

L.I. - Sunoco Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1940.

There were some first class dramatics before the Dies Committee today - revolving around those documents which were supposed to implicate Chairman Dies with the Fascist outfit called, "The Silver Shirts." First let's get the background straight. Congressman Hook of Michigan, in attacking the Dies Committee, introduced into Congress some letters said to have been written by William Dudley Pelley, Chief of the Silver Shirts. Pelley ~~has long been wanted by the Dies Committee for questioning, about his own alleged un-American activities, but they couldn't find him.~~

~~In the letters presented by Congressman Hook, Silver Shirt Pelley~~
Making it appear that Pelley
~~appeared to have written that he had a link with Chairman Dies,~~
some sort of tacit understanding between them. This made it appear as if Dies, while hot on the trail of the Un-American Reds, was secretly conniving with the Un-American Fascists. There was a lot of argument and uproar, in which the letters were denounced as forgeries. All leading to the events of today.

Well, today,
Before the Dies Committee appeared Silver Shirt Pelley, ~~the much wanted and the long missing.~~ He took the witness stand and gave sworn testimony. He denied that he had ever written the

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supposed letters to Dies. "Gentlemen", he testified, "none of these letters were written by me, composed by me, or signed by me." Pelley then denied he had ever met Chairman Dies, had ever talked to him on the telephone, or ~~had~~ communicated with him.

Pelley was followed by another Silver Shirt, ^{that is -} one who used to be - David Mayne, ~~who was~~ formerly Pelley's Washington assistant. Mayne testified about the letters. "I manufactured those documents myself," he swore, "They're not genuine documents," he ~~XXXXX~~ continued. "I traced each one of them myself." So there was the dramatic twister. - ^{Pelley} The much debated letters had been forged by a [^] fellow [^] lieutenant, according to his own testimony.

Why did he do it? That's what he was asked and here's what he answered:- "For the purpose of entering into a conspiracy against the Dies investigation." He said he had sold the forgeries, ^{had} ~~and~~ got money for them - and the phoney documents had thereupon ^{ten} got [^] into the congressional debate on the Dies Committee.

Immediately after the testimony, Congressman Hook, who had produced the letters against Dies, declared:- "I am satisfied now that there is very serious doubt about the letters' authenticity.

I feel they are forged." He said he thought the letters should be taken out of the congressional record, into which he had

introduced them. Also, his own attack on the Dies Committee should be taken out of the record. *Later he made a formal*

apology - and withdrew his charges.

~~And so ends the famous case of the letters, the documents,~~

~~the mysterious papers.~~

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F.B.I.

An amazing thing was said today by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The chief of the G-men appeared before the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, which was considering a special appropriation to enable the F.B.I. to defend this nation against spying and sabotage, against Un-American plots and subversive activities. And J. Edgar Hoover complained to the Committee about Communists being certified as eligible for employment in the F.B.I. He said the Civil Service Commission had thus certified men known to be Reds. Moreover, the Commission refused to disqualify applicants on ~~XXXXXXXX~~ the ground that they were Communists.

"I do not believe," declares J. Edgar Hoover, "that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is any place for any person with Communist beliefs. We have extremely confidential work and matters that affect the internal security of our country." Well, there might be something in what the head of the F.B.I. had ^S to say. A Communist G-man - ~~that might seem something of~~ ^{quite} an anomaly. The F.B.I. has been given ^a the most important role in defending this nation from the enemy within. [^] Suppose we were to have trouble

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with the Soviets - wouldn't it be cheery to have a lot of Reds in the Bureau that investigates spying and sabotage?

The Committee voted a special fund of some two million, four hundred thousand dollars for its work in defense of the internal security of the United States.

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The news from Detroit today tells of twelve persons arrested on a charge that harks back to the Spanish Civil War. Remember the American volunteers, who went to fight for the Loyalists? In those days there was much mention of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. It has freely been charged that Americans were systematically recruited in the United States. And - it's against the law to recruit men over here ^{as} soldiers in a foreign war. Moreover, it has been charged that the enlistment of soldiers for the Spanish Loyalists was schemed by Communists and other Red elements. The twelve arrested in Detroit today are accused of having had a hand in the Spanish Loyalist recruiting in the United States.

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One of the defendants is Dr. Eugene Shafarman, who was formerly a member of the Detroit Board of Health. The ~~dirty~~ doings of Dr. Shafarman have been a subject of inquiry by the Dies Committee. There's another physician among those arrested, and he likewise was employed by the city - Dr. John L. Rosefield. Both of these men of medicine are said to have acted as medical examiners for the recruits enlisted for Left Wing Spain. They did this while

in the city employ. A third ^{defendant}~~gentleman~~ is Philip Raymond, who was Communist candidate for governor of Michigan in Nineteen Thirty-Six. Still another - an executive secretary of the Young Communist League. And then a 'couple' of men connected with the Workers Alliance are mentioned.

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The prosecutor states that still others are to be arrested. The penalty for illegal recruiting is as much as two years in prison and a ten thousand dollar fine.

Well, nowadays there's worldwide talk about recruiting volunteers to help Finland against the Red army. Quite in contrast to the brigades of foreign volunteers who fought for the Loyalists, who in turn were supported by the Soviet Reds.

FINLAND

What about that Soviet Eighteenth Division?

Said to have been annihilated by the Finns. Here's a dispatch from Webb Miller of the United Press. "Finnish forces," he cables, "were said on reliable authority to have scored important successes northeast of Lake Ladoga where Red Army units had been forced back but are still fighting to prevent themselves from being cut off from their bases. The Finnish victory is still incomplete," continues Webb Miller, "and the final outcome depends upon the ability of the Finns to follow up their initial success in the next few days."

Concerning the Mannerheim Line the Army bulletin from Helsinki reports that the most violent attack in the war was launched today. A hundred tanks are said to have taken part in the drive against the fortifications. Attack repulsed -- say the Finns.

PEACE

Berlin denies the stories of a new Nazi peace attempt, but the stories persist. Indeed, Berlin would necessarily issue denials - if the reports of the new peace offensive are true. These state that suggested terms will be outlined, not by the Hitler Government, but by some neutral nation. The neutral to make the suggestion, and Berlin to say -"okay, the terms suit us." These terms are said to call for the Nazis to retain the Sudeten German arease of former Czechoslovakia; the rest of that one-time republic to be made free. Germany to retain the parts of Poland that were German before the Versailles Treaty including of course, Danzig and the Polish Corridor. As for Austria, [^] a plebiscite to decide what the Austrians want to do. Arrangements in detail to be made by a mixed British, French and German commission.

GOSSIP

Great Britain is starting a new war - against gossip.

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And this is so serious that in the House of Commons today, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain announced that the Cabinet is considering a law providing the death penalty. Capital punishment in the most serious cases of disclosing vital information or letting it leak out to the enemy.

This stern declaration accompanied the launching of an anti-gossip campaign - to keep people from talking carelessly about things that might be useful to ^{Germany.} ~~the enemy.~~ Two and a half million posters are being distributed throughout Britain, to be plastered up everywhere. Posters showing a sinking ship and a headline saying - "A few careless words may lead to this." Another shows Hitler with an ear cocked, listening, and it has a rhyme which goes ~~like~~ this: *way!* -

"Whether alone or in a crowd
Never write or say aloud
What you're loading, whence you hail
Where you're bound for, when you sail."

5-3
Sir Kenneth Lee, Director of the Ministry of Information, in launching the anti-gossip campaign, has this to say:- "A few

IRISH

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The Irish Trade Union Congress today ordered a one hour shutdown strike -- if the Irish men condemned to death in England are executed ~~tomorrow~~ tomorrow. James Richard and Peter Barnes who were convicted in a bomb outrage in England, in which sever^{al} people were killed. The Dublin Labor Organization previously had proposed a two day general strike. Irish labor leaders called upon the British Trade Unions to support them in this protest. The British labor men refused. Thereupon the two day general strike in Ireland was abandoned and the order given -- for a one hour shut down of all industrial activity.

^{DeValera}
The government is doing all it can to save the two doomed men. The Irish High Commissioner in London conferred with Prime Minister Chamberlain today -- and put in an urgent appeal. The Dublin argument is that if the two men are hanged, ^{for an act of} ~~for active~~ political terrorism^{it} will more than ever embitter the Irish against Britain.

The bitterness is acute -- at least on the part of Irish extremists. There was a wave of minor bombings all over England today -- protests against the hanging. A number of bombs were sent

through the mail, ^{and} injured people when they exploded. The British government ordered ~~EVERYTHING~~ ^a heavy police guard everywhere, for fear of further terrorism.

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At Birmingham, where Peter Barnes and James Richard are waiting in their cells, the two men were told today by prison officials ^{that} ~~that~~ there appears to be no hope for clemency. The two members of the Irish Republican Army took the dark news calmly. If the hangings are carried out tomorrow, it looks as though there might be new trouble in the age-old Irish-British conflict.

TWEEDSMUIR

Lord Tweedsmuir, the Governor-General of Canada, is suffering from a concussion of the brain. The doctors call it - a slight concussion and say the Governor-General is resting quietly tonight, *though unconscious*

The injury was sustained by a fall. Lord Tweedsmuir, while walking in Government House at Ottawa, slipped and fell - *— so we are told.* striking his head heavily. He is sixty-four years old, *the known far and wide for years as the* famous writer John Buchan, whose literary output has been so multifarious. He has practiced just about every branch of the writer's art - including the historian's task of composing a great and definitive history of the World War of Nineteen Fourteen-Eighteen. Americans will join the Canadians in expressing the hope of a quick recovery for the Governor-General.

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LEWISOHN

The novelist, Ludwig Lewisohn, was married today, after a scene too melodramatic for one of his own novels. The episode was more like those old-time stories of flaming romance - "The Halted Wedding", with a distracted beauty stopping the wedding right at the church, right at the altar. Only this time, it was in a synagogue.

Ludwig Lewisohn's marriage to Miss Edna Manley was halted once before - when his lawyer made a mistake about the date when the Lewisohn divorce became effective. ~~They were about to be wedded when the divorce in effect, when the lawyer had to get~~ ^{without} ~~things straightened out and stopped them.~~ Well, there was no question about a divorce today. In a synagogue at Baltimore, the fifty-eight year old novelist and his thirty-one year old bride were about to be united by the rabbi, when there were screams, and in rushed another woman leading a six-year-old boy by the hand. "I've been his wife," the woman shrieked, "his nurse and his soul. This wedding must not take place!"

Bride and groom were astonished, and so was the rabbi.

Things were even more tense, when up stepped a lawyer who represented

the intruding lady. He said that his client had lived with
Novelist Lewisohn for sixteen years and the boy was their son.

In Maryland, common-law marriages are recognized, ^{he warned,} and so if the
rabbi ^{went} ~~had gone~~ ahead and solemnized the wedding, ^{Lewisohn} ~~he~~ would ~~have~~
^{be guilty of} ~~agreed to~~ bigamy.

Well, the wedding was off for the moment. In fact,
it was off for four hours. Lewisohn, the bride-to-be, the
rabbi and lawyers, adjourned to talk things over. At the end
of four hours of conversation, Novelist Lewisohn decided to go
ahead - never mind the possibilities of the bigamy charge.

So ahead they went, and the rabbi married them. ^{And the}
other lady's lawyer went to put in
a charge of bigamy which probably
want go through.

MOTHER-IN-LAW

Well, fellow^S - how's your "kin-mother?" That's what you'll call her hereafter, if you abide by a decision made today. You^{re}_^ "kin-mother", I may explain, is the lady whose daughter your wife is. From the feminine point of view - she's, of course, the lady whose son your husband is. Briefly, your mother-in-law - although that ancient name was formally tossed into the discard today.

The New York Mother-in-Law Association ~~went into session~~ today^{ed}_^ to consider the disfavor in which the name of "mother-in-law" is sometimes held. What to do about it? How to restore the name "mother-in-law" to favor. The Association shook its collective head sadly. The only thing to do is to abolish the name "mother-in-law", and change it to something else.

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A number of synonyms were suggested. Here are some of them:- It was proposed to call a mother-in-law, a "mother-elect". No, you don't elect her - so that wouldn't do. Another suggestion was - "happy mediator", which is just the contrary of "unhappy trouble-maker." Still another was to adopt a German word and say "ersatz-mother." Another^{synonym}_^ Teutonism^{was}_^ suggested ^{was this}_^ in this beautiful

Textonic appellation: -

name ~~is~~ "blitzkrieg mother". But in that case you might call the son-in-law - "Poland," or Paly.

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The name selected finally was, "kin-mother." It was adopted ^{today} by acclamation and in fact the Mother-in-Law's Association proceeded to rebaptise itself, ~~It's~~ now to be called - "The ~~Kinx~~ Kind-Mother Association." Yes, she's your kin, and you can't do a thing about it, ^{can you Hugh?} ~~But anyway that's the new name and it reminds us of Nu-Blue, so go ahead, Hugh.~~

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