



IT'S UP TO YOU

To the Members of the Seventy-Seventh Congress: You are the guardians of American freedom. Your acts are the warp and woof of our nation's future. In this time of heavy trial more than ever do millions not only in this country, but in other lands look to you for leadership. Yours is the power to strike a deadly blow against the Nazi enemy of mankind, or to fumble and permit our own nation to be struck down.

You have appropriated billions for the war against Hitlerism. Many more billions will have to be spent, stern sacrifices made, our own military activity greatly increased before this war can be won. But even our utmost efforts may fail if we allow them to be nullified by those who, consciously or not, are carrying out Hitler's will in the United States. This is the whole meaning of the work of the America First Committee.

In this issue *NEW MASSES* publishes the third of a series of articles by John L. Spivak exposing the America First Committee. We do not profess to have done more than scratched the surface of this nationwide conspiracy against our country's freedom and security. We intend to continue digging up the facts about the America First Committee, but the time has come when this question can no longer be left solely to an individual publication. The national defense is at stake. Only national action by Congress can end this threat to America. It is as important as building planes and tanks. For planes and tanks can, as the experience of France has shown, be rendered impotent by fifth column saboteurs masquerading as patriots.

NEW MASSES calls for a congressional investigation of the America First Committee and all groups and individuals associated with it. We are happy that we have now been joined by the *New Republic* which makes a similar request in its October 6 issue. *NEW MASSES* is prepared to place before a congressional committee and before the Department of Justice all evidence in its possession and to give every assistance to smoking out the appeaser cabal that is trying to deliver this nation gagged and bound to Hitler. Mr. Spivak has shown that:

1. The America First Committee is controlled by seven men operating in secret and accountable to no one.

2. It has received a minimum of \$1,000,000 from unidentified sources and flatly rejected Mr. Spivak's request to check a dozen names, suspected of being channels for Nazi money.

3. The America First Committee has offered to work secretly with known pro-fascists and has employed professional anti-Semites as official speakers.

4. William R. Castle, former Undersecretary of State, now a member of America First's national committee and closely associated with both Herbert Hoover and Lindbergh, likewise has worked with known pro-fascists. In an interview with Mr. Spivak he endorsed a policy of appeasing Hitler.

5. Lindbergh, Ford, and *Scribner's Commentator*, unofficial organ of the America First Committee, have collaborated in secretly filing and coding—at Ford's expense—thousands of names of persons throughout the country. This is intended to be the basis of a fascist movement of menacing proportions.

Only Congress possesses the legal power to subpoena the books and files of the America First Committee and compel testimony from such men as Gen. Robert E. Wood, acting chairman of America First, who refused to answer Mr. Spivak's questions. Only Congress can lift the curtain from the mysterious activities of Lindbergh and find out just what he meant by his recent statement that there may be no elections in 1942—such predictions are a familiar trick of those who themselves are conspiring to abolish free elections.

The America First Committee has become the rallying center for all sorts of scurrilous un-American groups that incite hatred against Jews, Catholics, Negroes, and the foreign-born. The blackest forces in American life, the Nazi apologists of every breed, find in it their inspiration and active leader. The American people want no truck with fifth columns, with "peace" advocates who are the missionaries of Hitler's barbarous war. They want an airtight national defense, rid of the machinations of spies and traitors. It is up to you, members of the seventy-seventh Congress, to act against the enemy within our gates. Turn the searchlight on the America First Committee. Our country's safety demands nothing less.

THE EDITORS.