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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

May 10, 1956

Mr. Ben Davidson, Executive Director Liberal Party of New York State 160 West With Street New York 36, New York

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Dear Mr. Davidson:

Thank you for your letter of May 7. You may include the following message from me in the Digest of the Liberal Party for your annual dinner on June 13, 1956, in New York The statement follows:

"This is a great year of challenge for the Liberal Party of the state of New York, because 1956 will afford the Liberal Party the opportunity to return to the United States Senate one of the most outstanding and humane men it has ever been my privilege to know-Herbert H. Lehman, junior Senator from the state of New York.

"Senator Lehman is a man who consistently puts principle above party, ideals above personal political gain. He is one of those people who, in every generation, keep the torch of civilization lit for all the rest of us. It is unthinkable to me that the state of New York should ever fail to return Herbert Lehman to the Senate. Speaking as a Senator from Oregon, who is some 3,000 miles from the state of New York, I urge the Liberal Party to do all in its power and capacity to help retain the great humanitarian services of Herbert Lehman for this great country. A United States Senater, after all, is not an official of just one state but of all 48 states. Herbert Lehman belongs to the United States and not just to the state of New York. In that respect he measures up to such Senatorial giants of the past as George W. Norris, Robert M. LaFollette, Robert F. Wagner and Charles L. McNary."

I trust that this statement is satisfactory. With good wishes, I am

Sincerely,