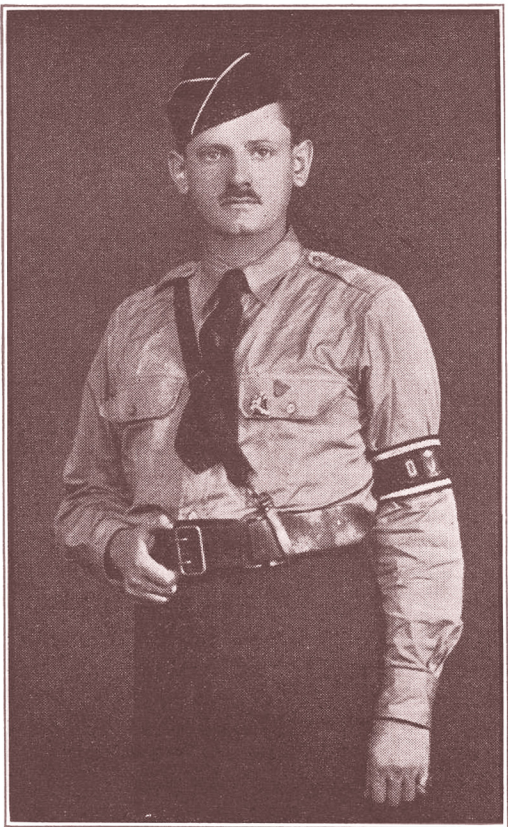


The War on 'Isms'

Inquiry's Nazi Hunt Veers
to C.I.O. 'Red' Charges



Last year a young German-born American citizen who styled himself Hellmut Oberwinder joined the German-American Bund at Astoria, N.Y. A dark-eyed, black-mustached youth somewhat resembling Adolf Hitler, he bought a snappy Storm Trooper uniform and quickly won his way to the inner councils of the pro-Nazi organization.

Last week in Washington, the ex-Storm Trooper startled Bunders by bobbing up as the first "surprise" witness of the House committee investigating un-American activities, headed by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas. Shedding the pseudonym "Oberwinder," the witness described himself as John C. Metcalfe, born in Dresden, Germany, in 1904 and brought to Chicago by his parents ten years later. Metcalfe (who refused to divulge his original German name) became interested in the Bund after he joined The Chicago Daily Times staff and his editor had assigned him to do a series of stories on the Nazi movement in this country. The reporter proved so earnest a Bunder that he quickly became liaison officer between Führer Fritz Kuhn and Nazi propagandists throughout the country. For the past month Metcalfe has

Faux Bundist

been on the Dies committee's pay roll as an undercover sleuth.

While Führer Kuhn fumed to the New York press that Metcalfe's testimony was all lies, Representative Dies' ace investigator amazed committee members with a series of declarations: (1) that the G.A.B. has 25,000 active members, another 75,000 "who are willing to be seen at Bund public gatherings," and some 400,000 sympathizers who are being trained to function as spies and saboteurs in time of national emergency; (2) that an entire company of the Illinois National Guard was composed of Bund members; (3) that Kuhn was powerful enough to have caused the removal of Dr. Hans Luther, former German Ambassador to the United States, because Luther had been slow in cooperating with Bund officials; (4) that the Bund is engaged in fomenting violent anti-Semitic sentiment in American cities; and (5) that instructions to the G.A.B. come directly from the Auslands (Foreign) Bureau in Stuttgart, Germany.

Next day, Dies abruptly switched his committee inquiry from Nazism to Communism. John P. Frey, chieftain of the A.F. of L. metal-trades department and longtime foe of the C.I.O., charged that John L. Lewis' organization is a seething hotbed of Communism and that the C.I.O. has become a "carrier" of the revolutionary "virus." "Carriers" among 280 named by Frey were John Brophy, C.I.O. director; Francis Gorman, United Textile Workers president; Harry Bridges, Pacific Coast maritime union leader; Ben Gold, Fur Workers International Union president; and Morris Muster, United Furniture Workers president.

New charges concerning Bridges were laid before the committee Sunday. A report by Edward F. Sullivan, Dies' chief investigator, asserted that the West Coast firebrand was advised, instructed, and protected against deportation by "an outstanding official" of the Labor Department, otherwise unidentified. Sullivan pleaded for a "fearless" investigation of the charges.

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