

O'Daniel's FDR-Baiting Speeds

Probe Seeks To Tap Source of Huge Funds

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WASHINGTON, July 6.—Launching of a vicious anti-Roosevelt weekly paper by Sen. W. Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel (D., Tex.) was expected today to speed up a Senate investigation of O'Daniel's fund raising activities.

Pappy's paper, the *W. Lee O'Daniel News*, made its appearance July 4. It was a flamboyant campaign pamphlet keyed to the theme on which O'Daniel is campaigning for an anti-Roosevelt revolt in the South—that the New Deal must be defeated to save America from Communism.

Prior to the publication of the paper, the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee had started an inquiry into O'Daniel's fund raising activities. Chairman Theodore Green (D., R. I.) had addressed two letters to the Texas Senator asking him to appear before the Committee for questioning "in the near future."

Source of Finances

O'Daniel so far has ignored the Committee's inquiries. But the character of the paper, frankly aimed at influencing the election, has strengthened the Committee's hand and it undoubtedly will follow through on its demand for information about the financing of the publication.

It has been charged that O'Daniel is close to the big oil companies and has held many money-raising sessions with them and other big business outfits. The Senator has admitted to raising of a \$100,000 fund and is campaigning for at least \$1,000,000 to finance his paper and his radio activities.

O'Daniel's paper listed his wife and two of his children as officers of the publication. It denounced the "Communists and fellow travelers, who took over the Democratic Party about 10 or 11 years ago" and called for the defeat of "all this New Deal gang of Communists, Socialists, labor leader racketeers and fellow travelers" from the White House on down.

The paper contained none of the sensational disclosures O'Daniel had promised in his campaign to raise funds. In fact the paper itself was mild compared to the fund raising letters the Senator had been sending out in an effort to scare



Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel

people into subscribing to his sheet at \$5 a head.

In a recent follow-up letter, O'Daniel said "the Communists, Socialists and fellow-traveling New Dealers in both the Democratic and Republican parties who have taken possession of the people's government, are rapidly changing our American form of democracy into a dictatorial form of government, whereby the people are rapidly losing their freedoms, their liberty and their constitutional form of government."

This is the line of propaganda used by Hitler in Germany to discredit German democracy and to seize power for himself.

In this letter O'Daniel warned that "while our boys are away from home fighting in foreign lands" the "slickest gang of racketeers that ever operated are taking over the American government." He charged that there were "between 15 and 20 million union workers directly or indirectly on the Federal payroll," dominated by the labor racketeers who controlled most members of Congress.

Although there is nothing to prevent O'Daniel from taking the Senate floor at any time to disclose any facts he may have, he claimed that he needed a newspaper to give "the people of America all the facts."

In a pamphlet which he enclosed, O'Daniel said \$100,000 had been raised but gave no hint of where it came from. He also disclosed that he was enlisting salesmen to sell subscriptions to "industries and business establishments" for their employees.

Denounced by Jones

Meanwhile, the O'Daniel movement in Texas to block President Roosevelt's re-election by electoral college trickery was denounced by Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, in his paper, the *Houston Chronicle*.

Jones said that the plan to let the State's electors disregard the popular vote and cast their Electoral College votes for someone else than the party's nominee might effectively prevent Texas Democrats from "casting their vote for the party nominee." He said no political convention had the right to "deny a qualified voter the right to vote for any candidate he wishes to support."

Jones defended the regularity of the convention, and its right to fight for the things it did, but said it had gone too far on the Electoral College issue.