

3-3-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, March 3-10, 1948

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Published Weekly at Memphis

TELEPHONE

MEMPHIS 3,
TENNESSEE

MAR 5 1948

March 3, 1948

The Honorable John Stennis
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Senator:

Attached hereto is an advance proof of an editorial THE COTTON
TRADE JOURNAL will publish on Page 1 of the issue which will go to
press Friday, March 5. This is being sent to you because we know
you are vitally interested in a way out of the dilemma in which the
South finds itself as the result of the enunciation of President
Truman's anti-Southern program.

This editorial was written after consultation with a number of
other Southern Democrats, and we believe it represents the viewpoint
of a considerable segment of the South's people. As such, it is
obviously worthy of serious consideration.

All evidence points to the fact that the South has reached the
saturation point in "taking it on the chin" politically, and that
a courageous political step forward is necessary to impress the
Truman "inner circle" of the Democratic party with our political
independence and integrity.

We would welcome receiving your reactions to the course we pro-
pose that the South take.

Cordially yours,

Publisher

Managing Editor

SR:ew

5- I am primarily concerned with
blocking the pending destructive and
ill advised so called Civil
rights bills. 53.
It is indeed true that we of
the South ~~to~~ take stock politically and
try to build soundly for the future.
25
41

Release Friday, March 5 PMs

The South's Answer: MacArthur!

For the second time in its history, the South is at the crossroads.

Along one path—that to the left—lies complete submergence of its cultural heritage, obliteration of its social identity, trampling of its traditions. This is the path whose signpost is President Truman's so-called civil rights program, the road to emasculation of states' rights and the entrenchment of a Federal bureaucracy which would reach into and fasten upon every Southern home and business.

The other—that to the right—means retention by the several states of rights not otherwise granted by the Constitution to the federal government, maintenance of our cultural independence and traditional prerogatives and the safeguarding of the South's right to handle inherent Southern problems in its own way.

The storm of protest by Southern governors, legislators, Democratic committeemen and just plain folks during the past month indicates definitely that the South will not take the road to the left.

Even at the cost of a break with the national leadership of the Democratic party—or, if necessary, a bolt from the party—the South will not meekly bow its head so that the yoke may be placed around its neck.

The South is traditionally Democratic, not traditionally supine.

The South knows where it wants to go. The paramount question below the Mason-Dixon line today is: "Who will lead us?"

THE COTTON TRADE JOURNAL, which has been chronicling news of the South's most important commodity for almost half a century, is vitally interested in the correct answer to this question. Cotton growers, processors, handlers and manufacturers of the South have a tremendous stake in the issue.

We believe we have found the answer: **GENERAL DOUGLAS MacARTHUR**, gallant and intrepid soldier, able and wise administrator, a brilliant leader whose patriotism rises above party labels.

Almost five years ago—on June 12, 1943—THE COTTON TRADE JOURNAL proposed **GENERAL MacARTHUR** for President of the United States. Today, with the world divided into conflicting ideologies, our crying need in this country is for national unity—and we feel more strongly

than ever that **GENERAL MacARTHUR** is the "man of the hour."

No American is better qualified to weld our Nation into a unified whole than **GENERAL MacARTHUR**. He is above attempting to make a political football of any section of the country in order to woo leftist political support.

GENERAL MacARTHUR, a native of Arkansas who married a Tennessean, in a statement a week ago reiterated his belief that "all political power resides in the people." This is the belief of Southerners, who ask to be allowed to work out for themselves the problems they live with.

GENERAL MacARTHUR is known to be a profound student of history, thoroughly conversant with problems of government and economics. He is an outspoken advocate of free enterprise and the rights of the individual.

On the international field, imperialistic Russian communism is the great menace to world peace. We know of no single American better equipped by training and experience to handle this problem. The rare mixture of firmness and restraint which has made the occupation and administration of Japan an outstanding success in the muddle of the post-war world is ample testimony to the quality of **GENERAL MacARTHUR's** statesmanship.

From an international as well as a national viewpoint, therefore, **GENERAL MacARTHUR** is admirably equipped to assume leadership of our Nation today.

What can Southern Democrats do about it?

They can propose and support GENERAL MacARTHUR as President of the United States whether he runs on a Democratic or Republican ticket.

Few men stand today as high in the respect of their countrymen as does **GENERAL MacARTHUR**. From Maine to California and from the Canadian to the Mexican borders, he is hailed as a tried leader, a valiant American.

We are not certain whether **GENERAL MacARTHUR** would accept the nomination as President, but knowing his record of unstinted and unselfish service and patriotism, we are convinced he would agree to serve his country in any post to which its people call him in time of need.

This is the South's opportunity to achieve leadership in the vital task of unifying this Nation to meet the grave tests ahead. These trying times call for an acknowledged leader of men to take the helm in the South and in the Nation.

GENERAL DOUGLAS MacARTHUR is that man.

—O—

From The Cotton Trade Journal, Memphis, Tenn., March 5, 1948

C. WAYLAND BROOKS, ILL., CHAIRMAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

March 10, 1948

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Memphis 3, Tennessee

Dear Sirs:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 3, 1948. I am primarily concerned with blocking the pending destructive and ill-advised so-called civil rights bills. I have joined with others here to fight them to the last ditch.

It is indeed time that we of the South take stock politically and try to build soundly for the future.

Your advice and counsel are always welcome, and I hope you will continue to favor me with suggestions.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

U. S. S.

JCS:Meh