

COUNTERCURRENT

ST ALL FASCISM EVERYWHERE

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I - A Crucifixion

...the news-juggling, Red-scare Brotherhood for the suppression of Truth. Yelling against communism, blaming "Reds from Moscow" or "inspired by Moscow" for what has happened in Spain since 1931. The fall of the monarchy (and wasn't that in itself a blessing?), the muddlings and bunglings, the revolution, the violent outbreaks, the counter-revolution, the recent rebellion... and what have you, all of it is being charged against the "Reds."

The terrible events now taking place in Spain, they say, are proof that the Communists, not the "so-called Loyalist government," ruled the country all the time. And they jeer and sneer observing that those gullible Americans who gave their support to the Loyalist cause must feel terribly hurt and embarrassed now seeing how they were led into believing in the existence of a non-existent democracy and tricked into giving money for the "benefit of the Communists". It does not seem to occur to these cynics that those who gave money for Spain did not do so for political reasons or party sympathies but for the highly commendable purpose of helping the poor, suffering people of Spain.

Had the "so-called Loyalists" been able to work in harmony, points out one deep-voiced, ... of the Pious and Righteous, Franco could never have conquered Spain—which, of course, is absurd since it is not Franco who has won but Fascism and Nazism with their armies of experienced, ruthless killers and fire-throwers, shipfuls of guns and ammunition, aeroplanes, tanks, good rations and medical supplies, and... an unquenchable thirst for human blood. (They have won over a Spain nailed to a cross by that criminal deceit called non-intervention.) Franco with his rebel soldiers and tattered bands of Moorish and Navarrese ruffians and cut-throats, couldn't have conquered anything.

One yellow editor warns, shaking his finger under the public's nose, that they had better beware of the "Red Peril". And some Americans, forgetting instantly the Nazi Bund and Fascists' propaganda, start looking under their beds for Communists.

Again, for the hundredth time, we read old stories of "Communist atrocities" as gruesome photographs, worn thin by long and constant use, are paraded before the reading public. (The editors have long since run short of that sort of material). Stories and pictures belong to the chaotic early days of the rising but it is left entirely to our logic, imagination, or just plain will to decide whether they were taken three—four years ago or yesterday.

The photographs, by the way, show what angry mobs can do when they run amuck; upon discovering, for instance, that Priests and Monks have plotted against a people's government: committed treason and murder by shooting down from church-windows government soldiers and peaceful citizens; or turned their churches over to Fascists who made arsenals of them while preparing a revolt, and strongholds for rebels and foreign invaders when the civil war they had engineered broke out. Priests, Monks and Nuns are not supposed to foment trouble and rebellion in God's House. There are quite a few Priests in Spain right now who will tell you this in very plain, strong words. They are the Priests who deserve consideration and respect and they were never molested in bloody, war-torn Spain, — and their churches are still standing. Ask good Father Lobo, to mention just one of them.

One wonders how these judicial editorial gentlemen manage to keep the proofs of "communist atrocities" always handy and all the terrible things that can be said of the "Reds" always at the tip of their tongues — or rather — pens. And where, on the contrary, have they stuffed away the overwhelming, frightful amount of proof of the unspeakable crimes committed by the Insurgents? True, Franco

has been devilishly clever in covering up his bloody march through Spain and in eliminating as many eye-witnesses as possible from his cannibal feasts. However truth has a way of leaking out. From several reliable sources news have come to us of Franco's crimes and tactics. Many newspaper correspondents have told how they were never permitted to go along when Franco and his bands of killers entered a "conquered" town or territory. (Some were shot when surprised in the act of taking pictures, others expelled as "undesirables.") Days later they were let in, under guard... What they found we shall relate in our next article. "History does not record such barbarism," cries the well-known Dutch Catholic leader Dr. J. Brouwer who has made a first-hand study of the Spanish tragedy. Leading Spanish Catholics, eminent

Church-men, magistrates and respectable citizens, have voiced their protests against Insurgent atrocities and mass-executions condemning Franco's rule. Writes one of them: "Acts of violence have been committed on both sides, especially in the early days of the rising. But Franco and his Legionnaires kill mercilessly and indiscriminately in cold blood, in a systematic deliberate way evidently with a view to exterminate whole populations. These men are wild beasts."

Of these horrors Spanish Catholics and Priests, who have adhered to the teachings of Christ, have forwarded a memorandum with corroborative evidence and documented proof to the Vatican. But silence and suppression, incredible indifference and an apologetic attitude which inspires a deeply disturbing suspicion of silent condescension—if not of connivance—continue to surround Franco's frightful crimes protecting him like a charm. And but a few seem to be aware of the fact that Franco is chiefly responsible for what is now happening in that tragic little corner of

the Earth still called Loyalist Spain. One would think that having slaughtered half the population of Spain and brought irreparable ruin and sorrow upon the other half, this man has drunk enough blood to choke him. But no, he wants more. He who has been favored with blessings and special indulgences by those who claim to be the representatives of God on Earth, can't find it in his black heart and crimson conscience to use justice and fairness towards those he has victimized and vanquished.

A victor, this monster in human semblance who has waded in human blood, razed whole cities and towns, massacring entire populations including Priests and Nuns who had refused to accept his bloody rule, is hailed today as the champion of God and savior of Christianity!

And while Spain lies moribund, with a handful of the survivors of her lost cause making a last desperate stand against surrender, determined to die fighting like men rather than being exterminated like rats, the Brotherhood for the suppression of truth is busy flaunting before the public the old, ragged "Red" scarecrow.

Like a flock of excited, hungry crows they hop and caw over the prostrate body of Spain. They pick her bones and tear at her breast, and baring the stout heart which has so horribly and bravely bled, suffered, fought, hoped and endured with sublime faith and heroism, they sink their cruel beaks into it shrieking in frenzied delight that it is "Red," was always "Red," nothing but "Red"—"Red". That is their lugubrious chant, their sham and excuse, their obsession, their shame and their infamy....

The shrillest voice in the chorus of desecrating slander, is that of the Yellow Press—that cloaca of American journalism which, in order to survive, has stooped to the task of catering to all that is worst and lowest in human nature. By exploiting crime, sex, scandal, cheap, indecent exhibitionism, morbid sensationalism, lying propaganda and mass-hysteria, it manages to keep its presses going and what is left of its huge paper-empire from crumbling down. It is comforting to see that the intelligent American public has relegated this sort of Brothel for the dissipation of the mind to the place it deserves.

Meantime... History is writing down the true account of the Spanish struggle by which Posterity will learn that: Once upon a time there was born from the ruins of as foul and infamous a monarchy as ever reigned anywhere, a Glorious Thing called the Iberian Democracy. Emerging as she did from an old world sunk in darkness, corroded by vice and disease, hypocrisy and falsehood—with all fiercely tenacious, implacable and destructive in its hold—She was a Miracle—Like a gorgeous white Lily rearing its head above a swamp infested with Slimy, Crawling Things. Then two International Gangsters and a Local Highway brigand met in a Cave and made a bargain. They swore to kill and destroy all that was Free and Good and Beautiful in the World, and make Life a Nightmare. While people slept dreaming of the New Life and their Elders worked hard to find ways and means to eliminate the troubles heaped upon the land by centuries of Misrule and Tyranny, the Unholy Three carried over their diabolical paraphernalia of Death and Destruction, Killers and Fire-Throwers. Then some strangers, Fearing Trouble, tied the hands and feet of the New Democracy while a gaunt old Rascal with an Umbrella went around making a lot of noise and a little Cheat named Marianne watched outside for Chicken Thieves. So the Glorious Thing was stabbed, starved and choked to Death.

It was the Era of Hitlerism and Mussolinism, of Kill and Grab, Hide and Seek. Fascism and Naziism Roved the World and the Peoples of many countries Lived in Fear. First they Struck at the Jews.... Then....

Well.... "After Spain.... What?"



VICTORY

Whitford Carter - KEN

ITYS

"Sure We'll Have Fascism— Only We'll Call It Anti-fascism"

—by ALBERT PEZZATTI

While the Rome-Berlin axis continues to spread itself over the face of Europe, Mussolini and Hitler are losing no opportunity to extend their influence to the heart of democracy in the Western Hemisphere, the United States. The sound of goosesteps, and the clink of Fascist gold, have given courage to a multitude of little Duces and Fuehrers and raised to an all-time high the flood of pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic propaganda in America.

A recent estimate puts at 800 the number of pro-fascist organizations in the United States. Some of these openly proclaim their allegiance to Rome or to Berlin, flaunting the swastika as their insignia. Others—more subtle—make a great show of their devotion to Americanism and democracy, but advocate a program which could have been and in some cases probably was, dictated by Goebbels. These organizations, the more dangerous because they hide their real aims amid a furor of patriotism and flag-waving, call to mind the shrewd prediction of America's late No. 1 dictator, Huey P. Long, who said that when Fascism comes to America, "we'll call it anti-Fascism".

The cleverest of Huey Long's imitators keep his words in mind. Without necessarily minimizing the significance of such self-proclaimed Fascists as William Dudley Pelley, leader of the Silver Shirts, and the Rev. Gerald B. Winrod, the Kansas preacher known to his associates as the "Jayhawk Nazi", Americans who cherish democracy would do well to keep an eye on several well-known examples of the homespun type of breast-beating super-patriot. Like Huey, they denounce all "foreign isms" while they bleed for their particular brand of "Americanism". Like Huey, they weep for the "downtrodden poor" while they advance demagogic nonsense in the place of economic remedies. And like Huey, they can be found in the Congress of the United States.

This session of Congress boasts out-and-out Silver Shirts, men like Rep. John C. Schafer of Wisconsin, a member of the Nazi Bund in Milwaukee who delivers tirades against the "international bankers" in the best Hitler-Mussolini Coughlin method, and who voices threats of civil war against President Roosevelt's New Deal. It was Schafer who recently declared on the floor of the House that deportation was too good for Harry Bridges, that the West Coast labor leader should be put up against a wall and shot. Two other Representatives from Wisconsin, Charles Hawks and Frank B. Keefe, form a pro-fascist triumvirate with Schafer. All three recently defended Fritz Kuhn and his Madison Square Garden Bund meeting while they attacked as "Communist sympathizers" several Congressmen who had denounced the Bund's subversive activities. Their speeches and their votes alike follow the pattern of Hitler.

However menacing these three Republicans may be to American democracy, they do not begin to compare in importance with one Southern Democrat around whom the friends of Fascism in America have been gathering for the past year. The name of Martin Dies raises storms of applause from D. A. R. and Silver Shirt alike, from hide-bound Yankee Republicans and alien Nazi Bunders. More than any single individual in this country, Martin Dies symbolizes the native American front behind which Fascism hopes to sweep into power.

Through his activities as chairman of the Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities, Dies has earned the unanimous and extravagant praise of every reactionary organization of whatever degree. To the Nazi Bund, which recently organized four units in his Texas district, Dies is "that great American". To the Sons of the American Revolution he is, more effusively, "the modern Sir Galahad of American patriotism". Early this year the burly Texan received an "Americanism Award for 1938" from the Constitutional Educational League, Inc. whose officers demonstrated before the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee that they knew nothing at all about the Constitution and that their only "educational" activities consisted in spreading huge quantities of anti-labor and strike-breaking propaganda paid for by Tom Girdler and other big industrialists.

The work of the Dies Committee is sufficiently well known not to be gone into here, except to point out that it followed a well-established Fascist technique. First, it raised a grim spectre of Communism ready to strike at the throats of American citizens; then, once it had made the monster horrible enough in the eyes of most Americans, it proceeded to label everything it didn't like "Communist". It is not a coincidence, of course, that what Mr.

Dies dislikes is the New Deal, the CIO, and every other progressive and anti-fascist movement in America. Or out of America, for that matter—the Committee delighted in receiving testimony of the "Red atrocities" of Loyalist Spain.

Even the other accepted ingredient of the standard Fascist dish—anti-semitism—was not entirely lacking in the Committee chambers. While Dies could not afford to be open to Jew-baiting, he hired as his chief investigator one of the most notorious anti-Semites in the country, one Edward Francis Sullivan, whose long and checkered career includes a try at labor spying and bribery as well as a criminal record for grand larceny. In the parade of witnesses who marched before the Committee were a number of individuals who, like Walter B. Steele, represented long-exposed anti-Semitic organizations, or, like Edwin Banta, were intimately associated with the Nazi Bund. Witnesses like these smeared liberally with red every Jew, especially in Government service, who could be suspected of liberal opinions.

Dies' speeches outside the Committee still further established the Fascist technique of posing as the 100 per cent American savior designated to rescue America from the Red hordes of the New Deal and the CIO. In one of his recent radio talks the Galahad from Texas very carefully contrives to identify "Liberalism" with "Communism". His audience knows, of course, that the Roosevelt Administration is admittedly liberal. From here, then, it is only a step to prove that the Roosevelt Administration is actually Communist and that the President himself is nothing but a puppet in the hands of Moscow. Dies is too clever to draw the conclusion himself; he allows his audience to trip over it after pushing them to within an inch of it. In another speech Dies attacks the New Deal from another, and more revealing angle. After building up "Americanism" in much the manner of Herbert Hoover's rugged individualism, the self-styled President of the Demagogues Club asks this rhetorical question: "From whence comes this new theory of government, this eternal clamor that the government should support all of the people, this cry from morning, noon and night for economic security?"

Here Dies is speaking with his master's voice. Clearly, if oratorically, the meaning of his patriotic effusions against Communism stands out as the message of organized reaction, aimed at the WPA, at Social Security, the Wagner Act, Housing and all the reform measures instituted by the Roosevelt Administration. It is no wonder then that the New York State Economic Council, a reactionary Republican organization whose ties extend to the Nazi Bund, clamored for continuation of the Dies Committee as "the most important of all" steps to be taken in order "to overthrow Public Enemy No. 1", i. e. "the Federal Administration".

Dies himself has revealed how large he figures in the plans of big business to lead the crusade which is aimed to crush labor and civil liberties, and institute a Fascist dictatorship under the guise of super-patriotic Americanism. Before the House Rules Committee he testified that one hundred of the nation's leading industrialists had offered him \$5000 each to finance an "anti-Communist" organization which he would lead. Because he felt it would prejudice his work with the Dies Committee, the Texas Congressman said he refused to accept the half million dollars, and announced that he has dropped his plans for the proposed organization.

The plans were picked right up again by another Congressional aspirant to the role of American Duce, Senator Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina. Reynolds, an enthusiastic admirer of Martin Dies, returned from a trip to Germany last summer singing the praise of Hitler and denouncing American indignation at Nazi terrorism at home and abroad. In the Senate he has risen time and again to preach the theory of extreme isolation on the part of the United States, and to defend Fascist aggression on the grounds that Hitler "is looking after the people of Germany". He has gone so far as to condone the existence of concentration camps in Germany and to advocate their establishment in this country.

The Senatorial half of the Dies-Reynolds axis is still cautious enough to denounce Nazism as well as Communism, in the approved native Fascist manner. Announcing the formation of his new mass organization, the Association of Patriotic American Citizens, he formulated the customary program of opposition to all "foreign isms" and adherence to "Americanism". "This," he said, "is a mass

movement of Americans to restore America to Americans." How? By registering and fingerprinting every alien in the United States; by deporting "criminal" aliens and aliens illegally entered; by barring all immigration until "every American is employed"; and, of course, by banishing all "isms" except "Americanism".

There is no question that the Tar-heel Fuehrer did more than go sight-seeing while he was in Germany. The only original contribution he has made to the "Vindicators", as he calls his prospective storm-troops, is the red-white-and-blue feather they will wear in their hats. The rest Herr Goebbels would have been happy to furnish free of charge.

Whatever the success of this movement, the partnership in Fascism of Dies and Reynolds represents a growing danger to America that cannot be overlooked. While it is true that every warmongering move of the Rome-Berlin axis increases the abhorrence of Americans for Hitler and Mussolini, it is also true that every blow they deal democracy in Europe strengthens the forces of Fascism in this country. The results of Munich are as apparent in Washington as they are in Madrid.

Perhaps YOU are a Jew!

Long, long ago, while Queen Victoria reigned, I attended two preparatory schools. At the first of these, it was held to be a disgrace to have a sister. Any little boy who possessed one was liable to get teased. The word would go round: "Oh, you men, have you seen the Picktoes' sister?" The men would then reel about with sideways motions, uttering cries of "sucks" and pretending to faint with horror, while the Picktoes, who had hitherto held their own socially in spite of their name, found themselves banished into the wilderness, where they mourned, Major with Minor, in common shame. Naturally anyone who had a sister hid her as far as possible, and forbade her to sit with him at a Prizegiving or to speak to him except in passing and in a very formal manner. Public opinion was not bitter on the point, but it was quite definite. Sisters were disgraceful. I got through all right myself, because my conscience was clear, and though charges were brought against me from time to time they always fell through.

It was a very different story at my second school. Here, sisters were negligible, but it was a disgrace to have a mother. Crabbe's mother, Gob's mother, eugh! No words were too strong, no sounds too shrill. And since mothers at that time of life are commoner than sisters, and also less biddable, the atmosphere of this school was less pleasant, and the sense of guilt stronger. Nearly every little boy had a mother in a cupboard, and dreadful revelations occurred. A boy would fall ill and a mother would swoop and drive him away in a cab. A parcel would arrive with "From Mummy for her darling" branded upon it. Many tried to divert suspicion by being aggressive and fastening female parents upon the weak. One or two, who were good at games and had a large popularity-surplus, took up a really heroic line, acknowledged their mother brazenly, and would even be seen walking with her across the playing-field, like King Carol with Madame Lupescu. We admired such boys and envied them, but durst not imitate them. The margin of safety was too narrow. The convention was established that a mother spelt disgrace, and no individual triumph could reverse this.

Those preparatory schools prepared me for life better than I realized, for having passed through two imbecile societies, a sister-conscious and a mother-conscious, I am now invited to enter a third. I am asked to consider whether the people I meet and talk about are or are not Jews, and to form no opinion on them until this fundamental point has been settled. What revolting tosh! Neither science nor religion nor common-sense has one word to say in its favor. All the same, Jew-consciousness is in the air, and it remains to be seen how far it will succeed in poisoning it. I don't think we shall ever reintroduce ghettos into England; I wouldn't say for certain, since no one knows what wickedness may not develop in his country or in himself if circumstances change. I don't think we shall go savage. But I do think we shall go silly. Many people have gone so already. To-day, the average man suspects the people he dislikes of being Jews, and is surprised when the people he likes are Jews. Having been a Gentile at my first preparatory school and a Jew at my second, I know what I am talking about. I know how the poison works, and I know too that if the average man is anyone in particular he is a preparatory school boy. On the surface, things do not look too bad. Labor and Liberalism behave with their expected decency and

denounce Archbishops. They are generally folksy things aren't they? His ears open to the country lane. A very nasty has been scratched. People who would or even be rude to their misfortune are instituted by defiled vicariously. "Jews." I'm afraid, but anyone who is own enlightened it's true. The grass is a bloody capitalist as he's a Jew he must have taken root in our Men employ it more and young men more. The best way of cominglingly "That's propaganda" has been the sniggering stop think that he has been reply which is more requires more courage. It is to say, "Are you sure you're not a Jew yourself? Do you know who your eight great-grandparents were? Can you swear that all eight are Aryan? Cool reasonableness would be best of all, of course, but it doesn't work in the world of to-day any better than in my preparatory schools. The only effective check to silliness is silliness of a clever type.

Jew-mania was the one evil which no one foretold at the close of the last year. All sorts of troubles were discerned and discernable—nationalism, class-warfare, the split between the haves and have-nots, the general lowering of cultural values. But no prophet, so far as I know, had foreseen this anti-Jew horror, whereas to-day no one can see the end of it. There had been warnings, of course, but they seemed no more ominous than a poem by Hilaire Belloc. Back in India, in 1921, a Colonel lent me the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and it was such an obvious fake that I did not worry. I had forgotten my preparatory schools, and did not see that they were about to come into their own. To me, anti-Semitism is now the most shocking of all things. It is destroying much more than the Jews; it is assailing the human mind at its source, and inviting it to create false catagories before exercising judgment. I am sure we shall win through. But it will take a long time, and it won't be in our day. Perhaps a hundred years must pass before men can think back to the mentality of 1918, or can say with the Prophet Malachi "Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us?" For the moment, all that we can do is to dig in our heels, and prevent silliness from sliding into insanity.

Terror In Catalonia

During the first days of the occupation of Barcelona, the troops serving the foreign invaders, especially the Italian Legionnaires and the Moors, massacred about 5,000 persons. The Foreign Minister Senor del Vayo points this out in a statement to the press. Terrorism is now being followed up by "legal" terrorism, that is, by martial courts and firing squads. The first death sentences have already been passed. Salazar Ventura, President of the People's Court of Justice of the Republic; Manuel Garrido, president of the staff committee of "General Motors"; Emilio Morales, president of the motor-car workers' trade union; Pablo Verdad and Francisco Piquer; these have been condemned to death. The special correspondent of *The Times*, writing on the activities of the Fascist courts in Barcelona, stated that the martial courts of the Nationalist army are overloaded with work, and the examination of the prisoners proceeds very slowly. So far only 1,000 of the more than 5,000 militia prisoners have been examined. Some will remain in prison or concentration camp, or will be sent to their native villages. Over 300 civilians have been remanded in custody. It is, however, estimated that there are still about 20,000 people in Barcelona who are liable to prosecution, and this involves such an amount of work that they have not yet been arrested, but have only been "noted." All ex-soldiers and officers of the Republican army, and all Government officials, have to undergo examination in the Palace of Justice. *The Times* gives the following names of prominent persons already arrested: Don Javier Elola, judge of the Republican Court of Justice; Captain Aznar of the Republican Navy, and Don Juan Garcia del Valle, formerly commander of the Republican warship "Jaime I." Senor Barriobero, Republican Public Prosecutor, has been executed.

The Negroes May Not Call It Fascism

—by JAMES COLLIS

[The following article deals with an aspect of Fascism in the United States which by its very familiarity to most of us has become an accepted part of the American scene. We have become accustomed to the negro's status and it takes an unusual and dramatic episode such as the recent Marian Anderson case to shake us out of our lethargy. The author of this article is a Washington newspaperman who knows conditions in the Capital from long experience there. He touches only too accurately upon the brand of Fascism which is made in America and nowhere else.]

When Eleanor Roosevelt resigned from the D. A. R. because Marian Anderson was refused admission as a paid singer to Constitution Hall in the nation's capital, a spontaneous wave of applause went up from decent Americans everywhere. That applause was a healthy sign. The action of Eleanor Roosevelt was the simple, unaffected indignation of a honest person.

But let us look at the whole business of the treatment of the negro in America from another angle for a moment. Let us try and see why the belledames of the D.A.R. reacted in such genuine bewilderment and hurt surprise at the way the episode turned against them. Here's their story.

Constitution Hall, the property of the D.A.R. is hired out from time to time for lectures, concerts and the like. The rules governing its use are similar to those elsewhere prevailing in Washington. The barrier against the negro is up in Constitution Hall — just as much and no more — than elsewhere throughout the city. Hence, when the all-men-are-created-equal ladies turned La Anderson down they only followed a time-honored precedent — one they didn't create and one that has been accepted tacitly in the Capital ever since the triumphant army of Lincoln marched down Pennsylvania Avenue after winning the war to end slavery.

Only a few months earlier, the CIO ran into this same situation when they bought out the house for a night's production of Pins and Needles at the National, the city's leading theatre. Tickets were to be sold at the box office, but when negro members of the union tried to buy seats they were turned away. "Nothing doing as far as niggers are concerned." And when the CIO firmly insisted that their members be permitted to purchase tickets regardless of whether their skins were white or black, the National Theatre slammed down its ticket window and refused to sell any more admissions for that evening.

The result was that the CIO had to peddle its tickets as best it could, and take a licking financially — but there were negroes in the audience that night. However, let the CIO — or any other organization — try and buy out the house for any future shows at the National with the idea that negroes can be included. Let them just try!

So, the D.A.R. had plenty of precedent — and their hurt surprise at being made the goat for a nationwide panning is perhaps understandable. The fact is that some of the people who got on their ear about Marian Anderson were peeved because one of the greatest singers in the world had been refused admission. A supreme artist had been submitted to humiliation. She just happened to be a negro.

Let's look at the picture candidly. We don't need to worry too much about Marian Anderson. She can take care of herself. She receives fat fees. And out of this incident she got a splendid barrage of publicity. It was worth \$100,000 to her — easily.

But day in and day out in the city of Washington, obscure negroes are submitted to degrading humiliations, are treated in more vicious fashion than in any other city in the entire country.

Nobody resigns from the D.A.R. when Washington cops shoot down — and shoot to kill — fleeing negroes in the night, petty thieves whose only offense has been syphoning gasoline from a parked car, or who run when merely accosted in the dark by a gruff cop.

Nobody resigns from the D.A.R. when almost within sight of the white Capitol dome, across the Potomac in Virginia, young negroes work from dawn till dark on farms for five cents an hour — and walk seven miles each way back to a hovel in which their employer wouldn't house his cattle. I encountered such a case while motoring in the early evening just a few miles from Washington in nearby Virginia last summer. I picked a lad up. His story came laconically, under questions. He wasn't complaining. Most of them do not.

Nobody resigns from the D.A.R. when — but

the incidents are too many. And they all add up to the same answer. The trouble is it is a story without the vivid highlights of a world famous singer being refused admission to Constitution Hall. There are no highlights to the simple facts of economic degradation, quietly colorlessly revealed day in and day out.

This hokum about "social equality" ought to be scorched now. It has got by too long. It isn't the issue. The issue is a simple one and it is this: The negro has been exploited as an economic animal too long. Far too long. Too long for us to get steamed up over what happens to a single, highly paid concert singer — and let it go at that.

Consider the specifications set forth by *The Crisis*, organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

"Negroes know what it is to have school doors slammed in their faces, churches and property destroyed, jobs denied, courts judging race instead of crime, insults and humiliation heaped upon them in parks, playgrounds, theatres, restaurants, hotels, beaches, trains, buses, and airplanes. They have had their property and belongings confiscated and they have been driven out of towns between sunset and sunrise. They know ghettos. They have read countless signs: Nigger, don't let the sun set on you in this town. Unlike the Jews in modern Germany, they know lynching."

It has all been said before. A thousand times. Let negroes try to vote in many sections of the south. Just try! The shocking lack of school facilities — and then the complacent smile of the white matron — she doesn't need to be a member of the D.A.R. — at the "childish ignorance" of her colored maid.

Nowhere, in the United States has genuine Fascism a grimmer hold than on the negro. This Fascism is not an importation from Italy. It does not stem out of the muck of Nazi Germany. It was here long before Hitler first looked with fanatic eyes upon his fellow countrymen and found some of them were Jews.

It is peculiarly and personally American, this Fascism which is inflicted upon the negro. It is like all Fascism, economic in its basic origin, despite the overlay of racial antagonisms which are present. Its poison lies in the fact that under the right pressures it can creep out and include other groups of American citizens if it is not crushed. It is one of the gravest and most dangerous problems confronting democracy today in the United States.

This morning in the city of Washington, at a bank, within a stone's throw of the White House where Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation proclamation, there were people in line before a receiving teller's window. They wanted to deposit money. The bank courteously was receiving their money. In that line was a negro. A white man stood in front of him. A white man stood in back of him. There is no Jim Crow line when they want a negro's money.

And across the street, in front of a hotel where a strike of hotel workers had been going on for days, a picket line slowly passed back and forth along the sidewalk. In that line were two negroes. White men were in front. White men were behind. There were no Jim Crow restrictions there either. When there is danger to be faced, hard work to be done, social and racial discriminations have a way of sliding out of sight.

Let us not fool ourselves. The negro is exploited by the same sort of Fascism that will exploit all Americans unless we unite to fight it. And that means to fight it on every front — to fight — as the masthead of this magazine declares — against all fascism everywhere.

What A Nazi May Not Do

A Nazi with heart disease must not use digitalis, discovered by the Jew, Ludwig Traube. If he has a toothache, a Nazi will not use cocaine or he will be utilizing the work of a Jew, Solomon Stricker. Nor will he be treated for typhus by the discoveries of the Jews, Widal and Weill. If he has diabetes he must not use insulin, the discovery of a Jew, Mikowsky. If he has a headache he must shun pyramidon and anti-pyris, discovered by Jews, Spiro and Eilege. Nazis with convulsions must avoid chloral-hydrate, the discovery of a Jew, Oscar Liebreich.

Nazis with syphilis must not allow themselves to be cured by salvarsan, discovered by a Jew, Ehrlich. They must not even try to find out whether they have syphilis, because the Wasserman reaction used for that purpose is the discovery of a Jew. Likewise, if a Nazi suspects he has gonorrhea he must not investigate because the method used is the discovery of a Jew, Neisser.

Nazis with psychic ailments must not seek to cure them because Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, is a Jew . . .

God's Mills Grind Fascisti Grist

—by SEAN O'REILLEY

[The following article portrays how religious fanaticism is being used as an instrument of fascism by southern textile owners in their campaign against the workers. It is an eye witness account of part of a Labor Board hearing under the Wagner Act in a company-owned Southern mill town. It represents a condition that prevails throughout the entire textile area of the South.]

The tone of her answer was defiant, not devout.

"Yes, I am saved, — absolutely saved!"

She was a gray little woman of 60. Fingers twisted between her knees — bony knees which drab cotton covered tightly because she sat awkwardly in the witness chair. She was not used to sitting, not since the "stretch out" system had come to the mills and her number of "sides" on spinning frames had been increased.

It seemed to me that she had misunderstood the lawyer's question. He had asked: "You have resigned from the Union?" But as I remained in the Carolina court-room to hear her testimony and that of other mill workers I learned that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are now on the payrolls of textile plants of the "deep South". She and hundreds — thousands — of illiterate workers are being successfully exhorted by "preachers" of primitive denominations to revoke their membership in the Textile Workers Organizing Committee.

Feudal mill owners are openly subsidizing mill "preachers" who quote the Bible to prove that belonging to a union is a sin against God. Since many of these preachers are already employed during the week as "doffers", or "rope haulers", or even as weavers in the mills themselves, and thus dependent upon the boss for their bread and butter, they are easily persuaded to preach the owner's doctrine at Saturday night and Sunday revivals.

The Devil has been superceded; John L. Lewis has taken his place.

Lewis is the "mark of the Beast", from whom mill hands must flee if they are to dwell in the arms of the Lamb, forever and ever, amen. While I listened in amazement, I heard one of these mill preachers expound his beliefs on the witness stand. And if you doubt your eyes or my reporting, drop a line to "Parson" Jack, Columbus, Georgia, for a booklet containing his anti-union speeches.

The young preacher I heard admitted that he had been to school only two or three years. But when the "call" had come, he had quickly been ordained as a minister in the Primitive Baptist denomination. Others are Holy Rollers, pastors of Pentecostal Holiness, and of the Church of God. There was a fanatic gleam in his eye, a nervous pitch in his voice, but calm assurance in his manner as he testified.

He had once been a member of the Union, he admitted, — but he had been saved. It was the wrong spirit, — the spirit of Communism. And so, having received the call to Christ, he had joined in the fight to keep off this spirit that was coming up on the people. His most frequent text, he admitted, when leading the "prayer bands" which visited from house to house in the mill village, was the "mark of the Beast". He had found it somewhere in "Revelations" — yes, the thirteenth chapter. There it was "laid down" that in the last days the "spirit" would rise out of the sea. He would proceed to deceive the people, and cause rich and poor to receive that mark upon their foreheads. Wasn't that what Lewis and his CIO'ers was doing?

It was absolutely wrong, he declared, for people to try to do things for themselves, — God is the one to do that! With no less defiance than that expressed by the old spinner he had "saved", he insisted that it was ungodly for mill workers to try to improve their working conditions. Didn't it say, in the beginning of the Bible, (he couldn't accurately recall the Book and Chapter, since he "hadn't been there for a good while") that we should be satisfied with our wages on this earth?

People should prepare to meet their God. Christ is coming, soon, and the remaining time should be spent in getting ready to greet him. We mustn't waste precious hours bickering for higher wages.

He quoted Matthew, as authority for the impending Visitation. Just before that "great and noble day of the Lord's coming", Matthew said, horseless chariots would be running to and fro. And what more literal translation could the present give to the prophet's "horseless chariots" than automobiles?

The lawyer interrupted to point out that automobiles had been here for forty years. This youthful exhorter was not stymied! "A thousand years are, but a day in the sight of the Lord."

Primitive preachers, leading shrill prayer bands, delivering their inspired "speakings" at out-of-door barbecues, and "chicken stews". Leading these mill hands out of the wilderness of unionism! Tragic because so simple.

For eight hours a day, without rest or lunch periods, in a lint-laden atmosphere, these snuff-chewing spinners must work in the monotony of whirling machines. Most of them have worked in the mills since they were fourteen years of age, some younger. They live in company-owned houses, trade their day's work for a day's ration of food at the company-owned store. And now their sole emotional relief, religious ecstasy, falls under the feudal control of their mill-master.

But the tragedy, has even more serious implications than the loss of their own freedom. When — and if — the clash now threatening becomes a battle, in the front lines of the fascists will be these southern thousands — who have been exhorted to love Christ by hating unions.

Italy's Ruin In Abyssinia

—by E. SYLVIA PANKHURST

Fascist Italy's total economic failure in Ethiopia is a factor of world importance which should be taken account of by everyone interested in public affairs.

Autarchy and terror have neither suborned nor subdued the Ethiopian people. Aggression has failed to achieve its purpose.

Admissions of the economic failure are now being made by the Italian Ministry of the Colonies, both verbally by Ministers, and through official publications.

The military state of the country may be judged by the dispatches of our own correspondents, of which those in this issue are particularly striking.

Chaotic vacillations of policy afflict the dictatorship, faced by unconquerable masses in revolt, and economic problems, which have proved immensely greater than was foreseen. General Attilio Teruzzi, Under Secretary for Italian East Africa, after an investigation of Ethiopian conditions, declared that years of pacification and organization will be necessary before there can be mass colonization of the invaded country.

In an interview with the official organ "Azione Coloniale" he stated:

"Legal recognition of native proprietorship, both individual and collective, is a political requisite to any development of the Imperial lands. It must be far-reaching and complete, and above all be carried out in the shortest possible time."

This declaration arose from no awakening of a dormant sense of humanity and justice, but from a realization of the costly collapse of the attempt to obtain wealth by depriving the Ethiopian people of their land.

Yet whilst the colonial under-secretary is making such admissions, the officially sponsored national Ethiopian cotton company is publicly presenting its report to the Dictator wherein it is declared that this company has been granted more than 14,000,000 acres of Ethiopian soil in six cotton growing districts including zones in the Lake Tsana basin and bordering the Abyssinian and Sudan frontier.

The appetite to exploit is strong; it is the power which is lacking. In this dilemma the cunning and brazen dictator appeal for British aid, and backs the appeal with bribery of special interests and propagandists, and with open threats of attack by aeroplanes and submarines.

Bitter economic warfare has long been conducted by the Dictator triangle in purchase of raw material above world prices in order to capture markets and other ruthless expedients. Mr. Chamberlain's "appeasement" has not abated this economic war.

When Italians Will Leave Spain

"Between Mussolini's Italy and Franco's Spain there is a new and firm solidarity," says the Fascist official weekly paper, *Relazione Internazionale*, published in Rome on Feb. 18th.

"Franco has won and, with Franco, Italy has gained a victory against the organized coalition of London and Paris. It is useless to attempt political extortion by means of financial offers. Franco, Mussolini, and Hitler cannot be touched, and the wooing of the democracies will not be accepted.

"Should these woinings become threats against such points as Spanish Morocco, then a new crisis would immediately be opened. The Italian volunteers will go when Franco believes it is necessary and when it is the common interest of Italy and Spain."

Father Coughlin's RECORD

Recent controversy aroused by the refusal of certain radio stations to permit Father Charles E. Coughlin to broadcast his speeches without submitting in advance a copy of his address, has raised again the question of Coughlin's record. Although much has been written about him, we summarize only a few significant actions and statements in the development of Coughlin's fascist leanings:

Anti-Semitism: In 1933, Coughlin began attacking "Jewish gold" and calling for the remonetization of "Gentile silver". It was later revealed by the government (April, 1934) that the largest holder of silver in Michigan was Amy Collins, secretary of Coughlin's organization.

On March 22, 1935, he declared: "The Jews can come here, but do not overwork democracy. Our representatives to Congress and to national office must be Christian."

He makes use of the forged and discredited "Protocols of Zion" saying, like Henry Ford, that while they may not be authentic, they are nonetheless "factual".

On November 20, 1938, ten days after the world was aroused by the most outrageous pogrom in Nazi history, he defended this persecution of Jews in his broadcast. He excused the pogrom as a defense against "Jewish Communism", maintaining among other things, that the Russian revolution was financed by Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and other Jewish financiers. He was immediately contradicted by authorities as diverse as the United States Secret Service, which denied the existence of the report on which Coughlin said he based the Kuhn, Loeb allegation; station WMCA which carried his broadcast in New York; Alexander Kerensky, head of the Russian provisional government in 1917; and the Catholic publication *Commonweal*. Two other stations, WIND in Gary, Ind., and WJJD in Chicago, barred his anti-semitic utterances from the air. But he has continued since in the same vein in his weekly Sunday broadcasts.

On December 5, 1938, *Social Justice* carried an article signed by Coughlin defending Nazi persecution of Jews. The *New York Post* (12/30/38) compared this article with a speech made on September 13, 1935, by Paul Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment, before the Nazi Party Congress at Nuremberg, Germany. On the basis of verbatim excerpts, the *Post* declared: "the Coughlin article and Goebbels' speech are so closely parallel that the only conclusion to be drawn is that Father Coughlin borrowed heavily from Goebbels' speech."

Anti-Labor: Coughlin has suggested that the trade unions are unnecessary to labor. On October 10, 1934, the *Detroit Times* quoted him as saying: "Make the U. S. Department of Labor a real power. Let it take over the functions of collective bargaining... Let it supplant the A. F. of L. entirely." (This was before the formation of the CIO, which he has since frequently attacked.)

In August, 1936, Bishop Joseph Schermbs of Cleveland, a Coughlin backer, said in Rome: "Coughlin wants protection for the laboring classes. Fascism has given it to Italian workmen. If American capitalism were not so shortsighted, they would also advance in order to save their country from Communism." And the late Bishop Michael Gallagher said at the same time and place, "The Vatican approves Coughlin because what he is doing is necessary to check the upsurge of American workers."

In June, 1937, a series of expensive ads in Detroit newspapers carried Coughlin's announcement of the formation of a "union" for Ford workers, the "Workers Council for Social Justice." No Jews were to be allowed in this organization, which was admittedly to seek a Ford contract in opposition to the CIO.

Anti-Roosevelt: In 1936, Coughlin formed the Union Party, a move to divert votes from Roosevelt to Landon. During a radio speech, November 9, 1936, Secretary of Interior Ickes read from a letter written by William Hard, radio and publicity agent for the Republican Party, to Gardner Jackson, Washington journalist, asking the latter to do some work for Coughlin. Ickes quoted Hard as saying: "I am one of Coughlin's closet friends and advisors, and while I am not on his staff officially, he asks me for counsel."

Red-Baiting: During the 1936 campaign, Coughlin called President Roosevelt "a liar", "anti-God", and "a Communist". To him the mildest liberal, including Secretary Perkins, is a Communist. On this subject Mrs. Dilling's hysterical *Red Network* is his source book.

In February, 1934, he had called the attack on notorious Mayor Jimmie Walker of New

York "a Communist plot", naming as leaders of the plot Rev. John Haynes Holmes and Rabbi Stephen Wise. In a remarkable interview at Des Moines, quoted in the *National Farm Holiday News* (in September, 1936), he declared:

"We are at the crossroads. One road leads toward Fascism, the other toward Communism. I take the road toward Fascism." He added, "The crisis will come before 1940... if a Communist government is elected, I will be out fighting with a gun. You can quote me on that."

Reactionary and Nazi Supporters: Among Coughlin's friends are Tom Farrell of Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co., who gave Coughlin steel for his church; Pres. James H. Rand, Jr., of Remington Rand, Inc., author of the strike-breaking "Mohawk Valley Formula" (see *Labor Fact Book IV*, p. 114); and William Randolph Hearst, whose sentiments he echoes closely in his sermons and whose guest he has been, both in New York and at his ranch in California.

Coughlin has the open support of Nazis and Nazi sympathizers. On December 16, 1938, a mass meeting was held by the "Committee for the Defense of American Constitutional Rights" to protest the action of WMCA and other stations in barring Coughlin's anti-semitic speeches from the air. Chairman of this committee was Allen Zoll, who is also chairman of the quasi-fascist, anti-semitic American Patriots, Inc. Zoll has cooperated with German-American Nazis in an "Americanism rally", and the Bund has distributed several thousand circulars for the American Patriots, Inc.

"The German hero of the moment is the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin," according to the *New York Times* (11/27/38), "because of his radio speech representing national socialism as a defensive front against bolshevism." The radio censorship Coughlin experienced, said the *Times*, is characterized by the German press as a "typical case of Jewish terrorism of American political opinion." And when Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago said on December 12, 1938, "Coughlin is not authorized to speak for the Catholic Church" and does not "represent the doctrines or sentiments of the Church," the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, Nazi paper, replied by calling Mundelein "Jewry's mouthpiece."

—*Labor Research Bulletin*

Hitler's Paradise

A few weeks ago a non-Aryan German, who had maintained a position in Germany, received a summons to go to the police station. He went expecting some new tax, but was promptly arrested and sent to a concentration camp. His wife, who knew nothing of the arrest, was surprised when he house was invaded by a squad of Storm Troopers. She was turned out of the house and guarded by armed men, while her furniture, personal belongings and indeed the whole contents of her house were thrown from the windows into the road and burnt before her eyes. The man in charge of the squad had been a friend and the schoolmaster of her children. As a last protest she said that she hoped he would leave some blankets to cover the children at night, but the wreck of her flat was complete, and in order to make it uninhabitable the windows were broken. Later, the leader of the Storm Troopers sought her out privately and expressed bitter regret for what he had had to do. He explained that he was suspected a great deal in the Party and that his job had been particularly chosen for him because he was known to be a friend of the family. If he had not stood the test and carried out his orders wholeheartedly, he would himself have been sent to a concentration camp. I choose this story out of the many that reach my ears because I have proof of its precise authenticity, because it is typical and because the man and woman involved had friends in other countries who have since managed to obtain their release from Germany. The friend who gave me these details has only recently returned from Germany, and has seen a great deal of some of the young Nazis. In public they were all full of the usual Nazi doctrines and expressed fervent admiration for Hitler. When he got to know some of them well, however, they told him privately that they had originally joined the S.A. in the belief that something decent was being done for Germany, that they had become completely disillusioned and disgusted with what they were doing, but that sadists and gangsters were in charge and that they had no alternative but to obey orders. One of the things most worth remembering is that there are still in Germany innumerable decent people who in their hearts loathe the regime and who pray for outside resistance to Hitler before it is too late.

Read—and don't swear

A Scotswoman, who has been nursing in Republican Spain, and now in Perpignan, sent this letter written from Perpignan, February 7th. It has been sent to the Prime Minister and Lord Halifax: "We have been working all the way up from Barcelona with the wounded, civil and military, and I can tell you that I never want to see anything like it again. Hell is putting it mildly. At Port Bou we got wounded children from Figueras, their hands and faces blown to bits by hand bombs. This is an absolute fact. The Fascists dropped from planes pretty little chocolate boxes, and the poor little mites of children ran to pick up what they take to be the much-longed-for sweets. They feverishly start to open the boxes when suddenly the bomb sealed inside goes off and they are left without hands, and their little faces charred and burned beyond recognition. Nothing surely can be more brutal. The sight of the poor soldiers suffering from severe wounds having to be transported from hospital to train and from train to ambulance has been more than enough, but the plight of the little children is almost too much to bear... This has left a black mark on my memory that I shall never be able to wipe out."

Spanish Refugees in Daladier's France

One can understand that the problem to be faced by the French authorities was one of great difficulty. But had there been the least desire to show any humanitarian feelings, it could have been tackled. In any case, there can only be one explanation of the barbarous treatment meted out to the helpless civilian refugees and to those Spanish soldiers—heroes of a rearguard action against overwhelming odds in both men and material, and fulfilled in a manner which will record a landmark in military history for bravery and endurance. That reason is that the French authorities (not, be it noted, the French people) wished the population and army of Catalonia to be so uncomfortable in France that they would return to Spain and preferably Franco's Spain as quickly as possible. It is a form of mass-torture, probably unequalled in history. Those Spaniards are being turned into enemies of France, and it is hardly surprising that about one-third of them should wish to return to Franco's Spain in the hope that one day they may be used to fight against France. They arrived full of hope and friendship. Now, there is bitterness in their hearts. Here is a letter (*Manchester Guardian*, February 18th) from a Spanish soldier now interned in France and dated February 10th: "Just come out of Spain. Everything very sad and last bombardments very thick. In Figueras four days ago there were more than 1,000 killed, mostly civilian people. I was again giving service with a motor-cycle and have seen terrible things everywhere. Am now in a concentration camp where we are treated just like infected dogs and by the Senegalese blacks... Obviously they were ordered to be rough with us, more or less, to go with Franco, which is what the authorities want. Boys wanting to get into the list going to Fascist Spain are most welcomed. So far as I hear around here, we are to choose—Valencia, Burgos, or French Foreign Legion. To choose Valencia I think is to go directly to death, because surely the boats are going to be sunk. Burgos also means death or long years of prison, and French Foreign Legion—well, I wouldn't go to defend France for anything after the way Spain has been cheated and after the way we are treated in these camps. The food ration here consists of: 8 a.m., a tin of hot dirty water meaning to be coffee; 3 p.m., half a pound of bad bread and a tin of six small and very bad sardines to be shared between three people. And that's all. Next day sardines again. We sleep in a shelter of 40 yards by 25 yards with straw, more than 300 people. There is no room to lie flat on the floor but only sideways. Outside in the open sleep over 1,000 more. The lavatory is awful....

"The way they dragged us into these holes from the border! I walked without being allowed to stop for over twenty-six hours. People that fell on the roads and resisted to go on were knocked by the sabres of the guards on horses. It has been something unwritable. I escaped from Argelès-sur-Mer (19 km. from here) because it was much worse. The place ready prepared for us down there was the beach, with room enough for 70,000. When I got there, there were more than 150,000, and no shelter, just the cold and damp sand, and no food was yet given. In here, I

have been two and a-half days. Five boys have died. Perhaps they were sick already or got ill in marching, but no medical attention was ready. There is a Spanish doctor, one of the army, working today, but he has no help, no medical material, no medicine, nothing. We'll die like flies soon. It would have been better to have been killed by bombs."

Our information is that nothing which has appeared in either the English or the French press can convey any idea of the sufferings of these refugees. They beggar description. Epidemics of diphtheria and dysentery have started. There is grave risk of cholera. The refugees are being used as a political pawn in the "diplomacy" of Paris and London, directed towards pressing the Spanish Government to surrender.

FOOTNOTES

A sensational document is being circulated, in Berlin, among German army officers and in influential civilian circles. This document is a rotographed 12-page pamphlet whose authors sharply attack the Hitler-Mussolini alliance.

The readers are reminded that in 1915 Mussolini was leading a campaign, the purpose of which was to prepare the Italian people for a war against Germany. Mussolini's war speeches against Germany are extensively quoted, including the one in which he appeals to the Italians to "Kill off the greatest possible number of Huns" (Germans).

The well-known speech by Mussolini of Nov. 11, 1914, in Milan, is also cited in this pamphlet. In this speech, Mussolini renounces all Italian claims on Nice and Savoy, which are French provinces.

The purpose of this booklet is to prove that Mussolini is utterly unreliable, and by setting forth these examples of his revised policies, he is entirely untrustworthy and apt to change his opinions at any time he chooses.

* * * *

From Budapest comes the news of the resignation of Prime Minister Bela Imredi because after a careful check of his genealogical tree he ascertained the fact that he has a few drops of Jewish blood in his system. The Minister, by the way, was responsible for the anti-Jewish campaign in Hungary... We wonder how many Fascist big wigs would have to resign if they took the trouble of going over their own ancestry—provided they were capable of Imredi's scruples—or is it fanaticism?

* * * *

In Italy Jews are being barred from Cafes and other public places. "Aryan Shop" signs are appearing on shop fronts while placards bearing the warning "No Jews Wanted" are being hung up on apartment buildings, factories, theatres, etc... Make your own comments, readers; but we can't help wondering how the Fascist can spot a Jew in their midsts. And suppose a dark, long-headed, low browed citizen like Virginio Gayda appeared at a gathering without being known... he might be taken for anything—from a Moslem or Armenian to a relation of Haile Selassie.

* * * *

There were two attempts to kill Mussolini last month—not just the one that leaked out in the press... The second, and more spectacular plot, was organized by trusted Fascists in the castle of Rocca delle Caminate. Although the story was completely hushed up, the Italian Secret Police are still jittery—because they have good reason to believe that all of the plotters are not known to them yet.

* * * *

Italian veterans of the Spanish Civil War led a demonstration of the unemployed in Naples recently... They wrecked the headquarters of the Fascist Union—and hollered blue murder that phoney promises tricked them into fighting in Spain.

* * * *

Ethiopia is fast driving Italy nearer to bankruptcy... The Italians still control only certain cities where they maintain large garrisons... Many large regions are still unconquered—after three years of constant warfare with the Italian East African army of 200,000 men... Since June, 1938, the ballyhooed road-building projects have been halted completely—and it's on American mules, rather than motor trucks, that the Italian army moves at all.

* * * *

Meanwhile, a "Franco Coup" in Belgium has failed. Franco sympathizers stormed the Spanish consulate in Brussels occupying it in defiance of the authorities. Shouting "Viva Franco" the invaders displayed the insurgent flag from the building. They were ejected after a clash with the police.... It looks as though Franco, having to share Spain with Mussolini and Hitler, is getting ready to move into Belgium.