

SUNDAY

JANUARY 24, 1965

And so, ~~at long last~~^{at last}, the old warrior is dead. Winston Churchill died about 3:00 o'clock this morning. I was chagrined ^{when} ~~I~~ ^{to} learn that they had waked up Lyndon to tell him. Dr. ^{that his} Gould told me later ~~the~~ temperature rose immediately thereafter and that he thought it was directly attributable to the word of Churchill's death. But all this I learned later in the day because I slept like a log until 10:00 O'clock - the most refreshing thing in the world to do. Then I went downstairs with my robe on and had my breakfast in Lyndon's room. He had had his long before. He was very quiet and he let the doctors work on him instead of telling ~~him~~ what to do. In fact he was so orderly a patient that I know he must have been feeling bad. ^{and} George had set up Press headquarters out here at Bethesda Hospital ~~to~~ ^{and} hold live television press conferences.)

Today there was one about 11:00 o'clock and about 3:00 o'clock. It was a day of reassurance. Around noon Lyndon's temperature was normal. In the afternoon, as predicted, it rose to about 100.6. Dr. Gould is still sticking to ~~about~~ five days in the hospital. Dr. Burkley is speaking ^{for} the three of them ~~have been~~ ^{competent} doing a very ~~competent~~, concise brief job of it. The doctors called me aside and very quietly and firmly told me that they were strongly opposed to Lyndon's going to Churchill's funeral next Saturday. That he would probably feel well ~~was~~ enough to go but would ^{feel} ~~feel~~ weak and would be a prey to any germs that came along. ^X If he contracted any other infection it would be harder to deal with. They skimmed around the word pneumonia. A very real objection to ~~him~~ going to Churchill's funeral was the sheer emotional impact. I believe in the end it would be wise enough not to go. Jack was in an out all day. He signed some letters - he signed the Budget Message.

He even teased Jack about being out of town. ^{Jack} He had gone up to New York for just one night. On the one night we needed him. That makes us even. I had been waiting for months and what a night I chose. The day was full of wonderful TV programs about Churchill's life. ~~We~~ We must be screened from calls and telegrams because only one call got through to me from Mary Rather. Tomorrow I shall have ^{To ask} to start hearing about who did call or sent flowers. Tomorrow I shall go back to work. I am comforting myself that this enforced rest could be a boon to Lyndon. That he could even lose a few pounds. If only he doesn't let the speculation of the columnists and his own sense of rising to duty cause him to go to Churchill's funeral. We couldn't ask the Lord for more than his progress today.