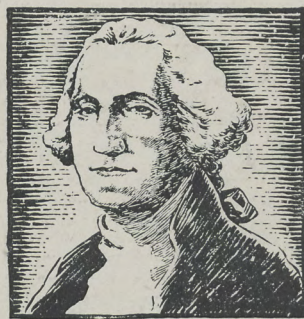


THE
Jewish Veteran

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES



“—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion”

—Abraham Lincoln.

FEBRUARY



1939

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Catholic Scholar Condemns Father Coughlin

By JOHN R. RYAN

AT the outset of his radio address November 20, the Reverend Charles E. Coughlin expressed deep sympathy with the Jews of Germany. He then undertook to explore and set forth the reasons why Nazism has been "so hostile to Jewry." His explanation was stated in such terms as to suggest that the Jews in Germany deserved, to a considerable extent, the cruel injuries which they have suffered at the hands of the Nazis. The majority of his hearers undoubtedly concluded that, "the Jews had it coming to them."

He asserted: "It is the belief, be it well or ill founded, of the present German government that Jews—not as religionists but as nationals only—were responsible for the economic and social ills of the fatherland since the signing of the Treaty of Versailles." As a matter of fact, there is no evidence that the Hitler government actually held the Jews blameworthy in such great measure. According to Father Coughlin, the Nazis identified the Communists of Germany "with the Jewish race." This assertion is likewise unsupported by the facts. He declared further that Nazism "was ushered into existence as a result of Communism." This is an oversimplification of history and a grave distortion of the conditions which led to and accompanied the triumph of the Nazis in 1933.

Father Coughlin then asked himself whether there existed facts to substantiate these alleged beliefs of "the Nazi party." His answer was a virtual affirmative. His supporting "evidence" consisted mainly of the names of two groups of alleged Jews who were supposedly prominent in the Soviet government. The first list contains twenty-five names, of whom twenty-four were specified by Father Coughlin as atheistic Jews. These, he declared, were "quasi-cabinet members" in the Lenin government in the year 1917. Where did he get his list?

In his broadcast the following Sunday, Father Coughlin answered this question by citing a volume entitled, "The Mystical Body of Christ in the Modern World," by Reverend Denis Fahey, C. S. Sp., professor in Blackrock College, Dublin, Ireland. The book he has continued to recommend even on the cover of Social Justice. On page 90 of that volume will be found these twenty-five names. Where did Father Fahey get them? From a weekly paper published in London called the Patriot. In passing, it should be noted that the Appendices to Father Fahey's volume include three other fairly long extracts from this newspaper. Taken together, the four show that the Patriot is definitely anti-Semitic. Indeed, Father Fahey's book itself may fairly be put in the same category. There are numerous illustrations of this bias in the body of the book and there is Appendix V, which presents four pages from the notorious

The following article is reprinted from the outstanding Catholic weekly, "Commonweal." The writer is a liberal Catholic professor and proves that Father Coughlin falsifies Dates and "Proof".

THE EDITOR.

"Protocols of the Elders of Zion." While Father Fahey admits that the "Protocols" have not been established as authentic, he denies that they have been proved forgeries.

To return to the precious list of twenty-five: where did the Patriot get it? Purportedly from the issue of March 6, 1920, of the Documentation Catholique of Paris, a publication whose statements, of course, have not the authority of the Church. Where did this French journal get it? From an alleged report made by the American Secret Service to the French High Commissioner, says the Documentation Catholique.

Here then we have the ultimate alleged source of the list. Father Coughlin quotes Father Fahey, who quotes the Patriot, which quotes the Documentation Catholique, which declares that "the American Secret Service takes responsibility." Unfortunately for this "cloud of witnesses," Chief Wilson of the United States Secret Service declared, November 28, 1938, after an exhaustive search of the records and consultation of the members of the service on duty from 1916 to 1920: "It is quite certain that no such report was ever made by the United States Secret Service." Indeed, its phraseology suggests that it is anti-Semitic propaganda, rather than the report of an agency of the United States government.

Father Coughlin does not even quote Father Fahey's book accurately. He refers to the list of names which we are considering as Lenin's "quasi-cabinet." No such expression is found in the Fahey volume. There, the list is described as denoting "individuals" who "made themselves remarkable" in "certain Soviet organizations which came into power in Russia in October, 1917." And we have seen no confirmation in other histories of the Russian Revolution even of Father Fahey's reserved judgment of the twenty-five. In his address of November 27, Father Coughlin declared that the alleged report of the United States Secret Service "was later incorporated in the British White paper." On November 28, the British Library of Information in New York City denied that the British White paper included this document. Nor is such inclusion mentioned in the Fahey book. In the same address of November 27, Father Coughlin asserted that Father Fahey's book, on page 90, represented the alleged American Secret Service report as stating that "fifty-six out of fifty-nine members of this quasi-cabinet were Jews." The al-

lusion here is undoubtedly to a second list which Father Coughlin had mentioned in his address of November 20 and which apparently was derived from Nazi sources. It is not found at all in Father Fahey's book, either on page 90 or on any other page.

The only other important quotation drawn by Father Coughlin from this alleged Secret Service report dealt with the part played by certain American-Jewish bankers in the Russian Revolution. This participation has not been denied by the bankers themselves, but they have pointed out that it was the revolution which overthrew the government of the Czar that was in question, not the revolution which set up Bolshevism. As Mr. Kerensky pointed out in the New York Times November 29, all the important classes in Russia were in favor of deposing the Czar, and the part taken by the Jews was not of exceptional prominence. Of course, no person, banker, Jew, or anyone else, need be ashamed of helping to overthrow the government of the Czar as it existed in the spring of 1917. Father Coughlin uses this part of the supposed report in such way as to suggest that the Jewish banking houses helped to finance the expulsion of the Kerensky government by the Bolsheviks and Communists nearly six months later, in October, 1917. This assumption has been denied by the New York Jewish banking houses, as well as by Kerensky, and it remains without substantial support anywhere else.

Probably the worst misrepresentation committed by Father Coughlin was his distortion of a quotation which he made from the American Hebrew, issue of September 10, 1920. Into that quotation were inserted the words, "the Russian-Jewish Revolution," thus conveying the impression that this Jewish journal was claiming credit for the establishment of Bolshevism. The fact is that the paper was referring to "the overthrow of Russian Czarism." The latter phrase was in the context of the quotation used by Father Coughlin.

Father Coughlin had a great deal to say about a British White paper entitled, "Russia No. 1 (1919)," and the alleged fact that some parts of it had been expunged by the British authorities. In this he is following faithfully the excerpts from the Patriot published in the Fahey book (page 88). This is a tempest in a teapot; for the only important sentence that was eliminated in the abridged edition was a declaration (September 6, 1918) by a M. Oudendyke to the effect that Bolshevism was threatening the whole world, inasmuch as "it is organized and worked by Jews who have no nationality and whose one object is to destroy for their own ends the existing order of things." This is one man's opinion—an exceptionally competent man according to

(Continued on page 18)

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February, 1939

Every year, February is an important month, if for no other reason than that George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were born during that month.

February, 1939, should be even more important than other years. The totalitarian nations have now added Spain to the list of their spoils. When Spring arrives, who will be next? We read of the large number of Swastika flags, the censorship, and the anti-American feeling at the Pan-American conference in Lima, Peru. Pro-Nazi Argentine tried to wreck that conference. Three Nazi spies have been convicted in the Canal Zone.

In the United States, Communist, Nazi and Fascist organizations are spreading their hatred poisons. They have made headway in our schools and labor unions, helped in some cases by so-called patriotic (sic) Americans. Many of these organizations have directed their venom against Jews. There are at least 800 anti-Semitic organizations. History should teach Americans that Jews are only the first scapegoat. Disenfranchise or legislate against any minority, and the fundamental principles of democracy will terminate.

Washington and Lincoln gave their all that the American nation might live. In celebrating their anniversaries this year, let us rededicate ourselves to the principles for which they sacrificed so much. Just as our government is awakened to defend itself militarily against aggression WITHOUT so must we act NOW in Self-Defense against the Communist, Fascist and Nazi movements WITHIN. February is a good patriotic month to start.

LISTEN IN
Sunday February 5th, over C. B. S.
nation-wide hook-up

"JEWS IN AMERICA"

under auspices U. S. Department
of Interior

If you enjoy this program, please so
inform the station to which you have
listened immediately thereafter.

J. W. V. First

Most of us believe in the axiom that "Charity begins at home." Children are expected to provide for their parents before giving charity elsewhere. Which brings us to an anomalous situation in J. W. V.

We find J. W. V. posts holding social affairs and affairs for profit for every imaginable cause, and even for special organizations. In some cases the profit is intended for organizations doing identically the same work as J. W. V., and generally such organizations don't need these funds as much as J. W. V. U. J. A. drives are being held currently all over the country (and we highly subscribe to such drive) and in many cities a part of the funds are allotted to national organizations doing work similar to J. W. V. In spite of the fact that our posts are cooperating in these drives (some of the other participating groups do not even have a local branch) we have not heard of a single instance where any share was allocated to J. W. V.

Evidently the fault must lie with our local posts. We are sure if the local post commander insisted with the Drive Chairman that a proportional allotment be made to J. W. V., such request would NOT be refused. We haven't heard of a single instance recently where a J. W. V. post affair was held and the proceeds sent to National. (We appreciate a very few posts have sent us handsome contributions). Why is this?

We don't think there is any argument with the statement that local units are able to run successful affairs and raise funds through accomplishments of National and the prestige of the name "J. W. V." There should be not only an appreciation of this, but a responsibility by subordinate units to recognize this.

We know of instances where other organizations have been permitted to enter post meetings and appeal for funds, while these same posts have never contributed one cent to J. W. V. (outside of per capita, of course).

You will agree that J. W. V. has maintained its front-rank among organizations promoting Americanism and combatting the powers of bigotry and darkness. You know that unlike most other organization, to which you may be contributing, J. W. V. has no paid officers. Every cent contributed is converted into "Action." Only a small proportion of the Jewish population can belong to J. W. V. and it is a badge of honor to be a J. W. V. member. Since the National organization has given you your charter, your prestige, and continues to guide and nurture you—in fact, YOU are a part of that very National, why not, WHY NOT, we ask, should you not in turn realize your responsibility to your parent organization, and when it comes to contribution of funds, think of J. W. V. FIRST?

Haym Salomon Monument

On February 22nd, 1939, there will be unveiled in Chicago, a large monument, commemorating the contribution to the cause of Liberty and Freedom of the trinity—George Washington, Robert Morris and Haym Salomon. Many monuments already exist throughout the nation of the beloved Father of our Country, and to Robert Morris, but this is the outstanding recognition of the Polish Jew, Haym Salomon.

The Congress of the United States has many times recognized its financial debt to Haym Salomon (although not a cent of the debt has ever been repaid), for his assistance to the cause of the Colonies, not only from his own funds and those of other Jewish friends, but through his connections in France and other European countries.

It behooves all Americans therefore to join in this belated tribute on February 22nd. The Jewish War Veterans will be honored in doing so.

Tribute to America

"Every American should look about him, and weigh what it means to be an American...lest we forget—we should remind ourselves that the America of today stands for 150 years of effort...lest we forget, we should remember that the land and the institutions we enjoy today—are the result of the combined work of almost every race and creed in the world—all resolved to leave America better than they found it...for America has grown great because it protected the lowly...America has grown mighty, because it was humble in spirit...our greatest heroes, Washington and Lincoln, are exalted because they were human...we should all be thankful that in civilization's darkest hour—our country is the land that stands for freedom, tolerance and the dignity of man...that to the bewildered, oppressed and homeless—our country is the living proof that men of all races and creeds may live as neighbors...and, out of our thankfulness, we too should resolve to bequeath an America greater—than when it was given to us...so that our children's children, 150 years from now—will be thankful—that we were—thankful!"—Walter Winchell.

Fight Our Own Battles

Did you ever hear an Irishman apologize for being one? Yet Jews eternally apologize for being Jews. When the Irish wanted a homeland, how did they get it? They went out and fought for it. Jews have a battle on our hands. What are we doing about it? We expect the Gentiles to fight our battles. That's why we are not making much progress. Let's stop apologizing, and ourselves go out and fight for our rights. We can then be sure, our battle being just, that our Gentile friends will come to our help. Let's keep up our courage, proudly proclaim our Jewishness, and lead the fight. Then the Christian world will respect and encourage us.