

- Dexter, Louise
1947-48

Dexter

I read your
letters with
interest. I do
not know if I
can do more
on this subject
of "loyalty tests"
but I will do
all I can

*I don't know how
to write but I will do it for you*

Dexter

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
August 27th, 1947

*Address noted
on cards.*

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt;

Now that I have seen your column taking up the very serious situation which is coming to this country through the issuance of the Executive Order from the White House on "Loyalty Tests," I am taking it upon myself to send you a few copies of the Open Forum published by the Southern California Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union. I am hoping that you, with all your understanding and love of humanity, will keep on fighting against this dreadful persecution launched upon innocent Americans the country over, who are so unfortunate as to be working for the Government, in addition to the restrictions of the Taft-Hartley Bill which you have mentioned in your column just recently whereby members or officers of a union must file an affidavit that they are not Communists or Communist sympathizers.

Indeed I do not have to tell you what fear and misery and danger is being launched upon innocent people everywhere by this witch hunt. We both remember only too well the horrors of the Palmer Raids and the murder of two innocent people, Sacco and Vanzetti.

It seems to me that everyone must start a campaign to protect these people because the President of the United States in his Executive Order has given to mean and small and vicious men, just the "handle" that they have been looking for to get rid of, (either because of race, color, religion or other method which can be devised) every worker who does not agree with their opinion. It is beyond my belief to feel that there is not some way that the legal profession could find to strike back at persons in Government who are dismissing people without proof or trial and placing these people in a group of "second-class citizens" whose economic future depends upon the whim of those in power. I believe that I am correct in my assumption that an individual can sue the Government for material losses and the Government has paid those, like the Mooney case, who were imprisoned unjustly. Therefore I cannot see why these people who have been dismissed without cause or proof of guilt, and who are being forced now to work for any wage offered to them, should not be given a chance to strike back, because the employers have been given the opportunity through this witch-hunt to use "confidential" information against these workers as a club to put them into a position where they must accept any wages in order to eat.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

The National American Civil Liberties Union took a very weak stand on the President's Executive Order, but several branch offices throughout the country have acted differently. Therefore the National Organization may revise its policy. I certainly hope so. Knowing as I do how much interested you are in the welfare of the people of this country, who now are being deprived of all the great economic and social advances given them by the New Deal, I felt that you would be interested in reading a few of the cases mentioned in this Open Forum and that you could then judge just how far this Executive Order of the President's is being used.

Yesterday the City Council of Los Angeles launched a witch-hunt on "loyalty checks" of all Government employees, their measure of "loyalty" being the laws laid down by the infamous Jack Tenney Committee which has listed every liberal, progressive organization as Communist. When I read this last night in the Daily News, to which you send your column, I was so horrified to think of what suffering and what fear and persecution has been set loose by the Democratic Administration over this entire nation, that I thought if I sent you ^{these official} that you might do a little work in fighting for these people who have been so cruelly attacked. To many of us out here, the policies of this branch of ACLU are far more militant and aggressive than other branches of the Civil Liberties Union, and we are trying to get support through the whole country to stop this witch-hunt before it resorts to imprisonments and executions as was the case in the Palmer raids.

Since every member of the Government from the President on down have taken the oath to uphold the Constitution and the Bill of Rights I cannot for the life of me imagine why they have betrayed this oath and why the people who have become the victims of their betrayal have not some legal rights to protect themselves in court. *Democracy in America today, is a mockery of the word by cheap politicians and arrogant non-officers.*

Before closing I would like to tell you that I have been sending copies of the last portrait painted of your husband to all parts of the world because of the letters I have been receiving from people in every land who are friends of mine, whom I have not seen since before the war. From all these people, from countries including China, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and Italy, I receive the same thought, that they do not care what political party I am in, but they must tell me that "the death of your great President, Franklin Roosevelt, has been the greatest tragedy the world has ever known" and that they are quite sure that if he were alive today the world would be a different place because of his great fight

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for the rights of the people, and that were he alive the United Nations would be strong and we would be fighting for Peace and not planning for a third world war.

With deepest affection and admiration to you,

As ever,

Opina C. Dwyer

P. S. I enclose copies of letters I wrote to Roger Baldwin of the ACLU and Attorney General Clark. These letters are not enclosed for the purpose of impressing you with what I wrote but only with the hope that thousands of other people will take up this fight against reaction and the persecution of the working people of this country. A few people fighting is of no value as you well know and in writing these letters I wanted no publicity, but I could not sit here and think of the suffering of these people without speaking out and hoping that thousands of others will do the same.

O. C. D.

Copy

Encino, California
August 18, 1947

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am only one of 140 million people in this Country, but to me America means "to speak out" and I intend to speak out right now before the White House and other members in Government suppress the Rights of every Citizen of this great Country just for their own political amusement.

The present Executive Order on Loyalty Tests will be a shame and a stain upon the Name of this Country for generations to come and it is bringing endless suffering and injustice to millions of people who are totally Innocent. Never before in the history of this Country have political shenanigans fallen to such low actions as are being now practiced between the Republicans and the Democrats, with millions of Innocent People the victims of this "circus".

Before the time of Thomas Jefferson such things as are practiced now were being used against Innocent People but Thomas Jefferson became President of the United States and, owing to his great Justice and great Courage, the frightful injustices of the Alien Sedition Laws were wiped from the stain upon our political history. Now, a Democratic President and a Democratic Attorney General and a Democratic State Department, who celebrate the birthday of the great Thomas Jefferson, are dragging his very name through the mud by the practices now going on with the aid and comfort of the White House Justice Department and the State Department, against millions of Innocent American Citizens whose reputations are being smeared, whose Economic Futures are being jeopardized, while in nearly every case they will probably be just as loyal citizens of this Country as you and I. Still, they must live in continuous terror of what they read, with whom they go and of what they say just to satisfy the cheap politics between the Democrat and Republican parties.

Indeed, Mr. Attorney General, when America has fallen as low as this and when every person who does not have Economic Security or who belongs to a minority race or religion, is in jeopardy every moment of the day as to his or her future standing as a respected American Citizen, or as one who will be used for political purposes to be smeared and framed by the Government of the United States, then, indeed, we have but one more step to become a replica of Nazi Germany. Never should we have hung the criminals at Neuranburg had we intended to adopt the same type of Fascism which we fought to destroy in foreign lands, yet which we are now bringing right into the United States of America, while the people are being denied every Protection guaranteed them by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

This move on the part of the White House is something which millions of people will never forget and it would be wise for you to step and think that Hitler and Mussolini came to power because the people lost Faith in their Government. As I am one of those who still do have Economic Security, I am even more distressed over what is happening in this land because what I am doing today is entirely within the Laws of this Country and has in

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no way jeopardised either the safety of the Country nor could anyone find anything which I have done which could make them suspect that I was not loyal to the United States of America, the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights, yet everything that I am doing today, did I happen to be so unfortunate as to be dependent upon a job for my existence or did I belong to a minority group, would give the Government and the propaganda politicians every reason to deprive me of my Job, to deprive me of my Security, my Rights and all things which are Guaranteed to these same people as they are Guaranteed to me.

I can only say, in conclusion, that "Deep within a jungle on a remote Continent, hidden from these hurt and anguished people, there dwelt a man, the embodiment of all evil, the motivating spirit of satanic legions. Deep within a jungle, he heard these anguished peoples' voices crying out for Justice to their Government, and Hitler laughed".

By these unjust political actions which we are now taking, both here at home and in our foreign policy, the Government of the United States, meaning the Administration and the Congress of the United States, have put Hitler upon a pedestal as a model for us to pursue. Millions and millions of suffering women and children and veterans in every land and the millions of the dead who fought to kill Fascism, must turn today in horror towards this great Country when they hear us shouting the same old false phrase of, "Death to the Reds", while our Government whispers to each other, "Death to the Free".

In closing, may I remind you, Mr. District Attorney, that the President of the United States, the Attorney General, and every member of the Government, as well as every member of Congress, have taken an Oath to uphold the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Those who have taken this Oath and betrayed it should never have permitted the hanging of Joachim von Ribbentrop, for he was their Oracle in your Death to the Red propaganda both here and in foreign affairs. At least they should ponder the end to which he came.

This letter is sent to you because of my own deep distress and sorrow over what I see happening day after day to splendid and Innocent People.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. Maybe you would like the definition given by Bartley C. Crum to our present situation in America. He said, "The brutal fact that the two-party system is failing in America is that both parties want to have two positions on every question and a Communist in every pet".

Copy

Moine, Calif.
August 30, 1947

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

Your Assistant Director, Mr. Frederick Robin, replied the other day to my letter to you in which I criticized and deplored the attitude taken by the National Civil Liberties Union. He told me that you were on a vacation. I hope that you have returned from this vacation by now and that maybe some of you and some of your Board Members will make up to the fact that millions of Government Employees in this Country today are being deprived of every guarantee given to them by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Sometimes I am beginning to wonder whether anyone in the Government or in the American Civil Liberties Union really knows what the Constitution and the Bill of Rights stand for any more.

Mr. Robin sent me your pamphlet, "Post War Hysteria". I read it in total amazement that an organization which had been formed to protect the People of this Country after the first World War, during the disgraceful Palmer Raids, should even have accepted such an Executive Order as was issued by the President of the United States. Where were the Brains, the Justice and the Understanding and Courage of the Board of the American Civil Liberties Union when they approve the President at a time when he is breaking the Oath which he has sworn to uphold in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights?

You may not care to have me say to you and to all Members of the Board who so meekly appeased the President, that your pamphlet on "Post War Hysteria" is neither Constitutional nor does it in any way even make an effort to take a stand to protect the Rights of innocent American citizens being persecuted everywhere today by the notion of the White House, the State Department, the Justice Department, the Congress, as well as the Armed Forces, all who have taken an Oath to uphold this Constitution and the President, himself, have betrayed the American people and your "Post War Hysteria" pamphlet, with all its twaddle, means nothing at all and gives no Protection whatever to the American People who so desperately need Protection in this darkest hour of our history.

To even Pretend that we are a Democracy today is double talk and mere hypocrisy and arrogance. Our Immigrant ancestors would be ashamed of the very name of the United States of America which is flying under false colors both in Foreign Affairs, as well as Home Administration. Have you forgotten that the Democratic Party holds a great Dinner in memory of Thomas Jefferson? It is a sacrilege to even mention his name by those who have issued this Executive Order and who are day after day fraying and persecuting any American in Government Employment who would be useful to both the Republicans and the Democrats for despicable Political Propaganda.

In other words, there is no secret to the fact that President Truman issued this Executive Order as well as his Anti-Communist Policy Move into Greece and Turkey just to take the ballyhoo out of the Republican red-baiting. When the Chief Executive, the one who is supposed to Protect the People of this Country against Injustice, uses cheap politics no higher in the shepanigans than those employed by Tammany Hall and the Pendergasts of Kansas City, the time has come for the American Civil Liberties Union to stand up and fight for the Rights of the People. Our present policy in Foreign Affairs as well as here at home has degenerated into an epidemic of Anti-Loyalty Procedures never known before in the history of this great Country nor even in the Foreign Policy of this Country,

At least we must admit that the Monroe Doctrine for many years has been used for only one purpose and that was for our Economic Imperialists to exploit the peoples of Central and South America. I hardly need to remind you of the many disgraceful stains upon the history of our supposed Democracy when Big Business in Oil, in Copper, in Coffee and many other fields, have overthrown one Government after another in South America with the connivance of the State Department, in order to mortgage every Country where our Big Business interests have taken over and removed all the Wealth from the countries, while the peoples of South and Central America have been exploited just as viciously as have the peoples of other nations, having colonies the world over, such as Britain, France, Holland and Belgium.

Now we have become drunk with Power since we have developed and dropped the Atom Bomb and our Monopolists, interwoven with all other international cartels, are moving into every country where we can connive to keep the Power in our hands, taking advantage of the Poverty and Misery of these people who have fought a terrible war, a war in which we are the only nation left which is unmarred at home by the boot of the conquerer's heel. We insist that the Atom Bomb is quite safe in our hands because we would never use it, but at the same time we do not seem to remember that we and we, alone, have used the most frightful weapon ever known to man.

To return to the Loyalty Tests which the National Civil Liberties Union has so meekly accepted. You do not seem to even bother to make your voice ring clear and loud for the American Citizens in Government Employment who are so brazenly persecuted and exploited while you completely ignore their Rights under the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. If these persecuted people cannot rely on the American Civil Liberties Union for clear insight and vigorous defense of Democratic Principles in this time when we are rapidly adopting every Fascist Pattern that we sent our boys overseas to destroy, than in Heaven's Name, to whom may these people look in this hour of anguish and exploitation right here in our own Country?

"This ousting of disloyal persons from Government posts is the view-balloo for every lynch lawyer in Washington. Should disloyal persons be allowed to work for the government? Of course they shouldn't. They shouldn't even be at large. But under the present conditions which you have accepted, as well as the entire Government in Washington and elsewhere, the definition of a "traitor" can be made as elastic as it suits those who wish to oust minority groups as well as anyone with whom they differ. There are laws

Law Courts to deal with Traitors. Ever since John Marshall presided over the trial of Aaron Burr, it has been -- and thank God for it -- very difficult to convict a man of Treason. It used to be in some countries that it was Treason to "think evil" of the King. The present jurisprudence being used by the Government Officials and which has been accepted by your National Union with such humility, makes every Government Clerk open to persecution for opinion's sake. Somehow these qualities don't become a Great Nation of Freemen."

The news items day by day grow more alarming and I have become more and more amazed and horrified at the lack of Courage and Understanding of the National Organisation. People are being kicked out here and there and everywhere. First you hear about the State Department letting out people. Next in line come all other Government employees. Then one has a terrible shock to think that Dan Tobin, the great friend of Franklin Roosevelt, should be given, without any hesitation, the power to expel Communists and Subversives of the Union without right of appeal. What do "Civil Liberties" amount to when a man's means of livelihood are taken from him without his having an opportunity of trial by his accusers?

Now we have photographs in the papers of lines of Government Employees being fingerprinted in the biggest witch-hunt after subversives ever known in the History of this Country since Jefferson repealed the Alien Sedition Act. I realize, of course, that having conceded as much as you have, there is not much you can do about it if the Executives are so nice in the way in which they carry out the exact replica of the persecutions started under the Nazis, the Fascists and their replicas in Japan. The most tragic phase of the dismissal of these Government Employees is not always of the Job, but the difficulty that they will experience the rest of their lives in obtaining jobs. Not only is Government service closed to them, but "Confidential Information" will be available to any employer who falls for the witchhunting and there is no action being taken by your National Organisation to speak up boldly and to stop this March of Fascism before it is too late.

I am beginning to wonder whether living under the Sanctity of the New York surroundings, where you do not have to fight too much for your Economic Security, and where probably most of your Board Members are listed in "Who's Who" or the "Social Register", has put the National Organisation in an Ivory Tower of Sanctity where their imaginations and their experiences have been entirely dulled by this security and where they do not have to see the anguished worry of every individual in Government employment as well as in the Labor Unions who must have nightmares wondering whether the next day will bring about their status into Second Class Citizens either because they are members of a Minority Race in Religion, Color, or Economic Security.

You see, Mr. Baldwin, I was born and lived in New York City and the Eastern area all my life until 1914 when I came West for my health. My father and his family, as well as myself, have always had Economic Security, but we have always been rebels against Hypocrisy and Injustice practiced by those in the Capitalist world among whom we lived. My father spent all his life

working for Economic and Social betterment of the people as well as for Reforms in our Criminal Code. He was International Prison Commissioner for the U.S.A. for 25 years and in the Report of his Life, published in the Library of Congress, he is classed as one who was looked upon as a Radical because he was 50 years ahead of his time in his thinking and in his demands for the betterment of Social and Economic Conditions for the masses. I was also brought up in this atmosphere in Politics as well as Social and Prison work. But I can well remember that when I went to Chicago once, to judge a Dog Show, my mother, who was very conservative, insisted that I should have a chaperone to "protect me from those dangerous people in the Far West." Sometimes I think that those who live on the Eastern Coast do not even know that any people live West of New York. And therefore, I am wondering whether the National Organisation has also become such a fossil of tradition. We must stop this Tidal Wave of Reaction and Persecution before it drowns every Right which the people of this great Country should have.

It has become a mere Mockery to speak of the United States of America as a Democracy and for us to tell other nations about how they should run their Elections and give their people Civil Liberties. Shall the Principles and Liberties of America fall so low that our Standard of Justice is no higher than the gangster, Al Capone, who said, as you may remember, "Bolshevism is knocking at our gate. We can't afford to let it in. We have got to organize ourselves against it and put our shoulders together and hold fast, We must keep America whole and safe and unspoiled. We must keep our worker away from Red Literature and Red Buses. We must see that his mind remains healthy."

Would it be not Wise and Urgent that every one of us spring to action and stand squarely behind the Jeffersonian principles -- "It is time enough for the rightful purposes of Civil Government for its Officers to interfere when Principles break out into overt acts against Peace and Good Order -- to suffer the Civil Magistrate to intrude his powers into the Field of Opinion and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition of their ill-tendency, is a dangerous falacy."

Are we ashamed of our Revolution of 1776 which freed us from oppression and must we rewrite our History Books so that none of our children will ever know that America once stood for Liberty, Opportunity and the Torch of Freedom for all those who were persecuted in foreign lands, those who made our Country great and those whose heritage we are now defiling and smearing every day we allow this Red Hysteria and Persecution of the Helpless persons to continue.

For your information let me say that I am not writing as an outsider. If you will consult your Los Angeles Office you will find that I have supported with great respect, the work of the American Civil Liberties Union and that I have more or less been a substantial supporter, both financially and morally. Some of your Branch Offices are certainly showing far more Courage and far more Sense of Justice than those who are on the Board of the National Organisation. I think that it is a shame that any Local Organisation anywhere be in any way limited by the lack of even more Advanced Leadership on the part of the National Organisation.

You may feel that I am writing you a long and critical letter, but I can assure you from the bottom of my heart that I would not have made the effort to write this letter had I not been deeply worried and deeply ashamed of the attitude which is being taken by the National Organization, as well as by Government Officials in this Country today, and were I not immensely worried at the suffering and fear which every person who does not have Economic Security must be facing in this hour of persecution.

Please try to convince the Members of your Board that millions of innocent persons who are just as loyal as you and I and other members of the American Civil Liberties Union, are living in continuous fear of their very Economic Future and even the Safety of their Lives, while we do nothing. Have you so soon forgotten the great words of Franklin Roosevelt when he said, "There is nothing to fear but Fear, itself."

Hoping that the National Organization will take action immediately to help these innocent people as well as to support the excellent efforts being made by your Branch Organizations in different states. We should never have hung the Nazis at Neurenburg had we intended to imitate their cruelty as we are now doing. "At least we should ponder the end to which they came."

Cordially yours,

P.S. I am enclosing you a Poem which I think might be read to the Board Members of the National Organization and I am not being dramatic when I say that they should get down on their knees every night and repeat this Poem so that maybe their eyes will be opened and their souls awakened. America has come to the Crossroads. There is no Second Choice. You must stand up to be counted and you must be classified as a Reactionary or a Progressive. Liberalism with quotation marks is almost worse than reaction today and I stand squarely by the belief of Tolstoy that he would not trust anyone until he was sure that they had shed the quotation marks when they spoke out boldly for Liberalism and Progress.

We who have taken this Path of Progress and the Brotherhood of Man must be prepared to be cursed and to be named Bolshevists, Communists, Criminals and False Prophets. We must even become a "Little Flock", even to be put to death if that is the only way to save our Country from Fascism and to help advance the Brotherhood of Man, which will be the only solution for Social and Economic Justice and Peace.

Dexter

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 13th, 1947

Dear Walter Winchell:

After your very charming conversation on the telephone last night and your definite desire not to listen to any real facts when I started to speak of them, I am writing you this letter and enclosing some material which I think speaks for itself.

I had never listened to your broadcasts before you started to expose the Fascist threat to this country, and the Dies Committee and other totally un-American citizens within our own land. Therefore I had no idea until recently that you had a record before the war of being a Red-baiter and anti-labor.

The source of my information was a union leader -- a Roman Catholic (not Philip Murray). When I recommended to him that the union take the paper P M for their educational program he told me that the reason he did not like to take it was because you had continuously quoted from it, and since you were such a Red-baiter and so anti-labor he therefore supposed that P M was along the same lines in its policy.

I am afraid that you have a most complicated psychological unbalance. Anyone who could have been so devoted to a great citizen of the world such as Franklin Roosevelt, could not continue your eternal policy of hate and war-mongering -- filled with misinformation of every kind, and intended to keep the American people deceived about the great benefits which the Soviet system has given to the people of the Soviet Union. I am convinced that what the Soviet Union has done for its people in all its republics, in so short a time, will go down in history as one of the greatest accomplishments of any government in the history of the world.

You should know by now that the vested interests and cartels are terrified of Socialism. The fact that there was no other way to promote the welfare of backward peoples is a matter of record in hundreds of books, written by people who are no more Communists, "Fellow-travellers," and all the rest of the things you may want to call me, than I am.

For America to hide from our people such accomplishments of a nation is a dangerous and stupid policy. The American people are a fair and just people as a whole, and they have a right to know the truth, and not to have propaganda screeched into their ears day after day over the radio with no chance for the other side to be presented.

Many people have told me that you belong to the great Jewish race. I also have heard that you deny it continuously. But if perchance you do belong to this great people, then comparing Stalin with Hitler is even more despicable, because you know only too well (if you don't, you should be ashamed of your ignorance) that the treatment of all races and minority groups in the Soviet Union is one of the greatest appeals to those who suffer so bitterly in this country from the opposite policy, carried out by a nation which calls itself a great democracy where all persons are supposed to have equal rights no matter what their race, religion, or color may be.

I do not happen to be Jewish, but I have tremendous respect for their background and for many of the great Jews of the world. Having been married to the son of Samuel Untermyer, whom I admired tremendously, I am the last person in the world not to appreciate what the Soviet Union has done for the persons of all colors and nationalities, as well as creeds -- despite propaganda to the contrary.

In case you do not have information relative to the treatment of races in the Soviet Union, I would be only too glad to give you the information which I sent to Mr. Eugene Meyer, of the Washington Post, when he wrote me a letter disapproving of Fascism and reaction, yet stating that we couldn't let Stalin over-run Europe, like Hitler.

A Fascist Jew to me is a tragedy, and if I was able to hate I might hate them. Even though you are disseminating so much hate, as well as others who seem to be totally unconscious that we are supposed to be Christians who do not preach hate, I cannot bring myself to hate anybody, nor to preach any doctrine which is designed to wipe out and conquer the Soviet Union for the benefit of those persons who control international monopolies and cartels in this country. There are many others who would like to take back Russia for her as yet untapped wealth, and continue to exploit her people as well as those people of the Balkans who have been exploited for hundreds of years by foreign monopolies and cartels.

The time is long overdue for economic and social reforms in all these countries, and because a few people have enough sense of justice and humanitarianism to want peace and progress in the world they are labelled as Communists, "Fellow-Travelers," "Foreign Agents," and even accused of "treason" to their country. Such is a price we must pay, but we will gladly pay it, as we are in the finest company the world has yet known. We will pay it even if it means death to those who do it, in order that we may hope that the world -- if it does not commit suicide in the meantime, with the help of such persons as you and others -- will eventually be able to live together as brothers, no matter what the color, creed, or race.

Even business men, eight months after many of us preached the danger which was in the Truman Doctrine, are now much disturbed, and persons like David Lawrence in the United States News, have been deploring our foreign policy and the censorship of our press by wealth. I quote from only one of his recent editorials in THE UNITED STATES NEWS:

"European governments of the authoritarian type influence the thinking of their peoples by a controlled press and censorship. We influence ours by limiting the amount of information available to the people and resting our case on the published facts and 'official view.' It is almost as easy to influence public opinion that way as by a controlled press. Critics are usually silenced by the sneers of those who say criticism gives 'comfort to the enemy.' That method worked inside Germany. It works inside America, too."

Maybe it will surprise you a bit to know that not only the Los Angeles Times, but many other of our most conservative journals, deplored the protest that was made to Moscow because some Soviet writer compared Harry Truman's tactics to those of Adolf Hitler. Maybe it will also surprise you to know that some of my best friends are on the same side with me, and they happen to be persons who come from exactly the same background as I do -- such as the Colbys, the Lamonts, and many others of the oldest families, who represent America at her best.

In the biography of my father, (B. Ogden Chisolm), gotten out by the Library of Congress, he is described as one who was a master of the spoken word and a master of the written word in his continuous fight for economic and social improvement for the people of this country and the world, and

one who had a different attitude toward the so-called criminal. I quote from an article he wrote, which was included in this biography:

"With the exception of a small percentage of men and women mentally deficient, criminals are normal human beings who have, for some reason or another, done abnormal deeds. Poverty, Ambition, Ostracism, Revenge, Hatred for Life, all of these things or any one of them, may help to make a criminal of a normal man. The function of the prison is to redeem this man and to keep him away from Society until he is redeemed. To punish him blindly is also to punish the community to which he returns. Of this the community is usually woefully ignorant. The public cries for stronger laws, more drastic sentences, more rigorous prisons, under the erroneous impression that these things will prevent crime. The only way to lessen crime is to insure the success of the criminal after he leaves the prison -- his spiritual, financial and ethical success."

For fifteen years he was the United States Representative on the International Prison Commission, serving under appointments by Presidents Coolidge and Hoover. In this capacity he attended several international conferences in London (and I went with him.) After five years of able and unselfish service he tendered his resignation because he felt very strongly that his government was not giving the work of the Commission the moral and financial support which the importance of its task warranted and deserved. However, on the promise of more generous support he withdrew his resignation and continued in this work for ten more years.

I was in politics in Tammany Hall from the age of fifteen, and I will probably be classified the same as my father was -- and that was a radical, fifty years ahead of his time. But at least one has the satisfaction to read in his biography that they admit: "Of him it can in truth be said that the world is the better for his having lived." I hope this may be said of me, and for that and only that am I fighting.

The United States must not act in a way which will bring about violence, oppression, hatred and war, in the frightful excuse of the debased claim that we are preaching in the name of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount. America cannot sell herself so short to the peoples of world, and I intend to continue fighting for a cause which millions of others would like to fight for openly but do not dare to do so because of fear and finances.

I hope that you will not continue forever to offend of people in this country, and millions the world over by adding to the international tensions carried on at present time by certain monopolies, cartels, the White House and the State Department, who are in collaboration with every Soviet-hater the world over -- including Nazis, who are glad enough to jump on our new band wagon these days.

I thought you might be interested to know that last Sunday in the foreign press, (and not in a "Communist" paper), it was stated that all the American people have now begun to worship at a new shrine, to which they travel daily, up and down the steps within the famous Statue of Liberty. The Americans are no longer able to see the Statue of Liberty and its torch, so they are making a daily pilgrimage inside. Day and night the crowds stand in line to make this pilgrimage to the inside cheek of the Statue of Liberty. When each person passes they write their name and then they look and pray and put a kiss of rouge (red) under their name. Now the inside cheeks have become so coated with rouge (red) that there is no longer any space to kiss any more. Everything has been tried to clean off this rouge, but the task is impossible. It just will not be removed, so the great industrialists who represent the great Capitalistic system of America, are working night and day to find a new kind of paint which will be able to be used on these sacred inner cheeks of the Statue of Liberty which will be immune to the kisses of rouge (red), implanted there by those who visit this shrine with so much worship and so much belief.

Also in the European papers maybe you will like to hear that one editorial from a very conservative paper gave out this warning to the world: It is well known that the American people are like immature children when it comes to understanding politics and the affairs of the world. They are kind people if they know the truth, maybe, but they are still very much like children. Can we safely allow these children to play with a stock of atomic bombs and feel secure? We know only too well what happens when a child plays with a match and world trembles at the thought of what these innocent American children may do with a stock of atomic bombs.

If you do not believe what I have just told you, you can get in touch with Larry Laseur, who broadcasts over KNX at 9:30 a.m., P.S.T., on the program "As Others See Us." You might receive a little education if you would listen to what the world thinks of us, Mr. Winchell, and you might also stop to think what might happen if you continue your hysterical protests against the Soviet Union.

I can assure you by what is said that the nations of the world would sit by the sidelines rather than be dragged into a war of complete annihilation, where the only peace would be the peace of the graveyard and where there would be no victor and vanquished. The mere continuance of such as anti-Soviet hysteria, such as is being whipped up by such person as you and others, if it succeeded, could result only in putting America and anyone who was left alive, into a bondage so frightful to contemplate that life would not be worth living. The more this continues and the more pressure that is brought on by loyalty tests, security tests and all the other horrors which are being carried out now both by our military men, the White House, the monopoly cartelists, as well as Clerical Fascism and so forth, is pure unadulterated madness and insanity.

We are the only nation today who have the wealth and as far as we know a stockpile of atomic bombs, and this is a most unfortunate situation, which I am totally convinced has brought upon this country a complete lowering of our morale towards our fellow man. I can only say that if the architects of our Foreign Policy are going to carry out the advice of people like you, William Bullit, George Earle, as well as some of the things advocated by James F. Byrnes and J. Parnell Thomas, all of which are only too acceptable to some of our military leaders, then God help us all and it is no wonder that neuroticism and suicides are increasing daily in these United States.

America is a wonderful country and I, and many others, will go down fighting before we will ever let this great country get into the hands of such madmen. None of us are "Communists", "Fellow Travellers," "foreign Agents," or have we any record of "treason" to this country. It is America which we are worried about, and not the Soviet Union. What they do is their business but if we keep up this madness you cannot possibly blame any nation for attacking us first. Any psychiatrist could tell you that the leaders and people of any country who were being persecuted as we have been persecuting the Soviet Union over the radio and press, day after day, would be driven to any lengths out of total fear, and I am sure that were the tables reversed that we would feel just as jittery as do the leaders of the people of the Soviet Union.

In the past you have done a good work and it certainly seems tragic to hear your ravings against the people who have taken the most frightful punishment from the Nazi sadists and barbarians.

Cordially yours,

Doctor

I agree with you
that everybody should
have the right to
speak. I also agree
with you that at
the moment we have
become somewhat
hepturnal on the
subject of Communism.

I do not agree with
you in not taking
a stand against

Communists in
our own country,
because Communism
today means the
spread by force of
the doctrine & therefore
any group like PCA
that is too chicken-
hearted to take a
stand against
Communists within
their ranks is a

detriment to our
heritage of freedom

Jim

Keep her address -
she always sends
Xmas present -
last year we had
no address

*Keep
address*

Depts

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 17, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I know only too well how very busy you are and how much of your strength it takes to do all the work which you are doing, therefore I have not sent you any of the things which have transpired since our last correspondence.

We all believed in the great International understanding and the devotion of all nations, as well as this nation, to your great husband, and it is disgraceful how the Administration, from the White House down to the State Department and all other Departments of Government, including the Justice Department, and most of the members of Congress, are trying in every way to discredit everything which he stood for, and they would like nothing better than to eventually get down to a point so low that he could be connected up after his death, at a time when he cannot defend himself or speak up, as an "International Communist." The entire plot in Washington is so utterly obvious that those who believe in America as tremendously as I do and in what he stood for, both here at home and in the minds of the peoples of the world, feel that we cannot sit back while these "Fascist-minded" persons, as well as militarists and the reactionaries in the State Department, are doing everything in their power to tear all of his great work down and discredit him here in America. We who loved him so deeply and admired him will not let this happen if it is in our power to stop it and we will never give up the fight.

Franklin Roosevelt was a citizen of the world, the same as are many of the rest of us. Despite all my bringing up in society tradition and background in New York, for some peculiar reason I have never been affected by it in any way, nor was my father as well as my mother, who could be considered very conservative so far as social connections were concerned, but never in my life did I ever hear in my home any discussion or any criticism of any race, religion or color. We travelled the world over from the time I

was nine months old, but we travelled not as Americans with money, but among the peoples of all nations and therefore one cannot possibly confine one's thinking or judgement of politics or any other social or economic thinking within the confines of these United States. Just to explain what I mean, may I simply say this... even though my mother was considered a conservative, if a negro was a scientist, or a lawyer, or a man of culture he was just as welcome to our house as any other color, race or creed. My mother's only prejudice would have been had the negro been a prizefighter. I think from that you will understand. To my father, of course, it made no difference what they were, all people were potentially good if they only had a chance, and in his biography gotten out by the Library of Congress, it was stated that he was considered a radical fifty years ahead of his time, and the world was a better place for his having lived.

When my father was International Prison Commissioner for the United States appointed by Coolidge, and again by Hoover, he resigned in protest because of politics in the prison system. He wrote articles at that time stating that very few people were really criminals, and then it was only because they were born with a twisted mind. The other "criminals" are normal human beings who have some reason or another for doing abnormal deeds - poverty, ambition, ostracism, revenge, hatred for life, physical deformities - all of these things or one of them may help to make a criminal of a normal man.

Now, forty years or more later, I hear over the radio a program released by the National Science Foundation of criminals who have been given plastic surgery to change deformities as well as treatment by psychiatrists and in 78% of these cases the persons have lost their criminal attitude toward life. So I guess some of us have to take ridicule because we are supposed to be visionaries.

I seek no publicity in any way in what I am doing and I only wish that I could get many others to work with me and carry some of the burden of this work, but when I see the strange quirks that suddenly overtake organizations to which I have donated funds and my name, I have been advised after long consideration, by Louis Adamic and many others to go on fighting alone because no one can attach any "label" to me. I am a registered

Democrat and an Episcopalian, but that does not obligate me in any way to follow even any principles which either this Party or this religion should carry out in the future which might delay the eventual brotherhood of man and peace on this earth.

I have always thought so much of you all because of my devotion to Franklin D. Roosevelt, that I wanted you to understand why I am fighting so hard for what little it may count to keep our American heritage free of any taint of totalitarianism. We have enough injustices to correct here at home before we stick out our necks to tell other people in the world how wicked they are.

I am enclosing you some things which I hope you may find time to read, but as you are very busy I do not want to impose any more than possible upon you.

Maybe one inherits this blood from one's ancestors and in closing I would only like to tell you that my grandfather, whose home is now the summer home for the Mayor of New York, helped all escaped slaves and that all my childhood I used to look with great interest and thrills at the underground passage through which slaves came when they were landed in the night on the shores of Long Island Sound. My grandfather's brother, Dr. Julian Chisolm, was another rebel at heart and a book called "THE DARK GARDEN" has been written about him. Please understand that I do not tell you this to boast of my ancestors but it is with great reticence that I even mention these things because I fought with my mother all the years I was at home because she insisted that I remember my family background, and it is a funny thing now to come West and suddenly have to explain why you fight for the American heritage so hard and to have to dig up these ancestors to prove that they also fought for it. It must be a symptom of just how low we have fallen and how far we have travelled from the great American heritage which made the name of this country the hope of the world.

I am sending this same letter to FDR, Jr., so that he might be able to understand why I refuse to go back into the Democratic Party and that I will remain with the PCA until I see what the future brings by 1948.

Hoping that we may meet the next time I go East, and with all my best love and wishes to you.

Always affectionately yours,

Mina C. Dexter

Copy of Telegram sent October 23, 1947

Herschel Johnson ^{Copy to} + Warren Austin
United Nations
Lake Success, New York

A United Press release says that the Russian suggestion that war mongers be muscled would result in setting up a police state in this country. Some of our delegates naively pretend that we do not now have thought control and that we still have freedom of speech. Here in Los Angeles, the City of the Angels, the Dean of Canterbury is denied the use of any platform during his proposed visit late in November. Arrangements were made for the use of the Philharmonic Auditorium. The management refused that meeting place unless a bond of \$1,000.00 is posted to be forfeited if the speaker deviates one word from his speech, the speech to be submitted to the management and censored by them.

No radio station permits the truth to be spoken about our foreign policy without apologizing in advance.

Bartley Crum and other prominent citizens are denied the use of speaking platforms because of their avowed disapproval of the war mongering policy of the administration.

I can ill afford to lose \$1,000.00 but I am posting the bond in order that the Dean of Canterbury may deliver his message to the people of this community. I deem it important enough that I would do this if it were my last dollar.

We profess to be a Christian nation and yet deny the second highest church official of the Episcopal Church the free use of any public platform. He advocates a Christian friendliness toward Russia and for that he is branded a red and subversive. If a man of the Dean's stature must be so shamefully treated in this country, do you not think it time to order the barbed wire for concentration camps?

Mrs. Elliott Dexter
5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
October 23, 1947

I think you should know (in case you don't already) that the Shrine Auditorium out here, as well as other halls, have refused to allow the Dean of Canterbury to speak. They have stated that he is a foreign Red.

Apart from the fact that he is the second highest representative of the Episcopal church, and it could be that religious pressure is also being used out here, it is again the same continuation of the propaganda let loose in this country and kept burning with the aid and comfort of foreign religious ideologies alien to our Constitution.

It is an utter disgrace that the city of Los Angeles should refuse its halls to the Dean of Canterbury because he might tell the truth about the real conditions in the Balkans--- particularly about Yugoslavia--and other issues concerning the nations which we are trying to discredit in every move we make in our present foreign policy, and through the deliberate falsification of statements about these countries which have suffered so desperately fighting on our side but to whom we now deny any relief in finances or sustenance.

The fact that I am a member of the Episcopal church and have the greatest admiration for the Dean of Canterbury does not come into this issue, as I have never had religious prejudices of any kind. The Dean of Canterbury is loved by millions of people the world over, and he is an international personality who will probably go down in history as one of the great men of this era. Yet the United States is afraid to have him here because of our administration's alliance with the propaganda of the Vatican, which happens to suit its present foreign policy of carrying out its anti-Soviet policy and its warmongering.

I think everybody should hear about the refusal of these halls to such a great man, just because he does not fit into the foreign policy of certain cliques in this country. These cliques do not represent the majority of the American people, despite what they may think. I know that the Dean of Canterbury is admired and loved by people in this country of all faiths, not because of any religious reason, but because he is such a complete embodiment of what Christianity should really stand for, and because he has had the courage to tell the truth against the pressure from every conservative churchman who is afraid to admit that the Soviet Union had succeeded in any way in raising the standard of living of its peoples and has also given freedom of worship, despite propaganda to the contrary.

As was said so beautifully by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam:

"It is easier to summon us to a holy war against Russia than to solve the problems involved in establishing economic justice and world order.-----An ideology cannot be suffocated by poison gas nor demolished by atom bombs. Ideas are conquered by better ideas whose truth has been revealed in practices that enrich personality."

"We are in danger of losing the good will of the people of Europe by our failure to make it clear that it is the free state we stand for, as against the police state. We have nearly convinced them that our bread is not for the starving, but for the hungry who will accept our economic way of life."

I have just been asked by the American Russian Institute, who asked the Dean of Canterbury to speak here, whether I could put up a thousand dollar bond. Will you believe what this is for? In the America which boasts and boasts to the whole world about her great freedom of speech and freedom of the press, this thousand dollar bond is a guarantee that the Dean of Canterbury must have his script censored by the Board of the Philharmonic Auditorium before he speaks, and that if he in any way deviates from the script which they have censored and permitted him to use, the thousand dollar bond will be forfeited. Is that American?

Gladly will I forfeit a thousand dollars if the Dean of Canterbury wishes to tell the truth which he is not permitted to, according to the censored script. Naturally I have no intention of embarrassing certain people, but appeasing the hate propagandists and the warmongers of this country to me is something so low and un-American that the rebel blood of my immigrant ancestors is boiling over.

We will see what happens, but give totalitarian methods one inch and they will take our lives. I would gladly forfeit this thousand dollars if it was the last money I had, to keep America free from such disgraceful policies as this ultimatum exhibits.

NINA G. DEXTER

-COPY-

Night Letter sent Nov. 4, 1947

President Harry S. Truman
White House
Washington, D. C.

At Independence Hall where Liberty was conceived and where the portrait of my great great uncle Peter Muhlenberg, first speaker of the Continental Congress hangs, rioting and bloodshed is brought about because of the denial of free speech to those who still believe in the American heritage which made us the hope of exploited and persecuted peoples the world over. This violence which is sure to grow even stronger in this great country is the result solely of the hersey hunting which has been led by the issuance of your Executive Order #9835 for Loyalty Tests of Government Employees, whose only sin is that they do not happen to agree with the political thinking of the Administration from the White House through to every Government Head in your Administration. Since the great Democratic Party has liquidated every person who believed in the economic and social benefits of the New Deal, not one word has ever come from the White House to criticize the shocking and disgraceful persecution of innocent people by the Thomas Rankin Un-American Committee, a committee which has been a stain and a shame upon the Democratic principles of this great country and every decent devoted American. Nor does this disgrace against all that has stood for the greatness of this country and there. No repudiation has come from those who are making our Foreign Policy when persons such as William Bullit, George Earle and now James F. Byrnes, who are all well known the world over for their high positions in the foreign affairs of our Government, widely demand atomic attacks and immediate war with atomic bombs against a former great ally whose suffering under the Nazi hordes was even worse than that meted out to the members of the great Jewish race. It is amazing that you have not stopped to think about all the newspaper reports in England and on the Continent, not in Communist papers, which are openly expressing their horror at our Foreign Policy. America and Americans are hated and feared enough already the world over without allowing this to continue any longer. Is this Administration and Congress going to leave such a heritage of hate to our children for the future? Many of the most conservative Americans today are saying openly that such denial of civil liberties in this country as has been encouraged by your Executive Order on Loyalty Tests, and the arrogance and economic imperialism of our Foreign Policy in this atomic age are sheer undiluted madness. If this policy is going

to continue among those who are the architects of our Foreign Policy in the State Department and here at home through the reign of terror being carried out by the F.B.I. and the framing of innocent people by the Justice Department for propaganda purposes against the Soviet Union or Communism, then there will be no peace or quiet in the world except in the graveyard. And I am not so sure that my great great uncle Peter Muhlenberg is not turning over in his grave right now while his is praying to God to save us all.

Nina C. Dexter
5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California

-COPY-

Night Letter sent November 4, 1947

Chairman J. Parnell Thomas
Un-American Committee
Washington, D. C.

At Independence Hall where Liberty was conceived and where the portrait of my great great uncle Peter Muhlenberg, first speaker of the Continental Congress hangs, rioting and bloodshed is brought about because of the denial of free speech to those who still believe in the American heritage which made us the hope of exploited and persecuted peoples the world over. This violence which is sure to grow even stronger in this great country is the result solely of the disgraceful performances of your Committee which has taken upon itself, without any Constitutional Right, the dragging of innocent Americans before it to defame and assassinate their characters just for your own amusement and propaganda purposes. You should remember that you are elected as a public servant of the people and not for the purpose of using your Congressional immunity to act in every way as did the Gestapo of Hitler Germany. Such rights have not been given to you by the people and it is becoming more and more shocking to see to what extent you will go to insult and persecute innocent Americans only because they do not believe in the demagogic dictatorship of your type of intolerant Unamericanism. Evidently you did not believe in the War Crimes Trial of Neuremburg because your policy today, with the assistance of agents of the F.B.I. is an exact replica of the methods of Heinrich Hommler and Joaquin Von Ribbentrop. If any of the American people still have in them the same blood which made this country great they will demand an end to such dictatorship and such cruelty against innocent persons. The Spanish Inquisition did not stop heresy hunting and the Un-American Committee as well as the Administration seems to be trying to revive the pattern of the Inquisition on the ashes of a great democracy.

Nina C. Dexter

-COPY-

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 4, 1947

J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing you this note because I feel that it is a great tragedy today for the American people to find that their Federal Bureau of Investigation, which did such a magnificent work in protecting us during our war against Germany and Japan, is now being used in a reign of terror against innocent people, whose only sin is to have a different political thinking than those in power in the Administration and the Thomas Un-American Committee.

Having lived in New York all my life, I know only too well the frightful excesses to which the F.B.I. went after the First World War in the Palmer Raids and the framing of two innocent men. You cannot blame the American people for remembering these days, which they certainly thought would never be revived. It is indeed a shocking era in American History and Government when witnesses are being used by the Justice Department and the F.B.I. to frame innocent persons on some trumped up charge which is totally unconstitutional or untrue.

The American people certainly had hoped that the great respect which they had for the F.B.I., which protected us from any act of sabotage during the war, was something that they could be proud of in your organization, but they now find that they were mistaken and that never before in the history of this country have such excesses been used by so-called "Government witnesses," who are spying and keeping a dossier of every American who is not Fascist-minded.

I only hope that your position as an able administrator of a just and excellent Intelligence Service can be revived in the minds of the American people before it is too late.

I think you have a copy of the letter which I sent to your Head Office here in Los Angeles when I was told by my broker that some busy-body in his office told him that I was being watched by the F.B.I. As you probably know I sent a copy of

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this letter to Attorney General Clark, J. Parnell Thomas and John Tabor of the House Appropriations Committee.

I am enclosing a copy of a telegram which I sent to Walter Winchell and requested that he show to you. In case he did not do so, I would like you to read it so that there is nothing which I have said or done which you cannot know without investigation.

Most cordially yours,

-COPY-

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 7th, 1947

Mr. Gael Sullivan

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

As you seem to be the only member of the President's "Kitchen Cabinet" who shows any sign of interest in the welfare of the people these days outside of the Iron Curtain around Washington and the State Department, I am enclosing copies of telegrams to the President and the Thomas Un-American Committee and a letter which I wrote to J. Edgar Hoover.

Having read the entire report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, may I hope that the Report will be implemented by immediate action for the protection of not only Government employees, but all persons who have been, and are being, persecuted by the Justice Department with the assistance of Government witnesses provided by the F.B.I. After reading this Report I hope that you will feel that all the work that I have done and the letters with which I have continuously bombarded you were not mere hooey, and that the Committee on Civil Rights has vindicated most of the accusations which I have made for a long time against the President's Executive Order #9835, as well as the outrageous "red" hysteria, which is being loosed over this entire country and which is causing endless suffering and fear and confusion among millions of innocent persons. Please remember that none of this which is happening has, or probably will have, any effect whatsoever upon my life and security. Therefore in doing what I have done, I have done it only because I, and many others, have seen so clearly the frightful consequences which are creeping over this great country through the debased political machinations which are being used by those in power in our Administration and Congress and who have given license to every kind of persecution you can imagine against innocent persons in all kinds of businesses and in colleges, which gives the excuse for the suppression of our finest literature and the control of the radio and the press by big business interests. It is becoming something that this country has never heard of before and the utter negativeness of our Foreign Policy has spread only the fear and hate of America throughout the world at a time when we alone are powerful enough to wipe out the entire world with our scientific inventions of the military forces. I have a complete documentation of our military power, as well as the scientific developments of the military, all of which are for the destruction of man and the world.

One cannot go on listening day after day to such hypocrisy and such propaganda, which one knows is completely false, without becoming ashamed of the American policy both in Foreign affairs and here at home. It has gone so far that the labels of "red," "Communist," "pro-Russian", "foreign agent," and "treason" are used against every person in this country who has any courage to speak out in sense of justice or humanity both for those people in this country who are not able to defend themselves, or for the despicably unjust things which are being said against the Soviet Union.

Every day I hear of innocent persons being discharged in every walk of life with the excuse that they are not "good security risks." Since the President's Executive Order #9835 has been issued, and the Thomas Un-American Committee, as well as the Jack Tenney campaign on the West Coast, besides all the other excuses being used in labor unions to eliminate every progressive and liberal, no one who really believes in this great country's heritage or in the principles of real Christianity is safe any more. Therefore all that will be left, if this keeps up, will be people in power who are not worth the powder to blow them up and who will organize a reign of terror throughout this entire country and the world, backed by the threat of the atomic bomb and Biological Warfare, never known before in the history of the world.

That is my sole reason for having kept up this fight against such frightful prospects as now confront this country with all her power of destruction and all the speeches being made by persons well known in the Government and our Foreign Policy, as well as the Military, who are spreading frightful tales of terror, in order to put over the U.M.T. program.

I have lived in New York all my life in the middle of New York politics, and never did I even imagine that people in this country, Catholics or non-Catholics, did not openly talk of, and know, that the Vatican is a political State. My family was so lacking in any sense of religious, racial or color prejudice that such matters were never even discussed and when political issues came up I talked quite openly with Catholics as well as non-Catholics about politics connected with the Vatican, with no feeling of embarrassment or resentment on the part of the people with whom I talked. But for the first time in my entire life I have suddenly become conscious that religion is being used as a political weapon in this country by the Administration, as well as the State Department, just because it happens to fit in with their National, as well as Foreign, Policy. Millions and millions of people in this country are equally as disturbed at the thought that religion should creep in to our Constitution, which is so strong in its complete separation of Church and State.

My own ancestors, the Muhlenbergs, came to this country and founded the first three Lutheran churches in Pennsylvania, and later, in the time of our Revolution, my great great uncle, who was the first Speaker of the Continental Congress, had a brother who founded the Church of the Holy Communion, as well as St. Luke's Hospital in New York. He was one of the outstanding representatives of the liberal Episcopal Church. Therefore I am not totally a heathen, but the feeling among the American people today against our alliance with the Vatican is becoming a serious matter, and were it just a matter of bigots and heretics, etc., I personally would not pay any attention to it, but we are using this in a disgraceful issue in our foreign policy towards Yugoslavia and the Balkan countries whose people have suffered for centuries under the domination of the Feudal System of the Roman Church.

I am well aware that you are a member of the Catholic Church and there are many people, and many members of that church, who are wonderful Christians who are always listed as "Communists," these days, and I think they should be proud of the label because no one can escape it who has any thought of his fellow man.

If we want to become a real leader in world affairs and have any nation trust us, we must go back to what this nation was founded upon. Therefore I quote from a wonderful article in Harper's Magazine by Professor Commager, the following: "We are a rebellious nation," said Theodore Parker, known in his day as the Great American Preacher, and went on: "Our whole history is treason; our blood was attainted before we were born; our creeds are infidelity to the mother church; our constitution, treason to our fatherland. What of that? Though all the governors in the world bid us commit treason against man, and set the example, let us never submit."

Just so this won't be too serious a letter I would like to relate a little incident: A very charming old gentleman in his eighties, who had travelled the world over and is an American citizen of Scandinavian descent, and who lives in Altedena, California, near Pasadena, (both very conservative localities) has had his tombstone made ahead of time in Mount View Cemetery, Altedena, and on it he has inscribed the following - "Moved from the Capitalistic, anti-Christian System into Eternal Peace."

He is a world citizen just the same as all of us must be if we expect to survive. Maybe this little inscription of his might be a sign post for some of those in Washington today who are trying to force us and the entire world into a state of madness and dictatorship such as has never been

known before. Unless the Administration and many others in this country change their ways and look into their conscience, I am afraid that millions more will erect the same kind of tombstones in the cemetery with pleasure and pray that they may get there as soon as possible.

With kindest wishes to you and hoping that with your youth and energy that you can persuade some of these persons in power to change their Un-American ways against all of us and the entire world before there is no peace but in the graveyard.

Cordially yours,

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 15, 1947

Dear Senator Brewster:

I meant to wire you when I originally saw your statement to the effect that Communists had started the New England forest fires and had sabotaged an airliner. I would suppose now that the eclipse of the sun will be blamed, by you, upon the Communists or Russia.

The low political mentality shown in Washington today is a disgrace to the whole American people and if it continues you, and all others like you such as J. Parnell Thomas, and even the President with his Executive Order #9835, and the framing of witnesses on trumped up charges by the Justice Department, will bring a total eclipse over all the American people and this great nation as a leader in world affairs. The peoples of the world will not stand for this forever and we will be most hated, as indeed we are already the most hated nation on earth.

All this "Red" hysteria and this war-mongering to wipe the Soviet Union off the face of the map is bringing upon innocent Americans the justified hate of millions upon millions of exploited peoples the world over, where economic and social reforms are many hundreds of years overdue. Anyone who was really proud of the America which made us great, is ashamed these days ~~that~~ every one of you who go in for this kind of hysteria and libelous accusation against anything and anyone who will not bow to your dictum,

God help this country. There will be no peace but the peace of the graveyard left if people like you, and all the others in Washington and elsewhere, keep up this persistent persecution of innocent people around the world, as well as disgracing all that stands for our American heritage. You did it before in the Pearl Harbor Inquiry and I wrote you then that all you wanted to do in that Inquiry was to spend the taxpayers money

to call Franklin Roosevelt a traitor. Therefore anyone who even believed in many of the things which he did for this country is marked for persecution, insults, and eventual liquidation if possible, by those politicians who think they have the great American people with an iron collar around their necks.

Just remember that the American people once fought a revolution against just such tyranny and they will not stand this continuous persecution much longer.

Cordially yours,

From PM

November 10, 1947.

Official U. S. Paper Spreads
Fake Red Rumor

Two days after the **WILD RUMORS OF BLABBERMOUTHS** hit the headlines, many American papers featured in the official newspaper of the American Military Government in Hamburg **TILT JITTERY WORLD TOWARD WAR** history described at length the alleged kidnap attempt by Soviet Agents in Germany against Dr. Werner By Albert Deutsch. What a Nation of gossip-mongers we've become! Rumors are flying. Our Congress is being turned into an Assembly of Irresponsibles, where tattle and gibble-gabble are accorded the same weight as truth and common sense. As the President's Committee on Civil Rights expressed it more elegantly the other day, we've got a bad case of the heebie-jeebies. We jump like mad, as though the earth beneath us were shaking, every time Stalin sneezes, and we - the world's most powerful people, see world-wide conflagrations every time the Man in the Kremlin lights his pipe. Nobody asks for credentials any more. Practically every crackpot and rumor-monger is assured a national audience if he only sees red hard enough.

Recently Rep. Marion T. Bennett, a Missouri Republican, declared, upon returning from a European tour, that Reds had been involved in 63 cases of "armed aggression" against American troops in the Trieste area, resulting in "the death or wounding of many American soldiers." "In Europe," the hysterical Congressman told the press, "they call it a 'cold war'. It is war, and how soon, or if it will, engulf the world no man outside the Kremlin can say." Dr. A. H. Leighton, in his recent book, Rumor Travels Quicker Than Rebuttal

The United States Army promptly denied the Congressman's fantastic tale. Not, however, before the rumor got screaming headlines in the Nation's press, such as this one: "Reds Wage War on American Troops, Inflicting Many Casualties." The Army's official repudiation got hidden in obscure corners of many papers which had front-paged the wild rumor.

The very same day (Oct. 27) U. S. Senator Owen Brewster, Maine Republican, solemnly announced his belief in Washington that Communists (and not the dry spell) had started the forest fires then raging in New England, and that Red sabotage had been responsible for the crash of the airliner in Utah that had killed 52 passengers and crew members.

"It seems very extraordinary - most inexplicable," observed the sage of Maine. "We know with the ideological war now being waged that tactics like that are to be expected."

Official U. S. Paper Spreads
Fake Red Rumor

Two days after the Congressional rumor-mongers hit the headlines, many American papers front-paged a sensational story featured in the official newspaper of the American Military Government in Hamburg, Germany. The story described at length the alleged kidnap attempt by Soviet Agents in Germany against Dr. Werner Heisenberg, the famous German physicist and Nobel prize winner, linking the attempt to "atom bomb" secrets. These agents, according to the AMG story, tried to spirit the Heisenberg out of the British zone into the Soviet-controlled zone. Dr. Heisenberg the next day, safe and sound at Goettingen in the British zone, denied the whole report as fantastic nonsense - but his repudiation got only a modest paragraph or two on inside pages.

At this time of "near-hysteria," when irresponsible blabbermouths in high places tip the delicate balance between war and peace, between destruction and survival, it might be well for all of us to recall the wise observation of Teddy Roosevelt:

"A loose tongue is just as unfortunate for a Nation as for an individual."

Professor Gordon W. Allport and Leo Postman of the Harvard University faculty, in their revealing newly-published book, THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RUMOR (Henry Holt, N.Y. \$3.50) cite a number of instances where inflammatory rumors served as the sparks setting off powder kegs resulting in fatal riots on a community scale. The same thing extended on a global scale, can bring about a war in a jittery world.

Dr. A. H. Leighton, in his recent book, THE GOVERNING OF MEN, makes a point which, it seems to me, has peculiar relevance to our time:

"Psychiatrists observing patients who are emotionally unwell have long known that when they go into a state of panic they misinterpret ordinary events as horrible threats, The whistle of a distant train becomes a death scream, or two people seen talking together are instantly assumed to be plotting.

"More than this, it has been seen that patients in a panic can become hallucinated and see people coming to attack them who are not there at all, or may smell smoke and gas where none exists. It is more than probable that this happens to otherwise normal individuals when in a state of intense fear"

To All Government Department Heads

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
November 15, 1947

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

The enclosed copies of newspaper articles are examples of just how far the National and Foreign Policy of the Administration and Congress is going, when such acts as are explained in the enclosures can happen without any protection to people in their own homes in this country.

We read, day after day, in the papers, pious statements from the White House about protecting people's Civil Rights through Committees (although I'll bet anything they do nothing but recommend), and we see photographs of Attorney General Clark with the Committee on Civil Rights, and are told with great assurance that everybody can still disagree in America and how different we are to every other land in the world. It has become nation-wide knowledge that the persecution and rioting against every person in this country who does not agree with the Truman Doctrine and the Foreign Policy of the Administration and Congress, has made it impossible for anyone to be safe a moment from dismissal from their jobs, and threats by so-called "investigators" that any business men who subscribe to any liberal cause or liberal commentator will not receive the necessities to carry on their business.

At meetings held by any organization such as the PCA, or any liberal group, strange uninvited photographers enter the meeting and photograph the entire audience - no reason given. In these same meetings hecklers are stationed by the vigilantes of the American Legion, Ku Klux Klan, etc. type, to insult the speakers and cause a commotion. If one attends a picture made in U.S.S.R., the license numbers of the cars of everyone attending are taken by some "investigators" either from the F.B.I. or some secret society of so-called "Security Police." Such is America today.

At the same time anyone of any intelligence or knowledge of International Affairs or Diplomacy and who has travelled in foreign lands is completely aware that our American Military Government, as well as our embassies, in every country, are conniving with collaborators and gangsters and those discredited in their countries for their quisling actions during the war against the Nazis. In the United Nations it is an open secret to everybody who has any information that our delegation is ruling the General Assembly and every nation it can possibly handle by giving them orders how to vote because such nations have come under our economic imperialist control, or are expecting loans from us to save their supposed "democracy" from Communism. The hand of every American is dripping with the blood of martyrs who have been murdered and executed by the governments to which we are giving material supplies and moral support.

The things that are being sponsored in Washington and in foreign lands by those who make our National and Foreign Policy today are the introduction into this country of the exact replica of Hitler Germany. It is a horrible thought and those who are helping it in every way in Washington should ponder long and hurry to wake up.

Cordially yours,

FROM Los Angeles Daily News
November 15th, 1947

ACTION DEMANDED AGAINST LEGION-HATED
CLUB RAIDERS

Thirty-five members of the Crescenta-Canada Democratic Club today asked that charges of "conspiracy for the purpose of intimidation" be lodged against a group of men, wearing American Legion hats, who broke up a club meeting last night.

At a hearing in the Montrose sheriff's substation, the club members demanded "immediate investigation" of the raiders, who, they said, seized the speaker's chair at the meeting last night and ordered the assembly to disperse within ten minutes.

Hugh Hardyman, spokesman for the group and host at whose house the political rally was held, asked Capt. William Deal of the Sheriff's Office that "conspiracy" charges be leveled against the men, none of whom have been identified as yet.

Witnesses said the mysterious visitors wore American Legion hats bearing the inscription "Glendale Post 127."

Deal promised the protesting club members a full investigation and turned the matter over to the detective bureau.

From his questioning of witnesses, it was indicated he might seek charges of "carrying a concealed weapon" against at least one of the unidentified raiders.

Meanwhile, Commander Orville Collins of Glendale Post 127 issued this statement:

"It is my understanding that individual members of the American Legion, acting independently, attended an open meeting of the Crescenta-Canada Democratic Club.

"Although it is common knowledge that the American Legion is strongly anti-Communist, direct action of this type was not authorized by post officials."

Host Hardyman told Captain Deal the men filed into his house with military exactness, a leader stepped forward and read the edict ordering the break-up. He addressed the meeting as:

"Progressive Citizens of America."

Obviously, it was a case of mistaken identity, said host Hugh Hardyman, in whose home the Democrats were meeting at 2307 El Moreno St., La Crescenta. Hardyman said his organization is a club duly chartered by the Los Angeles County Central Committee.

Two carloads of deputies from the sheriff's substation sped to the scene, but no arrests were reported. Deputies ordered latecomers in Legion hats to "break up and go home."

Don Carpenter, editor of the Montrose Ledger, who was covering the meeting, said "15 or 20 of these men suddenly came in the door as the secretary was reading the minutes of the last meeting.

"It was just like the gestapo. The leader read some sort of edict that they knew what this outfit was, had scouted the meetings, checked backgrounds and would give us 10 minutes in which to disperse or they'd take matters in their own hands."

Carpenter said the men "looked about evenly divided between World War I and World War II vets - maybe more younger ones.

"Two of the men produced news cameras and methodically began shooting pictures of our audience."

But when Carpenter produced his own news camera to mug the leader of the men, a burly marcher threw his hands in front of the lens, the editor said.

J. W. Renner, 3630 Glenwood Ave., Verdugo City, said the leader identified his party as "members of the Americanism committee" of the Legion Post.

"In view of the threatened violence," he said, "I took my wife home. But I feel it was a definite threat to democratic principles."

Two women testified one of the troopers flashed a revolver. "Something hard in the man's rear pocket hit me on the arm as he pushed through," said May Hegland, 1017 Cordova St., Glendale. "I said 'Oh! He's carrying a gun,'" Miss Hegland recounted. "He flipped up his coattail and exposed a big, black revolver," said Miss Hegland. Maria M. Harian, 1290 Marion Dr., Glendale, sitting beside the other woman, said she also had seen the gun.

When the leader addressed the group as members of the PCA, Hardyman leaped to his feet to explain the mistake.

"But a short, unshaven individual grabbed him, spun him around, pushed him against the wall and told him to shut up," said Maruice Lesseman, 2342 Panorama Dr., La Crescenta.

L. A. Daily News

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Hardyman said after he had interrupted to try to tell "those blackshirts' leader" that they had made a mistake, he invited the men to stay and hear the speaker.

"But the leader kept repeating so all his men could hear, 'We will operate according to plan.' "

None of the audience at the meeting was able to identify any of the invaders. At least three of the persons in attendance volunteered that they, themselves, were American Legionnaires, but failed to recognize the intruders.

With the two deputies on guard, the meeting was resumed as the group listened to a report on "The Cominform and the Marshall Plan" by David Leff, former UNRRA official for two years in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

* * *

from LOS ANGELES TIMES
November 15, 1947

GROUP INTERRUPTS TALK AT CLUB
ON COMINFORM

Men Wearing Legion Caps March Into Home As
U.N.R.R.A. Ex-Aide Is About To Speak

A meeting of the Crescenta-Canada Democratic Club being addressed by David Leff, former U.N.R.R.A. information officer, on "The Cominform and the Marshall Plan" at a La Crescenta home was interrupted last night by a group of about 20 men wearing American Legion caps, Hugh Hardyman, host to the club, told Montrose substation Sheriff's deputies.

Hardyman, the club's program chairman, said that the group arrived just as Leff, who served as information officer in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, from April 1945, until last July, was about to be introduced.

Explains Status

The group marched into the living room of his home at 2307 El Moreno St., mingled with the 35 to 40 persons present, then faced the center of the room where a spokesman for the group addressed those present.

"Members of Progressive Citizens of America—" the group's speaker began, Hardyman said, adding he interrupted to explain it was a Democratic club, not a P.C.A. Meeting.

The speaker continued by introducing the visitors as World War I and II veterans, members of the Americanization Committee for Community Betterment and saying that the committee had learned of other meetings of the club, according to one of those present.

The speaker, Sheriff's deputies were told, advised those attending the meeting to disband and go to their homes and "thank God you live in the United States," adding that this was a final warning.

Two men with cameras with the group wearing Legion caps photographed most of those present at the meeting, Hardyman said. He said the group left after the spokesman finished his statement.

Sheriff's deputies reported several men wearing Legion caps were on the lawn of the house but left when two carloads of

deputies arrived after receiving a telephone call reporting a disturbance.

The meeting was resumed and Leff made his address.

Hardyman said Leff spoke on Yugoslavians' and Greeks' efforts for rehabilitation.

* * *

Telegram as sent to Walter Winchell on Oct. 21, 1947

Walter Winchell
American Broadcasting Company
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York 20, N. Y.

I might remind you that on your last trip to the West Coast in aid of the Damon Runyon Fund I favorably compared your efforts to the humanitarian works of our great President Franklin Roosevelt, whom we both admired so immensely. I am glad that the President is not around now to hear the cruel and vicious statements you have been making on your broadcasts, and that he does not have to hear your rantings against a former great ally. If the minds of the American people enjoy such irresponsible statements as you make against Russia, I can only say that our country is definitely lost for any future greatness as a leader in world affairs. We hear constantly about atheists and Reds these days, but I would like to point out that if your present broadcasts are a sample of Christianity then Christianity is doomed and we had all better try atheism. As a non-Russian I resent your comparison of Joseph Stalin with Hitler, Dillinger, and Capone and millions of other non-Russians the world over will resent your comparison as much as I do. Your supposed former enemy Goebbels must have willed his script to you when he poisoned himself. In my condemnation of your actions I speak for millions of Americans and world citizens who dare not speak out for themselves due to economic insecurity and fear of losing their jobs which are essential in order that their families may be maintained. With my full consent please show this telegram to your friend J. Edgar Hoover, who I am quite sure will deplore what you have been saying just as much as I do.

Hina C. Dexter.

Telegram as published by Walter Winchell, October 29, 1947

"LOVE TELEGRAM: "I might remind you that I favorably compared your effort via the Runyon Fund to the humanitarian work of our great President FDR. I am glad that FDR is not around now to hear your cruel and vicious statements about Russia. As a non-Russian I resent your comparison of Stalin with Hitler, Dillinger and Capone. Millions of other non-Russians

30 HOCKEY ST
AMERICAN CITY
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN
MAY 19 1941

will resent it as much as I do. Goebbels must have willed you his script. - Nina C. Dexter."

"How you must have winced, Madam, when Moscow recently insulted our President - by comparing him with Adolf Schickelgruber."

* * * *

You will note how the changing of the wording in the printing of the telegram is deliberate in a purpose to make me appear sympathetic toward Russia, but not toward this country. Such has never been my stand. I am simply sorry for this country and ashamed of us. We are being hurt far more than the Soviet Union by our present Foreign Policy in all countries, as well as by our reign of terror here at home. Winchell deliberately takes away the main point, that I am a world citizen, like many millions of others, and that will be the only road to peace.

Statement by Nina C. Dexter

Mass Rally of Independent Progressive Party

Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles, California

December 17, 1947

We are gathered here tonight because not only over this great country of ours, but over the entire world, hangs a pall of fear as to what will happen in America in 1948. Let us, the American people, who believe in our great American heritage, and who fought a Revolution in 1776 in order that we might have the right to be free, remain free - and by so doing hold out our helping hand of understanding to all peoples everywhere who are praying for nothing more than economic and social improvement; the brotherhood of man; and peace on earth in our time. We, in America, must realize that we hold the keys of life and death in our hands. We, in America, should hear the call now for it sounds unmistakable over five Continents of the World. Never has it been so urgent for us to listen. Never has our power to understand what we hear been fraught with consequences so momentous.

There are many great men today who put the nation and the welfare of the peoples of the world before politics, but their voice and power to represent us has been entirely crushed by the dictates of the politicians, monopolists, militarists and munition makers, who have taken over the Government of the United States.

We, the people of America, want no more suppression of Civil Liberties; Loyalty Tests and Thought Control. We want our Government back and the people we want to represent us are the great Democrats and Republicans who think in terms as do Senator Taylor, Senator Pepper, Senator Kilgore, Senator Aiken, Senator Tobey, Senator Wayne Morse, and many other Democratic and Republican Senators and Congressmen, who put this nation before politics.

It is in that spirit that all of us tonight ought to approach the grave problems of this hour. Our National Independence has been threatened twice, and both in 1861 and 1941, Fate gave us leaders who commanded the veneration of the whole world. Today, in America, we are facing one of the supreme turning points in history.

One man, in particular, has been fighting courageously for the people of this country and for the peoples of the

entire world, so that we will not have further inflation, followed by Depression, and then a Third World War. That man is Henry Wallace. Let us, the American people, show Henry Wallace that we also believe in what he wants for this world - and show ourselves to be strong enough and courageous enough in labor, business, and among the farmers of this great country, so that Henry Wallace might be willing to head an Independent Progressive Party for which those who put the nation and the world before politics can vote, no matter to what party they may belong.

NIGHT LETTER - December 30th, 1947

Henry A. Wallace
c/o New Republic
40 East 49th Street
New York, N. Y.

It seemed last night as though a new star of hope had been born in the heavens as your courageous selfless call sounded through the black clouds of hate, fear, greed and war which have lain low over our great land since the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt. You and all those who love and believe in our true American heritage of the common man between all races, colors and creeds must be prepared to be called all manner of names. Our American heritage has withstood that persecution before since the time of Thomas Jefferson and we can do it again and we the people can answer them as did Patrick Henry when he said, "We have petitioned and our petitions have been denied; we have entreated and our entreaties have been scorned; we petition no more, we entreat no more we defy" and if necessary we can say as he did "Give me Liberty or give me death." You have my whole hearted support and my deepest admiration and affection for all that you are doing to bring about the brotherhood of man and peace on earth.

Mina C. Dexter
5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California

THE GAZETTE AND DAILY
YORK, PA.
December 27th, 1947

FACT AND FANCY

THE MAN who might have been President today stood on the floor of the Democratic National Convention in 1944 when the going got tough, and he told all the assembled delegates exactly where he stood. That was regarded as a very impolitic thing to do just before the assembled delegates were about to begin voting on candidates for the vice-presidency.

Nevertheless, the convention swung in his favor and Henry Wallace, had not Chairman Sam Jackson recessed the convention, would have been nominated as vice-president and he would have been the occupant of the White House today.

THAT WAS an occasion when lesser men and outright politicians would have taken a walk. They would have carried to their grave the bitter fact that they were tricked out of the highest office in the land next to the Presidency.

But Henry Wallace didn't walk. He stayed right on and put up a whirlwind campaign for the re-election of President Roosevelt.

There is no doubt about the fact that Henry Wallace felt the President had let him down, but Henry Wallace was less concerned about that than he was about the fact that the real issue at stake was the choice of a leader to see us through the difficult years. He gave the best that he had to keep the leadership which he was sure was better than any Governor Dewey could provide.

I DON'T BELIEVE it is possible to appraise the Henry Wallace of today without reference to the Henry Wallace of 1944. I don't believe it is possible to appraise him without reference to the events which have intervened since 1944.

The real myth (and not a pleasant one) of Henry Wallace had its start at that 1944 convention. Behind him were eight years as Secretary of Agriculture, years of solid achievement, and four as the hardest working, most widely known, internationally respected vice-president in our history. Behind him also was the convention in which he was jockeyed out of position. The man, in spite of all the efforts to smear him as a muddle-headed dreamer, was at the peak of his influence. He could not be destroyed then for the reason that the policies which he had helped to formulate were the policies of the Administration, and they were carrying us through a desperate period in our history with great credit to the Roosevelt Administration.

THE ADVENT OF TRUMAN changed all that. The New Dealers who helped formulate policy for the Roosevelt Administration began an exodus from Washington, with a lot of encouragement from Truman. Policies changed as new men took over. The military, which Roosevelt had been able to use within the sphere of their capacities, began to use Truman. The days when the President fought his legislation

through Congress were over and the new President sent his milk-and-water measures to Congress and then took what Congress was willing to give. This may have established better relations with Congress, but it didn't get better legislation out of Congress.

WALLACE was almost the last of the New Dealers to depart. He left on a note that President Truman will never be able to forgive him for. Wallace had taken Truman at his word. Truman welched on his word. Because of Wallace, Truman had to make a decision between integrity and expediency and he chose the latter.

WALLACE could be heckled and bedevilled because the Administration of which he was a part was violating every principle for which Wallace stood. The peace was being bungled; our diplomacy had more of the air of duplicity; and on the home front the civil liberties of our citizens were being breached with official sanction.

Since Wallace was moving against the current of events, since he was advocating honoring the traditions of America at a time when those traditions were being officially dishonored, he could easily be cast in the role of pariah, and those who had spent many years of futile effort trying to destroy him were not slow to follow up their opportunity.

IN THE PRESS of the United States today, no man is more misrepresented than Henry Wallace. His consistency in following American ideals is put down as capriciousness and even disloyalty. His clarity in presenting the real issues against a background of confusion is maddening to the confusers. His insistence on taking the steps necessary to stabilize the world economy is infuriating to those who think they still can win on the last throw of the dice.

ON MONDAY WALLACE will make a statement of his position for 1948. I don't know what that position will be. I may be in entire disagreement with him on that position. But the man is running true to form in making his position known, not at the period of greatest advantage for a political trade, but at a time when the opinion of the electorate has not yet been crystallized.

Does it seem unusual to you that a leading American figure should still have a sense of honor and high public duty?

H. E. SHARKEY

This is only one of hundreds of thousands of cases among teachers, and people in every walk of life, who are being quietly disposed of by our new police state methods which have arisen on the ruins of our great democracy.

The GAZETTE AND DAILY, York, Pa., is owned by J. W. Gitt, a man of wealth, who because of this, is publishing probably the only really free progressive paper left.

Editorial
THE GAZETTE AND DAILY
YORK, PA.
December 22nd, 1947

WHERE THE WITCH HUNT LEADS

This is the story of Heinz Norden. It demonstrates the course of the current witch hunt in the United States.

Heinz Norden, in the late 1930's interested himself in slum clearance. His work in this connection won praise from such other leaders in this field as Senator Robert F. Wagner, William H. Davis and Gerard W. Swope.

Although he was 35, Norden enlisted in the army the day after Pearl Harbor, giving up his career to do so. Six months later he was an officer in the Army. During the years of his service he rose to the rank of major. All along the way up, he was dogged with charges that he was a Communist. Every time he came up for promotion, he was investigated. In every instance he was completely cleared. Never during his army career was he confronted with evidence against his loyalty.

On March 13, 1945, Major General John H. Hester wrote to Norden:

"Taking into consideration all phases of the above-mentioned (FBI) files, all records of your service in the Army of the United States, your diligence of application to all assigned tasks, your demonstrated excellence of performance and your repeated requests for more active service, all indicate that there can be no question as to your loyalty to the United States. Concrete evidence of this lies in the fact that you have been twice promoted in rank upon the recommendation of this headquarters."

After service in three theaters, Norden, just before he was eligible for discharge, volunteered for duty in Europe. Again, at his own insistence, he sought to clarify any doubt about his record. In Washington he was told to forget the old charges. He went to Germany and was assigned to counter-intelligence. Then he was sought out by Military Government for a special task and was assigned to it. His work in that capacity won high praise from the State Department and from General Clay.

Early in 1947, at the outbreak of the loyalty purge, Norden was again investigated. Congressman Dondero, under the protection of Congressional immunity, dug up the old bones of the previous charges and charged Norden with aligning himself with the Communists.

Norden was cleared by the loyalty board. But subsequent to Dondero's charges, Norden was advised by Military Government that his contract for service wouldn't be renewed. Yet General Clay wrote:

"These alleged sympathies have been investigated by a loyalty board under prescribed procedures, and the findings of the board do not sustain such a charge. I am very glad to state that your work with us in editing the magazine "Heute" has been of high quality and has contributed materially to the accomplishment of our broad objective in Germany to re-orient its people to a more democratic way of thinking."

Nevertheless, Heinz Norden has been separated from a job which he filled with honor. Heinz Norden, American citizen, cannot work for the country which he served with distinction in time of war. Heinz Norden, patriot, must pay for a Congressman's irresponsible remarks and the hysteria of the times.

Is that your idea of what constitutes Americanism? Or is it witch-burning?

(Attorney General Tom Clark
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

5035 Louise Avenue
Encino, California
December 30, 1947

Dear Mr. Clark;

In your letter to me of December 3rd you say that you appreciate my interest in the activities of the American Legion leading to the establishment of "Storm Troopers" in this country. Press releases indicate that you are setting up a new unit to prosecute all violations of civil liberties. I think it would be an excellent gesture if you would commence by declaring that you have re-considered the matter of attempting to classify organizations into subversive and non-subversive. In the final analysis it is purely a matter of personal opinion, and to use such an obtuse word as "subversive," which has never been defined, does not simplify, but rather complicates the task,

I recently signed a petition to have Congress disband the Thomas Rankin Committee. The petition was circulated by the Civil Rights Congress. I have probably thereby become tarred with the same brush that you have smeared over the Civil Rights Congress. I still believe that we have the inherent right to petition our Government for redress of our grievances against it, and I will continue to believe so no matter what government official may declare such activities to be subversive. It is difficult to see how you can sponsor the Freedom Train and at the same time arrogate to yourself the power to declare what Americans shall think on pain of being persecuted and denied the right to continue in the employ of the Government. Do you think it is time to set up a new Bill of Rights which is only for the enjoyment of those whose opinions favor the party in power? Not even the Communists have proposed anything so repugnant to our free institutions,

From the attitude of some high officials in Washington, it would appear that they took the oath of office with mental reservations that they would only support certain parts of the Constitution. Instead of meekly joining in the witch hunt for suspected Communists, why do you not go all out

for enforcement and support of civil liberties, and tell the people they are free to think as they please without fear of being secretly investigated by the F.B.I., without fear of Congressional subpoena, and without fear of coercion by any arm of the Government?

The people of this country should look to the office of the Attorney General as the citadel of freedom. That office should be above reproach, especially in the matter of yielding to pressure groups who would mold the law into an instrument to exploit the needy for the benefit of the greedy. It is but a short step from the branding of organizations as disloyal and the principle of conviction by association to the establishment of "Yah Ballots,"

I have never thought that our Government was resting upon such precarious footing that it would crumble if anyone was permitted to criticize it out loud. I do not believe that you entertain such a ridiculous thought, but that is the plain implication of the present program of the State Department in attempting to discharge as disloyal all persons who belong to organizations presently in popular disfavor.

I cannot conceive of the office of the Attorney General lending its support to any person or group of persons who advocate conviction by association. I still have hopes that you will carefully and thoroughly review all of the implications of attempting to classify organizations and that you will believe that such action is a plain violation of civil liberties.

After Henry Wallace came out as an Independent candidate for President, would you wake up to the fact that had the White House and the Justice Department and the State Department and all other Government Agencies not betrayed the people of the United States ever since the death of Franklin Roosevelt, we who are now ready to support Henry Wallace no matter whether it does split the Democratic Party, would still be in your Party no matter whether we had been Democrats, Independents or Liberal Republicans, all of whom voted for Franklin Roosevelt four times. The easy thing now for you to say is that all who follow Henry Wallace are "Communists,"

"Fellow Travellers" or "Subversives," but just don't be too sure of your power, Mr. Attorney General. The American people are not so easy to make goose-step behind a dictatorship as were those in Germany, and I am quite sure that those of us whose immigrant ancestors freed this country from another tyranny and who are now going to follow Henry Wallace to free it from the tyranny in the Justice Department and the White House and in all of Washington which is spreading over the entire country, are the real Americans who stand up straight and courageously and defy the present Administration of the Government of the United States who dares to tell them what to think, and who believe that by smearing them with all kinds of subversive names and threats of deportation to Russia, will not be frightened off so easily. They intend to stay right here and they are not interested in going to Russia and they do not care any more what you say.

As I have said before, we now stand by the creed of Patrick Henry when he so rightfully said; "We have petitioned and our petitions have been denied; we have entreated and our entreaties have been scorned; we petition no more, we entreat no more, We defy." If we must go further, we will also say "Give me Liberty or give me Death."

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Elliott Dexter

PAGES ONE AND TWO OF THIS DOCUMENT WERE NOT PRESENT WHEN
THIS FILE WAS EXAMINED.

RHP, 4-20-89

attacks the Soviet Union every time he speaks. It would be wise, Mrs. Roosevelt, if you looked up some of the cases for which the Justice Department and the President are responsible. They are in the thousands and when someone who has your influence and reputation in this country adds to this terrible peril of hate by suggesting that Henry Wallace does a disservice to the country by opposing Military Training "because by passing U.M.T. we will impress the Soviet Union with our power", it is tragic.

In condemning Henry Wallace for doing a disservice to this country and the world by being against U.M.T. do you stop to think of how many millions of organizations of the highest reputations there are opposing it in colleges, in the Farmers Union, in the American Civil Liberties Union, in every church of the nation, and among the great scientists who made the frightful atom bomb. And do you also remember the millions upon millions of mothers who also fear with horror this Peace Time Conscription and the continuous propaganda of every kind coming over the radio encouraging and promising all sorts of benefits to those who will arm themselves and become soldiers, either in the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and even the Police Department Reserves (both men and women), all offering promises of great security if they will take target practice and learn to kill. Can you doubt for one moment that all these organizations and mothers are just as loyal to this country and to the cause of understanding and the brotherhood of man among all nations everywhere as is Henry Wallace, whom you condemn so lightly and so quickly just because his conscience could no longer face the spectacle of the entire American people being thrown to the wolves under a military and capitalist dictatorship, while the politicians who are playing in with this same dictatorship have thrown the American people into a state of confusion and fear never before known in this country.

This statement of mine, about it never having been known in this country before, has been told to me day after day by the most liberal, conscientious, honest people whom I am quite sure the New Deal and all those who stood by it would have been only too proud to have had as their followers.

I think too much of the people of America not to be convinced that if I cast a vote for Harry Truman that I would be committing treason against the great American people and against the suffering people of the world, in both of whom he has not the least interest whatever. I assure you that I have not heard one person up to date who feels any differently, no

Matter how they may vote. In fact many of them may not vote at all if there is only a choice between Truman and a reactionary Republican.

Even the Vatican, with whom we made such a disgraceful alliance totally from a political point of view, is beginning to quake under the fear of what the American Foreign Policy is bringing upon the world. Of course there is no use of you and I shadow-boxing about the Vatican and its centuries of political persecutions, etc., and one cannot be considered to have any prejudice against the Catholic religion just because one criticizes the Vatican. Therefore, after this remark, I am just giving you a few quotes, which you may not have seen, and which show only too well how fearsome they have become about the American Foreign Policy. The dateline of the article from which I quote is "Vatican City, Jan. 24 (UP)" and the quotes are from the official Vatican organ Osservatore Romano:

"If it is true that the Russians do not want war, which is regarded as characteristic of the Communist world in contradistinction to the capitalist, an understanding cannot be excluded in advance," Osservatore Romano said. It said both blocs are based on political and economic needs of the various states, but that they must free themselves of the "threat of war as a cohesive force," otherwise they will reach the point of believing reciprocally in the axiom that "your death is my life."

"When the atom bomb is also in the possession of Russia, will an understanding be less easy?" the organ inquired.

Please understand that in all the things which I have said above, I shall never forget the happy days when I was in Washington and saw you and the family and when I was, and still am, one of the greatest admirers of what Franklin Roosevelt and his Administration did for this country and the world. Despite the fact, Mrs. Roosevelt, that you were his wife it seems strange that millions of people who believed in him in this country and over the entire world are completely convinced that this would never have happened had he lived. I am only one of millions to whom he was the Great President and the great man who would bring peace among us all. We still believe it and we will never believe otherwise no matter what is being said by the Democratic leaders today.

All my kindest wishes to a grand person, and did I not think so much of you I would not take the time, when I am so busy, to write this letter although it may sound very harsh to you.

Most cordially yours always,

Mina C. Dexter

P. S. I am enclosing an article regarding the Uranium supply. Does this not impress you that the Soviet Union had justification in suspecting that the economic leaders of this country wished to control the economy of the world? This same statement was made by Senator George Aiken in a speech, a copy of which he sent me, made at the opening of the last Congress, a year ago in November. So I am not the only one who sees through what is going on in this country and that is why I am so surprised that you, in whom so many believe, should not feel the same way.

From "Harper's Weekly" October 10, 1857

(90 Years Ago)

"It is a gloomy moment in history. Not for many years -- not in the lifetime of most men who read this paper -- has there been so much grave and deep apprehension; never has the future seemed so incalculable as at this time,....

"In France the political caldron seethes and bubbles with uncertainty; Russia hangs, as usual, like a cloud, dark and silent, upon the horizon of Europe; while all the energies, resources and influences of the British Empire are sorely tried, and are yet to be tried more sorely, in coping with the vast and deadly Indian insurrection, and with its disturbed relations in China."