

DIES DISTILLATION OF DESTRUCTION FOR DEMOCRACY

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The Dies Committee has made a report of about 25,000 words, ending up with a legislative program and a plea for continuation of its work. It is highly significant that whenever the committee wants to get more money, or to be continued, it makes a grand-stand play of attacking fascists--though generally in an innocuous way, scarcely ever touching fascists in America except where they might be direct representatives of foreign governments--never attacking real native American fascism such as the Ku Klux Klan and other vigilante movements and groups. In this way it seeks momentarily to draw attention away from its main activity of union-busting and of seeking to break up all anti-war and other progressive movements--the consumers movement for example. That's the explanation of some of its recent activities.

The committee has the nerve to demand it be continued for two years, with an appropriation of \$500,000 a year.

The legislative program of the Dies Committee, in the form of recommendations to Congress, has nine points, of which four are more or less window-dressing--though even these don't lack connotations of evil. The other five are:

1. Deportation of all aliens who advocate "basic change in the American form of government." That's the old Dempsey Bill, and in the last session when Dempsey and the House and Senate committees got through with it, the proposal was "any change in the American government"--which would mean having an opinion on elections, for example. Even in the form presented by Dies and his colleagues, it would pre-

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vent membership of aliens in unions or religious groups if those unions or religious groups favored a constitutional amendment.

2. Extension of the cold pogrom against non-citizens by barring them from any employment by the government.

3. "To withhold all federal financial support from any educational institution which permits members of its faculty to advocate communism, fascism or nazi-ism as a substitute for our form of government to the student body of these educational institutions." It should be remembered that the Dies Committee considers trade-unionism as the same as Communism, and that such legislation is always loosely drawn so that anything can mean anything. Dies' Man Friday Voorhis dissented from this proposal but "not because of disagreement with the principle involved". The disagreement doesn't mean a thing.

4. To outlaw organizations required to register under the Voorhis Law.

5. To extend the statutory period during which citizenship papers can be revoked under existing law to at least ten years.

The idea is to let YOUR OWN CONGRESSMAN know you see through the Dies Committee, its works and its recommendations, and that you oppose all three and everything else that smells anything like any of them.