

'Christian Front' Arrests

Charged with plotting to overthrow the Government of the United States, seventeen members of a secret inner circle of the "Christian Front" have been arrested in New York by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. J. Edgar Hoover, announcing that they had been seized and that cordite, arms and ammunition had been found in their possession, explained that they were conspiring to create a reign of terror to "eliminate" the Jews and to install a "dictator." The whole plan was ridiculous, yet there can be little question that it might have developed into a campaign of violence. "After seizure of strategic points, it

was intended to accomplish a revolution," Mr. Hoover said. Several Federal buildings, the publication office of a Communist newspaper and a theater showing imported films were to be bombed and certain members of Congress were to be assassinated. The search for evidence began in August, and further inquiry already has been ordered. *Star - 1/15/40*

Meanwhile, the plotters are in jail and such persons as may have been tempted to join subversive organizations have been provided with a warning which surely ought to be effective in discouraging enlistment in illegal causes. It should be plain now to everybody that it is dangerous to play at rebellion, perilous to indulge in movements designed to spread intolerance, hazardous to engage in activities which patently are unconstitutional and un-American. The people of the United States are pledged to democracy in practice as well as in theory, and their Government may be assured of their support in its decision to protect itself and them against domestic fascism and communism—patterns of tyranny which cannot be allowed to prosper under the license of a Bill of Rights never intended to be perverted.

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