INVESTIGATION OF UN-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

HEARINGS

BEFORE A

SPECIAL

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

THIRD SESSION

ON

H. Res. 282

TO INVESTIGATE (1) THE EXTENT, CHARACTER, AND OBJECTS OF UN-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, (2) THE DIFFUSION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OF SUBVERSIVE AND UN-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA THAT IS INSTIGATED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES OR OF A DOMESTIC ORIGIN AND ATTACKS THE PRINCIPLE OF THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT AS GUARANTEED BY OUR CONSTITUTION, AND (3) ALL OTHER QUESTIONS IN RELATION THERETO THAT WOULD AID CONGRESS IN ANY NECESSARY REMEDIAL LEGISLATION

VOLUME 2

SEPTEMBER 15, 16, AND 17, 1938 AT NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 28, 29, 30, OCTOBER 4, 5, AND 6, 1938 AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

> OCTOBER 11, 12, AND 13, 1938 AT DETROIT, MICH.

OCTOBER 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, AND 22, 1938 AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Printed for the use of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON: 1938

In effect, therefore, the bund babies sing: "Hitler, we belong to

you; yes, we comrades belong to you."

The practice of spreading Nazi propaganda through educational institutions does not, however, stop here. It has crept into many American institutions of higher learning.

One of the most alarming ways of Nazi propaganda along this line has swept through the ranks of exchange students to universities.

The purpose of the "exchange students" to universities has long been to foster good will and peace among the nations. The American student in a European university learns of the customs, habits, and cultural progress of the country in which he studies. The European student in an American school learns to appreciate American culture. The result is greater understanding.

But this worthwhile aim has been neglected in the exchange of German students for American. Now American students are being indoctrinated with the aims of fascism in Germany both abroad and at home to the detriment of democratic institutions in America.

Take, for instance, the case of the Committee on American Youth Camp in Germany. This committee arranges trips and stays for American youths in Germany. On the letterheads of this committee

there is found the names of the following persons:

Dr. Colin Ross, Munich; Professor Sprengling, University of Chicago; Mrs. Dupont Ruoff, Wilmington, Del.; Mr. Leslie Bissel, Munich; Mrs. Elsie von Johnson, Munich (formerly of Galveston).

It should be noted that Dr. Colin Ross is a Nazi propagandist who spends his time between Germany and the United States. He has been one of the outstanding speakers for the German-American Bund and has been a writer for the Weckruf, official organ of the bund.

Another case which has attracted some attention is that of two German exchange students who were sent to the University of Missouri.

I am not mentioning the names of the students. They have been filed with the committee. The actual cases—who they are—their identity is known to the committee, but, for obvious reasons, it has not been made a matter of public record.

One of them is a boy and the other a girl. It was reported that before leaving New York City these students, among others, were

given instructions by diplomatic officials of Germany.

On arriving at Columbia, Mo., they took up residence in the finest houses on the campus. The girl was taken into Kappa Kappa Gamma house and the young man was accepted by the Beta Theta Pi.

During the fall season a course of lectures was given on Nazi Germany. These lectures were conducted by Prof. John B. Wolf and others. It was reported that at this time the two students composed

a mailing list for Nazi propaganda.

The girl, in addition, wrote articles which appeared in the Columbia Missourian. The tenor of her article was to the effect that foreign newspapers give a distorted picture of conditions in Germany. The articles were definitely pro-Nazi. This girl is an active member of the German Club.

Professor Wolf came from Minnesota as a professor of history before taking up his post at Missouri. His special theme is Modern

Germany in Contemporary Europe.

Professor Wolf visited Germany last year and it was reported that this trip was paid for by the German Government. Professor Wolf is an American citizen. Many educators have taken advantage of the

generosity of the Nazis.

The German exchange student at Drury College in Springfield, Mo., addressed the local Rotary Club and presented a talk that was purely pro-Nazi propaganda. Protests over this action reached the college president and other school officials as well as the board of the Rotary Club and the student as the result, offered an apology for his talk. He was dismissed from college shortly thereafter.

Complaints have been lodged at various times with the chancellor of the University of Kansas to the effect that Nazi propaganda was being circulated on the campus. There are several German exchange

students attending the university.

The German exchange student of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., addressed a community forum in Fitchburg, Mass., and was jeered at the conclusion of his talk, in which he stated as follows:

Hitler seems to promote friendly relations with all nations of the world.

Another exchange student at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, who is a professed Nazi, created a disturbance with remarks as follows:

We must counteract the lying propaganda concerning us which is present in your papers.

The German exchange student at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt., has delivered decidedly pro-Nazi addresses, one of which took place at the United Church in Johnson, Vt. She is one of the number of students who attended the annual convention in Florida

last December of the German exchange-students conference.

In her talk she sketched Hitler's life, his achievements, stated that the German Government is a form of democracy, that all enemies of Germany are heartless and dishonest, denied that the policy of scarcity was connected with the rearmament action, but rather that it was a child of boycott which is felt severely. She stated, in part, as follows:

We desire that all people from all countries know us better so that we may be understood. Then, in case of war, they will not want to kill a friend who they know so well.

A German exchange student at the University of Indiana has been reported boosting the Nazi government, especially among Phi Psi

fraternity students, where he is living.

A German student attending the University of California, who was sent here by his father under some special arrangement, has been spreading Nazi propaganda. He has been reported mixing with newcomers from Germany to sound them out as to their fealty to Hitler. He was also reported to have tried to enforce Mein Kampf, Hitler's book, into the International House library. He also expressed indignation that the university allowed Thomas Mann to speak on the campus.

These are, briefly, some of the examples of Nazi activities which have crept into American universities. It is of interest to note the following article in connection with the student exchange idea, which appeared November 14 in the New York Times, having been cabled

from Berlin:

Berlin.—A marked increase in the number of American private preparatory schools exchanging students with the official National Socialist boarding schools, called National Political Education Institutes, is represented here as another victory for national socialism over foreign prejudice.