Harriman Urges Republicans to Take Up Cudgels Against 'Ministry of Fear'

Assailing McCarthyism as an evil influence, Averell Harriman, former Director for Mutual Security, urged the Democratic party yesterday to take a forthright stand on the matter and make it an issue in the Congressional campaigns next year.

Mr. Harriman was one of a group of speakers who participated in "A Day of Political Education" program held at the Commodore Hotel by the women's division of the Democratic State Committee. Attending were 300 women.

While Mr. Harriman emphasized his belief that the Democratic party should take the lead in the fight against Senator Joseph R. McCarthy, Republican of Wisconsin, he said that the leaders of the Republican party, including President Eisenhower, should deal with McCarthyism and that all Americans, regardless of party affiliation, should join the fight.

Says McCarthy Is Not Needed

"We want no 'Ministry of Fear' that is, no use of the methods of Hitler and Stalin in our country," Mr. Harriman said. "It's on a record that I was concerned about Communist infiltration five years before McCarthy ever heard of it. We can deal with that infiltration effectively and without any help from him or his ilk."

"I must add to the principle that a man or woman is innocent until he is proved guilty. I've seen too much of the suffering that can come to men and women and to their children as the result of smear by McCarthy and his ilk."

Speaking of the so-called peace offensive by Russia, Mr. Harriman, who also has served as Ambassador to that country, said that the Kremlin had been weakened by the death of Stalin and that Soviet leaders were now trying to relieve internal and external tensions.

Declaring that there was a change in tactics but no indication of a change in the ultimate objectives of world Communist domination, Mr. Harriman warned against the "relaxationists," whom he described as the people who are ready to seize upon any lessening of immediate threat to halt or reverse the policies guiding the free nations.

McCarthy Held Aiding Reds

In a discussion of a recent trip to Asia, Dr. Lester Granger, executive director of the National Urban League, also criticized Senator McCarthy. He said that statements such as those put forth "virtually every day" by the Wisconsin Senator were doing more than any Communist propaganda could do to build up Communist influence in Asia.

Joseph S. Clark, Democratic Mayor of Philadelphia, said that the future of the Democratic party might well depend on the size of the majorities it could pile up in metropolitan areas throughout the country. To get these majorities, he said, the party must be completely honest as well as liberal. Tributes to former United States Senator Robert F. Wagner, who died Monday, were paid by Richard H. Balch, Democratic state chairman, and Mrs. William H. Good, member of the Democratic National Committee. Mrs. Good said that he probably was the greatest friend labor ever had, and Mr. Balch praised him for the many humanitarian measures he sponsored.