

INFORMER STRICKEN AT TRIAL OF 'FRONT'

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He Collapses From Strain at
Recess of the Session, His
Fourth Day on Stand

HEARING IS POSTPONED

Witness Says Alleged Leader
of Plot Favored Overthrow
of U. S. 'Jew' Regime

On his fourth day on the witness stand as the prosecution's star witness against seventeen men accused of having conspired to overthrow the United States Government, Denis A. Healy was taken ill during the luncheon recess yesterday. Judge Marcus B. Campbell, who is presiding over the trial in the Brooklyn Federal Court, declared a recess until tomorrow morning.

Healy was treated during the noon recess by Dr. Norman Herzig, an ambulance surgeon summoned from Cumberland Hospital, who administered a sedative and left him under the care of agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Dr. Herzig later reported to the police that Healy had suffered "a nervous collapse from overstrain," but that his condition did not require removal to a hospital.

United States Attorney Harold M. Kennedy declined to discuss the nature or extent of Healy's illness. It was learned, however, that the witness had not been feeling well recently and that yesterday morning he complained of an upset stomach. The start of the trial was delayed slightly yesterday morning when he asked to be excused after the judge and jury had taken their places.

During his cross-examination by former Magistrate Leo J. Healy, counsel for eleven of the seventeen defendants, Healy was asked at length on Tuesday whether he had ever been an inmate of an insane asylum, or of a hospital, sanitarium, or any other kind of institution. He denied emphatically that he had been a patient in any such place.

Bickers With Inquisitor

Healy, who first took the witness stand Friday afternoon and who has been undergoing a close cross-examination by former Magistrate Healy ever since early Monday afternoon, showed no outward indications of illness during the two hours he was on the witness stand yesterday morning. He continued to bicker with his inquisitor.

He said that on one occasion Francis M. J. Malone, a defendant, had showed him a report of the Dies committee which told of the procedure followed by Communists when they were arrested. Healy quoted Malone as having said that it was to be expected that members of their group would be arrested after street fights with "the Jews and Communists" and that it would be well for them to follow this Communist procedure.

John F. Cassidy, alleged to have been one of the principal leaders in the plot, was said by Healy to have concurred that it would be "a good idea" to turn the Communists' technique against themselves. Healy added that Cassidy at the same time urged that all Jews should be "segregated in ghettos" and that "the Jew government" of the United States should be overthrown.

Healy asserted that at an open meeting of the Christian Front held in Erasmus Hall High School Sept. 7, members of the Action Committee, as the alleged plotters were called, were stationed in strategic points in the hall in anticipation of an expected fight with the police.

Quotes Fellow Defendant

Healy, who is a National Guardsman, quoted a fellow member of the Guard, Claus Gunther Ernecke, one of the men on trial, as having said to him once that if the United States should enter the war against Germany "it would be a Jewish war," and that Ernecke had said that in that event he would go back to his native Germany and "fight for Hitler."

Under the questioning of the defense lawyer, Healy, who originally testified he was invited to join the Christian Front to become a machine-gun instructor, conceded that he had never actually seen a machine gun in the possession of any defendant, and that the largest number of rifles he had seen in their possession at any one time was "probably seven or eight."

When the defense counsel incredulously demanded whether he really thought this group was going to "overthrow the United States Government with seven or eight rifles," the witness answered that he had seen squads of the United States Army go out with only a few rifles.

Healy denied that he knew Fritz Kuhn, the leader of the German-American Bund, or that he had ever discussed the publication of a bi-weekly newspaper in the Yorkville section. He also denied that he had been instructed by Peter J. Wacks, the FBI agent under whose orders he worked, to "stir up trouble" at the meetings of the defendants.

Conference in Chambers

Before the trial opened, Judge Campbell conferred in his chambers with the counsel for the prosecution and the defense, and Mrs. Helen R. Titus, foreman of the jury. The subject of the conference was not disclosed, but it was noted that in his customary admonition to the jury, before a recess, against reading newspaper accounts of the case, listening to radio discussions of it, or talking about it with any one, he added a warning against paying attention to anything that might be mailed to them.

It was learned that United States Attorney Kennedy had informed Brig. Gen. Alexander E. Anderson and Lieut. Col. Martin H. Meaney of his willingness to confer with them at their convenience regarding their request to him to have an opportunity of putting into the trial record denials of testimony indicating they were sympathetic to the alleged plot.

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