

NOTES

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ORIN LEHMAN RALLY

NEW YORK CITY

FEBRUARY 1, 1966

I am happy to be here with the men and women who will see to it that Orin Lehman is elected to the Congress next week.

*a week from tonight is election night -*

This isn't a general election, with all the newspapers, radio, and TV reminding people to go to the polls.

It is up to you to bring out the vote in the 17th District. You have from now until Tuesday to do it.

Orin Lehman will be a great Congressman for the 17th District. He is able and dedicated. He is a man of integrity and independence, who does his own thinking.

17th  
Dist

↳ You know of his brilliant professional career in publishing and broadcasting. You know of his heroic service overseas, for which he was awarded the distinguished Flying Cross.

↳ You know that he is a Ph.D. who has taught in two of <sup>new york</sup> ~~this~~ city's institutions of higher education.

↳ You know of his broad experience in public service, both in this city and state and in the international field.

*young man*  
↳ In his early 30's, he was a member of the Public Advisory Board for the Economic Cooperation Administration -- better known as the Marshall Plan -- one of our nation's most brilliantly successful initiatives in world affairs.

↳ You know of his service to the Housing Advisory Committee of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination.  
↳ You know of his leadership in the New York Citizens Committee for Public Education.

↳ You know that he has been for many years a member  
of the President's Committee on the Employment of the  
Handicapped. ↳ You know that he was -- from 1956 until  
he entered this campaign -- chairman of the New York  
State Governor's "Employ the Handicapped" campaign.○

↳ You know that he has served as Treasurer and Director  
of the National Urban League for eight years.

↳ You know all this by heart, <sup>know it</sup> or you should, by now  
-- and if you don't, the campaign staff here will be  
delighted to refresh your memory.

↳ The job of a Congressman is an increasingly important  
one. He must represent his district -- a district with  
all the problems and opportunities with which the new  
Department of Housing and Urban Development, under  
<sup>our</sup> ~~my~~ good friend Robert Weaver, will be dealing.

↳ He must also serve his constituents -- and that's an important and vital job, maintaining the vital personal link between the federal government and the individual citizen.

↳ Above all, nowadays, he has to study, work, speak and vote on complex and rapidly changing national and international issues.

↳ It is a highly responsible and demanding job. And Orin Lehman, by virtue of the wide range of his experience in local, state, national and international affairs, is highly qualified to fill it.

↳ Now it goes without saying that a Congressman from New York City, and particularly from this district, must be a liberal.

↳ And every candidate puts himself forward as a liberal -- except for a few eccentrics like Bill Buckley and what's-his-name who's the third runner in this race.

You often have a choice of liberals here in New York City. So you can choose between what I call "spotlight" or "visibility" liberals -- and people who are liberal at all times, even when the spotlight is turned off and it doesn't go down on the record.

∟ There's a kind of liberal -- and I've known a number of them in my 18 years in Washington -- who takes care to vote the right way on the roll-call that hits the headlines, or winds up on the kind of records that people usually ~~keep.~~

Often it's on the final roll-call vote for passage.

But, when it comes to standing votes and votes where no names are kept -- or on the roll-call votes on obscure, but often crippling, amendments--it's another story.

↳ The printed part of the record on this kind of liberal is like the part of the iceberg that shows above the water.

↳ I can assure you that Orin Lehman isn't that kind of liberal.

↳ He will not only vote for what he believes in -- he will talk, work, and fight for it. ——— *and*

↳ Here's another thing to think about.

Some Congressmen get elected and re-elected by working hard and effectively on behalf of the local interests of their constituencies. The people who elect them aren't much interested in national and international affairs, and if the Congressman is, that's something he gives above and beyond the demands of the voters.

The 17th District  
- 7 -

~~This~~ isn't that kind of constituency. You are as interested in national and international affairs as in the problems of this District and this city.

↳ So you need a Congressman who is as concerned, for instance, with world peace and disarmament as he is with purely local issues -- and vice versa.

↳ Orin Lehman is that man.

↳ Finally, there is the matter of leadership. In the Congress, as in any other body of men and women, many are called, but few are chosen for leadership.

↳ I think ~~this~~ <sup>the 17th</sup> District is entitled to a Congressman whose voice will be heard with respect by his colleagues in Congress and by the Administration as well. ~~I think~~

Yes, ~~this~~ <sup>your</sup> District needs a Congressman who can become a national figure and can speak for The Nation

↳ Orin Lehman has that capability.

↳ Orin Lehman has a magnificent record of leadership  
and of public service.

↳ He will represent his district, his city, and his  
country with distinction.

↳ But first there is the small detail of next Tuesday's  
election. *so*

↳ Work for Orin Lehman. Carry the word. Get  
out the vote.

↳ The next few days will make the difference.

↳ With your work we will have a victory rally in  
New York one week from tonight.

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ORIN LEHMAN FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE RALLY  
COMMODORE HOTEL - FEBRUARY 1, 1966

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

VICE PRES. HUMPHREY & ORIN LEHMAN

O. L. Hello Mr. Vice President.

H. H. Yes, who is this?

O. L. Orin Lehman.

H. H. Well Orin hello, hello how are you?

O. L. Well I'm fine, thanks. It's good to talk to you. I'm sorry you can't control the weather down there.

H. H. Well I'll tell you. It's been a rough time down here. The other day I heard rumors that Nixon said they might elect some Republican congressmen and ever since then we've been having nothing but terrible weather. It's an incredible turbulence, great uncertainty in the atmosphere as well as in public life.

O. L. I know what you mean and I know that everybody here misses you. There are about, I don't know, a thousand people here tonight.

H. H. Oh don't tell me. It breaks my heart to know there's that many people and I'm not there.

O. L. And most of them are people that are working very, very hard. And these are the people that don't get very much credit for these campaigns. But they're the ones who make the differences, you know so well, between victory and defeat. I know they wanted to meet you, wanted to see you, and I know you know how important they are.

H. H. Well Orin let me say this, that I would have taken the chance on the weather but for the fact that tomorrow morning I have a very important meeting over at the White House. And on the weekend I found myself down in the hills of West Virginia and I wasn't at all sure that I was going

to get out without the aid of the Appalachia program and the poverty program. So I decided I better not take another chance and find myself lost in the weather and unable to get back and take care of my duties here. I'm sure you understand.

O. L. I certainly understand and I want to thank you for calling and thank you for sending your note up and also the birthday greeting. I certainly appreciated it.

H. H. Oh thank you, thank you very much. By the way I surely enjoyed seeing you at the White House dinner the other night. And that beautiful wife of yours. You just keep her out front and you'll win two to one.

O. L. Well thanks. She enjoyed dancing and as a matter of fact she wants to enter Congress now herself so she can get to Washington and dance with you more often.

H. H. Well that's exactly one of the reasons I want you elected in a hurry. I can hardly wait.

O. L. O.K. Mr. Vice President. Thanks very much for calling. We appreciate it and-----

H. H. Well now listen. I'm going to give those folks something to think about here. You're not going to get me off this line yet.

O. L. Well, that's right.

H. H. It's a collect call. It's all on you, you know and I just want, I want to talk to those workers of yours. You tell me when to get ready and go.

O. L. Well you get ready in just about ten seconds.

H. H. Alright sir.

O. L. Thank you.

H. H. You all set round there?

O. L. Yes, we're all set.

H. H. Well I have a few notes here and I'll try to refer to ~~them~~. But if I

don't, you won't know anyhow so I'll just proceed. I've indicated to you already Orin, and to all of your workers there in the 17th Congressional District how sorry I am not to be able to be with you tonight. I'm sitting here in my office at the Capitol, the Vice President's office, talking over a loudspeaker attached to this telephone and in the hopes that the system of electronics will at least convey the sincerity of my message and the urgency of getting these workers of yours out in those precincts to see to it that you win this election. Because a week from tonight can be and will be V. E. day for you. That's victory on election night. You know of course, all of us, that this isn't a general election with all of the newspapers and the radio and the TV constantly reminding people to go to the polls. This time we're going to have to do it the old fashioned way. It's going to be up to the workers in that hall tonight. All of your people there to bring out that vote in the 17th District. You have from now to until next Tuesday to do it. And as one who has campaigned many times in my life and one who knows a little bit about campaigning in these cities, I want to say that there's no substitute for the personal contact. For your workers getting out and rapping on that door and seeing to it that people know the name of Orin Lehman and that he is the Democratic candidate for Congress. He is the man that they need in Congress from the 17th District. Now your people know your record. But you know what I found out Orin? That all too often those who know our record the better or seem to have the most intimate knowledge of the candidate frequently fail to tell the constituency about it. So I'm going to take the liberty tonight to just repeat what some of us know about you, and believe that everybody in your district ought to know about you. First of all I'm confident that Orin Lehman can be and will be a great Congressman from the 17th District.

That district deserves that kind of representation. He is able, he is dedicated, he is a man of integrity, of independence, of get up and go who does his own thinking. Every worker there, every single person in your audience knows of the brilliant record, the brilliant professional record of Orin Lehman in broadcasting and in publishing. And may I say to all of you, you know of his heroic service over seas for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. You know that he's a Ph.D. who has taught in two of New York City's institutions of higher learning and education. You know of his broad experience of public service both in the city and the state and at the international level. As I recall Orin Lehman as a young man in his early thirties, was a member of the Public Advisory Board for The Economic Cooperation Administration better known as the Marshall Plan. And this is one of our nation's most brilliant, successful initiatives in world affairs. And Orin Lehman was a part of it. And you good friends there in New York City know the service of The Housing Advisory Committee of The New York State Commission Against Discrimination. And you know of his leadership in the New York Citizens Committee for Public Education. Wherever there's anything to do with people, to help people, to get them better opportunity, you find Orin Lehman. You know that he's been for many years a member of The President's Committee on Employment For The Handicapped and from 1956 until he entered this campaign Orin Lehman was Chairman of New York State Governor's Employ the Handicapped Campaign. He has served as Treasurer and Director of The National Urban League for eight years. I submit that this is a terrific record. In fact it's a record that's without equal for a candidate for almost any office. Now you know this literally by heart. But as I said awhile ago I venture to say that you haven't told everybody about it.

And now's the time to get up and go and start talking as never before. Tell them, tell the people about your candidate. Now let me say a word about the Congressman and the job of a Congressman. It's very important. He must represent his district and in your instance a district with all the problems and opportunities with which the new Department of Housing and Urban Development under our good friend Robert Weaver will be dealing. He must know about urban affairs. He must also serve his constituents and that's an important and vital job, maintaining the vital personal link between the Federal Government and the individual citizen. And above all, above all, these days a Congressman must study and work and speak and vote on complex rapidly changing national and international issues. To summarize it, it's a highly responsible and demanding job, and Orin Lehman by virtue of the wide range of his experience and I underscore this fact of experience in local, state and national and international affairs is the man that is qualified to fill that position from the 17th District. I say that it goes about, even speaking about, is that a Congressman from New York City and particularly from his district ought to be, should be, and must be a genuine liberal. Full time liberal not part time. And every candidate of course in your area seems to put himself forward as a liberal. Oh except for, well I've forgotten, what's his name, who is the third runner in that race. Slipped my mind for a moment. And you often have a choice of liberals in New York City. So you can choose between what I call the spotlight, now again, every once in a while liberal and the people who are liberal at all times even when the spotlight is turned off. And there isn't any disability. There's a kind of liberal and I've known a number of them in my eighteen years here in Washington who takes care of the vote the right way on the roll call that hits the

headlines. But watch that fellow on those little obscure crippling amendments and see what happens. Those stand up votes, those teller votes, those voice votes when bills are changed and modified and the progressing spirit of the bill is emasculated. I've seen these part time liberals, these roll call liberals and see what they do when the lights are out or when the roll call isn't being taken. That's when you fashion legislation. The part of the printed record on this kind of liberal is like the part of an iceberg that shows above the water. You want to watch out for that two thirds that's submerged. Now I can assure you that Orin Lehman isn't that kind of a liberal and you know it. He will not only vote for what he believes in all the time but he'll talk for it, work for it, and fight for it. That's what you need in Congress. Now here's another thing to think about. Some Congressmen get elected and re-elected simply by serving the local interests of their constituents. Now this is important and I don't want to underestimate it. We could leave people who elect these congressmen that don't mean to show to much interest in international of national affairs. But in the 17th District of New York you don't have that kind of a constituency. You are interested in national and international affairs just as well as in the problems of the district and of the city. So you need a Congressman who is as concerned for instance with world peace, national security, disarmament, as he is with purely local issues and visa versa. He must be able to take care of matters at home and to be able to make a contribution to world peace and national security abroad. Orin Lehman is that man. A fine leader is this matter of leadership. I think the 17th District of New York is entitled to a Congressman whose voice will be heard and respected by his colleagues in the Congress and by the Administration as well. Someone who will be with the Administration on

the great issues of our time and yet someone who can be truly an effective independent spokesman in the halls of Congress. Your district needs a Congressman who can become a national figure and you can vote for and can speak now for such a man. Because Orin Lehman has that capability. He has a magnificent record of leadership and of public service. And I predict that he'll represent his district and his city and his country with distinction. But first of all there's a little detail I must emphasize. It's that little detail that makes Tuesday's election. And many a good man is lost or suffers defeat because someone failed to do his or her job. So if I don't do another thing tonight except to tell you to get up and go to work, you don't need to hear Hubert Humphrey speak anymore or anybody else speak. You know what the issues are. You know who your candidate is. You know what needs to be done and your by-word should be work, work, work for Orin Lehman, carry the word, get out the vote. The next few days will make the difference, and with your work we will have a victory rally in New York one week from tonight that will represent a tremendous achievement for progressive and liberal government. I salute you Orin. I hope you go out now and really give it to them. My best wishes to all of you.

O. L. Well you can hear the applause. I guess it allows you to know what everybody here thinks about you.

H. H. Well I wish to goodness I could have been there just to look at that audience and to feel the kind of strength that come from a wonderful group of party workers and loyal friends. I always feel better that way. I had to do this in a rather impersonal manner over this electronics system but I'm sure you know that every word I said comes from the heart.

I'm not here just asking people to help you because it's a Democratic duty. I do it because I know that you'd be good for this country and good for your city. And I mean that with all the conviction that's in my soul.

O. L. Well thank you very much and I hope to see you February 9th.

H. H. You be here. You bring your wife. I'm waiting to have another dance.

O. L. O. K. I sure will and thank you very much.

H. H. Goodbye

O. L. Bye, bye.



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