

# WPB Joins Probe of O'Daniel's

## Wants to Know Where He Got His Newsprint

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The WPB (War Production Board) has started an investigation to determine whether Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel is violating rationing regulations in the use of newsprint for his new anti-Roosevelt paper, The *W. Lee O'Daniel News*.

The investigation quickly followed a statement by the violent anti-New Deal Senator that he had bought enough newsprint to publish 100,000 copies of his paper for a year. This statement came as a shock to WPB officials who have been closely rationing the use of newsprint. One spokesman said "I think he's put something over on us."

Arthur Treanor, director of the WPB's printing and publishing division, immediately sent a letter to O'Daniel to find out whether he was observing the strict regulations governing the war-time use of newsprint.

### Copy Requested

The letter asked for a copy of O'Daniel's paper so WPB could decide whether under the regulations it was classified as a newspaper or a commercial printing venture and whether the anti-hoarding regulations were being observed.

If the O'Daniel paper uses more than 25 tons of paper every three months, or if it has more than two carloads of newsprint stored up, it comes under rationing regulations and probably is violating them.

O'Daniel, in his statement, gave no hint of how much paper he had purchased beyond indicating that it would permit him to publish for a year and was more than a carload. He refused to disclose where he had obtained the newsprint except to say "I just bought the paper through regular channels and didn't have much trouble getting it."

He said he was storing the newsprint in a warehouse under close guard.

All newspapers using more than

## Anti-FDR Paper

100 tons of paper a year are strictly rationed and no new ones are being allowed, WPB officials said. Quotas are based upon the amount of paper used in 1941, minus from four to 24 per cent.

Paper for commercial printing is also based upon 1941 records, minus 25 per cent.

### Inventories Limited

In order to prevent hoarding newspapers are not permitted to have inventories of newsprint bigger than 65 days supply or two carloads.

WPB officials refused to forecast whether O'Daniel's paper would come within their regulations. They hoped it wouldn't because they knew if they had to clamp down on the Senator he would scream that bureaucracy was interfering with freedom of the press. But his public challenge was something they couldn't ignore.

O'Daniel laid the groundwork for resisting the WPB by saying "I'm not worrying about newsprint unless some Federal agency tries to pull a shenanigan."

Perhaps the Senator will try to

ignore the WPB as he has been ignoring the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee's inquiries about his financing of the campaign paper. But he is not likely to get away with it.