

Biddle Organizes Sedition Division

By Dillard Stokes
Post Staff Writer

Attorney General Biddle put the Department of Justice on a war basis yesterday, announcing that he had established a new agency to "insure speedy and vigorous execution" of policies instituted since the Pearl Harbor attack.

Solicitor General Charles Fahy is, for the time being, chief of the new unit—the War Division—which will deal with problems ranging from sedition, espionage and sabotage to the control of enemy aliens and the administration of their property.

The division, the Attorney General said, will coordinate its activities closely with the Criminal Division, headed by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, which handles prosecution and grand jury inquiries.

Now sitting are five Federal grand juries, which Biddle said are probing a dozen newspapers for sedition.

Biddle said the War Division comprises three units:

1. The War Policy Unit, directed by Lawrence M. C. Smith, in which policy matters relating to sedition, the Foreign Agents Act and like subjects will be coordinated.

2. The Alien Enemy Control Units, headed by Edward J. Ennis, who has directed this work since the unit was set up last December 15. The unit supervises 1,100,000 Germans, Italians and Japanese who are under the jurisdiction of the United States.

3. The Alien Property Unit, headed by George McNulty, special assistant attorney general who has been chief of the Criminal Division trial section. The unit will handle the legal end of administering millions of dollars worth of enemy owned property.

Coordinated with the work of the War Division will be the handling of conscientious objectors to military service, which is directed by James Rowe, jr., assistant to the Attorney General, and the work of the War Frauds Unit, directed by Tom C. Clark.

Attorney General Biddle said the war work already is being taken care of, but that a separate division was being set up to bring speed and effectiveness.

The investigation of ~~Charles E. Coughlin's~~ weekly magazine, Social Justice, which was ordered by Biddle several weeks ago, will be resumed today before the special grand jury on Axis agents. Biddle called the magazine "clearly seditious" and ordered prosecutors William Power Maloney, Lieut. Edward J. Hickey, jr., U. S. N., and John T. M. Reddan to see that every guilty man was dealt with.

Witnesses today will be Lieut. Bernard T. D'Arcy of the Army Engineer Corps procurement division who was once Eastern executive for Social Justice, and Frances Kelton, New York businessman.

Two more of the Attorney General's propaganda squad—Albert E. Arent and Arthur B. Goldsborough—last night neared the end of their prosecution of two men accused of conspiring with five Japanese and the Japanese agent, Ralph Townsend, to violate the Foreign Agents Act.

Justice T. Alan Goldsborough al-

lowed the jurors to hear the recording of a radio speech made by Frederick Vincent Williams, one of the men on trial. Just as it went over the air, Williams' voice filled the courtroom with his exposition of the theme that America had no enemies in Asia. Williams was on the Japanese payroll when he made the speech, but Stewart R. Ward, executive secretary of a San Francisco club, testified that the defendant professed to be a disinterested American.

Court attaches believe it was the first time a phonograph record had been played as evidence in the District Court.