

Coughlin

FBI

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MEMO

COUGHLIN ACTIVITY IN LABOR GROUPS

We do not have much evidence or information concerning activities by Coughlin or his supporters among labor groups, or evidence of support from such groups to Coughlin policies. However, there are two situations concerning which certain information is available. The first concerns Homer Martin, head of the United Automobile Workers Union. The second concerns the organization known as the "Christian Front," in New York City.

Homer Martin's activities are more or less a matter of public record, having been reported extensively in the press. Considered a reactionary, he has been praised from time to time by Coughlin in "Social Justice." There are no other more direct evidences of any connection between Martin and Coughlin.

The Christian Front, which meets at the Paulist Fathers' church, 419 W. 59th Street, New York City, has for a long while been the rallying point for the lunatic fringe of Coughlin supporters and anti-Jewish agitators. Persons present at the meetings of the Christian Front group are known to distribute anti-Jewish stickers. One of them has been arrested for pasting anti-Jewish stickers in the subways; they have marched in the WPCA picket lines; they have apparently been present in large numbers at other anti-Jewish and so-called pro-American rallies in and about New York City, including the Bund rally in Madison Square Garden. So far as we are aware, some of the members of the Christian Front belong to a Musicians Union in New York City, and they constantly prate about the number of Jews who are employed in orchestras. Last fall, when elections for officials in the Musicians Union were held, the group in the Christian Front organized to oppose a Jew who was running for re-election as president. They circulated photostatic copies of a check which the union had sent as a contribution to a fund for the relief of Spanish Loyalists. Circulars were also distributed urging the election of an "American" -- Roger Fryor. This campaign was abortive. The Jewish president of the union was re-elected. Also, to our knowledge, Christian Front has circulated 'throw-aways' attacking Michael Quill in his capacity as head of the Transport Workers Union. The attack is based on the theme that Quill is a communist.