

NEW YORK

# Even Hoffman 'Doesn't Know' 'Friend Smythe' Now

## But Congressman Put Resolution on 'Day of Prayer' Racket in 'Record'

By EDMUND SCOTT and TOM O'CONNOR

Rep. Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.), leader of the America First bloc in Congress, apparently is not one of those politicians who never forgets a friend.

Specifically, he seems to have forgotten all about Edward James Smythe, the renegade rumpot who spews anti-Jew and anti-Catholic filth through his Protestant War Veterans, Inc., and wraps around himself a cloak of pious patriotism through his Protestant Chaplains Assn., Inc.

Yesterday, PM told the story of the PCA's new letterhead for a forthcoming fund-raising campaign. Forty-six representatives, 14 Senators, 14 governors and six mayors are listed as sponsors of the PCA's "Back to the Church Movement" and "Day of Prayer for the Republic." Every listed sponsor who replied to PM's telegraphic query denied that he had ever given the PCA authority to use his name.

Among those telegraphing such a denial (see reproduction below) was Hoffman, who on Apr. 1 had put in the *Congressional Record* a resolution to set aside May 21 as a Day of Prayer as the PCA requested. Hoffman furthermore denied knowing "any individual so named" (Edward James Smythe).

But it seems that Hoffman knew Smythe well enough in 1941 to address him in correspondence as "Friend Smythe." Reproduced on this page is Hoffman's telegram and a Hoffman-to-Smythe letter in which this chummy salutation was used.

The Protestant Chaplains Assn., which was incorporated in 1939 by Smythe and Donald Shea, founder of the National Gentile League, is now operated by Smythe from headquarters at 251 W. 57th St. His front man, who signs the letters Smythe dictates, is a small-time operator in the religious business who has labeled himself "The Rt. Rev. Alexander Lowande, Senior Bishop of the United Christian Church." He is, of course, no such thing.

Additional Congressmen who

have denied to PM that they gave the PCA authority to use their names on the letterhead:

SENATORS

- Homer T. Bone (D., Wash.)
- Arthur Capper (R., Kan.)
- Albert B. Chandler (D., Kans.)
- James J. Davis (R., Pa.)
- Carl Hayden (D., Ariz.)
- A. W. Hawkes (R., N. J.)

REPRESENTATIVES

- Frank A. Barrett (R., Wyo.)
- Michael J. Bradley (D., Pa.)
- A. Sidney Camp (D., Ga.)
- William C. Cole (R., Mo.)
- Ivor D. Fenton (R., Pa.)
- Luther A. Johnson (D., Tex.)
- Bartel J. Jonkman (R., Mich.)
- Francis J. Myers (D., Pa.)
- Joseph P. O'Hara (R., Minn.)
- E. G. Rohrbough (R., W. Va.)
- Jerry Voorhis (D., Cal.)

Sen. David I. Walsh (D., Mass.) said he recalled approving the campaign for a Day of Prayer, but presumed the movement was prompted by "sincere religious motives."

Edward Rickenbacker, the only person listed on the leaflet under *Prominent American*, said he had no knowledge that Smythe was connected with the PCA, and, that he did not commit himself to be associated with the organization or grant permission to use his name.

### 153 Cops Ask to Quit

The police pension board is expected to act today on the retirement applications of 153 members of the force, the largest number since February, when 820 were retired. Included in the list are acting Lt. Harold F. Moore, who killed the gangster, Fats McCarthy, in a gun duel near Albany in 1932, and Deputy Inspector Hugo O. Wunsche, who has been on the force 42 years.

## Lawyer Will Run Against Fish in Primary 'To Make Us Secure From Future Attacks'

Simmering Republican revulsion against Rep. Han Fish and Fishism in general came to a boil today in the new upstate 29th Congressional District with the announcement that Augustus W. Bennet, prominent Newburgh attorney and lifetime Republican, again would oppose the Roosevelt-hating isolationist in the primary.

Bennet consented to run against Fish after being selected by various Republican leaders. Their decision is an answer to Fish's recent public plea that he be unopposed in the primary because it would cause "dissension" in R e p u b l i c a n ranks.

The Bennet-Fish fight will be conducted on a somewhat new battleground. In the past, Fish has been regularly elected from the old 28th District, consisting of Orange, Dutchess and Putnam counties. The new 29th District is composed of Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Delaware counties.

Fish once made his home in Putnam county, but it is understood he has rented a house, or rooms, in Orange County, and thus claims he is eligible to run from the new district.

### Cites Record

Bennet is 46, a former referee in bankruptcy, a graduate of Amherst College and Columbia Law School. Today he said:

"The only logical way to determine how a Republican, already in office, will vote on future legislation is to examine his past record. If it is bad, no thinking citizen should send him back to Congress in these dangerous days. I am represented in Congress by

Hamilton Fish, whose record has attracted nationwide condemnation. He is a Republican. So am I. I have always been a Republican. He has not.

"The district which he represents, but in which he does not reside, is overwhelmingly Republican. The responsibility, therefore, of electing a new Republican rests primarily upon the Republican voters of this district.

"I supported Mr. Fish's Democratic opponent in 1942. Of this I am proud. I will always be an American first, and a Republican second. What I did openly, thousands of other Republicans did on election day with the result that Mr. Fish received a 4000 plurality, compared with a margin of more than 30,000 for Gov. Dewey in the same territory. Mr. Fish even failed to carry his home county of Putnam.

### First Duty

"For my part, I believe our first duty is to make our country secure from future attacks, both by maintaining our own strength, and by working with other nations and some form of international organization.

"At home, we must bring about a reduction in ordinary expenses of government, reverse the tendency toward centralization of power, and insure fair treatment for both labor and capital. I pledge myself to work for all these principles."

Bennet is the son of William S. Bennet of New York City, and nephew of Supreme Court Justice Graham Witschief of Newburgh. He ran against Fish in the old 26th District primary two years ago—receiving Dewey's blessing—and was defeated.

Bennet recently engaged in a debate in Nyack with Fish. He

pointed out that Fish before the war had spoken on swastika-decorated platforms, with the audience singing the *Horst Wessel Song*, that he had supported Hitler's claims on Danzig as "just," that he inserted the speeches of Nazi propagandists in the *Congressional Record* and then mailed out hundreds of thousands of the copies, using his free-franking privilege.

### Diehard Isolationists

Bennet, in this debate, quoted many similar incidents in Fish's life, incidents that have identified him the country over as a spokesman of diehard isolationism and America Firstism, and worse.

Fish's reply was to indulge in a bit of understatement—evasive. Instead of answering, he implored thusly:

"Do not oppose me in the primary. The primary contest is totally useless. Nothing would please Mr. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, Field Marshal Harry Hopkins, the Palace Guard, and such New Deal stooges as PM, Walter Winchell and the *Daily Worker* more than to create dissension in Republican ranks through means of a primary fight in a Presidential year."

## India Official Joins Hunt for Heiress

Maj. Stuart Murray, of the India Commission in this country, yesterday presided over a conference of high police officials at Headquarters called to review the case of the Indian heiress, Vaisa Mathai, 21-year-old Columbia student who disappeared from International House, 500 Riverside Dr., Mar. 20.



Bennet

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# WESTERN UNION

A. W. WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT      NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD      J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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**9np Lv 48 collect**

**DX Washington, D.C., 1057a Apl 12-1944**

**George V. McIntyre,**

**AME, PM.**

Neither Protestant Chaplains Association, any individual or organization was given authority to use my name. Do not know Smythe. Inserted Congressional record April 1 resolution at request of Protestant Chaplains Ass'n. Smythe's name does not appear on letter sent me. Do not know any individual so named.

**Clare E. Hoffman.**

COMMITTEES  
LIAISON  
MEMBERSHIP IN EXERCISE  
OF THE CONSTITUTION  
WAR CLAIMS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D. C.

CLARE E. HOFFMAN  
514 DIV. MICHIGAN  
HOME ADDRESS  
ALEXAND, MICHIGAN

June 16, 1941

**Mr. Edward James Smythe**  
149 Versailles Ave.  
New York City

Friend Smythe:

Thanks for yours of the 11th. Shall be glad to receive the information referred to therein.

Sincerely yours,  
*Clare E. Hoffman*



# CIO to Canvass New York in Attempt To Insure a Vote for All Servicemen

## Seeks to Offset Dewey Board's Ruling Against Simplification

With news of Gov. Dewey's second double cross on the soldier vote still fresh in the morning papers, the Greater New York CIO Council yesterday set out to help New York service men and women here and abroad get a State War Ballot.

In a session Wednesday afternoon, Dewey's men on the State War Ballot Commission—William T. Simpson of Brooklyn and George M. Clancy of Rochester—voted down a proposal to simplify the procedure through which New York's soldiers might receive their ballot, made by State Democratic Chairman James A. Farley and Assembly Minority Leader Irwin Steingut.

### Unyielding

Under the Farley-Steingut proposal, servicemen would have received their ballots merely by having the necessary information—name, serial number, home address—submitted to the State War Ballot Commission by any interested friend or relative. This was the system used in last November's gubernatorial election.

Instead, despite the dissenting votes of Democrats Neil M. Lieblich of Brooklyn and William T. Larkin of Mount Morris, the Commission has made it mandatory that ballot applications come from the soldiers themselves.

The Commission also ruled that all soldier ballots be sent out on Sept. 7 or later, and be back in the hands of the Commission no later than midnight of Nov. 3—thus giving our fighting men abroad a bare eight weeks in which to receive their ballots, fill them out, and re-ship them to New York City. Assuming, of course, that they had sent in their applications, filled out correctly, to the State War Ballot Commission before Oct. 16. Also, that in all this time their military address was not changed. If their applications are not filled out correctly, they'll be returned to the soldier—even to Burma or China—

### In PM's Sunday Edition:

#### \*Local Items

We watch Dewey being photographed

#### \*Bonaro Overstreet

#### "Notes for Now"

Today's Liberals

#### \*Paul Hagen, Anti-Nazi

By James A. Wechsler

#### \*"Behind the Steel Wall"

Berlin eyewitness serial

#### \*"Dear Joe"

News Letter for GIs

#### \*"Life with Junior"

Learning to Read

### In PM's Sunday Edition

(On Sale Tomorrow)



Ray Platnick, the unbeatable PM photographer who joined the Coast Guard and took those magnificent shots of the Gilbert Islands invasion you saw on these pages not long ago, is back home, on leave, at 79 W. Fulton ave., Roosevelt, L. I. Here he is with Mrs. Platnick. Ray found combat photography easy, perhaps because he was fighting the Axis as far back as June, 1940, when Bundists beat him up for taking their pictures.

Photo by Dan Keleher, PM

who must fill in the missing information and mail it back again. On the servicemen's side, this exchange of correspondence may be carried on via air mail or V-mail. On the Commission's side, only first class mail will be used.

On Mar. 7 Dewey sent a special message to the Legislature regarding the soldier vote, in which he said:

"This proposal provides a simple, workable means of voting to every New York member of the armed forces who wishes to vote."

So that New Yorkers in the services will at least receive ballot applications, the Greater New York CIO Council is going to conduct a door-to-door canvass.

Application cards, with blanks for the necessary information and bearing the return address of the State War Ballot Commission, 80 Center St., New York, will be handed out to the families of servicemen, who will be instructed to forward them as quickly as possible. Accompanying the cards will be warnings to the servicemen to fill out their applications and return them as quickly as conditions permit, plus a brief explanation of the voting procedure. The cards will not bear the CIO imprint, and will, according to the City CIO Council, be disturbed to union and non-union members alike.

To accomplish this city-wide distribution the Council is calling on its 2000 active CIO Community Council members, plus an additional 3000 volunteers who will be drawn from CIO unions in the city, and on other organizations, such as the League of Women Voters, which is interested in simplifying the soldier vote.

—By Albert Deutsch

# Compensation Rights Denied To Many City Employees

City Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs, one of the most active civic leaders of our town, calls attention to a strange anomaly that does no credit to a municipal government priding itself of its progressive outlook.

Every worker in private industry, under State law, is covered

by workmen's compensation. If he is injured on the job, he is entitled to cash and medical benefits during his period of incapacity. Most city workers are likewise covered by workmen's compensation. But it seems that a large number still lack the protection that private employers would be required to give them. If these people fall victims to accidents in the line of duty, they are just out of luck as far as workmen's compensation is concerned.

Disturbed by this situation, Isaacs recently wrote State Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi, requesting details. Corsi confirmed the fact that many employees of New York City are without coverage. Here are some of the contradictions Corsi pointed out:

¶ An interne in a city hospital is covered under the Workmen's Compensation Law, but if he continues in training for a second year he becomes a resident physician and loses his coverage.

¶ A hospital nurse is protected by the law, but if she becomes a visiting nurse or is employed by the City Health Dept. (except in its laboratories) she loses her compensation rights.

¶ City hospital orderlies are entitled to workmen's compensation. But the kitchen employes who lift heavy food kettles and are subjected to other hazards are not covered. This discrimination causes quickly

confusion. If, for example, an orderly is assigned to a mobile steambath, is he still an orderly or a kitchen worker? His compensation rights depend on the answer.

¶ Market workers are covered by the state compensation laws, but city market inspector was denied compensation on the ground that his employer, the City of New York, is not engaged in the business of operating markets.

¶ A telephone operator in the City Dept. of Water Supply covered, but building inspector working for the city who must inspect foundation and take other risks are not entitled to protection.

On the basis of frequent inquiries from city workers regarding their compensation rights, Commissioner Corsi concludes "that highly selective coverage of city employes is not conducive to satisfactory employment relationship."

The local government is highly labor-conscious city should be a model employer. It seems elementary that all its workers should be covered by workmen's compensation.

Mayor LaGuardia, in his recent budget message, alluded to the present usage, alluded to the present unhealthy discrimination against certain classes of city employes. The anomaly ought to be cleared up quickly.

# Green, AFL Head, Puts Postwar Jobs Up to U. S.

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN

William Green, AFL president, believes that postwar economic problems can be met by:

¶ Congress immediately setting up machinery to supervise the changeover from war to peace production.

¶ Adoption of amendments to the Social Security Act to tide us over the period when there are insufficient jobs.

¶ Establishing a Federal, not a Federal-State system as at present, of unemployment insurance so that unemployed war workers and demobilized servicemen can have some income.

¶ Co-operation between Federal, State and local governments in planning postwar public works and housing to take up the slack.

Closing the AFL's two-day forum on labor in the postwar world, Green declared last night:

"The free enterprise system faces its crucial test in the postwar world."

Earlier, the National Assn. of Manufacturers' phrase free enterprise came under rather severe redefinition by George Meany, AFL secretary-treasurer.

Asserting that the AFL is "a firm supporter of a system of free enterprise," he asserted that the economic history of the last 20 years "will show too many businesses that have been neither free nor enterprising, in the best sense of the word."

"Too many of our business men," said Meany, "have allowed their first loyalty to be, not to the com-

mon good, but to the bankers, the insurance firms, the monopolies upon which they depended for credit. . . .

"As American labor understands it, free enterprise does not admit the use of sham advertising, tie-in sales, unfair combinations in restraint of trade."

The industrial point of view was presented by Robert Gaylord, NAM president, and Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. Gaylord carefully skirted any reference to business abuses of the "free enterprise system."

The bulk of his address he devoted to an attack on labor laws and other New Deal measures, such as the SEC (Securities Exchange Commission) and Federal tax laws. He said that the SEC had damaged the "country as a whole by restricting investment possibilities."

Speaking by radio from Seattle, Washington, Johnston said he did not "yield to any Socialist" in deploping the poverty of sharecroppers, migrant workers and slum-dwellers but he said he could not agree with Socialists that "there is a shortcut to perpetual plenty."

Another critic of the NAM-Chamber of Commerce "free enterprise" concept was James C. Patton, National Farmers Union president, who criticized its monopoly aspects. He charged that businessmen in this country are "pulling away from the goal of full employment, jobs for all and so-called 'realistic' talk about the impracti-

cality of the great war aim, freedom from want."

He attacked the Baruch plan, the George-Murray bill for industrial demobilization and reconversion and the Kilgore bill which propose "to freeze, sterilize, throttle down postwar production of abundance to meet the convenience of business and industry."

Asserting that government-owned plants should be kept going either as yardstick plants or as "standby resources," Patton charged:

"In the absence of a planned program of production of plenty, any disposition of Government plants will inevitably intensify monopoly, regardless of all the pious phrases that will be uttered against monopoly."

### THE SCUTTLES By Ajav

