

A. JOB FOR

MR. DIES

By Frank C. Waldrop

THE Dies Committee on un-American Activities should investigate the Department of Justice. Attorney General Francis Biddle and his personal administrative assistants ought to be called up before Congress, put under oath, and examined in close detail concerning their conduct in office.

That would make a pretty sight.

Mr. Biddle, who gives the spectacle of a man fairly reeking with conscience and reliability, has earned himself an hour or so on the witness stand and so have several of his clever assistants, among whom the Hon. Oscar Cox, special assistant to Mr. Biddle, and Charles Malcolmson, assistant director of public relations, are notable examples.



Mr. Dies

Messrs. Cox and Malcolmson are the ones who find a way for Mr. Biddle's ideas of justice and mercy to be executed, and being his agents could enlighten the Congress greatly concerning the great man's mentality.

AS for the importance of having Biddle and friends on the witness stand, that is obvious enough. Of 1,121 Federal employes whose names were submitted to the Department of Justice by the Dies Committee as suspected of subversive activity, only two were found by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to be actually subversive—according to a favorite Biddle mouthpiece.

Very soon, it is stated, the findings of Biddle's investigators will be turned back to the Dies committee.

But if Dies wants to protect himself he will not leave the matter there. He ought to have Biddle up to explain not merely what was found out, but how it was found out.

Of the 1,121 names submitted, how many were actually turned over to the FBI for investigation? How many hours did the G-men put in on each case? Whom did they question? And how did their report to Biddle leak out?

AND while the Attorney General is enlightening Congress in that respect, he might also be asked a question or two about other things.

For instance, what is Mr. Biddle doing about the Communist party of the United States?

Ever since war was declared the Department of Justice has been hot after Axis agents in this country, as it very well

should be. Anybody who gives aid and comfort to any enemy of the United States deserves the fullest punishment the law will allow.

THE Department of Justice has been so zealous in its pursuits, however, that it has run over into dangerous territory—so dangerous, in fact, that several leading Senators are considering the formation of a "bill of rights" committee to protect citizens from persecution who have been not friends of the Axis, but merely critics of Administration policy.

These Senators feel Mr. Biddle's boys show a tendency not to know the difference between lawfully differing with the Administration on a policy and unlawfully plotting to overthrow the United States Government.

WHICH brings up the next point: Why does Mr. Biddle pursue one crowd of plotters so fiercely and overlook another?

AID and comfort to our enemies cannot be tolerated.

But why is Mr. Biddle so keen against it one place and so blind to it in another? Here we have an opinion of the Communist party, written and delivered by none other than Francis Biddle, Attorney General of the United States:

"The Communist party of the U. S. A., from the time of its inception in 1919 TO THE PRESENT TIME, is an organization that believes in, advises, advocates, and teaches the overthrow by force and violence of the Government of the United States."

The Communists believe in wrecking our form of Government. And they seek that overthrow.

THE Dies committee ought to ask Mr. Biddle what he, as the chief law enforcement agent of the United States Government, is doing to suppress this organization which seeks the overthrow of the United States Government.

Why is he so zealous against one set of our enemies and so inactive against an equally dangerous set?

Why does he issue subpoenas and call up grand juries to investigate the slightest whisper against citizens of the United States suspected of ties with one set of our enemies, and yet show no sign of interest in prosecuting another set?

Surely anybody who advocates the overthrow of the United States Government by force and violence is an enemy.

Get the Attorney General out in the open, Mr. Dies, and ask him some questions on that line.