

Flynn, Edward J.

1945-51

June 8, 1945

My dear Ed:

I had lunch today with President Truman. He is very much worried by the democratic situation in New York City and frankly, I am worried about it too.

I hardly think that the ticket even with Mr. O'Dwyer to head it, can stand up against the Republican ticket. I do not vote in New York City so I suppose it is no concern of mine, except I feel that every democratic defeat helps Dewey in the State.

I rather think your having been ill means that they haven't had the benefit of your advice and I do not know whether they can do anything about the two nominations, ~~but~~ what has been said about them, I should think they were exceptionally weak, and Mr. O'Dwyer not strong enough to carry them against what looks to be a fairly strong Republican ticket.

I think Mr. Fitzpatrick will have every opportunity now to build up the democratic organization in the State, but even the best of democratic organizations will not win unless we have the completely unattached liberals and many of the liberal Republicans, with us and we definitely have to show the farming part of the State that we are serving their interests in Washington and through Washington, in the State.

In addition, we ~~definitely~~ have to hold the colored vote and show that the gestures made by Mr. Dewey were not honest-to-goodness interest. This is not going to be easy and we better be planning our program now for the city and the state. Mr. Dewey is capable of playing a clever political game and we will not only have to be good politicians but really make our party honest, standing for the things which most of us as individuals know are right.

I meant to talk to you about all this when you came to lunch, but seeing President Truman made me conscious of the fact that he is really troubled.

Very cordially yours,