

7-31-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, July 31-August 16, 1948

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Cuvas, Miss.
July 31, 1948

Dear Senator Stennis:

Thanks so much for the resume of the fight against the Civil Rights legislation during the regular session of the 80th Congress.

AUG 3 1948
In my opinion Mr. Truman has not only disgraced our party but has done more than anyone in the United States to elect Dewey and Warren.

How can any intelligent man advocate an end to segregation in sections of our country where the Negro population is so great after witnessing the utter failure of social harmony in sections where there are so few.

Racial prejudice is not practised to the point of persecution in a democracy but it exists even in our immigration laws when we allow a larger quota of a more intelligent race, and rightfully so.

No type of legislation can make races
or individuals socially equal.

Social equality comes through
education and refinement.

Your constitutional approach
to all legislative matters and your
decision to make no appeals
based on prejudice or passion is
that of a very very wise man.

May I add that the majority of
our Voters made the right decision
in sending so able a man to
Washington and I know that they
are all proud of the great work
you are doing.

Respectfully yours



C. WAYLAND BROOKS, ILL., CHAIRMAN
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ALBERT L. SEIDEL, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

August 16, 1948

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cuevas, Mississippi

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I could not have received a letter that I appreciated any more than yours concerning the anti-poll tax measure. It was indeed thoughtful of you to write me and I'm sorry the press of a number of pending matters has prevented my thanking you sooner. I assure you your words greatly encourage me, not only for the present but for the future.

Not until the very last moment were we sure that our fight would be successful at the special session. It appears certain the fight will be renewed in January and if the proponents are able to change the Senate rules, I'm afraid one or more of the so-called civil rights bills will be adopted. The chances of their passage will be greatly heightened unless the Democrats can win control of the Senate, a development that would place the South in the strongest possible position.

We sought in the special session to get public attention focused on the vital constitutional questions involved in these bills and I do feel some headway was made. A number of the large Eastern newspapers and magazines have been most favorable in their comments upon this phase of the issue.

Your continuing interest in this matter is appreciated and I want you to know I shall regard it as a privilege to have your viewpoint and suggestions at all times.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

U. S. Senator