

L.T. - Willy, wed, Feb. 10, 1954

President Eisenhower spoke in grave tones today. His topic -- the complaints the Democrats are making, about the way Republican leaders have been attacking them on the Communist issue. Senator Monroney of Oklahoma, for example -- calling on the President to take a stand at his news conference today. Does he approve of the statements ⁱⁿ applying -- that the Democratic party had been soft with Communism -- amounting virtually to treason.

So, at the news conference, the President gave his reply -- speaking ^{with} ~~in~~ solemn earnestness. He said -- it is untrue ~~that~~ to ^{charge} ~~say~~ that the Democrats are tinged with treason, or amount to security risks. He called any such inuendo politically unwise and foolish.

Then he added that there is no way for a President to check such talk - except in his own branch ~~piece~~ of government. That is, he can control what officials of his own administration may have to say -- but he can't do much about Republicans elsewhere,

as in Congress. His words were slow and thoughtful, as he went on to ~~give~~ give the opinion -- that ~~he~~ ~~doubts~~ it is ^{not} wise for his own Executive Staff to make any great display of partisanship at this particular time.

A reporter asked ~~what~~ -- did he mean that he was advising ^{members} ~~speakers~~ of his administration not to indulge in extreme partisanship? The President replied -- yes.

He was asked about Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin -- who has been leading a chorus -- ^{declaring} ~~accusing~~ ~~the~~ ~~in~~ ~~last~~ ~~two~~ ~~Democratic~~ ~~administrations~~, ^{the} Roosevelt and Truman ^{administrations} ~~with charges that they~~ coddled Communists. ~~Replying to the McCarthy~~ ~~question~~ the President said -- he would not be drawn into any discussion of personalities. He was asked, likewise, about a statement made by Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams, who accused the Democrats of trying to frighten the country into a depression. Adams calling it --

a "fear deal".

President Eisenhower answered -- that it might be possible to mislead and frighten the country, to a certain extent, -- into a recession, but not -- into a real depression.

~~The President~~^{He} took note of the fact that Democrats in Congress are ~~threatening~~ threatening to withdraw support of the Eisenhower domestic program -- if the Republican attack continues. Which is much to the point -- the Republican margins in Congress being so slim.

To that the President replied that he must have Democratic support and expects it -- because ~~his~~ his administration is trying desperately to draw up a program ^{that is} as best for America.

Altogether -- a moderate reflective pronouncement in a noisy ~~political~~ political quarrel.

INDO CHINA

President Eisenhower told his news conference today that the sending of American technicians to Indo China is not likely to get us into the shooting war out there. Instead, it is intended to avoid any such possibility. The President said it would be a "tragedy" if we got into the shooting in Indo China.

Such is the reply to Senator ~~Mc~~ Russell of Georgia, who says the decision to send the technicians was a mistake - and might involve this country in that Indo Chinese conflict.

One hundred and five Americans wearing civilian clothes arrived today -- ~~along with General Otto Weyland, commander of the U.S. Air Forces in the Far East. The French say they need the technicians to look after the ~~XXXXXX~~ maintenance of American war planes now in service against the Reds. They ~~add that at least a hundred more American mechanics are expected, eventually.~~~~

There's not much news from the war front.

The Red invaders of the Kingdom of Laos are on the outskirts of the capital city of Luang Prabang.

But little fighting was reported today. The Communists apparently, mobilizing for an assault.

BERLIN CONFERENCE

Molotov's
~~The Soviet~~ European Security proposal, *that*
he presented
/ today, was pretty much as indicated yesterday.

Molotov ^{calling} for a treaty among European countries, which would leave out the United States. As a sort of concession, Molotov suggested that we could send "representatives as observers". And so could -- Red China. ~~He didn't mention Great Britain.~~ This would seem to add a note a mockery to the Red proposal for a "European Security Pact, which would forbid ^{any} ~~the countries participating to make any~~ alliance with outside powers. The United States, for example. That, of course, would break up the alliance of the West, which the Soviets have long been eager to disrupt.

(This Russian plan calls for the withdrawal of all occupation troops which would include American and British. That's the military part of it -- which would leave Western Europe at the mercy of the enormous armies of Soviet Russia and the Red satellites.)

Yesterday, we had the prediction that Great Britain, France and the United States would immediately reject the Soviet scheme. ~~They~~ ^{They} could hardly do anything else -- unless Messrs. Eden, Bidault and Dulles want the Berlin Conference to result in an agreement for Russian domination over all Europe.

EAST GERMANY

In East Germany, the Reds have mobilized military forces - and propagandists. The troops of the Red police mustered at full strength - two hundred thousand ~~is fear of a new revolt, by the~~ ^{to suppress possible} ~~workers of East Germany.~~ The propagandists ~~in~~ ^{trying} ~~an effort~~ ^a to talk down the wave of discontent aroused by the conference of foreign ministers.

It is easy to understand the state of mind of East Germans, after hearing the proposal made by the Western Powers ~~their insistence on~~ ^{for} a unification of Germany with free elections. East Germans -- catching a glimpse of liberty, ~~hoping~~ ~~against hope that the conference might result in~~ ~~the removal of the despotism that now grinds them~~ ~~down.~~ A glimpse of hope -- which only turns into darkness, when Molotov talks. ~~The agitation among~~ ~~the workers continues, and~~ the Communist authorities are trying to check ~~it~~ ^{the discontent} by sending out an Army of Red propagandists, making speeches against the West, trying to persuade East Germans to resign

themselves to the fact that there will be no free elections, no liberation for them.

TRUMAN

Former President Truman may place his private papers and files in the University of Missouri. He went to the University, today, to discuss the matter.

Previously, the word had been that the presidential papers of Harry Truman would be stored in a library to be built on the Truman farm at Grandview, Missouri. Much as -- the White House papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt are kept in a ~~mem~~ memorial library at Hyde Park, New York.

~~But, in the case of the Truman papers, there may be another solution. H.S.T. has ~~not~~ always said he wanted the documents to be placed where students and historians could have access to them. The University of Missouri would seem to be a ~~likely~~ likely answer, -- and the ~~former~~ former President was talking this over with University officials today.~~

POPE

The medical bulletin on Pope Pius the twelfth today states that the Pontiff has recovered ^{to} ~~so well that~~ ^{the point where} there is, in the words of the bulletin -- "good hope of a quick general recovery".

After having been on a liquid ~~XXXXXXXX~~ diet, since an attack of gastritis, sixteen days ago, the seventy-seven year old Pontiff, is now ~~is~~ able to take semi-solid foods. He sleeps well, and is able to be up and around for longer periods each day.

FLIGHT

Today's great sky voyage was not intended to set records -- either distance or speed. It had to do with -- the jet ~~in~~ stream. ^{It} Two giant U.S. bombers of the B-36 type flew from Tokyo to an Air Force base in Maine, and did it -- while steering a course in the tremendous current of air that flows, from East to West, at great ~~high~~ altitudes. The jet stream -- circling the globe up near the stratosphere. ^{It} The two bombers flew the distance of eighty-seven hundred miles non-stop -- ~~and~~ with no refueling, ⁱⁿ ~~time~~ less than twenty-nine hours.

An air voyage of research -- to investigate the jet stream which blows up to two hundred miles an hour at forty thousand feet.

BODENHEIM

The New York police say they have a confession in the murder of the poet-novelist, Maxwell Bodenheim, and his wife. They arrested a skid row character, a dishwasher named Harold Weinberg -- who had let the Bodenheim's occupy his dingy tenement flat. ~~They say that Weinberg has admitted that he shot Bodenheim, though he has not confessed the murder of the poet-author's wife.~~

The story behind ~~it~~ it is gloomy and sordid.

The ~~it~~ one time successful writer had drifted low -- far down into the world of Bowery derelicts.

He became a companion of the vagrant dishwasher -- who, it seems, made advances to Bodenheim's wife. ~~Bodenheim threatening to kill him if he didn't leave the wife alone.~~ The situation ending -- with murder in the shabby place which Weinberg ^{had} rented. ~~The grim end of a depressing story.~~

SPELLING BEE

Here's the result of a surprising sort of spelling bee. High school sophmores ^{versus} Abraham Lincoln. History shows that the great Emancipator was not much of a speller. He had only ten months of school -- in spite of which he made himself ~~quite~~ a scholar, self educated. ^{But he} ~~He~~ never did master the intricacies of English spelling. ~~But~~ So how ^{would} ~~did~~ the rail splitter with his mere few months of schooling do against high school sophmores now adays. ^{It} The test was made at Eastern Illinois State College, where Professor Charles H. ^{is} Coleman is a noted Lincoln scholar. He lined up twelve high school students, and held a spelling bee -- giving them twenty-two words. Eleven of which -- Lincoln misspelled. The other eleven -- spelled correctly, by the Civil War President of the United States.

They started off with the word - "aberration." Lincoln misspelled it -- ^{with} ~~putting~~ two ~~in~~ B's, ~~in the~~ ~~word~~, instead of one. The high school sophmores were just as bad. Everyone misspelled -- ~~in~~ "aberration"

The same goes for - "emanation." Lincoln misspelled it. So did the high school students of today.

Lincoln did all right with "appurtenances," spelling it correctly. The sophmores however ~~fixk~~ flunked, all twelve misspelling the word.

The final result showed that the twelve high school students were worse at spelling than Abraham Lincoln. With ten years of schooling, the sophmores flunked on more words than he did -- although Lincoln had only ten months in school.

JEWS HARP

Here's a chance for ~~a lot~~ of you musicians -- if you can play the Jews Harp. I don't know how that instrument got its name. Maybe the ancient Hebrews twanged away on ^{it.} ~~that peculiar music making gadget -- or would you call it music? -- But, however,~~ ^{Anyway} the Jews Harp ~~got its name it~~ has long been a favorite -- in the country districts among the haystacks.

~~So you who wants to hire a Jews Harp player? Some hillbilly band, you might think. But not at all.~~ The job is offered by Symphony Conductor Leopold Stokowski, who has asked C B S to broadcast an appeal. Stokowski is preparing a performance of a new symphony^y work by the Composer Charles Ives, and the score calls for -- a Jews Harp. That rustic instrument to be played along with violins, horns, and flutes.

Stokowski ^{went} ~~appealed~~ to the musicians union, but ~~got~~ got a cold response. The union saying -- they didn't recognize the Jews Harp as a musical instrument. So Stokowski was -- stuck.

Hence the appeal to the public, the famous conductor declaring - that he'll audition all the Jews Harp players who show up.

Should be something to listen to - twang, twang, twang. *I used to be pretty good at it myself.*

CHECK

A television story came true today -- a T V play about a farmer who got a check of One Million ~~and~~ three hundred and thirty-five dollars from the government. Instead of Three hundred and thirty five dollars, which was coming to him, as a corn ~~subsidy~~ subsidy. That was fiction, but the same thing has happened in real life, at Mobile, Alabama, where a negro beer truck driver received a government check for Nine hundred thousand and twenty-one dollars and sixty-six cents. ^R Willie Smith served in the army in Korea, then came back -- and started driving a ~~be~~ beer truck. The Army owed him ~~Twenty-one~~ twenty-one dollars and sixty-six cents, for services in an infantry reserve. The check-writing machine in Washington went haywire and added Nine hundred thousand dollars to the twenty-one ~~dollars and sixty-six cents.~~

When he got the check, Willie Smith was dazzled. He says that, for a while, he was up in the clouds -- although he knew it wasn't true.

~~He~~ He came out of the clouds, and looked up the first government official he could find, asking what to do. ~~He~~ ^{FP} today he mailed back the check for nearly a million and asked the army - to please send him his twenty-one dollars and sixty six cents.

And now back to Harry Marble - in

2 N.Y.