

TESTIMONY OF PROFESSOR GARLAND ETHEL Teacher of English

PROFESSOR GARLAND ETHEL, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. HOUSTON:

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The record will show that Mr. Henry is appearing as counsel for Professor Garland Ethel.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please—you have heard the instructions given the other witnesses, haven't you, Doctor?

DR. ETHEL: Yes. Yes, sir. I will sit where the "mike" will pick it up.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

DR. ETHEL: Garland Ethel.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you a resident of the City of Seattle?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: I have heard you referred to as Professor Ethel, and Dr. Ethel. Which is correct, now?

DR. ETHEL: Well, both terms. One is—indicates just a degree, and the other is an academic rating.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, I meant that you have your Ph. D.

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Fine. What is your occupation, Dr. Ethel?

DR. ETHEL: I'm a teacher of English Literature at the University of Washington.

MR. HOUSTON: How long have you been employed in such a capacity, Doctor?

DR. ETHEL: I served as a teaching fellow from 1924 until 1927, when I became a full-fledged member of the faculty. I was there from 1927 to 1930. I was absent for three years, and I returned in 1933 and I have been steadily employed since 1933 at the University of Washington, except for an interim of almost four years while I was away in military service.

MR. HOUSTON: Where were you from 1930 to 1933?

DR. ETHEL: Most of that time I was in California, in the Bay District, and taught at San Francisco State Teachers College, and subsequent to my resignation from that post, I went to Europe; and was gone from the end of May until the end of December, 1932, when I returned to New York.

DR. ETHEL: Did you visit Russia during that period of time?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: How long did you spend in Russia? How long were you there?

DR. ETHEL: From the latter part of July until the early part of December.

MR. HOUSTON: That's 1932.

DR. ETHEL: 1932, yes, sir.

Admits Communist Party Membership

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, I will ask you, are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

DR. ETHEL: I am not a member of the Communist Party, but I have been a member of the Communist Party.

MR. HOUSTON: When did you join the Communist Party, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: 1934.

MR. HOUSTON: When did you cease your association with the Communist Party, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: The end of 1941. I can't tell you precisely when, but it was late in 1941.

MR. HOUSTON: Who recruited you into the Communist Party, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: I did.

MR. HOUSTON: You recruited yourself in.

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: How did you? Will you explain just how you did it?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir. I went down to local headquarters in Seattle in the early summer of 1934, had several conferences there with officials, and finally decided to join. No one asked me to.

MR. HOUSTON: What officials did you have conferences with, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: I think Morris Rapport was the chief then, and there was a tall young fellow whom I never heard called anything but Mac.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, did you go to Russia a second time, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: No, sir. I was only there once.

MR. HOUSTON: Only there once.

DR. ETHEL: That's right, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you attend meetings while you were a member of the Communist Party, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, of course.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you belong to a unit, or—of the Communist Party?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you recall what unit that was that you belonged to?

DR. ETHEL: Well, it was the one, I presume, that was referred to here most of the time in this testimony, it was a unit in the University District.

MR. HOUSTON: University District. Who was the chairman of that unit, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: It had no regular chairman.

MR. HOUSTON: It had intermittent chairmen. Do you recall anybody that ever presided as chairman?

DR. ETHEL: Only myself that I could ever remember—could say. I remember I had presided.

MR. HOUSTON: You had presided. Where did this unit meet, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: Oh, all over. That means a great many places. No fixed and determined regular—

MR. HOUSTON: Homes of different members of the unit, is that right?

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Had they met in your home?

DR. ETHEL: I don't believe so, although they might have. You see, the explanation for that is, sir, that I lived in a small apartment, it was so small in fact that it would scarcely accommodate several people.

MR. HOUSTON: You got out of having meetings in your apartment because of that, then.

DR. ETHEL: Well, maybe that isn't the most accurate term, "got out of" but at least so far as I can remember there were no meetings there.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, doctor, did you receive a card in the Communist Party?

DR. ETHEL: I did in my very earliest days.

MR. HOUSTON: In your early days.

DR. ETHEL: Early days, but those cards were taken up and I never saw one after that.

MR. HOUSTON: Were you given an alias?

DR. ETHEL: No, sir, I wasn't given one. In so far as it was somewhat the custom to have a name to which reference could be made without using persons' names in too free a manner, I used to use the name Johnson.

MR. HOUSTON: Johnson. Do you recall the first name?

DR. ETHEL: There was none.

MR. HOUSTON: The card was made out "Johnson."

DR. ETHEL: I was just Johnson.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, doctor, about how many people usually attended these unit meetings that you mentioned?

DR. ETHEL: Oh, anywhere from a half a dozen to a dozen, I think, perhaps never more than that.

MR. HOUSTON: How often were these meetings held?

DR. ETHEL: That depended upon the circumstances, how much work there was to be done, but it would be reasonably accurate to say once a week for a considerable period. Not less frequently, because—well, if you want the explanation I will tell you why. Do you have any interest?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, I am very interested.

DR. ETHEL: Too much time was spent on me. Too much time on me but not enough on getting things done. That explains it.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, who were some of the other members of your unit, doctor?

DR. ETHEL: I will, Mr. Houston, with your permission, I would like to recall our private conversation, a conference downstairs.

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, go right ahead.

DR. ETHEL: Yes. Well, you will recall, then, and check me carefully, sir, as I asked Mr. Pomeroy to do that day when I talked with you. I said, "So far as my behavior is concerned, I consider that adult and responsible. I take full consequences for everything I've done anytime in my life, and in so far as my behavior is concerned, I am completely willing to talk unreservedly about myself." Now I should like to make one amendment, in what there—in relation to what I said to you.

At the time we had our conversation in your office, I declined to answer the questions as to past membership, and you will remember Mr. Pomeroy asked "why, do you decline?" I said, "It is based on a technical question, a question of constitutional law, and that's all," and it's my concern with that question that made me give that answer.

Well, since listening to the chairman's instructions in this committee, and to the way the meetings are to be conducted, I see that that is not an admissible

procedure, and so I shan't take that position here at all. Anything you ask me about me, I will answer with complete disclosure.

Now I should like to continue—if I talk too fast, sir, stop me—I should like to continue with a statement relative to other persons, as I told you on that occasion.

Quotes Shakespeare

I told you that I was unwilling to name other persons as Communists or possible Communists for two reasons. One is, that I didn't have knowledge about their membership that I consider able to stand up under the rules of evidence, and you told me, "Well, after all, this is not court law, and I admit that," and the other point was that my own particular code of honor forbids that kind of naming persons to their possible injury, but most of all it's a question of living up to my own standard of conduct; and in so far as I am and have long been a teacher of literature, I suppose I might quote you a line that sticks very solidly in my head. It's Polonius to his son, just before his boy goes to Paris: "And this above all," this is the conclusion of the advice that the old counselor gave his son. "And this above all, to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

Now that happens to be my situation; I have a standard of honor, and that standard is not to name other persons, and I told you that would be my position. That is my position, sir.

Refuses to Testify Concerning Associates

MR. HOUSTON: Dr. Ethel, have you ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Harold Eby?

DR. ETHEL: I shall have to decline, sir, on the general rule that I have just announced, that that is not compatible with my code, and if I have your permission, I'll add a word or so there.

MR. HOUSTON: You'll what?

DR. ETHEL: Add a word or two of explanation.

MR. HOUSTON: No, I want the answer to the questions to be responsive.

DR. ETHEL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Joseph Butterworth?

DR. ETHEL: I am going to decline again on the same grounds, sir. It's naming the person. I said I was unwilling to do that.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Ralph Gundlach?

DR. ETHEL: Again, I repeat exactly the same position, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Herbert J. Phillips?

DR. ETHEL: Once more, sir, now I'm sorry to take up the time, but I must decline to answer that on the same grounds.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Joseph Cohen?

DR. ETHEL: Again, sir, I decline to answer the question.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, it is very clear that the witness refuses to answer proper and pertinent questions. I would ask that the Chairman of this Committee submit to the witness the last three questions that I have

asked, if he has ever attended any Communist Party meetings with Joseph Butterworth, Herbert J. Phillips, or Ralph Gundlach.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Let me state that we are specifically interested in obtaining information which we feel we are authorized to elicit; and I will repeat the questions asked by Mr. Houston, as to whether you have attended closed Party meetings with Professor Butterworth, or Professor Phillips, or Professor Gundlach.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I understand.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Do you refuse to answer?

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I decline to answer those questions.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I ask that this witness be excused.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, we will not excuse the witness; we will ask the witness to step aside and remain in attendance until the Committee decides what action to take on your refusal to give testimony in this hearing. You may step aside.

THE WITNESS: Well, may I ask one question of you, sir, a question of permission?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, you may—we will not permit this to go on. Either you will answer the questions, the proper questions of this Committee or the questions we believe to be proper, or you will step aside until we wish to call you to the stand again.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I will ask you to step aside, and remain in attendance until formally released from the subpoena.

(Applause—and also—demonstration.)

Chairman Canwell Again Warns Demonstrators

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: If there are any further demonstrations by the audience, we will ask the State Patrol to remove those participating in said demonstration, and upon removal said demonstrators will remain out of the hearing room during the course of these hearings.

I believe that we will now be in recess for about ten minutes.

(Recess)

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I wish to state again, that we will tolerate no demonstrations. If it becomes necessary to remove demonstrators, that will be done, and in aggravated cases we will ask for the arrest of demonstrators. I do not feel that it should be necessary to make this statement again; and those who may have it in their purview to create a disturbance or a noise, please be advised at this time that we will not tolerate any further displays of that kind.

Will you proceed, Mr. Houston?

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Whipple, will you take the stand?

Will you please stand and be sworn, Mr. Whipple?

JOHN W. WHIPPLE, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

Affidavit of Harold Hippert

BY MR. HOUSTON:

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name, Mr. Whipple?

MR. WHIPPLE: John W. Whipple.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you a resident of the City of Seattle, Mr. Whipple?

MR. WHIPPLE: I am.

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

MR. WHIPPLE: I am the Assistant Chief Investigator for the Washington State Un-American Activities Committee.

MR. HOUSTON: In the performance of your duty, has it become necessary for you to take certain depositions and affidavits of individuals from time to time?

MR. WHIPPLE: It has, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you have any of those in your possession that you feel should be incorporated in this record?

MR. WHIPPLE: At this time I have two. I have others that will probably—should probably appear later.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you proceed with the explanation of why the deposition was necessary?

MR. WHIPPLE: In the first instance, I have the affidavit of one Harold Hippert. Mr. Hippert's name is Harold Hippert, who resides at 4233 Latona Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

At the time this information was obtained in the affidavit, Mr. Hippert was in the process of moving to the State of California; by reason of the expense of bringing him back from the State of California, it was seen advisable to reduce the small bit of testimony that he had to an affidavit.

I will read Mr. Hippert's affidavit.

“State of Washington, County of King, bracket, ss.

“Harold Hippert, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, on oath says:

“My name is Harold Hippert and I reside at 4233 Latona Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

“I am personally acquainted with Professor H. J. Phillips and have known him for several years. He lives down the street from me just a few houses and his address is 4316 Latona. Professor Phillips used to ride to and from work with me during a couple of summers when both of us were working at the shipyards during our vacation. During that period my father-in-law was living next door to him, and on one occasion just prior to the war in 1939 or '40, I had occasion to look through a window in his basement. The vision was clear, as the curtain was pulled back, and I saw on the inner wall of the room a large picture of Joseph Stalin. This particularly interested me at the time and I took a good look at it to be sure of what I saw, because of the fact that I had been curious about him for some time because they had been having weekly gatherings at his home for several months and this continued up, as I remember it, until about the middle of the war. These gatherings would require his bringing in folding chairs for each occasion, and you could see them stacked in the yard before and after each meeting. I never attended any of these meetings.

“I have lived at my present address for the past eight years, and have worked in the Todd Shipyards for approximately twenty-three years, and am at the present time getting ready to move to California, and consequently will not be available to testify before your Committee.

“I have read the above affidavit consisting of one page 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, Edwin Harold Hippert.”

APR 17 1954

Deposition of a Father Concerning His Son

In the next instance, I have a deposition taken of one S. P. Davis, an elderly gentleman, who lives in Burlington, Washington.

When Mr. Davis was contacted, he advised that he had had a partial paralytic stroke, that it was utterly impossible for him to attend such a hearing, and upon contacting his physician I was so advised that to be brought into a hearing of this kind that it would be a matter of endangering his health.

Consequently, the deposition of Mr. S. P. Davis was taken and I shall present it at this time.

STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF SKAGIT

"The witness, S. P. Davis, being first duly sworn, testifies as follows:

MR. WHIPPLE: Will you identify yourself, please?

MR. DAVIS: My name is S. P. Davis. I live at Burlington, Washington, and have lived in this state for 59 years.

MR. WHIPPLE: What relation are you to Phillip Hunt Davis?

MR. DAVIS: I am his father.

MR. WHIPPLE: Was your son, Phillip Hunt Davis, ever employed by the University of Washington?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, he was employed as a teaching fellow at the University of Washington from January 1, 1947, until June 30, 1947.

MR. WHIPPLE: Do you know whether or not your son was ever a Communist?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, he was for several years.

MR. WHIPPLE: In what department at the University was Phillip employed, if you know?

MR. DAVIS: In the Foreign Language Department. He was always good in foreign languages.

MR. WHIPPLE: Going back to the Communist Party, when did it first become apparent to you that your son was getting interested in Communism?

Phillip H. Davis Indoctrinated at Bellingham

MR. DAVIS: Phil first got indoctrinated in Communism during his high school career at Bellingham. He was on the High School debate team. It was about this time that the Young Communist League was functioning so actively at the Normal School at Bellingham, and he joined the Young Communist League in his senior year at high school, and then he went out to the Normal School and became very active in the young folk's branch of the Communist Party out there. He thought he had me in ignorance as to what was going on, but I soon knew from the crowd he was running with, and the kind of speeches he was making to young groups, that he was a goner so far as Communism was concerned. While he was attending the Normal School at Bellingham a Communist Party member told me on several occasions about the good work that Phil was doing in the Communist Party out at the Normal School. I resented all this and tried to talk to Phil about it, but he would always brush me off with some statement to the effect that I wouldn't understand what Communism was about anyway. Finally I became alarmed and went to the Normal School and tried to have a talk with the President of the Normal School, about Phil. That was Charles H. Fisher. He was President then. I complained to him about the activities of these young Communists and

the Communist Party generally there at the Normal School and told him how they were weaning my son away from his home, and from the church and from everything decent, for that matter, and **all the consolation I got out of Fisher was the statement: 'Mr. Davis, some day you will be proud of your boy, he's all right.'**

I have never forgotten that statement when I think back on what happened to him during those years and since then. If I remember correctly, he went to the Normal School at Bellingham during 1929, 1930, and 1931. Then he started getting into trouble because of his Communist Party activity. They were always calling on him to speak somewhere, as he was a good speaker, or they would call on him to help put over some front movement or whatever the line was at the time.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Davis, may I interrupt to ask you if Phil got into any trouble with the authorities during this period because of his Communist Party activities?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, it seems to me that he was always in some kind of trouble because of his activity in the Communist Party.

MR. WHIPPLE: Would you specify any trouble he may have gotten into with the authorities?

MR. DAVIS: Yes. The first I recall was when he was arrested on November 24, 1931, at Bellingham. That specific charge was being a disorderly person and distributing Communist handbills.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Davis, I hand you what has been marked for purposes of identification as Committee's Exhibit"

MR. WHIPPLE: I would like to have a number for this, Mr. Canwell.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The Committee's Exhibit, No. 18. You will mark it No. 18.

MR. WHIPPLE: Thank you, sir.

University Authorities Warned

MR. WHIPPLE: "Mr. Davis, I hand you what has been marked for purposes of identification as Committee's Exhibit 18, the same being a photostatic letter written on the stationery of the Bellingham Police Dept. dated March 7, 1941, and written to August Dvorak."

MR. WHIPPLE: That name is August Dvorak.

"Professor of Education, University of Washington, over the signature of William I. Stone, Stone, Chief of Police, in which he says:

'Re: Philip H. Davis
PD, No. 0639-Bellingham
PD, No. 21070, Seattle

The above subject was arrested by this department November 24, 1931, and charged with Disorderly Person (distributing Communist handbills). The case was dismissed.

The dismissal does not mean he was not guilty. **This man has been in an institution for observation (mental). He has for a number of years been known as a Communist agitator or to use the Communist term "Agit-prop."**

Hoping the information contained herein will prove of some value to you, I remain

Yours truly,
William I. Stone
Chief of Police'

Now, was this the Bellingham arrest you referred to above?

MR. DAVIS: Yes.

MR. WHIPPLE: **Then this arrest and the contents of this letter was known to the University of Washington some six years before he was employed as a teaching fellow out there?**

MR. DAVIS: **That is correct.**

MR. WHIPPLE: Was he ever arrested in any other city because of Communist Party activity that you know of?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, he was arrested here in Seattle in November sometime in 1935 for passing out Communist Party handbills to high school students. He got some kind of a small fine and jail sentence, but appealed the case to a higher court, and like the case over at Bellingham, it was dismissed.

MR. WHIPPLE: I hand you herewith what has been marked for purposes of identification as Committee's Exhibit No."

MR. WHIPPLE: 19?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: 19.

"19, a photostated copy of a letter written to Mr. August Dvorak, Professor of Education, University of Washington, on March 7, 1941, in which Mr. E. W. Yoris,"

MR. WHIPPLE: That's spelled Y-o-r-i-s.

"Chief of Detectives of the Police Department, states:

"Re: Philip Hunt Davis

As requested in your letter of the 3rd, we have checked our records relative to the above-named man and find that he is the same as our local No. 21070, having been arrested on November 11, 1935, for violation of Section 5, Ordinance 32192, **passing out Communistic handbills to high school students.** On November 13, 1935, he was given a \$25.00 fine and 8 days. This sentence was appealed and was dismissed on February 4, 1936."

"He is also the same as Bellingham, Washington No. 639, arrested on November 24, 1931 and charged with vagrancy—a Communist attending Normal School preparing to teach in public schools. This charge was dismissed on February 23, 1932.

We trust that this information will be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

E. W. Yoris

Chief of Detectives'

and I will ask you if that is the Seattle arrest you referred to?

MR. DAVIS: That is correct.

MR. WHIPPLE: **Then this arrest and the contents of this letter were also known to the University of Washington also some six years before he was employed as a teaching fellow out there?**

MR. DAVIS: **That apparently is correct.**

MR. WHIPPLE: Did your son ever preach Communism or expound its doctrine around your home?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, he was continually talking it.

MR. WHIPPLE: Briefly, what was the Communist Party line or doctrine he advocated?

Compelled to Close His Home to His Son

MR. DAVIS: Well, my home was really broken up because of his preaching Communism. He was constantly bringing Communist literature into the

home in an attempt to influence his sister, his mother and all of their friends. He preached the idea that sexual promiscuity was excusable and he tried to influence my daughter and her associates along this line. His idea was that since crime was a violation of law, do away with the law and you will have no crime. Also, that since sin is a violation of the moral code, then do away with the moral code and you will have no sin. He preached this to his sister and her associates, and consequently I could not keep my wife and my daughter under the same roof with him. In fact, it became so bad that finally I had to close my own home in 1930 to my own son. It was something that was hard to do but I had to do it to protect the rest of my family. He would tell me that he was ashamed of me because I would not contribute time and money to Tom Mooney's defense. From 1926 and 1927 he has practically done nothing except promote the activities of the Young Communist League or the Communist Party. Of course, he has also made a meager living since then, but was unable to hold any job for any length of time, all because his mind was more on Communism than on the job at hand. **He bragged about helping organize the Abraham Lincoln Brigade on the University of Washington campus. This was a Communist controlled organization that was sent to Spain to fight in the Spanish Revolution where many of them lie buried even today. He bragged about organizing a Communist group when he attended Whitman College, just after he got out of high school. He also bragged of his activities for the Communist Party while attending the Normal School at Bellingham.**

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Davis, were you yourself ever a member of the Communist Party?

MR. DAVIS: I carried a Communist card for about four months.

MR. WHIPPLE: When and why did you become active in Communist Party affairs?

MR. DAVIS: About 1930 I wanted to find out what was going on and started working for the Communist Party to get the answer. Specifically, I got just as far behind the Communist movement as I could, hoping to find out what it was that would enable them to virtually take my own son away from me. For instance, during the waterfront strike of 1934, I was a special deputy out of the King County Sheriff's Office and during this strike I was spokesman for a Communist from the Communist Party chosen to confer with the Railway Firemen and Engineers as they were going to throw a picket line across their tracks at Pier 40 or 41. During this waterfront strike I overheard Harry Bridges giving directions on the day they held the big mass meeting near Pioneer Square. These conversations were right out in the open—not closed affairs—but I knew, as did everyone else that was there, that he was a Communist Party member because he was directing all the details of this mass meeting, and this mass meeting was called and sponsored by the Communist Party, and the Communist Party lined up and furnished all the speakers that day. So you see for a time I was trying to associate with the biggest party members in this Northwest area. All the time I had hoped to find out what hold they had either physically or mentally on my boy. They finally caught up with me and made it so hot I had to drop out of their movement. By this time I had come to the definite conclusion that there was nothing I could find out or could do that would change Phil's thinking, and it became apparent to me that his mental condition had become affected as a result of Communism. He developed a persecution complex and began showing it in his actions.

Committed to Sedro Woolley

MR. WHIPPLE: In what manner did this mental complex manifest itself?

MR. DAVIS: He got the idea everyone was against him. Just as an illustration, he went in one of the local stores there at home and got angry and threw his shoes in the face of the merchant, swearing and yelling all the time. Later he went into the bank to get waited on and I guess because they were not waiting on him as fast as he thought they should, he got angry and cussed everybody out there at the bank. On another occasion he spit on the new car of one of the guests who was located at the printing plant where he worked. Why he did these things I don't know except that this persecution complex seemed to affect his mind. As a result of these escapades and mental tantrums a few of the business men there at Burlington decided he ought to be sent to a mental institution.

Consequently he was sent to the Northern State Hospital at Sedro Woolley on June 6, 1933. I did not participate in his committal, but I understand he got a fair hearing before the sanity board. The complaint was filed against him by one of the deputy sheriffs. He hadn't been at the mental institution but a few days until all of the Communists in the country started hammering on the governor and superintendent of the hospital to release him. In fact, he was only in the institution about twenty days. The superintendent of the hospital told me that his examination revealed that Phil had a psychopathic personality with episodes of psychosis. On the day he was released there were a bunch of fellows hanging around the hospital demanding that he be turned loose, and I was told they were Communists, and their conversation was the Communist Party line at the time, claiming they represented the unemployed, the employed, farmers and other working class bodies. I was later informed by persons who were in a position to know, that it was a group whose business it was to get members of the Communist Party out of a jam any time they got into one.

The superintendent of the hospital, Mr. Rugge, said they were paroling him to me, and I was working in Bellingham at the time as a salesman and I put him in my car and took him with me to Bellingham and offered to get him a room at Bellingham when he got there, but he said he had friends he could stay with, and I didn't know at that time, but the Communist Party had him billed for a speech that very night. I learned later that he made the speech, and I never saw him from then on except on one or two brief occasions, because he left Bellingham the next day or so and went to Tacoma and got a job with a Communist Party newspaper.

MR. WHIPPLE: Are you familiar with his activities of recent years?

MR. DAVIS: No, except that I understand he was teaching out at the University of Washington during 1947, and I didn't know until recently that he was not still there. I don't visit him any more nor does he visit me. I certainly hate to report to you the things I have reported, but my loyalty to my government comes ahead of anything, so far as I am concerned. My other son wrote me from a battlefield in France during the last World War that if we could see just how the rest of the world was living that we would be proud of America and the fact that we were citizens of the United States, and that it was too bad that we had to go to all this expense and trouble to make the world safe for Communists. This son, Wilbur Davis, gave his life in France in defense of his country and I trust that in reciting these facts it may cause some young man or woman to stop and think before taking up

this Communist philosophy; and it has always been a mystery to me how Phil could get a teaching position at the University of Washington as late as 1947 when his record as a Communist had been so well known for several years. Not only did they have in their possession evidence indicating that he had been arrested for Communist activities in Bellingham and Seattle, but with any kind of investigation on their part, they would have known that he had been committed to Sedro Woolley as well. If there has ever been any adjudication showing him cured of this psychosis they referred to, I have never heard anything about it. All I know is he broke his parole the very first night he had been released to me, and I had no further control over him. I sincerely hope and trust that he will some day get straightened out in his thinking and can yet be of credit to his country that his brother Wilbur was.

MR. WHIPPLE: Thank you, Mr. Davis, that is all."

MR. WHIPPLE: That is the conclusion of the deposition.

MR. HOUSTON: Thank you Mr. Whipple.

MR. CAUGHLAN: May I hand you—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may leave it at the office if you wish or take it up with us at the close of this hearing.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may take this communication, some one from this—(indicating staff at counsel table).

You will desist in passing out literature or press reports or whatever they may be in this hearing. You'll have to do it outside of this hearing.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I—this concludes the witnesses that we have scheduled for today and it is my suggestion that we recess now until tomorrow morning.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will now be in recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning.

(Recess)

(July 21, 1948. 9:30 o'clock A. M.)

Pursuant to adjournment, the hearing was resumed at 9:30 o'clock a. m., July 21, 1948.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The hearing will now be in session, and I wish to again caution against any demonstrations by the audience. I feel, that having been cautioned, if there are demonstrations we will be justified in requesting arrests; because of—of information supplied this Committee, we feel that this admonition is again necessary and I want to state it so that no one will misunderstand, that we will not tolerate any interference with the orderly procedure of this hearing.

A VOICE: Mr. Chairman, may I present an important communication from me and my associates?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may do so in writing.

THE VOICE: May I explain for your record what the subjects of this communication are?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, you may just hand your message to the officers of this Committee, or make some other arrangement. We—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: There will be no speeches in this hearing from the back of the room.

We will not attempt to proceed until we have order.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, due to the demonstration we have just had, I wish to call this witness temporarily for just a few questions, out of order.

George Hewitt Identifies Florence Bean James

GEORGE HEWITT, produced as a witness, after being duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

MR. HEWITT: George Hewitt.

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

MR. HEWITT: New York City.

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

MR. HEWITT: Yes, sir, for eighteen years.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever visited Russia?

MR. HEWITT: Yes, sir, I visited Russia from 1930 to 1934.

MR. HOUSTON: 1930 to 1934, and you worked and taught in Russia, is that right?

MR. HEWITT: I did, yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask you, Mr. Hewitt, if you observed the demonstration that we just had here.

MR. HEWITT: I did.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you recognize the lady that made that demonstration?

MR. HEWITT: Yes, sir, I do.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you know what that lady's name is?

MR. HEWITT: Mrs. James.

MR. HOUSTON: Mrs. James. Where did you first meet Mrs. James?

MR. HEWITT: I met Mrs. James, first, in the Profintern Building in Russia, Moscow.

MR. HOUSTON: You met Mrs. James in the Profintern Building in Moscow, Russia.

MR. HEWITT: First. Secondly, at the Comintern Headquarters, which is known as the Communist International Headquarters.

MR. HOUSTON: Is that also in the City of Moscow?

MR. HEWITT: In the City of Moscow.

MR. HOUSTON: In Russia?

MR. HEWITT: And then thirdly, at a visit of the Lenin School.

MR. HOUSTON: At a visit of the Lenin School. Did you converse with this lady?

MR. HEWITT: It was a sort of a general conversation, in Moscow, Russia.

MR. HOUSTON: A general conversation. Did she inform you, and did you find out from her that she was from the United States?

MR. HEWITT: Yes, sir, we were told that she was one of the "sparks" to be used to develop on the cultural field, agitation for the Soviet Government, in the United States.

MR. HOUSTON: Agitation for the Soviet Government, on the cultural field, in the United States. Uh-huh. Did she admit to you, or did information come into your hands, that she was a member of the American Communist Party?

MR. HEWITT: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I ask that this witness step aside. We intend to use him for some other issues, later. It was just this phase I wanted to put on now.

(Witness Temporarily Excused)

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I wish to state that the witnesses under subpoena, who were caused to be removed from the room, are not excused from attendance at this hearing and must remain on call. Their expulsion from the hearing room does not excuse them from their subpoena.

Mr. Houston, will you call—recall Professor Garland Ethel to the stand?

Professor Ethel Recalled

PROFESSOR GARLAND ETHEL, having been previously sworn, resumed the stand for further examination.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Be seated, Doctor. You were sworn yesterday. I wish to advise you for this Committee, that we are going to again ask you some of the questions we asked yesterday, which you refused to answer. We do so, while at the same time advising you that if you do not testify, do not answer in response to the Committee's questions, that we will take proceedings to have you punished for contempt of the Legislature in refusing to answer these questions.

We want you to be fully advised of the possible penalties for contempt of the Legislature, and with that in mind we are going to again ask you some of the questions that you refused to answer yesterday. Now, I think that I will ask those questions.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Have you ever—?

MR. ETHEL: Excuse me sir, for information. In answering your questions have I permission to say anything more than yes or no?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think that we will expect a direct answer to these questions. We will not—we do not wish any explanations or quotations from Shakespeare or anything of that nature. I think it is within your power to answer yes or no and I think we are proper in asking that you do that on these specific questions.

MR. ETHEL: Sir—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We may proceed beyond that and ask questions and we will try to use discretion there but we are determining a question here of whether you wish to be in contempt of the Legislature or not.

MR. ETHEL: Sir, there is one thing in behalf of my counsel, Mr. Henry, that I would like to have understood. Mr. Henry has advised me fully and I would like to have it understood that he has discharged his completest obligation of counsel and is entirely exonerated from any responsibility for my actions whatsoever. He has given me essentially the same instruction that you have.

Refuses to Answer Questions

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We are very happy to have that go into the record; we presume that counsel is giving you the best possible advice.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Have you or have you not sat in closed party meetings with Ralph H. Gundlach?

MR. ETHEL: I decline to answer that question, sir.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Have you sat in closed party meetings with Herbert J. Phillips?

MR. ETHEL: I decline to answer that question, sir.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Have you sat in closed Communist Party meetings with Professor Harold Eby?

MR. ETHEL: I decline to answer that one, sir.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you step aside? I wish to advise you that the entire—the unanimous opinion of this Committee is that we should cite you for contempt on your refusal to answer these questions. Now, if you will step aside we will—

MR. ETHEL: May I make one request, sir?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may have your counsel—

MR. ETHEL: —state it—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, I think not. You have refused to answer the proper questions of this committee—

MR. ETHEL: Yes, sir, uh—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You will step aside and have nothing more to say in this hearing.

(Witness Excused)

TESTIMONY OF HOWARD RUSHMORE Newspaperman

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Call your next witness.

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

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask you, Mr. Rushmore, as you testify, that you answer audibly and not with a nod of the head or a gesture as we are recording these entire proceedings, that you speak as directly into the microphone in front of you as possible, and that when you have an unusual name or one not put in evidence that you spell that name for the records that it may be correct.

MR. RUSHMORE: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

MR. RUSHMORE: Howard Rushmore, Rushmore.

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

MR. RUSHMORE: New York City.

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

MR. RUSHMORE: Yes, for a period of five years, 1935 to '39.

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask you, Mr. Rushmore, if you have ever been an official of the Communist Party?

MR. RUSHMORE: I have in the capacity of a newspaperman and writer.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, Mr. Rushmore, will you, in your own words, tell us how you joined the Communist Party and detail some of your duties and experiences in that?

Details Activity in Communist Party

MR. RUSHMORE: I first became acquainted with the Communists in Missouri where I was living at the time and in newspaper work. I met some Communists in Kansas City, Missouri, I believe it was in 1934 where a committee had been organized by Abner Berry, Berry, who is now on the national board of the Communist Party. Berry at that time was the—known as the section organizer of Kansas City, and a few weeks before that, a young Negro boy by the name of Tom Gunn, Gunn, had been very brutally lynched in Marysville, Mo. As a reporter I covered this story and was quite incensed by the entire matter, including the burning to death of the young lad who was quite innocent of any crime. The Communists very cleverly seized on this as an excuse to form an anti-lynch committee in Kansas City. I became acquainted with this committee and, as a rather young lad then, admired the stand they took without investigating what was behind them. Gradually I became interested in their work and also through the medium of a person name of Jack Conroy, Conroy, a writer living at that time in Missouri, editor of a magazine called The Anvil, Anvil. Being also interested in writing, Conroy had me submit several short stories to this publication which was completely controlled by the Communist Party.

Through the two media, I gradually became drawn into the Communist movement and joined it in St. Louis and the early part of 1935 joined the Young Communist League at that time.