

## DR. TREBACH PROPOSES REMOVAL OF FBI HEAD

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--An investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's impact on civil rights and the replacement of FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover have been urged by Dr. Arnold S. Trebach, director of the human rights program, Howard University.

Addressing a committee meeting on administration of justice at the White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights," Trebach described Hoover and the FBI as "No. 1 untouchables."

Trebach proposed that Hoover "be replaced as soon as possible" not by a man of his own choosing, but by an individual of the "caliber of a Supreme Court justice."

"It is a popular notion," Trebach said, "that Hoover has no real belief in civil rights."

A FORMAL Congressional investigation of the FBI should be "patient, calm, efficient, and non-hysterical," Trebach said. "We should investigate the FBI's role in American life and its impact on civil rights."

"We cannot implement the council's recommendations unless we can deal with the FBI in a calm, effective way," he declared.

He was referring to recommendations of the White House Conference which supported President Johnson's "Great Society" program.

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## Jewish Congress Supports Cause

NEW YORK - (NPI)--A proposal to name a Mississippi veteran's hospital for the late Rep. John E. Rankin, (R-Miss.) met with stiff opposition from the American Jewish Congress which sent a communication to the House of Representatives urging rejection of the move, on grounds that Rankin was an "arch-segregationist, white supremacist and racist."

The AJC said "It would be shocking if a government facility open to veterans of all races and religions were to be named for a man whose hatred for Jews and Negroes was so intense and so notorious as to have become a veritable fetish."

They also accused the late congressman of referring to Solicitor Gen. Philip Perlman as "our Yiddish Solicitor General," and repeatedly referring to Negroes as brutes and also saying that slavery was the greatest blessing the Negro ever knew.

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## Southwest Gas Report-So What Else Is New

For the six months ended March 31, 1966, Southwest Gas Corporation operating revenues reached \$13,870,028; E. M. Byrge, treasurer for the natural gas utility reported today.

This is a 19% increase over the comparable six months a year ago, when revenues for the corporations' three-state operations were \$11,643,619.

"Our earnings also have continued the upward trend of the past several years," Byrge said. "For six months ended March 31 earnings were \$1.09 per share on 2,149,098 average common shares outstanding, compared to \$1.04 on 8% fewer shares for the same period a year ago."

ON APRIL 27, Southwest Gas increased its

quarterly dividend on common stock from 20¢ to 25¢ per share, payable June 1 to stock of record May 10. This is the second dividend increase in its current fiscal year. On December 1, 1965 the rate was raised from 15¢ to 20¢.

"The 19% increase in revenue over the same period last year reflects the growth in number of customers," Byrge said, "since temperatures, which can affect heating revenues, have been close to normal this year."

Byrge said that in Nevada, where 77% of Southwest Gas utility plant is located, economic conditions are favorable. The index of general business activity for January 1966 increased nearly 6% over the same month in 1965.

THE LAS VEGAS-BASED COMPANY now

serves nearly 80,000 customers either directly or through other distribution utilities to which the company wholesales natural gas. Southwest Gas serves parts of California and Arizona, as well as the whole state of Nevada.

"These are the three fastest growing states in the country," Byrge stated, "which is an important factor in our past as well as our future growth."

Byrge said in the past ten years revenues have increased over 2000% and the number of customers have increased more than 3 1/2 times.

"In earnings available for common stockholders, Southwest Gas Corporation has outperformed every public utility of which I have any knowledge," Byrge said.