

Editor, Son Are Indicted For Sedition

**Criminal Conspiracy
Also Charged to Pair
Upon Paper 'Publicity'**

(Picture on Page 6.)

By Dillard Stokes

Post Staff Writer 4/3/42

Attorney General Biddle yesterday struck another organ of the defeatist press—procuring indictment of the editor and publisher of "Publicity," of Wichita, Kans., for criminal conspiracy and 10 counts of sedition.

The 40-page indictment indicated eloquently that like prosecutions will soon be filed against others of the widespread network of papers and organizations which gnaw at American unity and echo the official propaganda of the Nazi radio.

Those indicted yesterday by the Federal grand jury in Kansas City, Kans., were:

E. J. Garner, 76, editor of "Publicity," who was released a few days ago after the special grand jury on axis agents questioned him here for three weeks.

James F. Garner, 47, son of the editor.

Promptly arrested in Wichita, the Garners were freed on \$1000 bonds, pending arraignment.

If convicted on all counts, each of the Garners would be liable to 202 years in jail and \$110,000 fine.

The indictment followed a brisk investigation conducted before the Kansas grand jury by United States Attorney S. S. Alexander, under the direction of the chief of the criminal division, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge.

From the pages of "Publicity," the Garners' weekly paper, the grand

jurors culled literally thousands of words of quotations which were declared seditious.

Those quotations came not only from "Publicity" itself, but from articles reprinted in it, from other publications of similar stripe.

The Garners, the grand jurors charged, conspired to impede and prevent recruiting by the armed forces of the United States and to dissuade and discourage citizens from enlisting in the Army and Navy. Then, said the indictment, the Garners committed overt acts in furtherance of this conspiracy by publishing and circulating seditious matter in their newspaper, "Publicity."

'Sought to Stir Mutiny'

The Garners conspired in like manner, said the grand jurors, to foment mutiny and disloyalty among

form.

The nature and policy of Publicity were fully disclosed by The Post on April 9, in one of a series of articles on the vermin press. Others of these articles discussed the activities of some of the sources from which the Garners borrowed material to add to their own output of anti-British, anti-Roosevelt, and anti-war invective.

The other strands in this defeat-

U. S. Indicts Kansas Editor



E. J. GARNER,

ist web are not being overlooked.

Beside the investigation here by the special grand jury on Axis agents—which has already smashed two Nazi propaganda rings and is now concentrating on Charles E. Coughlin's Social Justice weekly—Assistant Attorney General Berge is coordinating inquiries by grand juries in Indiana, Illinois and on the West Coast.

There will be others.

Although he would not indicate specific names, Berge said last night that Attorney General Biddle wanted these investigations pursued with the utmost thoroughness. The work now being pressed, Berge added, is proving "most productive of evidence," and other indictments may be expected within a few weeks.

The Kansas grand jurors, in the indictment returned yesterday, indicated several possible defendants.

One of these was William Kullgren who publishes The Beacon Light in Atascadero, Calif. Kullgren slyly uses the jargon of astrology to cloak suggestions that American leaders be murdered.

The Garners picked up one of Kullgren's articles for the January 29 issue of Publicity. The article said, "Bitter opposition to the President and the Administration will prevail; a definite cleavage will take place in the nation, which will eventually end in civil war." After a few plugs for the writings of Elizabeth Dilling, the Chicago isolationist red-baiter, Kullgren went on to predict "suicide" for "those holding responsible positions in the Nation's capital."

Article Published "Wilfully"

The Garners, the grand jurors charged, published this article "unlawfully, feloniously and wilfully" to obstruct enlistments and the operation of the Selective Service Act and to the injury of the military service.

Another quoted in Publicity was David Baxter, "kanzler" of the armed "Socis"—a secret band whose hidden leadership boasts of followers in every State. Receiving newspaper reporters in Washington, Baxter calmly declared that an American revolution is imminent and that when it comes, the "Socis"

were the Garners when they trumpeted Baxter's call for a "peace offensive," in Publicity for March 19.

"He (Baxter) labels the war imperialistic," said the Publicity article. "He challenges the alleged principles upon which it is waged. Their pretended loftiness of ethics and of political aim he dismisses as imposture."

"Is David Baxter a harbinger of the fresh leadership the republic needs?" asked the Garners in the article.

"Quite possible," they replied. "What seer penetrated the Hitler of Munich as a man who . . . would inaugurate an historical epoch. . .?"

A third whose writing, in Publicity, was called seditious by the grand jurors was Dinshah P. Ghadiali, editor of Spectro-Chrome, of Malaga, N. J.

Publicity called the Pearl Harbor attack "probably provoked," and to this theme Ghadiali added:

"I am still waiting to read the full text of that 'private letter' written by Franklin D. Roosevelt to Hirohito. It was not divulged. Why?"

"Stop talking like silly fools about burning down in a day Tokio. . . . For the present, the Japanese are masters of the Pacific and all our boast is turning them more against us. . . ."

" . . . The British are notorious for false promises and all our supplies going into their hands will

not only prolong the horrors, but at the proper time are liable to be used against us . . . Americans, . . . act to stop the present Administration from draining dry our beloved America and from converting peaceful homes into blood-bathed, war-shattered shambles."

Baxter was called to Washington from his California headquarters, and only Friday was released by the special prosecutors here—William Power Maloney, Lieut Edward J. Hickey, jr., U. S. N. (j. g.) and John T. M. Reddan.

Branded seditious by the Kansas grand jurors were thousands of words of the Garners' own writing, as well as reprints from The Galilean, of William Dudley Pelley (himself held in Indianapolis for sedition), the publication, "Money," and letters from correspondents.

Trial of the Garners is expected to be prompt.