

## \$100,000 Dodd Dinner Held in 1965; Politicians Differ on Tax-Free Claim

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The chairman of the Democratic Party in New Haven, Conn., reported yesterday that a \$100,000 testimonial dinner for Sen. Thomas J. Dodd's personal financial benefit was held in Hartford on March 6, 1965.

Confirmation of this new "testimonial" to the Connecticut Democratic Senator came on a day in which Sen. John J. Williams (R-Del.) was challenging Dodd's contention that a reported \$100,000 raised at two previous dinners—in 1961 and 1963—was a personal gift from friends and was therefore tax-free.

Williams, ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, said the proceeds from political dinners are taxable as income unless used for campaign purposes.

"I don't see how it could be otherwise," he said.

The principal speaker at last year's testimonial for Sen. Dodd was Vice President Humphrey. The dinner was held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel in Hartford and attracted about 1000 persons at \$100 a plate.

The Hartford Courant reported at the time that the purpose of the dinner was to "wipe out the deficit" from Sen. Dodd's successful 1964 re-election campaign.

### 'Personal Use' Cited

But Arthur Barbieri, the New Haven Party chairman, who was chairman of the dinner committee, told The Washington Post the net proceeds were turned over to Dodd for his personal use.

"It was a testimonial tribute to Sen. Dodd for his services to Connecticut," said Barbieri.

"I was proud to be the chairman and I would do it again tomorrow. The money was not designated for campaign purposes. It was turned over to the Senator to be used at his personal discretion."

This explanation came as a surprise to Democratic National Chairman John Bailey who lives in Hartford and

who attended the 1965 dinner. He said he was unaware that the proceeds were intended as a personal gift to Dodd.

"I never knew what happened to the money," Bailey said.

He said he also had been unaware that proceeds for the

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## **\$100,000 Dodd Dinner Held in '65; Bailey, Humphrey Unaware of 'Gift'**

1961 and 1963 "testimonials" to Dodd had been turned over to the Senator for his personal use.

"I thought we were just having a dinner," Bailey said.

Vice President Humphrey apparently was unaware of the purposes of the 1965 dinner, according to his office. A spokesman for Humphrey said the Vice President had assumed that the dinner was a routine campaign fund-raising affair. He was not informed, the spokesman said, that the proceeds were intended as a personal gift to Dodd.

Another comment came from the Republican state chairman in Connecticut, A. Searle Pinney. In reference to the 1961 and 1963 "testimonials" to Dodd, Pinney said it was difficult "to accept the Senator's definition of these contributions as gifts. To do so would undermine public confidence in campaign giving, since, to the best of my knowledge, this concept has never existed in Connecticut, certainly not in the Republican Party. It becomes even more important now to have a full public examination of all the charges made against Sen. Dodd."

New Haven Democratic Chairman Barbieri's description of the 1965 dinner as a personal benefit for Sen. Dodd is consistent with the reported facts on the Sena-

tor's campaign balance sheet for 1964.

In a legally required statement filed with the Secretary of the United States Senate, Dodd stated that his personal expenses in the 1964 campaign were \$11,891.60 and that they were exactly offset by contributions of \$11,891.60.

He suffered, in other words, no personal financial losses in the campaign, according to his official report, and thus had no "deficit" to wipe out with the proceeds from a post-election dinner.

In addition to Dodd's personal campaign report, his Connecticut organization reported for 1964 expenditures of \$174,159.44 and receipts of \$167,497.87, leaving a deficit of almost \$6700.

There has been no public financial report on the results of the 1965 Hartford dinner for Dodd. Barbieri said the money was turned over to Dodd by Matthew Moriarity, a Manchester, Conn., automobile dealer, and by Edward Sullivan, a member of Sen. Dodd's staff in Hartford.

Neither Moriarity nor Sullivan could be reached by telephone to give an accounting.

The Senator was en route to Washington from Florida where he had been visiting his son, who is recovering from an appendectomy.

Earlier this week, associates of the Senator pictured him as a "poor man" who required

outside assistance to meet his financial obligations as a public figure. It was for this reason, the Senator's associates said, that Dodd's friends and constituents made cash gifts to him through the device of "testimonial" dinners. As gifts, they said, the money was not taxable.

Among Dodd's outside sources of income, according to his associates, are residual fees from his former law firm in Hartford, and lecture fees. As a radio broadcaster for the "militantly anti-Communist" American Security Council, Dodd received \$6373.69 last year, according to A.S.C. President John Fisher of Chicago. The daily radio program is devoted "exclusively to Cold War developments" and is described by A.S.C. as the "largest daily radio program in the United States." Dodd appears on the program twice a week on the average, according to Fisher.

### **Correction**

In a story yesterday dealing with contributions to testimonial dinners for Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.), The Washington Post incorrectly identified the International Latex Co. as a Connecticut firm and incorrectly identified A. N. Spanel as president of the firm. Spanel's title is board chairman. The company is chartered in Delaware.