

F. D. REJECTS CENSUS PRYING BY ARMY, NAVY

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Jackson Denies Tobey

Charge of 'Plot'

As the census entered its second week, it was revealed today that President Roosevelt had rejected a proposal by intelligence officers of the Navy, War and Justice Department to give them access to census records for use in matters involving espionage and national defense.

The plan was revealed in a statement by Senator Charles W. Tobey (R.) of New Hampshire, consistent foe of the census. He charged that the plan would have transformed the census into "the most complete police list in the history of the world."

Explains Rejected Plan

Attorney General Robert H. Jackson answered Tobey's charge with a formal statement explaining the rejected plan. He admitted the proposal originated at a conference of representatives of the War, Navy and Justice Departments; that a plan was drafted and submitted to the President, who rejected it.

"The proposal was thereupon abandoned," Jackson said. "It has never represented the policy

of the Administration, and is not in accord with the present policy of the Department of Justice.

"It may be observed that the rejected proposal did not have the broad scope attributed to it by Senator Tobey. It was limited to giving access to census records solely for use in matters involving espionage and national defense, and then only on specific authorization of a Cabinet officers. Yet even in that restricted form it encountered the definite disapprobation of the President."

One-Fourth Covered

Tobey charged the proposal was submitted to the Budget Bureau for approval, but that the Census Bureau intervened with the plea that it not be submitted to Congress.

"If the Department of Justice were to have its way in having this plan enacted into law, it would mean the creation of a secret police system which, at will, could delve into the private matters of all the men and women in the country," Tobey said. "It would make a mockery of the Bill of Rights and of American liberty."

"... The important consideration is that the Department of Justice has asked for the legislation (denied by Jackson). When the census inquisition has been completed we may well expect the Administration to exert its efforts for this new power."

Meanwhile, the Census Bureau announced that census takers have covered about one-fourth of the population. Secretary of Commerce Harry L. Hopkins said reports indicated a high order of cooperation and expressed his thanks to the "American people for demonstrating once more their willingness to participate