

Fails to Make Radio Talk



Herald Tribune—Acme
The Rev. Charles E. Coughlin

Coughlin Skips Broadcast but Won't Say Why

Cryptical Announcer Says 'Events This Week Will Probably Enlighten You'

By The Associated Press

DETROIT, Feb. 4.—For an unexplained reason the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin failed to make his customary talk on the radio today, and all efforts tonight to ascertain the cause of his absence were unavailing.

A cryptic comment from the radio announcer—"Probably events transpiring this week will enlighten you" was the only suggestion to listeners that Father Coughlin might have had an extraordinary reason for remaining off the air.

For months, since organization of a new network of stations to broadcast his speeches, Father Coughlin has appeared regularly on Sundays, and officials of the chain outlet, WJR-Detroit, expressed surprise at his absence today.

The announcer, advising hearers to "pay no heed to idle rumors which will be circulated this week," said: "Be assured Father Coughlin knows what he is doing. He knows why neither he nor any other person is speaking over this microphone today."

The rectory of the Shrine of the Little Flower, Father Coughlin's church in Royal Oak, Mich., where he delivers the radio talks, could shed no light on the question. Father Coughlin was not at hand, and the rectory reported he had left this morning without making his intentions known.

"There isn't any more news than has been said over the radio," it was said at the rectory.

Recently Father Coughlin has engaged in controversy over the subject of the Christian Front, seventeen of whose members are charged in New York with conspiring to revolt and overthrow the government. Father Coughlin has declared himself a "friend of the accused," saying, however, that if found guilty they should be penalized as the law provides.

Last Sunday night O. John Rogge, Assistant United States Attorney General, announced that charges made against Father Coughlin by the Jewish Peoples Committee would be investigated "in due course." Mr. Rogge did not disclose the nature of the charges.

Three announcements were made concerning Father Coughlin's absence from the program. Music

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was heard during the time that Father Coughlin usually speaks.

The first announcement read: "I am instructed to say: Father Coughlin will not address you today. No person will address you today over this microphone. I am not authorized to give any explanation."

Fifteen minutes later came the second announcement: "I am instructed to say: Pay no heed to idle rumors which will be circulated this week. Be assured, Father Coughlin knows what he is doing. He knows why neither he nor any other person is speaking over this microphone today. Probably events transpiring this week will enlighten you."

The final announcement read: "Attention, please! Ladies and gentlemen: Do not be alarmed. We confidently expect that Father Coughlin will return to the microphone next Sunday. By all means do your share to have his largest audience ready to hear his message."

Norman White, official of radio station WJR, said that he had not advised that Father Coughlin not speak and was surprised at his absence from the program.

Radio Station Surprised
Special to the Herald Tribune
NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 4.—Officials

of WHBI, the only radio station in the New York metropolitan area to carry the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin's regular Sunday broadcasts, said today that "we were as much surprised as any one else" by Father Coughlin's failure to speak today. The station, which has carried the Coughlin broadcasts as a regular feature for the last four years, re-broadcast the program of music which Station WJR, in Detroit, substituted for the scheduled remarks of Father Coughlin.

Rally Aids Youths Held In Christian Front Plot

3,000 Hear Defendants Have 'Love in Their Hearts'

A mass meeting was held by the Parents Defense Fund at Prospect Hall, Fifth and Prospect Avenues, Brooklyn, last night to raise funds for the defense of seventeen members of the Christian Front charged with conspiring to overthrow the government. About 3,000 persons attended and heard the seventeen alleged plotters described by Leo Healey, counsel for twelve of them, as "fine, upstanding boys with love in their hearts."

Edmund Donald Wilson, counsel for the other five defendants, also spoke at the meeting, of which Bernard D'Arcy was chairman. Mr. D'Arcy announced that at 8 a. m. today a mass will be offered for the alleged conspirators at St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Twenty-fifth Street and Sixth Avenue, Brooklyn. Miss Margaret Cassidy, a sister of one of the defendants, is treasurer of the Parents' Defense Fund.