

# 19 in Nazi Agent Trial Forego Toast to Hitler

Der Fuehrer's  
Birthday Goes Unheeded  
In Newark Court

DM 4/21/44  
Testimony at their trial in Newark has shown that on other Apr. 20s, the 19 German-American Vocational League (DAB) defendants celebrated Adolf Hitler's birthday. Yesterday, they attended no balls, and drank no toasts. They were too busy sitting through the 13th day of their trial on charges of conspiring to serve as Nazi propagandists without registering with the State and Justice Depts.

As their little publicized trial drags on, Fritz Schroeder, DAB national leader, continues taking copious notes. Karl T. Marx, Joseph Lieblein and the rest just sit quietly with their arms folded. Once in a while one of them jumps up to whisper something to his counsel.

## Different Attitude

The attitude of the 10 defense lawyers seems quite different from what it was three weeks ago. When the trial began, they made wisecracks in the corridors about how it wouldn't last, and how silly the whole affair was.

Several of them talked of how they didn't know what the war was all about, and termed travel with German Youth Groups "broadening."

Now, though they still try to discredit Government witnesses, by questioning them about their age, education, or amount of liquor they can hold, they have calmed down, and are treating the trial more seriously.

Federal Judge Thomas Meaney has ruled that the Government has presented enough evidence to indicate a conspiracy, thereby making it strongly probable that the case will go to the jury.

## Government's Evidence

The Government's case will probably be completed by the end of next week. Thus far, the Government's evidence has been of three types. It has attempted to:

¶ Show a close relationship between the DAB and its members, and National Socialist Germany.

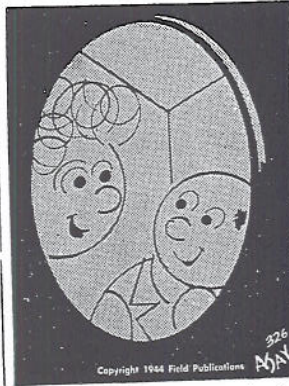
¶ Show that the Nazi Party constantly propagandized in North America, and that the DAB was one of the principal outlets for this propaganda.

¶ Tie the individual defendants, from chapters all over the country, in with the central DAB and its activities.

The testimony of the last two days of George Richards, a former special agent of the FBI, falls into the second category. He testified that he had written a book entitled *America's Ju-Deal* to obtain membership in German organizations, among them the German-American Vocational League.

Richards told the court that Pvt. Joseph Lieblein once said to him the object of the DAB was "to bring the ideals of National Socialism to the United States." At organization meetings, he said, three defendants, Fritz Schroeder, Herman Warth and Albert Kiesler, had declared that "Germans would do everything they could to keep the country out of war."

THE SCUTTLES By Ajay



"Hitler's only hope now is that those Russian victory salvos may exhaust their ammunition."

## Hillburn Hints School Truce

The Rev. Edward Robinson, pastor of the Presbyterian Brook Chapel, Negro church at Hillburn, N. Y., has been unanimously elected Moderator of the Hudson Presbytery, at a meeting held in Jeffersonville, N. Y.

The Hudson Presbytery includes ministers from 44 churches in Rockland, Orange and Sullivan counties. The Rev. Robert Jones, pastor of the Hillburn Presbyterian Church and headmaster of the Jim-Crow Main School at Hillburn, the last community in the State to lend support to such a school, nominated Robinson.

Observers see a possible move of appeasement by Hillburn community leaders, because of the forthcoming election on May 2 of a president of the local Hillburn School Board.

## Controversy

J. Edgar Davidson, president of the school board and also superintendent of the Ramapo Ajax Division of the American Brake Shoe Co., in Hillburn, was the center of a controversy last October, when he refused admittance to 46 Negro children, whose parents attempted to register them in the Main School.

Davidson told them to report to the Brook Chapel School, the school in Hillburn used exclusively for Negro children, because their homes were in that geographical area. The Brook Chapel School was not accredited by the Board of Regents.

Subsequently, the State Education Commissioner abolished the Brook School with the observation that the Main School had adequate facilities for all children of the district.

## White Kids Left

But, when the Negro children moved into the school, the white children moved out en masse under instructions from their parents, and entered private schools.

Davidson told the white parents, who met shortly after this move to discuss how the Commissioner's ruling could be side-stepped.

"I am proud of the way you people are sticking together."

# Trial of Heizer Wright Postponed Ninth Time

## Secret Agent Case Of Copy Editor Now Set For Next Monday

The trial of Heizer Wright, 41, *Daily News* copy editor under Federal indictment on charges of being a secret agent for Japan from 1931 to Dec. 6, 1941, has been adjourned nine times since last Sept. 30.

The latest postponement came yesterday. The trial is off until next Monday.

When Wright appeared in court last Aug. 9, after he had been indicted, he asked for at least two months to prepare a defense. The judge set Sept. 30 as the trial date.

Wright engaged James D. C. Murray as his attorney. Murray turned out to be a busy man and all of the adjournments have been made on a basis of Murray's commitments on other cases.

Prosecution of Wright is in the hands of Assistant U. S. Attorney John F. X. McGohey. He said the Government had been ready at least since the first of the year, and he supposes, before that time, too, when he was not connected with the case. He said the reasons for adjournment had been acceptable to the prosecution and were understandable.

Here is the record of postponements, and the reasons:

¶ Sept. 30 to Oct. 29. Murray was busy with the trial in Federal Court of Louis Compagna and Ralph Pierce under indictment then as leaders of a group which worked with the extortionists, Browne and Bioff.

¶ Oct. 29 to Dec. 1, postponement because of the same case.

¶ Dec. 1 to Jan. 10, because of the same case.

¶ Jan. 10 to Mar. 1, because Murray was to begin defense on Mar. 13 of Juan Suarez, accused of murdering Manuel Ravelo in February, 1939.

¶ Mar. 1 to Mar. 6, pending Murray's preparations in Suarez trial.

¶ Mar. 6 to Apr. 4, further prepa-

arations needed in same case.

¶ Apr. 4 to Apr. 14, Murray seeking two witnesses in Suarez case.

¶ Apr. 14 to Apr. 20, Suarez trial in progress.

¶ Apr. 20 to next Monday, pending conclusion of murder case.

And, according to the U. S. Attorney's office, if the Wright case doesn't open Monday, it will probably open Tuesday. Murray expects the Suarez case to be in the hands of the judge by Tuesday, and believes the Wright case can begin on Wednesday.

It was explained that Suarez has been in jail 14 months, and that the usual procedure is to give preference to defendants who are in jail without bail on the theory that if they are innocent they will get out of jail sooner.

## Ruling on Milk Laid to Dewey

Rep. George Outland (D., Cal.), in Washington today called Gov. Dewey responsible for the State Agricultural Commissioner's order which violates Federal price ceilings on fluid milk.

The Commissioner, Outland said, established a milk price of \$4.60 a hundredweight for the Hudson Mohawk area, "regardless of any directive or order of any other agency of government." Office of Price Administration officials were reported to have called the order a "direct violation" of its ceilings.

"It is fair to assume," Outland commented, "that (the Commissioner) would not have done this without the approval of the Governor of that state."

"It would be interesting for the American people to know whether or not Mr. Dewey is encouraging his Commissioners to deliberately issue directives calculated to injure our price-control program or whether he just doesn't know what is happening in his own state."



The Book and Magazine Union, Local 19, United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, lost no time trying to expedite ballots for New York State men and women in service. It set up a booth at 45th St. and Madison Ave. yesterday from which members distributed applications for war ballots. The applications must be signed by the serviceman and woman and sent to the State War Ballot Commission, part of the rignarole required under Gov. Dewey's involved GI-"can't-vote" law.

Photo by Irving Haberman, PM