

[Trumbo's anticipated
skid run of hearing]

Are you a thing?

In my home state of California every citizen is granted the right to decline to state his political affiliation in all city, county, state and federal elections. For this reason I decline to ~~state~~ answer the question, and for the further reason that it violates the principle of secrecy of the ballot, and for the further reason that it is in violation of my civil rights as guaranteed by the constitution, and for the further reason that ~~it might~~ any answer to the question, either positive or negative, might incriminate me.

In California, my residence, a citizen has the right to decline to state his political affiliation in all elections, including federal elections. For this reason, and for the further reason that it violates the principle of secrecy of the ballot, and for the further reason that it is in violation of my constitutional rights, and for the further reason that either a negative or a positive answer might now or in the future tend to incriminate me, I decline to answer the question.

Foster? Combination of same. Or autograph. Incriminate.

Meetings of CP? Same reasons as above. Or, been at many meetings. Possibly Communists have been there.

If war?

I have always obeyed the laws of the USA and I intend to continue to do so.

Russia war?

I have already given my answer to the preceding question.

Any foreign loyalty?

~~I take no orders, either directly or indirectly, from any foreign government, whether it be Downing Street, The Kremlin or the Vatican. Nor do I think any loyal~~

I take no orders, either directly or indirectly, from any foreign government, whether it be Downing Street, The Kremlin or the Vatican. Nor do I think any loyal

I take no orders or directives in any form from any foreign government, ~~including Downing Street, The Kremlin~~ neither from Downing Street, the Kremlin nor the Vatican. I am sure no decent American does. My only loyalty is to the people of the United States and their government.

Ever studied Marx?

Of course. Every educated person has. I regret to say, however, that I can not qualify as an expert on Marx, and therefore must decline to enter into a discussion of his work with this committee.

Direct your attention to this passage, Marx: Ever heard it?

Yes, or possibly no.

Agree with it (or some such)

~~Impossible to say~~ It is impossible for any ordinary intelligent ~~man~~ man to agree or disagree with a quotation torn from its context. I should have to study the entire chapter, and possibly the entire section of the book in which it occurs before I would consider myself qualified to answer.

Stalin or Lenin: approximately same, plus history of time in which statement was made, and political and military condition of world.

AYB I know absolutely nothing about their organizational history. I only know that I agreed with their program and considered their other sponsors men ~~and~~ and women of high repute. I still do.

Same, with variation for other organizations.

League Am Writers? No.

June 22, 1941. Sorry, but I still hoped after that date we could remain out of war.

Why sorry?

Because I was wrong. We could have saved many lives by going in earlier(?) not so good.

But sandwich in some ~~where~~ belief millions of Americans would have died if Russia had not been fighting Hitler.

Nazi-Soviet Pact.

We had same pact with Germany, only we called it the Kellogg Treaty. It pledged non-aggression. What's wrong with it?

Well, consider the time the Nazis and Russians signed it.

It was of no consequence. The Kellogg Pact covered them, too. I don't understand this.

But they kept the Pact after war started.

So did we.

Do you believe in the capitalist system of free enterprise?

I believe in any thing that exists. It is impossible not to.

Do you favor another form of government for the US?

It is my conviction that the United States will, by constitutional amendment and popular vote, become a socialist state in one form or another.

A form like the S Union?

Of course anything can happen, anything is possible, but I doubt that would develop along the same lines as the S U

~~Would~~ you favor us developing along line of S U?

~~I would~~ favor us developing ~~along the line of~~ in

Would you like us to have a govt. like the S.U.?

I would like us to have that form of govt. best fitted to our own traditions, our culture, our economy, and our people.

What kind of form would that be?

I cannot engage in dreamy speculation. Its form would be determined entirely by the forces and necessities which impelled the people of America to bring it into being.

Do you favor S policy in x, or x, or x?

What is that policy?

Don't you know?

I'm not sure. I think some of the information upon which I base my opinions might be biased. You'd have to tell me what your idea of it is, in order for me to answer.

My idea of it is this. Do you favor that?

I have never joined any organization under any name but my own.
(answer to party name query)

Do you hold card number, southeast branch, cp?

If I did I couldn't possibly remember the number.

Do you or have you held such a card?

I don't know what the Southeast branch of the cp means. I have never heard of it.

Have you ever held a card?

This another form of question do you a C.

I have never held a card. (technically okay? Or go to refuse to state. Perhaps latter better.)

Worker? Political Affairs?

No.

Ever?

Until a few months ago. Subscriptions ran out simultaneously, and with this reminder I shall immediately renew them.

State Dept. work?

If I ever had, it would be better for you to go to the State Department for your information. For example, if a man had done confidential work for state dept. it would be disloyal of him to reveal it to this committee.

Ever write speech?

Never met Stett in my life.

Ever help prepare speech?

If I had assisted in such a project, it would have been ~~SECRET~~ confidential work, wouldn't it? And furthermore, if I had done such work revelation of it here would constiute gross violation of ~~my~~ the ethics of my profession. I could no more tell you that than a doctor could reveal ~~information~~ confidential information about his patient. Finally, decline to state, ~~in~~criminate (if pushed, or if necessary)

A statement for after meeting:

The committee paid me the highest compliment any American can receive. It did not ask me ~~me~~ a single question about ~~anti~~ ~~semitism~~ ~~anti~~ ~~christian~~ ~~anti~~ ~~communism~~ ~~anti~~ ~~slavery~~ ~~anti~~ ~~lynching~~ ~~anti~~ ~~racism~~ ~~anti~~ ~~price~~ ~~gouging~~ ~~or~~ ~~the~~ ~~NAM~~. ~~It~~ ~~was~~ ~~very~~ ~~flattering~~ Fascism, racism, price-gouging or the NAM. ~~It~~ ~~was~~ ~~very~~ ~~flattering~~ Mr. Rankin even refrained from using the words kike or nigger. It was very flattering. Furthermore, some of their English was quite literate.

The committee has paid me a very high compliment. It did not ask me a single question about Fascism, racism, price-gouging or the NAM. Mr. Rankin refrained from using the word kike or nigger. ~~It~~ ~~was~~ ~~very~~ ~~flattering~~

The committee has paid me a very high compliment. It did not ask a single question about Fascism, racism, price-gouging or the NAM. Some of their English was quite literate. Mr. Rankin even refrained from using the word kike and nigger. ~~It~~ ~~was~~ ~~very~~ ~~flattering~~ It was very flattering.

the KKK is the Christian front.

The committee has paid ~~me~~ the highest compliment within its power. They did not ask a single question about Fascism, racism, ~~price-gouging~~ or the NAM. Some of their English was quite literate. Mr. Rankin refrained from using the words kike and nigger. It was very flattering. Despite their charm, however, I found them thoroughly subversive, and sought in every way to frustrate their attack upon civil liberties.

Demand they read my scripts?

Demand they cite my pictures?

A defense of MGM? Based on the fact that they are jeopardising free enterprise. .

Remember in Spanish question always to say Franco, not Nazism or Fascism.

Do you favor revolution?

How could ~~ixfayxxxxxxvxxxxx~~ it be possible to favor revolution? My great hope is that this country may avoid revolution.

Believe it possible?

Et is not only possible but probable so long as the peoples' rights under the constitution are not violated.

If there were a revolution, would you favor it?

If this country were under a Fascist regime, even one which obtained power by legal means as in Germany, I would favor revolution against that regime.

Johnny's last words.

~~Wxxxxxhxxxxxhxxxxxvxxxxx~~ Book written in 1938, when Hitler was at his summit of power. Those passages were written with Hitler in mind, the conditions outlined there. Would certainly advocate aiming guns at American Hitlers rather than a foreign enemy, because American Hitlers would be waging only an aggressive war.

Would you favor America if she waged aggressive war?

~~ixixixxxxx~~ The idea of aggressive war is so repellant to the American people that they would never fight ~~xxx~~ such a war. ~~xxxxxx~~ It is impossible to ~~xxxxxx~~ give the answer to an impossible hypothesis.

My poor memory for names and for people and connecting them---ask for a description of the person?---how far to go.

Are you a member of the Communist Party?

I am not now a member, have never been a member, and shall never become a member of any organization which seeks by violence to overthrow the government of the United States; ~~nor of any organization which~~ neither have I ever accepted direction in any fashion from the government or agents of any foreign power, whether that power be located in Downing Street, the Vatican or the Kremlin.

You have not answered the question. Please answer.

I do not belong to any organization whose conduct is ~~intentionally~~ intentionally destructive of or inimical to the Government of the United States, nor which seeks to undermine its institutions, or to distort its functions, or to impede its projects, or to lessen its efforts, the ultimate end being to overturn it all.

That is no answer.

It is your committee's own definition of subversive activities, issued by the committee in 1943. I belong to no organization which advocates any of the principles stated in your own definition.

You must answer whether you are a member of the Communist Party-yes or no.

Under the election laws of my own state of California, citizens are granted the right to decline to state their political affiliation in all elections, including Federal. I cherish this right, and do not believe this committee is within its powers in asking me to relinquish it. Especially when I have already answered the question in the committee's own terms.

You are in danger of contempt unless you answer the question yes or no.

When The Committee sat in Los Angeles, Mr. Thomas, its chairman, publicly stated that the aims of its investigations were to drive all communists and fellow travellers from the motion picture industry. ~~This is an illegal objective~~ Mr. and Mr., committee investigators issued public statements they had warned the studios to clean house of communists and their sympathizers. This is an illegal objective. By ~~answering~~ answering either yes or no I should be aiding the committee in such illegal objective. This I cannot in all conscience do.

Answer yes or no.

I have answered as to subversive activities. To answer yes or no would be to surrender my ~~sixty~~ political liberty under the Constitution. I would be lending myself to an illegal objective. I would be surrendering a political and legal right guaranteed by my own state. I would be acting against my deepest convictions, and against every principle of American freedom I have learned since youth. My conscience will not permit me to answer yes or no.

Possible response to questions as to sympathy with Communism:

It is my opinion that this committee and the government of the United States is moving toward Fascism, and especially that credo of Fascism which seeks to destroy civil rights, prohibit political activity and set up a dictatorship over labor. ~~You~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ It is your task here to draw up names for the purge. I must therefore withhold that information from you on the grounds that it might place me in jeopardy---that it might be incriminating.

Asked opinion: Refuse on the basis of freedom of conscience and the right to hold an opinion and likewise to withhold it.

Asked for definition of Fascism: It is a system of government designed to extend the power of private monopolies over the people. To achieve this it prohibits ~~political discussion~~ political discussion, denies civil rights, sets up a dictatorship*and permits the lynching and terrorization of minority groups.

*over labor (rather say destroys unions)

JGHGun was on Cardinal Mudelein's list of 100 recommended books for Catholics.

Remember Andrew and the blits - Lord Mayor's Fund.

Raymond attached Committee
Forum - anti - unions -
labor - civil rights - etc.

1. Request counsel.
2. Request right to cross examine witnesses against me.
3. Request right to present evidence.
4. Request open hearing, with a free press represented.
5. Protest against star chamber proceedings.

Then when first questioning begins:

1. Ask what the purpose of this committee is.
2. When they state it, or if they do not, quote Thomas and his investigators as to its purpose. Denounce this as illegal, a prejudging, a threat, a violation of the Fifth Amendment.
3. Demand to introduce Thomas and investigator's statements in evidence.
4. Protest being followed at night when consulting my counsel.

When they ask first organizational question:

1. Ask if the organization is illegal.
2. I am an American citizen. I stand here under the protection of the Constitution, which guarantees me the right to think, the right to speak my thoughts, and the right to assemble with others. This committee, through its chairman, has stated that its avowed purpose is to deprive of their livelihood an entire group simply because they are accused of exercising such rights. This purpose is an illegal one, and no free American would cooperate with such an illegal objective. In my own state political rights are guaranteed by the right of the individual to decline to state political affiliation. The secrecy of the ballot is thus preserved. To answer this question, either positively or negatively, would surrender to the committee the right to decline to state and the right to ~~se~~ secrecy of the ballot. For these Constitutional reasons, and for reasons of conscience, I consider it not only my right but my duty to refuse to answer any such question.
3. Freely state support government, not overthrow force violence, etc.? Why not?

An informer is never made. He is born to it. He takes to it as eagerly as monkeys take to thievery and dogs to vomit. There are sharp class distinctions among the breed, too. One can never be sure, of course, but I suspect that Mr. Menjou and Mr. Taylor have joined the ranks of those incorruptible informers who like the work so well they've stopped taking money for it. One hesitates to say the same for Mr. McGuinness and Mr. Rogers. They are what you call hack informers, grown old and seedy in service, envious and resentful of the flashy amateurs. Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Moffitt are quite beyond the pale. Although richly endowed with ambition and the informer's morality, they cannot dart as swiftly as Mr. McGuinness and Mr. Rogers, and their intellects are not as spacious as those of Mr. Menjou and Mr. Taylor.

I have appeared in the Sateve Post with Dies.

Anti-British? Entire ~~royalty~~ royalties of my books in England went to Lord Mayor's Fund for the Relief of British Children, London.

Stettinius matter?

Foster matter?

Only in the German courts of 1933-34 can a parallel be found. The disease of Nazism in all its forms hangs in the air of the committee room like smoke over a crematory. ~~There are many families that have been destroyed by the Constitution~~ Mention the Constitution with them and they snarl with hatred. It is my opinion that if they do not succeed in their present efforts to subvert the Constitution, they will not hesitate to unite with the Klan and the Christian Front in seeking its overthrow. If the American people wish to preserve their government they must arraign these storm troopers at once and sleep with their guns until a conviction has been obtained.

Only in the Nazi courts of 1933-34 can a parallel be found, for they follow the line slavishly. The disease of Fascism in all its forms hangs in the air of the committee room like smoke over a crematory. I am convinced that if they do not succeed in their present efforts to subvert the Constitution they will ~~ultimately seek its overthrow by force and violence~~ ultimately seek its overthrow by force and violence. I advise the American people to sleep with their guns until this gang of ~~leeches~~ leeches has been separated from the public payroll.

Mr. McGuinness

Mr. Menjou is a rare specimen---

Adolph Menjou is a rare old bird---an informer who won't take a penny. He does it because he was

French literature and painting
English and Italian movies
Russian music
Our science basically weak
Technology we're superior in.

Develop the superman idea which is growing, in relation to the actual facts, and compare it with German soul and blood and soil.

First German laws were against Communists. Ended with everyone.

At Nuremberg we specifically condemned a whole people for yielding to undemocratic laws, for taking the orders of wicked and designing men. How will we stand up under the test of our own standards when confronted with the same situation here: namely, the Taft-Hartley Act.

I credit everyone here with good faith and loyalty to the guild, excepting only our MPA contingent. I have watched their work for years. It is the work of provocateurs, spies and men without honor.

I love the guild. I once had the experience of having a contract cancelled while other men received fat contracts for abandoning it.

Let us not forget what the guild has done for us---what we shall lose if the guild is dissolved.

The law itself makes no mention of fascists and their fellow travellers---anti-semites, anti-Negro, goons, Christian Fronters and assorted thugs.

This issue was raised at this time on the basis that we fear there might be a rival organization which would force us to go before the NLRB in which event we should have to sign the statements. Those who raised this fear should take into account Roosevelt: We have nothing to fear but fear itself. For the fear that the issue would arise has now precipitated the issue. It has come before us when there is no rival organization; simply the fear of one. When there is no need to go to the NLRB---only the fear that we shall. It has raised these issues for all to see, including the producers themselves and the gangster Hollywood press. But the thing they feared has not come to pass. Only its result, which is disunity, confusion and disaster. The law does not compel us to sign. There is no compulsion now upon us to sign. And we are not violating the law if we refuse to sign in the future.

Wilkerson - May - Rankin - Bilbo - thieves, covering up their corruption, distracting attention from it by the old cry of 'Red!'