

Coughlin Heils a Phony Prosecution

• The real meaning of the scandalous acquittal of the 9 "Christian Front" terrorists can be seen from these brazen words of Coughlin yesterday:

"The result of all this (the acquittal) will be that the Christian Front movement will emerge more vigorous and potent than ever. . . . The resentment on the part of the victims (that is, to their being prosecuted) is liable to increase the wave of anti-Semitism throughout the country, particularly as the jury has found them not guilty."

Here is a plain unadulterated call for even more Hitlerism, for more persecution of the Jewish people and other minorities, for more seizures of armed arsenals, for more such gangster violations of the spirit and letter of the Bill of Rights. Never was the democratic sentiment of fair-minded Americans more willfully challenged and defied.

During the "Front" trial Coughlin was pretty silent. But having received the go-ahead signal from the acquittals, he now becomes a greater and more outspoken menace to the people's liberties than at any time since he spawned the "Front."

He has been given this opportunity by none other than the Roosevelt Administration itself. The trial of the "Fronters" was a phony prosecution pulled off by the Department of Justice under Roosevelt's appointee Jackson and his subordinates.

There was plenty of evidence against all the defendants. The government had had at its disposal the same vast prosecuting machinery that it uses to hound the trade unions under the anti-trust laws, and to trump-up

cases against Earl Browder for his fight for America's peace. But the Front's "anti-Communist" drive against civil liberties is useful to the Administration's war hysteria.

If ever there were any illusions about the Roosevelt Administration being a "defender" of the Jewish people or any other minority, it must be dispelled now. For the government shares responsibility for these shocking and disgraceful acquittals. This fake prosecution reveals the Department of Justice's collaboration with one of the most sinister "fifth column" gangs in the country.

The people have the right to ask whether the Department of Justice has granted immunity to Coughlin. Time and again documented information on Coughlin's questionable manipulations on Wall Street and his suspicious use of the U. S. mails has been placed in Attorney General Jackson's hands. But these have been brushed aside contemptuously. The trade unions—which Coughlin especially hates—and the people should more loudly demand federal action against this fascist mountebank.

This phony prosecution of the Front should be investigated as a piece of collusion against the people's civil rights. The Department of Justice is saying in effect: "As long as a gang yells against Communists, it can persecute and terrorize anyone with immunity." Already, there's talk that the government intends to drop prosecution of five of the Fronters because of a mistrial. The people should protest any such plan, demanding a REAL prosecution and a bridling of the Front terrorists.