

DW 7/3/40

'FRONT' RENEWS COUGHLIN WAVE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

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The "wave of anti-Semitism" which Father Coughlin predicted as a result of the acquittal of nine of fourteen members of the Christian Front in a Brooklyn court last week begins tonight.

John Cassidy, national leader of the "Front" and one of those whitewashed of charges of plotting to overthrow the government by violence, will be the principal speaker at an "Independence Day" rally tonight at a Brooklyn hall.

Sharing the platform with him will be ex-magistrate Leo Healy, who was one of the battery of defense lawyers in the recent trial and who has gained notoriety as a red-baiter and anti-Semitic

orator with an exceptionally developed talent for vitriolics.

"VICTORY" CELEBRATION

The Christian Front plans the rally as a sort of victory celebration, because today at 10:30 A.M. United States Attorney Harold M. Kennedy is scheduled to move either for dismissal of charges against five Front members upon whom a jury disagreed, or to set a date for retrial. The Front, basing itself upon Kennedy's meek and apologetic "prosecution" of its members, and his congratulations to those freed by a jury, is frankly confident that he will not attempt a retrial.

The five are William Gerald Bishop, head of the so-called "Action Committee" of the Christian Front which plotted wide-scale violence; John A. Viebrock, in whose home quantities of bombs and explosives were found; Macklin Boettger; Captain John T. Prout, Jr., National Guard member who supplied the plotters with some 3,500 rounds of rifle ammunition; William H. D. Bushnell, Jr., who confessed that he had drawn floor plans of the Daily Worker office with the intention of bombing it.

Bishop is still held in jail, un-

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'Front' Renews Coughlin Wave of Anti-Semitism

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able to post \$50,000 bail under which he has been held since his arrest. The others are free on bond.

A third speaker at tonight's rally will be Father Edward Brophy, a Catholic priest who poses as an "expert" on "Jewish plots against Christians."

Father Brophy this week took the witness stand in behalf of Joseph E. McWilliams, head of the so-called "Christian Mobilizers" now being tried on criminal charges for incitement to violence against Jews at a street corner meeting.

Father Brophy sought to make

the witness stand a rostrum for an anti-Semitic orgy of oratory, but was cut short by Judge Vincent J. Sweeney who barred any such line of "testimony."

There will be no restraints on Father Brophy tonight.

The rally will be the first public move of the Front since the arrests of its conspirators last January. Now with the whitewash liberally bestowed upon them, and with the praise of a United States Attorney for their "good, sound American principles" bolstering their program, it is expected that they will cut loose with the belief that as far as the government and law-enforcing agencies are concerned, anything goes.