

DIES -- CHICAGO

The following information is from an affidavit by Herbert March, head of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

Alphonse Malachi testified before the Dies committee concerning March and his assistant, Henry Johnson, and about Communist influence in the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee. March states further the following facts about Malachi:

His expulsion from the union was caused by his attempts to lead 12 stewards into the rival union, by his mishandling of funds, and by his refusal to carry out instructions.

On one occasion Malachi suggested to the financial secretary that they each take \$10 a week of union money for "expenses" and Malachi actually kept \$95 in dues which he had collected. He promised to pay this back to the union but subsequently insisted that it was due him for expenses. He had no proper expenses.

After the executive board of the union, before whom Malachi appeared, voted to recommend to the union that Malachi be expelled and as he left this meeting, Malachi threatened March. Shortly afterward March was shot at and wounded.

Malachi testified that a radio speech he had been persuaded to make was prepared by him with the help of the editor of the Midwest Daily Record, described in the recent Dies Committee report as the "Communist Party's newspaper. The person who helped him prepare this talk was Les O'Rear, who was then and still is editor of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee paper and who has never had any connection with the Midwest Daily Record.

Malachi quit working for Armour and Company a week before the Dies Committee hearing and has since that time been employed by the rival union.

March was informed by W. O. Edwards, Secretary-treasurer of the Agar Packing and Provisions Company in Chicago, that a group of "prominent citizens" had "invited Dies to investigate" March and his assistant, Johnson. These "prominent citizens," Edwards says were the Chicago Association of Commerce. This was a month before March and Johnson were called before the Committee. Three officials of the Chicago Association of Commerce are either the president or vice-president of large packing houses.

A witness to this conferation was Ken Collins, president of the local union in the Agar plant.

March was informed by U.S. Attorney, William Campbell, that he was "supervising an investigation of the illegal collusion of the company (Armour) officials and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers of North America Representative." March said that a letter from Campbell to the union assuring it that this investigation was in process was introduced as evidence when he testified before the Dies Committee in Chicago on 11/18/50. (Note: The Chicago newspapers at this time carry statements by Congressman Dies that he expected foreign agent and espionage indictments to be obtained by Campbell but no reference to this investigation was made.)