

that we—that Communists must all unite on and fight on. The instructions were unite the people around their needs. First, pension. Aid to dependent children. Medical aid. Now all of those things are good things for those of us who are for them, but the Communist Party's insid—insidious idea is to unite people around them and then control them for political action.

Q. Take a certain cause and get control of the people and use their group funds for something else?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. Well has that—was that done with the Pension Union?

A. That was done to the Pension Union. And all these other groups as well.

Q. Does the Party—all—Communist Party also use these front organizations for the purposes of raising money?

A. Yes. Many large meetings were held in the Senator Auditorium and the other—Moose Hall and several other auditoriums, and big collections and pledges were taken and what became of the money, no one ever knows. But Mr. N. P. Atkinson could tell what became of a lot of it.

(Laughter)

Q. In your testimony you have testified that Mr. Jesse Epstein was a—

A. Member of our unit.

Q. That is the Jesse Epstein—

A. That's the Jesse Epstein who is head of the housing committee here.

Q. Is he here now, or—

A. I don't know. He was.

Q. That's the Federal Public Housing Administration?

A. Federal Public Housing Administration.

Q. And you met with him on more than one occasion?

A. I met with him at the home of Mr. Gundlach—not Mr. Gundlach, Mr. John Caughlan pardon me—at a meeting of our closed unit.

Q. I believe that is all, Mrs. Eldredge. Thank you.

(Witness Excused)

MR. HOUSTON: Chairman Canwell, I have one more witness today who has come from a great distance.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think we had better proceed if we are going to run over we had better go on.

(Discussion by the Committee)

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Cadle, will you take the witness stand, please.

W. W. CADLE, having been duly sworn, testified on direct examination as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHIPPLE:

Q. Will you identify yourself, please.

A. Wilbert W. Cadle.

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Cadle?

A. Olympia.

Q. State of Washington?

A. Yeah, I believe it is.

Q. Mr. Cadle, how long have you lived in the State of Washington?

A. Since '21.

Q. Mr. Cadle, I will ask you to state whether or not you have ever been a member of the Communist Party?

A. I have.

Q. Do you remember, Mr. Cadle, under what name you were a member of the Communist Party?

A. Robert Whitting I think it was, if I remember right.

Q. Do you remember why your name was—for the Communist Party—was given as Whitting?

A. No, only it was customary—supposed to be.

Q. Mr. Cadle, I will ask you if a Communist Party membership book was ever issued to you?

A. How's that?

Q. I will ask you if a Communist Party membership book was ever issued to you.

A. Oh yes.

Q. Would you recognize that book if I presented it to you at this time?

A. I certainly think I could.

Q. I hand you what I will ask the Chairman to identify as—mark as an exhibit, a book. I will ask you to state, if you will please, what that is.

A. That's the book I had, yes.

Q. Thank you.

MR. WHIPPLE: If it please the Chairman of the Committee, I would like to introduce this as an exhibit and have it so marked.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will be admitted and marked as Exhibit No. 11.

MR. WHIPPLE: I would like to use it at this time.

Q. This appears to be a 1938 membership book No. 88588, bearing name, William Whitting, W-h-i-t-t-i-n-g, State, Washington, District, 12, County, King, City, Seattle, Section MAL, with the name Rappaport stamped across the front page. Mr. Cadle, I call your attention to certain stamps in the interior portion of the book and will ask you to state if you know what those are?

A. Those are membership stamps for dues.

Q. What do those stamps indicate?

A. I'd paid my dues.

Q. They indicate that your dues were paid?

A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Cadle, did you ever have anything to do with the Washington Pension Union?

A. I certainly did.

Q. The Old Age Pension Union? Do you remember a party by the name of O. R. Mundy, or Bill Mundy, as he is commonly referred to?

A. Yes.

Q. Without going into great detail will you tell this committee whether or not you were active in the affairs of the Old Age Pension Union at the time you were a member of the Communist Party?

A. I was.

Transcript of Proceedings of the

Q. How many times have you been in the Communist Party and been out of the Communist Party, Mr. Cadle?

A. Two times I have been in and out.

Q. Mr. Cadle, will you explain to the Committee why you left the Communist Party, or got out of the Communist Party on the first occasion?

A. The first occasion, it was prior to the first meeting of the Washington Commonwealth Federation which was held in Tacoma, and I drew up a statement covering the needs of the aged at that time, to—for the purpose of having it distributed at the door of that convention. The matter was presented to the local unit of the Communist Party and approved and word was sent up to Seattle here to Mr. Rapport, Rapport or Rappaport, and he hot-footed it down there and a meeting of the Communist organization was called in the home of Bob Grimes in Tacoma—in Olympia and Mr. Rapport was there and after going through the usual rigamarole of their meetings why I was asked to state what I was trying to do. So I read the item, and Mr. Rapport, after hearing it says, "Don't have anything more to do with that. Leave all those things to us. You tend to things down here."

Q. When was this, Mr. Cadle?

A. This was without giving any reason at all for it. It so irked my Americanism, though I was born in England, that I simply decided I wasn't going to remain in the Party anymore. So I sent in my resignation, and then I was notified by the Party that I couldn't resign—that I would have to be expelled if I was going to leave the Party.

Well, I thought it was a bit of a joke, so I didn't pay much attention to it until I was asked if I would mind attending a meeting of the Party to go over the matter. I said, "Certainly not." So they met in the home of a man by the name of Art Mix, whose wife, I believe, is quite active in the Old Age Pension Union at the present time in Olympia, and she was for a while the organizer of the Communist Party there in Olympia. And at that meeting why they expelled me and said they were going to report the matter to the Daily Worker in New York. It seemed to me rather strange why they didn't report it right there in Olympia where I was known, instead of in New York where I was unknown, so I drew up a statement, a very brief statement, and took it down to Fred Chitty, who was at that time manager of the Daily Olympian, and asked him if he would have it printed, in which I stated my reasons for leaving the Communist Party, and it was printed in the paper and consequently I simply as far as the publication was concerned. I wanted it known where I was known, instead of where I wasn't known.

Q. Now that's the occasion of your leaving the Communist Party the first time?

A. Yes.

Q. Now what year was that?

A. That was—if I remember right it was about '36.

Q. Back in '36?

A. Yes.

Q. Then you again re-entered the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

Q. Well now, going back just a little bit, who recruited you in the Communist Party in the first place?

A. A man by the name of Oscar Allison.

Q. Where did he live?

A. He lives in Olympia, or just outside Olympia.

Q. Now, going back again to this man O. R. "Bill" Mundy that you said you know—that you knew, rather, did he ever have any conversation with you about your work in the Pension Union?

A. Yes.

Q. What was that conversation?

A. The conversation was he came to me and said, "Do you know, Cadle, why the work you are doing doesn't seem to be appreciated out here?" I wasn't a member of the Communist Party at that time. I said, "No, I don't know." He said, "Would you like to know?" I said, "All right, if you want to tell me." He said, "Because you are not a member of the Communist Party."

Q. Did he say that he was a member of the Communist Party?

A. He didn't say so. He told me at other times.

Q. At other times. But he did tell you that the reason your work was not appreciated in the Pension Union was because you were not a member of the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, that was before you joined the first time?

A. No, that was before I joined the second time.

Q. Before you joined the second time, thank you. Now, when did you join the second time?

A. That was as near as I can recall, in '37.

Q. And did anybody either recruit you or help you get back in the second time?

A. Well, when he told me that, my sole interest at all times, even when I was a member of the Party the first time, was to help the aged, in their difficulties. I might state here, because I think it bears on the subject, that I was the first state organizer for the Pension Union—was so for about over a year. I always argued that the best way to make the Pension Union grow properly—I didn't understand then that the Pension Union was controlled by the Communists—that was to take hold of the cases that were presented to us for help, and carry them through in the—through the regular channels, the county departments and through the state departments and into the courts. But they didn't agree to that. That was to be only a secondary proposition, and the idea was to build up new units of the Pension Union and get membership and get the money in. So to stop the work that I had been doing and was finally demoted perhaps you might call it, to the position of investigator they named it, but looking after such things down there in Olympia, in the State Department and in the records well, which I did, to a very large extent.

Q. Who took your place, Mr. Cadle, when you were demoted?

A. They didn't have a state organizer after that. But—

Q. How did you get back in the Party the second time?

A. Well, after Mr. Mundy said this to me as I have already stated, I went to Bill Pennock. I said, "Mr. Pennock, do you think I could be of any more use to the old people of the state if I was a member of the Communist Party again?" He said, "Yes, Mr. Cadle, I think you would."

Q. Pardon me. Now when was that conversation had with Bill Pennock?

A. 1937, if I recall right.

Q. Where was that conversation had, do you remember?

A. In the offices of the Old Age Pension Union.

Q. Here in Seattle?

A. In Seattle.

Q. Do you recall anybody being present besides yourself and Mr. Pennock?

A. No, I don't.

Q. All right, as the result of Mr. Pennock's advice to you, what did you do?

A. He stated to me, said, "If you wish to join again I would like to have the privilege of presenting your name because," he said, "there is a contest going on and the one that gets the most new members would go back to the plenum in New York."

Q. The person that got the most members would go back to the plenum in New York?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know if—did you learn later who was sent back?

A. No, I didn't.

Q. Well, do you know a man by the name of Al Bristol?

A. I have met him a number of times.

Q. Do you know whether or not Al Bristol was a member of the Communist Party or not?

A. Certainly he was.

Q. Why do you say that?

A. Well, he came down there from the Communist Party headquarters here to see that everything was being run straight down there.

Q. Did you have a son, Mr. Cadle, by the name of Wilbert Ed Cadle?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether or not he had been recruited into the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

Q. Who recruited him into the Communist Party?

A. I don't know just who recruited him in, but you were speaking of Al Bristol?

Q. Yes.

A. Al Bristol came down there and wanted to know if I would give my consent because the boy was under age, of becoming section organizer.

Q. Section organizer, now, what of?

A. Of the Communist Party.

Q. When did that take place?

A. That was in—in '36, I judge, around there.

Q. Did your son become such a section organizer?

A. He did.

Q. As the result of becoming a section organizer, was it necessary for him to attend the Communist Party school?

A. He came to the Communist Party School. He attended that for the period they required.

Q. Where did he attend the Communist Party School?

A. Here in Seattle.

Q. Mr. Cadle, all during the time that you were actively identified with the Old Age Pension Union, who controlled the Old Age Pension Union?

A. Well, the bell sheep at first was Howard Costigan, of course.

Q. Then who next?

A. Then—he was the bell sheep. Mr. Sullivan was the president. I think the Communists in the organization got dissatisfied with Mr. Sullivan—now this is surmised on my part—and I know a number of the old people attending a convention of the Pension Union approached me, headed by Mr. Giberson, and wanted to know if I wouldn't run for president of the organization against Mr. Sullivan, and I said, "No, I am going to vote for Mr. Sullivan. You can keep my name off."

Q. When did the Communist Party take over the Old Age Pension Union if they did take it over, to your knowledge?

A. Candidly, I couldn't set a date for it at all.

Q. Would you say that they subsequent—that subsequent to Mr. Sullivan's administration that they did take it over?

A. Oh, yes, quite evident.

Q. For how many years would you say that the Old Age Pension Union or the Washington Pension Union, as it subsequently became, has been controlled by the Communist Party?

A. Well, it was controlled—the organization was controlled prior to the initiative in 1941—in 1940, I would say, Initiative No. 141.

Q. Has it been controlled by the Communist Party ever since?

A. The evidence is to that effect, yes.

Q. Is the same William Pennock who is the president of the Washington Pension Union today the same William Pennock that got you back into the Pension Union movement—and back into the Communist Party?

A. So far as I know. I never knew of any change in it.

Q. Now, I would like to ask you that during—this question: During your activity in the Old Age Pension Union, did any of the regular old people—now I mean by that, pensioners as such, control the affairs of the Pension Union?

A. They were controlled from the top, down.

Q. What do you mean by that?

A. I mean that what is decided up at their so-called meetings which they used to hold monthly, that was what you had to abide by.

Q. Now you refer to these meetings—what meetings were they? That's the thing I want to get over here.

A. They were meetings of the Pension Union and subsequently the board meetings.

Q. And since 1940 to the present date, as I understand, it is your testimony it has been under the control of persons active in the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know a person by the name of Flora King? K-i-n-g?

A. I do. A very nice young lady—middle aged lady.

Q. Did you know Flora King's father, prior to his death?

A. Very well.

- Q. Did you ever have a conversation with Mr. King relative to his daughter, Flora King?
- A. Mr. King?
- Q. Yes. Did you ever have a conversation with her?
- A. I didn't know Mr. King.
- Q. Did you ever have a conversation with Flora King?
- A. Well, I talked with her a number of times, yes.
- Q. Well, do you know whether or not Flora King is a member of the Communist Party?
- A. Only from her father's say-so. She was an undercover member.
- Q. She was an undercover member?
- A. Yes. The meetings used to frequently be held in her home.
- Q. Now did she take any part or activity in the Pension Union?
- A. Not openly, no, not then.
- Q. Did she take any—
- A. Since then, she has been.
- Q. Since then she has? For how many years has she been interested in Old Age Pension?
- A. Well, it was—through her father and mother, practically from the start of the pension.
- Q. Did you ever attend any Communist Party meetings at her home?
- A. Oh, yes.
- Q. Do you know Terry Pettus?
- A. Yes.
- Q. He is present editor of the New World?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know whether or not he is a member of the Communist Party?
- A. I don't know. I couldn't say definitely.
- Q. Do you know his father, Ed Pettus—
- A. Yes.
- Q. —who lives in Tacoma?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know whether or not he is a member of the Communist Party?
- A. I do not.
- Q. Is there any other material fact, Mr. Cadle, whether I have mentioned it or not, that you think of at this time that would be material to this investigation?
- A. It might be regarding my leaving the Communist Party the second time.
- Q. I would appreciate your making a brief statement to the Committee as to why you left the Communist Party the second time.
- A. The Initiative 141 was up for—to be drafted, just contemplated first of all. At the first meeting to consider that—an open meeting, the entire organization, I think it was in the Moose Hall, if I am not mistaken, that I prepared tickets, 600 of them, and placed them around on every seat, stating my idea that the surest way to \$40 in '40 was by initiative. I was heartily in favor of that.

- Q. Now, you—
- A. Condi—conditions were such that it was practically impossible for them to live on less than that. I was appointed as a member of the—what they called the legal committee for drafting that initiative. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Huson here were both on that committee. I argued the whole way through that the extra cost it was to be to the taxpayers of the state should be stated plainly, not necessarily as the method of raising it, but the tax that it would cost. I went into several huddles with the State Department and with the Attorney General's office and with the Tax Commission on the matter. There was no way of meeting that \$40 a month it was evident, excepting by an increase in the sales tax. The Pension Union was plainly bitterly opposed to a sales tax. They refused to state what it was going to cost or how it could be raised, or anything else. The initiative had to go through without any such statement. In other words, to hoodwink the people—
- Q. Now—
- A. —of the state.
- Q. Now, who said that?
- A. I said it. And I told them that when they said that if any such addition was put in the initiative they said that it would kill the initiative. Well I said I would sooner go down to defeat on an honest measure than I would to succeed under a dishonest one.
- Q. What was the result of that statement of yours?
- A. The result was that they didn't pay any heed to what I stated was right, and just, and the consequence was I dropped out of the Pension Union and the Communist Party at the same time.
- Q. You refer to the word "they." Now who did you refer to? You said, "they" didn't pay any attention to what—
- A. The Pension Union, the legal committee, so-called.
- Q. That's the time you dropped out of the Communist Party the second time?
- A. I wrote in my resignation immediately when they didn't—failed to put it into the Union.
- Q. Do you remember when that was?
- A. That was in '40.
- Q. Have you been in the Communist Party any since then?
- A. I have not.
- CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Whipple, will you clarify one point. I understood him to say that he knew Miss King but did not know her father and had not talked with him, and then stated that he knew his daughter was a Communist because the father said so. I would—
- MR. WHIPPLE: I think maybe Mr. Cadle misunderstood me.
- Q. You knew Miss Flora King's father, didn't you?
- A. Oh, yes.
- Q. Now—
- A. Now I said—her father, not her husband.
- Q. I am referring now to her father.
- A. Yes. That was Mr. Slover.
- Q. Yes, Mr. Slover. Flora King was her maiden name?
- A. No, her married name.

Q. Her married name, all right. Now, then it was Mr. Slover, Flora King's father, who told you about her membership in the Communist Party?

A. Yes.

MR. WHIPPLE: Is that clear now? If it please the Chairman, I think that concludes the testimony of this witness, and as far as I know, this will be the last witness this evening.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Thank you, Mr. Cadle.

(Witness Excused)

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The hearing is adjourned until 9:30 tomorrow morning.

ADJOURNMENT

January 29, 1948, 9:40 o'clock a. m.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: This hearing is now in session. Will you call your first witness?

MANNING JOHNSON, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. HOUSTON:

Q. I will ask you, Mr. Johnson, as you testify that you spell the names of the people the first time you refer to them, so that the record may be absolutely correct. Please state your name.

A. Manning Johnson. Manning, M-a-n-n-i-n-g. Johnson, J-o-h-n-s-o-n.

Q. Where were you born, Mr. Johnson?

A. In Washington, D. C.

Q. Where do you reside, Mr. Johnson?

A. New York City.

Q. Mr. Johnson, I will ask you, are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

A. I was a member of the Communist Party from 1930 to 1940.

Q. Ten years?

A. Ten years.

Q. Mr. Johnson, will you tell us how and where you joined the Communist Party?

A. I joined the Communist Party in Buffalo, New York, in 1930.

Q. Will you detail to us your experiences, the first two or three years in the Communist Party?

A. During the first—during the first two or three years in the Communist Party I was active in a number of organizations. The first organization that I became active in was the Negro Labor Congress. After its abolition I became active in the unemployed councils, and participated.

Q. Can you fix the dates for us, approximately?

A. In 1930 and '31 I was active in the Negro Labor Congress. It was during my activities in the Negro Labor Congress that I was approached by Otto Hall. Otto Hall is spelled O-t-t-o H-a-l-l. He was a graduate of the Lenin School, which is of course in Moscow. He had been especially trained as a professional revolutionist. He speaks English and French very fluently. In fact he taught Russian on one of the Government projects, in New York of course, during the years of the depression.

It was upon his recommendation that I was admitted into the Communist Party. My life in the Party from its very inception was a very stormy one, precisely because I came into the Party with deep religious convictions. There was some question as to whether the Party could accept me because of my religious convictions. The contention at that time was that one would have to divorce himself from religion and all religious ideology in order to be a Communist.

Otto Hall had quite a scrap with the leaders of the Party in the Buffalo district at that time over the issue of my admission. He contended that it was wrong to bar a person from the Communist Party because of his religious views; it was wrong in the sense that they would lose many persons who would render invaluable assistance to the Communist group.

So he recommended that militant workers with deep religious views should be taken into the Communist Party and indoctrinated along different lines. In other words, they were to be taught the Leninist position on religion, they should be given various materials to read, and that discussions should be held with them from time to time for the purpose of rooting out their religious ideas.

His opinion was accepted reluctantly by the Party. I bring that out, incidentally, to show this, that in order to be a good Communist you had to be an atheist, and it was quite the—quite an important decision for me to make at that time, because having been reared in a profoundly religious home and having been—having gone to church every Sunday during my youth, it was a decision that was not easy to make.

But finally, after much persuasion, I finally agreed to string along with them.

Q. Mr. Johnson, did you receive any instruction or training in the Communist Party?

A. Before we go into that I would like to further elaborate on this religious idea, because that's something that's very dear to my heart because I feel that as a result of my experiences there, I lost something that I am now seeking to regain.

As I said before, they finally agreed to admit me to the Party, regardless of my religious views. However, whenever I went to speak at meetings and during the course of my speech, I would use such expressions as "With the help of God," or, "So, help us, God." The Communists would sit there and sneer. They would look upon me and treat me with contempt. The only one that was sympathetic toward me at that time was the party that recommended me for admission to the Communist Party.

They gave me various literature to read, such as "Lenin on Religion." In this book Lenin speaks of the atheistic character of Communism, and the ultimate aim of the Communist Party to completely destroy the church and root out all remnants of religion. He characterizes religion as the opiate of the people. As you know, they have conducted, even at the present time before our very eyes, a consistent and persistent struggle against the Catholic Church.

Among the many books against religion that I was given to read, was especially two volumes by a former bishop. This—these books were considered "must" reading by every Communist. He was a bishop that left the church and became an atheist, and he wrote a number of pamphlets and books on the bankruptcy of supernaturalism. That was Bishop Brown,