

New
7/15/39

Bund Rally Opponents Turn 'Heat' on Fritz Kuhn

DW 7/15/39

Landes, Noted Attorney in American Legion Circles, Asks Atty. Gen. Murphy Revoke Citizenship of Bund Leader

Progressive New York, pretty sore at the Nazi German-American Bund's audacity in calling a "pro-American" rally for Madison Square Garden next Monday, turned the heat on Bund fuhrer Fritz Kuhn yesterday.

Lewis Landes, attorney, prominent in Legion circles, revealed that he had requested Attorney General Frank Murphy to consider revocation of Kuhn's naturalization papers on the grounds that the Hitler agent made false statements in pledging support of the Constitution and Bill of Rights in obtaining citizenship. Landes said Murphy's ace assistant, Brien McMahon, is working on the case.

At the same time, it was learned that Kuhn has been barred from New York County's jury rolls after he wrote on his application for service a big "yes" after a question as to whether he would be influenced as a juror against any person because of "nationality, sex, color, race, religion," etc.

Kuhn later crossed out the "yes" and substituted "no." Asked about the matter by Thomas F. Kane, deputy county clerk, Kuhn explained:

"I am prejudiced against Jews."

REJECT JUROR SERVICE

The application came in as a result of routine canvass for prospective jurors. It was rejected by the

county clerk on several grounds in addition to the admitted anti-Semitism of the storm troop commander: Kuhn's recent naturalization and more recent residence in New York and doubt as to property qualifications.

Kuhn gave the headquarters of the Bund as his home address. He was naturalized in 1932 while on the payroll of auto magnate Henry Ford, where he was listed as a chemist but was actually engaged in Nazi organizing.

Cornered by reporters on the anti-Semitic character of the Madison Square Garden meeting, Kuhn said that he and "a prominent Catholic" would deal with the Jewish question at the rally. He refused to name the prominent Catholic, but his underlings have passed the word around that it will be the fascist radio propagandist, Chas. E. Coughlin of Royal Oak, Mich.

Bund leaflets advertising the insulting meeting were passed out by Coughlin picketeers who paraded around station WMCA Sunday. The leaflets were headed, "Is America the Coming Jewish Empire?"

The Bundsters obtained the Garden under false pretenses. They had their national secretary, James Wheeler-Hill, sign the contract not for the Bund, but for a German-American Front, Inc., and promised the Garden management "no anti-Semitism."