

MR. HOUSTON: Mrs. James, are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MRS. JAMES: Mr. Houston, I feel that I have answered the question.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You refuse to answer the question, then?

MRS. JAMES: I have answered it.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You refuse to answer it with a "yes" or "no" answer?

MRS. JAMES: I have answered.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Step aside.

MR. O'BRIEN: Mr. Chairman, will your record show that I was operating under the same instructions previously given to counsel?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: That is right. Counsel for Mrs. James is just acting as an adviser to Mrs. James.

(Witness Excused)

## TESTIMONY OF BURTON W. JAMES Director of Repertory Playhouse

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Burton W. James.

MR. O'BRIEN: Will the record show my appearance for Mr. Burton W. James, as well?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will show in the record that you are—Mr. James is represented by counsel.

Stand and be sworn, Mr. James.

MR. JAMES: **Under duress.**

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We are not accepting any conditions. We wish you to be sworn.

BURTON W. JAMES, after being first duly sworn was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: You have heard the instructions that have been given, Mr. James, as to speaking directly into the microphone, as the answers are being recorded?

MR. JAMES: I have.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

MR. JAMES: Burton W. James.

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

MR. JAMES: I am.

MR. HOUSTON: How long have you been in the city?

MR. JAMES: Well, Mrs. James said 25 years. I think it's 27.

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

MR. JAMES: New York City.

MR. HOUSTON: And when were you born?

MR. JAMES: May 12th, 1889.

MR. HOUSTON: What is your business, Mr. James?

MR. JAMES: I'm co-director of the Seattle Repertory Playhouse.

### "I Don't Care to Answer"

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. James—

MR. JAMES: I do not care to answer further.

MR. HOUSTON: **Mr. James, are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?**

MR. JAMES: **I do not care to answer.**

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. James, you understand the possible penalties for being in contempt of the Legislature?

MR. JAMES: I stand on my constitutional rights, Mr. Canwell.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Failure to answer the questions of this Committee will be held by the Committee as being not responsive—the refusal to testify, and with that understanding in mind I want to ask you again if you are or ever have been a member of the Communist Party?

MR. JAMES: I do not care to answer.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Then step aside, please.

MR. O'BRIEN: Will the record show my participation on behalf of this witness was also under the same instructions previously given by the chairman?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: That is correct.

(Witness Excused)

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Albert Ottenheimer take the stand.  
Mr. Ottenheimer excused from attendance, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We excused him—Mr. Ottenheimer's mother is ill or having an operation, and I believe that was to occur today, and Mr. O'Brien stated that he would get him here for us on short notice when we wanted him.

MR. O'BRIEN: That's right, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I do not believe we will—if he is not in attendance now—

MR. O'BRIEN: He is in Tacoma this afternoon.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Yes. We will not expect his appearance here this afternoon.

MR. O'BRIEN: I am sure we can have him here in the morning.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: All right, thank you.

MR. HOUSTON: Joseph Cohen please take the stand.

MR. COHEN: I was informed that I would be notified enough in advance to have my attorney here.

MR. HOUSTON: Who is your counsel?

MR. COHEN: Mr. Starin.

MR. HOUSTON: I do recall,—there was so many there.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well I think that we will—

MR. HOUSTON: Will you ask Mr. Starin to be present tomorrow, because we will get to you tomorrow, Mr. Cohen?

MR. COHEN: Tomorrow morning?

MR. HOUSTON: I can't say definitely, but some time tomorrow. In other words will you be prepared to take the witness stand tomorrow?

Will Ted Astley take the stand?

Mr. Chairman, did you excuse this witness?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Is Mr. Ted Astley in the audience?

STATE PATROLMAN: He was taken out this morning.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: How far did you take him?

Well we will expect Mr. Astley to be in attendance tomorrow. If you can find him bring him in.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you call another witness, or will we be at ease a few moments?

MR. HOUSTON: Well, I didn't expect quite all of this, Mr. Chairman.

### Research Data on Communist Front Organizations Presented

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Stith, will you take the stand, do you have your data ready? Do you have your stuff?

MR. STITH: Data is what you asked for—a list of the organizations.

MR. HOUSTON: You don't need to be re-sworn.

MR. HOUSTON: You are Mr. Ernest Stith, an investigator for the un-American Activities Committee for the State of Washington that previously testified from that stand?

MR. STITH: That's right.

MR. HOUSTON: You were sworn then?

MR. STITH: I was.

MR. HOUSTON: And asked to stand aside, fine.

MR. HOUSTON: What is the occasion of your being on the witness stand now, Mr. Stith?

MR. STITH: You asked me for a list of organizations which—to which various professors were sponsors, members or offices.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, you have completed very lengthy documents in this matter, have you not?

MR. STITH: I have, showing how they fit in with the Communist Party line over the years.

MR. HOUSTON: Now you have boiled down here, have you not, just a bare sta—

MR. STITH: Statement of organizations.

MR. HOUSTON: Statement of organizations.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would certainly recommend to the Committee, for it would take several hours to read this lengthy document of very—material to this investigation, that Mr. Stith be permitted to read the list of organizations and the professors involved and that the complete research analysis of his be extended into the record without his reading it from the stand.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I believe that is acceptable and preferable and if you will proceed to read your analysis.

### Communist Front Affiliations of Florence Bean James

MR. STITH: Florence Bean James was a sponsor, member, or officer in the Teacher's Union, Local 401; Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy; Committee to Lift The Embargo on Spain; Women's Committee for Peace, which affiliated with the American Peace Mobilization Movement; Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; American Counsel on Soviet Relations; Citizen's Committee for Harry Bridges; Spanish Refugee Appeal; Seattle Labor School or Northwest Labor School, as it's variously called; Win the Peace Movement; Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions; Progressive Citizens of America; Civil Rights Congress and Emergency Peace Mobilization.

### Burton W. James

Burton W. James was a sponsor, member or officer of Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy; Committee to Lift the Embargo; Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; Spanish Refugee Appeal; Win the Peace Movement and Emergency Peace Mobilization.

### Prof. Ralph H. Gundlach

Professor Ralph H. Gundlach: Teacher's Union, Local 401; Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy; National Emergency Conference; Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade; North American Spanish Aid Committee; Peace