

Dennett Had Some

"Several thousand copies of 'Roosevelt Tours, Inc.' were produced, in several printings," Stratton said. "Mr. Dennett had some. We sent him quite a number some time ago; it was in the spring or early summer, I think. But I don't recall sending any to the America First Committee. Of course, we got a number of requests, but I do not remember sending any to America First, as an organization."

Stratton said he never authorized anybody at Ossining, N. Y., to mail his frank, as far as he knew. An Alexandria woman recently received the Roosevelt Tours card from the New York prison town.

Stratton said that some copies of his franked item, "Letters of Thomas Jefferson," were sent to Dennett, but that he could not recall sending any to the America First Committee.

"Of course," Stratton commented, "we have no control over the material after it leaves the office. But I should hate to think of it being burned, or anything like that. That would be a waste of money and time, as well as of paper and ink. I certainly have not countenanced anybody burning any of my reprints from the Record."

Meanwhile, franked material figured briefly in the Senate yesterday, where Senator Gerald P. Nye (Republican), of North Dakota,

said he would "be the last to contend that there had not been, perchance, some misuse."

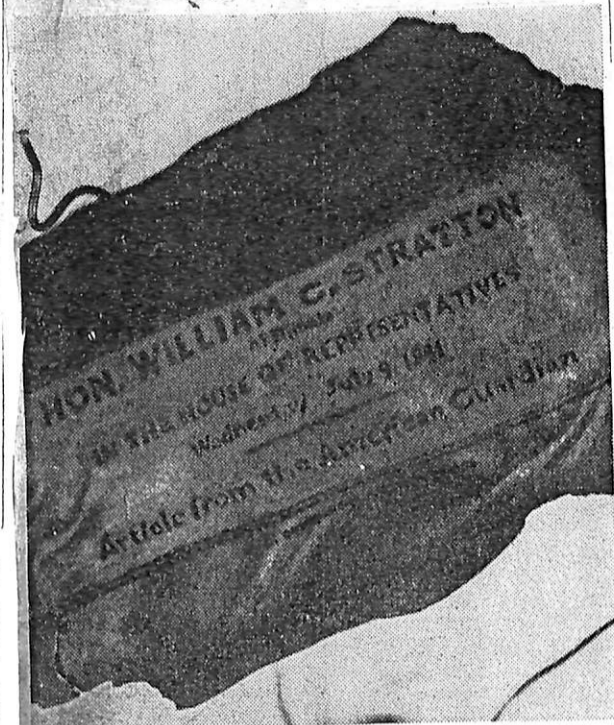
"For my own part," Senator Nye added, "I would have to plead guilty, as I look back now, to having been rather careless upon occasion with the frank myself."

However, Senator Nye continued that officials who criticized misuse of the frank ought not to misuse it themselves. He quoted from a speech by Secretary of Interior Ickes which he said was sent out, "to the publishers of the country, at least," under the official frank of the Secretary.

Senator Nye was one of those whose unaddressed franked envelopes were found in Dennett's office and in the mailbags spirited away from there.

Missing Material?

Franked Cards Found Burned Behind 'America First' Office



Charred postcard with the frank of Representative Stratton
Post Staff Photo

interventionist Senator from Missouri, expressed amazement when told the franked matter had been burned.

"I don't think there was any such disposition of any franked material," said Mrs. Clark. "I don't know anything like that. I don't believe it."

When assured that the ashed has been closely examined, Mrs. Clark continued, "I can't imagine them burning anything like that. We have nothing to cover up. None of our employes has anything to cover up."

"Why, it's perfectly ridiculous. If the America First had anything to cover up, you may be sure it would have been done long before this. It won't do. You can't pin anything like that, any connection with those mailbags on the America First Committee."

"I wasn't in the office yesterday, but nothing of that sort happened, as far as I am aware."

The special grand jury on the night of September 18 summoned Prescott Dennett, secretary-treasurer of the antiinterventionists Make Europe Pay and Islands for War Debts Committees, which the grand jurors later charged were set up and financed by the ace German propagandist, George Sylvester Viereck, so he could use them to have propaganda sent through the mails under Congressional frank.

Early the next morning, on Friday, September 19, Hill sent a House truck to Dennett's headquarters, 1430 Rhode Island Avenue Northwest. Dennett loaded 20 mailbags, containing about a ton of unaddressed franked matter, in the truck, which delivered a dozen bags to the America First Committee and the other eight to the House Office Building. Hill ordered the latter consignment placed in a storeroom used by Representative Fish.

18 Bags Recovered

When served with a grand jury subpoena, Miss Isabel French, America First office manager, gave up only ten bags, which were taken to the grand jury and later to the Department of Justice for analysis by the propaganda squad.

The other eight bags remained in the House storage room for more than a week. When ordered by the court to produce them, Hill first failed to do so, contending that he had no control of the bags because Representative Fish's office "never accepted them." This was what Fish told the House in a speech upon a point of personal privilege.

However, when contempt of court proceedings were started against Hill, he had the bags sent to the grand jury and was called back himself for the questioning which is to be resumed this afternoon.

Representative Stratton told The Post last night that he could not recall having sent any copies of either "Roosevelt Tours, Inc.," or "Letters of Thomas Jefferson" to the America First Committee.

Prosecutors in Nazi Inquiry Study Ashes For Use in Evidence

By Dillard Stokes
Post Staff Writer 10/2/44

As the special grand jury on German agents, probing deeper into mailing of propaganda under Congressional frank, grilled Representative Hamilton Fish's secretary, George Hill, for the fourth time yesterday, about 2000 pieces of franked material were being burned, one by one, in an alley behind the headquarters of the Washington America First Committee at 1712 Connecticut Avenue.

Only 10 of 12 mail bags of franked material, demanded by the grand jury from the American First Committee, have been delivered. United States officials immediately expressed interest as to whether the burned material was that which had been in the two missing bags, raising the question of whether there had been obstruction of justice.

Destroyed on the eve of sensational new developments in the German agent investigation which already has brought two indictments and one conviction, the burned franked material included:

"Roosevelt Tours, Inc.," a postcard with the frank of Representative William G. Stratton (Republican), of Illinois.

"Three Warnings!" a postcard with the frank of Representative Henry C. Dworshak (Republican), of Idaho.

"England Expects Every American to Do His Duty" and "Past Statements of Winston Churchill," a combination reprint from the Congressional Record, under the frank of Senator D. Worth Clark (Democrat), of Idaho.

"Letters of Thomas Jefferson," a postcard with Representative Stratton's frank.

The ashes still warm and slightly smoking were recovered about midnight. When the nature of the fragments was established the headquarters of the propaganda squad of the Department of Justice was notified.

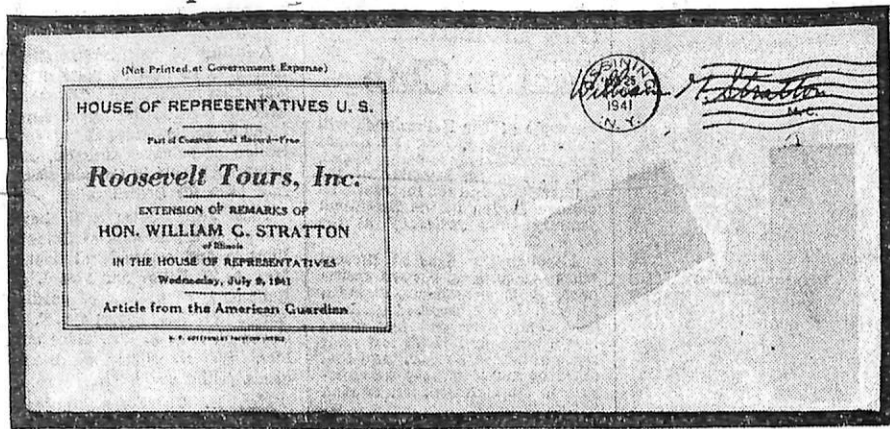
Early today the crumpled but still faintly legible ashes were being studied by Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey. The prosecutors said that as soon as the District Court opened, they would obtain subpoenas calling for production of the ashes, and two garbage cans in which they were found, before the special grand jury.

The grand jurors are scheduled to reassemble at 1 p. m. for further questioning of Hill.

The America First Committee's Washington chairman, Mrs. Bennett Clark, whose husband is the anti-

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Specimen of Burned Material



Roosevelt Tours, Inc.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF
HON. WILLIAM G. STRATTON
of Illinois
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 9, 1941

Article from the American Guardian

Mr. STRATTON. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following article which appeared in the May 2, 1941, issue of the American Guardian. This article is very appropriate at this time, when the administration, in repudiation of its pre-election pledge, is now urging Congress to repeal the present law restricting the service of the National Guard and draftees to the Western Hemisphere.

The article follows:

[From the American Guardian of May 2, 1941]

ROOSEVELT TOURS, INC. ANNOUNCES FREE TRIPS ABROAD!

"Excursion to Belgrade, Cairo, Buenos Aires, and all corners of the earth.

"Luxurious American flagships.

"All expenses paid—including Bethlehem bayonet, Goodyear gas masks, Du Pont grenades, hospitalization, knotty-pine coffin, dignified white cross, and gold stars for mothers.

"No passport required.

"We have left no stone unturned in our untiring efforts to make this unique trip a reality for this summer—the best that big money can buy is being rapidly made available.

"For further information inquire at the White House or our branch offices at Wall Street and Downing Street.

"See the world through a gun sight!

"We plan, you go."

[NOT PRINTED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE]

AN ORIGINAL of franked material which was burned yesterday in an alley behind the headquarters of the Washington America First Committee, 1712 Connecticut Avenue