

FBI AUTHORITY GROWING UNDER WAR PRESSURE

Champions of Civil Liberty
Fear Drive on 'Isms' May Turn into Hysteria.

Last of a Series)

By THOMAS L. STOKES

Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, March 23.—J. Edgar Hoover and his FBI have won wide acclaim and gratitude for stamping out gangsters, kidnappers and racketeers.

The campaign against crime has produced tons of favorable publicity for Mr. Hoover, which has been capitalized by his own publicity staff and some self-appointed publicizers.

The "G-Man" has become a legendary figure through magazine stories, moving pictures, and the radio. Inspiration for the publicity has not been lacking from the FBI chief himself. He's a good salesman.

As a consequence, Mr. Hoover has established himself so well in the public mind that persons in question find it a delicate matter to question any of his activities.

The broadening in the last few years of the calendar of Federal crimes has enabled Mr. Hoover to greatly increase his staff and his annual appropriations.

FBI Contacts Expanded

He has become a powerful figure. The controversy which now rages about the FBI chief does not concern his activities on the gangster front, but his assumption of new authority under the "war emergency," and his recreation of the General Intelligence Division.

Civil-liberty champions fear the potentialities of this new setup unless its activities are carefully circumscribed. They are therefore interested in indications that Attorney General Robert Jackson, who has started an investigation of certain criticized FBI activities, will look into the General Intelligence Division.

The FBI's contacts with business interests and banks, already large through enforcement of statutes covering bank robberies, jewel and automobile thefts, have been expanded under the "war emergency."

Public Aid Invited

It has moved more directly into industry through supervision of protective measures for plants that have Army and Navy orders. On Sept. 6, last year, Mr. Hoover wrote to many persons and organizations, including banks, business houses, railroads and individuals, asking for co-operation in the "general intelligence" investigations of the FBI.

He also broadcast an invitation to the public to aid in "ridding America of those who desire to undermine the Federal Government," with the result that complaints are pouring in at a rate which would total some 78,000 in a year.

In addition to the tie-ups the FBI already has through city police forces all over the country it arranged last September for co-operation with the intelligence divisions of the War and Navy departments.

War Hysteria Feared

Criticism of recent FBI activities, and warnings, against the danger of an entrenched Federal police system, have provoked the response that they are inspired by Communists and "left-wingers." This reaction is symptomatic of the very sort of attitude which some fear may develop if a war hysteria is created.

Mr. Hoover knows something of that from his experience in the Justice Department during the World War period, when he was connected with the General Intelligence Division.

In his speech he uses rather freely such expressions as "aliens," "subversive activities," and the like.

In a New York speech last October he said "foes within our gates, like termites, have sought by every scheming means to inculcate their alien ideas into our social order, fouling our cradle of liberty."

In the same speech he said:

Two Contrasting Views

"Every hour of the day must be devoted to the support of law and order. Dedication to this effort is true Americanism. You can help by being ever alert in order that any suspected act of sabotage, espionage or neutrality act violation, designed to undermine internal defense, can be called to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

Before the same group, the New York Herald-Tribune forum, John Lord O'Brian, who was head of the war emergency division of the Justice Department in 1917-19, declared:

"In these present troubled days, it would be a great mistake for public officials to 'encourage private citizens to go searching for spies. It is a dangerous thing to inflame indiscriminately the emotions of the masses of our people."

PURDUE PARENTS' DINNER IS THURSDAY

Purdue students and their future will be discussed at the annual spring dinner meeting of the Purdue Fathers and Mothers' Association at 6:30 p. m. Thursday at the American Central Life Insurance Co. auditorium.

Prof. F. C. Hockens, assistant to the Purdue president, will discuss "Purdue Parents and Posters," and Dr. J. E. Walters, director of personnel for the schools of engineering and science, will describe "How Purdue Places Its Graduates." James L. Murray is president of the local association. Fred C. Maynard, in charge of ticket sales, said that 200 persons are expected at the dinner.

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Children Here to Be Ready With Mite When They Go Tomorrow to Hear Easter Story

Money Will Go to Help Other Youngsters in This Country And Abroad.

Tomorrow the little savings of thousands of Indianapolis Sunday School pupils will be safe inside as many mite boxes.

After the last cowlick has been pasted down and the last ribbon has been industriously made to appear casually perfect, so many children will clutch so many mite boxes jingling with coins and will start to Sunday School.

There will be last-minute warnings about avoiding puddles that would soil the new shoes, staying away from the dog, which would ruffle new clothes, and going straight to Sunday School.

Then away they'll go, the girls feeling very proud of their new clothes and showing it, the boys feeling very proud of their new clothes, but making believe they don't for public consumption.

After Sunday School, perhaps there'll be egg hunting. During Sunday School there'll be the fascinating story of Easter. There'll be the beautiful music and the colorful church full of people.

And there'll be the peculiar pleasure for the children of giving, in their mite boxes, their own money just like the big people do every day.

The money will go to help other children, in this country and abroad, who haven't been taught the same story of Easter.

Times Photo.



Barbara Jett . . . 810 W. 43d St. . . ready with her savings.

W.H.E.-W.H.E. W.H.E.-W.H.E.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 23 (U. P.)—Seven hours of scribbling three initials, "W. H. E." today were responsible for the recovery of Wilbur H. Ernest, an amnesiac victim who walked into police headquarters Wednesday.

He was taken to Dr. Eugene J. Alexander, a neuro-psychiatrist, who set him to writing the initials observed on his tie clasp. After seven hours he wrote "Wilbur."

A few minutes later he wrote out his full name—Wilbur Henry Ernest.

Later he remembered that he had been a warehouse worker in St. Louis, Mo.; that he was married and that his 8-year-old daughter, Charlotte, was injured in a bus accident and required long hospitalization when he was without funds.

A brother, Fred Ernest, was coming to Evansville to return Wilbur to his home.

Dr. Alexander blamed Mr. Ernest's condition on worry over money.

CIVIC CLUB CHARGES STREET INSANITY

Dr. Herman G. Morgan, City Health officer, said today he would begin an investigation of the South Side Civic Club's complaint that sanitary conditions in the P-38 and P-40s.

It also is reported that the Stout Field air unit of the 38th National Guard Division in the near future may receive for training purposes interceptors and pursuit planes. The squadron is designed as an observation unit.

According to reliable local sources, Allison has a new motor-under experimentation, far different from those now powering the "Aircrafta," the P-38 and P-40s.

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The Civic Club charged the condition resulting from the flooding of outside latrines, has become a public health menace. In a letter to Dr. Morgan, Albert Seyfried, Club secretary, said the condition had been brought to the Health Department's attention "time and time again," but no action has been taken on it.

SKIT WILL FEATURE MEETING OF G. O. P.

A skit, "With Eleanor and Franklin at the White House," will be a feature event of a meeting to be held by the Irvington Republican Club at Carr's Hall, 5436 E. Washington St., Monday evening.

Those taking part in the skit will be Noland and Wright, State Chairman of the Young Republicans.

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Eric Eightinger, chairman of the 18th Ward Young Republicans, will preside at the meeting, after being presented by Roy Lewis, president of the Irvington group.

S. W. O. C. CHAIRMAN SPEAKS HERE TODAY

Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and vice president of the C. I. O., was to speak at a meeting at the United Automobile Workers headquarters, 241 W. Maryland St., at 2:30 p. m. today.

R. J. Thomas, H. A. W. international president, and Leo Krzyck, Amalgamated Clothing Workers vice president, also were to speak.

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ATTEMPTED HOLDUP ENDS IN FOOT RACE

Frank Henry, 54, of 1431 N. Tremont St., reported to police last night that a would-be bandit had been following him with a revolver as he was walking in Miley Ave., 1300 block.

"Give me what you've got," the man ordered.

Mr. Henry gave a quick glance at the man and started to run.

"Halt or I'll shoot!" the stranger commanded.

Mr. Henry never slackened his speed.

The gunman turned and ran the opposite direction.

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GOV. TOWNSEND PLANS TO RETIRE TO FARM IN 1941

Harassed 3 Years by Complex Politics, He'll Raise Hogs in Future.

By NOBLE REED

Harassed by administration trouble and complex politics for more than three years, Governor M. Clifford Townsend has decided to retire from public life entirely at the close of his term next January.

"I have no plans after leaving office except to return to my farm in Grant County and raise Hampshire hogs," he said in answering questions about his future.

Essentially a farmer, the Governor's friends said he had expressed the desire to get out of public life and back to the soil as soon as possible.

Mentioned as a possible candidate for various offices, Mr. Townsend apparently will have none of them and furthermore will not even talk politics to any great extent.

Federal Patronage Troubles

Beset by patronage troubles from the very first day he took office, the Governor never has been free from disgruntled politicians or administration difficulties.

The Highway Department, spending more than \$20,000,000 a year, has been the source of great worry to the Governor, his friends said.

The tumult in that department had resulted in the Governor's being called "the state engineer."

One is "black top" construction and the other is cement, depending upon which of the interests has the most money to spend for construction propaganda.

Other administration troubles have arisen from time to time in the State Institutions Department involving friction on policies between department heads.

Handled by Heller

The patronage system has been one of the most irritating problems in the Governor's office.

This has been handled by Dick Heller, the Governor's executive secretary, who planned to resign last January but changed his mind suddenly because of impending political repercussions.

Mr. Heller necessarily has made some political enemies for the administration in the thankless task of dishing out several thousand jobs and his attitude toward the job is similar to that of the Governor.

"I'm going back to private business as soon as this administration is over," he said.

One Detour Lifted, Another Started

The official detour bulletin of the State Highway Department today reported one detour lifted and one established since last week.

The new detour is on Road 234, extending seven and one-half miles from Road 41 west through Kingman. Traffic is being routed around Kingman 41 and a county gravel road.

The eliminated detour was on Road 9 at Kouts.

Detours now in force are:

Indiana 30—From U. S. 35 two miles west of Elkhart to county line, 13 miles over Roads 35 and 2.

Indiana 51—From U. S. 6 to East Gary, 4 miles over county line.

Indiana 25—From U. S. 27 to Elkhart, 7 miles over Indiana 25 and 289.

Indiana 39—From U. S. 27 to Elkhart, 7 miles over Indiana 39, near Martinville, to Brooklyn; through traffic use Indiana 37 or county road from Mooreville to Indiana 37.

Indiana 12—Just west of U. S. 27, 2½ miles over Indiana 12.

Indiana 218—From Delphi to Camden, 11 miles over Indiana 218 and county of Marion. Indiana 218—From Marion to Muncie, about 24 miles over county road and Indiana 218.

Indiana 714—From U. S. 41 through Kingman, 7½ miles over U. S. 41 and Indiana 229—From Muncie to Marion, 28 miles over Roads 135 and 44.

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