Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Dies Committee Agent Seizes Bookshop's Membership List

Box Taken After Scuffle With Woman Official of Co-operative League

After a scuffle with Mrs. Charles W. Putnam, president of the District of Columbia Co-operative League, a Dies Committee investigator last night gained possession of a list of 1,200 members of the Bookshop, a co-operative store at 916 Seventeenth street N.W.

Shortly afterward, Representative Dies of Texas, committee chairman, issued a statement saying the list would show "a number of Government officials and employes" were active in local Communist front organizations.

The seizure, according to Robert E. Stripling, committee secretary, was the opening gun for public hearings beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday, when he said the Bookshop, the local unit of the American Peace Mobilization and three other Washington organizations will be shown to adhere to the Communist party line.

Grapples With Agent.

Mrs. Putnam, 5 feet in height, grappled with the Dies agent, Robert Barker, shortly after 7 p.m. yesterday on the steps of the league's office. She declared that she was escaping with the records with Mr. Barker in pursuit, and that he—"twice as big as I am"—forcibly took them.

The Committee on Un-American Activities had a different story. Secretary Stripling declared that Investigator Barker went to league headquarters after having previously established that David McCalmont, general counsel, had possession of the Bookshop list. He bore with him a subpoena for Mr. McCalmont to appear with the list, he stated, but the attorney said he had a dinner appointment and asked the investigator to take the list with him at once. Mr. Barker was leaving with the cardboard box containing the names when Mrs. Putnam arrived on the scene and attempted to take them away, Mr. Stripling said.

List of Speakers Cited.

A denial that the Bookshop has followed any party line came today from Jules Yanover, executive secretary of the shop, offering as evidence a list of speakers sponsored by the organization's "cultural" contribution during its two and a half years of existence.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt headed his list, with others including Sherwood Anderson, Erskine Caldwell, Langston Hughes, W. H. Auden and Rockwell Kent.

As evidence that the Bookshop's non-literary interest is centered elsewhere than on Communism, Mr. Yanover pointed out that its last public event was a performance of "boogie-woogie" music in the Jewish Community Center.

He expressed doubt that the Dies Committee had found a complete list of Bookshop members at the Co-operative League headquarters, and asked why no subpoena was served at his shop.

Bookshop Quitting League.

The Bookshop is now affiliated with the Co-operative League, but has offered its resignation, to become effective in about one month, Mr. Yanover said. He declared the resignation was largely due to a dispute over publicity for a Bookshop membership campaign, but Mrs. Putman offered another explanation.

She said that rumors had constantly reached the league that the Bookshop was under Communist domination, and the league had formally asked the Bookshop to answer some questions and supply information that would clear the matter up. The resignation followed, she said, without any explanation being given.

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