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Reveal Red Campaign To Penetrate Congress

(Special Dispatch to The Daily Mirror)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—The Moscow-controlled American Communist organization, the American League for Peace and Democracy, today was flatly charged with an official campaign to wedge its objectives into the United States Government and to enlist and influence

members of Congress. Chairman Dies of the House Committee Investigating Un-Americanism, said: "Here is proof of a systematic effort to penetrate the Government by an organization that is under the Communists."

He read from minutes of the executive committee of the League's Washington chapter and

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24 (UP).—The Dies Committee today voted in executive session to make public within 24 hours the District of Columbia membership list of the American League for Peace and Democracy.

other documents seized when the committee impounded the League's files.

Following are some of the significant excerpts:

"Get list of friendly Congressmen and have teas and luncheons for them."

"Set up League committees in the various government agencies with our present members as a nucleus."

"Attempt to get Congressmen to join the League."

Though Dr. Harry F. Ward, national head of the League, entered a denial yesterday that his organization was Communistic-controlled he agreed that the League had "some" Communist members.

Dies Follows Up

Dies followed up his statement with an expression of belief that the League, with about 800 Government workers as members here, appeared to be "nothing more or less than a Communist branch."

Referring to the League unit here as a "high pressure group of Government employes," Dies read a questionnaire he said the League had sent to its members. Among the questions were:

"Are you free to lobby during your lunch hour?"

"Which Senators and Congressmen do you know?"

"What do you know about any Senator or Congressman that would be of help in approaching him?"

Earlier, Dies said his committee possessed evidence which would permit the prosecution of every leader of Fascist and Communist organizations in the country.

"There isn't a leader of any

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Resigned from League



(International) MRS. CLINTON BARR Former member of League for Peace and Democracy says she resigned after her speech was edited by a Communist.

Report Red Aim to Sway Congress

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of these Fascist or Communist organizations," he declared, at an open committee hearing, "who hasn't violated some penal law."

Dies made the assertion in announcing that Attorney General Murphy had assigned a special staff to act on the committee's request for action against leaders of the Communist Party and the German-American Bund for failure to register under the alien laws.

Dies, who said he could not give at this time the number of persons involved in his general charge that all Fascist and Communist leaders were subject to prosecution, declared the committee was supplying all its information to the Attorney General.

"The chair wants to commend the Department of Justice for its co-operative and vigorous attitude," Dies asserted.

"With the co-operation of the administrative branch of the Government, the chair feels we can accomplish a great deal in eliminating these subversive elements."

"We intend to stop this racketeering that goes on under the name of patriotism on one hand or liberalism on the other."

He later turned to newspapers and remarked:

"All facts will be submitted (to the Justice Department) forthwith. If they agree that the laws are being violated, the Justice Department is going to take action."

Dies said that although he could not undertake to speak for the department, he felt it planned to act. He added he had communicated with it earlier in the day.

A witness today was Francis Adams Henson of Washington, who said he was co-secretary of the American League Against War and Fascism five or six years ago.

Henson said he and other Socialists left the League in 1934 after deciding that Communists and their fellow travelers dominated it.

"When the Socialists left, were there any people in the League but Communists and fellow travelers?" Dies asked.

"Very few," Henson replied.

After the witness said he had been a long-time student of Marxism and Leninism, J. B. Matthews, committee investigator, led him into a recital of criteria by which Communist front organizations are known.

Henson listed these indications:

1—The fact that a front group refrained from adopting in full a Communist Party attitude on a given question. The purpose of that procedure, he explained, is to attract members who might not want to join the party itself.

2—Communist control of the secretary, rather than the chairman or president, of an organization.

3—Participation of front groups in Communist parades.

4—Amount of space the organizations get in the Daily Worker, New York Communist organ.

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