

who used the name of Wagner, whom I had met at Communist Party functions on many occasions during the year 1933-1934. He approached me in January, of 1934, and asked me to go to Moscow, Russia, on behalf of the party. He was in this country for the purpose of seeing the instructions of the Comintern were carried out and that American members of the Communist Party followed his instructions. The Central Committee of the Communist Party made the arrangements for me to go to Moscow, and I went over there with a man by the name of William Schneidermann, District Secretary of the Communist Party of California. **He was going over there as an American representative of the Comintern, and I was going over for the purpose of being the equivalent at the Red International Labor Union.**

'For a short time after I went to Moscow I was what they call a referant from the American party to the Red International of Labor Unions; in other words, sort of a junior representative for I was later named as a regular American representative from the American party to the Red International of Labor Unions, and I was then the highest authority in Moscow from America representing the Communist Party and the trade union movement in America. There were similar representatives from scores of other countries there also, all pertaining to the labor movement work, which was being directed from Moscow. **There is one Communist Party in the world and only one, and that is the World Communist Party, and it is only a myth if they try to tell the American people that the Communist Party of the United States has no connection with the Communist Party of Russia.**

Managing Editor of Communist Paper

'I worked in Russia until the fall of 1935 and returned in November of that year and had as a traveling companion Mr. William Z. Foster. I was assigned then to do some work in the district headquarters of the Communist Party in New York where I worked for some five to six weeks, and then the party sent me out to San Francisco as **managing editor of Western Worker, which at that time was the Pacific coast organ of the Communist Party. It took in Seattle as well as San Francisco. That same paper is now known as the People's World and is a daily paper.**

'Then about August of 1937 I was transferred to Seattle, Washington, to become editor of the Timber Worker, and while in that capacity I at first got the paper out in the office of Morris Rapport, District Secretary of the Communist Party for the Northwest whose office was in Seattle. Shortly after coming to Seattle I was made educational director for the Northwest district of the Communist Party. That took in the States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. My duties were such that I worked very closely with Mr. Rapport as our official functions covered approximately the same area. As educational director or "agit prop" as it is sometimes referred to, it was necessary for me to go about to different unit and fraction meetings of the Communist Party. Also to confer with Communist Party workers at Mr. Rapport's office. In fact, I attended many different unit meetings of the Communist Party. And as a result I met and became acquainted with many of the leading Communists of the Seattle, Washington, area.

Knew Seven Professors and Three Officials of Repertory Playhouse as Communists

'As an illustration I know that there was a unit of the Communist Party operating in which a number of University of Washington instructors and

employees attended. **I remember that in September of 1937 I attended a Communist Party meeting held at the home of Professor Melville Jacobs whom I understand is still a professor at the University. I have seen Professors Joseph Butterworth, Harold Eby, H. J. "Scoop" Phillips in the office of Morris Rapport, district organizer of the Communist Party, in the Empire Building in Seattle, at which Communist Party business was discussed and at which discussions I would from time to time participate. This business was of such a nature that it would not have been discussed in their presence had they not been members of the Communist Party.**

'By reason of using the office with Morris Rapport and conducting the business of the Communist Party so far as the newspaper I was editing was concerned, I had discussions with the officers of the Communist Party at that time and had official knowledge of the fact that **Professors Garland Ethel, Joseph Cohen, and Ralph Gundlach were members of the Communist Party, and discussions of their membership and assignments were held before me and in their presence from time to time. I also had the same knowledge of the Communist Party membership of Florence Bean James and Burton James and Al Ottenheimer, now of the Repertory Playhouse. Their Communist Party membership was officially discussed at Communist Party headquarters and was discussed in such a manner that there was left no room for doubt concerning their membership in the Communist Party.**

'I left the Communist Party in the latter part of 1939 and have had nothing to do with their activities since that date.

'I have read the above affidavit consisting of three pages, and thoroughly understand the matters and things contained therein. These statements are made by me of my own free will and accord, without promise of remuneration or reward of any nature and without duress or threat of violence.'

Signed, Nat Honig

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 14th day of July, 1948 by one H. V. DeLong, Notary Public in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California."

Chairman Canwell Instructs Professor Phillips and John Caughlan

MR. HOUSTON: Professor Phillips is now here with counsel, is that correct?

PROFESSOR HERBERT J. PHILLIPS, having been previously sworn, resumed the stand for further examination.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you be seated, Mr. Caughlan?

MR. CAUGHLAN: Mr. Chairman, may I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you be seated, and we will give you some instructions here, and we will expect you to comply. If you are unwilling to comply with the procedure of this hearing, then we will dispense with your presence.

Mr. Phillips was sworn, I believe.

MR. HOUSTON: I would prefer that he be sworn.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will do that in a moment.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: Now, before being sworn, there are certain legal objections to my appearing here that I would like to have—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You will be sworn, or refuse to be sworn, and that's the way we will do it.

MR. CAUGHLAN: Mr. Chairman—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Caughlan, will you be seated, and we—

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I be—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: —we will tell you what you can do.

MR. CAUGHLAN: —advised of the procedure, because I want to know.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You will be advised of the procedure after this man is sworn.

PROFESSOR HERBERT J. PHILLIPS, having again been sworn, assumed the stand for examination and testified as follows:

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The procedure followed here will be that you may freely counsel with your attorney, quietly. There will be no speeches made in this hearing room by counsel for any witness. We will expect you to respond to the questions of the Committee, and we will consider any refusal to do so, to respond to those questions, as a refusal to testify; and we want you to please be advised accordingly, and with that understanding that your position with your counsel here is that you may counsel with him as to whether or not to answer, but we are not interested in any speeches or declarations. We merely want the answers to certain questions which this Committee feels we are authorized to ask. Those questions will be, in our opinion, proper and you will be given opportunity to respond to those questions and only those questions.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: May I ask a question? May I be allowed to elaborate on my answers, as the previous witnesses have been allowed to?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will let you within reasonable bounds, respond to the questions of the Committee, but first you must answer directly, the questions which we have reasons for asking.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I make inquiry as to procedure?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may do so.

MR. CAUGHLAN: All right. I want, first, to inquire whether certain legal objections to Mr. Phillips' appearance here may be stated to the Committee.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No statements as to objections concerning his appearance here will be accepted, and any position you have here will be merely as a counselor to your client and not to the hearing or to the audience.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May he—my second inquiry is may Mr. Phillips then at the outset of this inquiry, state his legal objections to his appearance here, before being required to testify?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, he will not. We are not going to debate the issue of the legality of this Committee or its processes. That may be done elsewhere; and at present, you will be confined to the instructions given, and from here on in we will expect you to comply precisely with those instructions. Now, if you will be seated, we will proceed with the hearing.

MR. CAUGHLAN: I have a third question to ask.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You will ask no more questions. We are not going to go on with any ridiculous procedure here. You will either comply with the instructions of the Committee or you will be removed. Now, let's understand that for good. Are you going to comply? You are going to comply with the procedure here, or you are not going to be here.

MR. CAUGHLAN: I haven't even had a chance to talk with him.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may advise him as—whether or not to answer, and that is all you may advise him in this hearing. Now, with that understanding, we will proceed; otherwise, you will be removed.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I advise with him right now?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Yes, and quietly.

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask you, Mr. Phillips, as you answer questions, that you answer audibly and not with a nod or a gesture, as the proceedings are being recorded. I will also ask you if, for the record's sake, when you come to an unusual name that you be kind enough to spell it, if you will.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: May I make the statement that I am making these replies all on my own, that I haven't had time to have thorough consultation with counsel, so I'm not making my replies on advice of counsel.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Okeh, go ahead.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you wish to advise further with your counsel before testifying?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: No.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you feel it's—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, I think we will proceed.

Professor Phillips Refuses to Answer

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: Herbert J. Phillips.

MR. HOUSTON: Of what city are you a resident?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: Seattle, Washington.

MR. HOUSTON: How long have you lived in the City of Seattle?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: My last residence is eighteen years.

MR. HOUSTON: What is your occupation, Mr. Phillips?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: Teacher at the University.

MR. HOUSTON: What university?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: University of Washington.

MR. HOUSTON: How long have you taught at the University of Washington?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: The same number of years, eighteen years, the last session. I taught there for eighteen years this last session.

MR. HOUSTON: Where were you born, Mr. Phillips?

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: Rapid City, South Dakota. November 14, 1891.

MR. HOUSTON: **Mr. Phillips, I will ask you if you are, or have you ever been, a member of the Communist Party.**

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: **For conscience—conscience sake, and political sake, I refuse to answer the question.**

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Put the question to Mr. Phillips again.

I wish to advise you, too, Mr. Phillips, that your failure to respond, to answer this question, will be considered by the Committee a refusal to testify, and will be the termination of your testimony before this Committee.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I state—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, you may—you may speak to your client quietly, but you may state nothing for the hearing.

MR. HOUSTON: **Mr. Phillips, I will ask you if you are, or have you ever been, a member of the Communist Party.**

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: I must say that in light of the testimony that has previously been given, that I would regard it a violation of my principles, a violation of what I regard to be the most sacred—

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, . . . is attempting to make a speech, and not responsive, and that he be instructed to answer the question "yes" or "no."

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I will place—I will place the question, with the instruction that it may be answered by "yes" or "no," and I wish to advise you that on your failure to respond to the question of this Committee, that we will take proceedings to have you punished for contempt of the Legislature, in refusing to answer that question.

Now, I will ask you, Mr. Phillips, if you have, if you are or have ever been, a member of the Communist Party.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS: I will not answer that question.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Step aside.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You aren't saying anything in here, and you may proceed directly from the hearing room. Now, we do not care to go into this question of the witness' contempt under your instructions.

Now, if you will remove yourself from the room, you will save us the trouble.

You have no client on the stand now. We will hold you in contempt in a moment, if you continue your obstinate attitude.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, we have a—we have a very heavy schedule this afternoon, and I would suggest, if it meets with the approval of the Committee, that we recess now for lunch, and that we convene promptly at two o'clock.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will now be in recess until two o'clock this afternoon.

(Noon Recess)

TESTIMONY OF HOMER HUSON

Former State Secretary, Old Age Pension Union

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The hearing will be in session.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Huson, will you take the witness stand, please?

HOMER HUSON, called as a witness, after being first duly sworn was examined and testified as follows:

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Huson, I think you were not here this morning, and in answering the questions, they are being recorded and will you speak directly into the microphones and answer your questions audibly rather than with gesture in order that we can get them down.

MR. HUSON: I will.

MR. WHIPPLE: Will you state your name, please.

MR. HUSON: Homer Huson.

MR. WHIPPLE: Where do you live, Mr. Huson?

MR. HUSON: 6024—my address at the present time is 151 21st Avenue.

MR. WHIPPLE: Seattle?

MR. HUSON: Seattle.

MR. WHIPPLE: How long have you lived in the state of Washington?

MR. HUSON: I was born in Seattle.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Huson, what former connection, if any, did you have with the Washington Old Age Pension Union?

MR. HUSON: I was the Executive Secretary and also the Vice-president from '37 to '39.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Huson, I'll ask you if you have ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MR. HUSON: Yes.

MR. WHIPPLE: As a member of the Communist Party, Mr. Huson, I'll ask if you ever had occasion to sit in any of the fraction meetings of the Communist Party where other Communist Party members met from different organizations.

MR. HUSON: Many.

MR. WHIPPLE: How often would you meet in those fraction meetings over the years that you have represented?

MR. HUSON: I'm—couldn't count the number of times, they are too numerous.

MR. WHIPPLE: Well, as often as once every two weeks, one week, or how often?

MR. HUSON: I would say on an average of maybe twice a week.

MR. WHIPPLE: Now, do you have reference to fraction meetings at which Communist Party members were in attendance?

MR. HUSON: Only.

MR. WHIPPLE: Only Communist Party members were in attendance. Thank you sir.

MR. WHIPPLE: Now, did you ever attend any fraction meetings of the Communist Party where there were any professors of the University of Washington present?