

Mr Farley
Chet Beame
Frank O'Connor
Judge Procaccino

Mayor Wagner
Bob Kennedy

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

TESTIMONIAL DINNER - ABRAHAM D. BEAME

NEW YORK CITY

OCTOBER 26, 1965

LBJ.
Feelings
has been
great

NEW YORK

Cong. man
Arthur Levitt

My fellow Democrats, tonight I join in your campaign for sound and progressive government for the people of New York City.

and I welcome the opportunity to support the next Mayor of the City of New York -- Abraham Beame!

and I share your high regard for the next Controller of the City of New York -- Mario A. Procaccino.

I share your enthusiastic support for the next President of the City Council -- Frank D. O'Connor.

This great Democratic ticket is going to receive the victory it deserves from this great city.

↳ We Democrats belong to the party of the people.
And Abe Beame is a man of the people. ↳ He knows what
New Yorkers want for their city. ↳ He has served this
city all his life.

↳ He has served the people as a school teacher . . .
as Assistant Budget Director . . . as Budget Director
. . . and, since 1961, as Controller.

↳ He has sat twice each month during the past four
years with the Board of Estimate. ↳ He has worked closely
with the City Council. ↳ He is an expert on the nearly one
hundred departments in this city's government.

↳ Abe Beame knows this city. ^{How is it?} ↳ He has been an official
of three city administrations. ↳ ~~He has participated in major~~
~~policy decisions.~~ ↳ He has seen first-hand what will work
and what won't. ↳ And he knows the most effective and
efficient way to get programs moving for the good of the
people of New York.

*Knows
this
city!*

Experiences

Judge

↳ Abe Beame and Frank O'Connor and Mario Procaccino
are experienced, able and honest public servants dedicated
to the welfare and progress of your city.

↳ This is the ticket of hope and of progress. ↳ These
are the candidates not afraid of new ideas.

↳ They believe our greatest challenge is not the
complexity of New York's problems, but the opportunity for
solving them.

↳ Our Democratic ticket welcomes the opportunities
of this new and exciting future. ↳ They see New York as
the world center for the arts and culture, business and
commerce, communications and education. ↳ They also see
New York as the home of some eight million people who
want a clean, safe and accessible city in which to live
and work.

President Johnson has rightly said that the problem of urban living is the problem of people and the quality of the lives that they lead. We want to build not just housing units but neighborhoods; not just to construct schools; but to educate children; not just to raise incomes, but to create beauty and end the poisoning of their environment. We must extend the range of choices to all our people so that all not just the fortunate, can have access to decent homes and schools, to recreation and culture . . . "

We are living in an urban era. Today more than two-thirds of our people live in the complex environment of the metropolis. By 1980, eight of every ten Americans will live there. By that time, some ~~90~~ million persons will be concentrated in a single urban strip from New England to Washington, D.C.

∟ What will New York be like in 15 years? -- and ,
we must look ahead at least that far.

Possibly New York's population will not be much larger than
it is today. But New York will be a city most largely of
the very young and very old.

∟ New York will need more schools and teachers . . .
more doctors and facilities for out-patient care.

∟ New York will need new housing.

∟ Under an accelerated program, 65,000 new or
rehabilitated homes can be built each year -- and at
least that many will be needed.

a good record!

∟ (I might add that New York has reduced its slum dwellings from fifteen per cent of total dwellings in 1950 to seven-and-a-half per cent in 1965 -- all under Democratic leadership.)

∟ New York will need new jobs, different jobs and more of them.

∟ New York in the 1980's will be a city in search of quality -- quality in housing, education, health, employment and recreation. — *we must*

lay the ground work for such a city now!

Can New York and our other major metropolitan areas be made ^{more} liveable? Can we solve the problems of congestion and traffic? (For the record -- it takes me forty minutes to fly from Washington to New York and forty minutes to drive downtown from LaGuardia).

And what about our people? What kind of future will we provide for the young man or woman living without hope because doors are closed? And what kind of future will we provide for our children? Will they attend ~~dingy~~ ^{old, inadequate} overcrowded schools? Will they have clean air and water? Will they be safe in the street?

My friends, I believe we can solve all of these problems. And as the President's liaison with the nation's mayors, I have found that they agree.

and I know that Abe Beame, Mario Procaccino and Frank O'Connor agree.

↳ We must plan for a renaissance of the city and of the lives of those who live within it. ↳ Our President and our Congress are working to do just that. ↳ But to succeed, they need men like Abe Beame, Mario Procaccino and Frank O'Connor, who share this vision and this commitment to a better tomorrow.

↳ We have passed the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, establishing at Cabinet level a voice for the city and a focus for federal urban programs. ↳ We have passed an important omnibus housing bill. ↳ We are pledged to provide decent living conditions for all Americans. ↳ We will keep that pledge.

↳ Our cities must offer education of the highest quality. And Congress has passed a series of education measures aimed to broaden the educational opportunities of all our children by building new classrooms, providing up-to-date textbooks, and constructing new libraries.

↳ We can, and will, rid our cities of the ugliness of slums and the ugliness of intolerance, and create instead not only a beauty of design but a beauty of spirit.

↳ We are determined that the American city shall be fit for the people. ↳ This task challenges our creativity and courage, but we are determined to succeed.

↳ Today, here in New York, you have great hope, as well you should. ↳ New York is America's greatest man-made resource -- the center of our commercial and intellectual life. ↳ But equally important, your city symbolizes the success of our democratic system and of our belief that all peoples, from every nation on earth, can find in America the chance to lead full and rewarding lives.

↳ Here in New York, in the midst of ethnic and religious diversity, glows a perpetual flame of unity . . . a unity conceived in a spirit of liberty, freedom and tolerance.

what a wonderful
stay!

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and L

Of Abe Beame's candidacy, it could be said: "Only in America!" Abe Beame, the next mayor of the world's largest city, is the son of parents who fled pogroms in Eastern Europe and sought a new life of freedom in this land of liberty.

< His story demonstrates the important contributions that first- and second-generation Americans have made to our national greatness.

< Abe Beame is a product of New York -- a city of hard-working people, striving to find opportunity and a place in the sun. Abe Beame's voice is the voice of millions of others -- determined to pass on to their children a chance for something better.

~~Lehman~~
Abe Beame has shared in the visions of Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon

~~B. Johnson.~~ He believes that a democratic government must release the energies of all the people.

With your support, New York can be -- as America can be -- proof of the fact that Americans working together can build a society of opportunity and happiness and human dignity.

And with your support, the people of New York will vote "yes" to their future on November second.

They will vote for their next Mayor, Abe Beame.

One of the greatest of all New Yorkers -- the revered and beloved Herbert H. Lehman -- long ago sounded the keynote for the work we face in the next few ~~weeks.~~ ^{days.}

Lehman
my dear
friend

Hubert Selman

↳ Governor Lehman said: "The first objective of political activity should be to inform, educate, and arouse the people. If people are informed and aroused, and if the issues and the candidates are so presented as to appeal to the people, victory results in due course."

↳ Give Abe Beame your help and support. Let every New Yorker know where our Democratic ticket stands on the issues. ↳ For, you work not only for a great political ticket, but for the idea that this great city can be a place not only of wealth and commerce, but also a place where men and women, governing themselves, can live a better life tomorrow than today.

I ask that you go to work, and keep this City a Democratic City - in step with your President + your Country.



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