

Rothschild Refuses To Answer All Questions Asked by McCarthy

Washington (U.P.)—Edward M. Rothschild, Government Printing Office employee, was suspended today within an hour after he refused to tell Senate investigators whether he is a Communist, has stolen secret government documents or has engaged in espionage.

Washington (U.P.)—A Government Printing Office employee today refused to tell Senate investigators if he is a Communist or has stolen secret documents from the Government Printing Office.

The worker, Edward M. Rothschild, refused on grounds of possible self incrimination to answer all questions put to him by Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, (R-Wis.).

McCarthy's Permanent Investigating subcommittee is looking into charges of "alleged espionage" and Communist membership by some employees at the printing office.

Before questioning Rothschild, McCarthy summarized charges that had been made against him. He said they included "long time" membership in the Communist party, stealing "secret documents" from the GPO, and membership by his wife in the Communist party.

"These are very, very serious charges," McCarthy told the 42-year-old bookbinder. "They are among the most serious charges that have ever been made against a government official. Do you care to comment on them?"

Rothschild sat silently at the witness table flanked by his two attorneys, Charles E. Ford and Stanley B. Frosh.

Refuses to Answer
McCarthy, the only member of the subcommittee present, then fired a series of questions at Rothschild. These included



TESTIFIES—Former FBI undercover agent Mrs. Mary S. Markward as she told Sen. McCarthy's investigating subcommittee in Washington that she knew the wife of a Government printing employee as an active Communist worker. She identified the woman as Mrs. Esther Rothschild.

whether Rothschild is now employed at the Government Printing Office, whether he is a member of the Communist party "at this moment," whether he has stolen documents, including a secret "code" from the printing office, and whether he was tried by a Communist party board for what was called "white chauvinism."

Rothschild refused to answer the questions on grounds of possible self incrimination.

He also refused to say if he had visited at the home of Fred Sillers, a former printing office employee, or if he had solicited

James Phillips to join the Communist party.

Phillips, a stitching machine operator at the printing office, testified yesterday that Rothschild and Sillers asked him to join the party in 1938.

Besides Rothschild, three present or former GPO workers were linked with Reds in testimony yesterday.

They are Isadore Kornfield, currently a GPO proofreader, and former employees Sillers and Irving Studenberger.

Bertha Lomax, was accused of having once tried to smuggle classified documents from the GPO.

Rothschild said through his attorneys last week that a government loyalty board cleared him of Communist charges. But a witness said yesterday Rothschild was barred from handling "top secret" documents.

Two More Concerts Scheduled by Band

I. A. Mirick, director of instrumental music for the Medford schools, announced today that there will be two more public concerts this summer by the joint Ashland and Medford summer bands.

They will be in Lithia park, Ashland, the evenings of Thursday this week, and Thursday, August 27.

This week's program will include such selections as "In the Good Old Summer Time," "Glory of the Trumpets" march, "In a Persian Market," "My Heart Stood Still," "Syncopated Clock," and "Bombasto March."

Soloist Thursday will be Mrs. Zo Peters, Ashland, who will sing "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," and "Thine Alone," accompanied by the band.

Pruning Shears Used in Combatting Fire on Mountain

Firefighters of the Rogue River National forest were using new firefighting tools today — pruning shears.

Some 16 men are still battling a brush and forest blaze on the southwest slopes of Mt. McLoughlin at timberline, which was started by lightning last week. The blaze is a tough one to combat, due to the fact that it is mostly in lava-flow area, where there is little dirt in which to clear fire lines.

The blaze is now under control, according to Ranger Bob Beeman, who was in charge of the unusual battle, but because it mostly is in brush in crevices of the lava, probably will throw up smoke until the first rains in the fall.

Long Hike
It took the first firefighters from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. to hike in to the area from the nearest road last Friday night. The fire was crowning then, and burning snags were throwing sparks long distances. The blaze was only about 300 feet wide, but was a half-mile long, and was spreading before a steady wind which kept it up until mid-morning.

The firefighters cleared firelines where they could, in the lava sections used pruning shears to cut off the inflammable limbs of the brush and small trees growing out of the lava, to keep the fire close to the ground. More help arrived and most of the burning snags were felled. The fire area totals some 40 acres, although only about 10 acres actually burned.

This morning the men on the fire received long-handled pruning saws for similar work, to keep the fire from "crowning" and spreading further.

One other small fire in this area was reported this morning by the state forestry department. A crew put out the small blaze near the road along the north fork of Trail creek.

Ashland Loop Road Opened To Travel

The Ashland loop road, running from Ashland through the Siskiyou mountains to Highway 238 west of Jacksonville, has been opened to travel, the United States Forest Service reported today. Crews have completed cutting through snow drifts and the road is open to travel both ways, the announcement said.

Don Lane Named To Water Resource Committee Position

Portland — Don Lane, formerly manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, has been named executive secretary of the recently-formed Oregon state water resources committee, it was announced today.

Lyle Watts, former chief of the U. S. Forest Service who is chairman of the seven-man committee created by the 1953 legislature, said Lane was selected from a field of 10 candidates. He has been manager of the East Side Commercial club, Portland, since leaving Medford about a year ago.

A native of Silver Lake, Ore., Lane attended Willamette university and Oregon State college where he graduated with a degree in agricultural economics. He has been a member of the OSC alumni board.

Other Work
He worked in Klamath and Lake counties before World War II, and during the war was a Navy pilot. His later work included the management of the Springfield and Jackson County Chambers of Commerce and was secretary of the Willamette Basin Project committee while in Springfield.

In 1950, while in Medford, Lane was elected president of the Oregon Chamber of Executives, and in 1951 president of the Western Institute for Commercial and Trade association Executives, which service the 11 western states. He was named junior first citizen of Medford one year by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Lane's office will be in the Sweetland building here. His appointment is effective Sept. 1.

Will Guarantee Use Of Storage Facilities

Washington (U.P.)—The Agriculture Department has offered to guarantee to use new grain and oil seed storage facilities constructed by "responsible commercial farms, including co-operatives."

Storage space for grain has been reported scarce in many areas this summer. The department said its announcement was designed to encourage construction of more commercial storage for wheat, corn, rye, oats, barley, grain sorghums, flaxseed, and soybeans.

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