

Admits Office Had Evidence Taken Away

But Representative
Denies Knowledge
At the Time That
Bags Were Removed

By Dillard Stokes
Post Staff Writer

Representative Hamilton Fish (Republican), of New York, admitted yesterday that his office sent the Congressional truck which hauled away 20 mailbags of evidence in the District grand jury's Nazi agent inquiry, but Fish said he personally had nothing to do with it.

In fact, Fish said, he never heard of the mailbags until a Post reporter asked him about them.

Ten of the mailbags were traced to the America First Committee, which turned them over Thursday to United States deputy marshals armed with a subpoena.

Ready to Hand Them Over

At least six more of the mailbags are locked up in storage compartments of the House Office Building. Fish said the Department of Justice could have these "any time they want to ask for them." Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey said they would do so immediately, probably today.

The Department of Justice "propaganda squad" launched the current grand jury investigation of suspected German agents on September 16, with Flanders Hall, Inc., of Scotch Plains, N. J., their chief target.

A week later, Frank B. Burch, Akron, Ohio, isolationist and Republican leader, was indicted on charges of not registering as an agent of the German government and Prescott Dennett was nailed before Justice Jesse C. Adkins for contempt of court action.

All Records Summoned

Dennett is manager of Columbia Press Service, 1430 Rhode Island Avenue Northwest, and secretary of the Make Europe Pay and Islands for War Debts Committees. After Maloney charged in open court that "known German agents" gave these groups money, Justice Adkins ordered Dennett to turn all his records over to the grand jury.

Dennett did so that afternoon, without mentioning that last Friday morning, a few hours after he was served with the grand jury summons, he got rid of 20 mailbags full of material. He did give up bales of unused postage-free envelopes which originally were issued to members of the House and Senate for official use.

Upon a request from Representative Fish's office, a House of Representatives truck driven by Charles Wilson, a House Office Building postoffice employe was at Dennett's headquarters early Friday morning. Loaded with the mailbags it next went to the House building. At least six of the mailbags remained there and at least ten later turned up at the America First Committee's offices, 126 C Street Northeast.