

McCUISTION ASKS TRIAL NOW, WHY?

William C. McCuiston, star anti-NMU witness at the Dies Committee hearing who was arrested for the murder of Phillip Carey in New Orleans as he left the witness stand, changed his mind this week.

Until now he had been fighting extradition like a cornered rat, while Chief of Detectives John J. Grosch boomed that he had the goods on him for the cowardly slaying and would guarantee his prosecution.

Suddenly, last Tuesday, after conferring with several gentlemen who preferred not to give their names, he threw out what's left of his chest and announced that he would face the music.

But the membership has the right to wonder who is going to write the score. If he was so eager to get away from the scaffold until now, and so anxious to take his chances on it all of a sudden—well, what happened?

What was it?

In view of the murders, beatings, illegal arrests and general lawlessness that we have experienced at the hands of the New Orleans police during the short life of our union—isn't it only fair to ask whether or not William Coulter McCuiston, the rat, has made a deal?

Dies to Request \$100,000 More For '40 Inquiry

Wants Committee Continued for One Year; Says Bill Stated 1942 by Mistake

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (P)—Chairman Martin Dies, Democrat, of Texas, said tonight that he would ask the House for \$100,000 to finance another year of work by his committee to investigate un-American activities. Just before Congress adjourned, Mr. Dies introduced a resolution to continue the committee until Jan. 3, 1942—two years from its present expiration date. He said this was a clerical error, however, and that he would ask only one year more of life for the committee. The committee already has received \$125,000.

Mr. Dies will leave Washington tomorrow for New Orleans, accompanied by committee aids to investigate the case of William C. McCuiston, a committee witness. McCuiston, who told about alleged Communist penetration of the National Maritime Union, was jailed here immediately after he stepped from the witness stand and is awaiting extradition hearing on a New Orleans charge of murder.

Curran Assails Dies Inquiry

The Dies committee is using "discredited ex-Communists and felons for the purpose of creating a smoke screen of Communism over members and officials of the National Maritime Union to turn the public against the seamen and the progressive trade-union movement," Joseph Curran, president of N. M. U., charged in a letter sent yesterday to President Roosevelt, the Cabinet and all members of Congress.

"Witnesses like William C. McCuiston," Mr. Curran said in the letter, "show how far the one-sided inquiry has gone."

"The National Maritime Union, its members and officers, on behalf of whom I speak, are not Communists."

In answer to allegations that the union might sabotage ships, he said:

"The National Maritime Union will not tolerate the undermining of the American Merchant Marine, nor will it harbor and protect enemies of the country."

To refute testimony questioning the loyalty of the union's membership to the American government, he pointed out that many members and officers of the N. M. U. are ex-service men.

a war depression instead of a war