

Senator Kenneth S. Wherry
USS from Nebraska

LINCOLN DAY DINNER
San Francisco, California
February 9, 1950
8:00 P.M.

COPY

I. INTRODUCTION

Fellow-Americans:

Tonight we celebrate, -- with other meetings across
the land, --

the 141st Birthday Anniversary of

Abraham Lincoln, --

the Great Emancipator, --

the great American, --

the co-founder of our Party, -- and

the molders of its never-dying principles.

The American people believe in the precepts, -- the
admonitions, -- and the examples of Abraham Lincoln.

"Four score and seven years ago
our fathers brought forth on this
continent a new nation, conceived in
liberty, and dedicated to the proposi-
tion that all men are created equal..."

True, -- oh, so true, -- are those words of Lincoln.

And again: --

"Now, we are engaged in a great
civil war; testing whether this
nation, or any nation so conceived
and so dedicated, can long endure."

Once again that crucial test confronts us: --

whether we shall preserve in America,
individual freedom, - or surrender it to an
all-powerful Federal Government; -- and

whether, - in foreign affairs, - we shall
restore Constitutional procedures, - or continue
to lose the peace by secret agreements, --
inefficiency, -- and drift.

Upon the decision of the American people, -- hangs the
life or death of our Republic.

We shall fight for our American heritage.

We will fight against the radical, - alien-minded forces
that are plunging America down the road to an all-powerful, -
spendthrift, - socialistic Federal Government.

And, -- of one thing I am sure, -- this time, -- in the
1950 election, -- we Republicans are going to fight.

II. AMERICANISM AGAINST SOCIALISM

In our opposition to their phoney panaceas, -- we
shall give no quarter, -- no compromise, -- no me-too.

Red socialism has not worked anywhere, -- and we don't
want it here.

Oh, yes, -- there are those who say: --

Don't worry.

Just relax.

They say: --

YPOC

all the President and his followers
in Congress are attempting to do is to lure
votes; --

they are seeking to make demagogic
appeals; -- and

they have no intention to enact their
socialistic spendthrift legislation.

This view of such a cynical procedure raises the
naked issue of sincerity.

But, -- challenges of insincerity, -- will not stop
this menace which threatens our form of Government.

It can only be stopped by the Republican Party in the
1950 election.

I come to you from the firing line in Washington; --
and make no mistake about it, -- the President, - over and

over again, -- has officially demanded adoption of his radical schemes, -- which lead straight to the police state.

Don't let anyone mislead you. President Truman is going all-out to socialize America, -- just as they are socializing Great Britain. That is the pattern.

He has asked officially for power, - power, - and more power; --

power to deliver to the pressure groups; --

power to put ceilings over prices and wages, --

and floors under prices and wages; --

power to build and operate steel plants, - and any other plant, -- in direct competition with private enterprise, -- to meet his ideas of what a balanced national economy should be; --

power over education, -- housing, -- health, -- and worst of all; --

power over food from farm to table.

He seeks to impose the monstrous Brannan Plan, -- under which farmers would become the regimented wards of government bosses, -- and all taxpayers and consumers would be swindled.

Under its provisions, -- the farmers will have to account for every head of livestock and every head of cabbage.

It will take a Gestapo to enforce it, -- penalties, - fines, - and jail sentences.

And, you consumers, -- out of your hard-earned dollars will be taxed to pay the bill.

Ah! -- don't be fooled, -- you are not going to get something for nothing.

All of these proposals are before the Congress. Many of them are on the Calendar. And this Administration is going all-out to elect Congressmen who will help force passage of these measures.

His campaigners will promise you this, -- and they will promise you that, -- but they never tell you what they will cost.

They will cost billions and billions of dollars; -- and, -- think of it, -- the Federal government, - today, - is broke, -- flat broke.

III. DEFICIT-SPENDING

The Government will be in the red 5 billion this fiscal year, -- much more next year, -- and the national debt is now more than the actual war-time peak.

The President is playing hocus-pocus. He is manufacturing money, - through the banking system, - to cover up the deficit.

This Administration is spending \$250 more than it takes in -- every time your watch ticks.

This Administration wrote 274 million checks last fiscal year.

These deficit-spending dollars are contagious inflation dollars. They are Typhoid Marys.

The President and his lieutenants, -- boldly attempt to justify deficit-spending. They glorify it, -- but let me remind you, -- it has wrecked every government that has tried it.

It is just as certain with the government, -- as it is with you, -- if you continue to borrow more than you can repay.

Deficit spending leads to national bankruptcy. And the first victims, -- already hit by the shrinkage in the purchasing power of the dollar are: --

people who live on fixed incomes, --

people who hold life insurance policies, --

people who have saved for the rainy day, --
and for their children's education.

At the rate this Administration is going, - our
dollar, -- which is already a rubber dollar, -- will be worth
about as much, - in the market place, - as a bale of Chinese
currency.

IV. TAXES

To finance his venture into the great blue yonder, --
the President asks -- for higher taxes.

He says he will relieve you of additional taxes by
placing them on business.

But, - again, - Fellow-Americans, -- don't be fooled.

You carry the tax burden.

Wherever taxes are taken from business, -- they are
passed on in your cost of living.

Do you know that in the building or the purchase of a house, -- there are 639 Federal and State taxes?

Do you know that in a loaf of bread there are more than 150?

And, now, -- you ladies listen to this: --

Do you know that when you buy your Easter bonnet, -- you will pay 150 different taxes?

When the Truman campaigners tell you, -- that a little socialism won't hurt, -- remind them of Lincoln's simple words.

(I quote)

"Property is the fruit of labor;
property is desirable; is a positive good
in the world. That some should be rich

shows that others may become rich, and hence is just encouragement to industry and enterprise. Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another, but let him work diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built."

(end of quote)

The warning alarm of insolvency is coming from all sides.

Democrat Representative Cannon just said: --

(I quote)

"From every point of view, our fiscal situation is the most unfavorable in the peacetime history of the Republic."

(end of quote)

Remember what Lenin, -- the Russian dictator, -- said:

(I quote)

YPOC

"Some day we will force the United States to spend itself into destruction."

(end of quote)

Is this terrible prophecy coming true?

Fellow-Citizens:

The day of reckoning is here.

What are you going to do about it?

Why, -- the only sound, - sensible thing to do now,

is: --

cut the cost of government; --

cut government down to size; --

balance the budget; --

get on a pay-as-you-go basis, -- and

provide for orderly reduction of the

public debt.

Stand firmly, ~~Y~~ on this Republican economy platform, --
carry it to the people; -- and you will elect a Republican
Congressman in every District in the State of California, --
and a Republican President in 1952.

V. LABOR

When the Republicans have a majority in Congress, --
we will have a government by law and not by men.

We will stand for no more by-passing of law, -- such
as President Truman has done to the Taft-Hartley Act.

He has made commitments to labor racketeers to
sabotage this law, -- or he is befuddled by sheer incompetence.

This refusal to get coal production, -- is playing
politics with human misery.

We Republicans, -- believe in the continuation of the
Taft-Hartley Act because: --

It has restored equality between employer
and employes; -- guaranteed the right of collective
bargaining, - the recognition of unions, - and
the right to strike, -- while
protecting the rights of the public and the
union members.

Under this law, --

union membership has increased to new highs; --
wages have risen to record levels; --
and strikes have decreased.

VI. COMMUNISM

There is a desperate need for a strong policy against
the spread of communism within our gates. And we insist that
America's efforts toward that end be directed by those who
have no sympathy with communism.

We condemn the failure of the Administration, -- to recognize the full implications of this threat to our security.

We deplore the dangerous degree, - to which Communists have been employed in important government posts.

We shall see to it that no Communist is on the payroll of the Federal government.

There is no room in our government for the Alger Hisses, and their fellow-travelers.

We Republicans are fighting Communism on all fronts. And in the front ranks, -- is your own Congressman Nixon, -- who has made an all-out effort to expose these enemies of our Republic.

We need more Nixons, -- *to get out and* ~~both in and out of government, --~~ *but we need more* ~~to get out and rid communism, --~~ wherever it raises its ugly head.

VII. PRESIDENT'S CONFUSED RECORD

Fellow-Citizens: --

There is the President's record of confusion, --
confusion that: --

deficit-spending is a sound fiscal policy; --
mounting national debt is an asset, -- not a
liability; -- and

higher and higher taxes can be imposed, -
without killing initiative, - incentive, - and
enterprise.

The President is confounded by the: --

prolonged stoppage in coal production, -
when, - at the same time, - he refuses to enforce
the law.

He is bewildered by failure, --

when it is pointed out, - his Administration

is infected by disloyal persons.

He reminds one, -- of what Abraham Lincoln said, --

of another President in his time: --

(I quote)

"...His mind, taxed beyond its power, is running hither and thither, like some tortured creature on a burning surface, finding no position on which it can settle down and be at ease.

"...He is a bewildered, confounded, and miserably perplexed man."

(end of quote)

VIII. FOREIGN AFFAIRS

This confusion also holds true in foreign affairs, -- chapter after chapter of failure and defeat.

The American people face the hard fact, that --- although hundreds of thousands of lives have been sacrificed, - and billions have been spent, -- five years after the

explosions of war, -- we do not have peace.

The root cause of this failure goes back to recognition of Communist Russia, in 1933, -- when self-styled New Deal Democrats captured control of our government.

Republican Presidents had refused to recognize Soviet Russia, -- because her dictators gave no assurance against spreading their propaganda to undermine our government.

Unfortunately, -- no such guarantee was demanded in 1933.

It was then, -- that the Red Rulers of Russia were welcomed into the family of nations.

At Cairo, -- Yalta, -- and Teheran, -- through secret agreements, -- the gate was thrown wide-open for the expansion of Russia.

All of these secret deals to remap the world, -- and "freeze" the ultimate peace, -- were ratified and confirmed

COPY

by President Truman at Potsdam.

The Republican Party had no part in those secret agreements, -- under which Soviet Russia gained jurisdiction over Poland, -- Czechoslovakia, -- and other Balkan countries; -- and under which China, was eventually to be taken over by Moscow directed communists.

When the terrible consequences of the secret agreements became apparent, --

the appeasement of Russia, --

the Morgenthau Plan, to keep Germany forever an agricultural state, -- and

the impossibility of shifting of millions upon millions of people from one jurisdiction to another, --

-- it was then the President called in some Republicans, -- ostensibly, to initiate and develop a bi-partisan foreign policy.

But, the President, -- confronted by his own signature ratifying the betrayals at Cairo, -- Yalta, -- and Teheran, -- picked and chose his spots for advice, -- leaving out wide areas of foreign affairs.

From then on, -- the Administration has been using the bi-partisan label as a pretense to cover up its own mistakes and escape responsibility for its tragic failure to win lasting peace.

Around the entire Executive Branch, -- the Truman Administration has built an iron curtain against information going to duly-authorized committees of the Congress.

The President has issued orders that no department head or bureau chief, -- shall give testimony to Congressional committees at variance with his view.

This attitude of the President, -- is in conflict with the principles of good government, -- and in defiance of the

right of Congress, -- the policy-making branch, - to information necessary for the discharge of its duties.

Is it any wonder we have no firm peace?

Is it any wonder we are losing the cold war?

Russia has grabbed and annexed into its orbit over 13 million square miles and about 800 million human beings.

So, -- while Secretary Acheson and his pal Alger Hiss were calling the signals in the State Department, -- fourteen men in the Moscow Politburo have captured control of one-fifth of the globe's land surface, - and one-third of all mankind.

Since the end of the war, -- wrangling and back-biting haveraged in the National Defense Establishment. The President, -- as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, -- long ago, -- could have put an end to this scandalous situation with one forthright order: --

COPY

unify, cooperate or get out.

Our defenses in Alaska are woefully weak, - in the light of modern warfare, -- spearheaded by long-range bombing, -- rockets, -- guided missiles, -- atomic bombs, -- and now the hydrogen bomb.

Governor Ernest Gruening of Alaska reported to Congress, --

-- the defenses there are so weak, that two air-borne divisions could capture Alaska in one day.

The blackest chapter in America's history, -- save one, -- Pearl Harbor, - is the loss of China to Communist Russia by appeasement of this Administration.

But there is still time to stop the Red tide in the Pacific, -- as has been so ably pointed out by your Senator Knowland of California, -- if only the Administration had the will to do so.

COPY

The first step is to assure China, - and other countries in Asia, - that the United States morally supports their cause.

This should be backed up by economic and military aid, -- wherever feasible.

Most important of all, -- take Acheson's hands off our military strategy, -- and keep the defense and national security in the Department of National Defense where it belongs.

Formosa is the last citadel of freedom-loving people of China.

Hold Formosa against the Communists, -- and there will be kept alive, - active resistance by millions of Chinese on the mainland who want liberty, -- and are eager to fight for it.

The Chinese nationalists have never asked for American troops to help them hold Formosa. They do desperately plead for military equipment.

Surplus military equipment is already in the Pacific and should be supplied them.

Congress has authorized this aid, -- and provided the funds, -- but the President refuses to act.

On the European front, -- the American people have been most generous in helping ECA countries recover from the war's devastation.

More than 30 billion dollars, -- 30 billion, -- of your money, -- and your children's money, -- have been poured into Western Europe, -- in 23 different money-spending schemes.

All the ECA countries have reached goals of productivity far above prewar levels. The economic problems, -- which now confront them, -- can only be solved by themselves.

Our procedures, in aid, for those countries now, -- should be directed toward restoring peacetime, -- private channels of commerce.

To attract private capital, -- the ECA countries
must: --

eliminate trade barriers, --

establish free convertibility of their
currencies, -- and

recognize that Germany's recovery, -- minus
war-making power, - is vital to the recovery of
all Europe; -- and that Germany must have the
tools to earn her living.

IX. THE ROAD TO PEACE

Fellow-Americans: --

The solution of these problems, -- foreign and
domestic, -- is up to all of us, -- every American.

Public opinion, -- when aroused, -- is the strongest
force in the land.

COPY

It is your job, -- and the job of every American, --
to see to it that the people never lose sight of the truth,
that; --

"eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Let us, -- here and now, -- rededicate ourselves to
the proposition, --

"that this nation, under God, shall
have a new birth of freedom, and that
government of the people, by the people,
for the people, shall not perish from the
earth."

Let us go forward, -- as Modern Paul Reveres and
Minute Men, -- sounding the alarm.

Carry the facts to the people, -- into your business, -
the shops, - the homes, - the farms, -- into every precinct, -
and into the wards.

Ring all the doorbells and tell the American people: --

We Republicans stand for a government in which, -- the elected representatives and public officials are servants of the people, and not their masters.

We Republicans maintain, -- government can help its people to prosperity, - by lightening the burdens of debt and taxes, - laying down rules of fair play, - and by protecting those whose own strength and resources are not sufficient to protect themselves.

We Republicans stand for the maximum of freedom of choice for the individual, -- consistent with the right of all to the same freedom.

We Republicans stand for competitive enterprise, under just laws fairly administered.

We Republicans stand for efficiency and pay-as-you-go economy in government.

COPY

We Republicans stand for an equitable distribution of our tax burden, -- to stimulate enterprise to give incentive for investment in new and expanding plants for the increase of productivity, -- and to provide jobs at fair wages.

Tell them, -- the American people, -- we offer them a new leadership for the achievement of a lasting peace.

We Republicans insist upon restoration of our foreign agreements to their proper place inside the Constitution, -- and we insist that the United States, - shall not be bound to and course of action unless the spirit and letter of our Constitutional procedure are followed.

We Republicans oppose secret agreements, -- and insist upon restoration of our foreign commitments to their proper place inside the Constitution.

We Republicans favor full support of the United Nations.