

*"Something Burning"*

# MARSHALL BACKERS STILL KEPT SECRET

## Despite His Promise on Radio, List of Contributions to No War Group Is Withheld

### FORD AID IS DISCLAIMED

### Queens Prosecutor Looks Into Charge Wire to President Had 2 Forged Signatures

The financial records of the No Foreign War Committee, which Verne Marshall, the committee's chairman, had said Thursday night over the radio would be open "anytime, to any one," were refused yesterday to Dr. L. M. Birkhead, director of the Friends of Democracy.

Dr. Birkhead said that he had received several inquiries from members of his organization for information as to the financial backers of the No Foreign War Committee. Acting on Mr. Marshall's radio promise of the night before, he called the organization's office yesterday.

He reported that he was unable to reach Mr. Marshall but did speak to Robert A. Lancaster, the treasurer. Mr. Lancaster, he said, told him the books could not be made available to the public, that the committee had no authorization from its contributors to do that, and that, besides, it would not be feasible to let any one who inquired look over their records.

Dr. Birkhead said he was told by Mr. Lancaster that the bulk of contributions was in amounts of \$1, \$5 and \$10 and that the only large contributors to the committee had been Mr. Marshall and The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, which he formerly edited.

Asked specifically if Henry Ford or Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh was among the contributors, Mr. Lancaster told him they were not, Dr. Birkhead said.

Two Queens residents asked District Attorney Charles P. Sullivan yesterday for an investigation of the circumstances under which their names appeared on a telegram sent by Mr. Marshall from Cedar Rapids to President Roosevelt Dec. 27, protesting against the Administration's foreign policy.

The two, who declared they had not authorized the use of their names, but, on the contrary, applauded the President's foreign policy, were Charles F. Hughes, 160-14 120th Avenue, Jamaica, and David R. Keefe, 134-60 232d Street, Laurelton.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 11, 1941  
Meeting Verne Marshall's lunge against Mr. Marshall's lunge against the "warmongers" is the mid-mannered, soft-spoken, but persistent Rev. Dr. Leon M. Birkhead, like Mr. Marshall a Middle Westerner. As national director of the Friends of Democracy, Mr. Birkhead charges Mr. Marshall's organization with dubious sponsorship and otherwise adds to the mounting troubles and frustration of the crusading Iowa editor.

It was Dr. Birkhead, a dissident Methodist clergyman of St. Louis who became a Unitarian, who was Sinclair Lewis's consultant when Mr. Lewis wrote "Elmer Gantry," and who sketched in the broad outlines of this portrait.

He came to New York and started building his organization in 1937, as a bulwark against Communism, Nazism and Fascism. He was educated at McCormick College, Lebanon, Ill., Kendree College, Lebanon, Ill., and studied theology at Columbia and the Union Theological Seminary.

PITTSBURGH PRESS

Jan. 12, 1941

## Marshall Accused Of Coughlinites Ties

By The United Press

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 — L. M. Birkhead, national director of the Friends of Democracy, charged today that Chairman Verne Marshall of the No Foreign War Committee was speaking in Queens, New York, Sunday night at a meeting sponsored by former leaders of the Christian Front and associates of Rev. Charles E. Coughlin.

Mr. Marshall replied that he was invited to make the speech by William Goodwin, "a Democratic leader of excellent reputation in Queens" whom he met last week.

Mr. Birkhead, in a telegram to Mr. Marshall, said that "salesmen of Social Justice (the Coughlin organization), Christian Mobilizers, Bundists and similar groups" were publicizing Mr. Marshall's scheduled speech.

Your organization, therefore, can be properly classed with the appeasers, the haters of England, the defeatists and the anti-Semites," Mr. Birkhead said. "Your organization is no such bona fide 'Keep Us Out of War' movement as the Quakers and similar high-minded and loyal American groups. It is fortunate for our country that your No Foreign War Committee has been exposed before it gathered too much strength."

## "MANY FOES IN MIDST"

### L. M. BIRKHEAD CONDEMNS APPEASEMENT GROUPS.

Former Pastor Here Who Heads Friends of Democracy, Says 20 Million Are Dupes of Axis Powers.

The rise of sentiment for appeasement in the United States was democracy's major blow in 1940, "inasmuch as it provided a rallying point for pro-Nazi and pro-Fascist elements in this country," L. M. Birkhead, national director of Friends of Democracy, Inc., said here today.

The former pastor of All Souls Unitarian church here arrived in Kansas City today at the conclusion of a 25,000-mile tour that took in every section of the country. He resigned the pastorate in May, 1939, to head Friends of Democracy with his offices in New York.

HE CITES DEFEATISM.

Dr. Birkhead estimated there are between 15 and 20 million persons in the United States engaged directly or indirectly in subversive activities. He listed among these the champions of appeasement, persons who are anti-British, anti-Semitic and "those who accept the defeatism philosophy that Hitler is doing what England once did and that it would be better for our international trade if we stop insulting the nations who ultimately will control the world."

Hitler, he pointed out, has refined his methods of propaganda in this country.

"From Vichy, Belgium, Holland, Sweden have come men with polish and finesse ostensibly representing those governments, but actually representing Hitler," he said.

"IRISH GROUPS ARE ACTIVE."

"One noted French literary figure is writing and lecturing in this country on behalf of the Fuehrer. There are Irish groups in America who are violently anti-British and thus are contributing to the Nazi cause."

Mr. Birkhead termed as "gains for democracy in 1940" the bill passed by the house of representatives requiring persons using mails for printed matter to reveal their identity, the split in the German-American Bund resulting from struggle for leadership following Fritz Kuhn's conviction and the failure of the Chicago conference of Nazi leaders.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

## Marshall Skips Date in Queens, But Broadcasts

### Appears at Midnight in Lost Battalion Hall, Charging He Is Being Intimidated

Verne Marshall, chairman of the No Foreign War Committee, delivered an address last night at the studio of WOR instead of at Lost Battalion Hall, 94-01 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, Queens, as had been screeled because, he said, "of an effort to make it appear that the Queens meeting was under un-American or otherwise questionable auspices."

Nevertheless, Mr. Marshall went to Lost Battalion Hall after his broadcast, which was at 11:15 p. m. He had been expected at the hall at 8 o'clock when the meeting began, but did not arrive until 50 minutes past 11. He was the democratic leader of the third zone of the 4th Assembly District of Queens.

On Saturday Dr. L. M. Birkhead, national director of the Friends of Democracy, charged that the meeting was sponsored by "former leaders of the Christian front movement and associates of Father Coughlin." By accepting an invitation to speak at the rally Marshall had linked himself with "appeasers, the haters of England, the defeatists and the anti-Semites," Birkhead charged.

In reply Mr. Marshall said the invitation had come to him from Mr. Goodwin, who had been introduced to him by Justice O'Brien, "a citizen whose support and friendship the No Foreign War Committee might accept with gratitude."

Meanwhile eighteen of the twenty-four Queens residents whose names were signed to a telegram sent by the Marshall committee to President Roosevelt on Dec. 28, urging him "not to lend or give away the defense of the nation" denied they had seen the message.

District Attorney Charles P. Sullivan, of Queens, who assigned two detectives to investigate the case, said he had found a man who reportedly "had considerable to do with that matter." The man, whose identity was not revealed, will be questioned today. If the facts warrant, Mr. Sullivan said he would present the case to the grand jury. An indictment for third degree forgery could be found.

Crossed relief shipments are confined to two stools. SARA... in the strict sense, dried... Graphers say that... 5th Century, a slang or... cant word which refers to... Cdament or backside. Let not Rea...

TIME THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE  
EDITOR: Henry R. Luce.  
MANAGING EDITORS: Roy Alexander, Carl Norris, F. S. Matthews.  
ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Robert Cantowell, Walter Balliet Jr., S. Goldshorouh, David W. Hulbard, John Hersey, K. Jessup, John...  
The U. S. aid... further development of... depends on the fulfillment of... which the first is sent.

at the facts and conditions of U. S. aid were less important than its shift from worried apathy into tentative action. For weeks Herbert Hoover, urging aid specifically for the small nations of Poland, Finland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, has been preaching that U. S. ingenuity can somehow find a way to feed Hitler's victims in conquered countries without aiding Adolf Hitler.

Whether the first shipment worked out well, there was no question last week but that it marked a return to the old U. S. tradition of intelligent giving. There was the chance that, if it turned men's thoughts to what they could give rather than what they could get, it might be as beneficial to the U. S. state of mind as to European health. And it pointed toward a future fact that more & more citizens were beginning to accept—that in the long run, if the U. S. is to be the great arsenal of democracy, it must accept the responsibility of being the great plantation and the great workshop as well.

## Something Burning

Since he appeared on the national scene, five weeks ago, as an advocate of appeasement, Verne Marshall has been sizzling like grease in a hot skillet. While objectors to Mr. Marshall and the press were frying him on all sides, last week someone flipped him from the frying pan into the fire. The flipper: doughty Dr. Leon Milton Birkhead, Dr. Birkhead, who is head of the Friends of Democracy, Inc., flipped Mr. Marshall with a long-handled telegram.

As Mr. Marshall resigned last week as editor of the Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette to devote his time to the No Foreign War Committee, the doctor wired: "We now have your organization properly placed." Its place, the doctor said, was alongside "the salesmen of Social Justice, Christian Mobilizers, Bundists. . . . Your organization is no such bona fide keep-us-out-of-war movement as are the Quakers and similar high-minded and loyal Ameri-

can groups." Concluded the doctor, brushing his hands off: "It is fortunate for our country that your No Foreign War Committee has been exposed before it gathered too much strength."

Dr. Birkhead, who believes that the No Foreign War Committee has the odors of "a very dangerous movement," has a trained nose for such dangerous odors. Five years ago he returned from a trip to Germany with a list of Nazi sympathizers in the U. S., supplied him by a boastful Nazi. Dr. Birkhead called on some of the men on the list (which included Gerald Winrod, the Kansas messiah; William Dudley Pelley, head of the Fascist Silver Shirts; Harry Jung of Chicago; Colonel E. N. Sanctuary of New York), heard their arguments, and made up his mind that something nasty was brewing for democracy. He gave up his Unitarian church in Kansas City and started the Friends of Democracy.

The warpath is no new path for the fighting doctor. During his 27 years of midwestern ministry he had trodden it often. He fought anti-evolution laws, was present at the Scopes trial. Once he asserted that Kansas City's syphilitic prostitutes, instead of being locked up in institutions, were being taken to the edge of town and turned loose. When the mayor challenged the charge, the police commissioner backed up Dr. Birkhead in public. The mayor, infuriated, brought his fist down on the table with a crash, exploded "By God!" and fell dead. Since then Dr. Birkhead has had to go easier on his opponents. But last week, claiming that there were 15 to 20 million pro-Nazis in the U. S., and not enough people "howling" for democracy, the good doctor got ready to do some lusty howling.

Besides these unusual circumstances, the picture leaps into the middle of the heated U. S. argument between isolationists and interventionists. It shows shots of Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Representative Vito Marcantonio and ex-Editor Verne Marshall (see col. 1) denouncing the President's foreign policy, Franklin Roosevelt delivering his recent broadcast to the nation and his message to Congress, Dr. George Gallup commenting on the ballots which showed that 60% of the U. S. public favor increased aid to Britain even at the risk of war.

Taking its tone from the fact that the majority of the U. S. favors such aid and that the U. S. appears committed in principle, if not in detail, to the President's policy, which in effect sets up a London-Washington Axis, the picture says nothing that has not been said before. But the commentary, accompanied by pictures which lend it immense dramatic force, seems like much stronger meat than the U. S. has yet tasted. It may send shivers up the backs even of interventionists and make the hair of isolationists stand on end. Coming out the week it does, it may well be a sensation in the national debate now going on.



Jack Wally FRIEND-OF-DEMOCRACY BIRKHEAD He thought it was time to howl.

## Uncle Sam, the Non-Belligerent

This week, as isolationists and interventionists locked horns over the President's lend-lease bill (see p. 15), MARCH OF TIME released as its new issue a film, *Uncle Sam—the Non-Belligerent*, which may put some banderillas in the bulls.

At any time the film would be notable as a portrait of World War II. It opens with shots of London during an air raid, shots which bring to U. S. ears the eerie sound of an air-raid alarm (a cross between a fire-engine siren and a train whistling for a railroad crossing). It shows not only pictures of fires and damage in London but shots taken aboard German naval vessels at sea off Norway, of German artillery firing across the Channel, of U-boats at sea, pictures of England taken from German air raiders (with bombs visible as they leave the plane), of a ship in a British convoy photographed from a *Stuka* diving straight down on it, of freight yards in occupied France torn up by British bombs, of French prisoners slaving at construction projects for the Germans, of French children getting rations from the conquerors, of Hitler gaily touring Paris, visiting the Madeleine, looking at the Eiffel Tower, etc.

The like of most of these pictures has not been seen in the U. S., even in the few German newsreels which have been shown. They are official German pictures. MARCH OF TIME got them from the Canadian Film Commissioner. The British contraband control had intercepted them on their way to German officials in South America, who were expected to show them wherever they would do the Nazis the most good.

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