

## Most Liberal Congressmen Staunch on India and Firm on Missile Money

### The House of Representatives Just Doesn't Like the Bill of Rights

A mob-like hostility to the Bill of Rights and to Supreme Court decisions upholding it has long been evident in the House of Representatives. Two recent test votes show some ebb in the repressionist tide but intolerance still commands ample majorities. The bill to reverse the Mallory decision and weaken the bars against police third degree methods passed the House last Tuesday 262-138. This was a slight improvement over the vote of 294-79 with which it passed last year, only to die in the Senate.

Not much comfort can be drawn from the vote with which the House on June 24 passed HR 3, the bill which has its emotional roots in animosity against the Nelson decision. The vote was 225-192 as compared with 241-151 the year before. This bill is a blunderbuss measure which threatens to disrupt 150 years of careful adjudication in many tangled problems of Federal-State relations.

#### Walter Quotes Sokolsky on Frankfurter

Even Congressman Walter appealed to the House not to pass the bill. He read into the record a column by George Sokolsky in praise of Justice Frankfurter and the new right wing majority on the Supreme Court. Walter assured the House that Justice Clark's ruling for this new majority in the Uphaus case cleared the way for state sedition prosecutions despite the Steve Nelson decision. The mob spirit could not be stemmed.

Walter himself mobilized this spirit last Monday when in double-quick time, under suspension of the rules, without a voice vote, the House passed his bill HR 2807, seriously restricting the right of appeal by aliens in deportation and exclusion cases. The House ignored a minority report against the bill by Celler and Libonati, and protests by the American Civil Liberties Union and by Monsignor Wycislo, acting chairman of a Committee on Refugee Problems which speaks for the Friends, the Lutherans, the National Catholic Welfare Council and HIAS. A similar bill passed the House last year and died in the Senate.

Southern hostility to the Court and the familiar tendency of most House liberals to look the other way when basic con-

#### Un-American From Way Back

We expect Congress to stand fast against the campaign to erect a national memorial to Madison, "the Father of the Constitution," a document which has made it so difficult to deal expeditiously with subversives. Up-standing Americans rarely refer to the Constitution but "commies" (as is well known) may be spotted by their tendency to quote from it and from Madison's resolution against the Alien and Sedition Laws. No memorial should be authorized without a full field investigation by the Un-American Activities Committee. If its investigators look into the works of the late Charles Beard, himself a D.A.R. suspect in his time, they will find evidence that Madison even shared Marx's views on class conflict. Madison should have been subpoenaed long ago.

stitutional rights are at stake played their part in Walter's victory. Two grim if subtle jokes are hidden in the complex issues. Walter is furious because the Supreme Court extended to aliens some of the elaborate protections for property rights Walter erected against the New Deal in the pre-war Walter-Logan bill (the Administrative Procedures Act). One of the decisions which did this was written by Justice Tom Clark, the darling of the right. (Seems like you just can't trust Judges.)

The ACLU pleaded that "Fair treatment of persons involved with the Government—citizen or alien—is one concept that each day provides a showcase for the democratic ideal." Walter—as in his attitude toward the arts, which so resembles the "socialist realism" favored by the Babbitts who run the Soviet bureaucracy—insists on putting un-American monstrosities in that showcase. The bill reflects his xenophobia.

All this is well known to the liberals in the House—but most of them prefer to be liberal at a safe distance, on India, or on more money for missiles. Little warning bells ring and their blood chills when certain words are uttered. Label the measure a bill against "aliens" and "Reds" (as Walter did this one) and you could get the House to suspend the rules and repeal the Ten Commandments.

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