

Coughlin Trying Comeback ^{9/20/42} **Seeks to Form New Organization**

By Louis F. Budenz

Reappearance of Charles E. Coughlin on the public scene in a new scheme to undermine democracy and the nation's war effort, was one of the unsavory developments of the last week.

Coughlin's letter to all former readers of "Social Justice," which was sent out in the mails under date of Sept. 10, covered itself with a heavy "religious" veil in attacking "the concept of liberty" and in asserting in effect that our nation is equally guilty of aggression with the Axis in this war.

In a slyly worded effort to undermine morale, Coughlin even went to the extent of associating "Christianity" with fascism and declaring, in effect, that Christianity is the enemy of democracy. These seditious ideas were presented to former readers of "Social Justice" under the guise of organ-

izing "The League of the Little Flower." This reorganization of his followers by Coughlin, in order to be able to cry "religious persecution" if prosecuted by the government, marches hand in hand with his other new scheme to train young people for pro-fascist services in Latin America.

The latter venture works hand in glove politically with the activities of the Spanish Falangists who, under the direction of Franco, are endeavoring to spread clerical fascist ideas and hatred of the United States in Latin American countries. The preparation of Hitler's tool, Franco, for active participation in the war against the United States and the United Nations thus coincides with the maneuverings of Coughlin in our country and in Latin America.

The re-emergence of Coughlin, cloaking his sedition under religious symbols, is of grave concern to

American Catholics. If it becomes generally known that a Catholic priest is permitted to preach that "Christianity" is the enemy of our form of government, this will serve to feed those KKK fascist groups who seek to persecute the masses of American Catholic people.

At the same time, these schemes of Goebbels' echo at Royal Oak to break down the morale of our people, and to enlist them against democracy and the anti-Axis war, is a solemn reminder to the government that it has erred in hesitating to prosecute Coughlin. Everything that William Dudley Peley has said and written has been said and written against our country by Charles Coughlin. Peley's quick conviction by a jury of patriotic middle westerners, requires the immediate prosecution of Coughlin and of all others who work in a leading capacity with him.