

# U. S. Indicts Viereck For Nazi Activities

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## German Agent Arrested for Flooding Mails With Appeaser Propaganda

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—The Justice Department today indicted George Sylvester Viereck, registered Nazi agent, for failure to reveal his role in flooding the country with appeasement speeches by isolationist Congressmen distributed postage-free by pro-fascist groups.

Viereck, arrested in New York today was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury meeting in Washington for violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

The Grand Jury charged Viereck with withholding information on his close ties and financial support to isolationist committees and his widespread activities in spreading fifth-column propaganda through the press, radio and the Congressional Record.

### CONTRIBUTED MONEY

Through two committees, the "Make Europe Pay War Debts Committee" and the "Islands for War Debts Committee," to which he contributed large sums of money, Viereck spread far and wide speeches by appeasement congressmen which he recognized as good Nazi propaganda.

It is these two committees, headed by Preston Dennett, who has done publicity work for Viereck, which figured in the recent sensational disappearance of 20 mailbags containing unaddressed, postage-free envelopes with speeches by prominent members of the isolationist group in congress.

On the eve of his investigation by the Grand Jury, Dennett, who once did publicity work for Rep. Hamilton Fish, hastily got rid of these 20 mailbags which contained the franked envelopes of the following members of Congress:

Senators Burton K. Wheeler, Robert R. Reynolds, Gerald P. Nye, and Worth Clark, and Representatives Hamilton Fish, George Tinkham, Martin Sweeney, and Stephen A. Day.

Later it was revealed that eight mailbags were delivered to the office of Rep. Fish, and the other 12 turned up at the headquarters of the Washington Branch of the America First Committee.

Fish's secretary, George Hill, who was responsible for sending a Congressional mail truck to Dennett's headquarters to pick up the embarrassing mail bags, has been subpoenaed to appear before the Grand Jury tomorrow.

The Grand Jury indictment makes it plain that Viereck is a leading figure behind the scenes in the Congressional franking racket which is saving pro-Nazi groups thousands of dollars.

### AID HITLER AGENTS

And the isolationist group in Congress is revealed as playing into the hands of Hitler agents who are using speeches and material in the Congressional Record to spread disunity in the United States.

Viereck's indictment is the latest action of the Grand Jury investigation which began Sept. 16.

Previously Frank Burch, Ohio attorney, was indicted for failure to register as a Nazi agent after he had received \$10,000 from the German Consul in Cleveland for propaganda work.

A nephew of the late Kaiser and born in Germany, Viereck registered with the State Department as a Nazi in October, 1939.

He stated he was the agent of the German Library of Information, of the newspaper *Municher Neueste Nachrichten*, and of *Giseler Wirsing*, who in turn is registered as an agent of a Munich publishing house, *Verlag Knorr Und Hubh.*

For six months work, Viereck got the tidy sum of \$8,350 from the Nazis, and an additional \$10,000 for advertising expenses for boosting a pro-Nazi book.

The Grand Jury indictment charges that Viereck "unlawfully, willfully, feloniously and knowingly omitted material facts" regard-

ing his activities in the United States.

Viereck is charged with failure to set forth the "divers persons" with whom he consulted; that he wrote and edited articles under five "fictitious names" to conceal his true identity; and that he helped Dennett to organize the Make Europe Pay Committee.

He was also charged with disseminating material through Flanders Hall, Inc., a publishing house which he financed and directed.

This outfit is registered with the State Department as a Nazi agent. It is the same firm which recently published Rep. Stephen A. Day's book, "We Must Save the Republic," and which has been distributing books in this country issued by Deutsche Informationsstelle of Berlin.

One of the most widely distributed books put out by Flanders Hall was "100 Families That Rule The Empire," an anti-British book written by a Nazi agent, which was endorsed by Senator Hiram Johnson, Representatives Dewey Short, Louis Ludlow, Thomas Winter, Melvin Maas and other members of the isolationist group in Congress.

### FRANKED MAIL

Last year \$1,217,436 was spent by the Post Office Department to distribute some 45,000,000 pieces of free mail. Now it is apparent that a good deal of this mail found its way into the hands of pro-Nazi groups.

The Steuben Society of America, an avowed pro-Nazi organization, distributed a speech by its national chairman, Theo. H. Hoffman, under the postage-free frank of Senator Nye.

At a meeting addressed by Donald Shea, of the National Gentile League, envelopes bearing the frank of Senator Wheeler were distributed to the audience for disposal to friends.

On one occasion at a meeting of the Steuben Society's Unit No. 55 in New York City, a letter was distributed saying that excerpts from the Congressional Record were available for distribution and could "be used to publicize our society to great advantage" to be "sent to our race and to others."

An advertisement for the notorious anti-Semitic document, the *Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion*,

was sent out under the frank of Representative Hamilton Fish.

On a recent occasion when Senator Wheeler turned over franked envelopes with one of his speeches to the America First Committee, it was estimated that he saved them \$10,000 in postage.

The Grand Jury investigation has made it plain that the postage-free privilege of isolationist Congressmen has become one of the most potent tools of Hitler agents in this country.