

He'll Be Among Friends

Rep. Hoffman Slated to Testify In Nazi Probe Tomorrow

By Dillard Stokes
Post Staff Writer 4/12/42

Representative Clare E. Hoffman (Republican), of Michigan, last night was called to appear before the special grand jury on Axis agents tomorrow morning.

The grand jury is investigating the financial backing and Congressional contacts of defeatist publications and groups.

Attorney General Biddle has ordered searching investigation of all such activity, with prompt and firm action in every case where evidence is found. The Attorney General has ordered half a dozen prosecutions for sedition in the last few days.

High officials of the Department
AGENTS, from Page 1.

involved in operations uncovered by The Post in a long investigation, which brought out apparent evidence of a conspiracy which reached into the Capital.

The oddly parallel utterances and editorial unanimity of certain obscure, Jew-baiting publications suggested enemy inspiration, perhaps control.

Some of the editors and their aides were summoned last week, but not heard—due to proceedings which got one of them three months for contempt of court, the nabbing of a prowler outside the guarded grand jury chamber and other delays.

So, when Representative Hoffman goes to the Municipal Court Building tomorrow "to give evidence in behalf of the United States," he will find quite a company waiting to be examined.

One of them will be Charles B. Hudson, 50, who puts out an anti-British, anti-Jewish bulletin with the slogan, "End the War Quickly."

Hoffman made a speech January 27 in which he called President Roosevelt a "Judas," afterward ordering 145,000 reprints from the Government Printing Office. Hoffman sent some of these copies to Hudson, who mailed out the speech from Omaha, Nebr., in the same envelope with a seditious card and a sheaf of Jew-baiting dodgers.

Justice Jennings Bailey of the District Court sent Hudson to jail for three months for refusing to tell who printed the seditious card. Allowed 10 days to change his mind and talk, Hudson went back to the grand jury room the next day, but spent the weekend in jail just the same.

Attorney George E. Sullivan—author of an anti-Jewish book which Hudson offers for sale—in the same bulletin which offers 28 of the Hoffman speeches for 10 cents—declared yesterday that he was not Hudson's lawyer, as Hudson had said.

Kissenger May Be There

Another who may greet Hoffman at the grand jury chambers is Hermann D. Kissenger, who perhaps will thank the Congressman for sending him several hundred copies of the "Roosevelt Is a Judas" speech, about a month ago.

A Kansas City lawyer, Kissenger used to write for the Bund paper, "Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter." He was arrested for sedition

of Justice conferred until late yesterday with the chief of the criminal division, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge. Among the conferees was Special Prosecutor William Power Maloney—who sent the German agent, George Sylvester Viereck, to jail and has worked on the special grand jury inquiry since it began last September 16.

The conferees refused to discuss their meeting.

But there were indications that sensational prosecutions will be started in Washington soon.

A number of persons and papers—in widely scattered cities—were in—
See **AGENTS, Page 8, Column 3.**

—"giving aid and comfort to the enemy"—last December 17, but was released a few days later.

Hoffman will find another recipient—of several thousand copies of his speech, in Mrs. David Stanley, Cleveland—who presided two weeks ago at a meeting where handbills blaming the war on the President and calling him a traitor were given out.

Still another distributor of the "Roosevelt is a Judas" speech who is scheduled to be at the same session as the grim, isolationist orator who made it, is Gerald B. Winrod, of Wichita, Kans. A fluent speaker who was called the "jayhawk Hitler" when he ran for the Senate in 1938, Winrod damns with equal venom the President, the British and the Jews. Winrod got several hundred copies of the speech.

It seemed likely that Foreman John S. Gorrell and his fellow grand jurors would wish to ask Hoffman how he came to send his reprints to these and dozens of others, of like views and activities. Whether they asked for them, and what, if anything, they paid the Congressman for their share of the 145,000 reprints also are questions of interest.

Likened to Hill

Hoffman's name first came into the inquiry ten days ago, when his secretary, Miss Helen Boyer, was summoned. It came out in the trial of the German agent, Viereck, that Miss Boyer authorized use of Hoffman's frank on 30,000 copies of an isolationist speech bought by Representative Hamilton Fish's secretary, George Hill, a year ago. Hill was the Capitol Hill purchasing agent for Viereck's Nazi propaganda machine.

After Miss Boyer was summoned, Hoffman issued a statement that the Administration was using the special grand jury to "smear" him. He recalled that on January 22 he assumed responsibility for what his secretary did.

Until mid-March, Prosecutor Maloney's work was shared by Special Prosecutor Edward J. Hickey, jr., who is now a Navy officer. Certified last week as Maloney's associate was John T. M. Reddan, 32-year-old graduate of Georgetown University and also of its College of Law.

Reddan has been with the Department of Justice since 1935, working in the criminal division since April, 1936.

Married, with two children, he lives at Woodacres, Md.