

Minority Attempt To Usurp Majority Rights

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

HON. J. THORKELSON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 3, 1940

"Our civil liberties appear to be in an excellent state of repair, for the most part. A vote still means something and is usually counted. Freedom of worship has not been impaired. It is still possible to do a great many things without getting permission from a bureaucrat. Nearly everybody has a chance to get some sort of education. A lot of generosity abounds. Some people—not enough, to be sure, but some—have managed to get and hold on to jobs. The country is not directly menaced by any foreign power. Diseases are wanting. We have some odd people who are always annoying, but in the words of Alfred E. Smith, "This country has to put up with a certain number of crackpots, but we get along."

Mr. THORKELSON. Mr. Speaker, it is my desire to call particular attention to three bills that have been introduced into Congress, and which bill, if enacted into law, prevent anyone from denouncing those who are now engaged in subversion and destruction of our own Government. It is high time for Congress to realize that when special protective legislation is granted to any minority, the majority digs its own grave. I imagine Members of Congress would be shocked if a society of thieves should ask for special legislation to protect its rights. Yet it is that very thing that happens when a minority asks for special legislation to grant it extra protection.

It is by minority legislation all free and popular governments are converted into despotisms, and it is that which is happening in the United States. It should, of course, be plain to all that, as each group of our people is restricted by law, all of us will, when the last law is enacted, be deprived of all liberties and rights we had before the first restrictive law was passed.

Two of these bills, H. R. 7603 and 7604, introduced by Mr. Celler, of New York, are in the Judiciary Committee of the House. The third, which I shall discuss, is S. 3876, introduced by Senator Barbour, of New Jersey, and is now in the Judiciary Committee of the Senate.

These bills are most vicious and would, if any of them is enacted into law, penalize Members of Congress as well as everyone else who has the moral courage to denounce those of the various minorities who are now engaged in sabotage and destruction of our Government. I quote S. 3876:

*Be it enacted, etc., That the last sentence of section 211 of the act entitled "An act to codify, revise, and amend the penal laws of the United States," approved March 4, 1909, as amended, is amended to read as follows: "The term 'indecent,' within the intentment of this section, shall include matter of a character tending to incite arson, murder, or assassination or riot and also forgeries or matter of a character fraudulent and scurrilous, tending to incite hate against any religious sect or creed or race."*

The Senator should understand that Congress has no right to pass any legislation that restricts the rights of the people as set forth in the Constitution of the United States. Neither has Congress the right to enact legislation which gives minorities extra legal rights, for it is such legislation that paves the road for minority conquest of the United States. It is astonishing how minorities within the United States are able to hoodwink a tolerant majority, and, in addition to that, wield sufficient influence over Congress to provide legislation which penalizes the majority of the American people. I cannot understand whether this tolerant attitude on the part of the people is because they do not understand the danger or do not have the proper information. I cannot understand whether the subsmissiveness of the majority in Congress is due to ignorance of facts or because of some unseen or pernicious power wielded by the minority. Should this amendment pass, this much is certain: No Members of Congress would be able to discuss or mail information in regard to subversive activities of the minority party that controls the Justice Department and the courts in the United States without inviting legal action as the amendment provides. Surely no Member of Congress will consider legislation justified which deprives his own people of their constitutional rights. Surely no Member of Congress will support legislation which places our own people in a subservient position to those who now wield the power of gold. Let us not forget, when courts fall under the control of the minority and under the power of those who control the gold and money, the majority rights are jeopardized, for the courts can, by law, incarcerate each and every one who insists on his constitutional rights.

Let us put the microscope on this amendment. We now have laws against arson, murder, assassination, and kidnapping, so this amendment cannot be to protect us against such crimes. As a matter of fact, the law against kidnapping is very severe and could, I believe, be invoked against those who, a few days past, set a price of one or two million dollars to promote our own citizens, for they may induce some weak-minded person to engage in a foolish attempt. It might, as a matter of fact, end in murder, so the question may be asked: Why should the press give publicity to such dangerous provocation of crime? This stunt might reach much further than we expect. Let us suppose that some American citizen is in Germany when such attempt is made. Is not it possible that such person may meet with reprisals, even though he is absolutely innocent? Is not it possible that blame for such crime may be placed not only upon Americans in Germany, but upon Americans in other countries as well?

Let us now put the shoe on the other foot. Suppose any foreign nation offered a reward of two or more million dollars for the kidnapping of one of our officials. Would we take it with indifference? I do not know how others would feel, but I am sure that I would resent such offer made by anyone, and particularly a foreign nation. The Justice Department should, in order to clean this up, investigate and expose those who made this offer. It is quite possible that the same group may be willing to pay for the kidnaping of some of our own officials. People with criminal tendencies do not always confine their offers to foreigners, but may, to gratify such abnormality, offer a reward for murder in the United States.

The real crux of S. 3876 may be found in the last four words: "Sect, creed, or race," and make no mistake about that. The bill is to give the minority the legal right, through the control of the Justice Department and courts, to prosecute and persecute patriotic American citizens who believe in the fundamental principles of this Government, and who are opposed to the terms who are boring from within. It is indeed unfortunate that legislation of this kind is introduced in Congress, for it can only engender greater and greater hatred toward this rapacious internationalist amendment in the Bill of Rights.

Quintette Ent a 8682