

Rep. Hoffman's Talks Probed

Congress Member's Secretary Quizzed

Speeches written by Representative Clare E. Hoffman (R.), of Michigan, were examined yesterday by a District Grand Jury investigating Nazi propaganda.

Miss Helen Boyer, secretary of Hoffman, was questioned twice during the day, once for 25 minutes and again for 30 minutes. She carried a big brown envelope on her second appearance.

Hoffman was an anti-Administration spokesman in Congress before the treacherous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He inserted in the Congressional Record last May material entitled "We Burned Our Bridges Once."

George Hill, convicted self-confessed perjurer, former secretary of Representative Hamilton Fish jr. (R.), of New York, testified in District Court recently that he was the Capitol Hill representative of George Sylvester Viereck, convicted German agent.

Hill is said to have ordered 30,000 copies of "We Burned Our Bridges Once" for mailing under congressional franks.

Witnesses at Viereck's trial testified Miss Boyer authorized the Government Printing Office to print envelopes containing Hoffman's frank for free mailing.

William Power Maloney, special Federal prosecutor, in summoning Miss Boyer, indicated the grand jury would inquire particularly into the operations of Nazi propagandists on Capitol Hill.

In this connection, the grand jury questioned an official of a bank which handled an account for a committee established by Fish and other members of Congress before Fish visited Germany in 1939.

Maloney declined to make public the names of two refugees from Germany questioned by the grand jury, because to do so might endanger their lives.

Others questioned included William Griffin, editor of the New York Enquirer, a weekly newspaper; Thomas Jefferson Ford, editor of the Irish World, a New York newspaper, and James McDermott, editor of the Gaelic American, a New York newspaper.