

January 28, 1939

The Honorable Adolph J. Sabath, Chairman  
Rules Committee of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman Sabath:

I am submitting herewith a memorandum relative to the activities of Mr. Edward Francis Sullivan, for several weeks senior investigator for the Dies Committee. Attached to this memorandum are affidavits and reproductions of extracts from various publications bearing upon the subject matter of the memorandum.

I am convinced that this material clearly demonstrates that there had been under way a campaign which is not only viciously un-American in its attack upon minority groups, but which also constitutes a direct incitement to violence against the constituted authorities of the United States Government. The evidence submitted indicates a close relationship between Mr. Edward Francis Sullivan and this campaign of defamation and incitement to violence.

The evidence was submitted to the Dies Committee with a direct request that it be given serious and careful consideration and that the activities of Mr. Sullivan be investigated. You will note in the memorandum that there is a direct quotation from writings of Mr. Sullivan during the time he was in the employ of the Dies Committee. The quotation given demonstrates that Sullivan was carrying on, while in the employ of the Dies Committee, the same type of propoganda as that which has characterized his earlier activities. You will note the memorandum was submitted to the Dies Committee under date of August 25, 1938. Congressman Dies replied under date of August 26, promising that "a careful consideration of all the charges made by you will be given as we have no desire or disposition to do anything except to establish the truth."

You will note that the documents submitted herewith include affidavits from attorneys and other citizens of Boston, Massachusetts. You will note that it includes quotations from Washington City Police records. As far as I know there has been neither investigation nor public hearings upon any of the matter contained in this memorandum.

I have followed with some interest the various kinds of proceedings before the Dies Committee. It is my opinion that nothing brought out in any of their hearings is so grave in character or so worthy of serious consideration as the activities of the Dies Committee investigator, Mr. Edward F. Sullivan.

Knowing that the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives has before it the question of permitting Mr. Dies to continue the type of activities in which he has been engaged during the past six months, I have felt that members of that committee should have the enclosed memorandum. I respectfully suggest that the Rules Committee investigate Mr. Sullivan and his conduct both before and after his employment by the Dies Committee as a part of the basis for passing upon the activities of that committee itself.

Respectfully yours,

*E. L. Oliver*

Executive Vice-President  
Labor's Non-Partisan League