

Seven New York Teachers Refuse To Tell About Reds

NEW YORK (AP) — Seven New York City public school teachers refused yesterday to tell Senate probes whether they ever had been members of the Communist party.

Each of the seven invoked the Fifth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, which protects an individual from being forced to testify against himself.

Sen. Homer Ferguson (R-Mich.), head of a Senate internal security subcommittee investigating communism in the nation's schools, said:

"On that ground, I will recognize your right not to answer that question."

Ferguson recessed the two-day public hearings here without setting a future date, but added:

"This does not mean that we have closed this matter. We have received evidence that the board of education is taking certain steps. We can recess and allow it to make its investigations."

The seven teachers, of 10 subpoenaed to appear yesterday, were:

Henry F. Mins Jr., an English instructor at New Utrecht High School, Brooklyn; Leonard Koegel, a substitute teacher residing in Queens; Lou Spindel, health education instructor at Straubennuller Textile High School, Manhattan; Mrs. Mary Gold Danimian, teacher at Public School 167 in the Bronx; and Louis Cohen, English instructor at William Howard Taft High School in the Bronx.

The three others, who failed to answer their subpoenas — apparently with legitimate excuses — were: Harold Collins, who formerly taught at Ft. Hamilton High School; Florence Waks of Manhattan; and Mrs. Helen Mins Robbins, English instructor at Morris High School in the Bronx.

The three will be subpoenaed for examination when the committee resumes hearings here.

Case, one of the teachers to testify, told the committee:

"Right now, if you went into the whole school system, you would find the teachers of New York are scared stiff today, watching this committee, and because of that are afraid to go back and exercise their rights in the typical American manner."

"Because of inquisitions such as this, the teachers are scared and

are not doing their jobs. I would like you to come into our school system and see what's going on. The kids no longer are encouraged to use their own minds. They keep quiet on subjects such as Korea, the atomic bomb and the Soviet Union."

Case was asked, "In your opinion did the North Koreans attack the South Koreans?"

Case replied, "I wasn't there."

The witness said a war between Soviet Russia and the U. S. would "mark the end of civilization." But he said he would defend America

if any one attacked it.

The city board of education said it will start disciplinary action against the Senate committee's witnesses and an unspecified number of other teachers.

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AL Raps Cuts In Vets Care

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American Legion's Medical Advisory Board raps cuts by Congress in funds for medical care of veterans have hurt the quality of service given by the Veterans Administration.

Dr. Leonard G. Rountree of Miami, Fla., the board's chairman, told a news conference yesterday that Veterans Administrator Carl R. Gray Jr. disagrees with that view. He said Gray contends reductions in service to veterans have been in quantity only, not in quality.

Rountree said the board believes unanimously that one effect of the \$1-million-dollar cut voted by Congress in the V. A.'s medical budget requests has been to bring a sense of insecurity to the agency's medical personnel.

Nurserymen End Meeting

PORTLAND (AP) — The Oregon Association of Nurserymen was winding up a two day meeting here Thursday after discussing problems of sales and Sunday closing.

Some said they favored closing on Sundays on the theory that if all closed, the people would get accustomed to doing business with nurserymen on other days. Others pointed out that since not all nurserymen are association members, unanimous action was unlikely.

John Van Dyke of Eugene said he thought fruit stands and similar retail outlets were giving nurserymen unfair competition because of their low prices. Wayne Melott of Forest Grove answered that by saying the people didn't get the advice and help from the stands that they could get from the nurseries and hence the competition should not be critical.

C. E. Moyer, 63, Roseburg, and H. N. Rosser, 79, Portland, were honored at a Wednesday night dinner for having been in the nursery business nearly 50 years each.

1-Way Streets Cut Accidents

CHICAGO (AP) — Fred T. Fowler, city traffic engineer at Portland, Ore., reported Wednesday that a one-way street system in his city's business district had saved \$540,000 in accident reduction.

That is a 45 per cent decrease from accident costs in 1949, the last year the two-way traffic system was in operation, he told the Institute of Traffic Engineers meeting here.

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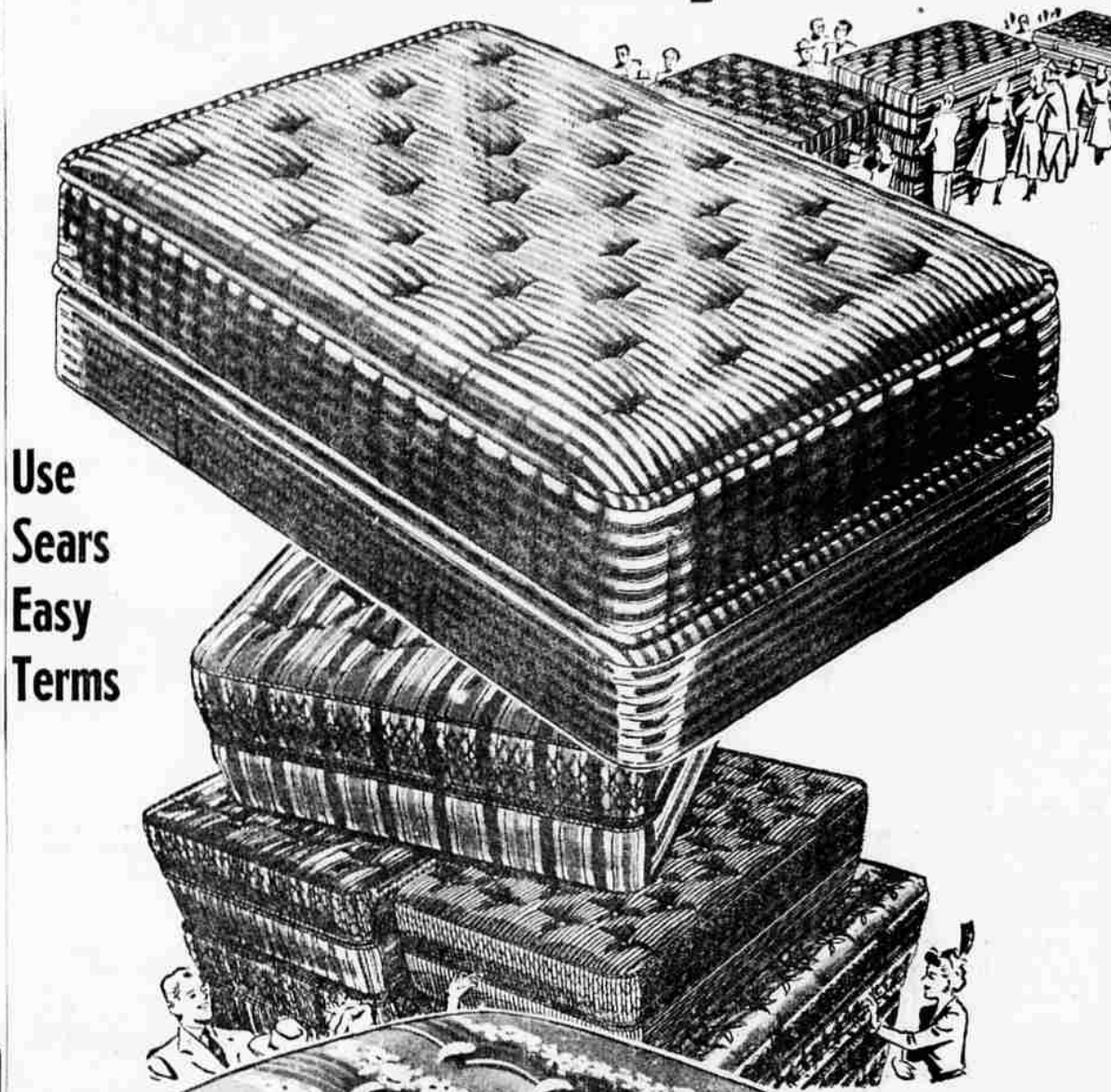
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