

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #39

Hyde Park, New York

August 4, 1933, 4.10 PM

(Pictures were taken of this press conference which was held out on the lawn.)

THE PRESIDENT: (Speaking of the time the returns had come in indicating his election as Governor of the State of New York) ..... and a funny thing happened. We had about ten thousand people on the front lawn and they stood packed in, shoulder to shoulder, a couple<sup>of</sup>/hours, and when they went away the grass looked all right, but about three weeks later the whole lawn just curled up and died.

Q Was that one of the reasons why you flew to Chicago?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it was cheaper. (Laughter) Yes, we saved money on that because we had to plow the whole thing up.

.....

THE PRESIDENT: I told Mac to tell you that I did not know a thing.

Q He told us that, but it did not take.

Q Mr. President, there were reports from Honolulu today that you might have Professor Moley go out and make that survey.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, Lord, no. We haven't got anybody yet. We

are talking over somebody to go out.

Q Have you thought of Richard Metcalf himself? He should be --  
he might be available to go.

THE PRESIDENT: I have not, Fred.

Q I don't know whether he is out at Omaha or not.

THE PRESIDENT: Ickes and Cummings were talking about it and  
let me have a list of four or five names.

Q That is the Honolulu thing?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q The fellows up at Albany are pretty hard up for a story and  
yesterday they figured it would be a good idea to have you  
send Mr. Moley up there to investigate this O'Connell kid-  
napping. (Laughter) So I am doing my part now; I am ask-  
ing you about it. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Do you want me to ask Herbert Lehman about it  
tomorrow? (Laughter)

Q What is new in the steel strike situation?

THE PRESIDENT: Last night, about half-past eleven, I talked  
with General Johnson over the phone and he said he thought  
there was a good deal more possibility of straightening  
things out than there had been earlier in the evening. I  
have not heard from him today.

Q The Washington papers indicated you had asked him to inter-  
vene.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, no. I don't think you had better use this at this end; it will have to come from down there. The Steel Corporation's Mines -- I have forgotten the name of the man in charge of it -- they had three questions to try to solve and they solved two of them and the third was going to be left to some kind of a committee. The United Mine Workers apparently were going to go along with that procedure. But whether the procedure will go through depends on whether the others will do the same thing as this particular Steel Corporation man.

I think you had better do some careful checking because that was the last thing I had on it. It may be entirely different today.

Q Was General Johnson to talk to the steel people today?

THE PRESIDENT: I suppose so; he talked up to eleven o'clock last night.

Q Was he hopeful of reaching an agreement today?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Washington reports further indicated that if any agreement were reached it would be subject to your approval first of all up here.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't what that could be. You see, the only way I could come into it would be because of a request from

both sides to name arbiters or something like that.

Q And they have not done that?

THE PRESIDENT: There again, I have not heard.

Q Have you heard anything from the Governor today?

THE PRESIDENT: Not from anybody.

Q Then you are not contemplating any action at all?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q These young men seem to be very much disturbed about your hurrying back to Washington, and cannot seem to make it out. Is it something important?

THE PRESIDENT: No, nothing at all. That was planned a long time ago. As a matter of fact, I had felt that I should be there these two weeks so as to tie everything in and go to a meeting of the Council. You can't keep in touch with things unless you are there.

Q Can you tell us something of the visit tomorrow of Secretary of State Hull?

THE PRESIDENT: No, there is only one new thing to be taken up and you cannot use it because it has to break from a long, long way off.

Q Is it going to be big when it breaks?

THE PRESIDENT: It will be important, but not front-page. I mean, it is a thing that ought to be front-page but won't be.

Q You will remain overnight?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q What did you say this was that is going to break?

THE PRESIDENT: It ought to be front-page but it won't be.

(Laughter)

Q You break it and we will make it front-page.

THE PRESIDENT: I will tell you what it is, if you won't use it. It is a new agreement with respect to Haiti and is really a very important thing in our Caribbean relations.

Q Will it break down there?

THE PRESIDENT: It will have to break from Haiti.

Q Will it be all right if we tip Washington off to watch for it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, that is all right.

Q Who is going to break this?

THE PRESIDENT: The President of Haiti. I would rather you waited on advising your offices because I cannot do anything until I have talked with Cordell about it.

Q As soon as he arrives, it is all right for us to tip off the offices?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Has Moley started on his survey as yet?

THE PRESIDENT: I assume so. I have not heard.

Q Anything recent from Cuba?

THE PRESIDENT: Nothing within the last two days and everything I got has been printed. Nothing new.

Q What do you hear on the Recovery Agreement, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Only what Johnson said last night. I think he has two copies on the way.

MR. McINTYRE: That is right.

Q Do you know what they are?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q How about the Shipbuilding Code? Has that been signed?

THE PRESIDENT: That was signed on the 26th.

Q It was signed on the 26th?

Q We may have you sign it tomorrow; you can't tell. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Perhaps it was not released. What happened was this: They were awfully anxious to get the Shipbuilding Code actually approved by me before they put the bids in because they had those bids scaled, A, B, C and D, depending on what the Code did. When I signed it around noon on the 26th, they put the bids in at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Q How about the conference the other day with the Admirals?

I don't think they have given out their program down there yet.

THE PRESIDENT: It came out; don't you read your papers?

Q I will catch up with this news yet, if I keep on hanging around. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Do you know what I think? I think he was up at the conference at Vassar.

Q Yes, I was doing some homework. (Laughter)

Q Is Governor Lehman coming tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: Sunday, you mean? Yes.

Q Have you heard what hour the Secretary of State will be here?

THE PRESIDENT: He is coming right up. They will get him through the customs quickly. I suppose he has to pay duty.

Q In Washington there have been stories concerning the death of one of the Civilian Conservation Corps men in Yellowstone Park --

THE PRESIDENT: I read it in the American. I did not see it in any other paper.

Q Has it been called to your attention?

THE PRESIDENT: The Department of Justice would handle that just as a normal thing. They would go right ahead with the investigation.

Q It would not come to you at all?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q Can I quote the line, "read it in the American"? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: It happened that I read it. No other paper carried it.

Q They carried it the second day; The New York Evening Journal carried it the day before.

Q Can we look for anything sensational after Hull's visit tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't think so.

Q On the war debts? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: No, and I have not appointed the D. C. Commissioners yet. (Laughter)

Q I was just going to ask you that. Do you think you will when you get back?

THE PRESIDENT: Look, I have said I was going to do it as soon as I got back every time I have been away, so you know what my word is worth. Nothing at all on that.

Q Every Saturday we get one or two.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there will be any more appointments until we get back, except that I have quite a lot of those Boards.

Q What kind of Boards?

THE PRESIDENT: Veterans' Boards. There are three or four more states this morning.

Q That is coming out down in Washington?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, and then, too, there must have been four or five of the Public Works Boards to fill them out where people have declined.

Q Here is a good laugh. Did you notice in the paper this morning that Governor Olson is enroute to Washington and that if you recognize Russia he may be the Ambassador?

THE PRESIDENT: Are you sure he did not mean Mrs. Anne Dickey Olson? (Laughter)

Q On Stevens' visit, is there anything you can tell us about any new policy in the Commission or the personnel?

THE PRESIDENT: No, the chief thing we talked about was the setting up of the new Securities Division.

(At this point there was a pause for the taking of photographs)

Q This is the first day we have had outside since Washington.

THE PRESIDENT: That is right.

Q Do you expect to see anyone besides Secretary Hull tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I expect to see Governor Lehman on Sunday.

Q Any other plans for the weekend?

THE PRESIDENT: Not a thing. I can't think of another

thing. Oh, I am going down on Sunday night, I think it is, to dine with Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and there will also be present Henry Morgenthau, Sr. who will tell me all about wheat.

Q Has any decision been reached yet with Secretary Wallace on this acreage limitation so far as wheat is concerned?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't heard a word on that, Fred (Storm). I think it is pretty nearly ready to shoot. I will tell you what I think I wish you would do, especially for the Western papers, although how you are going to do it, I don't know.

I was talking the other day about where we are putting new irrigated land into production that we would take out an equivalent amount of productive land and a lot of the Western papers carried that as saying that we would take out an equivalent acreage in acres. Of course that has got people awfully upset in a great many parts of the West because they realize that this new land will produce, as I said, two or three times as much in the way of crops as would these submarginal lands. What we are going to do is to take out enough acres of submarginal land -- maybe two or three or four times as much acreage in order to equalize the production. I think it is important, really, to get that across. It is not

acre for acre; it is bushel for bushel.

Q Kind of upset them out there, didn't it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, of course.

Q You made that plain the other day.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought it was perfectly clear.

Q What they did was to lose sight of the fact --

THE PRESIDENT: They probably saw "an equivalent acreage" and then assumed it meant acre for acre.

Q What is the progress of the National Recovery Program? Can you give us something on that?

THE PRESIDENT: I would have to write that out because if I were to say, "Excellent" it would mean nothing and, if I go on to explain about it, I would have to think about it.

(Discussion, off the record, with respect to ball game at Pawling)

(The Press Conference adjourned at 4.32 P.M.)

CONFIDENTIAL  
Press Conference #40  
Hyde Park, New York

August 5, 1933, 3.30 P.M.

(Secretary Hull, who had just returned from London,  
was present at this conference.)

THE PRESIDENT: My Lord, I filled you up with news last  
night and this morning.

Q Yes, we did not finish writing until 4 o'clock this  
morning.

THE PRESIDENT: I did not get through talking until two  
o'clock.

Has the story been given out about the Committee  
of Seven? We had it, of course, last night but I  
thought it would be better to cut it into two parts  
because last night's story was good enough. This  
thing today is, of course, more important as a long-range  
proposition than the mere settlement of the one coal  
strike because it sets up the basis and machinery for  
the actual prevention of walkouts all through the in-  
dustrial recovery period.

Q You mean lockouts and strikes?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q I suppose it is a safe assumption that once the coal code  
is adopted this coal commission will be more or less

merged into the permanent set-up.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. I imagine the permanency of it will be taken care of in the code itself in some way; there will be some kind of permanent machinery set up.

Q It is your hope that this board of seven and the machinery that is thereby set up will forestall any labor trouble during the whole period of the recovery campaign?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, and especially because of the fact that in going into anything as new as this is -- like a code or even an agreement, it is a little bit like a new and complicated law; you have to construe it and interpret it. And the danger is -- like this Hazel strike down somewhere in Pennsylvania -- the mill owner says the agreement means this and the code means this, and the operator says it means that. The result is that there is a strike or a walkout, and this sets up the machinery which will enable them to keep at work until an official interpretation is made that will cover both sides.

Q And the Board will make that official interpretation?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q By the "national recovery period" you mean until each industry comes under a code, after which that will

be taken care of in the separate code?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course nobody can guess in the long run what the final, permanent machinery may be. It may be some kind of central board or, on the other hand, it may be a board for each industry. Nobody can tell what the permanent machinery will be.

It is like that question they asked Hugh Johnson down in Washington yesterday, "Does this thing mean that there is going to be complete control over industry?" And somebody laughed, and he said, "It is a perfectly pertinent question." And it is a perfectly pertinent question. Of course, the answer is that we want, in the long run, to avoid as much as possible complete government management and put the responsibility, as far as is practicable, back on industry itself, but time alone can tell what the methods of arriving at that will be and how far it will go.

And then I approved two or three codes last night. Has that been given out?

Q They gave it out in Washington.

Q The electrical and the cloak and suit; yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Of course that cloak and suit was one of the perfectly big triumphs because it was one of the industries difficult to get together.

Q I suppose these mediation plans are being given out in Washington, too.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. But, off the record, there must be some very amusing stories out of Washington.

Q I don't think they have been able to get in much today -- we took it all.

THE PRESIDENT: It must have been amusing -- this is entirely off the record. Apparently Johnson got Pinchot in one hotel and Lewis in another and locked them in. And he got the Vice President of the Steel Corporation in a third hotel and locked him in and he kept them all there. And, at the psychological moment, he would bring two out and get them together and then the other two and get them together and work them around. Hugh Johnson has done a swell job on this.

Q It wasn't possible that you made a few suggestions, off the record?

THE PRESIDENT: No; handled it himself.

Q I think that ought to be written.

THE PRESIDENT: You couldn't write that about the governor of a sovereign state.

Q Or the sovereign Steel Corporation?

THE PRESIDENT: You may not.

Q I would like to tell them that I know about it. (Laughter)

Q Can you give us a general idea of the appeal that was given out last night? It was made public in Washington but we haven't had a chance to see it here.

THE PRESIDENT: Appeal?

Q The one on which the Board of Seven passed -- from industry and labor.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, they were unanimous. The two advisory boards were unanimous in signing it. One, of course, was the Labor Board and the other the Industry Board. I think it has been printed. It had those four paragraphs in it and it is a very momentous step. I compared it with the statement that Gompers made at the outbreak of the War because it was really as big as that.

Q What is the one you turned down?

THE PRESIDENT: I signed an approval last night of three dismissals of complaints by three separate mills against the Textile Code. They asked for exceptions to be made for their particular mills on the ground of hardship and on the ground that it would not work and on the ground that it was impossible to carry out the code. They were duly investigated by Johnson's office and hearings were held and in all three cases it was recommended that they be denied and they were denied.

Q Are those the first denials of such appeals?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Were they southern mills?

THE PRESIDENT: I couldn't tell you. One of them was and I don't know where the others were.

Then on that confidential, off-the-record thing I told you about yesterday --Haiti. You cannot use any story because it has to break down in Haiti. There probably won't be anything out of there for a couple of days because there were certain changes in the language.

Q When does our Treaty expire down there?

THE PRESIDENT: In 1936.

Q Not until then?

THE PRESIDENT: No. It really is an important step and I cannot tell it to you because it has to break from there.

Q Can you tell us what Secretary Hull told you?

THE PRESIDENT: We have just been chatting, that is all.

The Secretary, I think, was interviewed when he landed in New York this morning and there is nothing further to say on that. We have been catching up with a lot of things and talking about Haiti and Montevideo.

Q When will the Secretary go down there?

THE PRESIDENT: Haven't even got to that; haven't discussed it.

Q When is that conference?

THE PRESIDENT: December 1.

Q What can you tell us about that?

THE PRESIDENT: Nothing to tell you. I could not write a story on it myself.

Q Then I won't try.

Q Anything on the future of the London Conference?

THE PRESIDENT: We haven't got to that yet.

Q Anything on Russian recognition?

THE PRESIDENT: That we have not mentioned.

Q Do you expect to?

THE PRESIDENT: We have only been talking for a couple of hours.

Q You haven't got past Montevideo in that time?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q It must be a very important conference.

Q Can you tell us when you expect the London Conference to reconvene?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. I haven't any idea.

SECRETARY HULL: I gave the newspapermen this morning a statement in which I set forth the different agencies that are placed in charge of the recess work of the Conference with authority to call any local conference or special conference or regional conference or plenary conference at such time as their judgment may suggest

in the light of the progress of the interim work that will be undertaken. They will have their meetings -- these agencies in charge will have their first meetings early in September, according to the present plans; that is, after most of the statesmen of the European countries return from their August vacations.

Q Do they all take the whole month of August off for their vacations?

SECRETARY HULL: President Roosevelt first called my attention to the fact that they leave promptly on the 12th of August and shoot grouse for how many days?

THE PRESIDENT: About a month.

Q I think we ought to get some grouse over here. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: We have enough grousing in this country.

Well, there is one thing I can tell you literally and strictly and entirely in the family and off the record. The Secretary confirmed that one of the contributing agencies to the fact that the conference -- don't put this down -- one of the worst contributing agencies was the Continental and London press. It was rotten, absolutely rotten, and they gave us a dirty deal from the time we left here until we got home.

I would like to say a lot more on it. The whole press just ganged us from the start to the finish.

And their press were told what to say by their governments and of course the French press is owned by anybody that will buy it, and there you are. It was a rotten situation.

SECRETARY HULL: I have never been accustomed to a really bad press but I did get a good dose of it over there.

Q You are glad to be home then?

SECRETARY HULL: Yes.

Q And you will appreciate us now, Mr. Secretary?

SECRETARY HULL: It was an impossible situation.

Q That might make a little story. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I said that was in the family. You see, I could not feel anything about it one way or the other out loud but I can feel very deeply about it among us.

Q They are pretty well organized?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q They started off in this country before the Delegation went over.

Q We saw some of that in the Washington Arms Conference.

SECRETARY HULL: They are pretty well organized. A large cross-section keeps in close touch with their governments.

Q I have a technical question here. We had an agreement with Mac (Mr. McIntyre) before we came out that what we got from the Secretary would be held for Monday

papers. That does not apply to industrial control, does it?

THE PRESIDENT: No; it just relates to the Secretary of State.

Q How would you write your Monday morning story? (Laughter)

Q Tomorrow afternoon, do you think you will be across the Atlantic? You are just down in Montevideo now. (Laughter)

Q Is there anything you or the Secretary might tell us about the progress of the trade agreements initiated by you while he was absent?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't believe the Secretary knows anything about it at all and all I know is what there was when I left Washington. In other words, they were going ahead with the informal conversations. Bill Phillips has been talking with various ministers and ambassadors in Washington. There are five or six countries. I don't think it has got beyond that stage yet and of course Brother Espil is out of it -- he is on his honeymoon.

Q Do you see a good deal of promise in that?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q There was a report in Washington, two or three days ago, that Secretary Hull was considering the possibility of a tour of South America before the Montevideo Conference.

**SECRETARY HULL:** I was asked this morning, down in New York, if I was going to attend the Conference and what I thought about it and I said that while I am intensely interested in anything relating to Pan-American relationships, I felt like I should get home and unpack my grip before I take up the question of another trip.

**THE PRESIDENT:** I want him in Washington, right close at hand.

**Q** When are you going back to Washington?

**SECRETARY HULL:** I have no definite plans. As I stated, there are two agencies that are authorized to conduct the interim proceedings during the recess. They will convene the fore part of September. They may commence subcommittee hearings on some phases of commercial policy, but until they convene and announce their plans for going forward with this recess work, naturally there will be no individual plans.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Where do they meet in September?

**SECRETARY HULL:** They will meet, I think, London part of the time and Geneva part of the time. I do not mean by that that the Conference proper would be removed from London. It is just a matter of convenience when they will be attending the disarmament proceedings, some of them.

Q What did you think of the Conference, Mr. Secretary?

SECRETARY HULL: Well, it was wonderfully interesting.

THE PRESIDENT: How did you like your first view of New York Harbor? (Laughter)

MR. STEPHENSON: Thank you, Mr. President; much obliged.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Press Conference #41**

**Val Kill Cottage, Hyde Park, N. Y.**

**August 7, 1933, 7.00 PM**

**(This press conference was impromptu  
and no stenographic notes were taken.**

**(The President indicated that there  
would be no interference by the United  
States in the Cuban situation and that  
Sumner Welles would not go further than  
offer his good offices in endeavoring  
to settle differences.)**

CONFIDENTIAL

Press Conference #42

Hyde Park, New York

August 9, 1933, 11.00 am

THE PRESIDENT: Frankly I don't know if there is any news.

Q Anything on Cuba?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't anything. There may be something later on. As far as I know, there is no change from what the press dispatches have.

Q That is a very delicate situation down there and we realize it is hard for you to say anything.

THE PRESIDENT: It really is; I haven't any word at all.

Q Is there any way you can let us know or guide us as to what your policy is?

THE PRESIDENT: As far as policy goes, you have it perfectly straight and that is that we are acting as amicus curiae to the Cuban people.

Q What is that?

THE PRESIDENT: He would. (Laughter)

Q I don't know whether he is starting a new war down there or not. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: We are using our good offices to help them straighten things out.

Q Does that mean a concrete proposal or a definite suggestion?

THE PRESIDENT: That I don't know. Welles is talking to them all the time to help them out in the nature of personal suggestions. There is no government action on our part. It is simply saying to Welles, "Go ahead and help all you can."

Q I think the point is whether or not we believe that Machado's retirement is absolutely necessary to help things out.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. In other words, that is a thing that they know in Havana better than we do. And, certainly, we cannot be in the position of saying to Machado, "You have to get out." That would be obvious interference with the internal affairs of another nation.

Q The stories say that Ambassador Welles has suggested that he take a leave of absence.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't believe that is accurate. I think you will probably find that those suggestions came from people down there in one of the parties or all three of the parties.

Q Assuming that Machado did go out, would that mean a special election in advance of 1934?

THE PRESIDENT: I do not know; I am not familiar enough with the Cuban situation.

Q Is there any Vice President?

THE PRESIDENT: No, there is not; that is the trouble. I think the Secretary of State becomes Acting President and I think one of their questions is whether the Senate or the Courts would have the right to elect a Vice President to become Acting President during the balance of the period. Now, that is the thing I cannot say anything about because I have never read their Constitution.

Q Isn't there also a question as to the eligibility of the present Secretary of State? He is not Cuban born.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q The election now is due in 1934, is it not?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Would this leave of absence of Machado last until the regular election?

THE PRESIDENT: I have no idea. It is one of the things I am not talking about at all because I have no information on it. I have to be terribly careful not to be in a position of intimating that the Cubans get rid of their President.

Q Is it still critical down there?

THE PRESIDENT: Yesterday things were apparently quiet. Nothing in this morning's paper.

Q Has the general strike extended, or have you any information on that point?

THE PRESIDENT: I did not get anything on that at all.

Q Attorney General Cummings, will he bring anything up on this racketeer study you asked to have made by Moley?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know; he is spending this week over in Greenwich, which is his home.

Q Have you heard from the Navy Yard workers down there who are making a protest on the ruling of Swanson to give them a cut in the hours and pay?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course on that Navy Yard thing, the action taken by the Navy Department is really what might be called a stop-gap during the period before we start the new construction at the Navy Yard. It will take about two months anyway and, in the case of some Yards, four months before they get the materials to start the new construction. It is the same with the Washington gun factories. In other words, some time in September we will take up the question of the definite hours and pay. It is only a temporary order.

Q What progress is being made on the plan for the dollar?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot say "none", because then you would say, "there ain't going to be none." Nothing new about it. I just talked about everything yesterday.

Q How about Professor Fisher's visit?

THE PRESIDENT: Strictly between ourselves, as to Professor Fisher's visit, I think it was easier to see him and get it over with.

Q Can we blame Colonel McIntyre? (Laughter)

Q We will simply write that you called him in in order to be rid of him. (Laughter)

Q Again on Cuba, some time ago Machado was going to seek an American authority on election laws to go down there and prepare the way.

THE PRESIDENT: That has all been done.

Q Do you know who it is?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot remember offhand. It has all been done and they put in an excellent report and everybody was pleased about it.

Q That was on the election laws?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q It is a revision of them?

THE PRESIDENT: As I understand it, the general objective of it was a general revision of the election laws so that they will carry out their election in approximately the same way the last election was held, where they asked us to come in and supervise it. Of course the object was to have a perfectly fair election without supervision.

Q We did not go in with troops the last time?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I think it was old man Crowder who did it.

Q What would have to happen in Cuba before we would send troops down there? Just what extremity?

THE PRESIDENT: Was it in the Tribune this morning -- there was an editorial which stated pretty well Elihu Root's definition. It would require a case of complete anarchy.

Q Complete disorder?

THE PRESIDENT: The Tribune had it right. They quoted Root and that seems to be a pretty good definition of the Platt Amendment.

Q Are you going to see Woodin tonight?

THE PRESIDENT: He and Mrs. Woodin are coming up this afternoon.

MR. McINTYRE: They will be here at six o'clock this evening.

Q What are you going to take up with them?

THE PRESIDENT: Mostly beg him to take care of his health and try not to do too many things at once.

Q Does his visit have any relation with yesterday's conference?

THE PRESIDENT: No more than I am doing with -- how many people?-- two hundred and fifty people.

Q Mr. President, are you having General Johnson pay any attention to the problem of bringing down prices, such as steel prices which, perhaps, have been held up quite a little?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes; they are getting surveys on the different commodities. Some commodities are too high; no question about that. I don't know whether steel is included or not and, incidentally, that does not apply to steel as a whole. It is mostly steel rails.

Q Steel for construction purposes too.

Q Have you any employment figures?

THE PRESIDENT: We won't get them until next week, the 15th.

Q Have you any information or figures, Mr. President, bearing on the prices of those things that enter primarily into the cost of living? What has been the range of those prices -- (Laughter)

Q That is a perfect question. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: That is a perfect question and I hope it will mean more to you than it does to me. (Examining papers and producing a chart) Well, this is about the most important of these graphs. This up here (indicating line on graph) is the ceiling -- the top line and that is based on the commodity index, and here (indicating) is where it was from 1910 to 1914. I don't know how the hell you can write a story about this. And it is going up from there to there (indicating). That is the ceiling of 1910 to 1914 -- no, I am wrong. The 1910 to 1914 line is one hundred -- it is this line across here. So we are just

about back here to that average of 1910 to 1914. That is the all-commodity index and it has still got to go to 1924-5-6, which is along there (indicating).

Q Is that the ceiling that you are after?

THE PRESIDENT: No, no; not that I am after. It is an arbitrary thing so that you can get other things in relation to it. Now, the price of gold has gone up there (indicating) -- that is the figure 120. Seventeen basic commodities were away below the all-commodity level and they have gone up away above the all-commodity level.

Now, the farm prices were lowest of all and they have come back, relatively, more than the all-commodity level. On the other hand, the retail food prices went down very little and they have gone up very little. And the cost of distributing food was always very, very high and hardly went down at all. It only went from the ceiling to there (indicating) and it actually has gone down. The cost of distributing food has gone down, which is a very interesting sign.

Q That is since the fourth of March?

THE PRESIDENT: (Nodding affirmatively) And probably it won't stay down because a lot of that was finished food stuffs on hand. The cost of living, of course, didn't go down

very much and it hasn't gone up very much.

Q The cost of living is almost stationary, isn't it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, very little -- gone up a little bit.

Q Since March fourth?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Is there any percentage or fraction of percentage that is available on that chart on the difference in the cost of living?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, this black thing here on these figures depends, of course, entirely on what has taken place. It has gone up from about -- you would have to average it -- it is about 130 -- or about 130 to 135.

Q (Francis Stephenson) What is that?

THE PRESIDENT: The cost of living.

Q On what base -- '10 to '14 as 100?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know what this ceiling is. I should say, at a guess, it is somewhere around '24-5-6. There seem to be two ceilings in here.

Q Is that the level you are seeking?

THE PRESIDENT: No; I told you that already. It is merely a perfectly arbitrary thing to go at. You have to take some year. You can't catch me that way, Stevie. (Laughter)  
I have another from Morgenthau that took an entirely

different ceiling. It is immaterial what ceiling you take, as long as you take a ceiling. If it had been based on the '10 to '14 ceiling, every one of these columns would have been higher, but the proportions would have been the same. It doesn't make any difference what ceiling, as long as you take one, to make or base some figures on. Then, over here, we have the four main farm crops and that shows what must be perfectly obvious, that the things that went down the furthest came back the most.

Q What were they?

THE PRESIDENT: Cotton, corn, wheat and hogs.

Q Mr. President, what is your general impression as to the meaning of the chart? Do you think it is a helpful sign that the prices are leveling off?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it does show, on the whole, a pretty good leveling out. The cost of distributing food, for instance, has not gone up, and the cost of living has gone up relatively a great deal less than, for instance, the U. S. farm prices or the 17 basic commodities because, if those 17 basic commodities go up an awful lot, it means a lot of distribution in the way of wages and buying power.

Q Do you think those are going up too fast for employment?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it is going along in a perfectly normal

way. Of course, there was one period, like that July period, when everybody got to speculating and things went too fast; that got a perfectly natural corrective.

Q On employment, has there been a corrective situation?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it has improved a little bit. Those two things -- what was it? -- the production line had gone up faster than the employment line and the last week, just the preliminary figures show that the employment line has gone up a little faster than the production line.

Q I am not trying to catch you here or anything like that, but could you tell us what your objective is?

THE PRESIDENT: I could not because if you once start to say an objective, you tie it down to a certain specific thing and your specific objective may change at any time. It would be impossible to do it.

This part of it is, of course, all off the record. For example, suppose we bring the value of the dollar in terms of commodities up to a certain level. When the time comes, we may want to hold it there for a while and it may bring on some kind of an era of speculation and we may want to drop it a bit to prevent that kind of over-speculation. It is a thing on which you cannot put a hard and fast date or figure for.

The objective is, of course, to iron out the peaks and valleys. We seem to be doing it fairly successfully.

Q Does that go up to August 1st?

THE PRESIDENT: I think so, yes. It has got things through July. I don't think any of these other charts are particularly -- they don't mean a damn' thing except to an international banker. (Laughter) They are gold charts and here is another, "Domestic price of gold", it doesn't mean anything. These were got up by different people and don't agree with each other. Here is another, a third fellow who got up a chart on gold and wheat and he doesn't agree with the other fellow.

Q Do we need to look for any action in this record at all -- any action by you?

THE PRESIDENT: I would not either buy or sell. (Laughter)

Q I couldn't buy or sell if I knew. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I think things are getting along pretty well.

Q When do you expect your next employment figures?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we get them from the Department of Labor about the 16th.

Q Mr. President, are you going to have any other callers today on the list?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so.

Q Anybody coming tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: Adolph Ochs and his wife are coming tomorrow and also Buxton of the Boston Herald.

Q Is Mr. Moley coming up soon?

THE PRESIDENT: He is coming this afternoon -- some time after lunch.

Q Just one more question, although, perhaps, you won't want to say anything. Have you any indications as to whether Mr. Woodin's health is such that he might not want to remain in the Cabinet?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so. Of course, I have not seen him. He has taken a house in Washington. I think he has every expectation of using it. Of course, the time he will come back to work again depends on how fast he gets his strength back. For instance, he was coming straight through. He came through on a boat, then this morning he has to see a doctor in New York and then he is coming up by train this afternoon. They did not even want him to come up.

Q Mr. President, are you going to tell Ochs the story --

THE PRESIDENT: Charlie (Hurd), shall I tell him the story? I am afraid the old man is pretty old.

By the way, George McAneny is coming in this morning.

We will talk about sewers, I suppose.

Q Can you throw any light on the purpose of Moley's visit up here?

THE PRESIDENT: Just to tell me how he is getting on with his kidnappings.

Q Anything in particular in prospect there?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know.

Q Who is Mr. McAneny?

THE PRESIDENT: Late of the New York Times, now the Commissioner of Sewers in New York. (Laughter)

Q Well trained, wasn't he? (Laughter)

(General discussion about train schedule from Hyde Park to Luray and newspaper men who are going to make trip.)

Q How many camps are you going to visit around Luray?

THE PRESIDENT: Two or three. One is at the place where we get off the train, and then one is at Luray, just on the north side, in the forest. The third is across the Shenandoah Valley to the camp by the Skyline Drive, which is in the Shenandoah Park.

Q Thank you, Mr. President.

(The Press Conference adjourned at 12 o'clock noon.)

CONFIDENTIAL  
Press Conference #43  
Hyde Park, New York

August 11, 1933

Q Mr. President, is there anything on Cuba?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know what you can write about today. We are up against it.

Q We will have to use that Irving Fisher story -- the fact that he was kept waiting the other day. (Laughter)

Q Mr. President, are you going to make public the report on the Kansas City Southern?

THE PRESIDENT: Frankly I haven't the faintest idea where that thing stands. Didn't I appoint somebody?

Q Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: What has happened since then?

Q The report was made to Joe Eastman and he was to turn it over to you.

THE PRESIDENT: I did not even know the report had been made.

Q Anything on Governor Black getting out as Governor of the Federal Reserve Board?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know a thing about it except that when he did come in he said that he was afraid he would have to get off later on and go back to Atlanta, but we have heard nothing from him since and we hope to goodness he will stay.

Q On Cuba, our understanding is that the Cuban Ambassador was to fly down yesterday?

THE PRESIDENT: This morning it was said he had intended to fly but there was bad weather and he was taking the train.

Q We got the impression that he is bringing down some general idea from you and that it was of such nature that he did not want to telegraph it and wanted to see Machado personally.

Q Reuters is carrying a story to the effect that the Ambassador is going to Cuba with an invitation to Machado from you to talk --

THE PRESIDENT: Reuters is French?

Q English, I think. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I think that is the only comment I can make on that.

Q For an overnight story tonight, do you know the names of those camps you are going to see so that we can designate them?

THE PRESIDENT: Three, all told. I think they are all on the east side of the Valley.

MR. McINTYRE: One is under construction now.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, one is under construction now, I wanted to see that, and the other two are full-fledged.

Q Were the boys enlisted for six months or a year?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know.

Q Are you going to keep them in during the Winter?

THE PRESIDENT: I would not write anything about it now for this reason: The general hope is -- I think it is better not to say anything because no decision has been made. We are studying the question, in the first place, of how many boys will stay for the Winter. There are about 314,000 of them now, including 20,000 Indians -- about 294,000 not including the Indians, and it is a question of how many will stay over the Winter.

The general idea is that we want to get as many boys back to regular employment as possible. In other words, it will encourage them all to go back if their families can find work for them or if they can find work for themselves. Now, how many of them will do it, we don't know.

Q Do you hope to accomplish much on that by Winter, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Then, of course, there will be quite a large number that will have to be kept over the Winter.

Q Will they be moved to southern camps?

THE PRESIDENT: When I said southern camps, I meant that they would be moved out of the heavy snow region.

For example, Major Walsh was up here the other day from Bear Mountain, down the River, and they have had such success with their winter camps that he said he could take on several thousand. Now, that would mean moving them down from the north to Bear Mountain.

Q Could you take care of them there?

THE PRESIDENT: They had great success last Winter.

Q You say that they had great success at Bear Mountain?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes; that was an <sup>S</sup> FERA camp last Winter.

I started it a year ago. In the same way, Governor Pinchot had a great deal of success with his camps and they kept them going through the Winter.

It doesn't mean moving them south out of the north, but merely moving them out of the heavy snow area. That is true, too, of the camps in the Rockies that are in the higher altitudes.

Q In that connection will (General) Johnson or any of his officials assist in getting the boys out of the camps?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a thing we don't know yet. That is a thing we have to study, as to encouraging them.

Q Did you say we may use some of this now?

THE PRESIDENT: There isn't a story yet. It is very general.

Q We might write about it tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: I think the only thing you can really write now is the fact that we are studying the problem of how to handle the situation during the Winter and that we hope that as many boys as possible will be able to get jobs. Also that the camps that are in the heavy snow belt will have to be moved down to some place where they can be kept going comfortably during the Winter. Of course it will mean that quite a number -- a good many thousand -- will be moved clear to the south.

Do you know that I allocated twenty million dollars for the acquisition of new forest areas and of that about fifteen million will go to round out existing national forests, preferably in places where they can work all during the year. In other words, they are out of the heavy snow belts and about four or five million will be to establish new national forests, primarily in the sufficiently far south to be workable all the year around. There are areas under consideration in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and, I think, North Carolina. I don't think South Carolina is included. Of course the Tennessee end of it is being taken care of by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

One of the reasons for that is that the Federal Government has never had anything except very, very small acreage -- National Forest acreage -- in the yellow pine belt. The only state that doesn't come under that is the State of Georgia where they have not passed the necessary enabling legislation. I spoke to the Governor of Georgia about it when he was in Washington and if he has a special session he says he will ask for the necessary legislation to allow the Federal Government to own land in Georgia. Off the record, that was a lead for him to hold an extra session. They could sell about a million acres of land to the Federal Government.

Q They will be quick --

THE PRESIDENT: The old boy hasn't fallen for it yet.

Q Have you anything in connection with extra sessions -- anything on the question of repeal? I see where Arizona went about 5 to 1.

THE PRESIDENT: What do you mean, "extra sessions"? Legislative extra sessions? I told you about Georgia. I haven't heard from Kentucky.

Q I saw it in this morning's paper.

Q Are we referring to extra sessions? There was some talk of an extra session of Congress. I did not have the heart go ask about that.

THE PRESIDENT: In the event of repeal I think the old laws go right into effect, don't they? So much a bottle?

Q The State laws are the ones that will be affected.

Q There are certain questions that are not fully carried out by existing laws concerning the protection of dry States.

THE PRESIDENT: That is in the Amendment itself.

Q How are you feeling, and have you taken on any more weight?

THE PRESIDENT: Fine. All we can pray for is a cool week in Washington.

Q How long do you expect to stay in Washington?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope to get away Saturday and get back here on Sunday.

Of course there is an awful lot of stuff always piled up. I think Mac has told at least 15,000 people that I can see them Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Q Anything at the White House?

THE PRESIDENT: I am going to sign the mail.

Q When you come back up here how long do you intend to stay, or have you determined?

THE PRESIDENT: Shall we tell them the possibility?

MR. McINTYRE: Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: All right, Mac says, "Yes." This is still only a possibility.

Q We want it more or less for our own guidance.

THE PRESIDENT: I think you can use it for news so long as you make it clear that it depends on all sorts of things, not merely Cuba but a whole lot of other things too, such as Public Works and NRA and so on. I am leaving on Thursday, the 31st, as a member of the Nourmahal Club and returning to Washington via the Nourmahal.

Q I think that will hold all of us -- the Nourmahal.

(Laughter)

Q How long will you be gone?

THE PRESIDENT: The only difference is that we will have to have a destroyer go along.

Q Any destination?

THE PRESIDENT: Anywhere.

Q Will the Nourmahal get you back to Washington?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, Labor Day night or the next morning.

Q You are getting on right here?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q About how long a run is it on the Nourmahal?

THE PRESIDENT: About four days.

Q Four days at eighteen knots?

THE PRESIDENT: He is getting to know too much about navigation. (Laughter)

Q Who will be with you on that?

THE PRESIDENT: The same crowd. The only person who is lost is Kermit. He is somewhere down with Harry Roosevelt.

MR. McINTYRE: He is back; I talked to him the day before yesterday.

Q: Are you going to stop to do any fishing?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't believe so.

Q It looks to me like a flying visit to Cuba. (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I think you can safely guess that we will be somewhere in a quadrangle between Montauk Point, Nova Scotia, Bermuda and the Capes of the Chesapeake. It is perfectly safe that we will not get outside of that quadrangle. (Laughter)

Q About the second day out we will have you in sight of Havana.

Q And the third day we will have you changing your plans.

THE PRESIDENT: I will send you a radiogram giving you my latitude and longitude and hoping that you are the same.

Q Are you going to keep us informed of where you are?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q And who will report on what you are doing and talking about and thinking about?

THE PRESIDENT: The only extra person I will have to have along on this trip will be a decoder.

Q Who will be with you?

THE PRESIDENT: Judge Kernochan, Doctor Heiter --

Q He is from Savannah?

Q No, Mobile.

THE PRESIDENT: George St. George. I think that is all.

Probably Kermit Roosevelt.

Q Any news on Woodin's visit?

THE PRESIDENT: I looked in Will Woodin's throat and it is the damnedest thing you have ever seen. It looked like raw beef.

Q What is it, tonsillitis?

THE PRESIDENT: It is that damn Streptococcus germ. It is what they used to call in the old days Quinsy sore throat. It takes a long, long time for it to clear out. It went to his kidneys and went all through his system.

Q Cheerful as ever, is he?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, yes.

Q Is he going to try to carry on?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, yes. The only protesting person is his wife. He insists on talking over the telephone -- just insists on doing it. Yet he is getting along all right and I told him I thought he ought to get away from that sea atmosphere and get up in the mountains. It is terribly damp down there.

Q Did Mr. Ochs have any news or was it just a personal call?

THE PRESIDENT: It was a personal call.

Q Off the record, did you tell your story?

THE PRESIDENT: No. (Laughter)

Q Can we look for anything further today?

THE PRESIDENT: Also off the record, the old man was so infinitely more radical than I am that I almost died.

Q Mr. President, any appointments?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I have not yet appointed the District of Columbia Commissioner.

Q Will you do it while you are back there?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. One thing, I have had a complete holiday for a month.

Q What would you write if you were us?

THE PRESIDENT: I would write, literally, watchful waiting -- that is about the size of it. But I don't like to use "watchful waiting" because it may have a connotation. You can use a different term with the same thought. That is about the size of it. That is about all there is.

Q Do you think there will be any report today?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know; I have absolutely no idea.

Q The morning papers, at least one of them, published an interview with President Machado which said that if the Liberal Party would request him to get out, he would.

Q What sort of reaction are you getting from other Latin-American countries, if any?

THE PRESIDENT: Nothing at all, not a thing. The only thing they had was the protest of the Spanish Ambassador down there and the inquiry of the British Ambassador.

Q Here is a dispatch from Santiago, Chile, which came into our office. It seems to represent the attitude down there.

THE PRESIDENT: (Looks over dispatch) I think they are getting it down there, through the Latin-American countries, all right. I think they are getting it all right.

Q Hamilton Fish gave a pretty story and also lined up the successful and possible steps that might be taken on the Cuban situation. (Laughter) And the first one concerned economic and financial and political pressure. Now, it is my understanding that Machado has really lost the support of the big financial interests, the support he did have, ever since he lost the interest on the bonds. Do you have any comment, on or off the record?

THE PRESIDENT: Entirely off the record, here is the real situation on the financial end of it. It is far, far less important than one would suppose. Take the Chase and the National City Banks, they have

just about given up hope of getting any part of their investment back and they are in the position of saying that anything they can get back is grand. They are not in a position to dictate or to ask for terms or anything like that. The major part of the investment is gone, hook, line and sinker, for all time and they know it. Therefore they are not much of a factor.

On the other hand, during the past four months, I have been talking with Cubans about trying to put the country back on its feet economically. There are various factors in that. I don't think you can use this unless you can use it without any possible connection with me -- leave me out entirely. I don't know how you can do it but I think you can say this: That for the past four months the State Department and the friends of Cuba in this country -- leaving out all reference to the White House or the Administration -- have been interested in doing everything they possibly can toward the economic rehabilitation of Cuba for the sake of the Cuban people and that that seems to involve perhaps three factors. The first factor is a land policy and, on the land policy, one of the difficulties has been that the tendency of the past ten or fifteen years has been to eliminate the small planter of tobacco and sugar. The small planter always gave a

little piece of ground to his employees to cultivate. Therefore, they were almost immune from starvation. However, the centralization of the small planters into big units has tended to take the Cuban farmer off the land -- I mean off a little piece of acreage -- and concentrate him in the villages. Hence, when sugar or tobacco get in a bad way economically and they lay off people, those people are subject to starvation. Therefore our thought and the most intelligent Cuban thought has been to get people back on little pieces of land where they will be able to grow their own food supply.

The second phase relates to the Cuban debts, the Cuban National Debt. That is altogether too high. The external debt and the internal debt is too high, the rate of interest is too high and the amortization payments are too high and probably there should be, for the sake of the tax situation in Cuba, a complete reorganization of the Government debt, putting it on a lower interest basis and extending the period of payment, lengthening out the annual amortization, which would make the Government finances far easier to work out and enable them to reduce taxes.

Then, of course, the third factor is what we have been working at both in London and Havana and Washington, which is the original sugar agreement, which would tend

to stabilize the Cuban situation. I think you can say that the State Department has been seeking a larger quota than the quota of 1,750,000 tons, which has been the figure discussed.

Q For Cuba?

THE PRESIDENT: For Cuba. Of course even a larger quota, such as 2,000,000 tons would be away below what their output was six or eight years ago.

Q Before the Hoover tariff?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q Was that 1,750,000 tons actually agreed on at that conference?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Nothing was agreed on. It was merely a figure for discussion.

Q Are you considering admitting that amount under the preferential tariff?

THE PRESIDENT: It would come under the preferential tariff.

Q Possibly the 20 per cent preferential might be increased?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know; we have not discussed that at all. The whole sugar quota business is getting on pretty well. The Philippines are involved in it, of course, to a certain extent but they are coming along in pretty good shape with it.

Q Would this quota mean anything unless you did get the Philippines in on it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes and no. We ought to get the Philippines in on it because, after all, the Independence Bill, if it is agreed to, puts the time for the 850,000 tons from the Philippines at five years. It is not a very long time that we have to worry about.

Q How about the Dutch? Would they come in under it?

THE PRESIDENT: In a sense, it is an original agreement.

It means the United States, on the consumption end, and Mexico, on the consumption end, and then the producing countries that are in the neighborhood, ~~P~~<sup>U</sup>erto Rico, Cuba, Mexico, which is also a producing country, the Philippines and Hawaii and then the beet sugar growers.

Q Is Mexico willing to go in on it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. We are getting excellent cooperation from Mexico on everything. First rate. Josephus Daniels is doing a good job and they like him a lot.

Q That is pretty good.

THE PRESIDENT: Do not connect me up with that because it should not come from me.

Q It is a good story.

THE PRESIDENT: And then, of course, the fourth factor in that is the continuation of the reciprocity tariff studies which we are engaged in at the present time.

Q I am not quite clear about the tariff on Cuban sugar. Under this sugar agreement, would a certain amount

of Cuban sugar be admitted duty-free?

THE PRESIDENT: Not that I know of. I think you have a continuation of the present preferential tariff. I don't think there is any question about admitting it free. It is an attempt to equalize consumption and production.

Q This may be a stupid question but, if we do establish a quota of 1,750,000 or 2,000,000 tons for Cuban sugar, it would mean that amount could come in under the preferential tariff?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. It means, in fact, limiting the amount of sugar production in Hawaii, limiting the amount of beet sugar production here, limiting the amount of production by general agreement in Puerto Rico and Cuba.

Q At present Cuba is free to send in anything she can?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. It is trying to do for the sugar crop, beet and cane, which comes in here, what we are doing with wheat and cotton within our own borders.

I think there is one other thing to be said about it. It is interesting because really for the first time it sets up a logical geographical region for a geographical portion of the world and eliminates entirely the bringing of sugar, let us say, from the Dutch East Indies, which is distinctly uneconomical.

Q Is Secretary Hull in agreement with that?

THE PRESIDENT: Very much. You see, it is not an economic thing to bring sugar from the Dutch East Indies to the United States.

Q Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: I will see you all tonight at 11 P.M.

Q And you will sail for Cuba on the 31st?

THE PRESIDENT: No. The only person I am worried about is Sam (Schulman, photographer, who was reported to be operating in the fighting area).

Q Have you had any protest on that?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q What makes matters worse is that the heaviest fighting is concentrated around Sloppy Joe's.

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't had a protest from the Herald Tribune.

Q He is probably living with Sumner Welles.