NELSON -- From Paris and Hollywood...the American Broadcasting Company brings you -- ELEANOR AND ANNA ROOSEVELT.

ANNA: -- Thank you, John Nelson. Good morning.
Some of you who are listening today may be wondering what this program is all about. So I thought I'd start by giving you at least an inkling of what matters and I plan to do.
The program will be a combination of forum and commentary, mixed with recollections and everyday personal happenings.
We'll have guests from time to time -- some famous, some unknown -- chosen just because they're Mr. or Mrs. John Q. Citizen with an interesting story to tell.
There will undoubtedly be times when our guests won't agree with us. And for that matter, just because we are Mother and Daughter doesn't mean we will always agree.
If we don't - Mother and I will argue out our differences just as though we were at home.
On this program, we expect to talk about books and cities and people -- and probably even Cabbages and Kings. Everything from the latest "ism" to the latest fashion. Most of all, we want to talk about things of greatest interest to you. Look for when we decide we feel like it...
Nelson! NOW...LET'S GET STARTED!

Good, John,
ANNA: Here is a capsule comment on last week's election, as I see it. On the one hand: 'It's One Man's Typical American Success Story.' The heart-warming success story of President Harry Truman.

On the other hand: It's one of the most exciting examples in our history of the force of the people's voice -- expressing the people's will.

And it is a mighty thrilling sound!

Today, the election is still the main topic of conversation.

I've talked to both Republicans and Democrats -- and heard them express universal admiration for President Truman and the way he carried his campaign alone, with so little support from quarter where ordinarily he could have expected to find it.

At the same time, all I talked to felt as I do that Governor Thomas Dewey and Governor Earl Warren -- fine gentlemen both -- deserve heartiest congratulations on their admirable sportsmanship and their battle well-fought.

It's not every nation nowadays that enjoys the strengthening and influence of a "loyal opposition."

But this wasn't a one-man election. What most surprised everybody was the clean Democratic sweep in Congress. As someone in London remarked next day: "Why, America must be full of people lying flat on their backs in astonishment!"
ANNA: Well, the greatest single and immediate reason for this sweep, I think, was... the High Cost of Living.

White Collar Workers, people on moderate and fixed incomes, (like school teachers and pensioners) -- people with children to bring up. These people are feeling the pinch AND -- PRESIDENT TRUMAN TALKED TO THESE PEOPLE.

He talked to them ABOUT THE PRICE OF EGGS AND MILK.

Then, too, labor was better organized politically than every before. (And union members, also, have families and budgets to worry about.)

FINALLY -- the people voted to keep the social gains begun 16 years ago. To keep them... and improve them.

Now, my mother voted by absentee ballot because she's in Paris as a delegate to the United Nations Assembly. But distance doesn't mean she hasn't her own strong views, and her own recommendations.

So now... let's ask my mother, Eleanor Roosevelt, to talk to us from faraway Paris, FRANCE, by shortwave, radio telephone.

(ELEANOR ROOSEVELT CUT-IN)
MRS. ROOSEVELT: There will probably be several interesting results of President Truman's reelection, and the one I would most like to see is the permanent ousting of the Southern Dixiecrats from the Democratic party.

During the Democratic convention, when it seemed that President Truman had almost no chance of being elected, these reactionary Southerners broke with the Democratic party over the President's Civil Rights program and formed the Dixiecrats. They won four Southern states and 38 electoral votes which might well have defeated Mr. Truman if the voting had been closer.

Now, when to their utter amazement Mr. Truman has been reelected over their strenuous opposition, they are anxious to get back into the Democratic party. Mr. Thurmond, the Dixiecrat candidate for President, says that he and his fellow southerners are still Democrats and that their revolt was just "a family quarrel."
MRS. ROOSEVELT: The Southern Dixiecrats are still opposed to the Civil Rights bill and the rest of President Truman's progressive policies which the voters just put their stamp of approval on. However, they have a very good reason to come back now all slicked up as good Democrats and with their explanation that it was "all just a family spat."

The reason is that since the Democrats have now won a majority in both the House and Senate, several of these Southerners are entitled to important committee chairmanships under the seniority system, IF they are considered as Democrats. Among those who would lose committee chairmanships if they are NOT considered Democrats are John Rankin of Mississippi, one of the worst Southern reactionaries, and Senator Olin Johnston of South Carolina who snubbed President Truman, campaigned against him, and then was one of the first on the train at Washington to congratulate Mr. Truman after his election.

As I understand it, the Democratic members of the new Congress will vote on whether Mr. Rankin, Senator Johnston and the rest of the Southerners who walked out and formed the Dixiecrats are now Democrats OR Dixiecrats.
MRS. ROOSEVELT: It is inconceivable to me how these Southerners who walked out of the Democratic convention, formed their own party, won four states and did their best to beat the Democratic President, can now walk back into the party, explain that "boys will be boys" and then take up several committee chairmanships won by the uphill fight of loyal and progressive democrats. I think the people who voted for President Truman did so out of approval for his Civil Rights bill and other progressive measures, and would not want to see him hampered by having important committee chairmanships in the hands of the very legislators who most bitterly opposed the President.

I have felt for a long time that there are really only two major political factions in the United States—Liberals and Conservatives—and that it would be much more logical if our political parties were divided along those lines. The Democratic party has seemed to me to be predominantly the party of liberalism, although through the sometimes curious evolution of politics it embraced Southerners who number among their ranks some of the most reactionary men in public life.
MRS. ROOSEVELT: Similarly the Republican party is traditionally the party of conservatism, although it embraces some fine liberals.

Now, for the first time in history the Democrats have won an election without the "Solid South." Some of the more reactionary Southerners have chosen to break with the Democratic party and I think it would be a good idea to make the break final. Possibly the southern conservatives would be welcomed into the Republican party, with whom they have voted so often in recent years. My husband tried to rid the Democratic party of some of the most reactionary Southerners some years ago when he undertook to defeat several legislators whom he felt were sabotaging the liberal measures he felt he had been given a mandate to put into effect. He failed in this, but now that the Dixiecrats have chosen of their own accord to walk out on their party during an election I think the Democrats should insist that they stay out.