The appended article from Deuel, a correspondent in Europe of the Chicago Daily News, which appeared in the Washington Star of January 4, covering an article which appeared recently in the Hamburger Fremdenblatt is in some ways significant. Deuel reports that in a long article in the Hamburger Fremdenblatt it is stated that "the German-American minority in the United States" is subjected to the worst kind of persecution and oppression, that German-Americans are denied police protection against attacks by their enemies, that they are being dismissed from their jobs by the thousands and prevented from earning a living, and that their meetings are broken up by violence and attacks. Deuel reports that the Fremdenblatt is said to paint a tragic picture of the lot of German-Americans in the United States.

I think you will find it worth while to read the article for it is significant that in the absolutely Government controlled and directed press in Germany an article
article speaking of a "German-American minority" should appear. Although there have been many references in the German press in recent years with regard to the Germans here, this is the first article in which I know such detailed reference is made to alleged treatment of Germans in this country as a minority. It may seem incredible that the German Government should believe that the same methods employed in Austria, Czechoslovakia and elsewhere in this so-called minority question should be effective here, but we know that what seemed to some incredible has been turned into fact in more than one case recently. While it is, of course, unutterably stupid for these people to believe that such a campaign on the part of the German Government and press should be effective in this country, it is nevertheless significant in many ways that such an article should appear and particularly in the Hamburger Fremdenblatt. This newspaper for many years was one of the most responsible in Germany and one of the best in Germany outside of one or two in Berlin. The Hamburger Fremdenblatt is now considered as the leading official mouthpiece in Hamburg.

I do not think that this article need necessarily be considered as the beginning of a campaign in the German press with regard to the "German-American minority" here. The article nevertheless is significant and it will be interesting to watch developments. It is in this way that
that these other press campaigns have started.

It is more than ever clear that early in the present session of the Congress a carefully drafted bill should be introduced providing for a wider base for the cancellation of naturalization and subsequent deportation of persons engaged in un-American activities. You will recall that at our instance a Committee composed of a representative of this Department and of the Departments of Justice and Labor has been instructed to study this subject and to prepare such a draft. It will have to be drawn very carefully so as not to interfere with the Constitutional right to freedom of speech, of the press and of assembly, but, difficult as it is, it should be possible to draw up such a draft. Once the draft is prepared and found acceptable, I believe it would be advisable to bring in consultation some of the organizations interested in the maintenance of these principles. While these organizations are rather radical, they are nevertheless interested in the maintenance of our institutions and I believe that any such draft legislation will have its passage facilitated if there is such preliminary consultation with these organizations so as to get their support rather than have to overcome their opposition.

I believe that there will be no difficulty in securing the passage of such legislation in the Congress and such legislation
legislation is the most effective weapon we have against these un-American activities by naturalized citizens acting under pressure of the Government to which they formerly owed allegiance. If they are faced with the possibility of cancellation of naturalization and deportation, I think the activities of these people will cease almost at once. Such organizations as the German-American Bund would, I believe, with such a statute on our books, disappear almost over night. At present these people are acting under external pressure and are for the most part ignorant and simple people who respond to pressure. They are accustomed to pressure and a counter-pressure through such a statute must be exercised.

G. S. Messersmith.