

November 30, 1953.

Personal

Dear Cabot:

Your note of the 25th leaves me in some doubt as to the meaning of one of the points it raises. This point is that a "statement could be made in conjunction with an expression of your view that adequate steps be taken promptly to eliminate those in the government departments who should not be there."

As you know, this was one of the first subjects that the new Administration tackled, last January. It is my impression that the methods devised have been working well; that we are eliminating from government departments those who can fairly be classed as security risks. Moreover, we believe we are doing this with a complete respect for the basic rights of the individual. Is it your conviction that we should do something more drastic?

Thank you very much for your kind comment on my talk before the B'nai B'rith. You are mistaken in thinking that I wrote it myself -- for the reason that it was not written. It was concocted as I sat at the table and conversed with some of my associates at the dinner.

Incidentally, I made an impromptu talk under somewhat similar circumstances at the Catholic University some days ago. This morning I had a note from Cardinal Mooney congratulating me on my skill in speaking without notes, yet sticking closely to my written text. This, of course, was not a difficult feat since the text was taken down by some reporters from what I had to say.

Anyhow, thanks a lot for writing.

As ever,



The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.,
The United States Representative
to the United Nations,
2 Park Avenue,
New York, New York.

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