

January 9, 1953

Elections

~~Dr. J. E. Dowell~~
~~204 Kentucky Hall~~
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Dear Jud:

Thank you for your letter of January 6th. You raise a lot of questions that had not even occurred to me.

It has seemed to me improper that politics at the State and local level should be governed by national considerations to which it is not philosophically related. I have been very well satisfied with the "no party" system which has existed here in Florida at the State and local level since I have been cognizant of the political situation, and a little disturbed that the predominance of Democratic sentiment at the State and local level which naturally results from the universal participation of the electorate in the May Democratic primaries should be a governing factor in the selection of national candidates who run on issues entirely unrelated to local problems.

Therefore what I seek is a system which will perpetuate what seems to me the satisfactory State and local situation, and at the same time free the voters and office holders at the State and local level from obligations carrying over into an unrelated field.

I don't recall if I made that clear in my last letter to you concerning cross-filing, and it may well be that some other machinery would better serve the purpose. The New York system which you suggest has advantages, but it seems to me that it would result in the creation of State machines which we have so far avoided in Florida.

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Nothing would please me more than to have an opportunity before the session to sit down with you and a group of your colleagues to discuss some of the issues which will face us in April and May, and if it is possible for me to work it out I will certainly do so.

With warmest personal regards for the New Year I am

Sincerely yours,

C. Parris Bryant

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