

## EXPLAINS STAND ON DIES

*M. G. T. News*  
Mrs. Roosevelt Cites Custom on

Inviting Committees

*Dec 24/39*  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt intimated today that she was following custom by not inviting the Dies committee as a group to White House functions.

She told her press conference that she did not think members of special Congressional committees were invited as a unit, although group invitations sometimes were extended to members of standing committees.

Her remarks were prompted by a reporter's request that she comment on a recent complaint of Representative J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey that Mrs. Roosevelt had not invited the Dies committee although she had asked to luncheon the leaders of the American Youth Congress who had testified before the committee. Mr. Thomas is a member of the committee.

The First Lady said that she did not invite the witnesses as a group but as individuals whom she knew. She wanted to make it clear, she added, that she asked a great many persons who have no official position because they happen to be friends or persons she knows.