

August 30, 1943

Lieutenant General William N. Haskell,  
Garrison, New York.

Dear General Haskell:

I was delighted to learn of your nomination on the Democratic and American Labor Party tickets for the Office of Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York. I send you my heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

You are in my opinion eminently well fitted for the Office of Lieutenant Governor.

I have had the pleasure of knowing you well for upwards of twenty years. In 1922, while you were in charge of relief work abroad, I frequently came into close contact with you as you represented relief organizations in which I was actively interested. On your return from abroad you became Commanding General of the National Guard of the State of New York. You continued to head the National Guard during all of my terms as Governor. You took leave of absence only when you were called into the Federal Service to command the Twenty-seventh Division. While you were training your Division I visited you at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and saw the splendid way you were molding a green division into an efficient fighting force. When you retired from the United States Army in 1942 because of the age limit I was happy to have the opportunity of appointing you Director of the New York State Office of Civilian Protection, which office you held until the end of my term as Governor. On coming to Washington I appointed you Chief of the Field Operations of the United States Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation, which position you have held until the present time.

In all of these positions I had the opportunity of closely observing your work. You held and merited my full confidence and, in each one of the duties which were assigned to you, you rendered outstanding service.

Your character is of the highest. You have great administrative ability and energy. I believe you are unusually well qualified both by character and by ability to serve the people of New York State well as their Lieutenant Governor.

Mrs. Lehman and I will take great pleasure in voting for you on November second. Good luck!

Very sincerely yours,

nhl;tvb

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