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Miss Jane M. Tolmach

Oxnard, California

Dear Miss Tolmach:

Next month in Los Angeles you will be called upon to make decisions which will be among the most important any political convention has ever confronted. Whoever wins the Democratic presidential nomination must be prepared to serve as spokesman for America and for the Free World during the four years ahead, which may be the most demanding years mankind has yet experienced.

Having been a delegate and active participant in many past National Conventions which chose such great leaders as Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman, I can recall none which overshadows the forthcoming Convention in importance for our party, our country and for the cause of freedom itself. Today's stakes are infinitely high. I am sure you are aware of this and that you will, indeed, make your decisions as to the national ticket on the basis of the urgent need for imaginative, inspiring and liberal Democratic leadership.

I hope you will give your support, as I have given mine, to Governor Adlai Stevenson for the Presidential nomination. He is the obvious man for the high responsibility of these times. The deepening world crisis has convinced millions of Americans that his vision, talents, eloquence, experience and mature judgment are vitally needed in the White House. I am enclosing some articles and statements which indicate the ever-increasing sentiment among the people for Adlai Stevenson for the Presidential nomination.

Strongly as I feel the necessity of nominating Adlai Stevenson for the Presidency for the years of supreme crisis ahead, I feel too that the national ticket should include Senator Jack Kennedy. He has taken the issues to the people from one end of the country to the other. He has truly won his national spurs in political combat. His nomination as Vice-President will go far to destroy the dangerous tradition that adherence to a particular minority religious faith is a disqualification for a place on the national ticket of the Democratic Party.

I favor, and I hope you will favor, a Stevenson-Kennedy ticket.

Very sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Lehman