

Inu. Feb. 12

COPY

January 30, 1946.

Mrs. Marian F. Yatman,
Women's Republican Club of Rhode Island,
59 Jackson Street,
Providence, Rhode Island,

Dear Mrs. Yatman:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 22,
and I can assure you I am looking forward to meeting with your
group on February 12th. Your plans are very satisfactory.

It is impossible to tell you today whether
I will come by plane or train, but as soon as my schedule is
definite I shall wire you the details.

I will be glad to supply you with the re-
quested copies of my address.

Sincerely yours,

KENNETH S. WERRY.



SEN. KENNETH S. WHERRY

Senator Wherry To Speak Here

Senator Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska, majority whip of the Senate, will be the principal speaker at the annual Lincoln Night dinner of the Middlesex Club Feb. 12 at the Hotel Statler. Also addressing the gathering will be Gov. Bradford, a favorite of the club.

An innovation at this year's dinner will be the delivery of the Lincoln tribute by a woman, Mrs. Octavia Roberts Corneau, author of "Lincoln in Illinois" and wife of Barton Corneau, Boston lawyer and former special assistant to the Attorney-General of the United States.

Senator Wherry, who has the distinction of having defeated Senator George W. Norris to restore his state to party regularity after the independent leadership of his predecessor, is expected to discuss Republican policy.

WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB of RHODE ISLAND

Women's Republican Club of R.I.
59 Jackson Street
Providence, R. I.

~~LAUDERDALE BUILDING, 144 WESTMINSTER STREET~~

PROVIDENCE 3, R. I.

Telephone MAnning 3852

January 22,
1946.

My dear Senator Wherry:

We are very glad you are going to be with us for our Lincoln Day Dinner. I think you will be interested to know our tickets are already sold, and we could sell twice as many if the hotel could accommodate us., on February 12th.

We are planning a reception at six-thirty, and the secretary of the State Central Committee, Mr. John Murphy, will meet your train and take you to the Hotel Biltmore, where we have a room engaged for you. Would you kindly let us know your train schedule so that we may tell Mr. ~~M~~urphy?



We have engaged a half hour radio time on one of our big local stations, "WJAR", which will be devoted to your speech entirely. We hope you will bring your script with you for the Newspapers. There are ten or twelve of them that would be interested in it.

Looking forward with much anticipation to this event, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Maria F. Gatman.

(Mrs. Ellis L. Gatman)

I₄

Thank

(1) Philip Hebert

Former Senator -

National
Committee
Mass

(b) Glad to be in the home
state of Mrs Marian Yutman
Faith work
in the lean years

(c) Special privilege to meet
Bugs Bomb
Thomas Casey Green

If he can get such a
wonderful job done in one
week - Rhode Island going
Republican in '46
Young Republican President James

(D) Live Committee a
Nebraska Hand

Theme Song Crusade

Inspirations

Emotions

uplifting
musings

We all resubmitted in Alaska

Island

— glad I am

Not writing Alaska Island
Victory is in the air

RHODE ISLAND
History, Population and Industry

Introduction

Rhode Island (or "Little Rhody") is the smallest State in the Union-- being 48 miles north to south, and 37 miles east to west maximum. The State flower is the violet, the State motto "Hope".

With 674 persons per square mile, it is the most densely populated State of all. It exceeds all others in per capita industrial output. It is 92% urban.

Providence is the capital city (population 354,000); other principal cities and towns are Pawtucket (76,000), Woonsocket (50,000), Cranston 47,000), E. Providence (32,000), Newport, (31,000), Warwick (29,000), Central Falls (25,000), W. Warwick (18,000), and N. Providence (12,000).

The official name of the State (since July 20, 1776) is "The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations."

History

The first settlement in Rhode Island was made by Roger Williams in June, 1636. Banished from Massachusetts for his political and religious opinions, Williams fled to the shores of Narragansett Bay, where he founded Providence. Two years later a second settlement was made at Portsmouth by William Coddington, John Clarke, and Anne Hutchinson, and the following year a third settlement was made a few miles farther south at Newport by Coddington and seceders from Portsmouth. In 1643 seceders from Providence led by Samuel Gorton founded the Warwick colony. Four years later the four settlements were finally united under a patent of 1644. After another split in 1651, the mainland and island towns were finally reunited in 1654 by Roger Williams and a charter secured from Charles II on July 8, 1663

The closing years of the 17th century saw a gradual transition from agricultural to commercial activities. Newport became the center of an

extensive business in piracy, privateering, smuggling, and legitimate trade. Today Newport is known only as a fashionable summer resort.

The influence of Roger William's ideas and the peculiar conditions under which the first settlements were established have tended to mark off the history of Rhode Island from that of the other New England States. Rhode Island was one of the first communities to practice religious freedom and political individualism: as a result her history is packed with turmoil.

The people of Rhode Island played a prominent role in the struggle for independence. Four months before the American Declaration of Independence, the General Assembly of Rhode Island adopted on May 4, 1776 a resolution renouncing allegiance to the British King and Government.

Her individualistic principles showed up in other ways: for example, in the jealousy of the towns toward the central government, and in the establishment of legislative supremacy over the executive and the judiciary. Up to 1854 the legislature migrated from county to county, and there continued to be two centers of government until 1900.

The dependence of the judiciary upon the legislature was maintained until 1860, and the Governor is still shorn of certain powers which are customary in other states. In general, the rural towns still reflect most of the old individualistic sentiment, while the cities have been more favorably disposed toward the modern national trend of thought. By way of illustration, in the struggle for ratification of the Federal Constitution, under the Articles of Confederation it was principally Rhode Island that defeated the proposal to authorize Congress to levy an import duty of 5% to meet the debts of the Federal Government. The State refused to send delegates to the Constitutional Convention meeting in Philadelphia in 1787, because the agriculturists of Rhode Island were afraid that the movement for a stronger Federal Government would result in interfering with their local privileges. Not until the Senate had passed a bill for sever-

ing commercial relations between the United States and Rhode Island did the State ratify the Federal Constitution in May, 1790, and then only by a majority of two votes.

Like the rest of New England, Rhode Island was opposed to the War of 1812 and the Mexican War.

During the 1840's there was a brief rebellion over extension of suffrage from freeholders to all Rhode Island citizens, led by Thomas Dorr, a young lawyer from Providence. His rebellion failed, but a constitutional amendment of 1888 extended to naturalized citizens the right of suffrage in State and National elections, after extension to non-freeholders of America birth had occurred in 1842.

Rhode Island ratified the 19th (Woman Suffrage) amendment to the Federal Constitution in 1920, but failed to ratify the 18th (Prohibition) amendment.

Politics

In the Presidential elections the State had been Republican since 1856 (except for a Democratic victory in 1912) up until 1928, when it voted Democratic by a slim margin of 752 votes. Four time it favored Franklin Roosevelt over the Republican candidate from 1932-1944 by majorities of from 20,000-50,000. Whereas the State was formerly in the solid Republican line-up, it is now in the Democratic fold in national politics. This trend was only broken in 1938 when the Republicans elected both Representatives to the U. S. Congress, in addition to a Republican Governor.

Population Make-Up

The 1940 census records Rhode Island's population as 713,000, an increase of 26,000, or 3.7%, over the previous decade.

Of the 713,000 population (36th in rank among the 48 States), 702,000 are whites, and 11,000 negroes (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ %). Foreign-born whites numbered 138,000 in 1940 (19% of the total), of whom 29,000 or 21% were Italian, 23,000 or 17% French-Canadian, 19,000 or 14% English, and 12,000 or 9% Irish.

Chief religious groups are the Roman Catholic, with 348,000 members in 1940, Methodist with 69,000, Protestant Episcopal with 30,000, Jewish with 28,000, and Congregational. Total for all denominations is 475,000.

Production and Industry.

Rhode Island is a manufacturing State. Textile mills account for nearly half the value of the State's manufactured products, while there are also important jewelry factories. The first cotton spinning works in the United States were established in Pawtucket in the late 18th century. Providence, Woonsocket, and Pawtucket are the chief centers of industry. At the time of the U.S. census of manufactures in 1939, Rhode Island had 1,460 manufacturing establishments. Rhode Island's jewelry industry was severely hit at the beginning of the recent war, when materials were unavailable.

In common with other New England States, Rhode Island's cotton manufacturing industries have suffered from Southern competition. The South's advantages of raw material and cheap labor have been partially overcome, however, by Rhode Island's manufacturing its own mill machinery and by training skilled workers in her textile schools, to produce a higher quality of goods.

Although there is little farming in the State, it ranks fourth in the value of commodities per farm unit. There were 3,014 farms recorded in the 1940 census. Rhode Island has a small mineral output, mostly stone, sand, and gravel. There is also a small fishing industry.

--Sources: Rhode Island Manual, 1943-44

Encyclopaedia Britannica, Fourteenth Edition
Vol. 19, p.254ff

World Almanac, 1945, p.413

Statesman's Year-Book, 1943, p. 625 ff

KENNETH S. WHERRY OFFICIAL

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A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

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

FEBRUARY 11, 1946.

| |
|------------------------------------------|
| FOR VICTORY BUY WAR BONDS TODAY |
|------------------------------------------|

Mrs. Marian F. Yatman,
Women's Republican Club of Rhode Island,
59 Jackson Street,
Providence, Rhode Island.

Will arrive Providence on Yankee Clipper, New York, New Haven
and Providence train number 22 at 4:37 P.M. February twelve.
Car 161 and seat 25.

KENNETH S. WHERRY.

COPY

January 30, 1946.

Mrs. Marian F. Yatman,
Women's Republican Club of Rhode Island,
59 Jackson Street,
Providence, Rhode Island,

Dear Mrs. Yatman:

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and I can assure you I am looking forward to meeting with your
group on February 12th. Your plans are very satisfactory.

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I will come by plane or train, but as soon as my schedule is
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I will be glad to supply you with the re-
quested copies of my address.

Sincerely yours,

KENNETH S. WHERRY.

2-6623

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1337 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NORTHWEST • WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

TELEPHONE: ADAMS 9215



OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
HERBERT BROWNELL, JR.

January 26, 1946

file

Hon. Kenneth Wherry
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ken:

As you probably know, Republicans throughout the country, in celebrating Lincoln's birthday, have made it possible also to inaugurate simultaneously throughout the nation the Party's 1946 fund-raising campaign under the slogan, "Dollars for Freedom." In anticipation of the fall elections, the drive for Party contributions will be intensified from February 12th on.

It will be of the greatest possible assistance to us if you, who have so generously expressed your willingness to speak, can also appropriately work into your remarks some pertinent references to the "Dollars for Freedom" activity.

I realize that possibly the context of your address will not admit of your making any such deviation. If this should prove, in your judgment, to be the fact, perhaps the chairman of your meeting will be willing to cooperate in this respect.

In case you wish to use a direct quotation from myself regarding the 1946 fund-raising campaign, I am enclosing some comments I recently made.

Let me reiterate my expressions of thanks and appreciation for the generous help you have so willingly extended to us.

With every good personal wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Brownell, Jr.
Chairman

HB/r
encl.

Remarks by Herbert Brownell, Jr.

on the

1946 "DOLLARS FOR FREEDOM"

Fund-raising Campaign

"The Republican Party cannot win its campaigns or perform its responsibilities by limiting its effort to the period between the nomination of candidates and election day. Issues arise daily and must be disposed of on the spot.

"Such a Party program requires aggressive financing on a continuing, annual basis. This financing must not only provide funds in advance for political campaigns, but must also furnish vital working capital for the Republican National Committee, the State Central Committees, and county and precinct organizations for the continuing job.

"Good political organizations cost money. That money must be raised from members of the Party. The financial requirements of the Party should be distributed equitably. In the interest of good Party organization, every member of the Party should contribute some amount, no matter how small, to support Party action -- local, state, and national.

"To effect this end, the Republican National Committee has chosen this date, the birth date of that great leader of the Republican Party, Abraham Lincoln, to announce the inauguration of the fund-raising program under the slogan, "Dollars for Freedom."

"I earnestly urge the financial cooperation of everyone of you toward insuring the success of the Party candidates in these critical and vitally important elections this year."

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1337 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NORTHWEST • WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

TELEPHONE: ADAMS 9215



SPECIAL DELIVERY

January 9, 1946

Honorable Kenneth Wherry
United States Senator
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator:

Complete arrangements have been made for your addressing the Lincoln Day Dinner in the ballroom of the Providence-Biltmore Hotel, Providence, R. I. on February 12. The dinner will be preceded by a reception in your honor. The reception will start at 6:30 PM. The sponsors of the meeting would like to have you arrive as early as 6:00 PM.

The Republican organization of Rhode Island together with the Women's Republican Club of Rhode Island, who are sponsoring the dinner, have engaged radio time for your speech.

This is to be one of the biggest Lincoln Day banquets in the country. One thousand persons are expected at the banquet.

Will you please see to it that photograph and biographical material are sent as soon as possible to Mrs. Marion Yatman, Republican National Committeewoman, 34 Cushing Street, Providence, R. I.

For your information, I am enclosing herewith memoranda on the political situation in Rhode Island. You advised me some time ago that you would appreciate having this information in the preparation of your Providence Speech.

Cordially yours,

Ben Whitehurst
Ben Whitehurst
Director, Speakers Bureau

He will get your reservation has plane or R tickets. You at the Providence Biltmore Hotel. been made for

OFFICE MEMORANDUM
 Republican National Committee

October 3, 1945

TO: MR. WHITEHURST

FROM: MARION E. MARTIN

RE: RHODE ISLAND SITUATION

In '46 the outlook for electing a State Administration is rather dubious. I have no information as to what effect appointing Governor McGrath to the Solicitor General's post will have on that. I will check on it within the next few days.

The state is in a turmoil politically but there is a very real chance of electing at least one Congressman and with the right impetus such as a speech by Senator Wherry, we might make gains that would surprise us.

I do not put the situation down as hopeless, particularly in view of the fact that the organization really has been showing more signs of activity than in the last eight years. Unfortunately, however, there are still personal feuds going on within the organization which acts as a deterrent to political effectiveness.

MEM



OFFICE MEMORANDUM
Republican National Committee

October
3
1945

TO: Mr. Whitehurst
FROM: Mr. McCaffree
RE: Rhode Island Republican situation

Attached hereto is a short summary statement on the political situation in Rhode Island.

I believe that this provides adequate factual information, and with the information you have secured from Miss Martin should enable Senator Wherry to become well posted on the condition of the Republican Party in Rhode Island.

J. m. c.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island is one of the very few States--discounting the solid South--in which the Republican position has grown weaker since the Republican trend started in 1938. In that year the Republicans elected the Governor and both Representatives in Congress. There was no election for Senator. Since 1938, the situation has been as follows:

Senators: In 1940, Democratic Senator Gerry was re-elected, the Democratic plurality being 32,526, and the Republican percentage being 44.8. In 1942, Democratic Senator Green was re-elected, his margin being 38,007, the Republican percentage declining to 42.0. There was no election for Senator in 1944. Senator Gerry was in the Senate from March 4, 1917, to March 3, 1929, and again since January 3, 1935, while Senator Green has served since January 3, 1937.

Representatives in Congress: Rhode Island has sent two Democratic Representatives to Congress since 1938. In the first district, the Democratic plurality in 1940 was 22,810, in 1942 it was 20,752, and in 1944 it was 33,946. The Republican percentage of the vote declined steadily in these periods, it being 42.5 in 1940, 41.0 in 1942, and 38.1 in 1944. Representative Aime J. Forand was first elected in 1936, defeated in 1938, and elected again in 1940, 1942, and 1944.

The same situation prevails in the second district. The Democrats won this by 12,327 in 1940, 17,940 in 1942, and 23,413 in 1944, the Republican percentage of the vote being 46.2 in 1940, 42.6 in 1942, and 42.2 in 1944. Representative John J. Fogarty has served since January 3, 1941.

Governor: J. Howard McGrath, just appointed Solicitor General by President Truman, is serving his third term as Democratic Governor of Rhode Island and on each occasion was elected by a larger plurality. In 1940, his plurality was 37,841, in 1942 it was 40,566, and in 1944 it was 62,852. The Republican percentage was 44.0 in 1940, 41.5 in 1942, and 39.4 in 1944.

State Legislature: While the Republicans still control the State Senate, their margin here declined from 7 in 1942 to 4 in 1944--i.e., 25-18 (with one independent) in 1942; 24-20 in 1944. At the same time the Democrats added to their margin in the Assembly, the count being 65.41 in 1942, and 68.38 in 1944.

It may be added that Rhode Island has gone Democratic in Presidential elections ever since 1924, including the Republican landslide year of 1928. It is one of the very few States in which the Democratic margin was greater in 1944 than in 1940.

COPY

*Clippings in
Scrapbook*

February 23, 1946

Mr. Thomas Casey Greene, Chairman
Rhode Island Republican State
Central Committee
59 Jackson Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Chairman Greene:

Thanks very much for your letter of the 14th, and the newspaper clippings. I would deeply appreciate it if I could have some of the candid camera pictures. I believe I was to write the Journal if I wanted to get them. Would be glad if you would get them for me.

You are on the road to victory there, I am sure. If I can be of further service to you at any time let me know.

Cordially yours

KENNETH S. WHERRY

KSW:f*

RHODE ISLAND
REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
~~GEORGE D. GREENGLASS~~
Thomas Casey Greene
TREASURER
STEVEN B. WILSON

59 JACKSON ST.
PROVIDENCE, R. I.
TELEPHONE GA. 2570

VICE-CHAIRMAN
MRS. RICHARD H. MURRAY
SECRETARY
JOHN G. MURPHY

February 14, 1946

Senator Kenneth S. Wherry
Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Wherry:

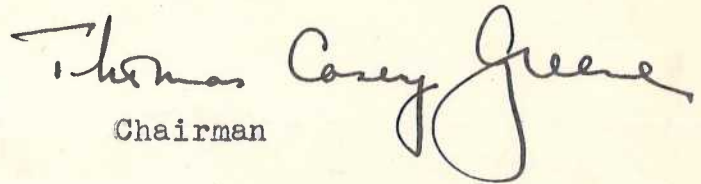
I enclose a couple of newspaper clippings from
the morning and evening papers yesterday.

The feeling is widely expressed that you put new
life and enthusiasm in our Republican organization,
and I want to thank you personally for the fine job
that you did as it gave me an excellent start as party
chairman.

We have some fine pictures of you that were taken
by the candid camera and I believe our Mr. Burgess
plans to send you some of them.

With my heartfelt thanks for what you have done
for us here in Rhode Island, I am

Very sincerely yours


Chairman

TCG/b
Enc.

R. I. Speech

COPY

1 - Personal

March 8, 1946.



Mr. Jack Burgess,
Director of Publicity,
Republican State Central Committee,
59 Jackson Street,
Providence, R. I.

Dear Mr. Burgess:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter
of February 27, enclosing the candid camera shots.

I appreciate your kindness in sending these
shots to me. We had a good laugh out of a couple of
them. However, my wife gave me a good going-over when
she saw that I had taken off my coat. Anyway, it was
good of you to send them, and we have enjoyed them
very much.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

KENNETH S. WHERRY

KSW:elh



RHODE ISLAND
REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

59 JACKSON ST.
PROVIDENCE, R. I.
TELEPHONE GA. 2570

OFFICE OF THE
TREASURER
STEVEN B. WILSON

Feb. 27, 1946.

Sen. Kenneth S. Wherry
Washington
D.C.

Dear Senator Wherry:

Chairman "Casey" Greene has just shown me your letter requesting some of the candid camera shots I made the night of the Lincoln Day dinner.

I am enclosing some of the best of them, together with several copies of The Rhode Island Republican of both the issue out that week and the following issue.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Jack Burgess

Jack Burgess..
Director of Publicity.

JB/hoc.
Encl.

Thank him