

Father Coughlin May Testify in Inquiry Monday

Jan 5/14
'X-Ray,' Indiana
Weekly, Is Barred
For 'Sedition'

The Rev. Charles E. Coughlin may testify at the Post Office Department hearing here Monday on whether the magazine, Social Justice, whose policies he directs, shall have its mailing privileges revoked for allegedly publishing "seditious" material.

The Royal Oak (Mich.) tabloid is owned by Father Coughlin's parents, but the "radio priest" recently assumed responsibility for its contents.

The Justice and Post Office Departments also cited another periodical—"The X-Ray," a weekly published at Muncie, Ind.—for publishing allegedly "seditious" matter.

Hearing Set for May 19.

Postmaster General Walker instructed the postmaster at Muncie to refuse to accept for mailing any copies of the paper until they had been forwarded here for a ruling on their mailability. A hearing on whether the mailing privilege shall be revoked altogether was set for May 19.

Attorney General Biddle said in a letter to Mr. Walker that the publication "has been engaged over a period of time in a sustained and systematic attack on certain of our activities directly related to the war effort as well as on public morale generally. The danger of such a systematic attack has already been amply illustrated by the fate of other countries where the Axis utilize such an attack to prepare the way for military conquest."

"Furthermore," Mr. Biddle wrote, "a parallelism has existed between material contained in 'the X-Ray' since December 7, 1941, and certain of the major themes broadcast by enemies of this Nation during the same period."

Circulated in 15 States.

The Post Office Department's announcement said "the X-Ray" is published by Court Asher. Mr. Biddle said the publication was circulated in more than 15 States and "it is not unreasonable to assume that a substantial number of persons, including not only civilians, but also actual and potential draftees and enlistees are reached and influenced by it."

Another periodical was cited by the Justice and Post Office Departments Thursday. It is the Philadelphia Herold. A hearing also has been scheduled in its case.

The District grand jury, which has been investigating Social Justice, was in recess until Friday. William Power Maloney, special assistant to the Attorney General, said that additional employes of the publication and Father Coughlin probably would be called to testify.

Appearing yesterday before the grand jury were Dr. Mand DeLand, Washington physician; E. Perrin Schwartz, editorial writer on Social Justice; and Alberta Ward, employe of Father Coughlin's organization.