

Miss Kellems Dares Coffee to Repeat His Statements in Open

Asks House Member to Waive Immunity on Charges Involving Nazi

By the Associated Press.

TORONTO, April 14 (AP)—Vivien Kellems, Westport (Conn.) manufacturer accused by Representative Coffee, Democrat, of Washington as the sweetheart of a Nazi agent, replied today with a challenge to the legislator "to come out in the open and fight clean" by waiving his congressional immunity.

Declaring that such an accuser should be "publicly horsewhipped," Miss Kellems in a 500-word statement said to Mr. Coffee: "For the first time in my life I regret I am not a man so that I could take on the job and land you in the hospital all wrapped up in bandages."

In Washington, Mr. Coffee commented tersely:

"I do not care to engage in an adjective fight with her. The public can judge the case by the nature of the adjectives already used."

"Love Letters" Read.

Mr. Coffee read to the House yesterday what he said were love letters from Miss Kellems to Count Frederick Karl von Zedlitz. One of them was signed, "All my love, Vivien." In her reply Miss Kellems said that as early as 1941 she had made a full report to the FBI and the State Department on the count's activities.

Miss Kellems, who last year advised businessmen not to pay taxes but use the money to set up post-war reserves, challenged Mr. Coffee to "make those same statements outside where I can hale you into court, force you to prove them, or put you in prison where you belong."

Drew Pearson, radio commentator who was mentioned in Miss Kellems' reply, made this statement in Washington:

"The lady doth protest too much. Last winter when I first told her about her mash notes to Count von Zedlitz, she denied she knew him. A week later she admitted knowing him but called him 'just a friend.' Now she admits more, but alibis that she reported her romance to the FBI. The public can take its pick of her different stories. I have my own ideas."

Miss Kellems, who is here to dis-

cuss engineering details with her Canadian agents, said in her statement:

"The perfect co-ordination and teamwork among Secretary Morgenthau, Mr. Drew Pearson and Mr. Coffee is a joy to behold. On March 28, I sent a letter to the Secretary in regard to the income tax. Apparently he didn't like it. As immediately following its receipt little wooden-hearted Charlie McCarthy Coffee bounds to his feet on the floor of the House, froths at the mouth drags out that some old Nazi spy, and drags out that same old Nazi

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Kellems

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spy. Now everybody please stand by Sunday for Mr. "Shrew" Pearson.

Asks Open Fight.

"Tut, tut, boys. Fun's fun and all that sort of thing, but why don't you come out in the open and fight clean? Come off the floor of that House, Mr. Coffee, where you are protected by your congressional immunity and try to act like a man instead of the sneaking coward you are. Make those same statements outside where I can hale you into court, force you to prove them, or put you in prison where you belong. Before the New Deal destroyed the last vestige of decency and ethics in our country any man who would

do what you have done would be publicly horsewhipped.

"For the first time in my life I regret I am not a man so that I could take on the job and land you in the hospital all wrapped up in bandages.

"Until now I have refused to make a statement regarding Count Zedlitz because there are some things that cannot be said until this war is over. Also what I have to say is so important that I refuse to say it until I am before a congressional committee or in court where my testimony will be a matter of record.

"However, since Mr. Coward Coffee and Mr. Shrew Pearson are so insistent, I will refer them both to the FBI. After my return from South America in the spring of 1941 I made a complete report to the FBI, and again late in 1943 I gave the FBI additional valuable information regarding Count Zedlitz.

"I also submitted to the State Department a comprehensive report on his activities both before the war and up to the present time. Since these brilliant detectives, Pearson and Coffee, have access to confidential State Department files, as well as to the United States mails, why don't they give that report to the public? It will provide interesting reading.

Talked to Dies.

"I have recently had two conversations with Congressman Dies and after he has made mincemeat of Walter Winchell, a job well under way, I am hopeful he will subpoena "Shrew" Pearson and give me the excruciating pleasure of testifying at the same time.

"If the FBI will consent I will make a full statement regarding my conversation with them. Perhaps Mr. Dies can discover for the American people how letters from the United States mails come into the hands of second-rate radio commentator and a poptoon Congressman. If those letters are authentic, the last time I saw them was when I put them in a mail box.

"Your vicious Nazi smear technique of the New Deal has been successful in silencing other American citizens who have dared to differ with the views of the present administration. But since I have nothing to conceal, I am not afraid and all your fulminating and personal abuse will not swerve me from my purpose, which is to effect the repeal of the income tax and to persuade Congress to pass some sensible tax laws."

"While our boys are being slaughtered on foreign battlefields because they haven't enough weapons, you are taking our tax money and throwing it away in silly boondoggling not remotely connected with winning the war.

"The American people are sick of the boondoggling, they are sick of the income tax, they are sick of you—and you're all on the way out. We will exterminate the Japs and the Nazis with bullets, but you traitorous New Dealers will get yours with votes next November.

"Now, boys, why don't you think up a new one; why don't you say I'm married to Mr. Hitler?"

—Father Lord