



TWO MEMBERS BACK BIRCH GROUP INQUIRY

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WASHINGTON, May 19—Two members of Congress who also belong to the John Birch Society urged the House Rules Committee today to approve a full-scale investigation of the policies, principles and activities of that controversial organization.

A decision was deferred until perhaps next week.

The resolution calling for the investigation was sponsored by Representative Edgar W. Goodland, Republican of California. Backing him was another California Republican, John H. Rousselot. He said it would be healthful all-around if "the air was cleared" as to the status and objectives of the society that has acquired 80,000 members since it was chartered as "an educational" organization in 1953.

In recent months charges have been made that the society leaned toward fascism, nazism, communism, bigotry, and klu-klux-klanism.

Robert H. W. Welch Jr., a former Massachusetts candy maker and the founder of the group, has been quoted as attributing pro-Communist thoughts and actions to former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the late John Foster Dulles, Allen W. Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and others.

