



Letter to John Francis Neylan, April 12, 1950: Banc Mss C-B 881, Box 177: 1950 # 2 Loyalty Oath

[Letter, April 12, 1950]

April 12, 1950
Mr. John Francis Neylan
1 Montgomery Street
San Francisco 4, California
Dear Mr. Neylan:

Congratulations! I hope that this may be the beginning of the end of Mr. Bridges. I am keeping my fingers crossed, however, because all of the Left Wing forces in the country will now mobilize to save him - and Mr. Frankfurter's Supreme Court may be the final answer.

I have just been down in Texas analyzing and investigating the political situation. I think this Texas picture is very important because a great many people have been led to believe that Texas is the one Southern State that could be depended on to turn Republican when they get their stomachs full of New Dealism.

At the present time a movement is under way down there to mobilize the State of Texas behind Eisenhower. All over the state I heard Eisenhower's name mentioned as a sort of hope and destiny. I don't think there is any question but what he could carry the state. The plan is to build a big boom for him and cinch it by naming him as an independent candidate at the state convention.

Another group down there believes that the final answer is the two-party system and these are very substantial people, too. One of the men interested in this movement is one of the richest oil men in Texas. They made a very good showing in 1948 - but, of course, far from winning. It is a good foundation upon which to build.

We have some extremely interesting contests in motion right now. In North Carolina the conservative-minded people are carrying on a tremendous fight against Graham. They have a fine candidate in a man by the name of Smith. It is altogether possible that he may beat Graham but Graham has a tremendous hold on the "common people" in that state.

In Florida Pepper is having the fight of his life and my friends in that state say that at the present time it is a tossup.

There is only one answer to all of this - that is FIGHT. Most business men are afraid to cut loose because they are vulnerable to government instrumentalities at too many points. For instance, on the radio there is a continuous buzz of commentators defending the New Deal and the Hiss crowd. Elmer Davis and Ed Murrow are two of them. Monday night on the radio Murrow in lambasting the Supreme Court's refusal to

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review the "Hollywood 10" case sounded the Communist line to a "T". Not long ago while I was on this Texas trip I heard over the radio in my car Elmer Davis lambasting Senator McCarthy and when he finished I noted the sponsor was the First National Bank in Beaumont. I immediately wrote the president of that bank and three

or four days later I listened in on the Davis program and the name of the sponsor was missing. Apparently they had dumped it.

If the women of this country would take the time to write to the Franco-American Spaghetti Company, which actually is part of the Campbell Soup Company at Camden, New Jersey, we would soon get some action on that. We are at war and we might as well realize it and use good "military" tactics. If we are going to win this war we have got to use some intelligence and have the courage to go into action.

I hope that our good friend Mattei will some of these days be convinced that we are doing a job second to no other in this fight for the American way of life. If the business men don't support this fight, it will be lost by default. This is no child's play - this is a showdown fight with everything that is worth while in life at stake.

With best wishes

Sincerely yours
Executive Secretary
GWR:gs