THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
CONGRESSMAN EVERETT M. DIRKSEN
16th District

THE ELUSIVE MR. BRIDGES

On March 2, 1938 the Labor Department issued a warrant for the arrest of a person named Harry Renton Bridges on the ground that he was an alien-communist. He was given a hearing which lasted 63 days. The examiner at the hearing was James M. Landis, Dean of the Harvard Law School. One hundred four days later the examiner reported his conclusions. He found that Harry Bridges was not a communist or affiliated with that party. On January 8, 1940, the warrant for the deportation of Bridges was cancelled. Congress then amended the deportation law to make it applicable to any alien who at the time of his entry into the U. S. or thereafter was a member of or affiliated with the Communist Party. The Attorney General then directed the FBI to investigate Bridges. On February 14, 1941 another warrant for the arrest and deportation of Harry Bridges was issued. A hearing was held, presided over by Inspector Charles B. Sears. The hearing lasted 72 days, covered 756 pages together with 359 exhibits. The Government used 33 witnesses, the alien defendant used 30. The Inspector's report covers 187 pages, was filed Sept. 26, 1941. Inspector Spears found that Harry Renton Bridges was a member of and affiliated with an organization which believes in and advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force and violence and that he be deported at Government expense. Counsel for Bridges filed a motion for an examination of witnesses on the ground that testimony obtained by wiretapping was used in the hearing. The motion was denied. Meanwhile, the House of Representatives voted a second time to deport Harry Bridges.

ARMY UNITS.

Readers, unfamiliar with military terms and nomenclature often read about manoeuvres without a clear idea of the size of unit that is mentioned. Perhaps this brief digest may be helpful. It is taken from the latest War Department publication on the "New Army of the United States" published two months ago. (1) A squad is 12 or less commanded by a corporal. (2) A section ranges from 12 to 20 under a sergeant. (3) A platoon varies from 25 to 60 under a lieutenant. (4) A company (battery, troop, or flight) ranges from 80 to 240 under a Captain. (5) A battalion varies from 450 to 975 under a major or Lieutenant Colonel. (6) A regiment varies from 1040 to 3615 under a colonel. (7) A brigade ranges from 3260 to 6735 under a brigadier general. (8) A division ranges from 11,125 to 21,300 under a major-general. (9) An Army Corps varies from 60,000 to 80,000 under a Lieutenant General. (10) A Field Army varies from 229,000 to 289,000 under a General.

THE LIGHTS BURN AT NIGHT.

It is six thirty in the evening and only a thin slice of daylight is left in the western sky. Pause for a moment in your promenade from the Capitol to Washington's monument. Look in all directions. The lights are burning. Washington is still at work and will be for quite a time. Of course, not all of Washington is at work. But the lights
are evidence of activity after-hours. Just to the southwest of where you stand is the Department of Agriculture where folks are laboring on farm and food problem created by defense. To the northwest of your vantage spot is the Commerce Building. Here the Maritime Commission is still in the throes of some shipping problem. The Civil Aeronautics Administration is concerned about flight problems. Look east and south. Right at hand is the Social Security Building where the Army Quartermaster in charge of construction maintains a beehive of activity. Behind it stands the new Railroad Retirement Building. Much of its space has been surrendered to defense activities. Far to the south is one of the tallest buildings in the city. It is alight from top to bottom. It's an old warehouse which now houses the Procurement division of the Treasury Department and the Federal Works agency. Look on all sides - north, east, south, west, - the lights burn at night.

THE SENATORIAL FRONT

We could call this item Byrds-of-a-feather or Tom-Dick-and-Harry because it is only slightly related to the Senatorial Front. Harry Flood Byrd, age 53 is the author of the recent Senate amendment declaring strikes in defense industries to be contrary to public policy. He served as Governor of Virginia before reaching the U. S. Senate and is one of the largest individual apple growers in the world. Harry's brother Dick, better known as Richard Evelyn Byrd has had a flair for adventure since youth and now holds rank as a Rear Admiral. His first flight over the South Pole came in 1929 after which he returned in 1934 and established Little America. The "Tom" in this trio is Captain Thomas Bolling Byrd, age 50, lawyer, world-war veteran and well-known apple grower also. There you have Tom-Dick-and-Harry from Virginia.