

September 30, 1966

Dear Mr. Mayor,

Shame on you for such an out-burst on NBC Television yesterday. Mr. Mayor I have seen you time and again braving the brickbats of the mobs in Atlanta, trying to restore order to your beautiful city. You have my complete support, and respect.

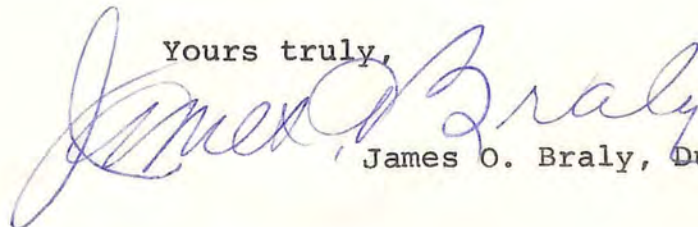
But goodness! Lester Maddox is not that bad! The entire country took their hats off to him for standing up to his constitutional rights in his battle with the Federal Government. He knew he would lose. I drove down to see a man who would sacrifice so much for his freedom. I talked with him a long time. We may not agree on everything, but God knows he was on solid legal ground.

Incompetent you say. Study the life of the great and respected Sen. George, of Eugene Townsend, and even Herman. Such epithets have been hurled at them, ~~and~~ and by men of greater stature than the present Mayor of Atlanta. Ignorant people voted for him, you cry. Were all 450,000 ignorant? Not many negroes in that crowd, Mr. Mayor.

Calm down, sir. It is some times bitter to see a political enemy rise to the top.

Lester was right, your statement sounded more like Brother King's.

Yours truly,



James O. Braly, Durant, Oklahoma