

Americans Want 'Spanish Embargo' Maintained

NEXT WEEK

Golden Jubilee

Catholic Press Month Edition

The Influential Newspaper

Catholic



of the Rochester Diocese

Courier

Published at Rochester, N.Y. Number 1 VOLUME 11 THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1939 ★ Page 14 ★ 5 Cents a Copy—\$2.50 a Year

MORE THAN HALF MILLION PETITIONS ARE DISPATCHED

To Congressmen Indicating Clearly That Americans Want Complete Neutrality Retained in Spanish Conflict

Senators and Representatives in the Seventy-sixth Congress were deluged with messages, this week, begging them to keep the existing embargo on the shipment of war materials to strife-torn Spain as thousands of telegrams, letters and signed petitions poured into Washington.

American in the area, completing the Diocese of Rochester added their appeal as telegraph companies worked overtime. The supply of petitions being circulated by the Catholic Activities Committee of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus was exhausted early in the week.

On Monday over 100,000 telegrams had been received in the Capital. It was reported by the "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee" on Friday that more than one half million signatures had been signed to petitions and sent to the Senators and Congressmen. Petitions similar to the one reproduced in this week's CATHOLIC COURIER are still being sent to Congress.

The flood of telegrams and messages climaxed a week of active organization by groups throughout the country and of many mass meetings held in the city. In the evening, Father Charles E. Coughlin, in his broadcast, urged his hearers to wire their congressmen.

Extra Help Needed

Both Western Union and Postal Telegraph in Washington found it necessary Sunday night to summon back to work all available help in the city to care for the tremendous influx of messages.

Not only have these "Keep the Embargo" messages flooded the National Capital, where they were converging from all sections of the country, but they were reaching the N. C. W. C. News Service, which states that the traffic in telegrams is so heavy as to choke the wires at a number of points throughout the United States.

Fastened throughout the country, responding to the appeal of "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee," which is sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Missions, Sunday urged their congressmen to make known to the representatives in Congress their position on the Spanish embargo question.

Father Coughlin Urges Wire. Father Coughlin, pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower at Royal Oak, Mich., urged his listeners to dispatch wired messages to their Senators and Representatives at Washington, calling upon them to retain the embargo on the shipment of arms to Spain.

"To preserve democracy," said Father Coughlin, "we must keep out of war. To keep out of war we must hold ourselves clear from all foreign entanglements. And to keep clear of foreign entanglements we must observe strict neutrality, which means we must not lift the embargo on Spain."

Accurate check-up on the number of messages and signed petitions being received in the Capital is impossible because of the great number still coming in yesterday.

Messages Choke Telegraph Wires

BOSTON (NO.)—Wire of the telegraph companies here were choked Sunday night as telegrams poured out of this city to Washington, strongly urging Senators and Representatives to maintain the embargo on the shipment of war materials to Spain.

The New England Province of the Federation of Catholic Clubs, as groups and as individuals, rushed telegrams to Washington, taking a stand against any effort to lift the embargo.

At a number of churches in the Archdiocese of Boston, priests preaching at every Mass urged their parishioners to make known their attitude on the question of lifting the embargo.

PHILADELPHIA.—At all Catholic churches of this Archdiocese, pastors urged their parishioners to wire and write to their congressmen asking the Spanish embargo be kept. A veritable flood of telegrams went to Washington.

One pastor at St. John's church, which had sent 200 telegrams by early afternoon.

CLEVELAND.—A tally showed that more than 100,000 telegrams were sent.

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Catholics Not Free To Favor Either Side in Spain War

By MARGARET MURPHY, VATICAN CITY (NO.)

The Vatican has issued a warning to Catholics everywhere not to take sides in the Spanish conflict.

Noting that this is the anniversary of the death of the late Pope Pius XI, who died at the hands of the Italian Fascists, the Vatican has issued a warning to Catholics everywhere not to take sides in the Spanish conflict.

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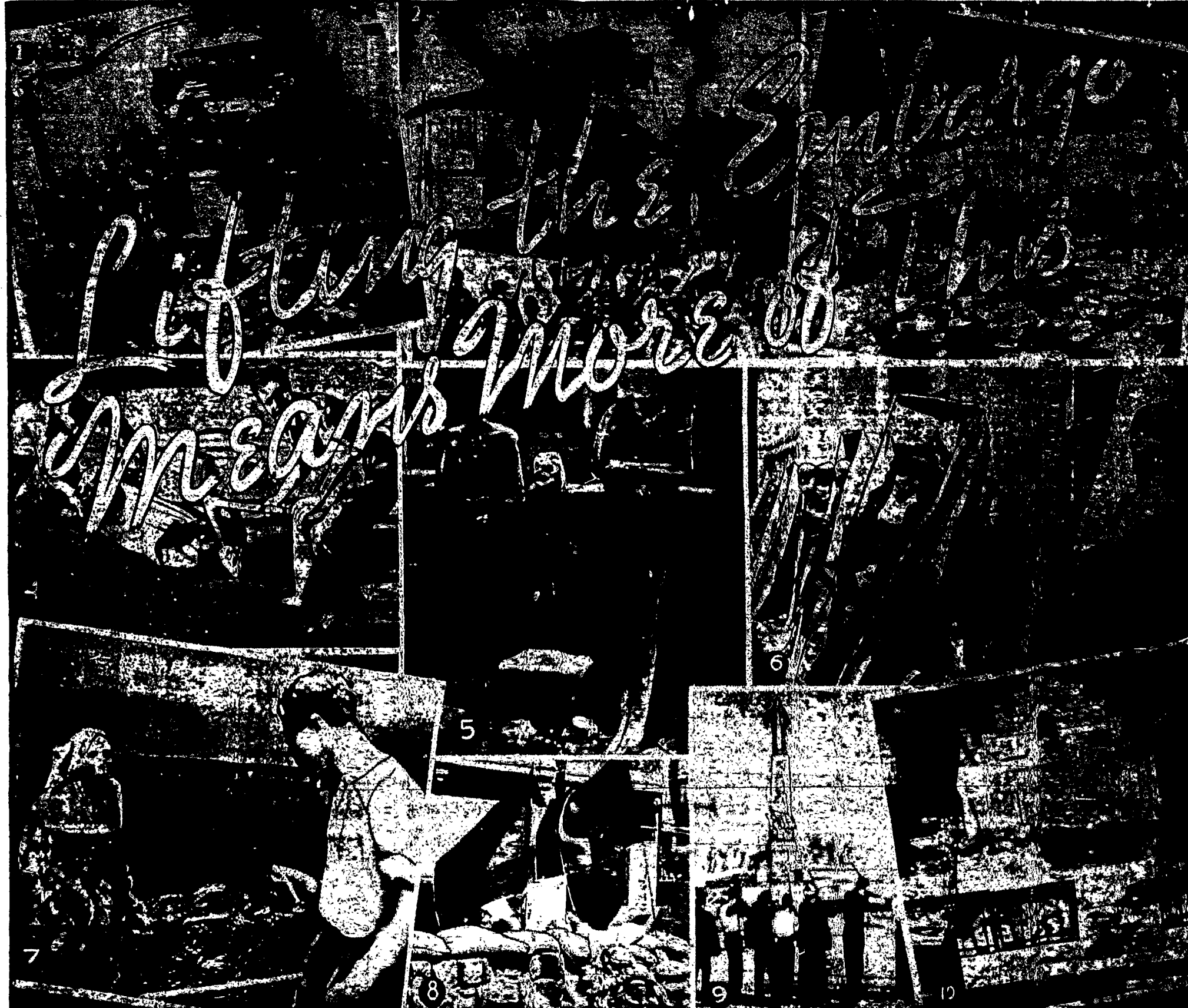
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1—Oviedo church wrecked by Loyalist bombs. 2—Communists give the clenched fist salute after setting fire to a Madrid church. 3—Thus in a Barcelona church triumphant Red soldiers celebrated a victory over the Franco forces. 4—Reds used pickaxes on statues in Madrid. 5, 6 and 7—Corpses of priests and nuns dug up in Barcelona and Toledo to provide sport for Communists. 8—Communist and Spanish flags fly side by side in Madrid. 9—Reds "execute" a statue of Christ in Madrid. 10—A Madrid church after Loyalists had sacked it.

Around The World

NEW ABBOT CHOSEN

London.—The new Abbot of Downside is Dom Ralph Siebert Trafford, O.S.B. He succeeds Abbot Hicks, who resigned owing to ill health, and he was elected at a chapter held under the presidency of the Abbot President, Dom Edmund Kelly.

The new abbot is the fourth son of Edward Southwell Trafford and of the Hon. Eleanor Mary, seventh daughter of the twelfth Lord Peire and sister of Major Lord Peire.

Twice A Lepor

Apemama, Gilbert Islands.—Twice a leper is the tragedy of Father Choblet, who came here as a missionary in 1905.

In 1917, Father Choblet was afflicted with leprosy and placed on a lonely South Sea island. He was certified as cured in 1922 and was permitted to return to his mission. This year he was declared again afflicted with leprosy and has been sent to the leper colony at Mokogai, where another leper priest, Father Lejeune, is chaplain.

RUSSIAN TROUBLES

Redapest.—Accounts of reports of Soviet officials and statistics published in Russia newspapers, received here, reveal the serious economic condition of that country. These sources disclose a great diminution in the number of livestock in the Soviet Union. Concerning railway, tram and steamship traffic, Lazar Molevitch Kaganovitch has revealed in Moscow that there were 62,000 accidents, with hundreds of passengers and employees meeting death in the last year.

SEVES & ARCHBISHOPS

Ottawa.—Armedes Villeneuve, coadjutor and chauffeur for the past 20 years to four Archbishops of Ottawa, is retiring at the age of 82. He came to Ottawa with the first Archbishop of Ottawa, the Most Rev. J. T. Duhamel, and served under Archbishops Gauthier, Enard and Forbes. The Most Rev. Guillaume Forbes, present Archbishop, has granted him a pension.

Holds U.S. Acts Aiding 'Loyalists' in Spain

NEW YORK.—American policy is the main factor responsible for the continuing of the war in Spain, and "the Administration is actively working to bring about a Communist victory there," Merwin K. Hart, President of the New York State Economic Council, has charged in a letter to Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles. Mr. Hart is a member of the Episcopalian Church.

ANTI-FASCISTS TOLD

Reds Helped Rise Of Fuehrer, Duce

BOSTON (NO.)—Reds—Socialists and Communists—assisted both Mussolini and Hitler in their rise to power, David Goldstein, prominent Catholic layman and leader of the street-speaking apostolate, tells the Boston Globe.

Mr. Goldstein's letter is a reply to an address made by Prof. Grenville Hicks, of Harvard, to students of Wellesley College, in which the educator appealed for a united front against Fascism.

Criticizing Professor Hicks because he did not appeal for such a front against Communism as well, Mr. Goldstein asserts that Mussolini, in his March on Rome, owed much of his success to Italy's Socialist Party. "It was the first Socialist group outside the Soviet Union to declare for a Soviet form of government, to join the Third International, to raise the red flag with its sickle and hammer on factory buildings," he says.

"As for Nazism," he goes on, "the Communists in the Reichstag had not lined up with the Nazis against the Conservative Liberal, Center and Social Democratic parties, in an endeavor to overthrow the Government of Brüning. Hitler might never have gained the tyrannical power he now exercises in Germany."

Bishop Gives Blessing At Inauguration Rites

CARLTON CITY, N.B.—The Most Rev. Thomas K. Gorman, Bishop of Reno, imparted the benediction at the inauguration ceremonies for Governor E. P. Carville on New Year's Day.

Bishop Gorman and the Governor are old friends.

FATHER COUGHLIN FLAYS ATTEMPT To Change U. S. Neutrality Act

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

DETROIT.—Rallying his listeners to combat the current effort to lift the ban on the shipment of arms to Spain, the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower at Royal Oak, urged in his radio address Sunday that they "let the United States Government know that we refuse to be regimented into another war through the back door of the Spanish Embargo."

Beginning his discourse with a reference to the May Bill, which he described as one of several measures which aims at the complete centralization of all government in the hands of the President if and when war will be declared, Father Coughlin said: "I shall show you in a very concrete manner how inefficient is a centralized government, and following that, I shall show you how to keep out of foreign entanglements which are devised to help the radicals and destroy American democracy."

"The past few days," Father Coughlin said, "were devoted to Washington many organizations espousing the proposition of lifting the embargo to permit the United States to send arms, money, food and ammunition to help Loyalist Communist Spain. The members of these organizations are not all Leftists. The majority of them are good men, but indifferent to whom the Leftists have attracted to their point of view."

Assault Communism. "There is a man or woman in the United States who is against peace or democracy." The only ones whom I know are the dyed-in-the-red Communists who stand for world revolution, international collectivism, centralized power, bureaucracy, atheism and dictatorship.

"These good members of the League do not know that the American League for Peace and Democracy is a misnomer. They do not know that it were better

'Lift Embargo Week' Falls Flat in Capital

WASHINGTON.—(N. C.)—Promoted by groups energetically partial to the Leftists in Spain, "Lift the Embargo Week," just held here, seems to have rendered only disservice to its sponsors.

DR. BRUENING FLAYS Modern System of Torture in Germany

BOSTON.—The only opposition to the Hitler regime remaining in Nazi Germany comes on religious and educational questions, former Chancellor Heinrich Brüning, a Catholic, told the Unitarian Club at a meeting here. Dr. Brüning is at present teaching at Harvard University.

So complete is Nazi censorship and surveillance of press, speech and thought that no organized opposition is possible, Dr. Brüning said. He gave a description of the "modern system of torture" that is in effect in German concentration camps.

It is difficult to get a German to tell what he really thinks in his heart," he said, because of the constant threat of violence to himself or relatives within reach of the Nazi authorities.

"I cannot even tell the story of the Gestapo Police and the fate of many of my dearest friends," he said. "It is hard to imagine to what depths human depravity can sink. Cells have been lined with electric light bulbs so that a prisoner feels as though he were dying of thirst. At the same time he is forced to listen continually to recorded speeches of Goering. People cannot stand this modern system of torture, this continual fright."

The greatest mistake of the Nazis, Dr. Brüning said, has been their fight against religion. He predicted that eventually, "not perhaps for 10 years," the opposition of religious groups would break down the Hitler regime.

"Nothing has done the Nazis more harm," he added, "than the persecution of the Jews."

Planned as a part of a campaign to stampede Congress into lifting the embargo on arms shipments to Spain, with a view to aiding the so-called "Loyalists" in that country, "Lift the Embargo Week" never lived up to its advance notices. Sessions held at a local Masonic temple failed to capture the public fancy, and when these meetings petered out in mid-week the fact was hardly noticed. Washington, official and otherwise, accustomed to efforts of "pressure groups," could count the following developments:

The largest number brought together by the "Lift the Embargo" group during the "Week" was 500 (although some 3,000 attended the American Congress for Peace and Democracy at a local theater two days before the "Week" opened).

On the other hand, the "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee" packed the city's largest auditorium—seating 4,000—and turned away a throng estimated at high as 10,000. It is surely a "counter-pressure" group. "Lift the Embargo" advocates strongly urged that officials be "buttonholed." The "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee" won approval by emphasizing that it is surely a "counter-pressure" demonstration, called into existence only because "pressure groups" had descended on the nation's lawmakers.

Petitions Circulated. The "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee" did no "buttonholing," members contenting themselves with asking that petitions be sent to Congress and the President. The "Lift the Embargo" group complained bitterly that Government officials had been cool to their importuning.

"Lift the Embargo" sessions were filled with wrangling to the extent that some delegates walked out when they refused to condemn

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Support Fr. Coughlin Here

Followers of the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin issued a challenge to the Rev. David Rhy Williams, pastor of First Unitarian Church to call his stand on Communism and name one Catholic clergyman who holds the teachings of the "Red" priest in contempt.

This action came as a reply to the charges made by the Rev. Fr. Coughlin was the voice of growing intolerance in this country and was spreading Nazi propaganda here.

Father Coughlin is at once opposed to nazism and defamatory as he is to communism," said Edward Norman, a director of the "Red" Bureau.

Changing the banner to the "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee," Father Coughlin is even more so.

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Co-Cathedral Is Dedicated At Atlanta

ATLANTA, Ga.—With new members of the hierarchy and laymen and attending the Co-Cathedral of Christ the King here, the dedication of the new cathedral was held.

His Eminence, Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, officiated at the ceremony of dedication and presided over the Mass.

One pastor at St. John's church, which had sent 200 telegrams by early afternoon.

CLEVELAND.—A tally showed that more than 100,000 telegrams were sent.

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