

# Hoffman Lays 'Smear' Drive To Maloney

*J. H. ...*  
Prosecutor Seeks

Republicans' Defeat,  
Legislator Declares

By MARSHALL BAGGETT

Representative Clare E. Hoffman (R.), of Michigan, stunned members of the House yesterday with the charge that Special Federal Prosecutor William P. Maloney is conducting a "smear campaign" designed to defeat every Republican Congressman.

Before appearing before the District Grand Jury investigating Axis propaganda, Hoffman arose on the House floor on a point of personal privilege and declared that Maloney is "making ammunition for a campaign" by permitting newspaper stories linking his name with those of George Sylvester Viereck, convicted Nazi propagandist, and George Hill, self-confessed and imprisoned perjurer.

## "He's a Smear Artist"

The Michigan legislator said he received information yesterday that the special prosecutor had made the statement "he would defeat every Republican member of the House" if given three months more in charge of the probe.

"He's making ammunition for a campaign," Hoffman declared. "He's a smear artist."

"I consider him an unmitigated liar," Maloney said when informed of Hoffman's charges. "It's ridiculous. I don't see how anything I've said can be interpreted by any reasonable man to that effect—and underline reasonable. I believe that any man has a right to be isolationist or not, on the floor of the House or anywhere else."

## Asks Source of Data

Floor Leader John W. McCormack (D.), of Massachusetts, challenged Hoffman on three occasions during his speech to disclose the source of his information.

"The gentleman from Michigan makes a very grave charge," said McCormack. "Does he not wish to take the House into his confidence and not leave it as he has, a piece of hearsay evidence?"

"I'll save that for Maloney," replied Hoffman, adding that he believed the prosecutor would summon his informant before the grand jury if he revealed his identity.

Representative Clifton A. Woodrum (D.), of Virginia, asked Hoffman how copies of two of his speeches became circulated by allegedly subversive organizations under investigation by the grand jury.

Hoffman said "certain women" came to his office and asked permission to have copies printed and distributed in his district.

He then asked Woodrum if he had ever denied such a request. The Virginian snapped back that none of his speeches had ever turned up in the hands of "subversive organizations."

Replying to direct questions by Woodrum, Hoffman denied that he had called the President "a Judas" in one of the speeches and distributed copies to House members to prove his contention.

## Criticizes Inquiries

"Well, if the gentleman didn't call him a Judas, he's called him almost everything else," retorted Woodrum.

Hoffman criticized conduct of the Grand Jury investigations. He said the proceedings are required by law to be secret but "the newspapers have for some time been telling what the Grand Jury is doing and what the witnesses testify."

"I suggest that Maloney investigate some of his own investigators, and conduct the proceedings according to law," he said. "How do the reporters know what the Grand Jury is doing?"

Hoffman arrived five minutes early for his scheduled appearance before the Grand Jury yesterday afternoon. A few minutes later, Charles B. Hudson, Omaha editor, was escorted handcuffed into the witness room where the legislator was waiting.

After being called to the witness stand, Hoffman emerged from the Grand Jury room and his secretary, Miss Helen Boyer, replaced him.