

Dies Welcomes Justice Dept. Aid in Witch-hunt

(Continued from Page 1)

ment, the committee feels that we can do a good deal to eliminate these subversive organizations."

Rep. Dies announced further that Attorney General Frank Murphy had appointed a special staff of attorneys to "study" testimony taken by the committee with a view to prosecution.

He said that he was satisfied that the Department would take "definite" action against the Party for not registering with the State Department as a "foreign agent."

DIES WINS AN ALLY

Developments of the past few days have made it plain that the Department of Justice is rapidly becoming a party to the committee's hysterical war-mongering drive against the Communist Party and other progressive organizations.

Committee members are still critical on occasion of the Department—as Dies was yesterday and Rep. J. Parnell Thomas the day before—for not cracking down hard enough. On the whole, however, close ties are being cemented between the two agencies.

As the situation now shapes up, the entire administration is swinging into line with the committee's red-baiting activities. Denunciations of the Nazi German-American Bund are thrown in for good measure, but the real target of attack is the Communist Party and other progressive groups.

This represents a sharp change from the situation a year ago when the administration was bitterly combatting the Dies committee for its campaign against New Deal candidates in the 1938 elections.

The only explanation which can be offered for the apparent reversal is that the committee's work in whipping up war hysteria is now looked on more favorably by the administration because of its own intense sympathy with the British and French imperialists.

INDICATES SCOPE

Indicating the sweeping character of the witch-hunt which he advocates, Dies said:

"The chair feels that these organizations are violating the laws of the United States and that their officers are subject to a penitentiary sentence.

"The committee has other evidence which it believes will warrant prosecution of every leader of fascist and Communist groups under different statutes. I am confident that they can be indicted and prosecuted in the courts.

"We must put a stop to the racketeering going on in the name of patriotism or liberalism. We must bring this thing to a show-down and I wish to commend the Department of Justice for its cooperation."

One significant indication of the developing cooperation between the Dies committee and the administration is furnished by the fact that Reps. Joseph Casey of Mass., and Jerry Voorhis, of Cal., the two New

Deal committee members, have now dropped all pretense at criticism and join Reps. Dies on most matters without reservations.

TO PUBLISH NAMES

Cooperation between the so-called "New Deal" members of the committee and the other members led by Dies now goes way beyond attacks on the Communist Party itself and includes a drive on a liberal organization like the American League for Peace and Democracy.

After an executive session of the committee this afternoon, Rep. Dies announced that the committee would make public the membership list of the American League in Washington which includes several hundred government employees. Now one of the main targets of attack by the committee, Rep. Dies described the League today as "an out and out Communist organization."

It is a significant fact that administration officials who have refrained from criticizing the Dies committee are themselves slated for destruction on the committee's black-list.

For example, secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes was assailed by Dies and other committee members today for having associated himself with a committee to aid Spanish refugees as honorary chairman.

LOVESTONEITE HELPS OUT

At today's hearing, the committee called as its chief witness, Francis Henson, prominent Lovestoneite who is now Washington correspondent for the Workers Age under the name of Frank Howard.

Henson is one of the whole group of renegades from the Communist and progressive movement who are flocking to the standards of the Dies committee, and becoming the committee's mainstay in its war-mongering.

Dies is finding people of this sort, such as Ben Gitlow, Sam Baron, and J. B. Mathews, committee research director, valuable for his purposes than the more obvious strikebreakers and finks with no "labor record" to which they could point with alarm, who testified when the committee first started.

Formerly assistant to Homer Martin when he was president of the United Automobile Workers Union, Henson was kicked out by the executive board of the union for his factional Lovestoneite activities.

GUIDE TO WITCH-HUNTERS

When Dies asked him if there is "any doubt at all in your mind that the American League for Peace and Democracy is a Communist-controlled organization?" Henson cheerfully chimed in:

"No, none at all."

Henson's main contribution to the committee, however, was a lecture on how to identify Communists and "Communist-controlled" organizations.

It doesn't matter, Henson contended, whether or not a person ac-

Dies Welcomes Justice Dept. Witch Hunt

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24. — Rep. Martin Dies gave his full approval today to the witch-hunt which the Department of Justice is undertaking against the Communist Party.

Obviously pleased by the arrest of Earl Browder, Communist Party General Secretary, in New York, Dies said:

"The chair wants to commend the Department of Justice for its cooperative and vigorous attitude. With the cooperation of the administrative branch of the govern-

(Continued on Page 5)