To: Bob Hey
From: Frank McNulty

Nov. 5, 1948

Dixicrute Purge (NA)

Bill Lawrence's story is the perfect example of hot-stove-league speculation. It is based on hiring one collector of internal revenue, and hedged with a lot of

intangibles. Howard McGrath has gone on the record in favor of cleaning out the
party machinery and the national committee of Dixicrats and other breeds without
the party law. But he has also said that there will be no attempt to purge
the Dixicrat Senators from membership or chairmanship of committees. This would
raise one hell of a fight in Congress, have to upset the hitherto impregnable
seniority system, and lead to all kinds of reprisals. For the same reason, it
is a little far fetched to believe that the administration will start
firing wholesale employees of the Dixicrat Senators. All of this is being
thoroughly reviewed in Key West, but Bill Lawrence's story is plainly naively
for effect. In the House, Sam Rayburn says flatly (and not for attribution) that
there will be no attempt to penalize and cut the throat of anybody so far as
he is concerned.