

7-2-39

Journal - February 2, 1939

COLLEAGUES SCORE DIES ON HIS INQUIRY

Several Tell Rules Committee
He Should Be Dropped From
Investigating Body

UNFAIR METHODS CHARGED

Feb 2/39
Those Accused of 'Commun-
ism' by Witnesses Were Not
Heard in Defense, They Say

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Dies
Committee investigating un-Amer-
ican activities was denounced to-
day before the House Rules Com-
mittee by several members of the
House, but the resolution continu-
ing the special investigating group
appeared headed for consideration
in the House not later than Friday.

During the hearings, which lasted
several hours, Representative Cox
of Georgia let slip a remark which
indicated that the Rules Committee
had virtually decided to report the
resolution favorably, although no
vote has been taken as yet, and
probably will not be taken until to-
morrow afternoon.

Representative Sabath of Illinois,
chairman of the committee, asked
the consent of the House, just be-
fore adjournment, for permission to
file a report on the resolution up
to midnight tomorrow. Several wit-
nesses are scheduled to be heard
tomorrow.

Voorhis Opposes Dies Group

Representative Voorhis of Califor-
nia said that, while he was not op-
posed to an investigation of un-
American activities, he would vote
against continuation of the Dies
committee because "it has not been
careful in observing the rules of
evidence and it has not always been
fair."

He read a telegram from John G.
Clark, chairman of the California
Democratic State Central Commit-
tee, asserting he had been falsely
accused before the Dies committee
of being a Communist. He said Mr.
Clark had no chance to reply.

Representative Dingell, Democrat
of Michigan, declared he had no ob-
jection to continuance of the com-
mittee if Mr. Dies was not among
its membership.

Representative Mapes, Republican
of Michigan, said the Republicans
had nothing to do with the appear-
ance of Judge Paul V. Gadola of
Flint, Mich., before the Dies Com-
mittee to accuse Frank Murphy,
then Governor, of "treasonable ac-
tion" in his handling of the sit-
down strikes.

"They didn't invite Murphy, but
they paid Gadola's expenses," Mr.
Dingell retorted.

More Representatives in Fight

After a recess, Representatives
McGranery, Geyer, O'Dey, Keller
and Coffee joined the opposition to
continuance of the committee.

Mr. Keller introduced a resolution
seeking a new committee to investi-
gate un-American activities. He
charged that the Dies Committee
"had violated every fundamental
principle and constitutional right of
American citizens in its proceed-
ings." His resolution would em-
power the Speaker to appoint a
committee to inquire into:

"The extent and character of es-
pionage and other un-American
activities subsidized or promoted by
foreign governments who are op-
posed to the form and principles of
American democracy and seek to
undermine our democratic institu-
tions.

"The extent and character of
activities engaged in by native
Americans groups who collaborate
with and are aided by any foreign
government seeking to overthrow
the American Government by force
and violence."