

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #296,
Executive Offices of the White House,
May 19, 1936, 4.07 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT: Fred (Storm)! Where did you go?

Q (Mr. Storm) Down to Jamaica.

THE PRESIDENT: Grand down there?

Q (Mr. Storm) Swell.

THE PRESIDENT: Which side of the island were you on?

Q (Mr. Storm) The south side.

THE PRESIDENT: That is the best side. Swimming?

Q (Mr. Storm) Good. I did not go fishing.

THE PRESIDENT: Otherwise occupied?

Q (Mr. Storm) I got a few Planter's Punches.

THE PRESIDENT: I think we ought to make that sometime.

Q (Mr. Storm) I think we ought to do it, too.

THE PRESIDENT: It is pretty much like Puerto Rico, although the city is not as goodlooking as San Juan. I haven't been there for years. I was there about thirty-two years ago, all over the island.

Q (Mr. Storm) That is the first time I have been there since 1918. I went in on a destroyer, the LITCHFIELD.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the only news is that in the front row, our next trip will be to Jamaica. Fred recommends it highly.

Q (Mr. Storm) Ready to start anytime, Mr. President.

Q Any comment on the Supreme Court decision, on the Coal Act?

THE PRESIDENT: I would not say there is any formal comment. I think you all know the purpose behind the Coal Act. We had a very difficult

situation in a major industry and both the employers and the miners came to an agreement as to the general method of improving the industry as a whole from the point of view of both the owners of the mines and the people who work in the mines, and an honest effort was made on the part of about 85 per cent of the owners and nearly all of the miners to get legislation which would carry this fine objective into effect, and that particular legislation has apparently not succeeded.

The answer is that we have to keep on trying to reach the objectives. As to the decision, it is, I think, probably going to be of very great interest to the people all over the country, all three opinions. It is informative and of educational value and shows, of course, that there remains a division, a difference of current interpretation among various parts of the Federal judiciary. I think that is all that needs to be said.

Q Will you try to reach this objective by this session of Congress?

THE PRESIDENT: I said that is all there was to be said.

Q Any comment on the District Board of Appeals opinion?

THE PRESIDENT: No; I have not read that yet. I do not believe there will be. There are, of course, so many of these lower court decisions. I would be kept too busy if I started to talk about them all.

Q Does the lower court decision stump anything you are doing? Does it make any difference in the Administration --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I think that particular decision only affects that one project.

Q It doesn't affect the Tugwell Towns?

THE PRESIDENT: Not that I know of.

Q Does this Government expect Japan to adhere to the new Naval Treaty?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that is too much of an "if" question. I do not know.

Q Mr. President, has Dr. Morgan resigned yet?

THE PRESIDENT: Has what?

Q Has Dr. Morgan resigned yet?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a silly question.

Q Have you any comment on the Chinese silver agreement?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. I think the accomplishment there has been a very, very fine illustration of what can be done by people getting together and sitting around a table and trying to work things out in a peaceful way to help each other.

This agreement, I think, is going to help China to put into effect a national currency system which, from all that we can gather, is sound and will do a great deal to stabilize their own internal currency problems.

Of course, from our own point of view, it is always a gain to us to have the currency of a great nation, like China, placed on a more stable basis. It means that their purchasing power and selling power both will, through stabilization, increase trade both ways. Besides which they tell us that it is going to help them internally, in their internal domestic trade relations.

The conferences have been very delightful on both sides. I have had the pleasure of meeting the Chinese members over here and I think they are leaving on Thursday with mutual satisfaction on both sides. They told me that the reception of the news of the statement given out in Nanking has been very favorable.

Q Mr. President, are there likely to be any changes in the deficiency relief appropriation provisions as a result of this circuit court decision?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I do not think so. I have not heard anything about it.

Q Have you agreed to withdraw the Ambassador, Caffery, from Cuba?

THE PRESIDENT: That is another one -- what will I call it? -- newspaper report. I called it a silly question before but I should not have said that. It is a newspaper report. I have heard absolutely nothing about it, one way or the other, except what I read in somebody's paper.

Q Do you care to discuss the tax situation on the Hill?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard a word about it the last three days. What are they doing today?

Q They are going to vote tomorrow on the substitute bill.

Q That beautiful basket of flowers (on the President's desk), is that some special event today?

THE PRESIDENT: It was presented to me by the employees of the mail equipment shops of the Post Office Department in appreciation of my approval of Public Bill No. 575 on the seventh of May. It is a lovely thing.

Q What did the bill provide? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Now, really, Fred (Storm). Can't you see from this that it must have helped the employees of the mail equipment office?

Q Haven't you read the bill, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Don't ask me details.

Q Have you seen the compromise Ship Subsidy Bill that has been drafted?

THE PRESIDENT: Not that I heard of. I have not heard a peep on that for over a week.

Q How about the Housing Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. They are approaching the time on that. I think we are very nearly together on that.

Q There is some plan under way to have the R.F.C. take over some of the

P.W.A. bonds they are holding for the municipalities?

THE PRESIDENT: Only the usual sales going on every week.

Q No expansion?

THE PRESIDENT: No, but going along in a perfectly normal way. The market will take only so many a week. They have got rid of about half and have some to go. Of course, in a pinch, under the law, the R.F.C. can defer actual sale of the bonds to the public. They can buy them from the P.W.A. themselves and sell them later. In other words, they can establish an immediate credit before selling the bonds to the public.

Q Anything like that under consideration?

THE PRESIDENT: No. If any large number of projects should come along requiring more funds, we probably will do it.

Q Have you discussed with people on the Hill the resolution extending the term of Coordinator Eastman?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I can tell you the position on that is perfectly clear. I have spoken to the two House and Senate Chairmen and told them there are certain tasks which the Coordinator's Office has been carrying on, which are not complete, and, in my judgment, those tasks, those duties assigned to that office not being complete, they should be carried through to completion. So that is, rather distinctly, a matter for the Congress to determine as to the machinery for carrying them through to completion. I think we want to go ahead with a lot of the work which has been undertaken and not finished. As to the method, it is up to them.

Q Can the Congress complete your program in time to adjourn before the time of the two conventions?

THE PRESIDENT: I do not know who asked that but I should say you are on the wrong end of the Avenue.

Q I was asking about your program?

THE PRESIDENT: You know, I very carefully said only a couple of months ago that there are really only two bills that I have called "must" bills. I have adopted your term of previous years. One was money for relief to carry us over as far as possible next year, and the other is some kind of a tax bill which will reimburse the Government and bring in revenues in replacement of the taxes outlawed. Those were the only two I stressed. There are a lot of other bills which it would be nice if they went through, eight or ten or fifteen of them, but they are not "must" legislation.

Q Mrs. Roosevelt told her young ladies today that you would probably take a trip to Campobello?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Afterwards, some time in the summer. We have July and August, when the weather on the coast of Maine is perfectly fine. If I can get off, I want a little sailing.

Q Any progress being made with respect to the member of the Federal Reserve Board?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there will be. They are getting along pretty well without the seventh wheel for a while. I don't think I will fill that place during this session of the Congress.

Q There is a Federal Judgeship vacant in New York. Any chance of an appointment to that?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope so. Maybe there will be some more.

Q I have heard rumors about that, too.

Q Thank you, Mr. President.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press Conference #297,
Executive Offices of the White House,
May 22, 1936, 10.55 A.M.

Good morning, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning, Fred (Mr. Storm); how are you?

Q (Mr. Storm) Big stuff, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Too much of a boost for a paper.

Q Did you do a little editing?

THE PRESIDENT: No, because the whole story is all around it.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there is any news. I am going off at midnight tonight and coming back Monday evening, arriving here Tuesday morning.

Q Could you tell us anything about your Texas-Arkansas trip?

THE PRESIDENT: Except that I hope, if Congress adjourns by the sixth of June, to leave on the eighth of June, and if Congress does not adjourn by the sixth of June and decides to take a three-day recess over the week of the eighth, I think I could go to Texas that week, while they are doing their three-day recess, so it looks fairly certain we will start on the eighth of June for Texas.

Q Do you go to San Antonio, Dallas and Houston?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. I think there are certain distances and times.

Q Would that include a stop at the Arkansas Centennial?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. In other words, substantially the same schedule as we had planned the previous week -- Arkansas on the tenth,

Texas on the eleventh, and the twelfth is the date for Dallas and Fort Worth. I would spend the night of the twelfth with my boy, Elliott, at Fort Worth and leave on Saturday, the thirteenth, for Vincennes and be in Vincennes (Indiana) on Sunday the fourteenth. I would get back here the morning of Monday the fifteenth.

Q You are not going to Canada?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Obviously, I cannot if I have to be back here on Monday the fifteenth.

Q Will you go later?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope so, later.

Q Mr. President, I saw Ed Flynn go out a little while ago. Can you tell us anything of your visit with him this morning?

THE PRESIDENT: Just chatted.

Q He expressed the belief that the convention in September in New York State would nominate Governor Lehman in spite of the fact that the Governor said he would not run. Have you any comment to add to that?

THE PRESIDENT: Not on that, but I think I can re-express what I told Steve (Mr. Early) to tell you people a couple of days ago, that I personally hoped very much that Governor Lehman would reconsider because the State needs him.

Q What do you think of the new Guffey Coal Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not read it and I don't know.

Q Would you care to make any comment on the tax plan under consideration by the Senate Finance Committee?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not read that except what I read in the papers this morning.

Q Any chance of the Administration letting the District (of Columbia) down without any appropriation on account of this dispute between the conferees?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Of course it presents a difficult problem. We have to have money to carry on the District Government after the first of July, and the suggestion that a bill can fail completely and that I can continue to run the District Government out of relief funds just does not go. The wording of the Relief Bill certainly does not contemplate running a very large city government of about 600,000 people. I don't think it would even get by the Comptroller (General).

Q It is natural to assume you still stand on your answer that you gave some weeks ago when you said that you favored that contribution of \$5,700,000., inasmuch as it is \$5,000,000. in the Budget Report?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't made any change in the Budget Report.

Q Have you received any request for a further stay in the execution of that British subject?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard anything about it.

MR. MCINTYRE: We sent it to the Attorney General last night. We have nothing from the British Embassy.

Q I did not understand before; is the Canadian trip off?

THE PRESIDENT: It is off for the present. It has to be because I have to be back here on the fifteenth.

Q Have you given any thought to the new Comptroller General?

THE PRESIDENT: Not yet and I won't for some time.

Q How about the Federal Reserve Board vacancies?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q Anything on Morrison's resignation?

THE PRESIDENT: Not yet.

Q There has been some suggestion that the increase in the tariff on the imports of Japanese cotton runs somewhat counter to the policy of lowering tariff barriers.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it has anything to do with it. They are two totally different subjects. The possibility of lowering tariff barriers by agreement and without substantially hurting any important American industry remains substantially what it was. In this case we have a situation where an important American industry was being hurt in one branch of that industry. We tried to reach an agreement, which was the obvious thing to do first, a gentlemen's agreement to limit the exports to this country in that particular line of goods. We did not get the agreement so we took the only other step, which was to act on the report of the Tariff Commission.

Q If I may be permitted to return to that District problem, is there any likelihood you may use your influence to straighten out matters up there?

THE PRESIDENT: Russell (Mr. Young), it has not come to me yet. Whether it will, we do not know. We have not had a peep down here.

Q Senator Thomas hasn't talked to you about that?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q Mr. President, there was a report this morning that Dr. Townsend had an engagement with you today?

THE PRESIDENT: Steve? Mac?

MR. McINTYRE: He is not on the list --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing and continuing) Charlie (Michelson)?

Fred Botts? No, they all plead complete ignorance. (Laughter)

Q Was the action taken in respect of cotton goods mandatory on you under the Smoot-Hawley Act?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

(Reverting to the previous question) No, don't have it here (on the appointment list). If he does want to see me, I will be very glad to see him, but so far as I know there hasn't been a suggestion.

Q Have you looked at the Flood Bill passed by the Senate?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I did not even know it had passed.

Q You didn't?

THE PRESIDENT: No. (Laughter)

Q This being Maritime Day, will you comment on the so-called Ship Subsidy Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: Has that passed?

Q No.

THE PRESIDENT: I am in the same position. I hope we will get good ship subsidy legislation but I am not taking part in the actual drafting of specific bills.

MR. STORM: Thank you, Mr. President.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press Conference #298,
Executive Offices of the White House,
May 26, 1936, 4.00 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT: I do not think there is a bit of news. I think you know it all.

Q There is a story out that a man named Reynolds is going to succeed Mr. McCarl.

THE PRESIDENT: Reynolds? -- Senator McReynolds? (Laughter) That is a new one on me.

Q Also some talk, Mr. President, that Morris Tremaine is going to succeed him?

THE PRESIDENT: No? Is he your candidate, Fred?

Q (Mr. Storm) No, sir. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I have not done anything about it and I am not going to do anything about it for a long time.

Q Wasn't there a Pennsylvanian mentioned?

THE PRESIDENT: Pinchot? (Laughter)

Q No.

THE PRESIDENT: I will try again. (Laughter)

Q Have you any ideas on the liquidation of Mr. Eastman, the Coordinator?

THE PRESIDENT: Liquidate him? (Laughter)

Q Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: No. I have said all along that I think the work of this Coordinator business should go on. They haven't finished by any means. I told that to the Senatorial chairman ^{and} the House chairmen, that they have done some very valuable work and

the work is not finished. It is entirely up to the Committees to decide.

Q Mr. President, there is an investigation of railroad bankruptcies working in cooperation with Mr. Eastman -- the Senate Interstate Commerce ^[Committee?] Commission. They have a request in for funds and apparently are going to be closed out unless they get those funds. The Interstate Commerce Commission has asked for \$100,000. to finish that investigation.

THE PRESIDENT: That really isn't my business except that in the very beginning I felt it would be a wise thing to have an investigation made so we would have more data on the problem of railroad bankruptcies. I properly could not comment on what they should get. Also they have not finished their work. I do know that.

Q Would you care to tell us about your talk with Mr. Victor Ridder today?

THE PRESIDENT: I will tell you the honest truth, we spoke about an individual and friend of his that he wanted to see if I could do something for him. It was purely a personal matter.

Q One of those is --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) No.

Q Any discussion of a successor?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q Your visit with Ambassador Daniels -- any news in connection with that?

THE PRESIDENT: No. We talked about all sorts of things. He told me one very interesting piece of news which I cannot tell you. Maybe you can get it from him or the State Department. It is a

piece of history that happened down in Mexico very lately. I cannot even give you a hint.

Q Did you discuss with Secretary Hull Leo Sack's comment on the Governor of Maryland?

THE PRESIDENT: You mean the Costa Rica thing? I read it in the paper. I can talk to you off the record on that. It is something that is well worth remembering and it is the sort of thing I can talk to you off the record about.

You know, it is a curious and interesting fact, one that you all know of, that when a Britisher or a Frenchman or a German or an Italian comes to this country, even if they are not in agreement with the existing party in control of their own country, they never run down their own country. That is a very interesting thing about a foreigner. You take a conservative Englishman, when he comes to this country, "Oh, yes; we are getting along all right. I don't agree with the party in power but we are working this thing through all right." And you get the same thing from the Frenchman.

You who have been abroad know the other side of the picture, about Americans of various kinds, the more important American. He talks and he is nearly always running down his own country. It is an American habit we have.

So, on this particular episode of Governor Nice', it is carrying on a normal American habit of going to foreign parts and telling what a rotten place the United States is. (Laughter)

MR. EARLY: The Governor said he had been misquoted.

THE PRESIDENT: The Governor said he had been misquoted. However, I

am talking in general terms and off the record because it is one of those American characteristics that will probably take a good many generations to get over. I suppose we are not old enough to have collected the amount of patriotism that sticks up for your own country in foreign lands.

Q (Mr. Fred Essary) Having discussed my Governor for a moment, would you mind discussing yours? Will you tell us, for guidance or any other purpose, whether Governor Lehman will be a candidate for a third term?

THE PRESIDENT: I am sorry that a few people got off on a limb and said that I would do a certain thing that I have no intention of doing. I hope very much -- and this is just reiteration -- that Governor Lehman will reconsider running when the time comes. And, for the same reason I gave before, that he has been a good Governor of the State of New York.

Q Did you discuss with the Attorney General anything concerning this Black Legion affair in Detroit?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I have not talked to him.

Q Can you comment on that at all?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot because all I have seen is the headlines.

Q Is it true that your trip to Texas is designed to steal the show from the Republican National Convention? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: (laughing) No. I said in the very beginning that it is partly a question of climate -- I cannot say that out loud -- and possibly my hope of going off with the boys a little bit later on for a cruise off the coast of Maine, and if I could not get away by the eighth of June, I would not be able to go away

at all and I would have to go to Texas a little later on in the fall. And I did not think, two weeks ago, that I could get away either the first week in June or the second week in June. Things have got to the point on the Hill where they will adjourn by the end of June or get away for a recess.

Q I wanted to settle that question permanently. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: And also, just another thought about a limb on the tree: I am going to make speeches on the trip, a speech at the Arkansas Centennial and, probably -- I am going to Arkansas because they are having a Centennial -- and I am probably going to speak about the early history of Arkansas. And when I get to Texas, I will go to the battlefield at San Jacinto and go to the Alamo and lay a wreath and then to Dallas for the main Centennial, and I will probably make a speech in Dallas on the history of Texas, and then up to Vincennes, where they are dedicating a Federal monument up there, and I will probably make a speech on the Battle of Vincennes and William Henry Harrison and a few people who are of some great importance in our history, and then probably I will go back to Washington. So, do not get too far out on the limb about this being a political campaign trip. I might doublecross you.

Q Do you plan to make any speech in Kentucky?

THE PRESIDENT: That is possible, either on the way down or back.

That is the thing we tried to do last year but couldn't work it in. It is an overdue visit.

Q Where would you go in Kentucky?

THE PRESIDENT: There are three or four different historical places.

Q The monument at Vincennes is to George Rogers Clark. I think you mentioned him too.

THE PRESIDENT: I think also William Henry Harrison's house is there, too. I think so.

Q Senator Tydings has submitted a resolution to create a commission to study the future status of Puerto Rico?

THE PRESIDENT: Not a thing but what I have read in the headlines. I learned about it first in the Washington Post.

Q Have you any preference whether the Federal Alcohol Administration should be in the Treasury Department or a separate administration?

THE PRESIDENT: I said right along on that that I think it was probably better to have it a separate organization. I do not think it makes a tremendous lot of difference but, on the other hand, I think it is a matter that might be kept as non-partisan as possible and kept out of the ordinary run of administrative things. If a separate administration is justified for anything, it would be in that case.

Q A three-man board?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q There is a report that you have been studying a new Merchant Marine Bill over the week end. Can you comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not even looked at it.

MR. STORM: Thank you, Mr. President.

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #299;
Executive Offices of the White House,
May 29, 1936, 10.55 A.M.

Q Good morning, Mr. President.

Q Your letter was a fine letter and not too academic.

THE PRESIDENT: I am glad of that, especially with you, Fred (Mr. Storm).

Q (Mr. Storm) My language was not academic. I can only be a student
in one school at a time, Mr. President.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I do not think there is any news at all. I am going
to the exercises at Arlington tomorrow at 1.00 o'clock and then
go over to the Naval Academy, get aboard the POTOMAC and see the
Water Pageant in the evening, and drop down the Bay, and go up
the Potomac and get back Sunday evening as usual.

Q There is something in the paper about saying a few words at Ar-
lington?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q What time do you leave for Annapolis?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it ends at 2.00 and I will get away at half
past 2.00.

Q Do you expect to take part in the June Week at Annapolis?

THE PRESIDENT: I do not think I will be able to go over.

Q Did you read Charlie Michelson's ad (the story about Mr. Michelson)
in the Saturday Evening Post?

THE PRESIDENT: No; did you, really?

MR. MICHELSON: Yes, I thought some of the campaign funds might be
spent that way.

Q Mr. President, --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Did he sell anything?

Q It was a very good ad. He could get a job now, any time he wants one.

THE PRESIDENT: He won't be looking for any other job for a while; it is all right. We got him hooked.

Q Since I last saw you, sir, about the District Appropriation Bill being tied up, have you given it any thought?

THE PRESIDENT: No, except what I have seen in the paper.

Q How about appointing an impartial committee to study it? Does that sound good to you?

THE PRESIDENT: You remember two years ago I started the Treasury looking into the tax valuation in the District, and they sent a report which, as I recall it, I sent to the District Committee in both Houses, and that is the last I ever heard of it. So, if they want a separate committee to study it again, it is all right.

Q Do you plan to see the Finance Committee members of the Senate again?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't heard a word.

Q There is a report that this country has indicated its willingness to reopen the British debt question?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard of that either.

Q Would you be willing to continue the District appropriations rather than have them die?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot see how they can die.

Q That is an old stunt up there. Would it be definitely satisfactory, as far as you know?

THE PRESIDENT: It is not satisfactory as an appropriation bill but

it is better than no appropriation bill at all.

Q Have you selected a successor to General McCarl?

THE PRESIDENT: Nothing on that.

Q Mr. President, any comment on the appointment of the Commissioner of Reclamation?

THE PRESIDENT: No, nothing on that. No appointments in sight.

Q Did you read Senator Borah's New Deal speech last night?

THE PRESIDENT: I did not. I started to read it this morning and I haven't gotten through yet.

MR. STORM: Thank you, Mr. President.

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #300,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 2, 1936, 4.10 P.M.

Q Mr. President, do you see any way in which the Passamaquoddy
Project can be continued?

THE PRESIDENT: You will have to ask them on the Hill.

Q In view of the Supreme Court's series of opinions about the New Deal objectives, do you see any way in which those objectives can be reached within the existing framework of the Constitution?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I will have to reframe your question: Have you any comment on the Supreme Court decision?

Q Comment on this decision or on the series of them?

THE PRESIDENT: On this particular decision the only thing I can say is that it will be and is of very great interest to practically everybody in the United States. They should read all three decisions, the decision of Justice Butler, the decision of the Chief Justice, and the decision of Justice Stone, because it is the combination of the three that seems to indicate that at the present time a majority of the Court have made a fact clear. I am, of course, interested in that fact because when I was Governor of New York we did discuss and, just after I left, the Legislature passed this minimum wage law.

It seems to be fairly clear, as a result of this decision and former decisions, using this question of minimum wage as an example, that the "no-man's-land" where no government can function is being more clearly defined. A state cannot do it and the Federal Government cannot do it. I think, from the layman's

point of view, that is the easiest way of putting it and about all we can say on it.

Q How can you meet that situation?

THE PRESIDENT: I think that is about all there is to say on it.

(Laughter)

Q I think there are dangers in the existence of that "no-man's-land."

THE PRESIDENT: I think that is all there is to say about it.

Q Mr. President, there is a report that you will meet the President of Mexico at the border of Texas during your visit down there?

THE PRESIDENT: No, the trip is all set and I don't think I go nearer the border than San Antonio.

Q Mr. President, is any thought being given to lifting the Arms Embargo against Italy and what was Ethiopia?

THE PRESIDENT: I think you will have to ask the State Department about that. It is a difficult problem.

Q Is there any comment you can make on the report that Morris Tremain is going to be appointed Comptroller General in place of McCarl?

THE PRESIDENT: Neither one. I think he is one of thirty or forty names. I haven't done anything about the Comptrollership -- I say this about twice a week -- and I'm not going to for some time.

Q Have you arrived at a decision as to whether that office can be filled without the Comptroller -- as to whether the Assistant Comptroller can be Acting Comptroller?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't looked that up.

Q They say down there that it can be done; at least, the Assistant Comptroller says so. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Steve (Mr. Early), look that up and see what happens.

MR. EARLY: Yes, sir.

Q Do you expect any new developments on the debt situation this month?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't heard of any.

Q I have to ask the Republicans what they think of nominating a Democrat for Vice President. What do you think about that?

THE PRESIDENT: Truly, I should say that that was, as C. F. Murphy would have said, that is up to the Convention.

Q Mr. President, have you an Assistant Secretary of the Navy for us yet?

THE PRESIDENT: No appointments in mind at the present time.

Q That includes the Federal Reserve Board?

THE PRESIDENT: Same thing.

Q Mr. President, in your letter on sugar regulation you recommend graduated payments and suggest that that be studied from the standpoint of a soil conservation program. Can that be put into effect without additional legislation?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't believe it can, but I think it is something that is well worth studying. You see, we have put into effect legislation based on the theory, which is probably a perfectly valid theory, that certain advantages come from size. Of course, that is perfectly obvious. If you write a column for a paper, you won't make nearly so much money out of it as if you can syndicate it. That is the easiest illustration I know. The more papers you get to carry your column, the more profitable it is to you. At the same time, your overhead constantly diminishes with the additional number of papers that you take on up to a

certain point.

Now, we have recognized that theory with respect to corporations, in getting a graduated corporation tax of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent up to 15 per cent. So, in the same way, there isn't much doubt about it that what might be called "consolidated farming" on a large scale does save a certain amount of overhead in comparison with the smaller farmer. On a farm of 1,000 acres, the proportionate overhead is nothing like ten times as great as with a farm of 100 acres. I see no reason why the benefits paid for soil erosion compliance should not be graduated in accordance with the size of the operation.

Q Mr. President, have you any new light on adjournment prospects?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard today. I heard last night that they were making all kinds of bets.

Q What are the odds today?

THE PRESIDENT: Last night it was 50-50.

Q What will Chester Davis' new status be?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, he is still Administrator.

Q Three A?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q There is a statement that he is going to go to Sears Roebuck.

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard anything about it. I learned it first from the papers this morning.

Q Thank you, Mr. President.

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CONFIDENTIAL
Press Conference #301,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 16, 1936, 4.15 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT: Recovered?

Q Yes, sir; a good night's sleep fixed me up.

THE PRESIDENT: The best thing in the world for people's figures are
trips to Texas and Arkansas this time of the year.

Q How much weight did you lose?

THE PRESIDENT: About five pounds. You look thinner yourself. As
for Fred (Mr. Storm), he seems to look almost the way he did in
the Navy.

Q (Mr. Storm) I took off a few pounds, I think.

THE PRESIDENT: You bet you did.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: All in and all quiet. No news.

Q Mr. President, have you any news on the capital gains tax? There
has been a suggestion that you might desire that report.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. I have had so many suggestions.

Q Wall Street rumor?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know what is happening this afternoon.

Q Do you plan to see the tax committee at any time tonight or today?

THE PRESIDENT: No, not unless they want to come down. I have no plans
at all.

Q Sir, what do you think of the Republican platform?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there is any news on that.

Q In it, did you say?

THE PRESIDENT: On it.

Q Mr. President, do you plan to remain here through this week and next week, now?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I think so. Yes, I expect to be here probably until a week from Saturday.

Q Have you your campaign plans mapped out?

THE PRESIDENT: No; haven't thought of it.

Q When will be your first trip?

THE PRESIDENT: Somewhere around the middle of July. If I can't get off then maybe I will make it a little later.

Q How about Hyde Park?

THE PRESIDENT: I may go up to Hyde Park after the Convention and see my mother and then come back.

Q How is she coming along?

THE PRESIDENT: Fine; starting to walk around again.

Q When will you start your campaign? The middle of August?

THE PRESIDENT: Start what? (Laughter) Aren't you premature?

Q Just assuming you are considering it?

THE PRESIDENT: That's an "if" question. Now, the only plan I have got is two dates -- one is to go up to Philadelphia on the 27th and the other is the third and fourth of July to Skyline Drive and Monticello.

Q Where will you spend the night of the third?

THE PRESIDENT: Somewhere down there. I don't know exactly where yet. Charlottesville.

Q University?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know where we are staying that night. Then probably I will get aboard the POTOMAC. I will be in Richmond

the afternoon of the fourth.

Q Is there something in Richmond?

THE PRESIDENT: From Charlottesville to Richmond and get on the POTOMAC and call on some of my friends down the James River.

MR. EARLY: Historical trip.

THE PRESIDENT: What?

MR. EARLY: Historical trip.

THE PRESIDENT: Historical, Steve says.

Q So was the Southwestern trip. (Laughter)

Q Any intention to take part in anything in Richmond or see anything?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think I will have time. I will get right on board and start down. I want to get to Westover and see Crane who was a classmate of mine and go to Upper Brandon and see Edward Byrd who was an old friend of mine and to Lower Brandon and see Bob Daniels.

Q Are you going to Carters Grove, near Yorktown?

THE PRESIDENT: Carters Grove? I think I will probably go on Sunday.

Q (Miss Black) What are you going to Philadelphia on the 27th for?

Q That's another "if" question. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: She beat you to it. (Laughter)

Q We work together.

THE PRESIDENT: She has got me absolutely right on ice. Just for a good time. Just a nice little week-end party.

Q Yes, sir.

Q When will that put you back in Washington? Monday?

THE PRESIDENT: Monday morning.

Q Did this Government exchange views with a foreign government on

possible monetary --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Not that I know of. I haven't heard anything of it except, I suppose, the usual daily conversations that come through from our people on the other side.

Q Can you tell us anything on the foreign debt question now that the fifteenth has passed and all nations except one defaulted?

THE PRESIDENT: I think only what I have said before: We take off our hat to Finland.

MR. STORM: Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Very dull period. The news is all at the other end, on the Hill.

Q I wish they would wind ^{up} there.

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #302,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 19, 1936, 10.40 A.M.

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. You look prosperous this morning.

Q (Miss Black) I am paying my fare to Philadelphia.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there is any news this morning at all.

Can you think of any, Fred (Mr. Storm)?

Q Mr. President, now that Congress is about to go home, is there anything you have to say or would like to say on the program and what they have done, et cetera?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so. They haven't adjourned yet. I am always cautious.

Q Can you tell us anything about the report of your West Coast tour the middle of next month?

THE PRESIDENT: All I have heard of it is what I read in the newspapers.

Q Do you think you will get away tomorrow over the week end?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I think I will stay right here.

Q What is your opinion of the compromise on the District appropriation bill, that part of it which, I think, calls for about \$50,000. to be spent on a survey under your supervision of the fiscal relations -- not the tax but the "fiscal relations"?

THE PRESIDENT: I have always felt there should be some kind of a fiscal survey. We had a survey a year ago but it wasn't very comprehensive. Does the bill provide for it?

Q Yes, sir.

Q You appoint these surveyors and they report back next January.

THE PRESIDENT: All right with me.

Q Do you anticipate a World Court plank in the Democratic platform?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know anything about a platform.

Q Mr. President, for the purposes of this little local story that only a few are interested in, may we quote that "It is all right with me"?

THE PRESIDENT: I would not quote it. You can say it would be entirely satisfactory to the President and also say, probably better than merely a survey, that it would look into the tax problem. It should be all inclusive. It is a very good thing.

Q Is the compromise Tax Bill satisfactory?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't honestly had a chance to read it through.

Q Do you have any plans for rescinding the Neutrality Act?

THE PRESIDENT: You will have to ask the State Department about that.

Q The State Department said to ask you. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think we have got to the public statement phase, either one of us.

Q Do you consider the war as over?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course I cannot talk about the Ethiopian matter on the record, but I can give you a hint, off the record, just for your information.

Our own Neutrality Statute seems to be fairly clear that when the President finds that a state of war exists he shall -- I think it uses the word "shall" -- issue a proclamation.

If you will remember last October -- of course there was no declaration of war -- but almost as soon as there had been a

battle and people were killed, regular troops in action on both sides, we found that a state of war existed. I think we were the first nation to do it.

Now, the converse of that would apply in the case of rescinding a neutrality proclamation and actually it becomes a question of fact, has the conflict stopped? Of course, Abyssinia is somewhat a difficult country about which to establish facts. It is a very large country. The Italian Army have occupied, or the Italian Administration has occupied, about two-thirds of the country but not the other third and it is a little difficult to establish all the facts.

We are working on the question of fact at the present time, and if at any time we believe that a state of war has ceased to exist, obviously a proclamation would issue.

MR. EARLY: Why not let them use that without attribution to you, instead of off the record?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it is all right. You can use that without attribution, without attributing it to me.

Q Have you any idea as to when the facts will be sufficiently well known?

THE PRESIDENT: I should think fairly soon. I don't think the next twenty-four hours or anything like that, but the reports are coming in every day.

Q Do you expect the Housing Bill to pass the House before adjournment?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope so.

MR. YOUNG: Thank you, Mr. President.

Q (Mr. Storm) Kind of tough luck.

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q The Junior Varsity race. Yale won by five lengths.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know why. They should have won by one length.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press Conference #303,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 23, 1936, 4.10 P.M.

Q We have a slim crowd for you today, Mr. President.

Q Just the second-string men. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I would not stand for it for a minute.

MR. EARLY: I pointed out this morning that any news out of here might compete with Philadelphia.

Q We might get some local stuff here today.

THE PRESIDENT: For the benefit of all of you, there is no general news and, for the benefit of Russ (Young), there is no local news.

Q The term of one of the members of the Federal Home Loan Board expires in July and I think he has to be appointed before it is empty. Do you know anything about that?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not had a chance. I think I have a number of terms that expire between now and the first of August. I haven't even my list yet.

Q How about McCarl?

THE PRESIDENT: The same thing.

Q Harry Hopkins had a group in the other day. On their way out they did not talk very much. They said something about studying cooperative enterprises in Europe.

THE PRESIDENT: I was going to release that next week, but I might as well tell you that now. There are three men going abroad: Jacob Baker, Assistant Works Progress Administrator; Leland Olds, who is, I think, the Secretary of the New York State Power Authority, and Charles E. Stuart, of the engineering firm of Stuart, James

and Cooke, of New York.

They are going abroad on the first of July to make a report on cooperative enterprises in certain parts of Europe. They are going to the British Isles, Sweden, Denmark and Finland and, I think, Norway, although it is not down here, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and France. Also, possibly, Hungary.

They are to study the cooperative developments in Europe in relation to cooperative stores, housing, credit, insurance, banking, electrical distribution, cooperative producers, cooperative marketing and, in general, the coordinating of these different kinds of cooperatives with each other and with other forms of conducting the same services, also the relationship of these different governments to these cooperative agencies.

This is a thing you won't want to use but I think it is tremendously interesting and you might perhaps use it as background without attributing it to me. I got a good deal interested in the cooperative development in countries abroad, especially Sweden. A very interesting book came out a couple of months ago on "The Middle Way." I was tremendously interested in what they had done in Scandinavia along those lines. In Sweden, for example, you have a royal family and a socialist government and a capitalistic system, all working happily side by side. Of course, to be sure, it is a smaller country than ours, but they have conducted some very interesting and, so far, very successful experiments. They have these cooperative movements existing happily and successfully alongside of private industry and distribution of

various kinds, both of them making money. I thought it was at least worthy of study from our point of view.

I think this Committee of three will only be gone about two months or two months and a half and it will necessarily be just a hasty survey -- a birdseye view of what has been accomplished over there. It is especially important because in this country, as you may know, there has been a substantial growth of the cooperative movement in various parts of the country among producers, such as farmers, and among middlemen and among consumers.

It is something that has nothing political in it, from a partisan point of view.

Q To whom do they report, to you?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Do you see a way of putting unemployed to work? Is it a move toward putting unemployed to work through cooperatives?

THE PRESIDENT: Only indirectly. In Scandinavia the unemployment situation is not a serious one. They still have their unemployed but, since going on these general methods, the number of unemployed has decreased quite sharply.

Q Isn't the cooperative movement an answer to monopoly rather than unemployment, viewed in that light?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Also succeeded in breaking the trusts over there, that is, as far as price-fixing is concerned?

THE PRESIDENT: That I don't know. Of course the match trust broke of its own weight.

Q Will you provide more funds for Coordinator Eastman to finish his

reports?

THE PRESIDENT: I sent it over to Bell to see if there is any way in which we can provide funds to get those reports out. I understand it is a matter of two or three months of work and he certainly ought to get those reports because they are pretty valuable. Whether we can do it or not, I don't know; it depends on what Bell says.

Q What do you hear from Philadelphia?

THE PRESIDENT: Not a thing.

Q Any possibility of Governor Lehman running again?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not heard a word. I have been signing bills since Saturday and vetoing bills.

Q Have you signed the District Appropriation Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: Wait a minute, I got some fat ones and it may be here. (Examining basket) Here it is. Mr. Bell says, "I recommend approval of the above-mentioned Bill." Do not use this -- "However, at as early a date as may be convenient I wish to discuss with the President the unusual provision for a study of fiscal relations which the Bill contains."

So I think you can say that it will be signed this afternoon.

Q We hear romors from Philadelphia that you had a lot to do with the Convention Platform.

THE PRESIDENT: What? (Laughter)

Q Won't the Patman-Robinson law interfere with any carrying out of cooperative movements in the way of cooperative purchases of, say, fertilizer?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't see it that way. As I remember it, it says that the Federal Trade Commission shall take into consideration the proper discounts due to quantity purchasers. I think there is a very definite clause in there. It is just so long as everybody else gets a chance at the same price on the same quantity. I suggest you read it over. It takes more than -- I cannot use the words "Philadelphia lawyers" today very well -- but it takes even more than a Philadelphia lawyer to get that detailed language straightened out. That is my impression, but you read it over.

Q Mr. President, have you given any consideration to the Navy's contention that if the Walsh-Healy Government Contract Bill is not signed, you may not be able to build any new battleships?

THE PRESIDENT: Strictly between us, I haven't been through seven and a half years without knowing what the historic attitude of the Navy is toward that type of legislation. Right?

Q Yes, sir.

Q Have you considered any possibility of a Merchant Marine Board?

THE PRESIDENT: Not yet; I haven't given it a thought.

MR. STORM: Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Everything is all quiet.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press Conference #304,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 26, 1936, 10.40 A.M.

Q Good morning.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the faithful are still here. It is all right.

I think the only news is that the law factory is running
three shifts. I think there are about a hundred bills left.

Q Have you had time to read the Platform yet?

THE PRESIDENT: I started to read it this morning. (Laughter)

Q Did it sound familiar, Mr. President? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't finished it yet. (Laughter)

Q Were you satisfied with what you read?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think --

Q (interposing) Or with what you wrote? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I think we have to wait until Saturday night.

Q Have you signed the Walsh-Healy Contract Bill?

(The President turned to Mr. Early.)

MR. EARLY: No, sir; I don't think you have.

Q How about the Ship Subsidy Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: No, that has not come down.

Q Have you selected the commissioners for the Maritime Commission?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't done anything and probably won't for a
couple of weeks.

MR. EARLY: The bill hasn't been signed.

Q Anything to say about it?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q You spoke of having a hundred bills yet. Have you any idea of what

number you signed in the last week or so?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't the record yet. I haven't the veto record but we have fattened our veto batting average a lot.

Q Not enough.

Q Anything to say about the reports that the Postmaster General is going to resign next week?

THE PRESIDENT: (facetiously) Not until the Convention is over.

Q What do you hear from the goodwill political secretary in Philadelphia? (Referring to Mr. McIntyre)

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. I tried to raise him this morning about 1.30 A.M. and he would not "resurrect." I don't know what has happened.

Q He wasn't in bed at that time.

THE PRESIDENT: I am quite sure of that. (Laughter)

MR. EARLY: Don't be too sure.

THE PRESIDENT: I had a great time last night. I talked to Bob Wagner to congratulate him about 1.20 our time and 2.20 their time. He was still up.

Q He made a good job of that Platform.

THE PRESIDENT: I think he read it beautifully.

Q The delegates seemed impressed, too. There wasn't a great deal of yelling.

THE PRESIDENT: No.

MR. EARLY: Somebody did discover that the Platform had wings.

THE PRESIDENT: Some people up there wondered how this communication was going on between the Platform Committee and the White House and they discovered the airplane.

Q Forgot all about the telephone?

THE PRESIDENT: Forgot all about the telephone. (Laughter)

There was no piece of paper that went between Washington and Philadelphia yesterday.

Q Have you figured out how long you will stay at Hyde Park?

THE PRESIDENT: Until Monday night.

Q Have you talked about filling the vacancy in the Chicago Circuit Court?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I haven't. It is something I ought to do but I haven't gotten around to it yet.

Q A local question, Mr. President --
(interposing)

THE PRESIDENT: / Is this last week's?

Q Hangover. Have you had time to give thought to the appointment of this Committee that is to study fiscal relations?

THE PRESIDENT: I talked to Bell about it and asked him to get the language on the thing and try to get a pretty complete report. I don't think he will be able to report until next week when I get back.

Q How about Uncle Fred?

THE PRESIDENT: What is the language?

Q Must not be a resident of Washington.

THE PRESIDENT: That is more discrimination.

Q Yes, sir.

Q Have you completed your acceptance speech?

THE PRESIDENT: On the acceptance speech, I have done -- last night for the first time I got to work on it and did one very, very rough draft; so rough that I didn't like it, being a peaceful man.

Q Do you plan to be in Washington in the fall -- for the campaign?

THE PRESIDENT: In other words, I am not going to Hawaii, or through the Canal, or to the Cocos Islands. That's off, certainly until after election. Oh, I will be here most of the time, on and off.

Q Getting back to your rough speech, have you made any progress since?

THE PRESIDENT: They are typewriting. I dictated last night.

Q Will it be short?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course lots of things start off short, and you know what happens.

Q Who is going to head up the W.P.A. Administration in New York?

THE PRESIDENT: What has happened?

Q Ridder is getting through June thirtieth.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought he was staying through July?

Q Last word is that he returns to his former position on June thirtieth.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Everything is quiet. I think I will listen to good old John Mack this morning and then work on the speech.

Q He has got a good speech. (Laughter)

Q Were you listening in during the Al Smith demonstration?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I didn't get in until just the time they were starting the two-thirds rule. I heard Dave Lawrence.

Q Did you hear Walter?

THE PRESIDENT: When did he go on? Dave Lawrence, just between us girls, did an awfully good job. He scooped certain types of newspapers completely.

Q Only mistake he made was he didn't blame it on Hoover. (Laughter)

Q Thank you, Mr. President.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Press Conference #305,
Executive Offices of the White House,
June 30, 1936, 4.00 P.M.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: Where are all the first-string people? (Laughter)

Q They are all rained out, sir!

THE PRESIDENT: Fred, we had a good play with the second-string people last week.

Q I'll bet you did!

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know as there is any particular news today.

We have organized an Interdepartmental Drought Committee to coordinate the drought activities in various parts of the Nation -- Secretary Wallace, Director of the Budget Bell, Administrator of Resettlement Tugwell, and Mr. Williams, Works Progress. The drought, in spite of what we have had this afternoon, is awfully serious in three different places in the country. One is up in the northwestern region -- western Dakota, eastern Montana and eastern Wyoming -- so much so that it looks like pretty near a total failure of crops.

In eastern Oklahoma and western Arkansas is another bad situation developing; and in northern Tennessee and southern Kentucky another drought situation is developing. That is not as bad yet as the North Dakota one, but it is getting serious, so that this interdepartmental committee has to keep in close touch with the situation and do everything they can to relieve what looks like pretty serious distress for anywhere from fifty to a hundred thousand people.

Q Have you any idea, Mr. President, how much money you will originally need?

THE PRESIDENT: We cannot tell yet.

Q How much do you have available?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q How much do you have available?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course we have relief money in general available for it, and I think also we have funds in the Surplus Commodity Corporation that could be used, as it has been before, for purchasing livestock which otherwise would die, and processing them and using them for the needs of the state relief organizations rather than to let the cattle die in the fields.

Q Mr. President, turning from droughts to floods, will any work at all be done under the omnibus Flood Control Bill? Congress adjourned without making any appropriations.

THE PRESIDENT: There were no appropriations, and I think it is tomorrow I am having a conference with various agencies that are either directly or more remotely connected with the flood problem; first of all, Army engineers because, under the bill, they would do the work. But it is connected with soil erosion, reforestation in the upper regions, the National Resources Committee, reclamation in some areas -- I have forgotten, there may be one or two others coming in -- with the idea that on these various projects -- I have forgotten how many -- there are about 340 authorized -- maybe 600 -- a tremendous number -- when I read the bill I thought every creek in the United States had been included -- and the task between now and January is to make the necessary surveys from all

of these points of view so as to determine on a given creek, for instance, whether straight engineering work, like canalizing the creek, is the best way of going about it, or the creation of reservoirs is the best way of going about it, or soil erosion, reforestation, or a combination of any two or three of them.

Those studies will be completed, I hope, between now and the first of January, so that when Congress does appropriate money they will be in possession of information as to which projects should be taken up first, and also whether any of the projects authorized should be eliminated or postponed.

Q That means, then, that there will be no actual work started this summer?

THE PRESIDENT: Can't without money. How can I?

Q The bill wasn't signed, with the result that Congress could not make an appropriation?

THE PRESIDENT: So Senator Copeland says.

Q That's different. I thought that was your statement. (Laughter)

Q What was authorized in that bill?

THE PRESIDENT: They authorized flood control work to a total of \$330,000,000. They wouldn't have had to wait for the actual signing of the bill to appropriate the money. A little telephone message to the White House would have been all that was necessary.

Q In the new relief bill, about \$125,000,000 has been earmarked for some sort of flood control; but that is not this sort of flood control?

THE PRESIDENT: No. But some of that may be used on some of these authorized projects; that is perfectly possible.

Q Back to droughts for a moment: I think there is a tendency for livestock to move to market quite fast during the early part of the drought; are you contemplating anything to support the price?

THE PRESIDENT: There has been no particular drop in the prices, and I don't think there will be, because if it looks like a dumping of this stock on the market we will probably take it off the market.

Q Has Breckenridge submitted his resignation?

THE PRESIDENT: As you know, he has been pretty sick, but he is coming through all right. It will probably take him a month or two to recuperate. He is going up to Nantucket for his summer home. I think as soon as he is able to get around he will be pretty active in the campaign.

Q In that connection, when can we expect a preliminary announcement on Mr. Phillips' appointment?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know; no appointment has been made.

Q Did you ever act on Mr. Morrison's resignation?

THE PRESIDENT (turning to Mr. McIntyre): Have I? (Mr. McIntyre apparently shook his head.) Mac says I haven't; but I probably will almost immediately.

Q Were you asked about Mr. Farley?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot tell you anything about it today.

Q When do you expect to see Mr. Farley?

THE PRESIDENT: Thursday.

Q What action do you have to take to make P.W.A. money available to Mr. Ickes?

THE PRESIDENT: I have to approve the project.

Q Do you not have to issue an Executive order of some sort?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know whether it is an Executive order or an allotment; I think it is an allotment.

Q He thought so.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know; ask Bell.

Q Have you signed the Walsh Labor Bill?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, every bill has been signed or vetoed. The desk is completely clear. There are three or four waiting for memoranda to accompany the veto, but that is all.

Q How many were there before Congress adjourned?

THE PRESIDENT: I asked Rudolph to give me the list; I will try to have it by tomorrow. It is a pretty good list.

Q Are you going to make a speech at the dedication of the Salisbury bridge?

THE PRESIDENT: I may not go there yet. Mac was talking to the Mayor this morning, and I hope to go. If I go, I may talk for three or four minutes.

Q That is the 10th?

THE PRESIDENT: Saturday, the 11th.

Q You will be at Hyde Park until you start the trip?

THE PRESIDENT: I would be there only a couple of days.

Q Could you tell us whether at the end of your trip to Campobello you immediately start west?

THE PRESIDENT: No; I think you can say this, that it is possible but I cannot make it definite because I would not know whether I would have to come straight back here or not. I may go up to Quebec and pay that famous call on the Governor General, getting up there in the morning and spending the day with him and coming

on down that night; but that is still not a definite date, because I may have to come back here.

Q Have you set the date for leaving Campobello?

THE PRESIDENT: The end of July.

Q You say you think you will come back to Washington?

THE PRESIDENT: I think so.

Q How about this rumored western trip?

THE PRESIDENT: I have no plan after the first of August. I may stop at Hyde Park. I have no plans beyond the first of August -- all kinds of offers but no takers.

Q Do you know where you will go to meet the schooner?

THE PRESIDENT: Somewhere eastward of Portland.

Q That would be Rockland.

THE PRESIDENT: There are lots of places to the eastward of Portland.

Q Is that on the 14th or 15th?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know -- about the middle of July.

Q Can you tell us anything about the ship you are going on?

THE PRESIDENT: She is a schooner.

Q What is her name?

THE PRESIDENT: Sewanna.

Q That sounds like Susanna. Who owns her, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know.

Q Anything further on your plans for your trip this week-end?

THE PRESIDENT: No; have you told them about that, Mac?

MR. McINTYRE: No, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Leave Friday morning about 10; go down Skyline Drive, picnic on the way. I told them to try to bring a sandwich and

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a bottle of beer for Dean Young.

Q It will require more than a bottle of beer for him, Mr. President?

(Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Then the celebration on the Skyline Drive about 7 o'clock; motor down to Charlottesville in the evening; up to Monticello Saturday morning; stay there about half an hour, and then motor down to The Potomac on the James, and down the river next day; land at Jamestown, go to Williamsburg; take The Potomac again at Yorktown, and get back here Monday morning.

Q Do you contemplate stopping at Brandon on the way?

THE PRESIDENT: Only make one stop.

Q Brandon?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know.

Q Is that old Josephus Daniels running that place?

THE PRESIDENT: No, that is Bob Daniels. He is a nephew or great nephew of old Senator Daniels of Virginia.

Q Mr. President, have you any comment on Governor Lehman's announcement?

THE PRESIDENT: I gave my comment this morning.