

# Democracy Group Protests Speech by Curran

## Coughlin Spokesman Addressed Finance Dept. Meeting

The Friends of Democracy yesterday protested against selection of the Rev. Edward Lodge Curran as principal speaker at the annual ~~Communion~~ breakfast of the City's Finance Dept. held in the morning. The protest, sent to Mayor La Guardia and signed by L. M. Birkhead, National director, said:

"Rev. Mr. Curran is known as a leader of the Christian Front forces, a speaker for Charles E. Coughlin, and a writer for Coughlin's *Social Justice*, recently banned from the mail as seditious."

The Friends of Democracy further protested against "an organization of New York City employes giving their official sanction to a person such as Rev. Mr. Curran during this period of war and crisis." Curran, in his speech, attacked Communists in America and Russia's "20-month totalitarian honeymoon with the Nazis" before the Nazi invasion.

His speech was heard by employes of the Office of Comptroller as well as by the staff of the Finance Dept. Present were Comptroller Joseph D. McGoldrick, City Treasurer Almerindo Portfolio and Paul Frankfurter, Secretary of the Finance Dept.

Curran pleaded with Catholic Americans to rid the country of Communists. He said Communists in the U. S. A. were our enemies within the gates, just as the Nazis were on the outside.

"Russia is now fighting the Nazis only because she was forced to," he said. "The Soviet Union got along very well with Nazi Germany until June of last year, when she was invaded."

Curran lumped the Communists with Nazis and Fascists.

"We want none of them here in the U. S. A.," he said.

### AN EDITORIAL

## Curran Still at It

In a speech to the staffs of the Finance Dept. and the Comptroller's Office, Edward Lodge Curran again does his little bit for disunity by sowing hatred and distrust of our ally, Russia. While Russians by the thousands are pouring out their blood to crush our common enemy, Curran carries on the ignoble *Social Justice* tradition.

Curran knows that the world can never be free until Germany is crushed—and that Communist Russia is doing more to crush Germany than any other nation.

Why then this incessant blabbing about the "Communist menace?" Why then this repeated howling against our strongest ally?

It is bad enough for Curran to peddle his sixth-column line to the Fronters and Coughlinites. It is much worse for him to peddle it at a City Department function.

—RICHARD HANSER