

Senate Committeeman Defends Standard Oil

By United Press

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Sen. Clyde L. Herring (D., Ia.), a member of the Senate committee investigating the synthetic rubber situation, came to the defense of Standard Oil (New Jersey) today.

He said he was making no attempt to pass judgment whether the company was guilty or innocent of violating the anti-trust acts, but thought the United States should let the company and its officers help lick Japan and Hitler—"then put them (company officials) in jail if necessary."

His statement was made after the first day of testimony before the committee by W. S. Farish, company president. Farish was continuing his attempt today to refute charges that the company frustrated development of a synthetic rubber industry in this country thru a cartel arrangement with the Farbenindustrie, German chemical trust.

After Farish had denied many of

the charges made by Asst. Atty. Gen. Thurman Arnold, Herring said:

"I believe Mr. Farish demonstrated that if Standard hadn't obtained the basic patents we wouldn't have Toluol (a base for TNT) today. I think he will also show that his organization was only carrying out the same practices that were engaged in by the big business corporations of America."

Farish characterized as "unwarranted and untrue" charges that Standard had furnished full information on its own rubber processes to Farben while withholding them from the U. S. Government. He said most of the activities of the company had

been undertaken with the consent of the State Department.

Sen. James M. Mead (D., N. Y.), acting as chairman of the committee in the absence of Sen. Harry S. Truman (D., Mo.), said the Farish statement was a "carefully conceived and studied defense of the activities and the charges pertaining to Standard Oil.

"There is such a wide gulf separating the testimony of Thurman Arnold from the testimony now being offered by the defense, that in my judgment some modified interpretation will be placed on both reports by our committee," he said.

Sen. Harold H. Burton (R., O.), another member of the committee, said he was more interested in the future of patents and inventions than in the guilt or lack of guilt of Standard Oil. The result of the committee hearings,

he said, should be to release synthetic rubber for immediate use by this country and to insure some sort of patent control in the future.