April 29, 1981

other people of being fellow travelers and Communists, and he said, let's debate on public television before the public and on a particular day before the largest television crowd in the history of the United States at that time, Edward R. Murrow took on Joseph R. McCarthy and two hours later, for all practical purposes, McCarthyism was dead because it was exposed for exactly what it was. It was exposed as a demagogic trick to build one man's power and the noble purposes, the good purposes that were being achieved had been lost. Edward R. Murrow began the start of the fall of Joseph R. McCarthy with that television program and just as quickly as McCarthyism built up, it folded. You don't take a loyalty oath today to become a school teacher. You don't have to file explanations of saying if you have ever belonged to this organization or that organization and we did all that once and the media were scared too if you remember. NBC, CBS and ABC hired exFBI employees to screen all people that could even be hired by the major networks to make sure that they didn't bring suspicion upon the networks. I contend that sunshinism, as it has manifested itself, is precisely the same type of thing, an ism of the day, of the period, a fanaticism, a fanaticism that is driving good people out of office and making them not even run. I think it will be exploded. I think one of these days you will realize that the public officials generally speaking, are pretty decent people and they are in here for public service. Now I am sure some day when somebody is digging deep into my past they will discover one of my long hidden secrets. When a new ism develops, whether it be from the right or from the left, they will discover the tragedy that once upon a time I was a member of an ism, a secret group. At that time it was secret. They will discover that I was one of the founders, charter members of a group called, "common cause". And it is by being so close to that particular group during those years that I saw the direction they were going and resolved that no matter what it took I was going to keep harping, exposing and hitting upon the point that we did have a pretty good system. Now the amendment I am offering, if you want accountability, gentlemen, offers more accountability which is what is claimed, than the other system you have in existence ever will. The basic difference between my amendment is to put these things under the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the traditional places where they were ...

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute left.

SENATOR DeCAMP: ...and to use even more accurate filings. What about Senator Newell and my good friend Senator Wiitala or whatever? What about the group that is able to mobilize a thousand teachers or a thousand labor union members to go out hour after hour? That is an accountable thing. Under

4062