

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

PASSAIC COUNTY DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S DIVISION

ALEXANDER HAMILTON HOTEL

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 14, 1965

Our election victory last fall proved to be a turning point in the Democratic Party's relationship with women voters. It marked the first time in twenty years that American women gave the majority of their vote to our Democratic candidate for President.

Statistics show that 62 per cent of American women voted for the Johnson-Humphrey ticket -- and 60 per cent of the men.

I think it's significant that much of the success in turning out a large women's vote for President Johnson is directly attributable to women themselves -- particularly, Democratic women.

Here in Passaic County, as elsewhere throughout the country, Democratic women were in the vanguard of get-out-the-vote and registration drives in behalf of our party. It was truly a national effort by tens of thousands of Democratic women -- and the result, I'm sure you'll agree, was worth the effort.

Today I've joined with you to share your support and enthusiasm for another great Chief Executive -- your distinguished Governor, and my friend, Dick Hughes.

Governor Hughes is going to win the majority of the women's vote on November second. And he's going to win the majority of the men's vote, too. Dick Hughes is going to get the kind of victory he has earned.

Four years ago, you shared his vision and his promise for New Jersey's progress. Today, you can share the pride of his accomplishments.

Governor Hughes has enlarged the educational opportunities for thousands of your young people. He has increased state scholarships by 400 per cent and established a new system of two-year community colleges.

And under his leadership, your state now has its first two medical schools -- at Rutgers and Seton Hall.

He has expanded your state's vocational and technical training programs that are helping more than 37,000 persons to find new skills and new hope for a better life.

And, I am proud to say, Governor Hughes was the first Governor to join President Johnson's war against poverty by opening the first state Office of Economic Opportunity.

New Jersey is on the move. Your economy is booming. Unemployment is at the lowest point since the Korean War. And your personal income is at an all-time high.

This kind of progress doesn't just happen. It takes the kind of leadership that Governor Hughes has brought to the State House at Trenton.

(By the way, if anyone doubts Dick Hughes' ability as a political organizer, I might point out that he and his charming wife, Elizabeth, have an election team of ten little Hugheses that can out-campaign any fifty New Jersey Republicans).

My friends, you have a unique opportunity in this election. For the first time in one hundred years, the entire reapportioned legislature will be on the ballot. It has been twelve long years since New Jersey has had a governor and legislature of the same party. And the loser in this situation has been New Jersey.

Governor Hughes needs a legislature responsive to his programs. He needs Senator Anthony Grossi and Joe Keegan in the state senate, and your four dedicated Democratic candidates from this district, in the Assembly.

He needs the kind of mandate you provided for President Johnson last fall when you sent five new Democrats to the United States Congress.

The big Democratic majorities we now enjoy in Congress have brought the American people the greatest legislative session of modern times.

If you examine the historic legislative record of this 89th Congress, you cannot escape the conclusion that we are succeeding in our efforts to create a Great Society.

We are building a society in which Americans can pass on to their children the joys and satisfactions of the good life...a society where every young person knows he can accomplish whatever his talent and hard work will enable him to do...a society where justice and compassion are not slogans, but living realities.

Today, the American people are united as never before. We are united in our determination that all Americans shall have a chance to obtain a good education -- and we are seeing to it that they do.

We are united in the conviction that every citizen shall be able to vote. And Congress has translated this desire into the law of the land.

We are united in our concern for obtaining good medical care for our parents. And we have just witnessed the most sweeping expansion of health care benefits, and the greatest extension of welfare benefits in thirty years.

We want our cities to be better places in which to live and work...and we want to preserve our nation's beauty and natural resources. And we are doing something about it.

We are united, too, in our dedication to a world of peace...and freedom...and brotherhood.

The vast majority of this Administration's legislative program has become law -- not just because we possess large majorities in Congress, but because the American people want the things contained in that program -- health, education, equal rights and opportunity for all our citizens.

Yes, we Americans are united.

And we can be nothing less in the world we live in. For every single day in this nuclear age carries with it the possibilities of destruction, or of progress.

We have it in our means -- for the first time in man's history -- to destroy mankind itself, or to extend mankind's benefits to all men.

Our choice is clear to us. We must say "yes" to the future. We must resist aggression. We must help those in the world -- the disinherited, the hungry, the humble, the weak -- who need our help. We must pursue peace to the ends of the earth or face the end of the earth.

As we explore outer space -- as we come to learn how small and vulnerable our world really is -- we know that we must do in our time whatever we can to preserve life and make it full and free and happy and useful.

This is what the Great Society is all about. It is the recognition that we can create in America our state of opportunity. We can right old wrongs. We can offer each person -- each place -- in our country the chance to be better tomorrow than today. And we can, with out wealth and power, lead all men toward days of peace and promise.

The people of New Jersey are going to vote "yes" to their future on November second.

I know you will provide the unity and support for our Democratic ticket that will make tomorrow better than today.

Give Dick Hughes your help. And bring him the legislature he needs to build New Jersey for the years ahead.

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