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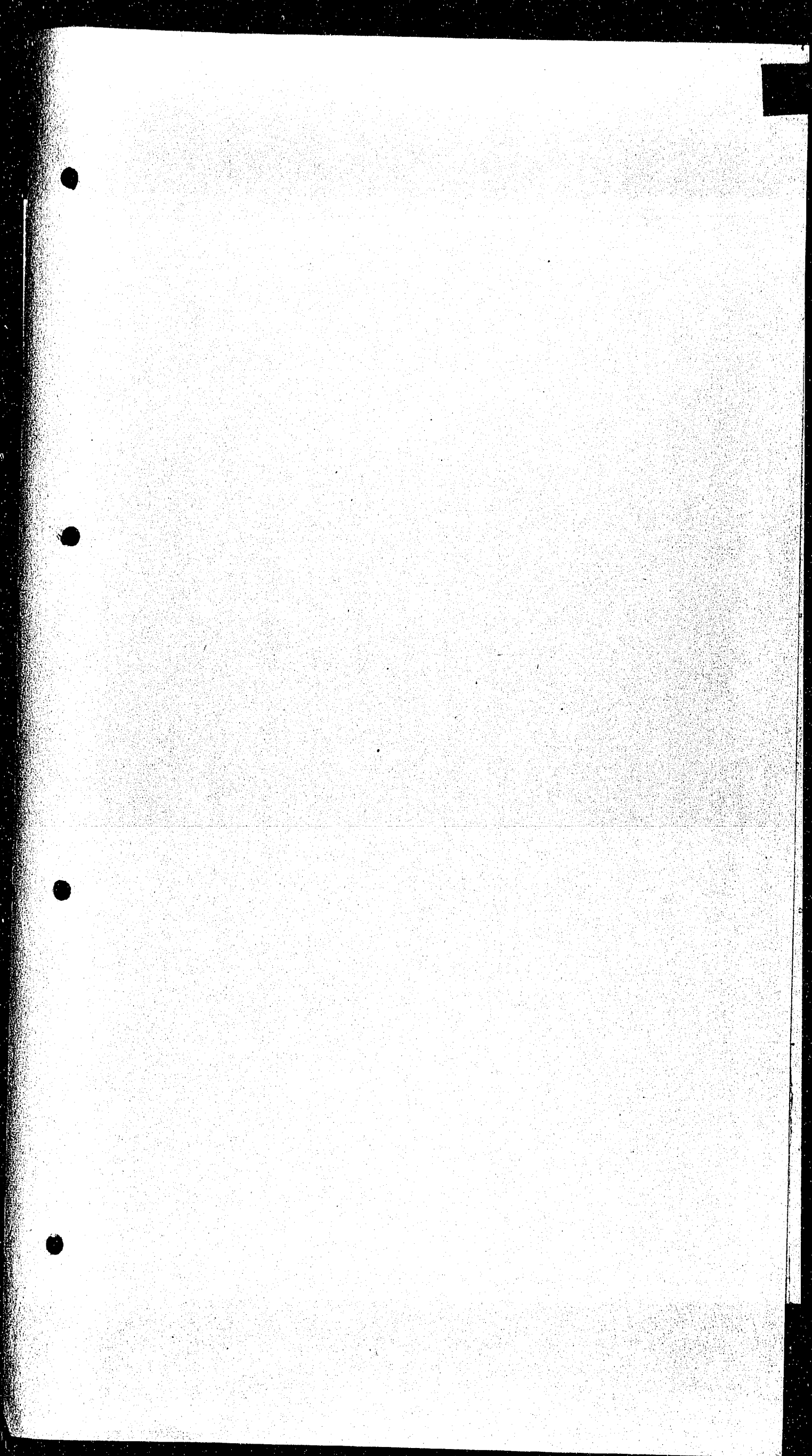
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUNDAY, May 6, 1945

CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TEXT OF MAYOR F. H. LA GUARDIA'S SUNDAY BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
NEW YORK, FROM HIS OFFICE AT CITY HALL, BROADCAST OVER WNYC AT 1:00 P.M. FOLLOWS:

Patience and Fortitude.

WAR NEWS Well, it just can not be long now. As you have just heard over the air, it is a matter of days, and perhaps not many days. Yes, the forces of evil in Europe are entirely destroyed and there remains but one or two pockets for reasons which a normal mind, of course, cannot understand. In the one week the world has been cleared of two evil men. And to think that these two bums could have brought so much misery into the entire world - millions of lives, destruction and devastation in almost half of the world! Had these two men been killed ten years ago, we might have had a happy world today. So far as the theatre of war in Europe is concerned, it is about over. I ask the people of the City of New York to wait for official announcement from Washington. In all likelihood, the war in the Pacific, and it has been costly in lives, will be over by the end of the year. At least, let us pray that it will.

MAYORALTY

Here at home, we have to begin thinking of our own City. Ordinarily, it would be rather early to talk about the City campaign in the early part of May. I would not touch upon the subject in normal peace times until July or even August. The difficulty is, you see, that when one is in office and he declares himself a candidate, there is always pressure brought upon him, and it requires a great deal of resistance not to get the candidate's mentality. Everybody says, "You had better do this now or it will hurt you", or "I wouldn't do that; it will hurt you." Of course, I am not very good at that sort of thing. I just do things the way I think they should be done. In a government of my kind, it is difficult to keep the government together.

The whole political calendar has been advanced so that in a week or so the law permits petitions to be circulated for signatures for candidates. I have been told by many that there is difficulty in getting the various shades of color of paper required for these petitions - the law requires a different color for the different parties. Therefore, I do not see how I can delay much longer in announcing my position in the coming campaign.

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When I started out in 1934, I knew definitely the kind of government that the City required. I knew exactly what I was going to do. I did not know how long it would last. It lasted one term, then two terms and now three terms. But in all my fondest hopes, I never dreamed that a non-partisan, a non-political administration in a large city in our country could be so successful. I never dreamt, I knew that the job would be hard, but I never believed that it would be possible to establish it so well as to get the endorsement and the living proofs that I have, that my kind of city government is the kind of city government that the people of my City want. Yes, I have the proof, the living proof. My friends, you must have noticed it too. Isn't it grand - there isn't a single, solitary County Chairman of either party who is in favor of my administration. Isn't that grand? There isn't a single, solitary district leader of the political machines who wants to see me re-elected. There isn't a clubhouse loafer who is not out shouting his head off against my administration. There is the proof, my friends, that these twelve years have not been in vain. We must talk now of what we are going to do and plan accordingly.

I want to express my thanks to Judge Samuel Seabury who has given so much to this City, who has made clean government possible in this City - he started before 1934. You will remember my campaign of 1929 when I told the City of the rotten conditions that existed here. You remember, when I was nominated by the Republican Party in 1929 and dropped the next day. That was a hard campaign. You remember that - that was a tough campaign. But it was useful, wasn't it? The charges that I made were so startling that it was said they could hardly be so but Judge Seabury proved beyond any reasonable doubt that all the charges that I made were true. I want to thank the Judge.

I also want to thank the group of friends who got together and petitioned, as it were, for my nomination. I know that you meant well, and I know that you were interested only in good government and I want to thank each and every one of you for your confidence, for your courage and for your unselfish interest in our City. But, of course, that is not my technique. When I want a nomination I submit it to the people and not to political bosses. But it did bring out the fact that we must select a Mayor this year and I want to make very clear that I appreciate their very kind efforts. I will not enter the Republican Primaries. I am not a candidate for the Republican nomination for Mayor.

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Although there are other groups, I want to make it very clear again that the decision must be left to the people. I want to ask my very good friends of the American Labor Party not to nominate me and not to put my name on their petition. I am not going to run for Mayor this year. I have many reasons and I will give them to you. As you know, it has been so amusing to observe the panorama of the past few months. This panorama of politicians, yes panorama of scheming and conniving, to do what, to join forces to destroy a good administration. Of course, it is always difficult for gentry of that kind to get together. Erickson and Costello and Adonis and the rest of the racketeers, perhaps have not yet agreed. But have they not been confused? Have you seen all the maneuvering? Yes, and some very high officials holding certain offices, who are not supposed to be in politics, have been braintrusting, in some of this conniving and conspiracy. Of course, I know all along.

My friends, this decision was not made yesterday or today. This decision was made back in 1941. It was also conveyed to our friends last Christmas when we had our Christmas cards printed. There is a little symbol on that card. Our friends know about it and if you have the card, you will see it. We conveyed then that this Christmas card would be our last card from the Mayor's House. So you see I have been carrying on with the full knowledge of what I was going to do, knowing that the job was completed. Now it is up to the people of this City to decide whether they want to keep the clean, decent government by the clean, law-abiding people in our City for the children of our City, or whether they want to return to political riff-raff, to the tinnhorn chisolors, racketeers, and the tin boxes. That is for the people to decide, and it must be decided on that issue alone. For instance, at a recent meeting at the National Republican Club there was quite a debate on the subject - and there you have a level of intelligence which is somewhat higher than that of the district clubs. And what was the discussion? Will La Guardia support the Governor next year if we support him this year? How do we know that he will support the Governor next year? Yes, how would you know? I do not know, and I would not make any such dirty deal. I do not know whom I will support next year. It all depends on the issues and the candidates. But, what I want to point out is that the selection of candidates for Mayor should be made only on fitness and not on any political expediency.

There are many reasons why I think I should not run. First, there is always the danger of one becoming sort of stale in office, and I do not want to become stale at any time. I do not want to become indifferent. I do not want to become so calloused that I could not get indignant, yes, and impatient

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and lose my temper when I hear of graft and corruption and when I hear of crime and racketeering. No, I do not want to grow old that way. And then there is also a tendency that an administration may become satisfied. It becomes sort of smug and satisfied that it is doing so well. Oh, no, no, no that is not good. I want to keep on my toes all of the time. I want my government to keep on its toes all of the time and my Commissioners to be on their toes. A change is good. And then another thing if an individual is in an executive office too long he may become bossy, and they tell me that I am sort of inclined that way at times, so that is something else that I must look after.

But now, here is something that I think is important, I do not believe that in our form of government, chief executives should be re-elected time after time. The government of the City of New York is so large, that it cannot be compared with smaller municipalities. Our City government is larger and greater and more involved than that of any State in the Union, including our own. While it may be good in smaller communities for one to stay on the job as Mayor, I do not think that it is wholesome in a city or government as big as ours. Rotation in office is good and is wholesome. It is necessary in a democracy. It does not mean that because we have rotation it must necessarily go from good to bad and from bad to worse. If that were true it would indeed be a sad commentary on our democracy. In these times there is a tendency to rally around an individual - it is our democratic system that is important today, not individuals. If democracy cannot be maintained and improved through proper rotation in office, then something is wrong with the system and I refuse to believe that there is anything wrong with our democratic system. Oh, now, I can almost hear you say, "There goes La Guardia again, he is inconsistent. Did you not support the President for a third and a fourth term?" Yes, I did and under the same circumstances I would do it again. Under different circumstances I would not have done it. It did not require a great student of history or an expert on European politics in 1940 to know that our country would be involved in war. It did not require much of a military genius to know of our complete and utter lack of defense and of military preparation in 1940. I knew that even our own coast out here was not properly protected and that we had no real means of defense in those days. It will not be long before the real conditions that existed in 1940 and the frantic preparations and the building up of our defense of our coast and mainland, will become history.

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I had some little part in the preparation of the defense of our coast and mainland, as a member of the Permanent Joint Board on Defense with Canada. No one in our entire country had the knowledge of European affairs and the grasp of the situation as did President Roosevelt. I did not like the third term idea. I do not think that the President, himself, liked the third term. I supported him because under these conditions and the danger that we were facing at that time, I considered it for the best interests of our country that the President should remain in office. In 1944, no other decision could have been made. There was no choice and, of course, the American people responded. A great many of my very good friends, who are really interested in clean and non-political city government, who worked hard to drive out the forces of corruption in City Hall and who were responsible for my election back in 1934, were hurt and disappointed that I did support the President in 1940. I did it with my eyes open for the reasons I have stated. I know that I was hurting my friends and that they were disappointed. I was sorry and told them at the time. I did what I believed was for the best interests of our country.

Now, of course, as these machines are created they have terrible power. My friends if, in 1934 when I came here, I had just played along with a political party, it would not have been difficult to build up a powerful machine in this State. Furthermore, I could have built up a personal political machine. But I could not have given you the kind of government that you have had for twelve years and that I know you wanted. The City would not be as it is today and I would not have been myself. I know politics well and you know that I know them and could have built up a powerful political machine. Others have done it and some are doing it in this State today. I was interested in the future of my City. I was not interested in my own political future. Therefore, I did not hesitate. Look around your City now. Who are the politicians in office? Can Valentino and Walsh control any votes, or Carey of Sanitation, or Stobbins of Health, or Bornecker of Hospitals - are they County Chairmen or district leaders? McKenzio of Marine and Aviation, Moss of Licenses, Wilson of Housing, do they represent any political strength? Wilkinson, Salmon, or Patterson, can they swing a nomination? But they know their jobs. Ploydell of Purchase, Huie of Public Works, Murdock of Standards and Appeals, are they the political wire pullers and fixers of the old days?

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Bob Moses, the builder, he tried it once. He could not get many votes for himself but he is a great Commissioner. These men just know their jobs and this is the big thing my friends, there is no fixing, there is no graft, there is no favoritism, there is no stealing. That is the big difference between a non-political, non-partisan, scientific government from the old kind that you threw out of office back in 1934.

Here are some personal reasons. I will be 63 in December. I still have, I hope, some years of useful service left in me. I have had the opportunity, during the past forty years that I have been in public service, of acquiring some experience and some training. I have worked very hard. I have had practically no vacation or rest since I have been in office here and that is twelve years. It has just been one thing after the other. What I would like to do is to go out and get some sunshine and a little rest and I want to store that up and conserve more vitality and more energy and just keep it in reserve in case I should have to come back into public service. I hope I will not have to come back.

If conditions are good after the war, if industry comes back and gets into great production and we have employment and prosperity and happiness in our land, then I think I have made my contribution to good government. But if we have a financial crisis and unemployment again and relief, and if we have conflicts between veterans and labor, or bitterness between labor and industry, then the administration in Washington will have failed. If our own City government goes back to corruption and racketeering and inefficiency, then that administration will have failed, and it will be the duty of those of us who have had experience to take hold again and to clean up again. I want to be ready to do that. In the meantime, I guess I will have to look for a job. I guess I can get one. Ordinarily, I would not do it, but I do not know whether we are going to have inflation or not. You see, Marie, the children and I, we live very economically, very modestly. We saved something, but nearly all of our life's savings are in the Retirement Fund, and if we do not have inflation, that is quite all right. We will manage and send the kids to school if they can pass the entrance examinations. Otherwise, I guess it is better to be prudent and see if I can get a job.

But here is something that we must find real soon. I am going to call upon all of my good real estate friends to help. We have to find a house to live in. We have been looking for it for a long time. This last fall, Marie went up in the Riverdale Section looking for one very quietly and it kind of got around.

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The real estate man that we had died. We have to get something by Fall, because I think it would be kind of nice to have the house spruced up and tidied up for the new occupants. As we have to get out by Fall we hope it will be all ready. So I hope you will all help us find a house because it would be terrible to have to stay in office because we could not find a house to live in, wouldn't it?

There is one thing, my friends, that I want to make clear, because I know how the politicians with the loud mouths will howl. I can be reelected this Fall without any trouble. I can be reelected without the nomination of any regular party. To use the phrase that Al Smith liked to use in his day "I can run on a laundry ticket and beat those political bums any time." Why? Because the overwhelming majority of the people of New York City want good, efficient government because they like their City and they are proud of it. I can lick any combination of political parties, but I want to confess to you that I can not beat a combination of political parties in the State Legislature and in the State Courts. Sometimes I wonder if the City is not paying for it. I hope the press will be kinder to our City under a new administration. It is just as much your City as it is my City, and it is manifestly unfair to our great City and its good people to take it out on the City because a publisher may not like the Mayor or may be disappointed that he did not get something that he wanted. The City deserves a better break.

The thing to do is for all forces believing in good government to get together. It is not sufficient to select a candidate for Mayor but there must be a combination of Mayor, Comptroller and President of the Council. Unless you have that, three men who are devoted and will continue to be devoted to good government, the finances of this City will be wrecked. Just recall the history. Do you remember the condition of this City when I took it over? It was bankrupt. Everything that the City owned was in hock, was hypothecated, was mortgaged, and the City was paying six per cent interest for short term loans. In a year after I took office we were paying less than one per cent for these short term loans. So you must find men who have had experience, who have vision and who have courage. You can not get that from a college diploma. You must have character and there is no better place than in public office to bring out a man's character.

I do not believe I should make any one suggestion. I think that that is bad. President Theodore Roosevelt did, but it did not turn out so good. But there is a long list of competent men in this City who could do a good job as Mayor, any of whom I would cheerfully support. For those who came in office under the banner of clean government and who betrayed the part, I have nothing but sympathy.

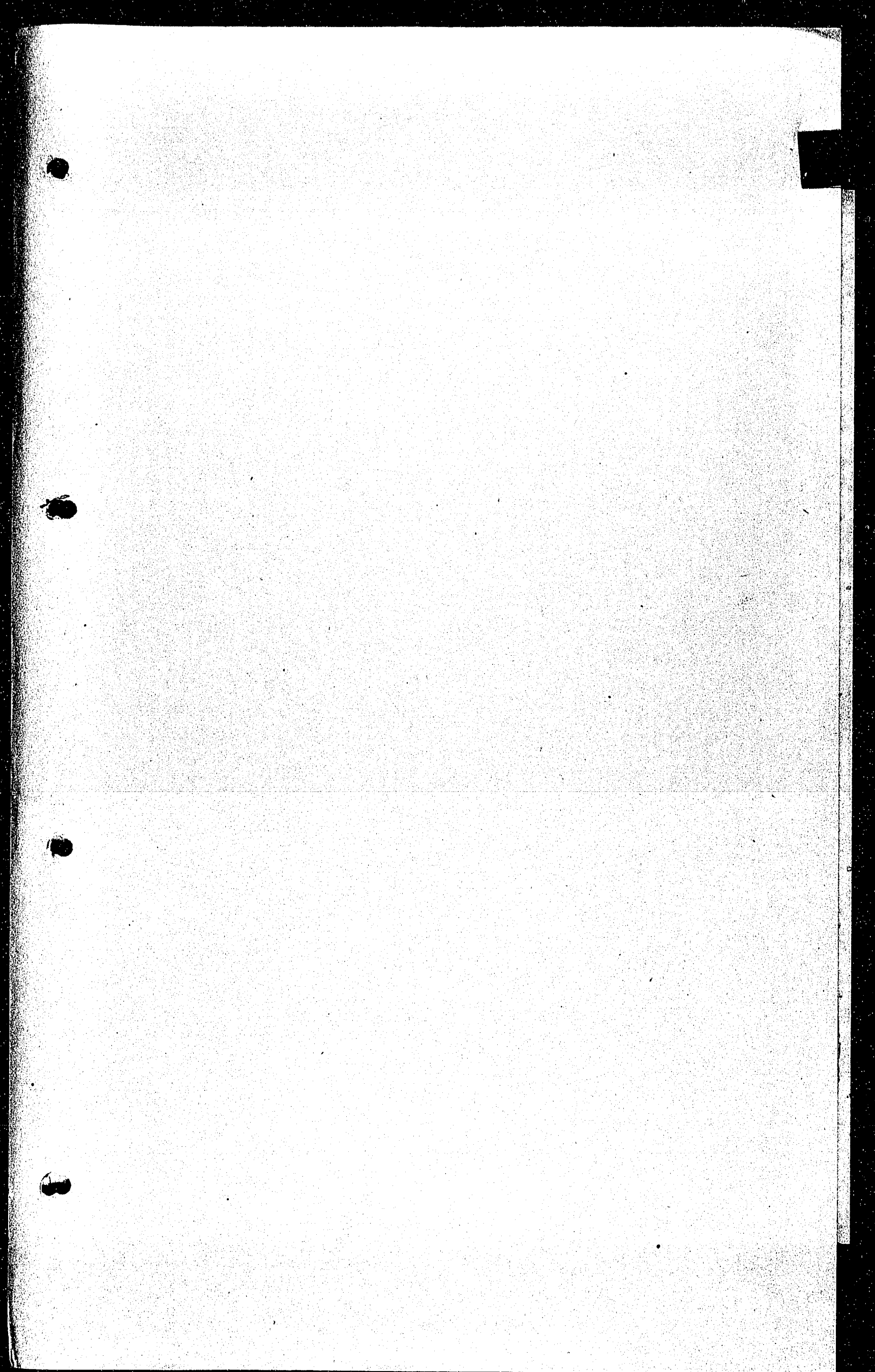
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They should read the twenty-seventh Chapter of St. Matthew and I will contribute the Fifth verse for their individual guidance.

If we all work together unselfishly, with only one thing in mind, I am quite sure that we can perpetuate the kind of government New York City has had for twelve years and which is being copied in every city in this country. We have established a new pattern, a new model for intelligent, clean, scientific, non-political municipal government. Yes, my friends, it has been hard, it has been very hard at times. It has been heartbreaking. Sometimes you almost get to the brink of discouragement. Sometimes you wonder, can you see it through. Sometimes you fail to understand why there is opposition to good and why there is criticism and constant fighting in order to make people better and happier, in order to eliminate exploitation and crime. And now, as I look back, it is a source of great comfort, this lineup against our form of government - there it stands. And to think that it was possible to remake a City, possible to come in, step into a tradition of corruption and inefficiency; a history of favoritism and pilfering; a system of patronage and to change all of that; to demonstrate to every writer of history in our country who became hopeless and felt that local government could not be good to prove that ~~they were~~ ^{he was} wrong; to take an antiquated Charter in the face of the combined opposition of the two major parties and have it approved by the people of this City, this great City, unique in its kind - nothing like it in the whole world - this great City of huge spaces that are too small, of millions of little people who are really big and people coming from every clime and country of the world, living in peace and happiness here, people knowing that their children will have the opportunity of an education in the most hospitable City in the world.

Yes, my friends, you gave me a job and I did it. Now I ask you to carry on. Patience and Fortitude.

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CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TEXT OF MAYOR F. H. LA GUARDIA'S SUNDAY BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
NEW YORK FROM HIS OFFICE AT CITY HALL, MAY 13, 1945, BROADCAST OVER WNYC AT
1:00 P.M. FOLLOWS:

Patience and Fortitude.

THE NAZI SURRENDER One hundred and thirty million Americans today, proud in victory, are kneeling with bowed heads and in all humility, thanking God for His guidance and asking His continued guidance until all the evil forces in the world will be crushed and His will done for peace on earth. It seems almost impossible, doesn't it, that it is less than a week since the unconditional surrender of what was left of the Nazi forces. So much has happened during the week, and a great many events will take place almost every day from now on until the end of the War.

PUNISHMENT OF WAR CRIMINALS Has it occurred to you -- it has to me -- how innocent and how kindly and how pure and good all these Nazi gangsters, who are now being captured, seem to be? Nobody likes Hitler! Isn't it strange the way they are talking now? Let us hope that there will be no delay in bringing these gangsters to trial. Delay is bad. I am so afraid, you know, that at any moment some international lawyer may pop up -- and seek a retainer maybe -- and find reasons why the gangsters should not be tried. This is a job for soldiers to do -- the soldiers who did the fighting. It is a military matter, and let us hope that they will be brought to trial and, what is more, execution should follow very swiftly.

I was a little disappointed this morning. I thought sure that by this time Quisling would have been tried and shot. That was a disappointment to a great many people. Well, let us hope that it won't be long now.

V-E DAY CEREMONIES New York City responded beautifully, first to the appeal of the President of the United States that we should not delay work in war production; and then its manifestation of joy was in keeping with the dignity of a nation still at war. Here is something which is so typical of our attitude and of our country. It is a letter from Ignace Strassfogel, the Assistant Conductor of the Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York. You know, the Philharmonic Orchestra played at the V-E Day ceremonies at Central Park. It happened that Maestro Ignace Strassfogel was the Conductor, and he said in his letter to me, "It was a glorious day for everyone, but I should like to tell you how it was such a particularly great day for me, how my personal participation in that Victory celebration was one of the fate's beautiful little ironies. In 1933, shortly after Hitler came into power, I lost my post as assistant conductor at the Berlin State Opera, along with other victims. I tried in vain to procure work elsewhere, and, finally, I had a nervous breakdown.

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Shortly thereafter good friends and music lovers heard of my plight and brought me to this wonderful country. Here that same year I married an American girl, and in later years I became an American citizen. Can you not understand, then, that to conduct the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra in a program commemorating the downfall of Hitler's gangsterism on Tuesday last, gave me the most exquisite satisfaction of my entire life."

Yes, I do, Maestro.

RATIONING AND PRICE CONTROL Today I have to talk with you at length on the matter of

food and prices. I do not think that conditions are good at all. First you must understand the need for price control. When the demand or need for food is greater than the supply, food must be rationed. And if it is rationed, there must be price control. If that were not so, then prices would soar and only people with plenty of money could get enough to eat. So distribution is necessary - equitable distribution. It can be regulated only by rationing and where you have rationing there must necessarily be control of prices. Now, then, when food is plentiful, there is no need of price control, because if the supply is greater than the demand, the prices naturally adjust themselves. But when food becomes short, then the test comes, whether your price regulation and your ceiling price enforcement is satisfactory and is functioning or whether there has been a breakdown. Do I make myself clear? First you must know that there is no shortage of food in the real sense of the word; that is, when I say "shortage of food," or when you read "shortage of food" you would think that we are producing less food than we did before the war. That is not so. We are producing more. The farmers of this country have responded magnificently and we are raising more food each year and more food than we did before the war. Then you will say, "Well, why is there a shortage?" There is a shortage because more people in this country are now, for the first time in many, many years getting enough to eat and trying to get the proper kind of food for their families. People who never before could afford to eat meat, now are employed and are now able to eat meat, and so it is with other commodities. There are just as many people in the country now as there were before the war. Some of them are in the military service. They, too, are getting more food and they need more food than in peacetime. So, it is not that we are wasting food. It is that the demands are greater, and of course, we all hope that this economic condition will continue after the war so that all people, in all parts of the country, may get enough to eat.

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CEILING PRICE
ENFORCEMENT

Now, then, women of New York, you can judge better than anyone else whether or not the enforcement of ceiling prices is functioning. I say that it is not, and I add that the New York City Markets Department and the Sheriff's Office just cannot do it alone. We must have real, effective, efficient ceiling price enforcement on the part of the Federal Government, because all that we can do, with the limited powers that we have under the Emergency State Law, is to apprehend retailers and some wholesalers. The real evil is outside of the City of New York before the meat or the food comes into our City and, all the lavish praise that anyone wants to bestow upon the O.P.A. does not bring prices down. I leave it to the women of New York City and the women of the country whether the enforcement of prices is effective or not. The test is now when the demand for food is so much greater than the available supply. Enforcement is a very difficult task. Congress has not provided sufficient personnel to the O.P.A. for efficient enforcement. On the other hand, the O.P.A. has, here and there, been just a little bit careless in the selection of its personnel. I fear that here and there a little politics has entered into it. I would be glad to give you details, Chester, any time that you want, but let me remind you that most of this information I got from a very good source - I got it from you.

MEAT

Meat is very scarce and there's very little available at lawful ceiling prices by the retailers, so little that it would be impossible for a store to operate with that limited amount. I insist, subterfuges of one kind or another and outright overcharging of wholesale ceiling prices have resulted in the violation of retail ceiling prices all over the City. About a month ago, if you remember, we announced the new Ten-Point Plan of the O.P.A. I said, let us give it a trial and as this is the 13th of May, we must be patient until the end of the month. We have enough advance information now, however, to know that it will not work. It is too involved, too complicated. I won't bore you with the details of the Regulation now, but the proof is right at your retail butcher store. Have you been able to get meat this week? Have you been able to get half of what you need? Have you dared to look at the grading? Have you dared to question the price? That means that O.P.A. is not functioning. I do not care what anybody says. We are proceeding with our enforcement in the City. What can we do when the retailers say: "Look here, this is what I paid for it,

How can I sell it at this price?" Yet, we have had over three hundred cases - summonses have been issued this week for higher price violations. So, as I said about a month ago, when the new regulations were first announced commencing May 1st, that we would give it a trial. We are now accumulating information, data and figures. I expect that by the end of the month or early in June to submit a definite, concrete plan to the proper officials high up in Washington to meet the situation in New York City. I believe now, after so many trials, after so many failures, that serious consideration must be given to a plan approved by cattlemen, feeders, packing houses, slaughterers, wholesalers, retailers, and consumers. If the government will not cooperate then, then we will have another demonstration of seeing just how much enforcement the U. S. - O.P.A. can do in ~~another set-up~~ ^{and of itself}.

POULTRY Chickens -- you know, poultry. Remember, we used to have that once,-- poultry, chickens - some have it in soup, some fried, some roasted. It is a fowl, it belongs to the bird family you will remember, and we used to raise them, kill them, pluck them, clean them, cook them and then eat them. I just thought I would remind you what it was because there are not very many chickens around now. In the first place, we can not expect to have the same amount of chickens that we had six months or a year ago. The Army is in the market for chickens and we do not begrudge them that one bit. I do not know whether they have yet fulfilled their requirements of 110,000,000 pounds of poultry and that comes mostly from the same chicken area from which we get ours. The reason for that is that this area is one place that has facilities for processing them. When they get that whole supply, perhaps there will be a lot down. I don't know. In the meantime, however, the entire enforcement of poultry has broken down and I dare anybody to deny that. It has broken down. The result is, and I got this from the dealers themselves, that poultry that should sell for 41 cents a pound killed, is selling around 65 and 75 cents. And kosher killed poultry, which should be selling at 47 cents, is selling at from 65 cents to \$1.25 a pound. Kosher Poultry Dealers Association tell me that 95% of the retail stores are closed.

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You must not blame those retailers. They are absolutely justified. They are confronted with buying at inflated prices, way above ceiling, and then having one of our City inspectors at their store to see that they sell at ceiling prices. They cannot do it. They proved to me with figures that they just can't do it. Therefore, they are closed and they are going to remain closed and we will help them until they may buy at lawful wholesale prices and sell at lawful retail prices.

Right here I want to pause and ask the consumers whether they are cooperating as well as they used to. You know that you are not and that makes it very hard. It makes it very hard to protect you. We do not have one case, but thousands of cases where the consumer has worked with the retailers who sell above ceiling prices, by paying above ceiling prices or by neglecting to have the poultry or the meat weighted, or by saying that they owed money and were paying it, and even by abusing the inspectors who were there to protect them. Now, women, if you do that, I do not know what the end will be, but I do know that you are making it very difficult for us to help you. So won't you help us to help you?

POULTRY PRICE Now, let me give you an illustration of poultry prices bo-
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cause this is typical of meat and everything else. The ceiling price from the farmer is 30.7 cents a pound and it is brought to New York and sold for 35.2 cents a pound at the Terminal Market to the poultry slaughterhouse. If he pays 35.2 cents, he is required to sell it to the retailer for not more than 39.7 cents and, according to his breakdown, he says that he cannot sell it for 39.7 cents because instead of the four-and-a-half cents margin allowable, it actually costs him 6.43 cents a pound. Well, I think that 6.43 is a little high. I would say that it is more like five cents, but even then he would be losing half a cent a pound. But the whole trouble lies in the fact that originally the poultry is purchased for more than 30.7 cents. The City had an offer of 100,000 pounds of live poultry to be sold to slaughterhouses at the lawful price of 35.2 cents. The slaughterhouses, however, cannot sell kosher killed poultry to the retailer at 39.7 cents without a loss. That is the fault of the regulations and there is nothing that the local enforcement officers can do unless the regulation is changed.

Here is something funny. The retail price of kosher killed poultry is 47 cents, but if it sold to a non-kosher retailer, it has to be sold for 41 cents and it costs about the same to produce. It costs a little more to kosher dealers, but there is not that six cent variance!

Although we could increase the 100,000 pounds to an estimated 500,000 pounds weekly, under the mark-up in the various levels of distribution, it is just impossible to do so without a loss per pound and no one could afford to lose on every pound of commodity sold. Therefore, I hope that the OPA will give practical attention to this matter and give consideration to the plan that the City of New York will present. In the meantime, cooperate with us and do not pay more than ceiling prices for meat or chicken.

Now, you will say, Mr. Mayor, if we have to lay off chickens and we have to lay off meat, what will we buy? I really don't know. We had a pretty tough time at our home last week, and we have arranged it so that we have two meatless days and Thursday, when we wanted some meat, all that Mario could get was some soup bones and we were awfully happy to have that. We used a lot of vegetables in the soup and that balanced it. So you just have to use your ingenuity.

POULTRY FOR HOSPITALS Talking about chicken, I want to express my thanks to the War Food Administration. They got 775 barrels of Grade A dressed poultry weighing about 37,000 pounds for our hospitals last week.

EGGS There is disagreement between the merchants and myself on one side and the W.F.A. on the other side as to eggs. We believe that a great many eggs are in storage and are being kept there until the prices go up next month and the month after that. W.F.A. does not quite agree with us. We reached the point where we did not have a single egg in all of our City Hospitals last week. What do you know about that? Late one night, we got in touch with the proper authorities of the Army and they loaned us a week's supply. I received a telegram late last night from the W.F.A. that priorities for eggs have been granted to the City hospitals. That means that we can go and search for these eggs and invoke the powers given us in the priorities.

CLOTHING PRICES Here is something else. I talk these matters over with you so that you will understand them and be guided accordingly. You will remember that it was in February that we received the promise of low-cost clothing. Of course, that is a very difficult problem but the OPA and the WPB worked a long time on it and finally allocations of textiles were made to get low-priced clothing.

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There was a great deal of resistance on the part of the trade. I do not see how the trade can expect to eliminate low-priced garments and just make high-priced garments. This just cannot be done and at the same time avoid inflation. The rule was modified a little. I am sorry to say, though not changed. The other day, while talking with the OPA Textile Division in Washington, they told me not to stress low-priced garments any more, but to talk about moderate-priced garments. Well, all right. I can only talk on the garments that you give me. I cannot do anything else. This was in February. If you remember, I said that we ought to see results around the end of March or early April. Well, late March and early April came along and we did not get results until late April and here we are in May. I caused a survey to be made to see how many of those moderate-priced garments we have, and the result is anything but satisfactory. On the 19th of February, Chester Bowles said that several weeks ago the broad, general principles of the Government Textile Clothing Program were announced. Today's dollar and cents prices for cotton clothing represents the details of the first major pricing action worked out to fulfill the promises made at that time. That was the promise made before February 19, but it is moving very slowly and the situation is anything but satisfactory. When I talk about the prices, OPA prices, and the garments available at OPA prices, I want you to know that does not mean that the prices are unlawful. It means that those prices that are over the OPA prices are above the prices fixed by OPA but are on what is known as the "free list", that is, garments that are not limited in price-fixed prices but that each may charge a mark-up in accordance with prices charged in that store. For instance, men's garments, let me give it this way. Here are some of the OPA prices that I am talking about. Undershorts for men, - I am only giving you the lowest prices - are priced at 49 cents. Business men's shirts \$1.80; business men's shirts, the larger size, \$1.95; sport shirts \$1.60; as to boys' garments, wash suits, sizes 2-6, \$1.30; sport shirts and blouses, \$1.05; short pants, \$1.15; long pants \$1.55. Women's garments - slips 85 cents; night gown \$1.95; misses' and women's dresses \$1.95; women's dresses, \$2.10; teen's and junior dresses, \$4.40, etc. We made a survey in New York and in Manhattan there are very little limited stocks available of men's, women's, boy's, girl's and children's garments at OPA prices, - very little of these. And those garments that we are talking about must have the price - the labeled price - sewed in the garment. That does not mean that garments over those prices are black market.

No, it means that they are sold at a legitimate price, but that the supply provided by OPA and the War Production Board of low and moderate garments does not yet exist. In Manhattan, infants' clothing is particularly scarce and there is a lack of children's pajamas apparent in all sizes. Bronx - stocks in all departments are exceedingly low, but what there is, is in the neighborhood of OPA prices, but the supply is very, very low. There seems to be a complete lack of men's shorts in the Bronx. Brooklyn - there is very little merchandise available within this range where the prices have been fixed by OPA. Queens - there is considerable low-priced merchandise in the various department stores. That seems strange. We found more in Queens than in the other four Boroughs. I am going to get in touch with Mr. Bowles again Monday and impress upon him the need of low-priced and moderate-priced clothes for children, women and men. If in one breath the government is talking about holding the line and preventing inflation and in the next they let up or, after passing a regulation, do not see that anything is done about it, then we are in for serious trouble. That is why I have spent so much time today in telling you about it and hope that by the end of the month, we may have some relief from some of these intolerable conditions.

TAXI-DRIVER
VETERANS

It has been brought to my attention that some taxicab drivers who have served in the armed forces and who have been discharged, are unable to obtain their hack license again. That is because the existing law was enacted before the War and these drivers disposed of their hack licenses. Commissioner Valentine has recommended, and I have approved, and am sending to the City Council an amendment to the existing law, to permit the 155 taxicab drivers who surrendered their licenses because they had entered the armed forces, to receive back their hack licenses. So, men, if you have a little patience, I am sending this over and I am sure that the Council will give it attention.

NEWSPAPER
TIE-IN SALES

Here is a new racket. This is a hot one. Talking about tie-in sales, I have several letters which I referred to License Commissioner Paul Moss which state that certain newsstands will not sell a Sunday "Times" or a "Herald-Tribune" unless the buyer will also take a "News" or a "Mirror". Well, I can understand the discrimination on the part of readers of the "Times" and the "Herald-Tribune", and Paul Moss has issued an order that anyone caught in a tie-in sale will lose his license and I need not tell you that Paul is not fooling. So, be on your guard.

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LOAN SHARK
PRACTICES

Here is another one. Talking about loan sharks, they are even now enticing young men who are working, to make loans at usurious rates of interest - minors, boys under 21 years of age. Another writes me asking if the boy has to pay it. The answer is No, of course, he does not have to pay it. If any loan shark makes a loan to anyone under twenty-one years of age, he does not have to pay it. You just plead infancy and that is a complete bar to the action. If you go to the grocery store, and if you are living alone and you are under twenty-one years of age, and they give you food, or necessities of life, then you have to pay the value of that food. But borrowing money from a loan shark, or one of these loan companies, when you are under twenty-one years of age, is not a valid contract.

RACING BAN
LIFTED

Talking about loan sharks, I can not miss the tin horn. I have not said anything about tin horns today. As you know, the tin horns, I always say have great political influence, oh, a great deal, - and you know the ban on horse racing has been lifted. I don't know if anyone can get any comfort out of that. I figure that for every thousand persons who attend a horse race in one day, it delays for ten days the return of ten soldiers serving in Europe. Now, just multiply the attendance by one thousand every day, or take a thousand of the attendance, multiply it by ten and by ten, and you will see the number of delayed days for the return of veterans. But the tin horns have strong political influence all over the country.

Talking about horse racing, this is good. "The fact remains that horse racing is an expensive form of gambling; also that gambling is the essence of its being and the talk about improving the breed is a quaint old piece of hooey." That is in an editorial. No, you are wrong. It is not an editorial from the ethical, high-minded "Christian Science Monitor," because I do not think that the "Monitor" knows anything about horse racing. But it is from a great authority, in fact, the official organ of the tin horn and the promiscuous. It is from an editorial of the "New York Daily News" of May 12, 1945, and when they talk about gambling, they speak on one subject that they know and they love, and they protect and encourage.

Well, it is past my time. I will have a little more for you next week.

Patience and fortitude.

and

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUNDAY, May 20, 1945

CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TEXT OF MAYOR F. H. LA GUARDIA'S SUNDAY BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
NEW YORK FROM HIS OFFICE AT CITY HALL, MAY 20, 1945, BROADCAST OVER WNYC AT
1.00 P.M. FOLLOWS:

Patience and Fortitude.

I AM AN
AMERICAN
DAY

Today is "I AM AN AMERICAN DAY". This day was established
by Congress, authorizing the President of the United States
to declare one day in the year as "I AM AN AMERICAN DAY,"
and this was one of the last proclamations signed by our beloved President,
Franklin Roosevelt. Now I will tell you what to do. You had better turn
off right now and go to Central Park, because you will find a much better
program there than what you will get if you stay at home and listen to me.
The ceremonies start at 2:30 sharp at Central Park on the Mall, and it is
a very good program. Here are some of the numbers. Jane Froman, who you
will remember was in an airplane crash in Portugal on her way with a U. S. O.
troupe to entertain the troops, and this is her first public appearance, I
believe, since her accident. She will sing the Star Spangled Banner.
Regina Resnick, the Brooklyn High School girl, who is now one of the stars
of the Metropolitan Opera, is also on the program. Mischa Elman will
give a violin solo. Of course, we all know Maestro Mischa, and that in
itself is very effective. We will also have Marion Anderson, who, I believe,
has one of the finest voices God ever gave anyone. The main address
will be made by our former Governor, Herbert H. Lehman, who, as you know,
is Director-General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation
Administration. I believe that he will have a very timely and interesting
message. Then there will be a Sextette from the Metropolitan Opera
House. The Pledge of Allegiance will be given by the Honorable
Learned Hand of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. Igor Gorin
and a group of Metropolitan and City Center opera stars and massed bands
will render the "United Nations on the March." Now, I will tell you
what to do. If you are really interested in what I am going to say,
you just turn off now, go to Central Park, and drop me a card and if we
make a record of this talk today, we will send you a copy if you want it.

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WAR
NEWS

Well, the War is not over, is it? Certainly not! The last news from the Pacific, although it shows that we are moving onward, gaining every day, is costing lives, isn't it? Last Friday morning was a rather gloomy breakfast at our house. I suppose it was that way in million of homes throughout the United States when the news of the "Franklin" was released. Just think -- over 800 of our boys lost on one ship at that time. That in itself should bring home to everyone of us that we still have so much to do. We are still at war and there should be no let-down. We are still at war with a formidable enemy. There is no doubt as to the ultimate and complete and glorious victory over the Japs. Just how long it will take depends upon a good many factors. If Russia declares war against Japan, it would shorten the war and would save many, many lives. The liberty loving people of the world are anxiously awaiting.

Yes, I suppose I should talk about meat. Yes, you know the meat MEAT that you did not get this week and that you are not going to get next week. It is not surprising to me and I do not believe that anything that has happened comes as a surprise to anybody who knows anything about meat or the cattle industry. It was to be expected, for the simple reason that the regulations were not realistic and the price at the various levels ignored actual conditions. Now let me repeat again. Why do we have OPA? Why do we have price ceilings and price control? We have food control because the demand for food is greater than the supply. And again let me say, it does not mean that we are producing less. We are producing more, but for the first time in our history, more people are getting enough to eat than ever before. That in and of itself creates such a greater demand that the increased production is not sufficient. Where it is necessary to control the distribution of food, it seems necessary to control the prices. Otherwise, only people who have a great deal of money would be able to buy food hence we have price control. When everything goes smoothly, when there is sufficient food for everybody, then, of course, it works well. But the test of OPA and the test of the War Food Administration is when there is a crisis. If, during a crisis or shortage of any given commodity, there is something resembling a fair and equitable distribution with the control of prices, then it is successful.

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But if it breaks down, as it did in a week, then, of course, it is anything but successful. Therefore, again on behalf of the greatest City in the country, seven and a half million people of our own, and a food center of nearly twelve million people, I call upon Washington to be realistic, and to face the situation. It is not enough to give a headline that retail prices are low. You know the mothers of New York cannot feed a headline to their children. We understand that the problem was difficult and novel, but in the face of the experience that we have had and the many mistakes made, we ask that there would be a realistic approach.

For the past two weeks I have been in touch with all parts of the country, with men who know something about the meat industry, with raisers of live stock, with feeders and with slaughterers. We have met before and we have been in communication before. You will remember that some two years ago, I attended a conference of livestock men and feeders out in Kansas City. I realized then that we had a great deal in common. They produced the cattle that we need and our interests are not conflicting at all, as some people would try to make us believe. These men are pretty realistic and they warned the government then that unless a practical plan was adopted there would be a breakdown in the distribution and that is exactly what has happened. I went along with that plan then. You will remember that they agreed not to interfere with the retail price - in other words, the government would establish a ceiling retail price. That being so, they felt that there was sufficient margin and the situation would take care of itself.

I have selected from the various live stock men, feeders, slaughterers with whom I have been in touch during the past two weeks, representatives from Missouri, Iowa, Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Nebraska, Wyoming, Indiana, Texas, Michigan, Illinois, and California. Most of these represent associations, so that we have a very good cross section of the entire meat industry. Seven of the fourteen agreed that the shortage was caused by bureaucratic red tape and inexperienced administrative authorities. Thirteen definitely agreed that OPA has ignored the effect of pricing on production and marketing. Thirteen also agreed that the basic cause of the shortage is that feed lots are not operating because OPA had deliberately discouraged them. As a result cattle are marketed off the grass, resulting in lower weights and quality. Too many calves were killed last fall. By now they would have weighed twice as much. There is too small a differential in price between grades of cattle. At the very beginning, ten of the fourteen representatives of cattlemen and feeders in the several states predicted

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that Directive 41 -- that is the Ten Point Plan, which, if you will remember I told you about a month ago and which went into effect the early part of May -- would be ineffective, and they were right. Six are insistent that direct or indirect subsidies are not wanted. Six, on the other hand, agreed that the kind of subsidy given has been ineffective. It does not recognize the proper normal price grade relationship, particularly in regard to the feeder. Six recognize that ceilings should be adjusted in order to restore the proper normal price grade relationship, and six are pessimistic for the present. They feel that no matter what happens the situation will not improve until the fall and that three months after that we will be in another crisis very much as we are at this time.

I have explained before just what a feeder is. I believe it is worth while repeating because it is so important to us. You see a feeder is a sort of manufacturer of meat. He goes out and buys the cattle on the range in the southwest, and far west and brings it into the midwest. He puts these cattle into lots when they are rangy and skinny and starts to feed them. This has been developed with a science so that given the proper feed they know exactly how many pounds of meat can be put, in a given time, on a head of cattle. And this they do. Don't you see that increases the quantity of meat that we get. However, in the last few months, oh, perhaps in the last year, a larger percentage of this rangy, skinny cattle has been going direct from the plains to the slaughter house, and we have been getting less meat, and, of course, the quality is not as good. So the feeder situation is one that we consumers in the City did not fully recognize or understand until the present meat crisis.

I have been working with a great many in the industry -- slaughterers, middlemen, wholesalers, retailers and the big packers, too, and the chain stores. We are going to study this last Plan which was announced, I think, yesterday by Mr. Vinson. Don't you see, it recognizes that something was wrong and it adds a little more here and a little more there and it keeps on piling up and yet it does not go to the root of the evil. As a retail butcher said the other day -- he was not an economist you know or a college professor, the kind that we have now trying to tell us what to do about meat -- that they are giving us half an ounce of blood plasma when we need a pint and they might as well give us the pint all at once.

One of the first things that I recommended and which has been only partially granted, is that the Army -- and by the Army I mean all Government buying that is for the Army, Navy, Lend Lease -- should pay the cost of the

meat. Concededly they are not now paying the cost. When we go out and buy a battleship, or an airplane, or a tank, the government pays what it costs with a mark-up, doesn't it? Of course, it does. It could not get it otherwise. Well, they should do the same with meat. Meat should be purchased under all of the requirements. They know the actual cost because it can be figured from the cost of the animal on the hoof and, with a mark-up, they should pay accordingly. That will deduct from the 40% remaining, a great deal of the cost which the consumer must now pay.

Also, the red point ration system must be constantly integrated with the available meat supply. We took that up in Kansas City two years ago. Given a supply of meat the value of the meat should be so regulated that everyone gets his share of meat. That is all that the American people want - to get their just share. And, of course, it must be separated from fats, such as butter, cheese and shortening. It does not belong there at all.

Then, here is another one. This is not good for me to say, but you know me, when there is something I have to say I am going to say it. I got along all this time without being afraid, so I am going to say it right now. Meat sold in public eating places, such as hotels and restaurants, should be rationed so that when you eat meat there, you will have to give up a certain amount of points. Don't you see how unfair it is under the present system? Here is a family that can afford to go out two or three times a week, they go out two or three times a week and eat meat in a restaurant or hotel, while another family that cannot afford to go out - just cannot get along at all. That is why too much meat is now going to public eating places in our City and we have no record of it. I am, therefore, going to suggest a plan whereby the meat consumed in public eating places will be rationed.

We believe that at this stage and for some time to come, poultry ought to be rationed, and not with meat points. They can use one of the unidentified stamps and allocate that to poultry, so that we can get a better distribution of poultry.

And, then, of course, here in New York City I have had splendid cooperation. We have had meatless Tuesdays and Fridays. Now look here, Washington, you told me it was good and you said that you approved of it, and you said that it helped a great deal. Well, it does. Now, Washington, you ought to do the same for the rest of the country. Don't be afraid, you fellows are in for three years. What are you afraid of if you are going to do the right thing? I was never afraid. I managed all right. You know it is necessary. Just designate meatless Tuesdays and Fridays for the rest of the country, and also the days that retail and wholesale meat stores can

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stay open, and that would help a great deal.

I am not going to bore you now with details of our plan because they are rather involved, but I will give them to you after we present them to Washington. Of course, we are going to watch the new Vinson Plan and see how it works, but I do not think that you will need extra toothpicks -- I do not think that you will get extra meat for some time to come.

POULTRY The poultry situation is very bad. We are watching all poultry shipments coming into the City. We confiscated 3,600 pounds the other day and watched 12,000 pounds being sold at ceiling prices. You know, you make some of these fellows sell at ceiling prices and it hurts more than going to jail. That is very good work on the part of the Department of Markets.

Well we have presented a plan and we are asking and pressing the War Food Administration to be realistic in poultry too. There is a range between what the farmers get and the retail ceiling price at which poultry must be sold, but it must be flexible within that range so as to meet local conditions and I hope that Washington will see that in time.

Of course, we are still hindered with the chiselers' law -- you know the law that compels us to hold Court in every Borough. We are still some 1,620 cases behind because of that and I may have to appoint some extra Magistrates to catch up and we are going to do it. We are not going to give any comfort to violators of the law.

The Sheriff's Office presented facts to the Federal Court on the B. & M. Poultry Co. Inc. and they were fined \$2,000. Mr. Sol Blum, not the Congressman mark you, but the manager of the B. & M. Poultry Co. was given six weeks in jail, and Sam Margolis, a salesman, was given four weeks in jail.

LOW-COST CLOTHING I talked to you about clothes, and there were some headlines regarding clothes for a couple of months, but no cheap clothes yet. There ought to be some coming along in a month or two. I was promised these clothes the first of April. Remember last week I told you about men's shirts. Well, it so happens that Jacob Potofsky, the Vice-President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, was here listening to my broadcast and he told me that they were very anxious to manufacture these cheap shirts but that they could not get the textiles. Now, W.P.B. that is up to you to see that they get the textiles. No fooling about this. Do not kid me when I go to Washington and say, "Now, Major, you go back to New York and say that you are going to get shirts at \$1.40 and \$2."

What are you talking about, I have a shirt on right here which my wife bought the other day. Well, it cost over \$5. and it has no stitching down the front when you button it and no stitching in the collar at all. With my salary I can afford it, but look here, there are a lot of people who cannot afford to buy shirts at over \$5. and as plain a shirt as the Mayor of the City of New York is willing to wear. So WPB it is up to you to see that these people get the textiles, Will you?

We made a survey of low price cotton garments and found a scarcity in all five Boroughs. Children and infants do better than adults but there are few pajamas and night gowns, except for the very young. There are very few girls' slips and not many dresses and play suits. In women's garments, there is great scarcity of everything - no slips to speak of, no pajamas, no nightgowns and very few low cost cotton dresses. There is also a great scarcity of cottons and ginghams by the yard. Mothers can help themselves by making clothes for the kiddies, but they just cannot get the materials. In men's garments, the only things easily found are sport shirts, but not at the lowest OPA price that I gave you last week. Some Boroughs seem to have better stock than others. Brooklyn and Staten Island seem worst off. In some sections of both Boroughs there is practically nothing on the shelves in lower priced garments. Bronx stores are particularly short on boys' sport shirts, pants and blouses and there is only a moderate supply of girls' things. In Queens there is a fair amount of women's dresses but a small supply of girls' clothes - both pants and shirts. Here is something unusual, we did find one store where there was a good supply of low-priced cotton garments with distinctive labels, and in some instances garments selling at less than OPA ceiling prices. This is pretty risky but I am going to try it. The report says that in sharp contrast with the other stores, Norton's at 34 West 14 Street is fairly well supplied, in all sizes, and within OPA price range. All bear distinctive labels and in many instances, the sale price is lower than OPA. The merchandise is well made and of fairly good quality. Large reserve stock. I do not know whether I am starting something for Norton's but I hope you have the stuff and that the report is correct. I suppose I will be criticized for plugging this store. Well, maybe so, but I will tell you what I will do. Any store that has a good supply of low priced garments for children or dresses for women and girls within OPA low ceiling prices, I will be glad to mention your store and give the address because there is such need at this time.

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WPB
RELEASES
GAMING
MACHINES

Talking about dresses and clothes and household things, the WPB, according to the press, is revoking its control on a long list of civilian products. From the press release which I read, the omnibus order of WPB expunged controls on 1,200 civilian items. But listen to this, get this, will you? I could not believe it was so when I read it. The release itemizes "pin-ball machines, coin-operated amusement devices and the so-called 'one-armed bandits' -- slot machines for gaming". Those words were quoted right in the New York Times. It is not the Mayor using foul language to describe gamblers -- it is from the dignified New York Times. Let me repeat it. "'One-armed bandits' -- slot machines for gaming." Of course, I exonerate Commander King and the higher officials of WPB. In the midst of 1,200 items, I do not think that they noticed it, but I have always said that there were some crooked little tin horns around WPB because they always got a break. Mr. Donald Nelson looked into it for me at one time and I think that he did take a couple of them out. But you know anyone who manufactures crooked gambling machines must be crooked, and if they are crooked I bet that they have some in store. Look here, Commissioner Valentine, keep your eyes open nab the first one that comes in and listen, do not have any of our men injure themselves in picking it up. You know, just roll into the station house and mark it for identification. Do not let them get a start.

CANCER
HOSPITAL

The week before last I told you about signing a contract with the Memorial Hospital for a City Cancer Hospital. I received several suggestions for the name of this Custodial Cancer Hospital and I think that the suggestion of calling it "The Doctor James Ewing Hospital" is excellent. Dr. Ewing did a great deal in cancer research during our time and I think that that is an appropriate name.

TROPICAL
DISEASE
HOSPITAL

Last week I signed another agreement for the City with Columbia University and Presbyterian Hospital. Columbia University and the Hospital will give the City the land for a Tropical Disease Hospital and a great Health Research Institute and a Hospital Research Institute. I am telling you all these things because these are the big things that the politicians do not understand, and I am getting the City committed and tied up so that no matter what happens they will have to go through with this progressive program. I am very grateful that we could sign this agreement with the Presbyterian Hospital and Columbia University. They will nominate and select the staff for the Tropical Disease Hospital which will be administered and operated by the Department of Hospitals, and also that part of the beds for the Medical Research Institute.

"I AM
TELLING
YOU NOW"

I will tell you of these things from time to time. I think this will be a good plan, don't you. I am going to dictate memoranda from time to time - let us call them "I am Telling you Now Memoranda" - I will dictate them on the air so that you can hear them now and then and we will make a sound record of them. I will deposit one in the Municipal Reference Library and I will deposit two or three of these records elsewhere and when the time comes, in two, three, four or maybe ten years from now, you can just pick them out and say, "La Guardia told you so."

BUS TERMINAL
POLICY

Now, for instance today. You know the trouble we have been having with traffic, especially in mid-town Manhattan. A great deal of that trouble in midtown is caused by buses. Because of this the policy of the City is for all of these bus terminals to be west of Eighth Avenue. (Listen, Morris Novik, make a record, a separate record of this so that we have it.) All bus terminals must be west of Eighth Avenue. In other words, all buses that come in from New Jersey or out of town must deliver and take on their passengers at terminals west of Eighth Avenue. We worked out an agreement with the Port Authority. The Port Authority will construct the terminals, under an arrangement with the City of New York, so that everything will be guided there and no out of town buses will come east of Eighth Avenue. You know, some of these buses have bad habits. You know what I mean. They have always been able to kind of get the right connections - get it - connections, in many cities - many of the big cities. The Greyhound is one of them. You thought I would not mention it. Of course I would. Greyhound always gets everything they want anywhere they go, but not in New York, Greyhound, not while I am Mayor, you won't. So the Greyhound is kind of bucky. We had them going but after I announced that I would not run for Mayor, they backed out and said they wanted to go on 34th Street, north of Pennsylvania Station. You can imagine what these great big Greyhound buses would do up there on 34th Street. So, you watch that when I am not here. You just watch it and do not let them put it over.

MIDTOWN
TUNNEL
REMOTE

Incidentally, talking about mid-town, a great many property owners have asked me about this mid-town tunnel from the 38th Street Tunnel on the east side to 38th Street on the west side. I will be very frank with you. That has been discussed and studied for some time. I have studied plan after plan for the past ten years. That tunnel is not possible today, tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow. No, it is too costly, it involves a great many engineering problems. Just think, we have three layers of subways at one point in mid-town and the run is too short. You

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dip down so deep that it is very difficult to ramp out. The latest talk is just bunk about putting elevators in mid-town and lifting the cars out on elevators. That is impractical and costly. I do not say that sometime a tunnel may not be built, but do not plan on it for the next 25 or 30 years-- I will be perfectly frank about that.

NURSE
SALARY
ADJUSTMENT We have been having a very difficult time in our hospitals, and in all hospitals in the City, in getting or keeping our nursing staffs, and you cannot have a hospital without nurses. The nurses that have been in our City hospitals have rendered great and patriotic service. You must understand that there is no glamor, there is no uniform, there is no drama or excitement in working in a City hospital. I want to express my thanks and gratitude, and that of the people of the City of New York, to the thousands of nurses who have remained on the job. We are so short now that it is really the cause of great anxiety and worry to me and to Dr. Bernecker of the Department of Hospitals. I have taken the matter up with the Commissioner and the Director of the Budget and the minimum pay for nurses without maintenance will be fixed at \$1,800. That means that the nurses that are now in the employ of the City, without maintenance, getting less than that, will be brought up to \$1800 and that the entrance pay for nurses will be \$1800. The minimum salary for head nurse will be \$1860; Ward Instructor \$1860 and Chief Nurse \$2160. I have also recommended to the Director of the Budget that the salaries of the Assistant Superintendent of Nurses and Superintendent of Nurses be increased \$120 above their present rates in order to maintain a proper differential. In addition, the semi-annual increment of \$60 effective as of July 1st is to be increased to \$120. We are in need of nurses. I hope that this will be a partial recognition of the services rendered by this faithful group and that other nurses will apply for appointment in the City hospitals. We need your services very badly.

- more -

PHYSICAL
THERAPY
SCHOLARSHIPS

Here is an interesting announcement I have been asked to make by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Here is an opportunity to train in order to aid wounded soldiers overcome their handicaps and to teach crippled children to walk again - that is, to become a physical therapist. There are scholarships open which include maintenance, books and nine to twelve months' tuition at such approved institutions as Stanford University, University of Iowa, Harvard Medical School and the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. In order to qualify you must be a graduate of an approved school of physical education or nursing or have completed two years of college, including courses in biology and other basic sciences. Here is a great opportunity if you have the required educational qualifications. After you have the training, you are not bound to accept any specific employment, you are free to practice anywhere you want. If you can qualify and you are interested, you may state the fact that you heard this announcement because I have asked the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis to reserve a certain number of scholarships for those who might hear this appeal so that they will not be left out. So, if you have the qualifications, the address is the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, 120 Broadway, New York 5, N.Y. If you did not get the address write to me and I will forward it on.

P.A.L.

Do not forget the PAL. We need dollar memberships and we want 100,000 members. I want to express my thanks to Mr. Vilem J. Klyne, 34-18 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City, who sent me 100 memberships. This PAL is the organization that provides recreation and welfare activities in all sections of the City for the children who are not otherwise provided for. So just send \$1 for that.

MERCHANT
MARINE
EXHIBIT

The Merchant Marine has a Maritime Training Ship called the "Cape Frio" docked at Pier 4, at the foot of Fulton Street, right below the Brooklyn Bridge, in Brooklyn. It is open all day today, tomorrow and Tuesday. You have heard so much about the Merchant Marine, you have heard so much about Liberty Ships, you have heard so much about our transports, so here is an opportunity to see the training and to see a typical ship of our Merchant Marine down at Pier 4.

Well, I am a little over time now. I have to rush to Central Park. Come on, I will meet you at Central Park at the "I AM AN AMERICAN DAY" celebration.

Patience and fortitude.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUNDAY, MAY 27, 1945

CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TEXT OF MAYOR F. H. LA GUARDIA'S SUNDAY BROADCAST TO THE PEOPLE OF
NEW YORK FROM HIS OFFICE AT CITY HALL, MAY 27, 1945, BROADCAST OVER WNYC AT
1:00 P.M. FOLLOWS:

Patience and Fortitude.

TOKYO
BOMBING

Well, we certainly panted Tokyo in the last few days, didn't we?
And, did you notice, we bombed the Imperial Palace. So the
Chief Monkey has finally learned that we are not afraid of the "Son of the
Sun." If I were not on the air, I would tell you what kind of a son he is.
This news is exceedingly grateful to me because when I was on short wave, I
was always forbidden from saying anything disrespectful about the Emperor.
Well, he got it good this time. Good work, boys, keep it up. Keep up this
pace and Japan will soon know that they have something to learn from the
Germans, that is, to quit in time.

U.S.S.
FRANKLIN

By the way, talking about Japan, we went with the children
to a movie the other night and saw a newsreel of the "U.S.S.
Franklin." It is the most remarkable picture I have ever seen. If you have
not seen it, be sure to go to your neighborhood theatre and if they do not
have it, ask for it - I think it is released by the Navy, so they ought to
have it. Every American should see that picture.

B-29
EXHIBIT

Talking about bombing Tokyo, have you ever seen a B-29? Well,
you have a chance to see one today, if you go this afternoon
to the Army Transport Section of the Municipal Airport at North Beach in
Queens, where there is a B-29 on exhibit. It is the fourth anniversary of
the Army Transport Corps and you will see one of the most remarkable planes
that has ever been built. I would say that it is sort of a combination of
heavy artillery, cruiser and flying fortress, all on wings. You will see
what an intricate piece of machinery it is. I understand from Colonel
Gillespie that visitors will be permitted to go into the cockpit.

(more)

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If you think that there is not enough there to keep those boys busy, just ask how many electric motors there are on that plane, and about the checkup that must be made before they start. The list of the various instruments and the various parts of the machine that must be checked is so long that you cannot even memorize it. Here is your chance to see a real, honest-to-goodness B-29, just the kind that the boys flew over Tokyo only two nights ago. It is at the Army Transport Section of the Municipal Airport.

DEMOBILIZATION
OF
FIRE AUXILIARY

You will remember that last week we demobilized the Air Wardens and other Volunteer Services. I believe that we have to demobilize the Auxiliary Fire Corps by June 30.

I am issuing the demobilization order tomorrow to Commissioner Walsh. This is necessary because all liability for injury, which was carried by the United States Government, has been withdrawn. The next thirty days will give the Department an opportunity to make inventory of the property and to prepare for proper demobilization ceremonies. I will confer with Commissioner Walsh and we will have demobilization ceremonies at the end of the month. This Corps has certainly rendered a very, very splendid and useful service. They turned out regularly on fires and have taken regular tours of duty. Knowing how contagious it is I guess a great many of these boys will stick around the fire houses for a long, long time to come. I reserve the pleasure of extending the thanks of the Mayor and of the People of the City of New York when we have the demobilization ceremonies.

THANKS FOR
LETTERS RE:
NON-CANDIDACY

I want to express thanks to the many, many people who have written me since I announced that I would not run for re-election. I am going to answer all of the letters, but I want to say that it will take several months before we can get them all answered. In the meantime, I want you to know that I appreciate your kindness and your kind thoughts. It was that sort of support that made life bearable down here all of these years. So before the end of the year I hope to have them all acknowledged.

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QUEENS
HOUSEWIFE

Well, Mrs. Queens Housewife, thanks for that big hug and kiss.

Yes, sir, that did me a lot of good. It was delivered very timely the other day by one of Postmaster Goldman's boys. I am glad that you understand what we are trying to do to lick the chiselers and the Black Market. There are some housewives that do not quite understand it and these thieves and chiselers have adopted the technique of the old bootlegger. You remember the racketeer, the criminal bootlegger, who used to have his spokesman say, "You can get all the liquor you want if the 'Bulls' would leave us alone." Well, I am not going to permit that condition to grow in New York City on food and there are a great many who understand it.

MEAT
SURVEY

I would say that the meat situation is reaching a complete breakdown. The Government is making sincere efforts to meet the situation but the distribution system of meat seems to have reached the point where a complete breakdown is not at all impossible. The survey that I have been making among cattle men and feeders has reached twenty-six organizations throughout the country and I think we have covered the entire country. Their views seem to be very much in agreement as to the causes of our present disrupted distribution in the meat industry and their suggestions to cure the present situation are also similar. I have worked very hard this week on it. I would say that I put most of the time during the entire week on the study of this problem. We have made an analysis of the concensus of opinion and this represents the views not only of the men who raise the cattle on the ranges, but those who feed them in the feed-lots, packers, slaughterers, retailers, and, of course, the consumers.

I am going to Washington tomorrow. There have been changes as you know, so it is going to be a little difficult to get all the information before the new officials are adjusted in their new offices. One great step, of course, is the merging of the powers of the War Food Administration with that of the Department of Agriculture. You know I have been pleading for that for many years. The next step is to place price fixing, now the function of OPA, in that same Department.

(more)

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The plan was completed yesterday. We worked all week, day and night, on it, and I believe that we have been able to make a pretty good diagnosis of the situation and to present concrete suggestions. Of course, we did all sorts of things. For instance, one recommendation was that we ought to have more slaughter houses. The trouble is that we have too many slaughter houses. You cannot eat a house, but you can eat meat. However, what we need is better control of the slaughter houses, the abolition of black market slaughter houses, the opportunity for cooperative slaughtering or group slaughtering and a realistic understanding and approach to the fact that no dealer can stay in business if he loses so much money per pound of meat.

TIMES EDITORIAL
RE: SLAUGHTER
HOUSES

There is a very good editorial in the New York Times today on slaughter houses. I was glad to see this editorial in the Times. There have been two editorials in the Times on meat that have been as good as their news service on food is bad and vicious. I do not believe that any one source has created more confusion and more disregard for serious efforts to distribute meat in our City than the New York Times food news items. One of them, you know, was planted - absolutely planted - and I took the trouble to tell Mr. Sulzberger about it. Mr. Sulzberger, you know, owns the Times, (since broadcasting I have been informed that Mr. Sulzberger is the publisher of the Times). But the article appeared. There was not a true statement in it. It was planted. We knew the source of it, and yet they used it. So, I just cannot understand it. The New York Times's two editorials on meat were very good but their food items continue to be very ineffective and absolutely no good, and not meaning any good, I am afraid.

POULTRY
BLACK MARKET

The poultry situation has really broken down and you can see that poultry today is about in the same situation as liquor was in at the height of the racketeer era during prohibition. I am going to fight it. No sir, I am not going to let that happen. We are not going to let the poultry business get into the bootleg stage. Oh, remember what it was 25 or 30 years ago. Remember, it was in the hands of the racketeers. You remember what it was when I took office. The racketeers up in the Bronx and around the poultry markets said we could not do anything. Couldn't we?

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Did we fan them out of that market? Yes, sir, and we sent some of those bums to jail, too. So do you know what they are doing? They are getting some well-meaning people, some very fine citizens, to approach the Commissioner of Markets and in all sincerity ask him not to enforce the laws, because they could not get chickens. Now, after twelve years, does anybody for a moment think that I am going to fall for a trap like that? I know that these people are well-meaning, but just stop and consider what you are suggesting. Do you think I am going to stand idly by and see families robbed at \$1. and \$1.25 a pound for poultry? No, sir - and, Commissioner Brundage, double your vigilance. That is the answer. I am also going to tell Chester Lowles in Washington about some of the sources of the inspiration of the suggestion that we should not enforce the laws of the United States, the laws of the State of New York in regard to poultry. For instance, in a nearby town, live poultry was selling wholesale at twenty-one cents a pound more than the ceiling price, which meant from fifty to sixty cents above ceiling price at retail. Of course, it is under the control of the racketeers. Now, WFA, has simply not been helpful in poultry. I am going to have a very plain talk in Washington, if I can, on this poultry situation. I am not complaining about what the Army is taking. All we ask is that local conditions be recognized so that New York City can get its fair and equitable share of the poultry over and above that of the Army requirements.

LOW PRICED
GARMENTS

Low priced garments are very scarce. I am not satisfied with the situation at all. I am going to take that up in Washington too, if I can. Remember last week, I did announce a store that had low priced garments. I announced that after a very careful survey had been made by our volunteer shoppers of C.D.V.O. Since then I have received several letters and many of them stated that "We too have a store where our values on low priced goods are just as terrific and perhaps even more so." Well, I went to one of these stores myself - very quietly. I thought that I would get away with it. Some one recognized me there, I think it was the boss. I was looking around, browsing around, and they did have some low priced garments for children, but the price tag was clasped on; it was not sewed in, and it did not have the official OPA price. I did not think that the material was good - of course, you cannot get very good material now at low prices - and I did not think that the quantity was enough.

LOW-PRICED
CLOTHING
CERTIFICATES

I will tell you what I propose to do. I want to be fair to everybody and not because I want to help the stores. Of course, they are always entitled to cooperation from the City Government but I do want to be helpful to the families that need low-priced clothes for children, for the housewife, and even for men. Of course, you know, that not everybody in New York is getting war wages. We have hundreds of thousands of families whose incomes are just about what they were before the war and I want to help them. Obviously, if these low-priced garments come in I cannot start mentioning all names but I will do this. If any store has a good supply of low priced garments with the price on a label that is sewed on the garment - I am not concerned with the high priced garments, because the people who can afford to pay for them can take care of themselves - and they will let me know, I have arranged with Mr. Grover Whalen, who is the Chairman of the C.D.V.O. to send volunteer shoppers to make a survey and investigation. They will price the garment, they will test the material and they will check on the supply. We will then give a certificate, good for a week or two weeks, according to the supply, and the store will be free to use the certificate which will show that in a survey made the prices and quality conform with OPA regulations and prices. I will sign that certificate and it may be used publicly or in advertising the goods. I think that would be helpful.

POST-WAR
LOW RENT HOUSING
PROGRAM

I have some real good news, the kind of news that I just like to talk about, the kind of news that really makes this job worth while. It just makes these bigmouthed, useless politicians insignificant - just makes them insignificant. I had a very pleasant meeting Friday in my office, with the City Planning Commission and the New York City Housing Authority. This is the result of months and months and months of work in planning our complete low-cost housing program for after the war. A final agreement has been reached between the New York City Housing Authority and the New York City Planning Commission, with my approval, on a \$95,000,000 program of ten new low rent housing projects for the City of New York. Now, wait a minute, ten is not all, because you ain't heard nothing yet. I just put ten down. And remember, this is in addition to the fourteen housing units which were completed during the last nine years at a cost of \$85,000,000. These fourteen are in existence. People are living in

(more)

them. Not just talk, you know, not politician talk, but people living in them - beautiful, cheerful, sanitary apartments at low cost. In addition to the ten new ones I told you about, we already have prepared in our post-war program thirteen other projects for which financing has been arranged and plans have been completed or are under way, having an estimated cost of \$120,000,000. Remember that is for the Lillian Wald Houses, the Brownsville Houses, the Morrisania, the Abraham Lincoln, the Marcy Houses, the Gowanus Houses 1, the Gowanus Houses 2, the James Weldon Johnson Houses, the Governor Smith Houses, the Astoria Houses, the Melrose Houses, the Jacob Riis Houses, and the Elliott Houses. That is a total of \$120,000,000. We have the land, money, plans are completed, and we are ready to start when the war is over and materials are available.

During the last session of the State Legislature, Governor Dewey approved legislation authorizing an additional \$35,000,000 bond issue, with appropriate subsidies, for public housing. This legislation requires a referendum and will come before the people for approval at the general election this fall. That is why I want to mention it today. I am going to take the stump in favor of the referendum and we will have to ask our good friends up-state to help us, because Up-State, as yet, has not become as low-cost housing minded as we are, and there is a sort of an indifference to it. Our job is to get as many up-State votes for the bond issue as will be cast in the City against it, and in that way we are sure to carry it. I am glad I will have something good to talk about in the coming election.

The New York City Housing Authority will make application to the State Division of Housing for financial assistance for the construction of three new projects to be paid for with this additional money. So out of the \$35,000,000 we hope to get enough money for three additional new projects. One will be located in the lower east side of Manhattan, between Pike Street and Montgomery Street; another in the run down area to the west of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. All Brooklynites know how welcome this unit will be in that location. The third will be located in what is probably the most deteriorated section of Harlem, the blocks just northeast of Central Park, between Fifth Avenue and Park Avenue. It is where I lived for over ten years.

(more)

In addition to the \$35,000,000 which I hope will be approved by the people of the State, I anticipate that we will get something like \$60,000,000 of Federal funds which will be available for housing after the war. I estimate \$60,000,000 from my talks with the Members of the House and of the Senate and I am very hopeful of that program. The projects to be submitted to Federal authorities are an addition to the existing Vladeck Houses in Manhattan; an addition to the existing Kingsborough Houses; an addition to the Brownsville Houses, which is part of our post-war program; an addition to the South Jamaica Houses in Queens and three new projects, one at Tinton Avenue and 163rd Street, Bronx; one in the Hammel section of the Rockaways, Queens, and one to the west of Thomas Jefferson Park in upper Manhattan. So, then, we have fourteen projects going, thirteen financed with land acquired, plans completed or about to be completed, three State, and seven more Federal, for a total of thirty-seven Housing Projects in the City of New York which will house from forty-six to forty-nine thousand, one hundred and forty-two families. Now, isn't that worth while? Don't you see why the abuse of those cheap politicians, the friends of Costello and Frank Erickson means nothing. What counts is the satisfaction of knowing that over forty-six, or forty-eight, or forty-nine thousand families in the City of New York are taken out of the dumps, taken out of old, insanitary fire-trap tenement houses, and put into cheerful, pleasant dwellings at prices that they can afford.

PRIVATE
HOUSING
PROJECT

This is about all of the money that will be in sight for some time to come and, therefore, the balance of the rehabilitation of run down areas must be financed by private funds. A good start has been made in this direction with Stuyvesant Town, Manhattan, costing about \$55,000,000, Cooper Village, Manhattan, costing about \$13,000,000. Riverton Houses in Harlem costing about \$6,000,000 and the Civic Center Housing in Brooklyn, costing about \$5,725,000. There are several other projects now under consideration by Saving Banks and Insurance Companies, and it is expected that they will take larger responsibilities in this field. The City will continue to give its whole hearted cooperation to such projects. Since I talked to you some time ago Savings Banks really are doing something along these lines. Some of the Savings Banks have not yet opened their eyes, for instance, the Emigrant Savings Bank. Emigrant Savings, take my advice,

(more)

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

WESTERN UNION

1918

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To _____ 19

Street and No. _____
 Care of or _____
 Apt. No. _____ Place _____

Sender's name and address (For reference)

Sender's telephone number

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeatable message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeatable-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines.
2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the actual loss, not exceeding in any event the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount the sender of each message represents that the message is valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Except as otherwise indicated in connection with the listing of individual places in the filed tariffs of the Company, the amount paid for the transmission of a domestic telegram or an incoming cable or radio message covers its delivery within the following limits: In cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where the Company has an office which, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, is not operated through the agency of a railroad company, within two miles of any open main or branch office of the Company; in cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, the telegraph service is performed through the agency of a railroad company, within one mile of the telegraph office; in cities or towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants in which an office of the Company is located, within one-half mile of the telegraph office. Beyond the limits above specified the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will endeavor to arrange for delivery as the agent of the sender, with the understanding that the sender authorizes the collection of any additional charge from the addressee and agrees to pay such additional charge if it is not collected from the addressee. There will be no additional charge for deliveries made by telephone within the corporate limits of any city or town in which an office of the Company is located.
5. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties when the claim is not presented in writing to the Company, (a) within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission in the case of a message between points within the United States (except in the case of an interstate message in Texas) or between a point in the United States on the one hand and a point in Alaska, Canada, Labrador, Mexico, Newfoundland and St. Pierre & Miquelon Islands on the other hand, or between a point in the United States and a ship at sea or in the air, (b) within 95 days after the cause of action, if any, shall have accrued in the case of an interstate message in Texas, and (c) within 180 days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission in the case of a message between a point in the United States and a foreign or overseas point other than the points specified above in this paragraph; provided, however, that this condition shall not apply to claims for damages or overcharges within the purview of Section 415 of the Communications Act of 1934.
7. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.
9. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

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CLASSES OF SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

DOMESTIC SERVICES

FULL RATE TELEGRAM

A full rate expedited service.

DAY LETTER (DL)

A deferred service at lower than the full rate.

SERIAL (SER)

Messages sent in sections during the same day.

NIGHT LETTER (NL)

Accepted up to 2 A. M. for delivery not earlier than the following morning at rates substantially lower than the full rate telegram or day letter rates.

FULL RATE (FR)

The standard fast service at full rates. May be written in any language that can be expressed in Roman letters, or in secret language. A minimum charge for 5 words applies.

LETTER TELEGRAM (LT)

Overnight plain language messages. Minimum charge for 22 words applies.

VICTORY LETTER TELEGRAM (VLT)

Overnight plain language messages to armed forces overseas. Minimum charge for 10 words applies.

SHIP RADIOGRAM

A service to and from ships at sea. Plain or secret language may be used. Minimum charge for 5 words applies.

you are acting wisely. You know, I might make an inventory of the property that you have, or had, so you had better join the procession and do your duty as a public institution. That is what Savings Banks are, public institutions. The rents in these privately constructed and operated dwellings range from \$12.50 to \$14. a month per room.

"I AM
TELLING
YOU"

I am going to add a paragraph in my program of "I am Telling You," which later will be known as "I Told You So." All right, now, Morris, you make a special disc of this, and, Betty, you see that a special transcript is made and put on ice for when the time comes. Look out for this program, my friends, do not let the politicians destroy it - the eager politicians who are now running around trying to make deals with candidates that they can control. They have itchy palms, itchy palms that they want to get into this money. It cannot afford one cent of graft; it cannot afford one cent of inefficiency or incompetency. The locations must be carefully selected. There can be no land speculations such as we had just before I came into office. Contractors must know that when they put in a bid, they will not be confronted with a shakedown and will not have to place a large percentage of incompetents on the payroll as time-keepers and clerks - you know the payroll gang of the political club, the political club loafers who go on the payroll and split twice. No, no, don't be surprised. Didn't Mr. Hiram Todd find them on the payroll of the State Legislature? Those same bums would get jobs, payroll jobs. Now look out for that, please.

Keep the Planning Commission intact, keep your Housing Authority intact. That Housing Authority was established in my time, the first in the City of New York, and there has never been a word of scandal nor bitter politics in the control of its affairs.

Here is something else. There will spring up groups here and there - well meaning people, some of them, but always some scheming promotor in back of them - with plans for public housing without any resources whatsoever - not one penny of equity. Oh, there are several plans kicking around. One, that the City should buy the land and lease it for sixty years; then they take the lease and they get a mortgage on the lease, then they take the mortgage money and they get a second mortgage from the contractors - all sorts

(more)

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of schemes without a penny of investment. Look out for that, my friends, and look out for that group. I used to know the group so well before I became Mayor and could do something about housing. They are always talking housing but they never want to do anything about it. They are always looking for the perfection and destroying and opposing and criticizing. They really do not want to see low cost housing. They don't. If you trace it back, and back, and back, you will find the same old law tenement houses. They like the present system. So look out for that, won't you.

So, (1) politics out of Housing; (2) protect your Planning Commission and your Housing Authority and (3) see that the contracts are clean and that the bidding is clean. Watch this very carefully so that the politicians do not get their percentage, either in patronage or in money. Watch the selection of the sites; - the State Housing Authority is very good and it cooperates. Sometimes they seem a little fussy but they are very good and they will be helpful with the change of administration.

Of course, also bear in mind - it is a little early now - but when Federal funds are appropriated, I hope that the State and the Federal Congress will both provide that a certain percentage of the men who work, the men who work, must be veterans. So bear that in mind. That just goes on one of the "I Am Telling You" programs.

H OUSING
AUTHORITY
REPORT

And, incidentally, talking about Housing, the first copy of the Tenth Annual report of the New York City Housing Authority is now available. The Housing Authority, as you know, is composed of Mr. Edmond Borgia Butler, Chairman; Mary K. Simkhovitch, a pioneer in Housing; William Wilson, Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Buildings; Frank R. Crosswaith and John S. Parke. Maxwell H. Trotter is the Executive Director. It is a very fine report and it is available now. If you are interested, you may write and get it.

I think this is a good time to pay tribute to men who were on the Housing Authority and who are not on it now, such as Mr. Gerard Swope, who was its Chairman and did fine work; and Mr. Louis Pink, who also pioneered in Housing; Edward F. McGrady who is now Special Assistant to the Secretary of War; B. Charney Vladeck, who we regret has since died, but who had contributed a great deal; Nathan Straus, another pioneer in Housing; Hugh S. Robertson, a great engineer; the Very Reverend E. Roberts Moore, another pioneer in Housing, and William H. Davis who is now the Economic Stabilization Administrator.

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The report, which is very informative, is available to all authorities and officials, but there might be a slight charge for private individuals desiring this report because it is costly and, as I told you before, the Housing Authority is not a wasteful authority.

THREAT OF
BUILDING
SERVICE
STRIKE

Here is some news that is not so good. Talking about housing, I note in the papers that the Building Service Unions have voted to strike. That is very bad. We had two threats of strikes during my time. They were both settled here in City Hall. Now we have established official machinery for the settlement of labor disputes and I hope that a settlement will be expedited.

Now, in so far as dwellings are concerned, I should like to point out that the interruption of services threatens the public health. In 1936 I found it necessary to issue an emergency proclamation declaring that a discontinuance of elevator service in buildings used for dwellings of over six stories constituted a menace to the life and health of the people residing therein and also that people living in dwellings of over six stories were entirely dependent upon building service for the necessities of life, consisting of food, medicines, medical treatment, nursing service and milk for children.

The Acting Commissioner of Health, Dr. Calderone, is in my office now and I am going to confer with him immediately after this broadcast. I am asking the Commissioner to convene the Board of Health tonight or early tomorrow morning, and to take into consideration the threatened interruption of service of elevators in dwellings over six stories. When I issued the proclamation in March of 1936, the weather was cold and we had the additional menace of heat. That is not involved now, although the Board of Health may consider the lack of hot water as a health menace. If any building depends upon the generation of its own power for elevator service, I hope it will make arrangements to use power from the power company so that that will be eliminated. If the Health Department declares the emergency as I expect it will because of the precedent and the apparent need for it to protect lives, I shall then issue a proclamation of emergency and shall delegate full and complete powers to the Health Commissioner to call upon all Departments of the City for such help as he may need. The Health Commissioner will man such elevators as he deems necessary for the protection of the health of the people therein. He can do nothing less.

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I sincerely hope that all of the machinery for the settlement of labor disputes will be invoked and that there will be no need for the Commissioner or for the Mayor to invoke the powers of the emergency that I have just stated. In the 1936 strike, we had reason to cover 857 emergency spots. I hope to get a report in the course of this afternoon or tomorrow morning and will keep in constant touch with the situation.

NURSE
SHORTAGE
IN HOSPITALS

Last week I told you about the situation in our hospitals. We are hoping to hold the line and get more nurses. It may interest you to know that since Pearl Harbor we have been confronted with a crisis in personnel. We have increased wages and the cost of personnel and hospitals since that time amounts to over \$7,000,000. Again I call upon women who are trained registered nurses and who have given it up because of marriage or other conditions to please, please come to the help of our hospitals until the present crisis is over. We need all the nurses that we can possibly get.

P.A.L.
OUTING

Here is something pleasant. I got a kick yesterday morning when I went down to Pier A at 8:30 to see the kids of the P.A.L. go on that outing. There were 2700 of them - all healthy, happy, cheerful kids from every section of the City, all with their lunch boxes. There were also the officers of the P.A.L., Inspector Nolan and the volunteer workers and the men assigned to the Juvenile Aid Bureau. Each seemed to know the kids by name. You know, it is a surprising thing, 2700 children are just a lot of children, but the discipline was just perfect. Yet they were happy when they went on board to go to Bear Mountain and spent the day there. Lew Valentine, the Commissioner was there too, I have been in some pretty tight places with Lew Valentine but he seemed rather drawn. I asked "What is the matter, Lew, are you worried?" He said, "Worried? I am going to worry all day until they get back home." I think he had cause to, but knock on wood, all the kids came back and it was great. I think they are going to have an outing almost every week and we will cover most of the kids that would otherwise not get an outing during the summer.

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Say, why do you suppose I am telling you about it? I am telling you about it because we need members for the P.A.L. It is one dollar for a one-year membership. So if you send it in to me, I will pass your dollar on to Inspector Nolan, and he will send me the certificates and I will sign your certificate if you send it through here. That does not mean that you can buy only one membership. Oh, you can buy any number of them. Send the names of the people in whose names you want them issued or we can send you membership blanks and you can fill them out yourself. One dollar a year for membership and I want to get 100,000 memberships. And, say, every penny goes for the purpose of P.A.L. and that is to give recreational, sport, and educational facilities and activities to children who otherwise are not provided along those lines.

Patience and fortitude.

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