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LEE BROWN

PHOTOS

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6/18/98

Lee Brown and  
6/21/98



**PRESTO PRINTS**













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Lee Brown & Rose 6/18/94

Goat dinner prepared by L. B.















INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE  
NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA

HEARING  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
EIGHTY-FIFTH CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION,

FEBRUARY 15, 1957

DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT

MAY 7 1957

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(Including Index)



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1957



# COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FRANCIS E. WALTER, Pennsylvania, *Chairman*

MORGAN M. MOULDER, Missouri

CLYDE DOYLE, California

JAMES B. FRAZIER, JR., Tennessee

EDWIN E. WILLIS, Louisiana

BERNARD W. KEARNEY, New York

DONALD L. JACKSON, California

GORDON H. SCHERER, Ohio

ROBERT J. MCINTOSH, Michigan

RICHARD ARENS, *Director*

II

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III



PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946], chapter 733, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, \* \* \**

PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RULE X

SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

\* \* \* \* \*

RULE XII

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT BY STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 136. To assist the Congress in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee; and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the Congress by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

V



## RULES ADOPTED BY THE 85TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 3, 1957

### RULE X

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress,

(a) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

### RULE XI

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

17. Committee on Un-American Activities.

(a) Un-American activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time, investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States; (2) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (3) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

26. To assist the House in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the House shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee, and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the House by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

## SYNOPSIS

In conjunction with the hearings in New Orleans on February 14 on Communist propaganda, the Committee on Un-American Activities in hearings on February 15, 1957, dealt with Communist infiltration into labor and professional organizations.

Arthur Eugene, Jr., a seaman by occupation, testified extensively about Communist efforts to control the vital New Orleans seaport by infiltration and domination of waterfront and maritime unions. Eugene was a member of the Communist Party from 1948 to 1956 and during part of this time served as an undercover agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Eugene told the committee that he had been instructed by the Communist Party to join the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, which the party already controlled. Eugene said that he met with the Seamen's Group of the Communist Party while a member of the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union.

In 1949, he told the committee, the party issued directions on methods of circumventing the non-Communist affidavits requirements of the Taft-Hartley labor law. Communist union officials, he said, were to comply with the Taft-Hartley law and were simply to lie about the fact that they were members of the Communist Party. At the same time they were ordered not to take part in open Communist Party activities so that the fact of their Communist Party affiliations would not be apparent.

These instructions were given to Eugene at a meeting of the Seamen's Group, which was also attended by Andrew Steve Nelson, now deceased, who was president of local No. 207 of the ILWU, and Lee Brown, then vice president of local No. 207. Brown appeared before the committee and refused to answer questions relating to Communist Party membership and activities.

Late in 1949, after a strike of the National Marine Cooks and Stewards, Eugene was transferred to San Francisco, where he was assigned to the Seamen's Branch of the party and ultimately was assigned as a security aid to Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. Later, Eugene said, he shipped out on the Matson luxury liner *Lurline* and served as educational director of the Communist Party cell aboard.

While in San Francisco, Eugene attended the California Labor School, which, he said, functioned as an educational adjunct of the Communist Party. Ninety percent of the men who attended the school, he testified, were from the ILWU and the rest were from other unions.

Despite Coast Guard measures for banning Communists from American ships, Mr. Eugene said, Communists, in New Orleans at least, continued to have free access to them. Mr. Eugene himself was "screened out" by the Coast Guard in Providence, R. I. In 1951 he returned to New Orleans.



Communist Party meetings, he said, were held at the International Longshoremen's Hall and much of the Communist propaganda in the area originated at the ILWU Hall, where the party used the union's printing equipment and mimeograph and addressograph machines. This equipment, he said, was "open to the Communist Party at all times" and was also used by Communist Party front organizations such as the Civil Rights Congress.

Another witness before the committee in its hearing on February 15 was a prominent New Orleans physician, Dr. William Sorum, who was a member of the Communist Party from 1945 until 1952. Shortly after joining the party he was assigned to work with the New Orleans Youth Council, a civic organization which the party was attempting to infiltrate. He was chairman of the Youth Council for about a year. One of his responsibilities was the instruction of new members of the organization in Communist doctrine. At the same time, Dr. Sorum was a member of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. He had been ordered to join by the Communist Party. Dr. Sorum said the Southern Conference was "controlled by the Communists." Most of the membership was not Communist, he stated, but Communists occupied the top leadership positions. Dr. Sorum provided one illuminating sidelight on the extent to which the party attempts to regulate every aspect of its members' lives. Dr. Sorum was planning to specialize in psychiatry but the party opposed this. Instead, John Gates, the functionary with whom Dr. Sorum discussed the matter, recommended that Dr. Sorum undertake an itinerant rural practice in the course of which Dr. Sorum and a party organizer who was to accompany him could undertake recruiting in the impoverished communities which they visited.

During the last period of his Communist Party membership, Dr. Sorum was assigned to a Professional Branch in New Orleans. Other members of this group, he told the committee, were Dr. Robert Hodes, then of Tulane University, and his wife, Jane Hodes; and Dr. William Obrinsky and his wife, Dr. Jane Allen Obrinsky. Dr. Sorum told the committee that during his period of membership he was able to recruit a number of students into the party as a result of the "direct" and the "indirect" influence which he was able to exercise in his classes. The students are susceptible, he said, because—

at that age kids are looking for answers. Many of them were mixed up and confused, seeking some sort of outlook, maybe in a way a religious outlook, if you know what I mean. They want to lose themselves in some kind of thing like this, something that seems to be unselfish and that seems to be doing something, people seem to have courage and that sort of thing.

## INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1957

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*New Orleans, La.*

### PUBLIC HEARING

The subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10:05 a. m. in room 245, Post Office Building, 600 Camp Street, New Orleans, La., Hon. Edwin E. Willis presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder, of Missouri (appearance as noted); Edwin E. Willis, of Louisiana; and Bernard W. Kearney, of New York.

Staff members present: Richard Arens, director; W. Jackson Jones and George C. Williams, investigators.

Mr. WILLIS. The subcommittee will come to order, and counsel will call his first witness.

Mr. ARENS. Lee Brown, kindly come forward.

Please remain standing while the chairman administers an oath to you.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? You didn't answer. You didn't respond.

Mr. BROWN. I beg your pardon.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. KEARNEY. You haven't answered yet.

Mr. BROWN. I do.

### TESTIMONY OF LEE BROWN

Mr. ARENS. Have a seat, please.

Please identify yourself by name, residence, and occupation.

Mr. BROWN. Lee Brown, 2017 Jackson Avenue. Occupation warehouseman.

Mr. ARENS. You are appearing today in response to a subpoena which was served upon you by the House Committee on Un-American Activities? You are appearing today in response to a subpoena which was served upon you by the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

Mr. BROWN. Correct.

Mr. ARENS. You are not represented by counsel?

Mr. BROWN. No; I am not.

Mr. ARENS. You understand you have the privilege of counsel?

Mr. BROWN. Correct.



Mr. ARENS. Where and when were you born?

Mr. BROWN. In 1921, May 28.

Mr. ARENS. Where?

Mr. BROWN. New Orleans.

Mr. ARENS. Give us, if you please, just a brief sketch of your education.

Mr. BROWN. I would like to say one thing, Mr. Chairman, if I may, to the chairman. Are you the chairman?

Mr. WILLIS. All right.

Mr. BROWN. I would like to say one thing to this committee or any other committee.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Chairman, I suggest that the witness answer the question and not make a speech.

Mr. WILLIS. That is right.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, at this point—

Mr. WILLIS. You can answer a very simple question—to give a brief description of your education. That is a very simple question.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I submit I would like to make a statement before I answer any questions.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest the witness be ordered and directed to answer the question.

Mr. WILLIS. I direct you to answer the question: and let me tell you the consequences of that order that I have directed to you: That any attempt on your part to evade questions or to make a speech is out of order. I see you are not represented by counsel. I suppose you know your rights. If any questions are asked of you which you believe honestly might subject you to criminal proceedings, you are entitled to invoke the privilege of the fifth amendment. You can't hedge, pussyfoot, or run around the issues. You either answer the question or suffer the pains and penalties for it. You are ordered to answer the question.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I still ask for the privilege under the first amendment to make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that he has refused to answer the question with respect to his education and he has been ordered and directed to do so, I propose to interrogate him by other questions on other matters.

Mr. WILLIS. Proceed to another subject. You realize the implications of what I have told you.

Mr. ARENS. Where are you employed?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I request to make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest the witness be ordered and directed to answer the question as to where he is employed.

Mr. WILLIS. That is a very simple question, the second simple question, and you are ordered to answer that question. A record is being made of it by the reporter. Since you are not represented by counsel, I will repeat to you that the consequences may be contempt proceedings. I don't know the field that counsel will go into, but you will not be permitted to hedge. You are ordered to answer the question, and from now on I will not make any more statements.

Mr. ARENS. Where are you employed?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, based on the first amendment, I would like to make a statement before I answer any question, period.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Chairman, I suggest that again the witness be directed to answer these questions, and so far as making a statement or a speech, as far as this committee is concerned, I object to it.

Mr. ARENS. How long have you been employed in your present employment?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer, period, until I get a chance to make a statement, period.

Mr. ARENS. Are you vice president of the International Longshoremen's Union in New Orleans?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer the question until I get a chance to make a statement.

Mr. KEARNEY. Are you a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer the question until I get a chance to make a statement, period.

Mr. KEARNEY. If you are not a member of the Communist Party, would you tell this committee to that effect?

Mr. BROWN. I would like to make a statement, period.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that the witness now be ordered and directed to answer the question as to whether or not he is a Communist.

Mr. WILLIS. You are ordered and directed to answer that question.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I hope you understand it clear and perfect that I am not answering a question until I make a statement, period.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Chairman, may I suggest to this witness you are not scaring this committee.

Mr. BROWN. You don't frighten me, either.

Mr. KEARNEY. I am not trying to frighten you. We are trying to get you to answer a simple question. In view of his arrogance, Mr. Chairman, I suggest if you can't get any answer from him, you ask the marshal to escort him from the room.

Mr. WILLIS. That will be taken into consideration.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Witness, as a prerequisite to obtaining your witness fee, it is necessary for you to affix your signature to the pay voucher. This is the pay voucher that you will get your witness fee for appearing today. Will you kindly affix your signature?

Mr. BROWN. I don't sign anything, Mr. Chairman, period.

Mr. ARENS. Now, Mr. Witness, I lay before you a photostatic copy of a non-Communist affidavit dated July 23, 1954 [1951], signed by yourself, here in New Orleans, La., in which you say that you are not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with the party. Look at that document and tell us, first of all, whether or not that is a true and correct reproduction of your signature.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I hope I made it clear, I am not answering anything until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. You said in this statement of 1954 [1951], and you said so under oath, that you were not a Communist; isn't that true?

Mr. BROWN. I say I am not answering any question until I make my statement today, period.

Mr. ARENS. Now I lay before you still another affidavit signed by yourself, dated July 15, 1952, and a non-Communist affidavit under the Taft-Hartley Act, in which you say under oath that you are not



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Communist. Look at that document which we have marked "Exhibit No. 2" and tell this committee while you are under oath whether or not you signed that document.

Mr. BROWN. I am not answering anything. I hope I made it clear to you, Mr. Chairman and the rest of the committee, I am not answering any question until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Now I lay before you still another document signed by yourself, executed under oath, a non-Communist affidavit, in which you say:

I am not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with such party. I do not believe in, and I am not a member of nor do I support any organization that believes in or teaches the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

Look at that document now while you are under oath and tell this committee whether or not you executed that document.

Mr. BROWN. I think I made it clear, Mr. Chairman, and to the committee as a whole, that I am not answering questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Now I lay before you still another document dated June of 1956, signed by yourself, in which you state that you are not a member of the Communist Party. Look at that document which you filed under oath pursuant to the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act, and tell this committee whether or not that truly and correctly represents your signature.

Mr. BROWN. I say I am not answering any questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, so the record may be perfectly clear, I respectfully suggest to the Chair that this witness now be ordered and directed to answer each and every one of the several questions which I have posed to him with respect to these documents.

Mr. WILLIS. You are ordered to answer those questions which have to do with your signing these statements relating to your status of being a Communist or non-Communist. You are ordered to answer these questions.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I think I made the statement clear I am not intending to answer any questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that each of these exhibits which we have just used be appropriately marked and incorporated in the body of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. Let them be so marked and incorporated.  
(Documents marked "Brown Exhibits, Nos. 1 to 4," respectively, follow.)

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA 123

BROWN EXHIBIT No. 1

Form NLRB-1001  
(5-54)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

AFFIDAVIT OF NONCOMMUNIST UNION OFFICER

(See instructions on reverse)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a responsible officer of the union named below.
2. I am not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with such party.
3. I do not believe in, and I am not a member of nor do I support any organization that believes in or teaches, the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

Warehouse & Distribution Workers Union, Local 207  
(Full name of union, including local name and number)

International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union  
(Full name of national or international union of which it is an affiliate or constituent unit)

Signature Lee Brown  
Vice-President

Address 420 Gravier St.  
(Street)

New Orleans, La.  
(City and State)

(The notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths must fill in completely all blank spaces below.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23 day of July 19 51

A notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgments in and for the county of Orleans, State of Louisiana

My commission expires at death

James J. McLean  
(Signature)  
Notary Public

(SEAL)

WARNING.—The attention of persons filing this form with the Board is directed to Section 35 (A) of the criminal code, which provides that any person willfully making or causing to be made any false or fraudulent statements or representations in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

16-54480-2



# 124 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA

BROWN EXHIBIT No. 2

Form NLRB-1001  
(8-51)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

## AFFIDAVIT OF NONCOMMUNIST UNION OFFICER

(See instructions on reverse)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a responsible officer of the union named below.
2. I am not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with such party.
3. I do not believe in, and I am not a member of nor do I support any organization that believes in or teaches, the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

Warehouse & Distribution Workers Union, Local 207  
(Full name of union, including local name and number)

International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union  
(Full name of national or international union of which it is an affiliate or constituent unit)

Signature [Signature]  
1st Vice-President  
Residence 412 1/2 Poydras St  
(Number and street)  
New Orleans, La  
(City and State)

(The notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths must fill in completely all blank spaces below.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of July, 1952  
A notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgments in and for the county of Orleans, State of Louisiana  
My commission expires life

[Signature]  
(SIGNATURE)

[SEAL]



WARNING.—The attention of persons filing this form with the Board is directed to U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001 (formerly Sec. 80), which provides that any person willfully making or causing to be made any false or fraudulent statements or representations in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

# COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA 125

BROWN EXHIBIT No. 8

Form NLRB-1001  
(8-51)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

## AFFIDAVIT OF NONCOMMUNIST UNION OFFICER

(See instructions on reverse)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says

1. I am a responsible officer of the union named below.
2. I am not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with such party.
3. I do not believe in, and I am not a member of nor do I support any organization that believes in or teaches, the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

Warehouse & Distribution Workers Union, Local 207  
(Full name of union, including local name and number)

International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union  
(Full name of national or international union of which it is an affiliate or constituent unit)

Signature [Signature]  
Title of office 1st Vice-President  
Residence 1950 Jackson Avenue  
(Number and street)  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
(City and State)

(The notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths must fill in completely all blank spaces below.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1952  
A notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgments in and for the county of Orleans, State of Louisiana  
My commission expires at death

[Signature]  
(SIGNATURE)  
Notary Public

[SEAL]



WARNING.—The attention of persons filing this form with the Board is directed to U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001 (formerly Sec. 80), which provides that any person willfully making or causing to be made any false or fraudulent statements or representations in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.



126 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA

BROWN EXHIBIT No. 4

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

**AFFIDAVIT OF NONCOMMUNIST UNION OFFICER**  
(See instructions on reverse)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a responsible officer of the union named below.
2. I am not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with such party.
3. I do not believe in, and I am not a member of nor do I support any organization that believes in or teaches, the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods.

Warehouse and Distribution Workers Union, Local 207  
(Full name of union, including local name and number)

International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union  
(Full name of national or international union of which it is an affiliate or constituent unit)

Signature Lee Brown

Title of office 1st Vice President

Residence 2017 Jackson Avenue  
(Number and street)

New Orleans, Louisiana  
(City and State)

(The notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths must fill in completely all blank spaces below.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1956  
A notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgments in and for the county of Orleans, State of Louisiana

My commission expires at death  
James P. McLean  
(Signature)  
Notary Public  
(SEAL)



**WARNING.** The attention of persons filing this form with the Board is directed to U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001 (formerly Sec. 80), which provides that any person willfully making or causing to be made any false or fraudulent statements or representations in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW ORLEANS, LA., AREA 127

Mr. ARENS. Now I lay before you a photostatic copy of a document which was procured from the headquarters of the ILWU, run on the mimeograph machine at ILWU, bearing the identification of the State committee of the Louisiana Communist Party. Look at that document and tell us whether or not that is a true and correct reproduction of an original which was run on the mimeograph machine at the headquarters in New Orleans, La., of the ILWU.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, as I have already stated, I am not answering any questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest the witness be ordered and directed to answer the question.

Mr. WILLIS. You are ordered and directed to answer that question.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I therefore refuse until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that this document which I have just displayed to the witness be appropriately marked and be incorporated by reference in the record.

Mr. WILLIS. Let it be so marked and incorporated.  
(Document marked "Brown Exhibit No. 5," and retained in committee files.)

Mr. ARENS. Now I should like to exhibit to you a few more documents. Here is a document entitled "Call to a National Founding Convention of a Youth Organization" to "support the program and policies of the new party of Wallace and Taylor, to defend our lives, our liberties, our rights to happiness," bearing the sponsorship of a number of persons, including Lee Brown, Local 206, International Longshoremen's Union, New Orleans, La. Please look at that document and tell this committee while you are under oath whether or not that truly and correctly identifies you.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, as I have already stated, I refuse to answer questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest the witness be ordered and directed to answer that question.

Mr. WILLIS. You are so ordered and directed.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I still refuse until I make my statement.  
(Document marked "Brown Exhibit No. 6," and retained in committee files.)

Mr. KEARNEY. Is your name Lee Brown?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Now I want to lay before you a photostatic copy of the Communist Daily Worker of Wednesday, March 16, 1949, and the headline of the article that I want to direct to your attention is as follows:

Dockers' Local Protests Trial of 12 as "Disgrace."

That trial of the 12 we all know are the 12 traitors to this Nation. A number of people are protesting it. I would like to read you one little sentence.

Attorney General Clark was asked yesterday "To end the disgrace on American democracy" in the heresy trial of the 12 Communist leaders made by Andrew Nelson, president of the



Look at that document, please, and tell this committee while you are under oath whether or not you are accurately and correctly identified up here at the top, right there, "Lee Brown."

Mr. BROWN. I still say I refuse to answer until I make a statement.

Mr. ARENS. I respectfully suggest that the witness be ordered and directed to answer that question.

Mr. WILLIS. You are so ordered and directed.

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer Mr. Chairman, until I make a statement.

(Document marked "Brown Exhibit No. 7," and retained in committee files.)

Mr. ARENS. Now I want to lay before you still another document, a reproduction of the Communist Daily Worker of New York, Monday, May 7, 1956, bearing a letter to the editor, signed by Lee Brown. Look at that document and tell this committee while you are under oath whether or not you are correctly and accurately described there?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that the witness be ordered and directed to answer that question.

Mr. WILLIS. You are ordered and directed to answer the question.

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer, Mr. Chairman, until I make my statement. That is all there is to it, period.

(The document marked "Brown Exhibit No. 8" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. ARENS. Now I lay before you three documents all of which have been identified as coming from the headquarters of the International Longshoremen's Union local here in New Orleans, having been run on the mimeograph machine there. Each of these documents calls for certain action to be taken against the so-called ruling classes, certain attacks to be made upon the Wall Street imperialists, condemning the United States military action in Korea, and the like. Please look at each of those three documents and first of all tell this committee whether or not they truly and correctly represent documents which were run off the mimeograph machine at the headquarters of the International Longshoremen's Union local in New Orleans.

Mr. BROWN. I still say I refuse to answer the questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest the witness be ordered and directed to answer that question and that each of these documents be appropriately marked and incorporated by reference in the record.

Mr. WILLIS. You are ordered to answer the question.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I refuse to answer until I make my statement.

Mr. WILLIS. The documents will be appropriately marked and made a part of the record.

(Documents marked "Brown Exhibits Nos. 9, 10, and 11," respectively, and retained in committee files.)

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, in the presence of this witness I respectfully suggest that another witness be sworn.

Mr. Arthur Eugene, would you kindly come forward. Please step over here, Mr. Eugene, and remain standing while the chairman administers an oath to you.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about

# TESTIMONY OF ARTHUR EUGENE, JR.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Eugene, will you kindly identify yourself by name, residence, and occupation. Just have a seat, please.

Mr. EUGENE. Arthur Eugene, Jr. I live here in New Orleans, 2121 St. Anthony Street. My occupation is a warehouseman.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Eugene, I expect to interrogate you at length in a few moments, but for the present purpose I should like to ask you, Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. EUGENE. Yes; I was.

Mr. ARENS. During what period of time were you a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. EUGENE. From the period of 1948 until 1956.

Mr. ARENS. During part of that time, were you working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation furnishing information to your Government?

Mr. EUGENE. That is right.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Eugene, during the course of your membership in the Communist Party, did you know a person as a Communist by the name of Lee Brown?

Mr. EUGENE. Yes; I did.

Mr. ARENS. Do you see the person in the courtroom today? Now?

Mr. EUGENE. Yes, sir.

Mr. ARENS. Whom you knew as Lee Brown?

Mr. EUGENE. Yes; I do.

Mr. ARENS. Would you look him in the eye and point him out to this committee while you are under oath?

Mr. EUGENE. That is him right here [indicating Witness Brown].

Mr. KEARNEY. When you say "that is him right here," you are referring to the witness who is under oath and who has refused to answer all these questions which have been propounded to him by counsel?

Mr. EUGENE. That is correct.

## TESTIMONY OF LEE BROWN—Resumed

Mr. ARENS. Now, Mr. Brown, you have heard the testimony just a moment ago of Arthur Eugene. Is that correct? Did you hear that testimony?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I refuse to answer any questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Now, Mr. Brown, look at the man at your left who has just identified you as a member of the Communist conspiracy, and while you are under oath look him in the eye and tell this committee, did he lie or did he tell the truth?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I refuse to answer the question until I make my statement, regardless. I still refuse to answer until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Are you now a member of the Communist conspiracy designed to overthrow this Government by force and violence?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I refuse to answer questions until I make my statement. I am not answering any question, period.

Mr. KEARNEY. Are you an American citizen?



Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer questions until I make my statement.

Mr. KEARNEY. Aren't you proud to answer that question?

Mr. BROWN. Until I make my statement. Until I make my statement, I will answer any question you wish (sic).

Mr. KEARNEY. Let me say to the witness, from your answers here, I notice that you fail to take advantage of your rights to seek refuge behind any of the amendments you so desire to the Constitution. Do you decline to answer on the grounds of the fifth amendment that to answer truthfully might incriminate you?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer any questions.

Mr. KEARNEY. Then I want to say to the witness that, just as soon as we can get together, I shall certainly move for a contempt citation, because you are the most arrogant individual I have seen in many a year.

Mr. BROWN. That don't worry me a bit, period. That don't worry me what you do.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that will conclude the staff interrogation at this time of Lee Brown.

Mr. WILLIS. Let me suggest to you further, since you are not accompanied by counsel, that you have not invoked the privilege of the fifth or any conceivable protective amendment to the Constitution.

Mr. BROWN. I answered the first and fifth amendment. I think I did.

Mr. KEARNEY. That is no answer.

Mr. WILLIS. Will you proceed to requestioning, then, Mr. Arens. He said he answered on the fifth amendment.

Mr. ARENS. What is your present occupation?

Mr. BROWN. I refuse to answer questions until I make my statement.

Mr. ARENS. Do you honestly apprehend if you told this committee truthfully where you are presently employed you would be supplying information which might be used against you in a criminal proceeding?

Mr. BROWN. I say I refuse to answer the question.

Mr. ARENS. I respectfully suggest that the witness be ordered and directed to answer the question.

Mr. BROWN. Until I make a statement.

Mr. WILLIS. I don't think you have invoked the privilege of the fifth amendment, but if you do want to or if you think you have, this question is intended—

Mr. BROWN. I have a right. I don't ask anybody to give me nothing.

Mr. WILLIS. We are trying to be very fair with you. This is a test of whether you are honest in the plea, if you think you want to plead it, because you cannot invoke the privilege of the fifth amendment unless you honestly believe that so to do would subject you to criminal proceedings. The simple question is, Do you believe that by answering that question you would be so subjected? You are ordered to answer that.

Mr. BROWN. I say I refuse to answer questions until I make a statement.

Mr. ARENS. Will you answer any questions propounded by this committee?

Mr. BROWN. Until I make a statement.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Chairman, I again—

Mr. BROWN. On the first amendment. I have a right to talk.

Mr. KEARNEY. I ask that this witness be escorted from the hearing room. He is one of these defiant, arrogant witnesses that once in a while we run across who has the Commie line in every one of his answers. There is no need of wasting the committee's time with him.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman—

Mr. WILLIS. They usually invoke the privilege of the fifth amendment, and then say they do so because there are phantom witnesses and that they are not confronted with their accusers. Here is a very much alive person next to you who, under oath, has subjected himself to the pains and penalties of prosecution if he didn't tell the truth, who has charged you with being a Communist. As a red-blooded American citizen, if you are, here is your chance to stand up and deny that fact if it is not true.

What is your answer to that?

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman, as I have already stated, I refuse to answer the question.

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Marshal, I suggest you escort the witness out of the room and keep him out of this room throughout these hearings.

(Mr. Brown was escorted from the room.)

Mr. WILLIS. The witness has already been sworn, has he not?

Mr. ARENS. Yes, sir. Perhaps it would be well if he would start again as a witness.

#### TESTIMONY OF ARTHUR EUGENE, JR.—Resumed

Mr. ARENS. Where and when were you born?

Mr. EUGENE. I was born June 9, 1924.

Mr. ARENS. Where?

Mr. EUGENE. New Orleans.

Mr. ARENS. Please tell us just a word about your early life, your early education.

Mr. EUGENE. I attended two schools here up to the 8th grade in New Orleans, and the 10th and 11th grades in California.

Mr. ARENS. What were the circumstances under which you joined the Communist Party?

Mr. EUGENE. There was a movement in progress at the time to oust Joe Curran, who was president of the National Maritime Union.

Mr. ARENS. Where were you employed at that time?

Mr. EUGENE. I was a seaman.

Mr. ARENS. Were you a member of a labor organization at that time?

Mr. EUGENE. I was a member of the NMU, the National Maritime Union.

Mr. ARENS. Let's get this date again, please, when you joined the Communist Party.

Mr. EUGENE. 1948.

Mr. ARENS. Where?

Mr. EUGENE. Here in New Orleans.

Mr. ARENS. Did you take an oath when you joined the Communist Party?

Mr. EUGENE. I did.

Mr. ARENS. What was that oath?



WAREHOUSE AND DISTRIBUTION WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL 207

Affiliated with  
International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union

ANDREW NELSON, President

Box 1028, New Orleans 8, Louisiana  
Telephone MAgnolia 2255

ALBERT J. TAYLOR, Secretary

September 9, 1953

SEP 10 1953

Mr. J. R. Robertson, 1st Vice-President  
and Director of Organization  
150 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California

Add this  
material  
to Local  
207 Hist

Dear Brother Robertson:

Knowing the financial situation of the International Union at this time we hate very much to have to call on you for financial assistance, but, never-the-less, we are confronted with a very, very serious problem, that is, winning the scheduled NLRB election between Local 207 and the Teamsters Union, Local 270.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the order to the election and a leaflet which indicates the type of campaign that the Teamsters Union and the AF of L are carrying on against our Union in this battle for representation at the Gulf Shippside Storage Corporation for its employees. It is a cotton compress and warehouse operation which is a part of our drive to bring all compress workers in the area under the banner of Local 207.

At the present time the Local treasury is completely without funds and within the next eight (8) days we do need some monies to carry on effectively in this campaign. At least a minimum of \$150. would make possible the carrying of one full time person for at least five (5) days and defray other minimum expenses.

We are now in negotiations with the Compress Operators of all the other compress warehouses under contract with the Local for a wage increase under a re-opening clause of the existing agreement, with a possibility of strike-action hanging in the balance, as to date the employers have only offered 3¢ across the board increases, which the membership has turned down. And with the cotton beginning to move quite frequently, unless we can get a lot more consideration in terms of a wage increase the workers in the compresses are subject to vote for strike action within the next ten (10) days.

If you can give this matter immediate consideration within the framework of this week it would help us very much. Looking forward to your cooperation in this very serious matter

Fraternally yours,

*Andrew Nelson*  
Andrew Nelson, President  
Local 207, I.L.W.U.

encl:



*Gulf Shipline Workers Attention?*

**DO YOU KNOW THIS  
COMMUNIST?**

*Take a Good LOOK*

---

**HE IS ANDREW STEVE NELSON**

---



Gulf Shipline workers take notice, your future and liberty is at stake. The Communist Party is knocking at your door—if you open the door you are lost.

You read daily in the newspapers of your Sons, Brothers, Fathers, and Friends who are returning from Korea—fighting for the liberty and freedom of not only themselves, but for the freedom and liberty of the peoples of the world.

Do you know this man, his name is Andrew Steve Nelson—he is a representative of COM-RAT HARRY BRIDGES' organization—he has been a member of the Communist Party since 1939 and still takes his orders from the Communist Party and consistently visited the Communist Party headquarters from the time they had a bookstore on Chartres street.

Steve Nelson followed the Communist Party from the bookstore to the Godchaux Bldg. and from the Godchaux Bldg. to Poydras street, and still later to S. Rampart street.

Andrew Steve Nelson, started his work as a Communist in the Cp Youth program, as a member of the Young Communist League and graduated into the Cp itself.

He was a member of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and became its Executive Secretary and attended a meeting of this Cp controlled organization at Philadelphia in July 1941.



Andrew Steve Nelson became an organizer of the Communist infested C.I.O. I.L.W.U. Harry Bridges outfit, and under the tutelage of Bridges, has organized and signed a number of phoney contracts. For instance:

**NELSON HAD A CONTRACT WITH THE ALABO WAREHOUSE FOR SEVEN YEARS WITHOUT AN INCREASE IN WAGES.**

The Scumrats will sign any kind of a contract just so they will have a chance to get in control of transportation—and then it will be a sad day for America, if and when that happens.

**Andrew Steve Nelson, is a Communist of the first water—and while he is stupid—he still plays the game of the Scum-Rats who are causing hardship and suffering in every part of the world where they are in control.**

Nelson was a member of the "Release Browder" movement in 1942, the SMASH HITLER MOVEMENT in 1942, the Second Front Movement of the Communist Party in 1942, was a stooge that collaborated with Goddard, who replaced Communist Willie Dorsey who recently withdrew from the election at the Asbestone Co., where Dorsey represented the Communist-infested Chemical workers.

**Nelson was also active in the so-called Progressive Movement and backed Henry Wallace for president, was a member of the Louisiana Peace Advocates of 1951—he distributed Communist Literature at the Flintkote Co., the Todd Shipyard, AND HAS BEEN A FRIEND OF EVERY COMMUNIST ORGANIZER IN N. O. SINCE 1939, collaborated with them, taken and executed orders, and has done everything humanly possible to advance the interest of the Communist Party, and is without doubt, one of Harry Bridges' outstanding stooges in Louisiana.**

This is a brief history of Andrew Steve Nelson, Communist — and if Nelson signed a NON-Communist Affidavit, then the Federal Government should take action against Nelson. If the N.L.R.B. persists in holding an election with Nelson as the Petitioner—then the N.L.R.B. should be investigated by the Federal Government.

**Gulf Shippside workers, you are loyal Americans, and as a loyal American, you do not want anything to do with men like Andrew Steve Nelson, when he comes around your place of employment, run the HELL OUT OF HIM.**



# RED PROBERS

# UNION

## Refuses To Bare Status

Dr. William Sorum, 2267 Providence, an admitted ex-Communist who broke with the party, today named two once-prominent New Orleans doctors as cell members here. He said they were Dr. Robert Hodes, dismissed Tulane professor, and Dr. William Ob-rinsky, former pediatrician.

A New Orleans labor union official was thrown out



—Photo by Anthony Logreco

OUT! THOSE WERE THE ORDERS of U. S. House probers today and deputy marshals Wallace Dows, left, and R. A. Todd are shown putting them into effect as they escort Lee Brown, who

balked at questions, from the hearing at the Post Office Bldg. Brown was identified as a Red by a witness.



N. S. Item

2/15/57

front



# PROBERS UNIO



—Photo by Anthony Logreco

House probers to-  
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## Refuses To Bare Status

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A New Orleans labor union official was thrown out of a congressional subcommittee hearing here today after he refused to tell whether or not he had been a Communist.

And another witness, a mechanic at Kaiser Aluminum in Chalmette, invoked the Fifth Amendment when questioned about his Communist affiliations.

Both were branded as Communists by Arthur Eugene, Jr., a New Orleans Negro who has been serving as an FBI "counterspy" since defecting from the Communist Party several years ago.

The union official is Lee Brown, Negro, of 2017 Jackson Ave., vice president of the New Orleans local of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, "a West Coast outfit)."

Because of his refusal to answer questions put to him by the committee, he is threatened with contempt of Congress proceedings which Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R-NY) a committee member, said he would initiate (See HEARING, Pg. 16, Col. 1)



ARTHUR EUGENE, JR.



TED MEANS

## Reds Use Bills As Passports

Arthur Eugene, Jr., today told a Congressional committee how Communists used dollar bills as "passports" to identify themselves.

Himself a former Communist, Eugene once transferred from a New Orleans Communist Party group to one in San Francisco.

He said a Communist here mailed the serial number of a dollar bill to San Francisco party members. When he got there Eugene said, he presented the dollar bill to identify himself.

IN SAN FRANCISCO, Eugene said, he knew Harry Bridges, head of the ILWU. A committee lawyer asked Eugene "Were you his bodyguard?"

"Not exactly," Eugene said, "I guarded the records at night (See \$1 BILLS, Pg. 16, Col. 1)"



# Hearing

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"as soon as I get back to Washington."

**KEARNEY HAD ASKED** committee chairman Edwin Willis of St. Martinville to eject Brown from the room after he persistently refused to answer even such elementary questions as "Are you an American?"

Kearney called him a "most arrogant witness . . ."

Ted Means, of 3341 Spain, invoked the Fifth Amendment when chief counsel Richard Arens asked him if he had ever been or was now a Communist.

He said he was afraid he might be cited for perjury if he answered.

A psychiatrist, Dr. William Sorum of New Orleans, after the noon recess said he had belonged to the Communist Party and to the Louisiana Progressive Educational Assn., which he described as being the "equivalent" of the Communist Party at one time. And Sorum testified that he knew Means as a Communist.

The hearings today were stormy as compared to yesterday's more formal questioning of "friendly" witnesses.

**SHORTLY AFTER** Brown took the stand there were frequent sharp clashes between the labor leader and committee members.

Brown balked more than a score of times and refused to answer any questions other than saying he was born in 1921. After that, in a calm voice, he said he wanted to make a statement to the committee under the First Amendment guaranteeing freedom of speech.

Rep. Kearney interrupted: "You're here to answer questions. Don't give us a speech."

Brown then refused to say where he was employed or even that he was a vice president of the union local.

Chairman Willis then explained to Brown that he could invoke the Fifth Amendment if he thought his answers would incriminate him.

**BROWN**, in a louder voice, shouted back, "I want the privilege of making a statement."

Willis warned him, "The consequences of your refusal to answer may be contempt proceedings."

Brown refused to say whether or not he was a member of the Communist Party or a Communist.

In answer to a direct question, "Are you a Communist?" Brown again insisted on making a statement.

**REP. KEARNEY TOLD** Brown, "You're not scaring this committee . . ."

Brown shouted back: "You don't frighten me, either!"

Rep. Kearney then asked Chairman Willis to call a U. S. marshal and escort Brown from the hearing room.

However, the questioning continued. And counsel Arens asked Brown if he would sign a federal pay voucher for his fees as a subpoenaed witness. Brown again refused, saying "I want to make a statement—!"

It was apparent that Arens wanted Brown's signature to compare it with non-Communist affidavits Brown had signed

when he took jobs as a warehouseman.

This became obvious when Arens introduced four documents bearing Brown's signature. Two of the documents were non-Communist affidavits Brown allegedly had signed on employment forms. One other was an affidavit that all union officials must sign, under the Taft-Hartley law.

**WILLIS ORDERED** Brown to answer, but again Brown refused to say anything.

He also declined to comment on a Communist Party statement which Arens said was run off on the mimeograph machine at ILWU headquarters in New York.

Nor would Brown say whether he had sponsored a Wallace Taylor youth rally in New Orleans. And whether he had signed a letter on which the Communist Daily Worker based a story telling how people were protesting against the trial of the 12 Communists in New York.

Arens referred to these Communists as "traitors to the nation."

**ARENS THEN** began showing the witness documents from which he read the words "Attack on the Ruling Classes . . . Wall Street Imperialists." And asked Brown if he recognized these as reproductions of documents run off at the New Orleans headquarters of the ILWU.

Brown again refused to answer . . . "until I make my statement."

Arens then suggested that another witness be called to the stand.

Arthur Eugene, Jr., was called. He identified himself as a former member of the Communist Party from 1948 until 1956 and said that he had been working for the FBI during the last few years.

Brown remained seated in the witness chair while Eugene was being sworn. And Eugene sat in another to Brown's left.

Arens asked Eugene: "Did you know Lee Brown as a Communist?"

"Yes I did," Eugene said.

"Do you see him in the courtroom?"

"Yes, I do."

"Then look him in the eye and point him out to the committee . . ."

Dramatically and with a sweeping gesture, Eugene pointed his right hand at Brown and in a loud, clear voice said:

"That's him right there!"

Kearney asked Eugene if he was referring to Brown, to make the record clear.

Eugene said, "That's correct."

**ARENS THEN** told Brown to look at Eugene, "look him in the eye," and then tell the committee whether he (Brown) was a Communist or not.

Brown said emphatically:

"I still refuse, until I make my statement, regardless."

Brown was then asked if he was an American.

"I refuse to answer," he said.

"Aren't you proud to be an American?" a committee member asked him.

"I refuse to answer," he said stubbornly.

"I notice you haven't invoked the Fifth Amendment," Rep. Kearney said.

"I refuse to answer," Brown answered, sullenly.

## KEARNEY THEN SAID:

"As soon as we can get together, I shall certainly move for a contempt citation against you, the most arrogant witness . . ."

Brown interrupted Kearney, however, and with shouting defiance yelled back . . .

"That don't worry me a bit . . ."

Shortly afterwards, however, Brown told the committee that he had referred to both the First and Fifth Amendments earlier.

**HE WAS AGAIN** asked his occupation and refused to answer, and Chairman Willis suggested that perhaps he was apprehensive that the question might subject him to criminal prosecution and added:

"I don't think you have invoked the Fifth Amendment . . . but if you do want to, the question is a test of whether your refusal to answer is based on a plea of apprehension."

"Do you believe that by answering the question you would so subject (to prosecution) yourself?"

"I refuse to answer," Brown said.

Rep. Kearney, visibly red-dened and angered by Brown's attitude, again suggested to Chairman Willis that the U. S. marshal be asked to excuse Brown from the witness chair. "There's no use wasting any more time with him," he said.

**WILLIS THEN TOLD** Brown that since Eugene had accused him of being a Communist, he, as a red-blooded American, had the right to stand up and deny it.

Brown mumbled something, indicating that he still refused to answer.

Willis then instructed the marshal:

"Escort the witness from the room," he said, "and keep him out of the room throughout the hearings."

U. S. marshals Wallace Dows and Rudolph Todd then flanked Brown and escorted him from the room.

He did not leave the building but remained seated on a bench.



in a corridor just outside the courtroom.

The witness, Eugene, then on questioning by Arens, named a number of persons as having been connected with the Communist Party in New Orleans during the period he was a Communist for the FBI.

He named Brown, Judy Jenkins, who he said was a dispatcher for the National Maritime Union, and Hunter Pitts O'Dell, who was a "running witness" before the Senate's Internal Security Subcommittee which held hearings here last year.

IT WAS at O'Dell's home that police officers reportedly found a quantity of Communist literature prior to last year's hearing, according to Sgt. Hubert Badaux, an agent for the police intelligent division on Communism, who testified at the Senate hearings as well as yesterday's House session.

Among other persons identified by Eugene as Communists here were Robert Martin, who Eugene said was last known to be in Philadelphia; Irving Goff and Tom Mason, now reported in San Francisco; Leo Boekbinder, whom Eugene said is no longer a party member; Herbert Harris, still here but "who left the party some time ago," Harold Fort and Vernon Brown.

Eugene said there were many others but "seamen come and go" and after they are seen at one meeting they may not be seen again.

Eugene said he also knew Ted Means, who followed him as a witness, "to be definitely a Communist." He said Means still is in New Orleans.

Eugene said he was active in the Progressive Party in New Orleans in 1948 and estimated

that this party had 1000 members, including many Communists. He then said he knew a Calhoun Phifer as a Communist and also listed Mary Borders and the late Andrew "Steve" Nelson as Communists.

**PHIFER TESTIFIED** at the Senate hearing here. Nelson last year was sentenced to five years in prison for falsely swearing he was not affiliated with the Communist Party in 1952 and 1953. He died just recently before he could begin serving his sentence.

Eugene said he was a member of the National Maritime Union from 1942 to 1948 but was "kicked out" for Communist activities. He then joined the Marine Cooks and Stewards union at the instructions of the Communist Party.

He stated the Communist Party "had control" of the latter's national union and "we were instructed to get into it."

Eugene said he belonged to the seamen's group within the Communist Party and attended a meeting here in 1949 when the Communist Party instructed him and other Communists to sign Taft-Hartley Law affidavits saying they were not Communists even though they actually were.

He said he was instructed to take no active part and that the Communist Party then was "going underground."

**EUGENE THEN NAMED** another man as being in the party with him. This was Harry Lawrence.

He said he left New Orleans in 1949 and went to San Francisco but returned here after he was screened off a ship by the Coast Guard as a security risk in Providence, R. I., in 1951.

He said he came back here and contacted Nelson and became active in the party

again. He earlier had related that he quit the party when it announced opposition to Korean war.

"I had to choose between my own country and a foreign country," he said. "I broke completely with the party."

**AFTER HIS RETURN** to New Orleans he said he was assigned to be a patrolman for the cooks' and stewards' union. He explained a patrolman went aboard ships to argue grievances of the seamen.

Arens asked Eugene: "In other words even though you were screened off you had access and could go aboard ships?"

"That's correct." Eugene then named a Winifred Feise, a reluctant witness during last year's Senate subcommittee hearings here and a Jim Harmon as Communists. He said Harmon was port agent for the Cooks and Stewards Union here.

He also had known Harman in San Francisco.

Eugene testified that pamphlets and leaflets for Communists and Communist-front groups were run off in the local office of the ILWU.

Brown had refused to identify the documents or admit they were run off in ILWU headquarters, earlier in the hearing.

**EUGENE ALSO SAID** the Communists had access to the addressograph machine in the ILWU offices.

He said that for a mailing list the ILWU offices held files of people registered in various Communist-front activities such as the "Civil Rights Organization."

Under further questioning, Eugene said he re-entered the Communist Party at the request

of the FBI. He worked as an FBI agent within the party from 1952 until 1956.

He did not emerge from the shadows of Communism until the latter part of last year, when he came forth to testify against Nelson, who was president of the New Orleans local of the ILWU.

Eugene said he was employed by the Gulf Shipyards Storage Co. And that, during a strike there, he was contacted by Nelson and asked to divert the attention of the striking members toward the ILWU, with hopes of getting them to join.

Rep. Kearney thanked Eugene  
(Continued on Page 24)

(Continued from Page 16)

at the end of his testimony and said:

"You are a credit to your race, Sir."

"I can see that the Communist Party is not making much headway with Negroes in the U. S."

**THE NEXT WITNESS** called by Arens was Means, of 3341 Spain, a mechanic at the Kaiser Aluminum plant in Chalmette.

Means invoked the Fifth Amendment and refused to say whether he was now a Communist or ever had been a Communist. He said he was afraid he might be cited later for perjury.

He had been identified by an earlier witness as a Communist. Counsel Arens then asked if the accuser, Eugene, had perjured himself when he claimed Means was a Communist.

"That's for the courts to decide," Means replied. "I'm not passing judgment on any man."

Arens then challenged: "Why don't you stand up like a red-blooded man and say whether you are a Communist or not and help the government?"

"I assure you if I had information about any conspiracy, I would come and tell you," Means answered. "All I know is that I work for a living and live with my family and am a respected man in my community."

**MEANS TESTIFIED** he was international representative here of the Fur and Garment Workers' Union from 1947 to 1951. His offices were located in Harvey, just across the river from New Orleans.

Arens then remarked that the Communist Party had gone "deep underground" and asked Means if he knew any people who had been or are Communists.

It was here Means expressly stated "I decline to answer under the Fifth Amendment." And again said he was afraid he might be charged with perjury.

**REP. KEARNEY** then retorted:

"Don't you know if you tell the truth, you can't be charged with perjury?"

Means replied: "I don't know that. I don't know anything about any conspiracy."

Rep. Kearney, at another point, accused Means of "straddling the fence."

Means answered, "I'm defending myself as best I can under the constitution."



# Undercover Man Tells of N.O. Red Setup

The second witness called today before the House un-American activities subcommittee here was Arthur Eugene Jr., a star witness in the prosecution of Andrew Steve Nelson, former labor leader who was convicted of falsely denying he was affiliated with the Communist party.

Eugene was a government witness.

Eugene was sworn and said that he resides at 2121 St. Anthony, is a warehouseman, and was a member of the Communist party from 1948 until 1956. During a portion of that time, he testified, he was working as an undercover agent for the federal bureau of investigation.

## Did You Know Brown?

"In the course of your membership in the Communist party, did you know Lee Brown as a Communist?" he was asked.

"Yes," he answered.

Eugene was seated to Brown's left, and was then asked, "Do you see that person in this room?"

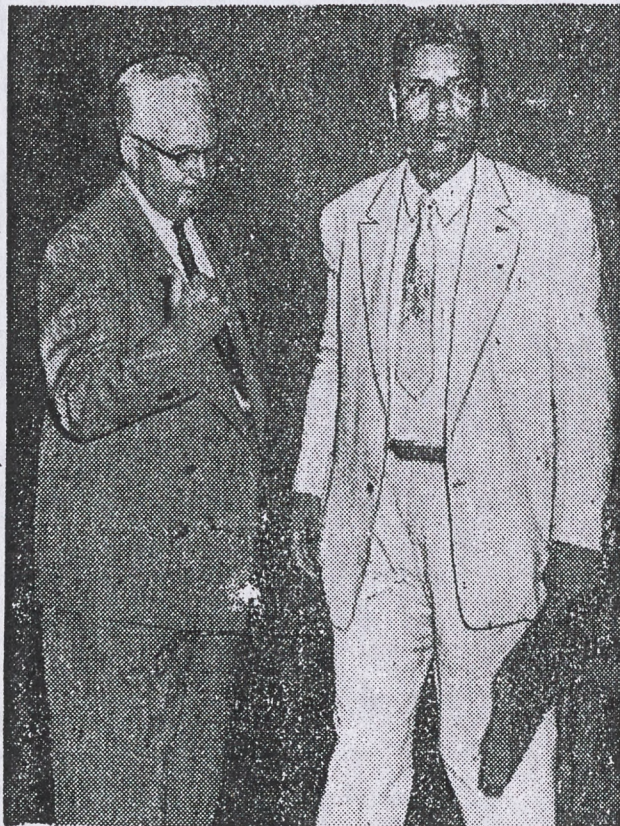
He replied in the affirmative and was then asked to "look him in the eye and point him out to the committee.

Eugene turned to his right and pointed to Brown, saying, "That's him right there."

Brown was then told, "Look at the man to your left and tell this committee if he lied or told the truth.

He again refused to answer, and repeated his refusal when asked if he was a member of the Communist con-

See EUGENE—Page 12



DEPUTY MARSHAL WALLY DOWS shows the door to LEE BROWN, a balky witness at today's hearing by congressional investigators.

—New Orleans States Photo.

*New Orleans States*  
2/15/57

Eban was expected to transmit the reaction to Dulles as soon as an appointment could be set up.

Meantime it was learned that the Israelis specifically seek further clarification of the US position on opening the Gulf of Aqaba permanently to Israeli shipping.

There seems to be no doubt that on this point, and perhaps on others relating to the Gaza Strip, the Israeli government wants more definite assurance of US backing once Israeli troops are out of the area.

## US Guarantees

Dulles' proposal, made to Ambassador Eban, was in connection with withdrawal of troops from the areas still occupied. The United States would support freedom for Israeli shipping in the waterway and work in the United Nations for measures to deny Egypt any future use of the Gaza Strip as a base

See ISRAEL—Page 4

# Probers Reject Statement by Union Official

First witness today when the House un-American activities subcommittee opened its second day of hearings into Communist activity in the New Orleans area was Leo Brown, Negro vice-president of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union local.

Brown was twice administered the oath to tell the truth because committee chairman Rep. Edwin E. Willis of St. Martinville could not hear the witness' reply.

## Refuses Lawyer

Brown in response to questions by committee counsel Richard Arens, identified himself, gave his address as 2017 Jackson, and described himself as a warehouseman.

He said he was born in New Orleans in 1921 and did not want a lawyer for today's hearing.

Arens then asked him to give the committee a brief sketch of his educational background.

Brown sat up in his chair and frowned.

"Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that to this committee and any other committee that I am not . . .

## Insists on Statement

Rep. Bernard Kearney of New York interrupted, advising the witness to answer the

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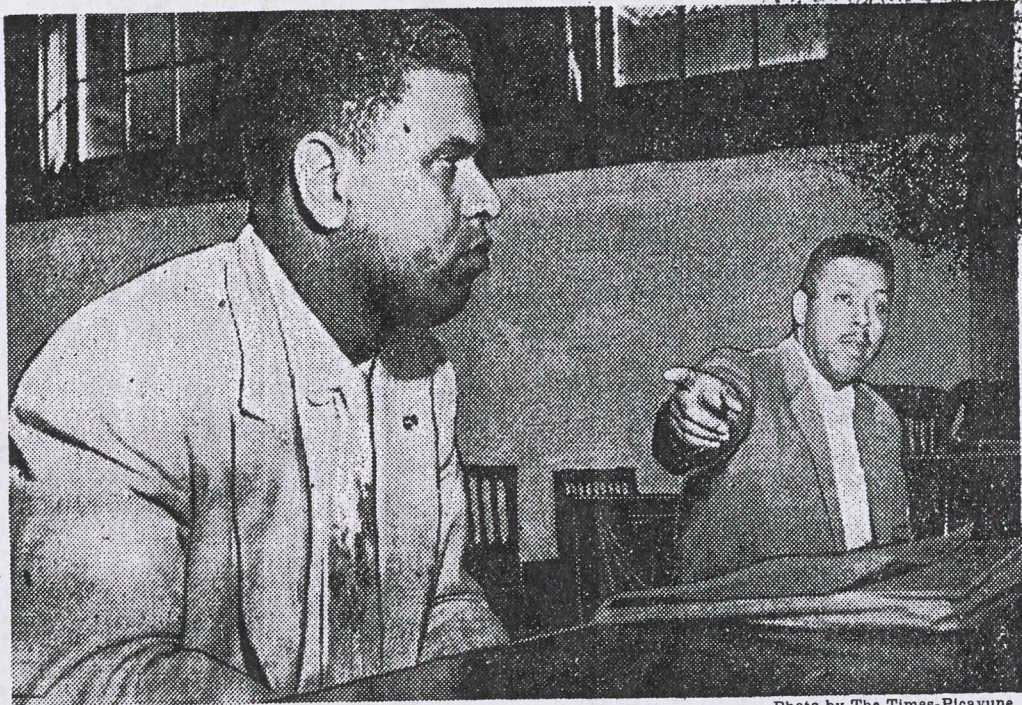
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*(No Continuations)*



## Union Official Described as Red by Witness



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.

"THAT'S HIM RIGHT THERE," declares Arthur Eugene Jr., prosecution witness, as he points at Lee Brown, vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's local, during the House un-American activities subcommittee hearing Friday in New Orleans. The dramatic moment occurred after Eugene, who said he worked as an undercover agent for the FBI while a member of the Communist party, said he knew Brown was a Communist.

## Further Hearings Here Indicated in Red Probe

### Quiz Adjourns with 37 Named as Commies

With the names of 37 persons in its files, disclosed in public testimony Friday to have been affiliated with the New Orleans Communist party in the years from 1945 to 1955, a sub-group of the House committee on un-American activities adjourned a two-day hearing late in the afternoon.

Congressman Edwin E. Willis, St. Martinville, chairman of the subcommittee, indicated the possibility of further hearings in New Orleans, on the basis of

#### AT A GLANCE

Lee Brown, Negro vice-president of the International Warehousemen's Union in New Orleans, refused to answer questions. Page 5.

Arthur Eugene Jr. testified about inner workings of the Communist party that he observed as a member and FBI undercover man. Page 4.

Theodore Means, a mechanic, refused to answer a number of questions put to him. Page 18.

Dr. William Sorum identified a number of persons as having belonged to Communist organizations. Page 18.

testimony at the open hearing and information supplied to the committee in executive session, but said this would have to be determined at a meeting of the full committee of the House.

The names of local Communists, most of them made public for the first time, came from two former members of the New Orleans organization, one of whom appeared as a surprise witness at the afternoon session.

Two other witnesses of the day were not so co-operative, and in the case of one of them, Lee Brown, Negro, vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union, chairman Willis said the full House committee would be asked to cite Brown for contempt of the committee.

#### Doesn't Invoke Amendment

Brown, first witness of the day, refused to answer any questions of the committee unless first al-

Continued on Page 3, Column 2

Continued from Page 1

lowed to make a statement. He did not invoke the Fifth Amendment, however, and after he had persisted in his refusal through 50 or more questions, chairman Willis requested United States deputy marshals to escort him from Judge J. Skelly Wright's courtroom, where the hearing was being conducted, "and keep him out for the rest of the hearing."

The union official spent the rest of the day seated on a bench in the corridor outside the hearing room.

Theodore Roosevelt "Ted" Means, a mechanic at the Kaiser aluminum plant in Chalmette and a member of the Aluminum Workers union, said he is not a Communist at the present time, and has not been a member since he has been working for Kaiser, but added this should not be construed as any admission that he had ever been a party member.

### Means Mum; Immunity Possibility Is Cited

When pressed to say whether he had ever been a party member, Means took refuge in the Fifth Amendment, claiming that he was fearful that any testimony he might give might get him in trouble in later court proceedings with a "Matusow-type" witness committing perjury against him.

Chairman Willis pointed to the recent law authorizing committees to grant immunity to witnesses, on orders from a federal judge, and asked Means if he would be willing to testify should the committee procure such an immunity order.

Means said the order would be "narrow and restricted" and the danger to him in future "wide as the horizon," but after chairman Willis assured him that the order would give complete protection, he told the committee he would "think it over."

After the conclusion of the hearing, chairman Willis told newspaper men the committee and its staff would make a careful study of the testimony of Means to determine whether the witness had carried his reluctance to the point of "recalcitrance."



The two co-operative witnesses, former Communist members in New Orleans, were:

(1) Arthur Eugene Jr., Negro, 2121 St. Anthony, who was in the top echelon of the Communist party from 1948 until he left in 1951 because of the party's opposition to the Korean war, and who rejoined at the request of the FBI to serve as "undercover man" for the government.

The second phase of Eugene's career as a Communist terminated last year when the government used him as a surprise witness in the trial of Andrew Steve Nelson, ILWU president here, on charges of falsely swearing he was never a Communist. Nelson died subsequent to his conviction on the perjury charge.

### Psychiatrist Lists Professional Group

(2)—Dr. William Sorum, New Orleans psychiatrist, high in Communist councils here from the time of joining the party in 1945, but who after a few years was expelled "after I had really quit."

Sorum told the committee that he had fallen from favor in the course of a couple of years, because of doubts that were arising in his mind and was no longer on the inside of operations.

"I was suspected of being a hostile element," he explained, "and was quietly being quarantined by the members."

Sorum not only named a large number of persons in his public testimony that he had known as Communists when a party member, but in an executive session of the committee furnished additional names of members of the "professional branch" to which he had been assigned.

He had already testified to the Communist membership of Dr. Robert Hodes of Tulane university "who was fired from his job;" Mrs. Jane Hodes; Dr. William Obrinsky, a pediatrician, "who may be in New York now," and Obrinsky's wife, Dr. Jane Allen.

He told the committee, however, that many former members of the professional branch have since turned against communism and he would prefer to give their names in a private session. He made the same stipulation with respect to the names of eight or ten students whom he "might have recruited into the party" through the medium of student discussion groups.

Chairman Willis, at the conclusion of the public hearing, announced on behalf of himself and his associates in the investigation, Congressmen Bernard W. Kearney, New York, and Morgan M. Moulder, Missouri, that the hearings had accomplished two important objectives.

First of these, he said, was the disclosure of serious loopholes in existing law, particularly with reference to the legislation designed to cope with the flood of Communist propaganda entering the country. The committee will take back to Washington not only concrete suggestions for closing the loopholes, but likewise abundant factual material indicating the need for improvement.

The second accomplishment, said Willis, has been to emphasize to the American people the ever present menace of the Communist conspiracy.

### 'Hard Core Agents of World Conspiracy'

"Testimony which we have heard here in New Orleans," said Willis, "is a reminder of the stark fact that there are now operating on American soil trained 'hard core' agents of a world conspiracy. In the face of this situation the American people must be constantly alert."

"The cold hard fact is that the Soviet conspiracy is in a deadly war with the free world and the target is the United States of America. This is a total war, a war of intrigue, a war of stealth and a war which we cannot afford to lose."

Two dramatic encounters featured the day's proceedings.

Brown indicated his recalcitrance at the start by failing to respond when sworn in, although he did raise his right hand.

As he was seating himself Chairman Willis told him to stand again.

"You haven't answered the question whether you will tell the truth," said the chairman.

### Oath Is Repeated, Witness Grunts

The oath was repeated, and Brown responded with a grunt, which was accepted by the committee chairman.

After giving his name and address, the witness was asked to briefly sketch his education.

"I don't think this committee or any—" he began, and Kearney cut in.

"I suggest you answer the question and not make a speech," said Kearney.

At the request of committee counsel Richard Arens, Chairman Willis ordered Brown to answer.

"I want to make a statement before I answer any questions," the witness replied.

"Any attempt on your part," Willis reproined, "to evade the question or make a speech is out of order."

"I still ask the privilege of the First Amendment to make a statement," Brown insisted.

The witness continued to maintain his attitude when shown four documents and asked to identify his signature on them. They included anti-Communist affidavits, and Communist circulars turned out on the mimeograph in Brown's union office. Finally Arens told the committee:

"In the presence of this witness I wish to call another."

Eugene came in, was sworn, and took the chair next to Brown. Asked if as a member of the Communist party from 1948 to 1956 he had known a Lee Brown as a Communist, the witness pointed to Brown and said.

"Yes, that's him right here."

Arens then invited Brown to look his accuser "in the eye" and tell the committee whether or not Eugene had perjured himself in calling Brown a Communist. The witness, however, averted his gaze and repeated he would answer no questions until given an opportunity to make a statement.

### Witness Thrown Out of Hearing

"This is the most arrogant, defiant witness I have seen before the committee," Kearney protested. "He has the commie line in everything he says. I suggest he be escorted from the room."

After Arens had put another half dozen questions with similar results, Willis adopted the suggestion.

In contrast with previous hearings, at which shouting, screaming, struggling witnesses had been bodily ejected from a hearing room packed with Communist sympathizers, Brown rose and docilely shambled down the aisle ahead of the deputy marshals, as a scant score of spectators looked on in stony silence.

Means was also confronted with a surprise witness in similar fashion at the afternoon session, after persistently resorting to the Fifth Amendment when asked concerning past relationships, if any, with the Communist party and its activities.

After telling the committee he has been employed at the Kaiser plant for the past four years, he was asked if at a trial before his union recently he had denied having ever been a Communist. The witness said he had either denied it or had refused to discuss it, he couldn't recall which.

He was then shown a letterhead of the "Provisional Trades Union Committee for the Repeal of the Smith act," the anti-Communist act under which the 11 top Communist leaders nationally have been convicted for conspiracy to overthrow the government by violence, and was asked if he was the "Ted Means" whose name appeared among those on the letterhead.

He replied that he was an organizer for the Fur and Leather Workers Union in New Orleans from 1947 to 1951, and that the union was opposed to the Smith act.

"Did you ever resign as a technical member of the Communist party?" Means was asked.

"I refuse to reply, under the Fifth Amendment," he answered.

"Did you ever resign as a party member to go into the underground?"

"I decline to answer," said



Means.

The witness said he would admit having attended a party at 1225 Dauphine st. in November, 1946, to celebrate the 29th anniversary of the Soviet Union, "since it is a matter of public record."

He explained that police raided the party and that he was arrested and charged with disturbing the peace, but said he was acquitted in a court trial.

Asked if he knew a Dr. William Sorum, the witness replied: "I've seen him at meetings of the Civil Rights Congress and the Wallace for President Rally."

"Any others?"

"I don't know. I don't recall any."

Dr. Sorum was called and sworn, with Means still in the witness chair. Dr. Sorum said he was a member of the Louisiana Progressive Education Association at the time of the Duclos letter in 1946, and when the Communist party was reorganized he joined the local branch at its re-inception. Later he was expelled from the party after having ceased participation in its activities.

Asked if he knew Ted Means as a member of the Communist party, the witness replied: "Yes, this is Mr. Means right here."

Turning to Means Arens then said:

"You have just heard the testimony of the witness. Was he lying or telling the truth?"

"I have seen him at the organization meetings I mentioned but I can't recall any others."

"He is the second witness today," Chairman Willis interposed, "who without either evading or hedging has identified you as a member of the party. Did these two witnesses tell the truth or are they lying?"

"I am not hedging," Means protested.

### Believes Means Is Not in Party Now

Asked by Chairman Willis to further elaborate on his statement that Means had been a Communist, Dr. Sorum said he didn't recall seeing him at a party meeting, but that he had met him frequently in the Communist headquarters in Room 417, Godchaux building, and had discussed party doctrine and procedures with him.

"I am 100 per cent convinced he is not in the party now," said Dr. Sorum, "or under party discipline, and I wish to hell he would say so. I talked with him before he came in and asked him to cooperate with the committee."

Means had been labeled as a Communist by Eugene at the morning session, with particular reference to a meeting of party leaders to discuss the Taft-Hartley act, requiring union officials to sign an anti-Communist affidavit.

At this meeting, according to Eugene, Communists who

were union officials were instructed to go ahead and sign the affidavits and thereafter not to take any part in the such as passing out leaflets such as passing out leaflets and drumming up attendance for public meetings.

Those present, he said, in addition to himself, were Nelson, Lee Brown, Hunter O'Dell, Means and Ernest Scott.

"Was Harry Lawrence there?" Arens had inquired.

"Oh, yes, he chaired the meeting."

Eugene testified he joined the Communist party after leaving the California Labor school, where he attended the 10th and 11th grades. Main subjects taught, he said, were parliamentary procedure, how to conduct meetings, and how to speak so as to gain the attention of people. The Communist Manifesto was one of the documents read at the school.

### Says Reds Ruled Progressives

In New Orleans, where he became a party member in 1948, he was assigned to the seaman's branch. Other branches included the professional and neighborhood groups. The organization was strong in New Orleans at that time, he said, but by 1953, while still active locally, "the party had gone so far underground it was hard to find the members."

One of his first party assignments was running off leaflets and organizing members for the Progressive party movement, which had about 1000 members in New Orleans. This work was done at the longshoremen's hall.

The Progressive party movement here was definitely controlled by the Communists, Eugene testified, and later the membership list, and that of the local Civil Rights Congress and similar organizations were used as a mailing list for Communist propaganda.

After having been a member of the National Maritime Union from 1942 to 1948, Eugene testified, he was "kicked out" because of his Communist affiliation, along with Harris, Forte, Scott and Banks, and all of them transferred to the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, controlled by the Communist party.

"The party instructed us to go over to the cooks and stewards union," said Eugene, "and to continue active in the seamen's group of the party in New Orleans."

Work was scarce on the New Orleans waterfront in 1949 because of a strike, the witness continued, and he went to California. He was given a dollar bill by party officials, who sent the serial number of the bill ahead of him, and when he presented the bill to the Communist organization in San Francisco it identified him as a party member, and he was assigned to the Seamen's branch in San Francisco.

Ernest Fox was his first contact in San Francisco, and other active Communists he met in the seamen's branch were Harry Nie-

becky, patrolman for the cooks and stewards union, Joe Johnson, James Wright, Raymond Crawford, Sandra Gladstein, Herman, whom he also knew as a party member in New Orleans, and Neah Becker, port agent for the union.

### Commy Propaganda Against Korean War

Shortly after arriving in San Francisco, Eugene testified, he lined up with the ILWU Bridges defense committee, serving as a publicity man and as guard for the union records used in the trial. Afterwards he shipped out on the Lurline, a Matson Steamship Company luxury liner sailing from Los Angeles and San Francisco to Honolulu, serving the Communist party as an "educational director." He explained:

"The party heads would tell me what the immediate objectives were, and then I would explain them to members, at meetings either on leaving or arriving at port."

One of these objectives, he said,

was to oppose the Korean war "The Communist party," Eugene, "was definitely opposed to action in Korea. That's the kind of dissolved. It can be a point where a guy had to choose between the government and Communist party."

After quitting the party, Eugene said, he went to Port and sailed on vessels there. He was visited by Communist leaders, but did not attend any meetings. Finally, he was screened from a vessel the Coast Guard at Providence R. I., in 1951, and returned to New Orleans. At this time Eugene was enlisted by the FBI as an undercover agent, and joined the party in New Orleans.



# Union Chief Refuses to Testify

## Longshoremen's Official Invokes Amendment

Lee Brown, Negro vice-president of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union in New Orleans, Friday refused to answer questions put to him by a subcommittee of the United States House un-American activities committee.

Brown was twice administered the oath to tell the truth because committee chairman Rep. Edwin E. Willis of St. Martinville could not hear the witness' reply.

Brown in response to questions by committee counsel Richard Arens, identified himself, gave his address as 2017 Jackson, and described himself as a warehouseman.

He said he was born in New Orleans in 1921 and did not want a lawyer for Friday's hearing.

Arens then asked him to give the committee a brief sketch of his educational background.

Brown sat up in his chair and frowned.

### Refuses to Answer

"Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that to this committee and any other committee that I am not . . .

Rep. Bernard Kearney of New York interrupted, advising the witness to answer the question and "not make a speech."

Brown repeated he would not answer the question until allowed to make a statement.

Kearney told Brown it "is a very simple question," but Brown reiterated his refusal

on grounds that he wanted to make a statement.

"I order and direct you to answer the question," said chairman Willis.

Brown refused again.

"May I remind you, that you are subject to serious consequences for this behavior. Any witness may refuse to answer questions if he invokes the privileges of the Fifth Amendment. But you cannot hedge and pussy-foot and run around the issues. Either answer the question or suffer the pain," Willis said.

### Repeats Refusal

Brown refused.

The questioning was resumed by Arens:

Q. Where are you employed.

A. Mr. Chairman, I request permission to make my statement.

Arens—Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request that the witness be directed to answer the question.

Willis—That is a very simple question. I want to remind you once more that the consequences of your refusal to answer these questions may be contempt proceedings. You will not be permitted to hedge.

Brown—I would like the privilege of the First Amendment to make a statement before I answer the questions, period.

Q. How long have you been employed by the . . .

A. I refuse to answer, period. I told you . . .

Q. How long have you been vice-president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union here.

Brown again refused on the

same grounds and maintained his right to make a statement over the objection of Willis who ordered him to answer Arens.

The witness also remained silent as Arens asked him:

1. Are you a member of the Communist party?

2. Will you, if you are not a member of the Communist party, tell the committee to that effect?

3. Are you affiliated with the Communist party?

At this point Brown shouted to the congressmen:

"I hope you understand that I am not going to answer, period, until I can make a statement, period."

Rep. Kearney interrupted to remind the witness "you are not running this hearing."

### 'Don't Frighten' Him

"You don't frighten me, neither," he replied quickly.

Kearney urged the US marshal to escort the witness from the room, but Willis took the suggestion under advisement.

Arens then showed the witness a number of documents he said were non-Communist affidavits signed by Brown and asked him if they were "true and correct copies of his signature."

One was dated July 23, 1943; another July, 1952, another in 1954, and a fourth in 1956.

Brown repeated his stock refusal, adding:

"I hoped I had made myself clear that I don't intend to answer any questions until . . ."

Arens interrupted to ask that the documents be put into the record.

He then showed the witness an ILWU document on mimeographed paper bearing the title, "State Committee of the Louisiana Communist Party," and a record titled "Call to the Youth Committee," urging support of "Wallace and Taylor" under sponsorship of "a number of persons, including yourself."

### Keeps His Silence

Copies of the Communist Daily Worker bearing a letter to the editor from a person Arens said was Brown also were shown, but the witness kept his silence.

The witness was then shown three documents, all identified by Arens as having been from the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union headquarters in New Orleans and mimeographed on the union's machine, each calling for action to be taken against "the ruling classes, Wall Street imperialists and the like," and was asked to tell if they were true and correct copies of documents run off at the union headquarters here.

Brown made the same reply, refusing to answer until allowed to make a statement.

Rep. Kearney then told the witness that he had failed to take refuge behind any of the protective amendments of the constitution and stated, "I will certainly move for a contempt citation against you."

He told Brown, "You are the most arrogant witness I've seen."

Rep. Willis advised the witness that since he was not represented by counsel he was again calling his attention to the fact that he had not invoked any of the protective amendments.

"I am taking the First and Fifth amendments," Brown replied.

He was then again asked, "Where are you employed?" and he repeated his refusal.

Rep. Willis informed him that the question had been repeated in order to determine if he was honest in invoking the Fifth amendment. "You cannot invoke the Fifth amendment unless you are honest in the belief that the answers will incriminate you."

Brown again repeated his refusal to answer any questions.

Willis then termed Brown "one of the typical arrogant witnesses we come across in these hearings. What they do is invoke the Fifth amendment to protect themselves, but here is a different situation. Here is a live person sitting to your left who looks you in the eye and charges you with being a Communist. You are confronted with your accuser."

He then ordered Brown escorted from the room by deputy marshals. Brown rose voluntarily and walked from the room flanked by three deputies.