

Prosecution Says Hill Reprinted Half Million Propoganda Speeches

Star 11/7/42
Fish's Secretary Accused
Of Link With Vast
German Network

Within less than a year, George Hill, second secretary to Representative Fish of New York, ordered more than a half million "propaganda speeches" reprinted by the Government Printing Office and distributed, Special Assistant to the Attorney General William Power Maloney said in his opening argument this afternoon at the trial of Mr. Hill in District Court on two charges of perjury.

Mr. Maloney attempted to link Mr. Hill with a vast propaganda machine which he implied was directed by "Goebbels and Hitler." He said that many of the speeches whose re-printing Mr. Hill allegedly arranged were made in the Senate by the late Senator Lundeen, who was killed in a plane crash.

He said that a close confidant of the Senator was George Sylvester Viereck—registered with the State Department as a German agent—who he claimed was writing the speeches Senator Lundeen delivered.

Reprinted by Thousands.

These were reprinted by hundreds of thousands, distributed by Mr. Hill and franked by Senator Lundeen, the Government prosecutor said.

Mr. Hill is charged with falsely telling the grand jury investigating Nazi activities here that he did not know Viereck, and Mr. Maloney asserted he would produce "the high priest himself," Viereck, and secretaries of Senator Lundeen to testify to the contrary.

The second charge against Mr. Fish's secretary is that he committed perjury when he said he did not order a number of mail bags brought from the office of Prescott Dennett, secretary of isolationist committees allegedly subsidized by Viereck, to be taken to the storeroom of Representative Fish. Mr. Maloney said he would produce four House Office Building employes to testify that Mr. Hill did give such orders.

Defense Attorney John J. O'Connor withheld his opening statement while the Government proceeded with testimony.

Both Representative Fish and Viereck will be among 15 probable Government witnesses in the trial of Hill. Mr. Maloney revealed this information in questioning prospective jurors.

Attorneys Clash.

One sharp clash developed when Defense Attorney O'Connor asked jurors whether they were to fear for their Government jobs because the case is entitled "the United States vs. George Hill".

"This is America—not Hitler Germany!" Mr. Maloney protested. "The Government is not going to force anybody." His objection was overruled, however, by Justice F. Dickinson Letts.

In picking a jury the defense asked all prospective jurors whether they were born in the British Empire, whether any of their relatives had been persecuted by Hitler and whether they ever belonged to the

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Committee to Aid the Allies, the Union Now, or the Fight for Freedom Committee. Mr. O'Connor asked whether they were opposed to propaganda as such and whether they were antagonistic to the America First Committee or other isolationist organizations which he named.

Others to Be Called.

Mr. Maloney indicated that Government witnesses will also include four grand jury members: Wesley Adams of the State Department, four employes of the House Office Building, and members of the office of the late Senator Lundeen and Prescott Dennett, who was secretary of the Make Europe Pay Debts Committee, allegedly subsidized by Viereck. It was Dennett's office from which the mail bags were allegedly taken to Mr. Fish's office.

The trial of Mr. Hill probably will last about five days, observers said and the Government expects to call as witnesses John S. Gorrell, executive of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co., foreman of the grand jury before which the accused appeared, as well as these other members of the grand jury: Mrs. Henry Grattan Doyle, president of the Board of Education; Stanley R. Darcey; assistant chief clerk of the purchasing department of the Capital Transit Co., and other members of the body.