

was literally astounded. A large crowd was in the hall. I would estimate there were better than one hundred and twenty-five people. An amazing number of them appeared to be lame, halt, or blind. I noticed that each one seemed to be holding or carrying a small card or slip in their hands which read, quote, two o'clock, Butterworth's, unquote. I immediately got hold of Butterworth and requested a copy of the 'P.I.' In this I read the article which purported to be a letter from Mrs. Bettinger, requesting the attendance of all Old Age Pension Union members who were dissatisfied with the proposed cut in their pensions.

"I might say at this time that several of the men at the bank had laughed at me when I told them of the proposed plan for the funeral, and asked me where I had been all my life, and—that I didn't know about Bill Pennock.

"With all this happening as it had, I now demanded an audience with Pennock, and upon being introduced, went with him to a small anteroom, where I at once said, quote, Mr. Pennock, you do not intend to introduce anything into this funeral service in connection with this Pension Union, unquote. He told me that he had intended referring to it, stating that he had been an old friend of Mrs. Redenbaugh's and had visited with her on occasion and thought she would want him to.

"I emphatically stated I did not think this was either the time, place, or occasion for such. When the ceremony began, Mr. Pennock made a very nice introductory talk, referring to our dear departed friend and so forth. He introduced the other speaker, who read some scripture, as I recall, and made a short talk. Following this there was a song by the blind lady, who as I best could tell, was a white woman of medium build, baby face, inclined on the heavy side.

"Following the song, both Pennock and the other fellow made a very fiery speech in which they said Mrs. Redenbaugh's death was due to the lack of proper food and medical attention, and laid the blame on the State Legislators.

"I sat there fuming. I just didn't know what to do. It was a terrible state to be in, and several times I started to get up and stop it, and then I thought that making a scene would just make things worse, so I would keep still.

"It was finally over. I noticed that several persons in the audience got up and walked out during these latter speeches. I, myself, also was indignant, and also noted that the majority of the older people were nodding and smiling in agreement as each speaker made a point. When the audience filed by the casket, Mrs. Louise Redenbaugh, a sister-in-law of the deceased, stopped in front of the man with Pennock, the other speaker, and really told him off. She gave it to him in regard to the speech and was so indignant she could hardly articulate. During her statement she told him Mrs. Redenbaugh had the very best of food, that she had been a nurse and could have obtained the very best medical attention without any trouble whatsoever, and that the speeches were not only ill-advised and out of place but an actual misrepresentation of the facts.

"Mrs. Truax and I went out to Washelli Cemetery, and there Mr. Pennock, and his friend, and about a dozen of the friends of the deceased, were all present. Mr. Pennock made a short talk in which he stated we were there to pay our last respects to the dear departed, and then the other man stepped forward.

"I really believe they intended to take up where they had left off at the funeral home, but before the second man could get started, one of the assis-

tants from the funeral home said, 'This concludes the ceremony.' And that ended everything.

"I turned things over to the trust department of my bank, to help me out in handling the effects of the estate. Instructions were given, Bushell's, to obtain the furnishings and place them in storage for future auction. I contacted the two nieces in the Midwest to whom the balance of the estate, if any, would go. And they wrote me a very nice letter, agreeing in every respect with my handling of things. My wife has the diamond ring which was left to her, although I told her at the time there might be some question as to her right to it until the completion of the settling of the estate.

"Butterworth's sent me a statement for fifty dollars net. I was very incensed at the statement made that Mrs. Redenbaugh died of malnutrition; as I stated before, she had a large supply of canned stuffs in her apartment and I know that she had plenty to eat. She knew and made use of the fact that I was always good for a touch, and had she needed anything I am positive she would have contacted me.

"In addition, she had over thirty dollars in cash in her possession at the time of her death, and her current pension check was due. Her monthly pension check was around eighty dollars, although I believe it was to have been cut later on. Incidentally, this last check has never been received by me. I left instructions for it to be sent to me, but I've never received it, and do not know what happened to it.

"Also, I might add that Mrs. Redenbaugh made an income off her birds, from fancy work and from sewing.

"I am sure that these facts contradict the statements made by Pennock and his friend at the funeral.

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

"Signed, Arthur Truax.

"Subscribed and sworn to this 21st day of August, 1947, before me, an investigator of the un-American Activities Committee created by the House Concurrent Resolution No. 10 of the Thirtieth Legislature, and authorized to administer oaths by the Chairman of said committee, under Section 12, Paragraph 2, of said Resolution. Ernest P. Stith, Investigator; Aaron R. Coleman, witness."

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: That has been admitted as Committee's Exhibit No. 52.

MRS. MARY LOUISE REDENBAUGH, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHIPPLE:

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Whipple, it's my understanding that Mrs. Redenbaugh must be released in time to catch a train. Now, are you advised of that?

MR. WHIPPLE: I am advised of that, Mr. Chairman, and in that connection I'll do my best to conclude her testimony by twelve. It might go over just a few minutes, but if you will bear with me I will complete her testimony so that she can make arrangements to catch the train.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: All right, if you will proceed.

Q. Will you state your name, please?

A. Mary Louise Redenbaugh.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, these proceedings are being transcribed on a machine and it depends on your voice being recorded, so if you will speak into that microphone in front of you, and speak as clearly and not necessarily as loud as you can but keep your voice up so it can be recorded, and we will greatly appreciate it.

How do you spell your last name?

A. R-e-d-e-n-b-a-u-g-h.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, where were you living in July of 1947?

A. I was living in Friday Harbor, Washington.

Q. Where do you reside at this time, Mrs. Redenbaugh?

A. I am in Boulder City, Nevada.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, what relation, if any, were you to Marie Redenbaugh who passed away on the 8th day of July, 1947?

A. I was her sister-in-law.

Q. How long had you known Marie Redenbaugh prior to her death?

A. About forty years.

Q. Do you know anything about what occupation she might have followed during that period of time that you knew her?

A. She was a trained nurse. A registered nurse.

Q. A registered nurse.

A. Yes.

Q. Did she follow the position of a registered nurse here in the City of Seattle?

A. I think she did for a while, when she first came out.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, did you have occasion to visit in the home of Marie Redenbaugh prior to her death?

A. Not too recently. I was out of the city. It had been about two years since I had been there.

Q. Well, had you corresponded with her?

A. Yes, I had.

Q. Right up until the time of her death? In other words, you kept in touch with her either by correspondence or personally, right up until the time she passed away.

A. Yes.

Q. Now, where was the next nearest relative of hers living at the time of her death?

A. In Peoria, Illinois.

Q. And then you with probably a distant cousin, who will testify later this afternoon, was probably the only relatives she had in—either by marriage or blood, in the State of Washington at the time of her death.

A. I think so.

Q. Now, based on your visits with her up until you ceased to do this, based on correspondence which you had with her, what would you say as to her means of providing for herself?

A. Well, I feel that she was amply provided for by the State, with her pension. I think she had plenty to live on.

Q. Did she have plenty to eat?

A. She certainly did.

Q. Did she have plenty to wear?

A. She did.

Q. Did you ever see her at any time when she was suffering either from food or clothing?

A. No, I never did.

Q. What was her habit if she needed some special food or something downtown, how would she get it?

A. Well,—

Q. What conveyance would she use to get to town and back?

A. Well, I don't know that she went to town in a taxi, but the last time I ever saw her I invited her downtown for lunch and it rained a little and she refused to go home on the bus, and took a taxi. She had plenty of money for that.

Q. She had money to take a taxi home.

A. Yes.

Q. Well, did you have occasion to observe the way that she dressed, and the type of clothes that she wore?

A. Well, she was fairly well dressed. She certainly wasn't destitute by any means.

Q. She was dressed as well—

A. As the average person.

Q. —as the average ordinary woman in her station in life?

A. Yes, I would say that.

Q. Well, was she dressed in such a manner that she felt comfortable and didn't feel ill at ease if she was among her friends?

A. I think she did.

Q. And—now, you mentioned a few minutes ago the name of Peoria, Illinois. Does that recall to your mind any particular trips that Mrs. Redenbaugh might have taken at any time?

A. Well, she—she took a trip back to attend a school reunion. I understand she was the one that had to go the longest distance, and they made a point of that, and I don't think she stayed very long, but—

Q. Now, let's just get into that just a little bit. Now when she did make that trip in relation—in reference to the time of her death?

A. Well, I think that it was about three years.

Q. Now had she made any other trips back to Peoria to attend this class reunion, of this school?

A. Well, five years before.

Q. Five years previous. Then it is your testimony that two years previous to her death, and approximately five years previous to her death, she went back to Peoria, Illinois, to attend a class reunion of some school she had graduated from there.

A. Yes.

Q. Now then, during this period of time, was she on the pension roll of the State of Washington?

A. Yes, she was.

Q. Now do you know what—where she obtained the finances to make these trips back to Peoria?

A. I couldn't state that. I suppose she had no other means except her pension. She wasn't working.

Q. She was not working.

A. She was not working.

Q. And you don't know of any instances in which she might have borrowed the money to make a trip?

A. No, I don't.

Q. In other words, her sole income during the period of both those trips, so far as you know, was from her old age pension.

A. Yes.

Q. Did you hear the article read in the record this morning that her death was due directly to lack of food, lack of medical care, want to the attention that she should have received by virtue of her pension—the size of her pension, and all that kind of business?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. Now, Mrs. Redenbaugh, I wish you would state whether or not that article was true.

A. It was not true.

Q. You know that of your own knowledge?

A. I know that.

Q. Now, as one of maybe two of her only relatives residing in the State of Washington, how did you first learn of her death?

A. I read it in the newspaper, and the paper was a day old.

Q. If you hadn't of read the notice in the newspaper of her death, would you have had any knowledge of the fact that she had even died?

A. No, I would not.

Q. Did anybody notify you by 'phone or telegram, or letter, or anything else, of her death?

A. No.

Q. Do you know whether or not that letters were in her apartment, corresponding—correspondence from you, with your address? In other words, was it possible for you to have been notified?

A. I think so.

Q. It is your testimony that you had corresponded with her.

A. Yes, I had.

Q. Now, Mrs. Redenbaugh, did anybody consult you as one of the nearest relatives of this deceased person, relative to her funeral arrangements?

A. No.

Q. You had nothing at all to do with the funeral arrangements that were later made?

A. Nothing at all.

Q. Did you have any kind of a chance—to have anything to do?

A. No chance at all.

Q. In other words, I'll ask you if the arrangements had all been made before you ever had—ever came to the City of Seattle to attend the funeral.

A. Yes, they had all been completed.

Q. Now, you did attend the funeral?

A. I did.

Q. In company with whom?

A. With my husband.

Q. Is your husband ill at this time?

A. He is.

Q. Just briefly what—for what reason—

A. He has had a stroke.

Q. He has had a stroke, and it is physically impossible to bring him here at this hearing?

A. Well, he couldn't very well make the trip.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, where did you attend this funeral?

A. At Butterworth's.

Q. Do you refer to Butterworth's Funeral Home here in the City of Seattle?

A. Funeral Home here in Seattle.

Q. Now, just describe that funeral briefly. First, in which one of the rooms was the funeral held?

A. Well, it was in a large chapel. It was pretty well filled when I went in. I had made the trip from the Island and I had just barely time to get there before two.

Q. You just barely got there before the service started?

A. Yes, very shortly.

Q. Now, this room that was fairly well filled, as you say, was it filled with her friends?

A. I didn't recognize only two people.

Q. You only recognized two persons.

A. Yes, that I would have said were friends.

Q. Who were the rest of the folks that were there?

A. Well, they were complete strangers to me. They were elderly people, and I had no idea where they had come from or who they were.

Q. Now, just in your own words now, will you describe to the committee what the funeral was like, who participated in it, and so on.

A. Well, it was a disgraceful affair. There wasn't really any funeral about it, and I didn't know—I did know Mr. Pennock by sight, I didn't know the other man, I took it for granted that he was a minister. And—

Q. Did you hear Mister—who was the first one to speak?

A. I think Mr. Pennock was the first to speak.

Q. Well, what was the general nature of his remarks, Mrs. Redenbaugh?

A. He said we were gathered there for this funeral of Sister Marie Redenbaugh, and he said that she had died from neglect and she had no relatives, and I don't recall just what he said after that, and then Mr. Fisher took over.

Q. Well, did he give the type of neglect that she had died from?

A. Yes, he said that it was starvation, and neglect. He said she had needed medical care and had been refused.

Q. Well, did she—did he indicated—did he indicate what type of medical attention that had been refused to her?

A. No, I don't think he mentioned any type. He simply gave the idea she had needed medical attention and hadn't received it.

Q. Well, during all the forty years that you knew her, was there any time that she needed medical attention that she didn't have medical attention?

A. No.

Q. Well, did he attempt to pray or offer any kind of a prayer there at the—

A. Yes, he did, and he—

Q. What did he say in that respect?

A. —said that she was the first victim, and he hoped she'd be the last.

Q. You couldn't repeat his words, could you Mrs. Redenbaugh?

A. I'm afraid I don't recall them exactly.

Q. But he did say that she was the first victim?

A. The first victim.

Q. The first victim of what?

A. Of the State not providing ample funds, and the aid they should have and the medical attention they should have.

Q. Mrs. Redenbaugh, was there anything sacred about this so-called funeral service?

A. Nothing at all. There was nothing there except just the one woman who sang the song. I think it was "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere." And it was the only thing that referred to a funeral in any way.

Q. Did anyone else talk there beside Bill Pennock, the President of the Washington Pension Union?

A. There was a man, I didn't know his name at the time, but later learned it was Dr. Fisher.

Q. Who presented Dr. Fisher to the audience?

A. Well, I think it was Mr. Pennock.

Q. Did he introduce him as a doctor, or a minister, or do you remember how he was introduced?

A. No, I don't recall just what he said.

Q. Well, what sort of a talk did Dr. Fisher make?

A. Well, he had little slips in the Bible that he could turn the pages and refer to, and he read here and there, it was mostly about the poor and not neglecting them. He had—he read quite a number of those.

Q. Did you hear any statement—did he make any specific statement there on that occasion, that—that you particularly remember at this time, about our form of government?

A. Yes, I do. He mentioned the the pensions in California, first, and then he—

Q. What did he have to say about that?

A. Well, he—I—as I recall it, he said they had sixty dollars, or something like that. And he said that then they were sending money abroad, helping everybody, sending food, and that he didn't object to it, but he felt that if they could do that for the other countries they ought to be able to provide the relief for their own people, and if they couldn't do it, it was time we had a change of government.

Q. Now, do you mean to say that he made that type of a talk at a funeral?

A. He did.

Q. Was that the general tenor of his remarks throughout all of his remarks?

A. Yes.

Q. Mrs.—do you remember any partic—anything else that either he or Mr. Pennock said there? Other than what you've testified to?

A. Well, the—no, nothing except what I have said. He just talked on the wrong thing, that she had died from starvation.

Q. Well, how did the—all this crowd of elderly people that were unknown to you, receive his remarks, or their remarks?

A. Well, I would take it that they thoroughly agreed with what he said.

Q. What causes you to say that?

A. They looked rather satisfied to me.

Q. Now, as a matter of fact, Mrs. Redenbaugh, was this a rally of old age pensioners there on this occasion, or was it a funeral?

A. It was no funeral. I later told Mr. Pennock, in a letter, that it was nothing but a political rally. That's all it was.

Q. Well, did you—did you stay till the funeral was over?

A. I did not. I walked out.

Q. You walked out.

A. I did.

Q. Before the service, or whatever it was, was completed?

A. I walked out quite a little while before they were completed.

Q. What did you walk out for, Mrs. Redenbaugh?

A. Because I could no longer stand hearing all the lies they were telling.

Q. Lies who were telling?

A. Mr. Pennock and Dr. Fisher.

Q. And it is your testimony that they were lying before that group of people—

A. They certainly—

Q. —at what was supposed to be a funeral service?

A. They certainly were lying.

Q. And the body of this woman lay in a casket right out there in front of them at the time they were telling those lies?

A. Right beside Mr. Pennock and Dr. Fisher.

Q. And you got up and walked out, and what did you then do?

A. Well, I went into Butterworth's and sat down, and then in a short time Dr. Fisher came in, and I got up and talked to him, and I told him I thought he had conducted a very disgraceful affair, and that he knew they were lies that he'd been telling, and that every one of them had been a deliberate lie. That's the only way to say it.

Q. Well, what did the doctor say?

A. He didn't say anything. He never said one word. He looked down at the floor for the most part.

Q. He just took it.

A. He just took it, and said nothing at all.

Q. Do you remember anything said by Pennock about failure on behalf of the State of Washington to make provision for her burial expenses?

A. He said that the State of Washington didn't take care of their dead, and that but for the generosity of the Butterworth Funeral Parlors they couldn't have held the beautiful funeral they had.

Q. Now, I just—

A. That it was his generosity.

Q. I just want to be sure now that I understand you. You mean he said that the State of Washington made no provision to take care of their dead?

A. I wouldn't say that he said "no" provision, but he said they didn't make provision. I don't think he put the word in "no" provision.

Q. They didn't make provision.

A. Yes.

Q. And said that it was but for the generosity of the funeral home, this beautiful funeral service could not be held.

A. It was through the generosity of the Butterworth Funeral Parlors that they had that funeral.

MR. WHIPPLE: That's all, Mrs. Redenbaugh, and thank you very much for your testimony.

(Witness Excused)

MR. WHIPPLE: I believe that concludes the testimony we have to offer at this session.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will be at recess, then, until one-thirty o'clock.

(Noon Recess)

1:30 o'clock p. m.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you proceed, Mr. Whipple?

CARRIE A. MORDAUNT, 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. Carrie A. Mordaunt.

Q. Where do you live, Mrs. Mordaunt?

A. 4352 Ninth Avenue Northeast, in the City of Seattle.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, your testimony is being recorded in a recording device. It will necessitate your speaking as loudly as you can, just so you don't strain your voice and sort of speak into that microphone, if you please. How long have you lived in the State of Washington?

A. About forty-two years.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, were you acquainted with Marie Redenbaugh during her lifetime?

A. I was.

Q. Ma'm?

A. Yes.

Q. How long had you been acquainted with her before she passed away?

A. I would say ten or twelve years.

Q. You remember the circumstances of her death and burial here in the City of Seattle, do you?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, if you will answer a question, instead of nodding your head, why, we will pick up the answer by the machine a little bit better.

Q. Now, did you attend her funeral?

A. I did.

Q. Did you attend her funeral in company with anyone?

A. Yes.

Q. Who did you go with?

A. With Mrs. Osborn.

Q. Is that the same Mrs. Osborn who testified here this morning?

A. It is.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, just describe the chapel when you first got there, as to whether it was filled or not.

A. Well, when we entered the chapel it was not filled, but it—the people commenced to come in rapidly and it was soon filled, so that they brought in chairs and there was people standing at the back.

Q. Well, what funeral home was this, or what chapel?

A. At Butterworth's, of Seattle.

Q. Are you familiar with the fact that they have a small chapel and also a larger one?

A. I am. They have.

Q. Now which of the two chapels did they use, the smaller one or the larger one?

A. The larger.

Q. And from the time the funeral service started, the larger chapel was full, is that your testimony?

A. It was not filled when I entered, but it filled rapidly.

Q. And by the time the service started, or the meeting started—

A. It was full.

Q. Was it full? I think you said there were—brought in extra chairs?

A. Yes.

Q. Now were those persons there all friends of the deceased who was being buried on that occasion?

A. Well, I wouldn't think so, because I had known Marie Redenbaugh for many years and I had met quite a few of her friends, but the majority of these people were people I had never seen.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, you heard the account of her—the newspaper account of her death that was read in the record by Mr. Houston this morning?

A. I did.

Q. In which reference was made to the fact that her death was directly caused by her suffering and want for lack of food, placing the blame on the Legislature for her starving to death and for her not having medical care. Did you hear that statement read this morning?

A. I heard that, yes.

Q. Now, were you a neighbor of hers?

A. I was.

Q. During the ten years of time that you knew her, did you have occasion to visit her at her home and she visit you in your home?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you have an opportunity to observe the manner in which she dressed, whether she had ample clothing to wear?

A. I'm sure she did.

Q. You're sure that she did.

A. Yes.