

# Come to Hollywood, Mr. Dies...

## Witch-Hunter Invited to Coast By Film Stars To Prove His Charges of 'Reds'

By Don Blackwell

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 25.—The red-herring thrown into Hollywood's midst the other day by the Dies Committee in Washington—which obtained public funds for the sworn purpose of uncovering subversive fascist and Nazi activities in this country—is not having the results so fondly hoped for by the reactionary Congressman and his stooges.

While admittedly many of the movie colony are holding their noses due to the over-ripe condition of this particular aquatic species, they are not quaking in their boots and they are not scurrying to cover—with the possible exception of Morrie Ryskind, who denied he is connected with the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League, or to the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy.

Far from being intimidated by Dies' threat to come to the Coast and follow up his "smear-everything-progressive" campaign, such film notables as Ernst Lubitsch, Sylvia Sidney, Donald Ogden Stewart, Frederic March, Lewis Milestone, Dorothy Parker and Gloria Stewart as members of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League are demanding that he does come to Hollywood.

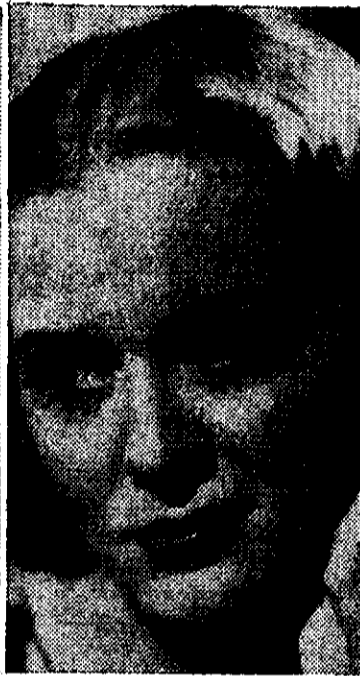
The League, which has a long record of democratic and anti-Nazi activities, stated in reply to the Dies attack:

"We call attention to the fact that the admitted source of these Dies committee libels is the infamous Los Angeles spy squad which has been summarily dismissed because of anarchistic, bomb-throwing activities in the city.

### Challenge to Dies Committee

"Because the Dies committee has abandoned its sworn purpose of investigating subversive activities, we intend to carry on the fight by holding a mass meeting in the Philharmonic Auditorium in Los Angeles, and we challenge the Dies committee to present substantiation of these so-called charges at this public meeting so that they may be answered openly and democratically.

## THEY ANSWERED DIES



At top, Gloria Stewart, famous movie star, and Donald Ogden Stewart (no relation to Gloria), one of the most talented screen writers in Hollywood. Frederick March and Sylvia Sidney are the two below. These four Hollywood notables are among a large number of progressives who have defied the so-called House Committee on Un-American Activities, headed by the reactionary Rep. Martin Dies, to come out to the coast and prove his charge that they are either reds or un-American.

"Failure to meet our challenge can be interpreted only as misuse by the Dies committee of public funds to aid reactionary fascist interests contrary to the law."

From the Motion Picture Artists Committee, which has raised thousands of dollars for China and democratic Spain, comes the statement:

"We indignantly reject these irresponsible attacks. At this crucial time when the cooperation of all democratic forces is so essential, this attack throws a very dubious light on the character of the whole Dies investigation. It emphasizes the need for the great-

est alertness on the part of all democracy-loving American people."

Even reactionary Billy Wilkerson, publisher of the Hollywood Reporter, and the labor-hating Los Angeles Times have come to the defense of Hollywood.

"Who is this fellow Sullivan," asks Wilkerson, "who made such a wild bellow in front of the Dies Committee the other day in Washington? Where did he come from and how did he get the appointment to investigate affairs out here and what were his qualifications for such an investigation?"

## Film Colony Up In Arms Against Charges by Dies' Red-Baiting 'Investigation'

The Times, in an editorial, has this to say:

"... Hollywood says truly that its contributions have been anti-Nazi and anti-fascist and not pro-Communist. It is not denied there are Communists within the colony, but to brand everyone who has contributed to the Anti-Nazi League or to the support of the Loyalists in Spain, as Communist, is plainly to go too far."

Donald Ogden Stewart, chairman of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League, sheds a bit more light when he says, in speaking of Dies' "ace" investigator Edward Sullivan: "He seems to have incorporated into his story all the Hollywood rumors collected from various anti-labor and anti-Roosevelt sources..."

That is the clue to what is behind the whole dirty business. Smear the New Deal, split labor and anti-fascist organizations, and insure a victory for the Tories and the reactionaries in the coming elections. So far it doesn't look a if Hollywood is going to fall for it.