

LABOR'S NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE
201 Willard Hotel
Washington, D. C.

Press Information

For Release
Friday morning papers
August 26, 1938

Labor's Non-Partisan League advised the Dies House Committee on Subversive Activities today that it need look no further than its own chief investigator, Edward F. Sullivan, to find a central figure in subversive activities.

Releasing for use of the committee and the press data it has gathered about Mr. Sullivan's career as a labor spy, would-be briber, and poison pen journalist, the League called on the Dies Committee to reject any witnesses or evidence produced by Sullivan pending a thorough inquiry into his background.

Affidavits, newspaper reports, and photostatic copies of subversive literature presented to the committee by the League painted a black picture of Sullivan as an associate of openly Fascistic groups who in the 1936 campaign conducted an undercover campaign of slander against President Roosevelt and the whole New Deal Administration.

A sidelight of the League's facts about Sullivan is that one of the witnesses produced by him had appeared in District Court here August 18, the very morning of the day he testified, and was sentenced to serve one to two years on a grand larceny charge to which he had pleaded guilty. The witness was placed on parole.

Sullivan was linked by the League to James True, a notorious Washington character who for many years has been prominent in Anti-Semitic movements and whose attacks on the Roosevelt

Administration and all progressive legislation, have been marked for their bitter intemperance and disregard for facts. True and Sullivan occupied the same office and were closely associated in an Asheville, N. C. conference where speakers, including Sullivan, openly incited violence against the Jewish people.

Demanding that the committee turn the spotlight on its own staff, the League said:

"In view of the evidence herein presented upon the conduct and character of Edward F. Sullivan, Labor's Non-Partisan League respectfully insists that the Dies Committee cannot proceed further upon the basis of any of the reports, recommendations or other suggestions of Mr. Sullivan.

"It is submitted that it rather behooves the committee to undertake a painstaking, thorough and critical investigation of Mr. Sullivan's activities in recent years, both before and since his employment on the committee staff.

"American citizens should not be exposed, in the light of the facts here adduced, to further baseless attacks from or because of Mr. Sullivan's 'investigations'. Moreover, it is the clear duty of the committee to review all the testimony thus far introduced, to determine the motives and the methods of Mr. Sullivan in its presentation, to the end that some at least of the grave injury done the subjects of that testimony may be counteracted."

If the Dies Committee is really interested in unearthing subversive activities, the League advises the Committee, then it should closely examine Mr. Sullivan because it is apparent that he is entirely familiar with them as a participant not a mere observer.