

BUND CHIEF URGES THAT SPIES BE SHOT

Fritz Kuhn, Speaking at Hearing in Albany, Defends His Group as 'Americans'

IS ASSAILED BY DICKSTEIN

Latter Lays Propaganda to Hitler—Fish Warns on Group 'Arming'

By WARREN MOSCOW
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
ALBANY, June 30.—Fritz Kuhn, "Fuehrer" of the German-American Bund, making a defense of his organization tonight, told the Constitutional Convention's Committee on Military Affairs that any German spies over here should be shot. "You should have shot them if they was spies," Mr. Kuhn shouted in his clipped but broken English. "If they was spies, let them have it. We are not Nazis, we are Americans."

His denial of mercy to persons who might be really involved in the recent alleged German spy plot was Mr. Kuhn's only lapse into real excitement during the hearing. Most of the time he professed amusement over the proceedings.

The audience seemed even more amused, since the hearing, called on four proposals which were designed to limit the activities of Nazi and any similar groups, turned out to be a contest in which the Nazis, represented by Mr. Kuhn; the Communists, American War Veterans and Representative Samuel Dickstein all united in favor of the proposals.

The speakers, with the exception of the Communist representative, spent most of their time far afield from the proposals. On one occasion, Mr. Kuhn posed to Mr. Dickstein the question: "Charley, vas you dere?" as he implied that Mr. Dickstein could not possibly know what Mr. Kuhn and Adolf Hitler had discussed in Germany on Mr. Kuhn's last visit there.

At another point a representative of the Jewish War Veterans, in an attack on the anti-Semitism of the Bund, brought up the question as to whether the name "Monahan" could ever possibly have been "Cohen."

The hearing before the committee tonight was arranged by its chairman, Hamilton Fish, to coincide with the State convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, being held here this week. Mr. Fish's hopes for full interested galleries were disappointed, however, as the maximum attendance during the session was about 150.

It had been rumored that twenty-five State troopers would be on hand to keep order, but their presence was never necessary and they never appeared. Reports that half a dozen men in street clothes around the hall were troopers also proved to be just a rumor.

Those, however, were not the only matters that stirred talk around the convention chamber tonight. Mr. Dickstein presented the "fact" that the German Government had raised \$100,000,000 to spend for Nazi propaganda and that \$30,000,000 of it had been sent to this country.

Asked by Chairman Fish if he had proof of this statement, Mr. Dickstein said that if the committee had the power of subpoena, he might be able to get the truth "in forty-eight hours."

There were four proposals on which the hearing was held. The first, by Delegate Benjamin Bernstein, would prohibit the use of armories by any groups professing allegiance to any foreign govern-

ment, or supporting the political principles of any foreign government. The second, also by Mr. Bernstein, would limit membership in the National Guard to citizens. Two other proposals, both similar in content, with one from Murray Gobtrad and the other from Chairman Fish, would prohibit the existence of military or semi-military organizations except under the supervision of the State.

Mr. Fish told the hearing that he was against any military or semi-military organizations functioning except under State control.

"If we permit private armies, it will lead to warfare," he declared. "If I had been chairman of the McNaboe committee," said Mr. Dickstein, when his turn came, referring to the New York legislative investigation, "I would have taken this Fuehrer [Mr. Kuhn] by the neck and thrown him out or I would have made him answer questions."

"When our Congressional committee comes to New York City we propose to find out whether this gentleman—this Fuehrer whom you will have the honor to hear in a little while—is Fritz Julius Kuhn, a man who was a spy in the war in 1917. We had a Fritz Kuhn in camp as a spy. He answered to the same name and he answered to the same general description as does the Fuehrer."

Mr. Dickstein produced a number of photographs from Nazi camps and Nazi gatherings from which he said non-Nazis were excluded.

"Here," he said, "is one picture of a secret meeting. You could not get into it except you were a Nazi or had a card. This shows that the Bund is a military organization, ready to take up arms and fight Americans for Germany. And do not ask me how I got them. I did not take them. The Nazis do no posing for me."

Mr. Kuhn arose, and his first act, as a witness, was to tell the committee that the pictures Mr. Dickstein had produced were enlarged post cards, the post cards having been sold by the members of the German-American Bund. The Bund was not a secret group, and had nothing to fear, he insisted.

"Since the last five years, we have been investigated by Dickstein," he said. "Now he calls me a spy. For forty-three years my name has been Fritz Julius Kuhn, for forty-three years since I was born, and now that man has the nerve to call me a spy of the United States, and I served in the German army for four and a half years. How would you like to be called a spy in the country where you work and live? He only dares open his mouth down in Washington."