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Senate

The Chaplain, the Very Reverend Z. Barney T. Phillips, D. D., offered the following prayer:

O Merciful Father, who hast promised to the meek in heart the blessings of the life that now is and the sure hope of an eternal inheritance: Grant that in this Holy Week we may capture more and more the spirit of true meekness as it is revealed in the person of Thine own dear Son, who floods the simplest acts of life with an unearthly light, making them gracious and beautiful symbols of some pure and holy mystery by means of which each human thought and word is clothed with a radiance divine. Help us each day and hour to take His yoke upon us and to learn of Him, that we may take suffering and pain into our souls not as a tedious interlude but as the very melody and march of life itself, touched perhaps for a moment by a mordant note, only to resolve itself into the perfect harmony of life triumphant.

Inspire in us a deeper consecration to Thy service as we strive to do Thy will; make us ever more responsive to the call of duty, whatever its demands, willing, if need be, to yield up life itself, and do Thou lure us by the sweet compulsion of the Saviour, whose gentle tyranny is always exercised in perfect love. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

On request of Mr. BARKLEY, and by unanimous consent, the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of the calendar day Friday, March 27, 1942, was dispensed with, and the Journal was approved.

EMPLOYEES OF BOARD OF ECONOMIC WARFARE—STATEMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. HILL. Mr. President, the Vice President, on the basis of information which he had received the afternoon of Sunday, March 29, from friends as to a letter written him by Representative DIES, put out a statement over the telephone to the press. The Vice President has not yet received from Mr. DIES the courtesy of the letter which Mr. DIES gave to the press on Sunday to be printed Monday morning. I have here a copy of the Vice President's statement which was tel-

ephoned to the press last evening and ask unanimous consent to have it printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

I have been informed of an open letter written me by Mr. MARTIN DIES regarding certain employees of the Board of Economic Warfare. If Mr. DIES were genuinely interested in helping our war effort, he would have discussed this matter with me as soon as it came to his attention. He did not. Rather, he is seeking to inflame the public mind by a malicious distortion of facts which he did not want to check with me. If we were at peace, these tactics could be overlooked as the product of a witchcraft mind. We are not at peace, however. We are at war, and the doubts and anger which this and similar statements of Mr. DIES tend to arouse in the public mind might as well come from Goebbels himself as far as their practical effect is concerned. As a matter of fact, the effect on our morale would be less damaging if Mr. DIES were on the Hitler pay roll.

Obviously, I stand ready at all times to have any and every fact regarding our employees thoroughly investigated. This is being done daily by the Civil Service Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We are eternally vigilant about it. The current charges will be investigated at once by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. If that investigation proves that these men are unsuited for work with the Board of Economic Warfare, they will be dismissed promptly as others have been in the past. If it does not, I expect a public apology to the men whose reputations Mr. DIES has publicly smeared without giving them a chance to be heard.

Over half of Mr. DIES' "letter" is given to charges against Mr. Maurice Parmelee. I never heard of the gentleman until last Saturday morning. Since then I have been informed that he was employed because of responsible work he did in London on blockade control for the United States War Trade Board during the last war. Subsequent to that, in 1920, he was named as special assistant to the Secretary of State. He is not now doing post-war work.

Notwithstanding Mr. DIES' statement, less than half a dozen people are engaged in post-war planning for the Board of Economic Warfare. The majority of our employees are engaged in work on over 8,000 export-license applications which are analyzed and cleared every day. Mr. DIES' reason for distorting the

emphasis on post-war work was because of the chance it gave him to draw utterly false inferences from a book Mr. Parmelee wrote 11 years ago on nudism.

This book was first published in 1931 by Alfred Knopf, one of the established publishing houses in this country. Some years later a libel suit in connection with an English edition was filed in the Federal district court here. Mr. DIES quotes extracts from that lower court decision. He would keep the American people in ignorance of an appeal in the case. Such an appeal was taken to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and the lower court decision was reversed. In a decision handed down by Justice Miller on May 14, 1940, the court held that the entire text of the book was inoffensive and that only a few of the illustrations were questionable.

The court held further that "it is obvious that the latter do not furnish the dominant note of the publication. * * * In the present case, as in the *Ulysses* case, the book as a whole is not obscene. * * * The author has been known for many years as a well-qualified writer in the field of sociology. His textbooks have been long known and used in the colleges and universities of this country."

Mr. Parmelee's case has been passed on by the courts of the land as provided for by our form of government. Not one person in a hundred thousand in this country is interested in nudism. Mr. DIES has twisted a few isolated facts in an effort to create the impression that the Board of Economic Warfare is planning a nudist post-war world for the United States. In calmer times this would make him the laughingstock of the country. In these days of crisis and tension, however, we cannot tolerate deliberate and dishonest efforts to confuse the public.

These are the most critical times in our history. Everything we treasure is at stake. It is the solemn duty of all patriotic citizens to fight the enemy within our gates who hides under many cloaks, the most insidious of which is a false patriotism. Any man who seeks to undermine faith in our Government by a malicious misuse of facts is a greater danger to our national safety than thousands of Axis soldiers within our borders. Hitler and the Japs know that better than anyone else. We Americans must face this ugly truth.

I trust that Mr. DIES and others of his kind, with an intense itch for publicity, will use their talents to help the United Nations win this war rather than stir up discord among patriotic Americans.

HENRY A. WALLACE.

MARCH 29, 1942.