

FARM UNION PLAYS DIES,
DEMAND HALT TO INQUISITION

WASHINGTON, Dec.--(CNA)-- Charging that it has snooped into everyone's business, and that it stands guilty of "red-baiting" and "witch-hunting", the Farmers and Co-operative Union of America bitterly condemned the Dies Committee as an abuse of Congressional power and funds this week and urged an end to its inquisition.

The stinging condemnation was placed before the Farmers Union Convention meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, by the Louisiana delegation who reported that farm and labor people were shocked at the unsavory methods used by the Dies Committee to attack American Democracy.

The Farm Union's blast was followed by another from Labor's Non-Partisan League of Michigan which after stating that the Committee has given aid and encouragement "to all enemies of labor" and has used "known labor spies, stool-pigeons and irresponsible, unreliable and criminal elements to do the maximum possible damage to the cause of labor", urged that the Committee itself be investigated, and called upon Michigan's Congressmen to vote against any further funds for the Dies Committee.

Meanwhile after a short recess the Committee has resumed its witch-hunting in the national capitol. Pursuing its usual tactics it branded the American Students Union and the American Federation of Teachers (AFOFL) as Communist-dominated organizations though refusing to hear the testimony of responsible heads of these bodies. Statements issued by both groups denounced Dies and declared that the attack on their organizations represents nothing but an attempt to smear groups dedicated to the preservation of American democracy.

Further light was thrown on the forces back of Dies this week after the list of sponsors of his New York meeting was examined. Among those who backed the anti-democratic rally at Madison Square Garden were Robert H. Harris of the New York Cotton Exchange, Robert Appleton, president of the American Defense Society, General Mosely, retired fascist general of the U. S. Army, Merwin K. Hart, notorious open-shopper and foe of child labor legislation, Miss Vail Andress, official of the Chase National Bank, John B. Trevor, of the pro-fascist American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, as well as several bankers, manufacturers and insurance brokers.

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