

Charge U. S. 'Planted' Evidence Is Challenged

A Government prosecutor in the George Hill perjury trial today offered to take the stand in District Court to refute a defense charge that he had "planted" evidence.

The offer, rejected by Justice Letts, was made by Special Prosecutor William P. Maloney as the Government neared the end of its attempt to prove the 45-year-old secretary of Rep. Fish (R., N. Y.) guilty of perjury before the grand jury investigating Axis propaganda.

OTHERS IN BAGS

The "planting" charge was made by Defense Atty. John O'Connor late yesterday after Mr. Maloney produced a reprint of an article inserted in the Congressional Record by former Rep. Thorkelson (R., Mont.). He had taken the reprint from one of 18 mail sacks which the Government contends Mr. Hill secreted when they were wanted by the grand jury.

At the opening of today's session Mr. O'Connor charged that "it was the only copy of the speech in that bag." Mr. Maloney then told the court he was "prepared to testify myself" that there were other Thorkelson reprints in the bags. Neither Mr. O'Connor nor Justice Letts was willing to accept testimony by Mr. Maloney, however, and the incident was closed.

Charles B. Boland, FBI accountant, was recalled and gave testimony bringing to 553,000 the number of reprints from the Congressional Record which it is alleged Mr. Hill ordered and paid for.

ORDERED BY OTHERS

The Government contends that the distribution of these reprints was directed by George Sylvester Viereck, German propagandist. Mr. Hill's denial before the grand jury that he knew Viereck was the basis of one of the two perjury counts.

Mr. O'Connor elicited from Mr. Boland that none of the reprints of Rep. Thorkelson's speech or of others in the handful of exhibits given him by Mr. Maloney, had been ordered by Mr. Hill. It was the Government's contention, however, that Mr. Hill dis-

tributed many reprints which he had not personally ordered from the Government Printing Office.

At the start of the fifth day of Mr. Hill's trial, the Government had presented seven witnesses whose testimony contradicted the defendant's statements to the special grand jury.

PHONE CONVERSATIONS

Three were young women formerly in the office of the late Sen. Lundeen (F.-L., Minn.), and four were male employees of the House Office Building postoffice.



Mrs. Spielman

The women testified that Mr. Hill conferred with Viereck by phone concerning distribution under congressional frank hundreds of thousands of isolationist speeches and articles reprinted from the Congressional Record.

The men testified that Mr. Hill gave orders Sept. 19 for the placing of eight mail bags in Rep. Fish's storeroom at a time when the bags were sought by the grand jury.

Yesterday's session was highlighted by Viereck's "testimony." Viereck fell back on his constitutional privilege of refusing to answer questions "on the ground they may tend to incriminate me."

'RECKLESS CHARGE'

Toward the end of the session Special Prosecutor William Power Maloney recalled Mrs. Gordon Spielman, former Lundeen clerk, and elicited from her testimony that she ordered reprints of a speech she said Viereck wrote for Sen. Lundeen and ordered them sent to Mr. Hill in Rep. Fish's office for mailing.