

Work
119140-07

Coast League Asks for Probe Of Coughlin

HOLLYWOOD.—A wire making a formal complaint to the Federal Bureau of Investigation against the anti-Semitic activities of Father Coughlin this week was sent out by the Hollywood League for Democratic Action.

The action was prompted by the statement of Attorney General Frank Murphy that "no complaint of any kind has ever been made in this department against Father Coughlin."

The Attorney General, announcing plans for a Grand Jury probe of "anti-Semitic activities" in the United States, had told probers that Coughlin would not be included in the scrutiny.

Astonished at the exclusion of one of the leading figures in the movement for bigotry in this country, the Hollywood League sent a telegram making a complaint. The telegram is being followed by a detailed letter.

Must Investigate Coughlin

"Father Coughlin's writings and speeches provide abundant evidence of leadership of an anti-Semitic drive in the United States," the League telegraphed.

"Results of this drive are clear in pogrom-like riots on New York streets, described in documented material by magazines Equality and New York Nation. The Hollywood League for Democratic Action with a membership of more than 4,000, herewith lodges formal complaint charging racial incitement to Father Coughlin and calls upon the FBI for investigation of his activities in grand jury probe."

The FBI has been quietly investigating anti-Semitism for many months.

The fact that it was possible to pursue the probe without directing indictments of and prosecutions in the Coughlin movement created astonishment in progressive and liberal circles throughout the country.