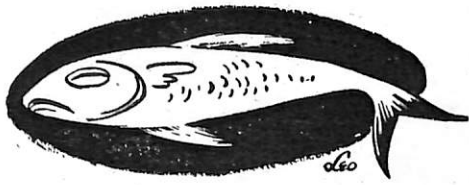


Today's



Story

Ham Fish's Dealings With Caviar Company Are Explained

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—The mystery of Rep. Hamilton Fish's connections with Gunther Hanson-Sturm, head of the Romanoff Caviar Co., now can be cleared up.

PM disclosed last Winter, when a Federal grand jury was investigating pro-Nazi propaganda agencies in the U. S. A., that Fish received payments amounting to \$3100 from Hanson-Sturm's company. Hanson-Sturm, himself, was one of the witnesses before the grand jury. But how he explained the payments to Fish just has become known.

He told the grand jury, it was learned here, that he merely collected the money from friends and turned it over to Fish, presumably to finance the purchase and mailing of isolationist speeches. Some \$12,000 for this kind of propaganda was handled by George Hill, Fish's secretary, during the period of the isolationist-interventionist fight. The Romanoff Caviar checks seem to have been part of this \$12,000.

The first of the Romanoff Caviar Company checks was paid to Fish in April, 1939, and was for \$100. The last, on Oct. 27 of the same year, was for \$1000. Between were checks of \$500 and \$1000 denominations.

Ferdinand Hanson, organizer of the Romanoff company, remained in Germany during the last World War and his American passport was taken up after the war, but he finally managed to get back to this country. He made it known that he still was loyal to the German cause by going to Montivideo in his yacht and wearing a Nazi armband while attending the funeral of Graf Spee sailors.

Gunther Hanson-Sturm, also known as Hans Sturm, is Ferdinand's nephew. He frequently visited Sen. Ernest Lundeen, nominal head of the old Islands for War Debts Committee, before Lundeen was killed in an airplane accident. This committee actually was one of George Sylvester Viereck's Nazi propaganda fronts.

Viereck is serving a prison term for violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Law. Hill, who co-operated with Viereck's committee, is serving a term for perjury.

Frederick Sturm and members of his family have contributed to other German propaganda organizations and worked with them. They contributed money to Fish at a time when he was permitting Viereck to operate through Hill from the New York Congressman's office.