

# Jurors Hear Witnesses in Franking Quiz

**Burch Fined \$1000,**

**8-Month-to-2-Year**

**Jail Term Suspended**

By Dillard Stokes

Post Staff Writer

Five witnesses familiar with use and abuse of Congressional franks were heard yesterday by the special grand jury on German agents, which has charged that Hitler's chief propagandist in America used franks by the bale.

The all-day hearing was broken only by a brief recess, in which many of the grand jurors went to hear sentence passed on the first German agent they indicted, Frank E. Burch, 67-year-old Akron, Ohio, lawyer.

Justice James W. Morris fined Burch \$1000 and sentenced him to eight months to two years in jail, releasing him from the jail sentence on probation, in accordance with a recommendation of Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey.

## Agree to Clemency

The prosecutors agreed to clemency for Burch after he pleaded guilty of evading the Registration Act. Their reasons were his age, feeble health and willingness to testify before the grand jury.

Burch promptly paid his fine and left for his home. He must report regularly to the probation officers here by mail.

The grand jury last week indicted George Sylvester Viereck, 56, propagandist for the Kaiser in the World War and for the Nazi regime in this one, charging that he helped or-

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ganize and finance the Make Europe Pay and Islands for War Debts committees so he could use them to mail Hitler's propaganda under Congressional frank.

Prescott Dennett, secretary-treasurer of these committees, was called by the grand jury on Thursday, September 18. A few hours later he got rid of a ton of unaddressed frank envelopes, using a truck sent him by George Hill, a secretary of Representative Hamilton Fish.

Those who testified yesterday were:

Irving T. Quinn, 20, former athlete, a House postoffice aide who heard Hill order the truck sent to Dennett and later heard Hill give orders for eight mailbags it brought back to be placed in a storeroom used by Fish. Hill last week sent these bags to the grand jury, when threatened with contempt of court action.

Michael O'Gorman, 38, 1306 O Street Northwest, another House employe, who took the bags into Mr. Fish's office by mistake and was instructed there to take them to the storeroom, as Hill had ordered. After The Post disclosed these facts, Fish took the floor on a point of personal privilege and assured the House that the secretary refused to accept delivery of the mailbags from Dennett.

## GPO Official Testifies

Mrs. Katherine Rotzenberg, once an office employe of the late Senator Ernest Lundeen (Farmer-Labor), of Minnesota. The Senator was chairman of the Dennett committees.

Robert A. Ritter, superintendent of the planning division of the Government Printing Office, who took three large envelopes into the grand jury room with him.

Henry Hoke, New York, editor and publisher of the magazine, The Reporter of Direct Mail Advertising, who has made an independent investigation of use of Congressional franks for German propaganda in the past two years. Last spring, Hoke addressed protests over alleged malpractices to Representative Fish and Senator Burton K. Wheeler (Democrat), of Montana.

The grand jury will resume its inquiry Wednesday.