

FOREIGN AGENT FILES FAIL TO UNMASK A SPY

State Department Makes Records Public.

BY WILLARD EDWARDS.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Oct. 10.—[Special.]—President Roosevelt's concern about the foreign spy menace prompted the state department today to open its files and reveal to the public the names of persons or firms whose business is it to disseminate information about foreign countries in the United States.

Congress passed a law last June requiring the registration of those paid by foreign nations to distribute information of any kind in this country. The last day of registration was Oct. 6, and 106 registrations had been received, the state department announced. It added a belief that many more were subject to the law and should have registered.

Tourist Agencies in List.

Newspapermen scanned the files with an excitement which slowly became boredom. There were a few frank avowals of propagandizing from foreign agents, most of them Japanese, but the register mainly showed the names of steamship lines, railroad and tourist agencies, and other organizations who devote their efforts to publicizing the beauties of travel abroad.

The spy scare, given encouragement by the President last Friday when he announced he was ordering the mobilization of the government's counter-espionage forces, lost still more of its frightening possibilities when Representative Martin Dies [D., Tex.] commented dryly that the government should first clean its own house of foreign propagandists.

Dies is chairman of the special house committee which has been holding hearings on Nazi, Fascist and communist activities in this country.

Cites U. S. Propagandists.

Commenting on the President's attack on foreign spies and upon foreign propagandizing, Dies remarked:

"The first thing the administration ought to do is to clean house of government employes engaged in questionable activities. If we permit government agencies to spread propaganda, we cannot complain of others. There are certain government agencies spreading foreign propaganda—notably the federal theater and writers' projects.

"They are doing more to spread communist propaganda through plays and writings than the communist party itself.

"Some 400 or 500 United States government officials belong to the so-called united front organizations which Russia uses to spread propaganda here. The C. I. O., befriended by the administration, has many well known communists occupying important positions."

The list of Japanese propagandists was led by Frederick Moore of Washington, D. C., author and former foreign correspondent, who described himself as "adviser of the Japanese government on American and international matters." Moore reported that he receives \$500 a month from the Japanese government and 10,000 yen a year [about \$2,800] from the South-

ern Manchuria railroad for his services.

Rail Agent Registered.

Tanco Taketa of New York City, director of the New York office of the Southern Manchuria railroad, also registered under the act. He said his business was "purchasing, publicizing, and the obtaining of technical and academic information." His personal salary was \$5,400 a year, he reported and his yearly office expenses \$57,145 a year.

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce of New York registered with the report that its business was to "disseminate information to the American public . . . to promote and protect economic relations between the United States and Japan and the distribution of literature dealing with conditions in the far east."

Franklin H. Chino, 335 West Madison street, Chicago, described himself as public relations counsel for the Japanese consul in Chicago, receiving only \$20 a month for his services.

Shoji Osato, 333 North Michigan avenue, Chicago, registered as publicity and advertising agent for the Japanese Board of Tourist Industry and Japanese government railways. He gave his compensation as \$175 twice a year, plus incidental expenses.

The wide provisions of the law forced a number of well known advertising agencies, such as Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn of New York City, headed by Representative Bruce Barton, chairman of the board, to register because they handled advertising in this country for foreign steamship or travel lines.

The Gundlach Advertising agency, 400 North Michigan avenue, Chicago, was listed as advertising agent for the Den Norske creditbank.