

New Anti-Communist Bill Would Force Red Traitors Into Open

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—The stage is now set for consideration of the Mundt-Ferguson-Johnson (of South Carolina) "Subversive Activities Control" bill. This is the 1950 version of the Mundt-Nixon bill which passed the House in 1948 but died in the Senate.

The old Mundt-Nixon bill was considered an effort to outlaw the Communist party in the United States. The claim is made for the new bill that it would not outlaw the party, but merely force it to register its political and front organizations and their members, and to identify its propaganda.

Sen. Carl E. Mundt of South Dakota, principal author of this controversial measure, says it is the answer to the big issue now raised by his fellow-Republican Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin. If Senator McCarthy's charges prove anything at all, it will be that the present loyalty investigation system for government employees has not done what it was supposed to do. That was to keep security risks out of government service. How the Mundt-Ferguson-Johnson bill proposes to do this is specified in 18 sections and nearly 7000 words of legal language. Understanding just what is in this bill now becomes important for everyone to know.

There is a long preamble. In brief, it states that there is a world-wide Communist revolutionary movement whose purpose is treachery, deceit, espionage, sabotage and terrorism, to establish a one-party, totalitarian dictatorship. This preamble sets the tone for the whole bill, and indicates what it is aimed at.

The bill would make it unlawful for any person knowingly to perform any act which would contribute toward establishment of any totalitarian dictatorship.

Violations Listed
It would be unlawful for any U.S. government employee to pass on to any representative of any foreign government or any Communist organization any classified (secret) information, unless authorized to do so by the head of the agency.

It would be unlawful for any foreign or Communist representative to receive such information. Violations would be punishable by fine of \$10,000 and 10 years' imprisonment. The statute of limitations for any such offense would be 10 years instead of the usual three years.

An important new section of the bill specifies that the holding of membership or office in a Communist organization shall not be considered a violation of the above provisions. Also, registration of an

individual as a Communist could not be received in evidence in any prosecution for violation of these provisions.

These two new exceptions are considered great protection of civil liberties for members of Communist organizations.

The bill specifies that Communists could not be employed by the U. S. government. But a Communist could be elected to office, as to Congress. Issuance of passports to Communists would be prohibited.

Every Communist organization would be required to register with the attorney-general. It would also be required to file annually the names and addresses of its officers and members, and a financial statement of receipts and expenditures. Contributions to registered Communist organizations could not be income tax deductions.

The attorney-general would be required to notify every individual registered by a Communist organization, as to his reported membership. If the individual denies membership, the attorney-general must launch an investigation and remove from the registration list the names of those proved not to be members.

All investigations of this character would be handled by a new "Subversive Activities Control Board" of three members, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

Failure of any Communist organization or member to register would be made punishable by a fine of \$2000 to \$5000 and two-to-five-year imprisonment. Each day of failure to register is considered a separate offense.

False statements in any registration would be subject to the same penalties for every offense.

WHAT! NO CHASSIS?

BOSTON, March 31. — (P) — A wheel and axle popped out of the mouth of nine-month-old Robert Vadney Jr. when a patrolman turned him upside down at city hospital yesterday.

Patrolman Michael De Sisto knew it was going to happen. He did the same thing with his own son, Peter, 2, when he swallowed a penny two years ago. Oh, yes, the wheel and axle were from a plastic toy.

Interior Chief Strikes Back At CVA's Opponents

EVERETT, March 31. — (P) — Interior Secretary Chapman pulled out the statistics here in criticizing administration critics who charge that the United States is drifting toward Socialism.

Bringing his subject close to home for the audience of Jefferson-Jackson banquet goers, Chapman referred pointedly to the condition of Washington farmers.

"The cash income of farmers in the state of Washington, having reached \$206,000,000 in 1929, had dropped to \$88,000,000 by 1932," he said. "I am proud to remind you that in 1948 this income for farmers amounted to over \$570,000,000. Farm mortgages, 17 years ago, amounted to \$146,000,000 in this state. This debt had been reduced to \$86,000,000 by the beginning of 1949. In 1935, only 50 percent of your farms had electricity; by mid-1949, nearly 97 percent were electrified."

"This, I presume, is a picture of the dangers to farmers in a welfare state," Chapman said. He favors a Columbia Valley administration "for the full and rapid development of the Columbia river" which he said is now less than 10 percent developed.

"The great demand for the development of the resources of this area cannot wait upon a piecemeal program for particular river areas without a unified objective and a unified administration."

With Reservations
Ford Northrup, president of the Northwest Public Power association, told Chapman the association favors the proposed CVA bill.

Northrup said the power group endorsement carried several reservations. These were an insistence that home rule be preserved for state and local governments in the Columbia valley, present hydroelectric properties be retained by home groups and construction of

BOON TO PAPA

SANTA ANA, Calif. — (P) — H. A. Schwilck is manufacturing a pinless diaper which he expects to make him a hero among papas. Invented by a Mrs. J. C. Slusser, of Pomona, Calif., the new diaper may be adjusted to various sizes and held fast by snaps. It is cut and sewed to a pattern and requires no folding or pins. Schwilck plans to distribute them nationally. He says they will cost slightly more than standard diapers.

others be allowed.

Chapman is in the northwest for a series of conferences with local officials and industrial representatives on the CVA proposal. Northrup is assistant superintendent of the Eugene water board.

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