Tolson
Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Sizoo
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

Dies said he was advised by a local draft board—was used to hold up the drafting of Mr. Lash and that she felt he had a right to try to get a commission in the Navy if he could and that this possibly accounted for any delay by the draft board.

Mr. Dies, in his August 19 letter to Mrs. Roosevelt, replied: "It was not necessary for Joseph Lash to be a card-holding member of the Communist Party of the United States to be a Communist." The Texas Congressman then referred to testimony at a House committee hearing on January 21, 1942. Mr. Lash was asked: "Were you ever, in any circles of the Young Communist League, or in any circles of the Young Communist Party, or otherwise treated in a manner in which they might presumably treat persons who were backing them and taking their instructions, but who, for strategic reasons, were not issued cards of membership?" To this question, Mr. Lash replied under oath:

"I worked very closely with them, but I have always preserved my independence of judgment."

At the same hearing that day, Mr. Lash made it clear that he had renounced his earlier beliefs as is shown in the following exchange:

"Chairman Dies: You are definitely convinced that you were wrong in being closely associated with the Communists during that period?

"Mr Lash: Yes, sir.

"The Chairman: There is no question in your mind but that was an error?

"Mr. Lash: Yes, sir."

Mrs. Roosevelt, according to a letter which Mr. Dies also has made public, wrote to the House chairman two days after that hearing and said she was "convinced of his (Mr. Lash's) sincerity and I feel that continuing to pillory him in the public press has a bad effect upon the morale of our young people as a whole."

So the so-called "methods" of Congressional investigating committees and the charges and countercharges today are not far different from what they were a little more than a decade ago when the Democratic Party was in control of Congress.

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Wash. Post and Times Herald
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Date: