Growing Democratic Criticism Backed

Yalta Release Called Diversion by Lehman

New York Senator's Norfolk Speech Charges Dulles Tried to Draw Attention from Asia

By Robert C. Smith

Senator Herbert Lehman (Democrat, New York) charged here last night that Secretary of State Dulles released the Yalta papers to "divert attention from the highly dangerous Asian situation." The former New York Governor said he is in full agreement with the view of Senator George (Democrat, Georgia) that release of the record may harm future conferences for world peace. Throwing his weight behind growing Democratic criticism of the release, Senator Lehman said the papers which were made public amounted to "no more than tidbits, a snitch and a snatch based on extracts of what happened."

He said he thinks that the papers have succeeded in turning attention of the American public from the Asian situation only temporarily. "The situation is too serious and too acute for this to be permanent," he added.

Replying to a question concerning criticism by British Prime Minister Churchill of the release, Lehman said, "The criticism is justified because those conferences were between men who had the fate of the world in their hands. They had to talk frankly with each other, never dreaming that their words would be released, piecemeal, ten years later."

He said the document made public was not an official record. "There is no excuse for publication of these papers."

Lehman made his remarks in an interview before addressing the Norfolk observance of the American Jewish Tercentary celebration.

See other story on Back Page

Only Saturday, Senator George, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, charged that release of the Yalta papers has done "real harm" to efforts to reach some peaceful settlement with Russia and its Communist Allies.

Senator George said that the only final alternative to diplomatic conference with Russia is war.