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Introduction of Sen. J. Lee - 2/19/49
Republican State Convention
Grand Rapids - 2/19/49

Spirit--that's what our party needs....SPIRIT. To go forward, to sound a clear and courageous call--WE AS REPUBLICANS must not falter.

On this occasion I'm reminded of a story, an inspirational story. Let me take a moment and tell it to you.

Once on the battlefield, Napoleon Bonaparte lost his confidence. The battle was going poorly. Troops were in retreat and it looked like the invincible general was about to suffer a terrible defeat.

In his mind the great general was ready to call it quits. In desperation he called his drummer boy.

"Drummer boy," he said, "the battle is lost--beat a retreat!"

The little drummer boy stood there for a moment looking ^{aghast} at Bonaparte. Finally he spoke.

"Sire, I was with you at the Battle of Marengo. I was with you in the great campaign in Italy. I was with you in Egypt. And sire, you never taught me to beat a retreat. But I can beat a charge...I can beat a charge that will make the dead fall in line!"

Napoleon looked at the boy and said,

"Boy--beat that charge!"

And when the day was over they had won the battle!

The spirit of the drummer boy should be the spirit of the Republican Party on this occasion. We must not let ourselves be downcast. We must not even admit that we know how to beat a retreat.

Since the late unpleasantness on November second, there has been a dimming of the star of one Republican leader from the great state of New York; but at the same time, we have observed anew and possibly greater leader emerging from the Empire State. This bright new star is the kind of a man we desperately need in our



Republican ranks. He is the man who will lead the charge rather than beat a retreat. He has always been forward looking. He has blazed new trails in the state of New York and he is carrying the torch in Washington.

I give you Senator Irving M. Ives--an inspired leader for a moment of great crisis.

Handwritten notes in the left margin, including the number '528' and a vertical list of numbers: 22, 20, 22, 20, 20.

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