

4-12-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, James O. Eastland, William M. Colmer, Fielding L. Wright, April 12-August 3, 1948

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[REDACTED]

C O P Y

April 12, 1948

Chambers of Commerce,
Gulfport, Mississippi,
Biloxi, Mississippi.

Gentlemen:

I thought this would be interesting to you, so I will relate an experience we had several days ago:

We advertised in the local paper for a telephone operator and that afternoon the party called my secretary and told her she wanted to apply for the job as telephone operator. My secretary told her to come out the next morning and she would be glad to talk to her. The next morning at ten o'clock, the time of her appointment, the party came in and the room clerk looked up and thought he was seeing things when she stated she had come to apply for the telephone operator job, because it was one of the members of the Ethiopian race, one of the products of the F.E.P.C. to which we are so bitterly opposed.

After the room clerk stepped back and quickly told my secretary the woman to see her about the job as switchboard operator was as black as the Ace of Spades, my secretary did not believe it could possibly be a negro that would have that much nerve to apply for this type job down South, so she told the clerk to tell her to come around to the office, inasmuch as she had an appointment. Very shortly, she comes strutting in and looked like Madam Queen herself, and was as sure of herself as Madam Queen when she walks down Lennox Avenue.

Gentlemen, this may sound amusing, but it is a serious matter because I can just see what this part of the country would be if the F.E.P.C. passed. I am sending a copy of this letter to Senator James O. Eastland, Senator John C. Stennis, Congressman William M. Colmer and Governor Fielding L. Wright and urge that they keep on fighting the F.E.P.C. I am also sending copies to the members of the hotel association and others I think would be interested in hearing of this experience. I just do not believe many employers in the state, if any, have had this experience.

CC: Senator James O. Eastland
Senator John C. Stennis
Congressman William M. Colmer
Governor Fielding L. Wright
Members, Mississippi Hotel Assn.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED],
M a n a g e r .

APR 22 1948

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

(32)

April 26, 1948

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Edgewater Park, Mississippi

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter of April 12th concerning your experience in the employment of a telephone operator.

As you know we are nearing another showdown fight over the so-called Civil Rights Bills. You may be assured I shall exert every effort to obtain the defeat of this ill-considered legislation.

I deeply appreciate having your viewpoint on the matter.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

U.S.S.

JCS:CHN:Y

Overlooking the Gulf of Mexico

A resort of unusual year-round appeal and distinction, whether you are seeking quiet rest or active recreation with more than 600 acres of its own premises devoted to outdoor recreation—wide lawns and gardens beautifully landscaped with thousands of azaleas and camellias—in one of the oldest and most interesting regions in the United States—noted for its healthful climate.

Open the year Around

Facilities include—our own 18-hole golf course, within a few hundred feet of the hotel—outdoor swimming pool and wading pool for children—fireproof garage—regulation tennis courts—shuffleboard—badminton—croquet—ping pong—horseshoe pitching—soft ball—bicycles—children's playgrounds—salt and fresh water fishing.

TELEPHONE GULFPORT 1270



MIDWAY BETWEEN GULFPORT AND BILOXI
EDGEWATER PARK, MISSISSIPPI

July 26, 1948

Honorable John C. Stennis,
United States Senator,
Senate Building,
Washington, D. C.

*Special
thanks*

Dear Senator Stennis:

I appreciate so much your nice letter of July 8 outlining the fight that the Mississippi delegation has made in connection with fighting the FEPC and other measures against the South. I am proud of the progress that you have made in this connection and everyone in the State should be proud of the stand that you have taken. With the special session of Congress now coming up, I know that you are going to be fighting as hard as ever in the behalf of your supporters.

I appreciate your offer of assistance in connection with any proposed legislation which may interest me, and I assure you I will let you know on any of these matters that I am personally interested in or I think that would be of interest to my friends.

I have been away from my office since your letter was received and have just returned and I hastened to acknowledge it. I wanted you to be familiar with this fact, because I thought it was so nice of you to write to me, and I would like to take this opportunity to extend you a personal invitation to be my guest at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel whenever you are in this section of Mississippi.

I think it would be a good idea if you could arrange after this special session to come down and spend a vacation with us and bring your family. It would be a splendid opportunity for you to rest up, and we would consider it a privilege to serve you.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

Manager

JUL 31 1948



APS:ab

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE
AND CIVIL SERVICE

32
OK

August 3, 1948

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Edgewater Park, Mississippi

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your kind and gracious letter of July 26th is deeply appreciated. I can think of nothing I should like better than to visit the Mississippi Coast but just at this time it does not look as if I will have an opportunity for a vacation any time soon.

As you know, the battle is still on here, but it appears now that we will be successful in forestalling any action on the so-called Civil Rights bills at this session.

Please accept my very special thanks for your kind invitation, and with kind regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

U. S. Senator

AR