter, if any excuse were needed, is my interest in the welfare of the Party and of the State, and the further fact that I had some part in the deliberations which took place at the Committee's previous meeting.

I note in your public statement that you would not wish nor accept another term as Chairman of the State Committee. I cannot refrain from expressing my deep regret at your retirement. In your capacity as Chairman of the Committee for so many years, you have brought to its deliberations dignity, courtesy, integrity and a devotion to the welfare of the party and the state which have won for you the respect of all elements. I make no secret of the fact that I have entertained for you for many years a genuine affection. But I cannot blame you for wishing to retire after so long a tenure of ardent and loyal service, and with you will go the love and good wish of Democrats all over Kentucky.

With every good wish for your future, and hoping you will pardon me for this long letter, I am

Very cordially yours,

B/a.

P.S. Since writing this letter I have submitted it to all the Democratic members of Congress, from Kentucky, except Mr. Gilbert, who is new in Kentucky, and I am authorized by all of them to say that they endorse, and approve the sentiments which I have expressed herein.



LAW OFFICES OF  
**SYME & SYME**  
SOUTHERN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

11, May, 1939

Hon. Charles A. Hardin  
Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

My dear Charlie:

I do not know when I have been more pleased than I was yesterday when I received your good and cordial letter and experienced that reminiscent feeling which its contents suggested.

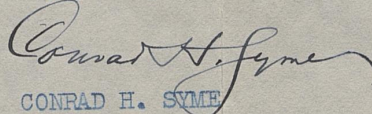
I, of course, had not thought, except occasionally, about my excursion to Tatum Springs and your letter recalled it to my mind vividly and also other incidents of our long friendship. I think Vive experienced much the same sensations when she read it and we both had to smile over the survival of the kind of letter writing which seems to have become a forgotten art.

I knew, of course, that you were in Washington from Vive but that you were very busy and had no time for anything except the business on hand. I hope the next time you come you will have more leisure and we can see something of each other.

I was very much pleased over the allusion you made to Douglass Curry and hope he will justify your expectations.

Again expressing appreciation of your thoughtfulness in writing me and with my kindest regards to Mrs. Hardin, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
CONRAD H. SYME

CHS/gt