

Members of Dies Group Clash Over Mixing in Election Race

By International News Service

Members of the House Committee on un-American Activities clashed violently yesterday over charges and denials that the group is mixing in the presidential race.

Representative Herman P. Eberhart (D., Pa.) asserted that the committee is carrying on a sniping campaign against the Democratic Party.

Chairman John M. Costello (D., Calif.) vigorously denied any sniping and pointed out "concrete evidence" of a "hotbed of communism" in the CIO National Citizens Political Action Committee which the House group is investigating.

"That's not sniping," Costello thundered.

Earlier, Dr. J. B. Matthews, research director of the committee, testified that 119 of 141 members of the CIO National Citizens Political Action Committee are affiliated with 245 different "Communist or Communist-controlled organizations."

Two other witnesses, Joseph Blumenfeld and Peter de Guardia, testified that they resigned from a CIO shipworkers union in Baltimore last March, because the union put political activities above welfare of its workers and because the union was dominated by communism.

The two former union men are among a group of 34 employes of the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore, who face dismissal under a War Labor Board order upholding maintenance of union membership.

One of the two men who testified said the union was blacklisting him and that he was "being deprived of his constitutional right to work."

Matthews told the committee that all but 30 of the 119 Political Action Committee members affiliated with Communist "Front" or organizations have membership in more than one group and that altogether the Communistic affli-

ations total 842. One-half the entire membership of the Political Action Committee, Matthews said, "have comprised the nucleus of the Communist movement in this country in the last 20 years. It seems fair to characterize the NCPAC as a Communist front organization with the objective of worming its way of communism into the Democratic Party."

Matthews said that 26 members of the NCPAC, which is dedicated to the reelection of President Roosevelt, are affiliated with 10 or more Communist groups, that 46 are affiliated with five or more groups, and 89 with two or more such fronts.

He listed the five as former municipal Judge Dorothy Kenyon, of New York City, 20 affiliations; Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, 48 affiliations; Langston Hughes, poet and author, 49; Max Lerner, PM writer and commentator, 26, and Paul Robeson, the Negro singer, 34.