

Washington Pension Union, being attached to the Aid to Dependent Children Unit, as being a member of the Communist Party.

Two witnesses positively identified Phil O'Malley, a Vice President from King County, of the Washington Pension Union, as being members of the Communist Party.

Two witnesses positively identified Chart Pitt as being a member of the Communist Party. Chart Pitt was listed as a Vice President from Snohomish County.

One witness positively identified E. L. Pettus as being a member of the Communist Party, Mr. Pettus being a Vice President from Pierce County.

One witness positively identified Etta Tripp as being a member of the Communist Party, she being a Vice President from King and Kitsap Counties.

Eleven witnesses positively identified Terry Pettus as being a member of the Communist Party, he being a publisher of the "New World," the official Washington Pension Union publication.

One witness identified Dr. Mary White, a Vice President from Skagit County, as being a member of the Communist Party.

In addition to the above, the following State Office employees of the Washington Pension Union were positively identified at this hearing as being members of the Communist Party. I do not in this instance have the number of witnesses so identifying, but they have all been identified by two or more witnesses:

Emma R. Carpenter, Barbara Hartle, and Mabel F. Jenkins—I beg your pardon, that is Mabel F. Jensen, J-e-n-s-e-n.

The following prominent speakers have been positively identified at this hearing, as being members of the Communist Party, persons most prominently speaking at Washington Pension Union meetings: Bill Ziegner, Lenus Westman, Jerry O'Connell, George Hurley, Hugh DeLacy, Ward Coley, Merwin Cole, Henry Huff, and Richard or Dick Seller. N. P. Atkinson, former Old Age Pension Union President, and Homer Huson, former Old Age Pension Union Executive Secretary, were also positively identified at this hearing as being members of the Communist Party.

Based on positive testimony offered at this hearing, every State President of the Washington State—of the Washington Pension Union since its inception, except one, and that was former Senator James Sullivan, have been or are members of the Communist Party. And every Executive Secretary of the State Washington Pension Union without a single exception have been or are members of the Communist Party, as testified to by witnesses at this hearing.

I would like to introduce as an Exhibit this statement, together with the official publication listing them as officers or employees, as the case might be, of the Washington Pension Union.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Do you wish that introduced as one exhibit?

MR. WHIPPLE: Yes, as one exhibit.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The newspaper and the list prepared by you which is a summary of testimony to date?

MR. WHIPPLE: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It may be admitted into the record as Committee's Exhibit No. 45.

MR. WHIPPLE: Now at this time, Mr. Chairman, I have the photostatic copies of the official nominating conventions, or petitions rather, of the Com-

munist Party for the years 1946, 1942, and 1936, and I would like to offer these petitions, nominating petitions of the Communist Party, into the record, and dictate into the record the names of those persons whose names are found on the nominating petitions, whose names have been introduced into the testimony of this hearing as being members of the Communist Party.

First, the name of Al Bristol; Harold Brockway; Marian Camozzi—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Whipple, I think that you might as well sit down and be comfortable while you read this material.

MR. WHIPPLE. Thank you, sir.

Babba Jean Decker, formerly Babba Jean Sears; Ralph Hall; Barbara Hartle; a Mrs. Hiller, whose first name is not identified; Henry Huff, the present Northwest Executive Secretary, District Organizer, of the Communist Party; Harvey Jackins; Burt Nelson; Andrew Remes; Lowell Wakefield; and Mrs. William Ziegner, Sr.

I would like to introduce these names into the record, together with the photostatic copies of the official nominating petitions of the Communist Party for those three years mentioned.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You wish those as one exhibit, the list and the nominating petitions of the Communist Party, as one exhibit?

MR. WHIPPLE: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: They will be admitted into the record as Committee's Exhibit No. 47.

DANA T. ROBINSON, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHIPPLE:

Q. Will you state your name, please?

A. Dana T. Robinson.

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Robinson?

A. 434 Second Avenue West, in the City of Seattle.

Q. Mr. Robinson, do you hold at this time any official position with this Committee?

A. I do.

Q. What position do you hold with this Committee at this time?

A. I am one of the force of investigators.

Q. Mr. Robinson, in addition to your regular duties as an investigator, have any special duties been assigned to you?

A. Well, when it comes to the matter of investigation of records, either public or private records that are accessible or required by the Committee, investigation of expense accounts, income tax returns, in fact any matter of record, is assigned to me.

Q. Mr. Robinson, in order to qualify you in that respect, I would like to ask you this qualifying question. Have you had any previous experience along this line before becoming connected with this Committee?

A. Prior to July 1st of this year, of 1947, I was for five years a deputy collector in the Bureau of Internal Revenue of the United States Treasury Department.

Q. Just what were your duties as a deputy collector of Internal Revenue?

A. Well, as deputy collector, during part of the year, that is you might say from January 1st to the 15th of January, devotes most of his time to assisting taxpayers in preparing their tax returns. All the rest of the year we spend our time in collecting delinquent taxes, investigating the possibility of hidden or concealed taxes. This covers the whole range of taxes that are under the jurisdiction of the Revenue department, such as income tax, corporation tax, capital stock tax, pinball machines, and everything, a total of about ninety different style of taxes.

Q. Now with this background you came to this Committee as an investigator with the specific duties assigned to you that you have mentioned.

A. That's right.

Q. Now, Mr. Robinson, have you familiarized yourself with that section of the law that pertains to the filing with the Department of Social Security, certain statistical data in the form of financial reports by the Washington Pension Union?

A. I have. I have the law in front of me.

Q. Do you have a copy of the law with you?

A. I have.

Q. May I borrow it, please? Will you just briefly read into the record that section of the law that applies to the filing with the Social Security Department, the statement of finances, receipts and expenditures of the Washington Pension Union?

A. This is headed: "Chapter 170, Section 7, Laws of 1941, Provisions for Filing Financial Reports by Organizations Receiving Contributions from Recipients of Public Assistance."

Section 1 through Section 6 of Chapter 170 appear as amendments to Chapter 132, Laws of 1937.

"Section 7: Every person, firm, corporation, association, or organization receiving twenty-five percent or more of its income from contributions, gifts, dues, or other payments from persons receiving direct relief, work relief, home relief, old age assistance, Federal aid assistance, or any other form of public assistance from the State of Washington, or any agency or subdivision thereof, and engaged in political or other activities in behalf of such persons receiving such public assistance, shall within ninety days after the close of each calendar year, make a report to the Director of the Department of Social Security for the preceding year, which report shall contain: (a) a statement of the total amount of contributions, gifts, dues, or other payments received; (b) the names of any and all persons, firms, corporations, associations, or organizations contributing the sum of twenty-five dollars or more during each year, and the amounts contributed by such persons, firms, corporations, associations, or organizations; (c) a full and complete statement of all disbursements made during such year, including the names of all persons, firms, corporations, associations, or organizations to whom any monies were paid, and the amounts and purposes of such payment; (d) every such report so filed shall constitute a public record; (e) any person, firm, corporation, and any officer or agent of any firm, corporation, association, or organization, violating this act by failing to file such report, or in any other manner, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor."

Q. Mr. Robinson, I think that is—

A. That's the end of it.

Q. —sufficient as to that. Now, based on that law, I'll ask you whether or not you had occasion to contact the Department of Social Security to see whether or not the law had been complied with by the Washington Pension Union.

A. I did.

Q. Briefly, did you get copies from the Department of Social Security, of such reports as they might have filed in compliance with that particular statute.

A. The Department furnished me with the original reports and we have photostatic copies of them here.

Q. And those original reports were placed in your possession by the Department, and you had them photostated. Do you have those photostats with you?

A. I have.

Q. Will you produce them at this time?

A. Now this starts with the year 1941, '2, '3, '4, '5 and '6.

Q. May I have them in order, please? Now, Mr. Robinson, have you made any audit of these reports that were received by you, by the Department of Social Security?

A. Well, just, you might say a rather cursory audit. The manner in which those reports were made up and filed by the Old Age Pension Union, was of such a nature that it was practically impossible, without spending an enormous amount of time, to get any real information off of it. In other words, I might say that they complied with the letter of the law, but not the spirit of the law.

Q. Now, I wish you would examine these reports and just pick out a typical one of them as an illustration of the statement you have just made.

A. Well, here's a report, we'll say, for 1945, is one rather typical, and I might say this is the only one that the Department of Social Security made any effort whatever to digest.

You can see from the record—perhaps I could tell this instead of showing you—the report was made—any financial report, to be of any value, must be tabulated in such a way that receipts and disbursements, and the purpose for which the receipt is made—or, which the disbursement was made, must be shown in some tabulated form, to be available.

Q. Just tell this committee, now, how that—just read how it's set up there, as an illustration.

A. Well, this is a thing, it is just set up like you, you might say reading the dictionary. They just start in and run right straight across—right straight across the page, with the name of the person making the contribution, or the disbursement, as it is, and following right along just like a printed page out of a newspaper; there's no tabulation or anything of the kind made to it. It's just a chronological statement of John Jones, five dollars, and Mary Jones, four dollars, and then the disbursements the same way. John Jones so much, and Mary Jones so much. Just one line after another without any tabulation whatever.

Q. Could you, as an experienced auditor, or any other auditor, make heads or tails of that report?

A. No, sir.

Q. Is that a typical illustration of all of the reports that you have that have been filed with the State Department of Social Security?

A. Practically so. The first report that they made was a little better than the later ones, but the later ones were all made in this manner. It would be quite evident to me; I would say it would be quite evident to anyone familiar with a financial statement of any kind, that this was made in this manner for the express purpose of confusing anyone that wanted to read it. In other words unless you were compelled to read it to find out something, you'd take one look at it and then never look again. And that's exactly what the Department told me they did.

Q. Now who told you that, Mr. Robinson?

A. The present head of the Social Security Department.

Q. In that connection, I'll ask you to state what cooperation you received from the state—present head of the Social Security Department.

A. I would state that—without any equivocation whatever, that the Department was a hundred per cent cooperative. They had taken these reports, and I says, "What did you do with them?" Well, the head of the Department stated, "We did exactly what the law requires us to do." And I says, "What is that?" She says, "Nothing. The law"—as it was read here just a moment ago—"simply states that these people must make this report," but it don't require that she does anything with it, so she didn't do anything with it, except in one case she sent it over to the Department of Audit and had them try to digest it and they made the statement here that it simply shows so much received and so much spent in different items; but as a tabulation—or, as a detailed tabulation, there was nothing to it.

Q. Now, then is it your testimony that those reports, after made to the Department of Social Security, merely are buried there and that nothing is done with those thereafter.

A. That's right. They're just in the file.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to introduce into this record these entire reports. They're too voluminous to go into individually at this time.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I will accept them as one exhibit, if you will take the responsibility for finding a rubber band, or clip or something, so that I can keep them together.

MR. WHIPPLE: That provision has been complied with.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: They will be admitted as Committee's Exhibit No. 46.

Q. Now, Mr. Robinson, I would like to ask you if you have had occasion to examine any of the accounts or checks of the Washington Pension Union. By the Washington Pension Union, I mean the state organization known as the Washington Pension Union.

A. I have among other things, a certified copy of every bank statement furnished to the organizations mentioned by the Pacific National Bank from the time they opened the account in 1938, under the name of the Washington Old Age Pension Union, up to and including the balance in the account of the Washington Pension Union as of January 30th of 1948.

Q. Now, do you have those actual bank records, or are those photostatic copies of the bank records?

A. These are—two or three of them are photostatic records which we made after we came into the investigation, but prior to that time the copies—prior to that time the statements were copied in the bank by an employee of the bank and are certified page by page by Mr. G. H. Anderson, the auditor of the Pacific National Bank. His certification is on each page separately.

Q. Now, was that information and those records furnished you by subpoena on that particular bank?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then that is a true and correct copy of their record of receipts and disbursements for the period you have mentioned.

A. It is a certified copy, certified and signed by the auditor.

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce this certified copy into the record as an exhibit.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will be accepted as Committee's Exhibit No. 48.

Q. Mr. Robinson, do you have in your possession any record indicating the names of the persons who are authorized to draw checks on their account in this bank?

A. I have.

Q. Do you have the statement of the last—the last statement, or affidavit—

A. I have the—

Q. —or signature authorization?

A. I have all of them from the time they started. If you're interested in the last one, I have the last one on top of the file here, if you care to have it read.

Q. I would like to ask you this question. Are those photostatic copies or are those the originals?

A. Photostatic copies.

Q. Did you see the originals?

A. I had them in my possession, yes sir.

Q. And from those originals, those photostatic copies were made.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. I would like for you to read the list of names of persons authorized to draw checks against their account.

A. The latest authorization is dated June 16, 1946. It requires two signatures on the check, and four signatures are authorized. The following signatures are the ones authorized by the organization: William J. Pennock, President; Mabel Jensen, bookkeeper; Mabel Conrad, Secretary; Bertha Atwood, Treasurer.

Q. May I have that group of authorizations?

MR. WHIPPLE: Mr. Chairman, we'd like at this time to introduce this list of authorizations into this record as an exhibit.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will be accepted as Committee's Exhibit No. 49.

Q. Mr. Robinson, have you had in your possession at any time, as an examiner for this Committee, the checks written by the Washington Pension Union?

A. I have a photostatic copy of every check paid by the Pacific National Bank for this account, from the first of September through January 30th of 1948.

Q. Were those photostatic copies made from the original checks?

A. I had the original checks in my possession.

Q. Have you examined each any every one of those checks?

A. Individually, yes sir.

Q. Mr. Robinson, testimony has been offered to this committee that the Treasurer of the Washington Pension Union, a lady by the name of Atwood, Bertha Atwood—now, I'll ask you to state from your examination of those checks whether or not the regularly duly constituted and elected Treasurer

of the Washington Pension Union, Bertha Atwood, has ever issued one single solitary check in that group.

A. I think not. I wouldn't be positive. I haven't examined every one for that particular name, but let me see, her name does not appear on any of them.

Q. Now, over what period of time, Mr. Robinson, do those checks represent? In other words, when did you first start compiling them?

A. From the checks paid by the Pacific National Bank during the month of September, that's the actual payments by the bank in the month of September, from then on up to January 30th of this year.

Q. Then you have in your possession all checks paid by the Pacific National Bank from September 1st, up to and including January 31st of 1948.

A. That's right.

Q. Now, do you have those checks segregated—

A. I have them segregated—

Q. —as to—as to individuals?

A. I have.

Q. Do you have them segregated as to organizations?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Taking up first the organizations, I'll ask you to state if you have a check there written to the Frontier—any checks written to the Frontier Book Store, in the City of Seattle?

A. I have.

Q. How many checks do you have written to the Frontier Book Store and what do they total?

A. I have three checks for a total of thirty-nine dollars and thirty-one cents.

Q. Is that the same Frontier Book Store that has been testified to at this hearing as being the Communist-operated book store for the Communist Party?

A. It is. Down on Third Avenue.

Q. I'll ask you to state if you have any checks that have been payable—made payable and cashed by a newspaper known as the "New World"?

A. I have.

Q. How many checks do you have over that period of time issued to the "New World" and for what amount?

A. Well, just to the "New World" it amounts to five—just a minute, Mr. Whipple. You have the original; I'm working from the copy here. It shows five checks, a hundred and four dollars and twenty-five cents.

Q. Is that the same "New World" publication that has been testified to as being the official organ of the Communist Party?

A. It is.

Q. I'll ask you to state whether or not you have in that group of checks, any checks made payable to the Pacific Northwest Labor School, the organization designated previously by the Attorney General of the United States as being a subversive organization?

A. Mr. Whipple, have you the original copy there? May I have that slip? Three checks, a total of thirty-two dollars.

Q. I'll ask you to state whether or not you have any checks there made payable to the—an organization known as the Progressive Citizens of America?

A. I have two checks for a total of two hundred and forty dollars.

Q. I'll ask you to state if you have any checks made payable to the Ship Scalpers Union?

A. I have one check only, for one hundred dollars.

Q. Going over the—I'll ask you to state whether or not you have a list of checks payable to different individuals?

A. I have.

Q. I'll ask you to state if you have segregated those, and the names of individuals who—who have been named in this hearing as being members of the Communist Party?

A. I have.

Q. Will you name those individuals, the number of checks written to them, and the total amount.

A. Right straight down the list. Paula Alexander, six checks, total eighty-four thirty-five; Bertha Atwood, five checks—

Q. Just a minute. I think you misunderstood the question. You have a list of the names of those persons who have been designated as members of the Communist Party. Just to get the record straight, I want only a list of the names of the persons that have been designated at this hearing as being members of the Communist Party, and the number of checks written them and the total amounts each.

A. John Boan, B-o-a-n, one check for six dollars and fifty cents; W. B. Boettscher, B-o-e- double t -s-c-h-e-r, two checks for forty-five dollars; John Caughlan, eight checks, seven hundred and forty-four dollars; Emma Carpenter, twenty-six checks, five hundred and thirty-seven dollars and seventy-eight cents; Mabel Conrad, twenty-four checks, six hundred and fifty-nine dollars and sixty-three cents; Mollie Higman, five checks, twenty-one dollars and forty cents; Mabel Jensen, sixteen checks, three hundred and sixty-six dollars and seventy-nine cents; Rose Johnson, one check for nine dollars; Nora McCoy, twenty checks, five hundred and sixty-nine dollars and eighty-five cents; William Pennock, twenty-eight dollars—or twenty-eight checks, a total of eleven hundred and seven dollars and sixty-three cents; N. E. Shalberg— no, scratch that; Etta Tripp, twelve dollars and eighty-seven cents. I see one here, Mr. Whipple, that I did not check off this morning—

Q. I am going to ask you about it. Do you find there a check made payable to Jerry O'Connell?

A. That's right. Two checks, for forty dollars.

Q. Thank you, Mr. Robinson. Mr. Robinson, will you later in the day, extract from your list of checks, these last lists that you have read, and the amounts, and—

MR. WHIPPLE: I would like permission, Mr. Chairman, at a later date, to introduce those as an exhibit. They have not yet been separated.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Is my observation correct that they were able to afford a better lawyer than a bookkeeper?

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Q. How many checks do you have written to the Frontier Book Store and what do they total?

A. I have three checks for a total of thirty-nine dollars and thirty-one cents.

Q. Is that the same Frontier Book Store that has been testified to at this hearing as being the Communist-operated book store for the Communist Party?

A. It is. Down on Third Avenue.

Q. I'll ask you to state if you have any checks that have been payable—made payable and cashed by a newspaper known as the "New World"?

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Q. How many checks do you have over that period of time issued to the "New World" and for what amount?

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MR. WHIPPLE: I would like permission, Mr. Chairman, at a later date, to introduce those as an exhibit. They have not yet been separated.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Is my observation correct that they were able to afford a better lawyer than a bookkeeper?

MR. WHIPPLE: Well, there are several deductions, Mr. Chairman, we'd be happy to make, but that not being our province, we do not care to indulge in that at this time.

That's all, Mr. Robinson. Thank you very much.

(Witness Excused)

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, we wish to turn now to another phase of the hearing on the Washington Pension Union.

I have here, which I will wish to introduce as an exhibit, immediately upon my conclusion of an explanation of what it is, the issue of the "New World" which has been testified to repeatedly here, is the unofficial organ of the Communist Party, and who has been testified to and copies have been introduced showing a masthead bearing the statement of official publication of the Washington Pension Union.

This issue is Seattle, Washington, Thursday, July 17th, 1947. Prominently displayed under a banner line on the first page you find "Pioneer, 72, First Hunger Act Victim," and the article is as follows:

"On the day before she would have known the final indignity of a seven per cent pension cut, Mrs. Marie Redenbaugh, 72, was found locked in her apartment at 4308 Ninth Avenue Northeast, Seattle, apparently having suffered a stroke some days earlier, she died while being taken to the hospital. Friends revealed Mrs. Redenbaugh, whose health had been failing, died as a direct result of fear of the 'lien law,' lack of proper medical attention, and drastic slashes in her pension grant. More than two hundred senior citizens attended her funeral services on Friday, to pledge renewed vigor in the fight against the recently enacted 'hunger laws' which led to her passing. Her pension had been cut in May, from seventy-five dollars to fifty-three dollars. Her last days were spent with the knowledge that she would receive another seven per cent cut in July. Living in her apartment alone, in delicate health, Mrs. Redenbaugh needed the regular attendance of a nurse and the visits and professional advice of a doctor of her own choice. Because the medical care program had been destroyed by the pension wreckers, she could have neither.

"Having by frugality acquired a number of moderately valuable linens, she was troubled by the knowledge that at her death the state would place a lien upon them and upon her other modest possessions.

"Except for these worries and fears created for her, as for thousands of others, by the Republican and quisling Democratic coalition in the last session of the State Legislature, her health failed and the stroke proved fatal.

"At the simple, quiet, memorial services, Dr. C. H. Fisher, Washington Pension Union Educational Director, offered a brief prayer, and read appropriate verses from scripture. Referring to Biblical incidents, Dr. Fisher contrasted the hardship and suffering, callously planned by legislators, with the full and abundant life for which the Pension Union members are fighting. The same note was struck in a brief tribute offered by President William J. Pennock. 'Here was a woman known for her kindness, for the quiet strength of her character, for her Christian virtue,' Pennock emphasized, 'her neatness and untimely death was the direct result of the acts of abomination passed by the State Legislature.'

"He called upon the pensioners to rededicate themselves, to make real the freedom from want and fear, of which the late President Roosevelt spoke. He asked that they resolve that no other person should meet a cruel death at the hands of the anti-Social Security laws, and expressed his conviction

that Mrs. Redenbaugh would be glad if she could know that we will fight on for the right of senior citizens to a serene and happy afternoon of life."

"Following services at Butterworth Funeral Home, Mrs. Redenbaugh was buried in Washelli Cemetery. She was the last of her family, having been a widow for many years. There are no children surviving."

Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce this into the record as an exhibit, with the explanation that the testimony which will follow will show that that is a complete distortion of fact, that in reality here was a woman well along in life, having lived in excess of her three score and ten years, who did not die from any of the causes that are set forth there; a woman who had ample food, ample medical attention; a woman who was not in any degree in want. There was found in her apartment, monies. There were loving relatives who kept a close contact with her and knew of her wants, these relatives being in financial position to extend money to her at any time of need.

Her executor and dear friend, was a Vice President of one of the large banks here in the City of Seattle. In times past, he has loaned them money over a period of many years, and stood ready to loan money again.

This is a complete distortion of the facts surrounding her death, and at the funeral it was nothing but a political rally attended by strangers who didn't even know the woman, and there was a Communist hootenanny held over the body of this woman.

I introduced that to show the complete distortion of facts, as printed in this "New World" and will now, by a series of witnesses, prove the statements that I have just made to you, and ask that that be introduced as an exhibit.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will be accepted and introduced into the record as Committee's Exhibit No. 50.

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask, Mr. Chairman, to introduce as an exhibit into this record, a certified copy of the death certificate of Marie Redenbaugh, who was born in 1875. This is the death certificate issued by the Department of Public Health, in which there is much personal data; and the M. D., the doctor who certified to this, was Dr. G. E. Wilson, and he certifies in this death certificate that death was occasioned by cerebral hemorrhage.

I would like to introduce this as a Committee exhibit, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: It will be accepted as Committee's Exhibit No. 51.

MRS. ALBERT CROSETTO, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. HOUSTON:

Q. Please state your name to the Committee.

A. Mrs. Albert Crosetto.

Q. Will you spell the last name, Mrs. Crosetto?

A. C-r-o-s-e-t-t-o.

Q. In what city do you live, Mrs. Crosetto?

A. Seattle.

Q. And where do you live?

A. 4308 Ninth Northeast.

Q. I will ask you, Mrs. Crosetto, if you knew Mrs. Marie Redenbaugh.

A. Yes, I did.