

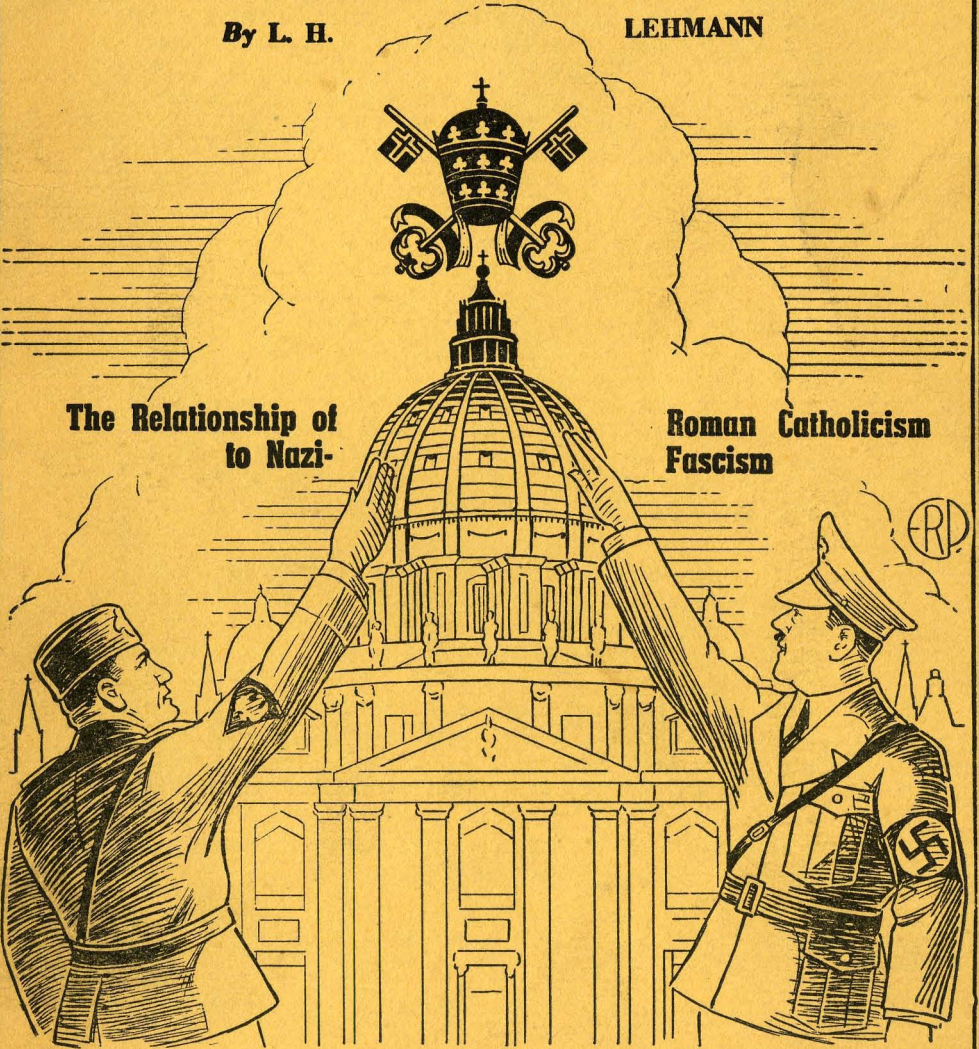
# **BEHIND THE DICTATORS**

By L. H.

LEHMANN

The Relationship of  
to Nazi-

Roman Catholicism  
Fascism



AGORA PUBLISHING CO., 229 West 48th St., New York, N.Y.

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## A WORD ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. L. H. Lehmann was born in Ireland, and received his primary education from the nuns and Christian brothers. All his boyhood days were spent in Catholic Ireland. Following his primary education with the Catholic Brothers, and his decision to enter the priesthood, he spent several years in Mungret College. In 1918 he went to study theology in the missionary seminary *di Propaganda Fide*, in Rome, arriving in Rome the day of the Armistice, November 11th, 1918.

Dr. Lehmann was ordained in St. John Lateran—the “Mother Church of the World”—the Pope’s own church and parish. For a year or thereabout he was parish priest of a church in Rome. Then he was sent to South Africa. After three and a half years he was recalled to Rome, in order to continue the negotiations with the Vatican Courts in which he had been engaged as a student in Rome on behalf of many bishops and clergy, in connection with the “Mungret College Case” against the Jesuits. Following this he returned to Africa, and later was transferred to a diocese in the United States. This occurred in 1927. He was appointed by the Bishop of Florida as Pastor of Gainesville, the university city of Florida.

Dr. Lehmann’s mind had long been uneasy, his early experience at the *di Propaganda Fide*, Rome, having greatly disturbed his confidence in the Roman Church. In 1929 Dr. Lehmann resigned as a priest. He was later converted through the agency of *Christ’s Mission*, in New York, to which he is now attached. He is also Editor-in-Chief of *The Converted Catholic*, a magazine which has been issued for many years—perhaps fifty, with several lapses during that period because it has always been edited exclusively by Roman Catholic priests.

We know of no more informative and useful periodical on the Catholic question.—T. T. S.

# ***Behind the Dictators***

*by*

L. H. LEHMANN



1942

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# BEHIND THE DICTATORS

## CHAPTER I.

### JESUITS, JEWS AND FREEMASONS

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to understand fully what is taking place in the world today unless we are able to grasp the underlying significance of what appears on the surface. It is necessary to penetrate behind the scenes of day-to-day happenings and examine thoroughly the active forces and planned objectives which are responsible for all that has come to pass so quickly in the past few years.

The 19th century left us deplorably weak in true knowledge of the history of State-Church conflicts. The facts of human development since the Reformation have become so inextricably tangled, that we have ceased to try to unravel them. We content ourselves in America with a mere superficial knowledge of events, and the conclusions arrived at, far from helping us to get at the real truth, only drive us farther away from an understanding of the real meaning of these events. Too much emphasis has been placed upon the economic aspect of the world-situation as a whole. The ideological and theoretical origins of Nazi-Fascism, as a consequence, have been almost entirely overlooked. Research is necessary to show where social, political and religious conflicts cross one another. There is abundance of incontestable proof that the forces of religion, as represented by the Catholic Church, have succeeded in dominating the political and social field, and that there exists a close bond between them and the origins, methods and objectives of the whole Nazi-Fascist movement in Europe. Furthermore, this domination has already spread to America. History proves that in every attempt made during the past half century against the liberal progress of mankind, the Jesuit Order, as the leader of Catholic action, has played a decisive rôle. We can go even so far as to state that Nazi-Fascism had its origin in the Society of Jesus, and that, like other movements in the past analogous to Fascism today, it was planned to serve the traditional aims of the disciples of Ignatius Loyola.

As long as the reverse side of the conspiracy against democratic idealism goes undetected, Fascism will survive. The defenders of democratic ideology will not be victorious until they come out openly against their real enemy—the Knights of the Black Crusade.

The Jesuits were once irrevocably expelled from the nations of Europe, and from the Catholic Church itself, by Pope Clement XIV in 1773, and the only refuge they could find during their forty years of banishment was with the impious Catherine of Russia. Sworn to obey and defend the pope in all matters, they were hard put to it (even as Jesuits) to find a way out of the dilemma of being protégés of a monarch who thumbed her nose at the pope—in order to protect them from his wrath. Not to be outdone, the Jesuits politely and diplomatically protested to Catherine for thus disobeying the pope. And having thereby satisfied the requirements of their oath, they proceeded with a clear conscience to accept her protection and enjoy her hospitality. The truth of the matter is, that the Jesuits are not so much sworn to protect any individual pope as such, but rather the institution of the Papacy. By this jesuitical distinction they hold themselves free to resist any pope who fails to follow their dictates; nor would they lament if such a pope were “providentially” speeded on his way to heaven. It is they, in fact, who comprise the Papacy. Their unalterable aim is to restore the nations of the world to the control of the Catholic Church.

As recently as 1886, the public press spoke frankly and fearlessly about the menacing tactics of the Jesuits to secure this world-control by the Papacy. The *New York Tribune*, of Sept. 19, of that year, in a dispatch from Rome reporting the serious illness of Pope Leo XIII and his subsequent rapid recovery, states that the *London Times* referred editorially to the report that Pope Leo's close approach to death “was due to poison administered by the Jesuits”. It relates that, after his sudden recovery, the pope established a new policy in the Church towards the Jesuits, “and that this new line of policy is the price at which he was able to procure the antidote which they alone could supply.” The *Tribune* report goes on to say:

“Within three days of the recovery from his illness, the pope issued a Bull re-establishing all the privileges, immunities, exceptions and indulgences formerly accorded to the

'Society of Jesus', and declaring null and void all documents which his predecessors have ever written against the order. The fact that Leo XIII restored the order to what it was in the days of its supreme power is more than enough to paralyse all hopes of a peaceful determination of the conflict between the Vatican and the Quirinal; for the Jesuits constitute the belligerent element of Catholicism, and are thoroughly 'intransigent' on the subject of the temporal power of the world escaping from the control of the church . . ."

Far be it from us to doubt the sincerity of the Jesuits and their followers in believing that the control of the world by the Catholic Church is the only solution for the ills of mankind. They are welcome to their conviction, and are free in the United States to propagate their teaching and carry out their activities towards that end. The traditional manner in which they carry out their designs, however, should be disturbing to all who strive to sustain the democratic ideology and the principles of freedom and tolerance cherished so highly in this country.

In order to obtain their objective, they spend all their energies (as Nazi-Fascism does) against the two forces they consider inimical to their cause—Judaism and Freemasonry. From its first founding, the Jesuit Order has battled, by every means, against these two, because they are the chief advocates of tolerance and freedom for all. By the ruthless elimination of Jews and Freemasons in so many countries of Europe, Nazi-Fascism has merely effected what the Jesuits have schemed and worked for during many centuries.

In France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Spain, Belgium and Italy, the Jesuits, for many years before Mussolini and Hitler, led the fight against the Jews and Freemasons. In each of these countries it was a Catholic priest (prototypes of Father Coughlin) who was the spearhead of Fascist attacks on both Judaism and Freemasonry. In France it was the Jesuit Father Du Lac, with his *Ligue Nationale Anti-semitique de France*; in Germany the Jesuit Fathers Overmanns, Muckermann, Löffler and Pachtler; in Hungary it was Father Adalbert Bangha, and Father Bresciana in Italy—all of these worked under the banner of *Positive Christianity and Christian Front* to fight Judaism and Freemasonry, in order to get the millions of unsuspecting non-Catholics to serve their ends. They all proclaimed a crusade for "The

Christian Reformation of States and of the World"<sup>1</sup>. Father Overmanns<sup>2</sup> states that "the rock of positive moral Christian law"<sup>3</sup> is the best foundation for the creation of organizations capable of reuniting the members of all Christian religions.

Father Hugger, S. J., shortly after the establishment of the German Republic, wrote (in *Stimmen der Zeit*, June, 1919, p. 171):

"We are facing a ruinous state of affairs. Once again the work of restoration will have to be accomplished by youth. Will the Congregations of Mary not go forth for the third time as the *instrument of reconstruction* chosen by Divine Providence?"

Hitler<sup>4</sup> also called his National Socialist Party "Positive Christianity". In his *Mein Kampf*<sup>5</sup> he states that he imbibed his anti-Semitism and his hatred of Masonry from the Catholic Christian Social Party of Lueger, then Mayor of Vienna, when he went there as a young man. "By combatting the Jews," he says, "I am helping the work of the Lord."

This "Christian Reform of States"—which is also the subject of the late Pope's famous encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*—is nothing else but the establishment of the Fascist, Corporative State, in which neither Jews nor Freemasons will have any part. Needless to say, it is also anti-Protestant.

The Jesuit Fathers Pachtler and Muckermann proclaimed the racist doctrines of Nazism before Hitler was heard of. Father Muckermann wrote prolifically in favor of racial eugenics and sterilization<sup>6</sup>, and continued to do so even in spite of the condemnation of sterilization in the encyclical *Casti Connubii* of Pope Pius XI.

Jules Michelet, the great French historian, in his *Histoire de France*, and the German historian Wilhelm Herzog<sup>7</sup>, stress the fact that those who directed the anti-

<sup>1</sup> P. Löffler, S.J., *Zur Jubelfeier der Marianischen Kongregationen*, Freiburg, pp. 21, 47; G. M. Pachtler, S.J., *Der Stille Krieg gegen Thron und Altar* (The Silent War against Throne and Altar), 1876; P. Bresciani, S.J., *The Jew of Verona* and *The Roman Republic*, published in the Jesuit magazine *Civiltà Cattolica*, Rome.

<sup>2</sup> In *Stimmen der Zeit* (Jesuit magazine), Feb. 1918, p. 182 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> For the Jesuits, "Christian" is synonymous with "Roman Catholic".

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Art. 24 of "The National Socialist Party Program": "*Die Partei als solche vertritt den Standpunkt eines positiven Christentums.*"

<sup>5</sup> P. 70, 1931, German ed.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Muckermann, Hermann, S.J.: *Volkstum, Staat und Nation-eugenisch gesehen* ("The People, State and Nation—from the Eugenic Viewpoint"); also his *Rassenforschung und Volk Zukunft*, Berlin, 1932, in which he expresses the desire that the doctrine of race will penetrate the national consciousness as a religion (p. 81).

<sup>7</sup> *Der Kampf einer Republik—die Affäre Dreyfus*, p. 34, *et passim*.



Semitism at the time of the Dreyfus Affair depended upon the instructions and, above all, upon the financial support of the Jesuits. The *Croix de Feu* and the *Parti Français* in France, and the Catholic Rexist Party in Belgium also had the support of the Jesuits. The *Libre Parole*, anti-Semitic daily newspaper, was founded by Jesuit money and its treasury was constantly replenished by them.<sup>8</sup> The anti-Semitic leaders of the Dreyfus Affair, which was a plot against the French Republic, were products of Jesuit schools or had Jesuit confessors. In France, as elsewhere, anti-Semitism and anti-Masonic campaign took the form of "integrated Nationalism."<sup>9</sup> It called for expulsion of Jews and Freemasons, the overthrow of the French Republic, and the setting up of a "Nationalist State". Henlein's Party in Czecho-Slovakia, likewise, propagated its doctrines under the protection of Othmar Spann, the theoretician of the Corporative State and a protégé of the Jesuits. One of the first acts of Father Tiso, when he became premier of Slovakia, was the destruction of all Masonic lodges.

In his *Mein Kampf* Hitler repeats these principles of the Jesuits against Judaism and Freemasonry like a well-trained parrot. All that he says against the Jews and the revolution in Germany after the war, about Zionism, Jewish exploitation of indecency and obscenity in literature, movies, theater and the press, their part in the organization of vice, prostitution and white slavery, was borrowed almost word for word from the official writings of the Jesuits. Everything he says, likewise, against the Freemasons—their fight for religious tolerance, their efforts to break down racial and religious barriers, as well as their alleged disloyalty to Germany during the world war—is in agreement with both the teaching of the Jesuits and of the popes in their encyclicals against Masonry. The Jesuit Father Bea,<sup>10</sup> shortly after the revolution in Germany, wrote:

"The part played by many Jews at the time of the revolution . . . the Zionist movement . . . all this should be a lesson to those who take their religion and their country seriously to put themselves resolutely on the defensive. The increase of anti-Semitic literature and anti-Semitic organizations is evidence that the people are ready for the fight against Judaism."

<sup>8</sup> Cf. Herzog, *opus cit.*, pp. 27, 52.

<sup>9</sup> *Idem*, pp. 26, 36.

<sup>10</sup> In *Stimmen der Zeit*, 1921, p. 172.

As far back as 1911 Father Overmanns, writing in *Stimmen aus Maria Laach*, states:

"It is impossible to deny the harmful influence of the Jews on the ideal which we desire in our literature. . . . The Jews make use of the great scope of their influence to spread corrupt and obscene principles and thus cause immense damage to the spiritual life . . . Everyone can see that they create many literary works which are inspired by vile and worldly ideas . . . the books of these writers are filled with the base pleasures of life, a vile sensuality and pure naturalism. The commercial sense of the Jews is not offended by the worst obscenities, white slavery, prostitution and immorality of all kinds . . ."

The Popes before Hitler proclaimed all this in even more brutal terms. Pope Pius VII, who restored the Jesuits to the Catholic Church and the nations of Europe after the downfall of Napoleon in 1814, issued a Bull in 1821 against the Freemasons. He calls Freemasonry "a cancer and a deadly disease of society." And the reason he gives is because Masonic Lodges uphold the idea of religious tolerance: ". . . they receive into their order all classes and all nationalities, and favour all kinds of moral codes and all forms of worship."

The culminating point in the Vatican's fight against Jews and Freemasons is to be found in the encyclicals of Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII. Pius IX styles Masonic Lodges "*Synagogues of Satan*", and accuses them of having fomented wars and revolutions which put Europe to the fire and the sword. Pope Leo XIII, in his encyclical (*Humanum Genus*, 1884), calls Freemasonry "a work of the devil", and "an impure epidemic". He accuses Freemasonry of aiming to destroy the churches, the state, and the public well-being. He states that among the chief reasons why Freemasons, and democracy, must be condemned are the following:

"They teach that all men have the same rights, and are perfectly equal in condition; that every man is naturally free; that no one has a right to command others; that it is tyranny to keep men subject to any other authority than that which emanates from themselves. Hence they hold that the people are sovereign, that those who rule have no authority but by the commission and concession of the people, so that they can be deposed, willing or unwilling, according to the wishes of the people. Thus the origin of all rights and civil duties is in the people or in the State, which is ruled according to the new principles of liberty. They hold that the State must not be united to religion, that there is no reason why one religion ought to be preferred to another, and that all must be held in the same esteem."

He ends his encyclical by inviting all the Catholic clergy as well as the whole lay world to exterminate the Freemasons without mercy.<sup>11</sup>

All this is the plan of Mussolini and Hitler today as expressed and put into practice by Nazi-Fascism. Circumstances have permitted it to go farther than the popes and to carry its principles by propaganda, invasion and war, into the whole world. In undermining the position that Jews and Freemasonry acquired since the French Revolution, it threatens to destroy the entire work of political and religious freedom initiated by the Protestant Reformation. It thus serves the aims of the Roman Church and the Society of Jesus, founded chiefly for the work of Counter-Reformation. For both Roman Ecclesiasticism and Nazi-Fascism regard the ideas that came out of the Reformation and the French Revolution as the chief source of the evils of our time—evils which they trace for their origins to Rousseau, Calvin, Luther, John Huss and Wycliffe—to Paris, Geneva, Wittenberg, Prague and London.

All of this again is to be found in the "*Protocols of the Elders of Sion*". An examination of this matter in the next chapter will show conclusively that this infamous forgery is the work of none other than the disciples of Ignatius Loyola.

<sup>11</sup> Father Coughlin's magazine *Social Justice*, Oct.-Nov. 1939, reiterates all this in a series of three articles entitled *Freemasonry in the Scheme of Satan*. They repeat the papal assertions that Freemasonry is allied with the Jews and Communists, and end by calling it, in the words of Pope Pius IX. "*The Synagogue of Satan*".

## CHAPTER II.

### THE JESUITS AND THE PROTOCOLS OF ZION

IT IS ADMITTED by all intelligent people that the so-called "Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion" are criminal forgeries, and could never have been written either by a group of Jews or Freemasons. Yet their authorship remains unknown. The amazing part of it is that this fantastic fraud has succeeded in its planned objective—the ousting of all Judaic-Masonic influence in Central Europe by methods that would bring a blush to the cheek of a Torquemada.

The contents of these alleged Protocols are well enough known, and have been broadcast by Nazi-Fascist (and Roman Catholic) agents in every country as authentic reports—*procés verbaux*—of secret conferences at which certain Jewish leaders drew up plans for the formation of an invisible world-government. With the help of Masonic Lodges and the liberal, democratic, socialist and communist parties, these "Elders of Zion" are said to have conspired for the overthrow of all non-Jewish governments and to destroy all religions other than Judaism. Every despicable means to weaken Christian institutions is set forth by the imaginary leaders of this vast conspiracy.

All this is to be accomplished principally by means of the Masonic orders throughout the world, as the blind dupes and willing tools of this super-imperialism of the Jews. Credit is claimed for the Jews in having instigated practically all revolutionary movements of the past century, assassination of rulers and heads of states, all the wars, civil, racial and international, and all the upheavals in and throughout the nations—from the Protestant Reformation to the economic conditions that resulted in our business depression. Behind it all there is pictured the cold calculation, the unscrupulous cunning and murderous fanaticism of these "Elders of Zion". Protocol One tells of a vast army of spies and secret agents, well supplied with funds, who bore from within and create dissension and revolution in all countries. Support of anarchist, communist and socialist movements for the destruction of Christian civilization is outlined in Protocol Three; also the debasement and ruin of the currency system, leading to a world-wide economic crisis. Universal war against any nation or group of nations

which fails to respond, is planned in Protocol Seven. Protocol Ten contains particulars how all morality is to be undermined and leading statesmen blackmailed, compromised and calumniated in order to force them to serve the ends of the conspirators.

The secret conclave, at which these monstrous plans were purported to have been drawn up, is said to have been held under the auspices of "one of the most influential and most highly initiated leaders of Freemasonry"; they are also said to have been "signed by representatives of Zion of the Thirty-Third Degree."

No group or organization could ever be as evil and satanic as these Judaic-Masonic "Elders of Zion" picture themselves to be. They are the apotheosis of the anti-Christ, and could have been conjured up only by minds imbued with the fearful expectation of the eventual coming of an anti-Christ.

It must be admitted that there is a certain similarity between this revolutionary plan of action and the Bolshevik programme that followed the assassination of the Czar of Russia and the overthrow of the Kerensky regime. But of the seventeen members of the Council of People's Commissars of the Soviet government at that time, only one, Trotsky, was a Jew. Neither have the Masons ever been the least bit influential in Russia, either under the Czar or the Soviets. A world-wide economic depression also has since happened, somewhat similar to that allegedly planned by these elders of Zion. By no means, however, have the Jews and Masons ever so completely controlled the world's finances. They suffered as much as others as a result of the economic débâcle.

The Nazi-Fascists, who have successfully exploited these Protocols to their great advantage, and who have used these criminal forgeries to attain their primary objective, might well be accused of their authorship. But their publication antedated the rise of Fascism by a quarter of a century, when Hitler and Mussolini were youngsters learning their multiplication tables in school, and Franco babbling his "Hail Marys" at his mother's knee.

Now, authorship of an anonymous document is best discovered from the document itself—by the cause it favours and by the enemies it depicts. These will appear even if placed in reverse. A clear sample of this can be seen from such an analysis of a part of these

Protocols of Zion which I have before me. It is a reprint from *The Catholic Gazette*, of February, 1936, a monthly publication of the Catholic Missionary Society of London, England. Space limits permit the quotation of only parts of this nefarious document.

The Judaic-Masonic conspirators are speaking:

"As long as there remains among the Gentiles any moral conception of the social order, and until all faith, patriotism, and dignity are uprooted, our reign over the world shall not come. . . .

"We have still a long way to go before we can overthrow our main opponent: the Catholic Church. . . .

"We must always bear in mind that the Catholic Church is the only institution which has stood, and which will, as long as it remains in existence, stand in our way. The Catholic Church, with her methodical work and her edifying and moral teachings, will always keep her children in such a state of mind as to make them too self-respecting to yield to our domination, and to bow before our future king of Israel. . . .

"That is why we have been striving to discover the best way of shaking the Catholic Church to her very foundations. . . .

"We have blackened the Catholic Church with the most ignominious calumnies, we have stained her history and disgraced even her noblest activities. We have imputed to her the wrongs of her enemies, and have thus brought these latter to stand more closely by our side. . . . We have turned her Clergy into objects of hatred and ridicule, we have subjected them to the contempt of the crowd. . . . We have caused the practice of the Catholic Religion to be considered out of date and a mere waste of time. . . .

"One of the many triumphs of our Freemasonry is that those Gentiles who become members of our Lodges, should never suspect that we are using them to build their own jails, upon whose terraces we shall erect the throne of our Universal King of Israel. . . .

"So far, we have considered our strategy in our attacks upon the Catholic Church from the outside. . . . Let us now explain how we have gone further in our work, to hasten the ruin of the Catholic Church . . . and now we have brought even some of her Clergy to become pioneers of our cause.

"We have induced some of our children to join the Catholic body, with the explicit intimation that they should work in a still more efficient way for the disintegration of the Catholic Church. . . .

"We are the Fathers of all Revolutions—even of those which sometimes happen to turn against us. We are the supreme Masters of Peace and War. We can boast of being the Creators of the REFORMATION! (*sic*). Calvin was one of our Children; he was of Jewish descent, and was entrusted by Jewish authority and en-

couraged with Jewish finance to draft his scheme in the Reformation.

"Martin Luther yielded to the influence of his Jewish friends, and again, by Jewish authority and with Jewish finance, his plot against the Catholic Church met with success. . . .

"Thanks to our propaganda, to our theories of LIBERALISM and to our MISREPRESENTATIONS OF FREEDOM (*sic*), the minds of many among the Gentiles were ready to welcome the Reformation. They separated from the Church to fall into our snare. And thus the Catholic Church has been sensibly weakened, and her authority over the Kings of the Gentiles has been reduced almost to naught. . . .

"We are grateful to PROTESTANTS for their loyalty to our wishes—although most of them are, in the sincerity of their faith, unaware of their loyalty to us. . . .

"France, with her Masonic government, is under our thumb. England, in her dependence upon our finance, is under our heel; and in her Protestantism is our hope for the destruction of the Catholic Church. Spain and Mexico are but toys in our hands. And many other countries, including the U.S.A., have already fallen before our scheming. . . .

"Likewise, as regards our diplomatic plans and the power of our secret societies, there is no organization to equal us. *The Jesuits are the only ones to compare with us.* But we have succeeded in discrediting them, . . . for they are a visible organization, whereas we are safely hidden under cover of our secret societies.

"But the Catholic Church is still alive. . . ."

"We must destroy her without the least delay and without the slightest mercy. . . . Let us intensify our activities, in poisoning the morality of the Gentiles. Let us spread the spirit of revolution in the minds of the people. They must be made to despise Patriotism and the love of family, to consider their faith as a humbug. . . . Let us make it impossible for Christians outside the Catholic Church to be reunited to that Church, otherwise the greatest obstruction to our domination will be strengthened and all our work undone. . . .

"Let us remember that as long as there still remain active enemies of the Catholic Church, we may hope to become Masters of the World. . . . And let us remember always that the future Jewish King will never reign in the world before the Pope in Rome is dethroned. . . .

"When the time comes and the power of the Pope shall at last be broken, the fingers of an invisible hand will call the attention of the masses of the people to the court of the Sovereign Pontiff to let them know that we have completely undermined the power of the Papacy. . . . The King of the Jews will then be the real Pope and the Father of the Jewish World-Church."

When all this is placed in reverse, the following appears:

The Catholic Church is the only upholder of morality, the social order, faith, patriotism and dignity. . . .

The Catholic Church is the only institution which has stood, and which will always stand, in the way of anti-Christ.

The Catholic Church is the great exemplar of methodical work, edifying and moral teachings; she always keeps her children self-respecting, and will never bow to satanic allurements.

Only when Catholics become ashamed of professing the precepts of the Church and obeying its commands, shall we have the spread of revolt and false liberalism.

The Catholic Church has been blackened by the most ignominious calumnies, her history has been stained, and her noblest activities disgraced. The practices of the Catholic Church are not out of date or a mere waste of time.

Freemasonry is allied with Satan against the Catholic Church. Not all priests are to be trusted; liberal Catholic priests only serve the work of the devil.

The Reformation was the work of evil conspirators. Calvin and Luther were financed by them to overthrow the Catholic Church.

Freedom and liberty are mere representations of good. Protestants have unwittingly helped to bring all the evils into our present world. Protestant England aims to destroy the Catholic Church. All that may happen in Spain and Mexico is a part of a plot against the Catholic religion.

The Jesuits are not an underhand organization, but all they do is open and above board. The Jesuits are the only organization, however, who can defeat the force of evil in the world.

FINALLY: As long as the Pope remains on his throne in Rome the world is safe. . . .

This is exactly what is taught in all Catholic schools. Every retreat and mission given to priests and lay people begins with St. Ignatius' picture of "The Two Camps"—the Catholic Church led by God on one hill, and the combination of Protestants, Jews, Masons, communists, socialists and atheists on the other led by Satan.

And all of this is to be found again in Father Coughlin's *Social Justice* magazine. In its issue of February 5, 1940, for instance, he reiterates that the Catholic Church is "the ideal Christian Front" and proclaims that all those opposed to, or not with, it belong to anti-Christian groups which will soon "*appear incarnated in the person of Anti-Christ himself.*" He says that "lay



Christian leadership of social matters is to be condemned." A Special Correspondent of his magazine in Rome writes an article that the "Only Hope of Christian Europe Lies in Rome," and that Europe can be saved only by the restoration of the Holy Roman Empire; that England, "who more than any other country now represents the neo-Judaic, anti-Catholic spirit," will be destroyed by Germany and Italy. In another part of this issue, liberal Catholic priests, like Mgr. John A. Ryan, are called "Hireling Clergy" paid by left-wing revolutionary groups. Towards the end is a trick questionnaire which implies twenty answers aimed to secure a poll from its readers which will be condemnatory of democracy.

Although first published in Russia in 1903, the Protocols of Zion had their origin in France and date from the Dreyfus Affair, of which the Jesuits were the chief instigators. They were planned also first to take effect in France, by the overthrow of the "Judaic-Masonic" government of the French Republic. But the discovery of the gigantic fraud of Leo Taxil, who had been openly supported by the Jesuits, the concluding of the Franco-Russian alliance, along with the Vatican's difficulties with the French government at that time, made it more opportune to have them appear first in Russia.

These Protocols of supposedly Jewish leaders are not the first documents of their kind fabricated by the Jesuits.

For over a hundred years before these Protocols appeared, the Jesuits had continued to make use of a similar fraud called *The Secrets of the Elders of Bourg-Fontaine* against Jansenism—a liberal French Catholic movement among the secular clergy. The analogy between the two forgeries is perfect—the secret assemblage in the forest of Bourg-Fontaine, the plan of the "conspirators" to destroy the Papacy and establish religious tolerance among all nations, the alleged plot against Throne and Altar, and the setting up of a world-government in opposition to the Catholic Church. There is the same dramatization of the *negative* pole of the historic evolution of the world, in order to bring out, by contrast, the *positive* Christian [Catholic] pole, around which all conservative forces—the monarchy, the aristocracy, the army, the clergy—must gather to save the world from Satan's onslaught.

Analyzing, therefore, the ends to be attained by these Protocols of Zion, the means to be employed, the forces depicted as evil and those to be considered good, we must reach the conclusion that only to those whose objectives these forgeries were clearly intended to serve, can their authorship be attributed.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE STRANGE CASE OF LEO TAXIL

THE PRIME MOTIVATION of Catholic Action is its eschatological complex that the Vatican, as God's designated champion, must do open battle before the world ends with the forces of Satan. Present world trends have convinced Catholic leaders that the time for that Armageddon is fast approaching. In their minds there is not the slightest doubt but that ultimate and complete victory will be theirs. Neither have they any doubt as to who comprise these forces of Satan. They now name Bolshevism as the generic term for the objective at which the various forces aim who are on Satan's side against the Catholic Church. And since they hold that all who are not 100 per cent. with the Catholic Church are against it, liberals of all kinds are placed under Bolshevism's banner. Leadership of these combined forces of evil is accredited to world Jewry and Freemasonry.

"The Protocols of Zion", preceded by the like forgery of "The Secrets of the Elders of Bourq Fontaine", have spread this belief among Catholics everywhere. Obvious forgeries though they are admitted to be, it is safe to say nothing has contributed more to the recent rapid victories of Fascism over the forces of liberty and tolerance than these alleged Protocols of the Elders of Zion. As has been pointed out, they insidiously picture world Jewry and Freemasonry as conspiring to establish the reign of Satan on earth and, by contrast, the Catholic Church as the sole bulwark and only certain triumphant force against it. As employed by Nazi-Fascism in the past ten years, this fantastic but clever fraud has already succeeded in discrediting democratic institutions of government, even in the United States, and in glorifying the authoritarian rule of force and brutality.

No one can deny the chief rôle which the Catholic Church has played in these events and all that has led up to them during the past half century. Pope Pius IX<sup>1</sup> calls Freemasonry " . . . the Synagogue of Satan . . .

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Brief* of Nov. 1865. These and other quotations have been published time and again in Father Coughlin's *Social Justice* magazine, and in other printed and mimeographed brochures sent out from his Shrine at Royal Oak, Mich. One of these is called *The Malist—For the Honest and Honourable*.

whose object is to blot out the Church of Christ, were it possible, from the face of the earth." Pius X<sup>3</sup> says:

"So extreme is the general perversion that there is room to fear that we are experiencing the foretaste and beginnings of the evils which are to come at the end of time, and that the Son of Perdition, of whom the Apostle speaks, has already arrived upon the earth."

As has been shown in a previous chapter, the Popes of Rome condemn Masonry as in alliance with Judaism chiefly because it teaches tolerance of all religions and works for the establishment of popular government, secular education and international brotherhood. There is nothing too fantastic that the Popes and Catholic authorities have not believed and propagated against Judaic-Masonic aims and activities. The most astounding and outrageous were the alleged revelations of the arch-imposter Leo Taxil towards the end of the last century. So successful was his deception of the Pope himself and the whole Catholic world, that Father Herbert Thurston, S. J., is forced to deplore the fact that examples of "excessive credulity have been too lamentably brought home to our generation by the outrageous impostures of Leo Taxil."<sup>3</sup>

Taxil's real name was Jogand Pagès, described by Father Thurston (*loc. cit.*) as "the most blasphemous and obscene of anti-clerical writers in France". He was once jailed for having published a book entitled *Les Amours de Pie IX* ("The Love Affairs of Pope Pius IX"). That was all before his conversion to the Catholic Church. It was then he began to make alleged revelations about the Freemasons, and published a large number of books about them, each more astounding than the other.

Sensing the Catholic Church's demon complex, Taxil played this up with consummate art. In his many novels, which were published by the Catholic press all over the world, Taxil stressed the cult of Demonism, or what he called *Satanisme*. He pictured the Freemasons as practising this worship of the devil, and accused them of assassinations, sexual orgies and white slavery. He recounted that the Freemasons tried to get women into their power to the point of forcing them to have intercourse with the devil. As proof that Freemasonry was

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Suprema Apostolatus*, 1903.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. VII, pp. 701-703.

secretly controlled by the Jews, he revealed their alleged practices of Jewish rituals.

The Catholic clergy everywhere were especially delighted with Taxil's sinister novel *Palladismus*, the story of Diana Vaughan who, according to him, was the result of the union of her mother with a devil named Bitron. These fantastic revelations convinced many that the Catholic hierarchy were in direct contact with this daughter of the devil through the intermediary of Leo Taxil, now their protégé. Pope Leo XIII received Taxil in private audience, gave him his blessing, assured him that he had read his books against the Freemasons with intense interest, and that his writings were of great benefit to the cause of the Catholic Church. I pass over the question many will ask as to how an infallible Pope could be so completely deceived by one of the most outrageous imposters who ever lived. It was one time that the Jesuits too were outdone.

For a long time Leo Taxil enjoyed the easy success he had obtained by playing upon the credulity of the Catholic clergy and laity. Then came the great dénouement—planned and carried out by himself, as it were, for the fun of it. In order to enjoy his victory over the Jesuits to the very last, he called a public meeting in Paris on April 10, 1894, and announced, to the consternation of his hearers, that all his activities, his books and pamphlets, as well as the story of Diana Vaughan, the daughter of the devil who had been converted to the Catholic Church, were nothing but a huge joke dispassionately concocted and executed by him. He quietly told them that Diana Vaughan was merely the name of his typist!

The interesting, and serious, point in the whole affair is the fact that it was the Jesuits who translated Taxil's novels into German. The Jesuit Father Gruber, whose article on Freemasonry in *The Catholic Encyclopedia* is nothing but a rehash of what Taxil says about it, widely publicized all his books. And they continued to reassert that what he had written was perfectly in accord with actual facts, even after they had broken with him because of his dramatic exposé of himself.<sup>4</sup>

And even to this day, in the United States, the Catholic Church continues to publish and broadcast Taxil's frauds about Freemasonry and its alliance with world Jewry. *The New World*, official organ of the Catholic

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Hoensbroech, *Der Jesuitenorden*, Band II, Seite 504.

Archdiocese of Chicago, in its issue of March 26, 1910, published an article entitled *Freemasonry—The Open Door To Damnation*, as defamatory and fantastic as anything Leo Taxil ever wrote. It was reproduced, as a sample of Catholic animus towards Masons and Jews, in the Souvenir edition of *Life and Action* during the Knights-Templar Conclave in August that same year. It states that "Jews are the master spirits of the Masonic craft", that "Freemasonry was founded and organized by Jews in the vain hope of destroying Christianity," that they plot assassinations of prominent men, even in America, and corrupt the judiciary to set murderers free. Reminiscent of Pope Leo's condemnation of Freemasonry in his Bull *Humanum Genus*, is the following:

"A society that admits to membership Christians, Turks, Jews, Chinese, and every other species of barbarian, and amalgamates them—or the majority of them—into an army of infidels and atheists, must be animated and controlled by the malevolence and malice of the evil spirit. Such a society is a menace to the human race. . . . There is no reason to doubt that a Christ-hating Jew is the head of the Masonic craft at this time — and at all times."

There is no need here to stress the fact that, when it comes to attacks on Judaism and Freemasonry, Leo Taxil has nothing on Father Coughlin. This priest and his powerful supporters among the Catholic clergy and laity in America are copying the methods of Hitler and the other dictators who have ruthlessly obliterated Freemasonry and Judaism from all of Central Europe. In reality they are not so much imitators of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco as the successors of the Popes, the Jesuits and the Taxils who initiated the campaign half a century before Nazi-Fascism came into being. Its objective was, and is still, to destroy the effects of the Reformation and to re-establish the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

EUROPE'S TRAGEDY, in Catholic opinion, is due to the breaking up of its great papal-controlled confederation of states by the Protestant Reformation. All the efforts of the Catholic Church since have been directed to the work of counter-Reformation—to re-establish the political and social order of pre-Reformation times. That order of states was hierarchical, not democratic, and was ruled at the top by the dual sovereignty of Pope and Emperor, by the union of church-state authority. The political and social order that resulted from the Reformation, both in Europe and America, is regarded by the Catholic Church as pagan and anti-Christian; they give it the name of "pseudo-democracy".

This is to be found in all official Catholic writings and is the burden of all papal encyclicals. A recent issue of the Jesuit weekly *America*,<sup>1</sup> for instance, tells us that the evils of our present time are to be ascribed to this "pseudo-democracy, which is pagan in its remote origins and leads to an inhuman wage system, an uprooted proletariat and pauperism." It goes further to say: "Protestant, rationalist, and now definitely anti-Christian in its inspiration, its logical fruit is Socialism," and calls for "a return to an *integral social order*, the principles of which are still preserved in our languid memory of the great medieval experiment."

Whatever opinion the Catholic Church may now express about Hitler and his Nazi-Socialism, it stands 100 per cent. with him and the other fascist dictators in this avowed objective of destroying the political and social order that came out of the Reformation and substituting therefor an integral, positive-Christian hierarchical confederation of states, similar to that which existed before Protestantism disrupted the order of things in Central Europe. Hitler laid it down in article 24 of his National Social Party Programme that "the Party as such starts from the standpoint of a Positive Christianity". This is specifically a Jesuit principle of action, with the ultimate objective of inducing all Christian sects to unite with the Catholic Church for a "Christian reform of states"—

<sup>1</sup> April 13, 1940.

the establishment of an hierarchical grouping of corporative states entirely devoid of Jewish, Masonic and Protestant influence. Bishop Hudal<sup>2</sup> and other German prelates have pointed out the identity of the fundamentals of National Socialism and Catholicism. Father Coughlin and his Jesuit supporters preach the same in this country. To date, Hitler's blitzkriegs are accomplishing in fact everything set forth in his ideological concepts for a "New Order" in all of Europe after his ruthless extermination of Judaism and Masonry.

Catholic propagandists in the United States, despite expressed opinions to the contrary, have not been unaware of this identity of interests between Nazi-Fascism and Catholic aims, and diplomatically, but definitely, have been striving for their realization. Hitler's early conquests in Austria and Czechoslovakia were applauded as "a natural re-adjustment in Europe" by the Catholic Justice Herbert O'Brien in New York, in an article featured in the *New York Herald-Tribune* of March 29, 1938. Needless to say, his opinions are not solely his own, but were obviously dictated to him by official Catholic authority. Taking occasion to warn the United States from participating in war on the side of England and France, Justice O'Brien states that such a war would be unjust since its objective would be "to oppose certain political adjustments and changes in Central Europe resulting in economic and nationalistic confederations which had existed for generations before the great world conflict . . . and also to resist that great confederation of small groups which, up to the breaking out of the great world war, had enjoyed, under the beneficent sway of the Hapsburgs, commercial prosperity, independence and peace." He goes on to say:

"The opposition to this adjustment of the German peoples with some of the groups of the old Austrian Empire . . . comes from England and France. These two nations have expressed their bitter resentment over these changes as a disturbance of the 'balance of power' in Europe, and are fearful that Germany, in union with a re-united Austria, will place the German peoples in the ascendancy with ample force to maintain this position, and, by alliance with Italy, terminate Britain's sole supremacy of the Mediterranean and directly affect its sole future control of India and Egypt and the African British colonies."

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<sup>2</sup> *Die Grundlagen des Nationalsozialismus*, p. 18.



He holds that "dismemberment of the Austrian Empire was the most tragic blunder of the twentieth century. When England and France chopped up Austria they ruined Europe." He applauds Hitler's success in destroying Protestant British hegemony in Central Europe and in securing a return to the political and social set-up of the corporate union of states in a revived Holy Roman confederation:

"What America is witnessing is the normal reunion of these several parts into the original, living structure. It had to come. It could not be blocked. In justice to the 100 million people in Central Europe, why should anyone try to prevent it?"

He uncovers the whole pretense of official Catholic opposition even to Hitler's religious and racial persecutions as well as to his "protectorates" over non-German nations as follows:

"It happened with Hitler. It would have happened without Hitler, and in spite of Hitler. And with the inclusion of these non-Germanic groups, Hitler's anti-religious and racial persecutions must terminate and vanish. Hitler will pass away, but the great re-established union, together with religious liberty, will survive."

What the Catholic Church is hoping and working for as a result of the present death struggle between the fascist and democratic blocs is the re-establishment in Europe of the "Real State", a rigid hierarchical system wherein inferiors are subject to superiors. In this system each individual, like a cell in a body, must humbly submit to his fate and occupy his "natural place" which is allotted to him from birth and have no desire to get away from it. This basis of social structure is not only anti-Jewish, but also anti-Protestant. It corresponds exactly to the system of the Jesuit Order itself as founded by Ignatius Loyola, the essential point of which consists in an hierarchical structure of ideas, and is characteristic of all Catholic political thought.<sup>3</sup> The hierarchical, as opposed to the Protestant democratic system, holds that the different races constitute the hierarchical steps in a cosmic system which no one has the right to change or modify either by individual or collective will.

The Jesuit Father Muckermann, in his many works on race hygiene, fully explains this ideology which is at the

<sup>3</sup> Cf. René Fülöp Müller, *Macht und Geheimnis der Jesuiten*, p. 41; also his *Rassenhierarchie als Kirchliche Lehre*, p. 42, 204.

basis of all the aims and acts of Nazi-Fascism. Mixture of races, he holds, produces "inharmonious" descendants who have difficulty in allowing themselves to be absorbed into a national unity. It is well known that mixture of races brings forth strong individualities; and these in the Jesuit view, would disrupt the static "harmony" they desire among peoples and nations, as well as nullify the gregarious instinct which the Jesuits endeavor to foster. In their view "harmony" is a state where each one places himself humbly and voluntarily in the organic niche appointed for him by the supreme authority without any "diabolic inharmonious" desire to leave it. This is the way the Jesuit Order itself is built up, and this is the ideal Catholic aim for states and groups of states in the political and social order. It is the *organic, static, hierarchical, integralist, corporative* system of Nazi-Fascist teaching, which is already in effect in many countries of Europe. It is in direct opposition to the *disintegralist, dynamic, liberal, free, democratic* concept of political and social order.

The Jesuit Order has its "Aryan paragraph" corresponding exactly to that of Hitlerism. Its *Constitutions* contain six impediments against reception into the Order, the first of which is Jewish descent up to the fourth generation. If Jewish descent is discovered after a candidate's admission, it prevents his "radiation". This Aryan paragraph first appeared in the statutes of the Order in 1593, was confirmed in 1608 and is to be found in the latest official edition published in Florence in 1893. General councils of the order have many times proclaimed that Jewish descent must be considered as "an impurity, scandal, dishonor and infamy."<sup>4</sup> Suarez, noted Jesuit theologian, also states that Jewish descent is an impurity of such indelible character that it is sufficient to prevent admission into the Order.<sup>5</sup>

This identity of interests between Nazi-Fascism and Jesuit Catholicism in the matter of opposition to the mixture of races and religions is something that cannot be denied. And this ideology is the prime cause of the war that is devastating Europe at the present time. Hitler, the fanatic, has already gone a long way to bring it to realization. If he succeeds in making it permanent, the "new order" which he has vowed to bring about in

<sup>4</sup> *Institutum S.J.*, p. 278, 302; also *Jesuit Lexicon*, p. 939.

<sup>5</sup> F. Suarez, *Tractatus de religione Societatis Jesu*, p. 34.

Europe will be what the Catholic Church has been strenuously working for during the past four centuries. As a result, Europe will be entirely free of that "pseudo-democratic liberalism" so hateful to official Catholicism. With or without Hitler, as Justice O'Brien says, it had to come. And its beginnings could only have been accomplished by the ruthless war now being waged by Nazi-Fascism—a fact which its Jesuit proponents have fully realized during their centuries of counter-Reformation activities. But it is only by facing this fact, and forgetting Roman Catholic propaganda in our daily newspapers, that we can understand why a victory for an authoritarian Germany, not its crushing defeat by the democratic Allies, is fervently desired by the Vatican.

## CHAPTER V.

### HITLER AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

HITLER is a product of the Catholic Church. He has never renounced the religious doctrines nor condemned the political aims and aspirations of the Church into which he was born and baptized. Just as his father regarded the Catholic priesthood as the highest state to which anyone could aspire, so to him as a child the priest appeared as the ideal human being. In his autobiography Hitler says that he was deeply impressed with the religious ceremonies of the Catholic Church and was a member of the choir in his parish church. In his free time he took singing lessons at the nearby convent, "This," he says, "supplied me with the best opportunity to steep myself in the solemn magnificence of the brilliant feasts of the Church".<sup>1</sup>

These early emotions never completely disappeared, and he has always remained conscious of the extremely suggestive value of ecclesiastical surroundings. Towards the end of his book he describes "the psychological conditions which tend to create that artificial and mysterious half-light in Catholic churches—the wax tapers, the incense. . . ." In fact, in his *Mein Kampf* Hitler approves of everything particularly relating to Jesuit Catholicism as opposed to Protestantism. He approves of the indisputability of Catholic dogmas,<sup>2</sup> of the intolerant attitude of Catholic education,<sup>3</sup> of the necessity of blind faith,<sup>4</sup> of the personal infallibility of the Pope—imposed upon the Church by the Jesuits in 1870,<sup>5</sup> and of the compulsory celibacy of the Catholic clergy. These are all matters that make Catholicism radically different from the other churches of Christendom. In an open and prophetic expression of his admiration for the Catholic Church, he says:

"Thus the Catholic Church is more secure than ever. It can be predicted that, as passing phenomena vanish away, she will remain as a beacon light amid these vanishing elements, attracting blind adherents in ever-increasing numbers."<sup>6</sup>

This enthusiastic declaration of the Fuehrer is not only an expression of the prophetic sense generally attributed to him, but the manifestation of a desire

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Mein Kampf*, p. 4. <sup>2</sup> P. 293. <sup>3</sup> P. 385. <sup>4</sup> P. 417. <sup>5</sup> P. 507. <sup>6</sup> P. 513.

firmly rooted in his soul. Like all Catholics of Central Europe, he was educated to resist Protestantism—the historical enemy which has always endeavored to detach governments and peoples from the political and religious influence of the Church of Rome. Throughout his book he has no word of disapproval for the Jesuit campaign against all forms of Protestantism. It is true, that, in places, he states that both Protestantism and Catholicism as religious units, are of equal worth, so far as his National Socialism is concerned. But an analysis of his particular statements regarding the two religious systems immediately shows how closely he is bound to ultramontane Catholicism. In the matter of racism and anti-Semitism, Hitler clearly indicates his hostility to Protestantism. He says:\*

“Protestantism opposes in an extremely vigorous manner every attempt that is made to rid the nation of its worst enemy; in fact, the position of Protestantism with regard to Judaism is more or less dogmatically fixed. But we have now come to a point where this problem will have to be solved; otherwise all attempts at the renaissance of Germany and national regeneration will be of no avail.”

It is true that Protestantism can never associate itself with Jesuit racism. The protest to Hitler by the German Confessional Church in 1936, makes this clear: “Anti-Semitism”, it says, “often provokes excesses that nothing can justify, and which are merely the result of hatred for the Jewish minority”.<sup>6</sup>

The identity of Hitler's ideology with that of traditional Jesuit Catholicism cannot be denied; nor the fact that by ruthless persecution and armed might, in collaboration with the other Catholic dictators, he has, so far, forwarded the ultimate objectives of the Catholic Church. Hitler, Mussolini, Franco and Salazar (the Catholic dictator of Portugal) have ousted Jewish, Masonic and Protestant influence from all of Europe from the Arctic to the Mediterranean. In spite of this, however, many in America are still sceptical of any pre-determined connection between Nazi-Fascism and Jesuit Catholicism. They point to the “persecution” of the Catholic Church in Germany, and to professions of faith in democracy by some Catholic spokesmen in the United States.

\*P. 123.

<sup>6</sup>Cf. *Basler National Zeitung*, July 20, 1936.

There is here a case of an obvious contradiction between reality and appearance. In the first place, Nazi opposition to the Catholic Church in Germany has been confined to its "liberal" elements, and Catholic leadership has always opposed these more than any others. The Jesuit party has long feared the infiltration of Protestant and liberal ideas into the German Catholic mind. During the post-war years, when Germany was a democratic republic, many of the ordinary secular clergy and some of the religious orders became enamored of the liberal, secularizing spirit. They formed the backbone of the Catholic Centre Party—which was the last bulwark against Hitler's rise to power. But this last element of liberalism in Germany was dissolved by order of Pope Pius XI, as a stipulated condition of the Vatican's concordat with Nazism; its leader, Klausener, was assassinated in the "blood purge" of June 30, 1934. The last liberal party in Italy also, headed by the now exiled priest Don Sturzo, shared the same fate at the hands of the same Pope Pius XI. It is nothing new in Catholic history that religious and social reformers from *within* the Church should be the first to suffer its enmity. The heretics of history, delivered over to autocratic civil power for burning and imprisonment by the Church, are mute witnesses to this unchanging policy of intransigent Catholicism.

It can easily be seen that the identity of Jesuit political thought with the objectives of Nazi-Fascism makes it imperative to conceal it from the American public. Were it otherwise, the Catholic Church would suffer complete loss of its prestige in the United States—in the eyes of Catholics and non-Catholics alike. It is not surprising, therefore, that the following evident contradictions may be noted with regard to Catholic Church propaganda:

1. Opposing views of Jesuit authors on actual questions concerning politics, economics, and even religious matters;
2. The adoption of national peculiarities in all countries, even in pagan lands;
3. The combatting of socialism with one hand and offering it friendship with the other;
4. The favouring of chauvinist and nationalist views as well as of international pacific tendencies;

5. The making of eloquent declarations in favour of democracy, and at the same time seizing upon every possible means to undermine and wreck it;
6. The creation of situations apparently contradictory of one another.

Apart from this, there is nothing insincere on the part of intransigent Catholic leadership. The guiding forces of modern Catholicism are as sincere in their conviction as their predecessors of old that nothing good can come out of liberal political and social régimes. Liberalism in religion is anathema to them and their greatest enemy. They desire peace, but hold with the Nazi-Fascists that peace can come only by war, with all its appalling consequences, as a necessary evil. For by victorious war alone, they hold, can men and nations be made to submit to the hierarchical idea of a world-order of states, races and individuals. Their conviction is that peace can come only from that "harmonious" acquiescence of men to be bound to their "natural place" in society and religion; from its apex, this pyramid of states is to be totally ruled by the theocratic institution of the Catholic Church, with the Pope of Rome as the Vicar of Jesus Christ and the sole mouthpiece of Almighty God.

Alone, and without well-planned direction, Adolph Hitler never could have accomplished what he has to this end. All the world is now convinced that he was no idle dreamer, nor just a poor paper-hanger, when he attempted his Munich Beer-hall *putsch*. His visions were realistically sketched out for him by those who directed him as a youth, and the grandeur of their ideas of a totalitarian world, symbolized by ritualistic ceremonies in cathedrals and churches, still remains with him.

When Hitler drew Austria into his hierarchic confederation, his action was greeted by *Heils* from Catholic Church prelates. After his bloodless absorption of Czechoslovakia and the land of the hated Hussites, there was rejoicing again within the Catholic world. A feeble, easily answered complaint from the Vatican followed his blitzkrieg that brought Catholic Poland again into the orbit of a centrally-controlled Europe. Definite refusal met the request of President Roosevelt, through his "peace ambassador" to the Vatican, that

the Pope condemn Hitler's invasion of Protestant Denmark and Norway.

Only short-sighted, idealistic Americans fail to understand that Hitler and the intransigent leaders of Roman Catholicism are one with Mussolini when he declared:

"Capitalism, parliamentarianism, democracy, socialism, communism, and a certain *vacillating Catholicism, with which, sooner or later, we shall deal in our style, are against us.*"

All of these, particularly the last, are the forces which the Jesuits and their counter-Reformation have fought against (and made use of) since the time of Martin Luther and his associates.



## CHAPTER VI.

### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE CORPORATE STATE

A FEW YEARS AGO, Americans considered it incredible that the Catholic Church could be officially in favour of the fascist corporative state; much less that it could have been in any way responsible for the origin and spread of Corporatism. They refused to believe that the vaunted encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*, of Pope Pius XI, was an endorsement of the Nazi-fascist objective to discredit and destroy the structure of the liberal democratic state, and to set up, in its stead, authoritarian, hierarchical regimes. Yet, this encyclical embodied the whole aim of the Catholic Church for half a century before the rise of Fascism, namely, the total reconstruction of the then existing social order on Catholic-fascist lines. The real title of this encyclical is: "On the Reconstruction of the Social Order," and its plan is actually the ecclesiastical counterpart of the fascist military onslaught against liberalism and democracy.

Americans heard Father Coughlin preach this for eight years, but merely shrugged their shoulders and took it for granted that his rantings were those of a crackpot and had nothing to do with the true aims and activities of the Catholic Church. It can now be seen that this plan of the Vatican, though camouflaged in terms to quiet the fears of Americans, was being carried forward officially by the Catholic Church in the United States as vigorously as in European countries.

In our first issue of *The Converted Catholic*<sup>1</sup> attention was directed to the plan as published under the auspices of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, and signed by 131 Catholic prelates and noted laymen. It advocated a change in the United States' Constitution to permit the enactment of the recommendations of Pope Pius XI into American law. It praised the NRA, which is now admitted as having been patterned on fascist corporative lines<sup>2</sup>, and which was abolished by unanimous opinion of the U.S. Supreme Court as destructive of American democracy. In spite of this, however, this plan of the

<sup>1</sup> Jan., 1940, p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. John T. Flynn, in the *N.Y. World-Telegram*, July 12, 1940, where he states that, by the NRA, President Roosevelt, unwittingly, "attempted to introduce this feature of Fascism into our country".

Catholic Church says: "*Had the NRA been permitted to continue, it could readily have developed into the kind of industrial order recommended by the Holy Father.*"

So cautiously has this plan been advanced in the United States, that it was not until the Roman Catholic hierarchy issued its pronouncement on "The Church and the Social Order"<sup>3</sup> that the press could safely headline the news that "The Catholic Hierarchy Advocates Corporative System for the U.S."<sup>4</sup> Strange to say, there was then no public outcry. And even now, when patriotic Americans are turning the searchlight of suspicion on every sign of political and economic subversion, the greatest Trojan Horse of them all continues to tower unmolested in the very shadow of their searchlights. In newspaper offices, this Trojan Horse of Jesuit Catholicism is still regarded as the feared and untouchable "sacred cow".

The misconception that the corporative system is purely an economic matter, has blinded the American press and public to the real aim behind Catholicism's advocacy of it. Corporatism is indeed the economic ingredient of Fascism. But it is also the essential element of Fascism, since the corporatives make a parliament or congress unnecessary. For these corporatives are the means through which the "Leader" exercises his dictatorial will. It was precisely because the Supreme Court judged that, by the NRA, Congress had abdicated its powers and was thus paving the way for Fascism, that it took vigorous action against it. The entire ideology of Fascism and Nazism—in social, economic, educational, religious and military matters—is contained in the corporative system. Corporatism is Fascism.

The Roman Catholic bishops, though cautiously, speak nonetheless as plainly in favour of Nazi-Fascist ideology as the Catholic hierarchies of Italy, Spain and Germany. Like Hitler and Coughlin, they start from a standpoint of "positive Christianity," and call for "a comprehensive programme for restoring Christ to His true and proper place in human society," for "a reform of morals and a profound renewal of the Christian spirit which must precede the social reconstruction". Implicit in this is the customary anti-Semitic and Fascist condemnation of the "Masonic-Judaic pluto-democracies" as resting upon an

<sup>3</sup> Feb. 8, 1940. The N.C.W.C. called it "*the most important utterance made by the Catholic hierarchy since the bishops' programme of reconstruction of 1919*".

<sup>4</sup> Cf. *Richmond Times Dispatch*, Feb. 9, 1940.

immoral, un-Christian foundation. These Catholic bishops also condemn strikes and free enterprise.

It was in this same way that the Roman Catholic bishops of Italy, Spain and Germany supported the rise of Fascism and Nazism in their respective countries. In their pastoral letter from Fulda on August 30, 1936, the Catholic hierarchy of Germany solemnly declared to their people:

“There is no need to speak at length of the task which our people and our country are called upon to undertake. May our Fuehrer, with the help of God, succeed in this extraordinary difficult work . . . What we desire is that belief in God, as taught by Christianity, will not be overcome, but that it be universally recognized that this faith constitutes the only sure foundation upon which can be built the powerful and victorious bulwark destined to hold back the forces of Bolshevism . . .”

All doubts as to the whole-hearted support of Hitler's programme from the beginning by the Catholic hierarchy in Germany are cleared up by a perusal of the discourses and writings of Bishop Aloysius Hudal, Rector of the German College in Rome and one of the closest consultors of the Holy See on German and Austrian affairs. In his book, *The Fundamentals of National Socialism*, he repeats the contents of many of his allocutions to the German Colony in Rome. The following is a sample:

“Let us see, for example, how interesting are some of the objectives of the National Socialist programme; popular unity as opposed to everything that can disrupt; language as the nation's spiritual bond; consciousness of Germany's historical destiny; the sentiment of race consciousness; *the attempt to solve the Jewish question; assurance of pure German breeding; destruction of parties; culture of the family, and the ideal of the large family considered as a matter of honour and national pride; the militarization of the nation . . .*; a new system of instruction and education; *the corporative idea; the aristocratic principle of government by a Leader . . .* Above all, the German people are indebted to this spiritual movement for *the slow destruction of the ideology of the Rights of Man*, upon which the edifice of Weimar was founded, as well as for destruction of faith in formal juridical constitutions, of *the dialectics of parliamentary procedures . . . and of democracy*”.

In order to prove the identity of interests between Catholicism and Nazi Socialism, Bishop Hudal<sup>5</sup> quotes from the Catholic German historian, Joseph Lortz of Münster, who, in his work, *History of the Churches*,<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *Op cit* p. 236 *et seq.*

<sup>6</sup> P. 291 *et seq.*

shows that Catholicism and Nazi-Socialism are one of the following points:

"1. Both are mortal enemies of Bolshevism, Liberalism and Relativism, that is to say, of the three deadly maladies from which our age is suffering, and which fiercely attack the work of the Church. The essential ideas of Nazi Socialism, together with *the principle of liberty bound to authority*, correspond exactly to the ideas that Popes Gregory and Pius IX endeavoured to impose upon the 19th century, in face of a world which called itself progressive, and which received their teachings with sarcastic smiles. *To this is added their common fight against Freemasonry.*

"2. Their common fight against the Godless movement; against public immorality; against the stupid doctrine of equality, which is destructive of life; their fight for a rational and fertile structure of human society as desired by God, *and for the corporative structure of the state as proposed by Popes Leo XIII and Pius XI (Quadragesimo Anno)*; their common fight against a mode of life that is unnatural and deprived of all healthy traditions as encountered in great modern cities and workmen's localities.

"3. By its principle of authority and government by a Leader, a principle upon which all national life rests, National Socialism combines the German and the Catholic attitude towards human life.

"4. Most important of all: National Socialism is a confession of faith; opposing, as it does, unbelief and destructive doubt it has convinced all classes of society that the outlook of the believer is not, as liberalism has taught, an attitude of inferiority, but one that carries man towards the total accomplishment of his destiny. *And although the Catholic Church should never identify itself with any movement, it cannot afford to miss the opportunity of gratefully accepting the help of this powerful ally in the fight which she is carrying on against atheistic rationalism.*"

This Catholic historian calls attention to the fact, which American observers have failed to note, that Nazi-Fascism is but the outcome of events in which the Catholic Church has played a decisive rôle for centuries. He says that National-Socialism is the "fulfilment of destiny," and goes on to say:

"It was born originally out of the most profound tendencies of the epoch, of which it is the crowning act. Undoubtedly, we now have the right to speak of an essential transformation, of the birth of a veritable new era, the accomplishments of which will remain. A new epoch has opened which will serve religion and the Church, and which will be extraordinarily well armed to carry on the fight against atheism."

This, and much more, is quoted by Bishop Hudal to prove the fundamental identity of the aims and purposes of Catholicism and Nazi-Socialism. The Catholic bishops in the United States cannot afford to be as frank in supporting Nazi-Fascist ideology in this country. They cannot but admit, however, that their fellow-bishops in Nazi-Fascist countries are correct in their analysis of the benefits which this anti-liberal and anti-democratic ideology will bring to the organization of Roman Catholicism.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE GREATEST TROJAN HORSE OF THEM ALL

A CLEVER MASQUERADE has always been characteristic of the political activities of Jesuit Catholicism. Jesuitry is a word in all our dictionaries that is defined as being synonymous with subtle duplicity, indirection and disingenuousness. History is witness to the undeniable fact that the Jesuit Order, founded in 1540 for the express purpose of counter-Reformation, has excelled in the art of Machiavellian duplicity<sup>1</sup>. It is an organization founded on military lines to fight for the political restoration of the Roman Papacy, and is the only order in the Catholic Church that binds its members by special oath for this purpose. It uses the deep-seated religious needs of the human heart in order to carry out a plan which is patently political and reactionary from the point of view of social matters.

This is a fact that must be borne in mind today in order to understand what is behind the successful onslaughts of what is known as Nazi-Fascism against the liberal constitutions of Protestant democratic countries. Present-day events appear as a mass of contradictions and confused paradoxes which, if they are to be fully understood, require a most acute analysis. In order to uncover the real forces which are playing for high stakes in the game, it is not sufficient to examine the mere surface of things as they happen. It is necessary to discover who is pulling the strings from behind the scenes. Otherwise we reach, not the real culprits, but only the puppets pushed out in front by their political masters to cover up and bear the brunt of the initial attack.

All the efforts so far made in America to fight the forces of Fascism, Nazism and Communism, in order to safeguard the gains of liberalism and democracy, have been frustrated by the fact that few have been aware that their chief strength lies in their ideology. Only now is it being slowly realized that they can never be overcome by fighting them merely along the lines of economic interests. But all that comes under the name of Fascism will never be successfully met until it is further fully realized that the essential foundation of its

<sup>1</sup> Cf. the well-known Jesuit slogan: "*Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*", "Be suave in manner, aggressive in act".

ideological factors is rooted in the past. Americans will never win out against it unless and until they bring to light the activating forces set in motion, long before Mussolini and Hitler, for the express purpose of arresting and eventually destroying the progress that followed upon the Protestant Reformation and the American and French Revolutions. Nazi-Fascism is not merely "Kaiserism with bad manners". It is the spearhead of a hidden force which set out long ago to impose a new ideology upon the post-Reformation world.

Religion, which has always been used by ambitious oppressors to serve the ends of their political power, is the mask to conceal its scheme of action. Although religion is the most sacred of man's needs, it is the easiest and most effective cloak to hide a poisoned dagger from an enemy. It has always been used by political Catholicism as a Trojan horse with all the appurtenances of war safely concealed within its flanks. This is especially the case in liberal democratic countries like the United States, where a wealthy and powerful organization like the Church of Rome is safeguarded not only against open attack but even against mild and just criticism. American tolerance, leaning backwards, has forced a rigid policy on leading newspaper offices and bureaus of public information to treat the Church of Rome as a "sacred cow". Just as the Trojans unsuspectingly accepted the mysterious horse thrust within their gates by the wily Greeks, so too has America stood in awe of the "sacred cow" of Catholicism and has never dared even to question its presence. Americans are justly fearful of being accused of religious bigotry and intolerance, since they have long prided themselves as guaranteeing liberty of action and freedom of expression to all comers. They have been thus without means to justify an open investigation of an organization suspected of concealing dynamite that, touched off by other dangerous forces, may explode in their midst and destroy the very Constitution that has enabled them to remain secure and prosperous themselves and tolerant to the Catholic church itself.

Observers in America's ivory towers have been blinded to the real facts behind the present upheaval that threatens to wipe out every vestige of post-Reformation liberalism of the world. This is due in great part to that subtle duplicity which has enabled Jesuit Catholic forces to pave the way for, and cooperate with, Nazi-Fascism's success-

ful efforts to impose on the world an entirely new ideology, while at the same time making it appear in Protestant countries that the Catholic church is on the side of democracy, is, in fact, one of the main bulwarks of democracy. Its real aim and purpose, however, can be known only by an examination of its activities before and since the rise of Fascism.

The Jesuits take a solemn oath to fight a crusade for "Catholic restoration", the success of which has always depended first on the complete destruction of Protestantism and its increasing liberalizing effects on political and social life for the past four hundred years. For it was Protestantism that undermined the political power of the papacy in the past. It made religion a matter of individual choice; it liberated the individual from the authoritarianism of kings and popes; it freed the civil state from ecclesiastical interference; it caused non-Catholic governments to deny outright the vital claim of the Church of Rome to be, by divine right, a universal, independent entity and superior to all other forms of government; it took away from the Church of Rome direct control over all the institutions that go to make up the life of man—marriage, education, charitable, cultural and recreational activities. It is now accused by Catholic spokesmen as being the instigator of communism and atheism and the ally of world Jewry and Freemasonry.

Space permits only a very brief summary of the counter-Reformation activities of Jesuit Catholicism which led to the rise and present successes of Nazi-Fascism against the liberalizing effects of the Protestant Reformation. The Thirty Years War, the murderous reign of the Duke of Alva in the Netherlands, the massacre of St. Bartholomew and the bloody attempts at Catholic restoration in England, are visible, and terrifying examples of the anti-Protestant activities of the Jesuit Order in the past. It was they who instigated the Dreyfus Affair as a means to overthrow the French Republic and thus nullify the effects of the French Revolutions of 1789 and 1848. For these, in the Jesuit view, were also the result of the Protestant Reformation. "The Revolutions of 1789 and 1848", says the Jesuit Father Hammerstein<sup>2</sup>, "were the result of the Reformation. And to-day we are faced with a choice of an alternative:

<sup>2</sup> In his book, *The Church and the State*, p. 132, published before the world war in England, when he was professor of Canon Law at Dutton Hall.



either to live in a Socialism during these last years of heresy [Protestantism] or to infect public life with the principles of Christianity, that is to say *Catholic principles*. Anything else is but half-measure."

Hitler himself admits that he was helped by the methods of the Jesuit counter-Reformation to carry on his ideological war. His use of brute force against all opposing convictions and philosophical opinions is the result of the fact, as he says<sup>3</sup>, that "I made a rigorous analysis of analogous cases which are to be met with in history, especially in the domain of religion."

But it was not until after the world war that the active plan for Catholic restoration began to take shape. Before the coming of Pope Pius XI, in 1922, the Catholic church had been forced into a more or less defensive position towards the liberal spirit of modern times. But with the election of this admittedly pro-Jesuit and pro-Fascist pope, Mussolini and Hitler also appeared on the scene and in combination with them, the Catholic church took the offensive. The following, from the historical work of Karl Boka<sup>4</sup>, an ardent supporter of Catholic restoration, is to the point:

"At this decisive moment the Pope seized the reins and took into his hands the unified control of all fields of endeavour in which his predecessors had distinguished themselves. This was the beginning of Catholic Action of far-reaching importance, of the entrance of the church into the fight, into the battle for moral and religious renovation, and for the reform of social institutions. *And this intervention had for its end the destruction of the liberal spirit of the 19th century and the triumph of the Christian Idea.*"

Since then we have witnessed Catholicism's open support of every step taken by Nazi-Fascism to impose authoritarian regimes upon all peoples: its active coöperation in the systematic oppression exercised by the fascist regime in Italy itself; its secret agreement with Hitler's National Socialism (the Vatican was the first to recognize Hitler's regime); its support of Mussolini's shameful conquest of Ethiopia and even of Japan's invasion of China; its open alliance with Franco in his rebellion against the Spanish Republic; its joy at the annexation of Austria to Nazi Germany and the obliteration of democratic Czechoslovakia; its part in the final triumph of Leon Degrelle's

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Mein Kampf*, p. 186.

<sup>4</sup> *Staat und Parteien*, p. 75, Max Niehans Verlag, Zurich and Leipzig.

Rexist Party in Belgium and its fulsome praise for the French Fascist State which under "good Marshal Pétain," has taken the place of the defunct French Republic.

The full account of events in Germany from 1918 till the rise of Hitler to power has yet to be written. But it cannot be denied that they were cleverly manoeuvred to their outcome by the machinations of Jesuit diplomacy.

# ARCHBISHOP SEES CONSCRIPTION AS MOVE TOWARD WAR

Most Rev. John T. McNicholas In Pastoral Urges People To Protest

SAYS WE MUST AVOID WAR Burke-Wadsworth Bill Assailed As Menace To Country

Cincinnati, July 31—The proposed compulsory military training in the United States was branded as "the serious beginning of a totalitarian form of government in our country" by Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, Archbishop of Cincinnati.

ARCHBISHOP DOUGHERTY OPPOSES DRAFT MOVE Volunteer Plan Best, Prelate Says in Philadelphia

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 16—On the occasion of the celebration of his seventy-fifth birthday, Cardinal Dougherty said that he was opposed to conscription.

SPAIN HONORS AMERICANS Great Group of Isabella Given to 4 Prelates, 3 Laymen

MADRID, Aug. 3 (AP)—General Francisco Franco in "signal token of my appreciation" has ordered seven American

# Wisconsin Priest Opposes Peacetime Draft

COMPULSORY military training, as proposed in the Burke-Wadsworth bill before Congress, was denounced by the Rev. Peter E. Dietz at the regular-Sunday services of St. Monica's Catholic church in Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin.

# Catholic Bishops on National Defense

THE BISHOPS of the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, through the general secretary, the Right Rev. Monsignor Michael J. Ready, have informed the Senate Committee on Military Affairs of their attitude toward national defense.

# NO PEACE TIME CONSCRIPTION

WITH a deep understanding of human nature, Thomas Jefferson warned us against confidence in government. For government must necessarily be conducted by human beings, and man's tastes power, it is not to be trusted.

One form of vigilance is to write your Senator and your Congressman to vote against any form of peace-time conscription. Write at once, for liberty does not wait on tomorrows.

# AMERICA AUGUST 17, 1940 SLOVAKS TO COMBINE RELIGION AND NAZISM

Premier Madga Kava Coinage of National Socialism

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. BRATISLAVA, Slovakia, Aug. 28—Slovakia's governmental system in the future will be a combination of German nazism and Roman Catholicism, Premier Vojtech Tuka revealed in a speech at the annual meeting of the Slovak National Council in connection with the anniversary of the founding of the republic.

# CATHOLIC SUPPORT OF NAZIS INDICATED

Statement by Reich Bishops' Conference is Expected to Revise Church Stand

DUE EARLY IN SEPTEMBER

Leader Sympathetic to Hitler Active at Session—Metz Bishop is Evicted

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. BERLIN, Aug. 27—The pastoral letter of German Bishops, usually issued after the Bishop's conference at Fulda, which closed on Sunday, is expected to be the first since the war.

# MONTREAL MAYOR SCORED AS DEFIANT

His Request to People Not to Obey Registration Law

# German Propaganda in Colombia Seen as Winning Conservatives

Fifth Columnists Among Influential Part of Community Developed—They Spread Nazi View

# OPPOSE AID TO ALLIES

Catholic Veterans Declare it Inimical to Neutrality

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. NEWARK, N. J., June 22—The fifth annual national convention of the Catholic War Veterans of America went on record today in opposition to the Administration's policy of lending all material aid to the Allies.

# Masons Banned By Petain Order

Vichy, France, Aug. 3 (AP)—The Vichy Government has ordered the dissolution of Freemasonry and all other secret societies in France.

The 500 delegates at the annual meeting at the Robert Trust in the final business session of the three-day convention.

The owning classes, whose liberalism was less an expression of ideal convictions than of material interests, were gripped with the fear of the growth of socialism under the Weimar Republic. By clever propaganda, Roman Catholic forces succeeded in convincing them that an hierarchical church was their best protection against the attacks of the "lower classes". On the other hand, they used the anti-liberalism of German socialists to prove to these latter that political Catholicism and the socialist movement, both opponents of this liberalism, could form a solid basis for common action in the domain of political action.

The coalition between the Social-Democrats and the Catholic Centre Party was the result of this manoeuvre; in reality it was an unconscious submission of the former to Jesuit Catholicism, which was thus enabled to use Catholic democratic politicians and the anti-Jesuits for its own ends. It was so cleverly done that the real aim of the Jesuits was not realized until Pope Pius XI dissolved the Catholic Centre Party and thus left the way clear for Hitler's rise to power. In all this, Hitler had the coöperation of Monsignor Kaas, the real head of the Catholic Centre Party. The rôle played by former Chancellor Brüning, the political leader of the Party, is as obscure as that of his ill-fated colleague Schuschnigg. The present Pope, Pius XII, was papal nuncio in Bavaria at that time and was well known to have been an enemy of the German Republic. After Hitler came to power he was sent as nuncio to Berlin and immediately drew up a secret concordat between Hitler and Pope Pius XI. Shrewd Franz von Papen, a favourite protégé of the Jesuits, also played an important part in preparing the way for Hitler's final victory over the Social-Democrats and all other parties in the Reichstag.

And if we look closely into present happenings in our own Western Hemisphere we cannot fail to note a cautious, yet aggressive pro-fascist and anti-liberal trend in all official Catholic utterances. American democracy's greatest danger is fascist penetration of the Latin-American Republics, whose way of life has always been controlled by the Church of Rome. Evidences are plentiful that this Nazi-fascist penetration has the support of the Catholic church.<sup>5</sup> The Catholic

<sup>5</sup> Cf. N.Y. *Times*' report from Bogota, Colombia, June 3, 1940.

press in the United States ridiculed and openly resented the attempt of the United States to "impose its will" on the Pan-American Conference recently held at Havana to counteract Nazi-Fascist efforts in South American countries. The close observer will not fail to note the pronounced anti-Semitic, anti-Masonic, anti-British and pro-fascist tone of official Catholic periodicals and newspapers. They also pooh-poohed any need of compulsory military training in this country, and instructed the Catholic people to write to their senators and representatives in Washington to protest against efforts to pass the Burke-Wadsworth bill. They accuse the Jews and the Masons and liberal organizations of being the real "fifth columnists" against whom Mr. Hoover and his FBI should take action<sup>6</sup>. Montreal's Catholic Mayor Houde openly defied Canada's law requiring national registration for home defense, and urged the citizens of Canada's largest city to disobey the law.

Political ecclesiasticism, which thus makes use of man's need of religion to serve its thirst for power, forfeits the right to be called religious.

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<sup>6</sup> For confirmation of these facts, see current and recent issues of the Jesuit magazine *America*, N.Y. *Catholic News*, Brooklyn *Catholic Tablet*, *Social Justice*, etc.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### NAZI SOCIALISM AND CATHOLIC RESTORATION

CATHOLIC ACTION, instituted by the late Pope Pius XI, is a generic term for Catholic reform and reconstruction—the restoration of Catholicism to the position of authority which it held over the nations before the Reformation. It has a two-fold object: a purge of liberal elements within the church itself, and the complete destruction of Protestantism and its liberalizing effects in those countries which threw off the yoke of the papacy in the past. Catholic Action was brought into being coincidentally with the rise of Nazi-Fascism, and was later consolidated by the Lateran Pact with Mussolini in 1929, and by the secret treaty with Nazi Socialism in 1933. It has gained its objectives to a large extent through the military might and fifth column methods of its Nazi-fascist partner.

It can be safely said that Nazi-Fascism and Jesuitism, the two greatest reactionary forces in the world today, are but two facets of the same unity—one civil, and the other ecclesiastical. For an authoritarian civil state cannot function properly without the help of an authoritarian ecclesiastical system. It is nonetheless true, though not sufficiently recognized, that a free electoral state is impossible without the spiritual support and nourishment of a free church.

Nazi-Fascism's anti-Semitic ideology, its anti-Masonic and anti-democratic activities, its propaganda methods, the hierarchical structure of its organization, and even its war program, were copied from the Jesuit Order. The crusades of the Middle Ages also began with persecution of the Jews, and were preceded by a purging within the church itself. Likewise a brutal cleansing within Catholicism preceded the wars of religion instigated by the Jesuits in the 16th and 17th centuries. Its object was to rid Catholicism of the heretical Protestant influences which had arisen within the church's organization before and after Martin Luther's time. It is in the light of these events that Nazi Socialism's fight with all the churches in Germany

must be regarded. On the one hand, it is a far-reaching purge of recalcitrant elements within the Catholic church which had been infected with liberal and Protestant ideas during the post-war years in Germany under the Weimar Republic. On the other hand, it was a fight against Protestantism and its liberal institutions which had been afforded still greater scope for development after the fall of the monarchy in 1918. The fight was carried out, in both instances, according to the traditional methods of Jesuit strategy.

Many Americans, however, do not see it in this light. They think only of the fact that the Hitler regime in the beginning interned Catholic priests in concentration camps because they refused to obey his dictates; that heads of religious orders were brought to trial for smuggling money out of the country; that some of the members of religious orders were arrested and found guilty of crimes against morals; that some priests were imprisoned for allegedly harboring communists; that the Hitlerites turned against Cardinal Faulhaber, Cardinal Innitzer and the Bishop of Salzburg; that public school education was taken out of the hands of the priests in Austria; that the Catholic Center Party was annihilated and its members persecuted; that its leader, Dr. Klausner, was assassinated on June 30, 1934, in Hitler's "blood purge". These and other facts are at times cited to show that Nazi Socialism seems to be actively opposed to the Catholic church. They are, however, merely facts whose real significance is hidden beneath the surface. In reality, they are *not indications of a war against the Catholic church as a whole, but only against certain groups opposed to a corresponding plan of reconstruction and fascist regimentation* instituted at the same time by Pope Pius XI within the church itself. Hitler, Goebbels, Von Papen, and the greatest part of the highest officials in the Third Reich are Catholics by birth and education. Hitler was trained by the Christian-Socialist Party and by the Jesuit-controlled Congregations of Mary. Goebbels was once the treasurer of the Borromeo Association which is also directed by the Jesuits.

The popular confusion about the relations between the Catholic church and Nazi Socialism is due to the fact that few people have any precise knowledge of the inner

workings of the Catholic church. They have been led to believe that Catholicism is a rigidly uniform system. The truth of the matter is that it is not the wonderful unity that it is generally supposed to be. Like all natural and historical phenomena, the Catholic church is also subject to the law of polarity and philosophical contradictions. It has always had its conservative, reactionary element pitted against opposing liberal groups. In order, therefore, to understand fully the status of the Catholic church in relation to Nazi Socialism it is necessary to know the details of these opposing tendencies and forces within the church's organization. History alone can furnish the key to the mystery.

An outstanding Catholic historian, Josef Schmidlin, draws a clear picture of the different factions which existed within the Catholic church towards the end of the 19th century, and how victory for the intransigent Jesuit party led to the rise of Fascism. The following, from his *History of the Popes of Modern Times*,<sup>1</sup> is to the point:

"The history of the Popes during the 19th century presents a succession of divergent systems following each other like a game of opposites and of warring forces striving for the mastery, with first one side winning and then another. On one side are the zealots striving in an intransigent and intolerant manner to preserve fixed traditions and orthodoxy, and who take a hostile attitude towards the progress of modern civilization and the liberal victories that followed on the great revolutions. *They are the unremitting enemies of the [Catholic] church, the State and the principle of authority.* On the other side are the liberals who, actuated by a more equitable political sense, endeavor to break free from the traditional restraints bound up with the ideas of old, and who try to reconcile themselves with modern progress in order to live in peace with liberal states and governments, and to integrate the church, as a spiritual force, in contemporary civilization.

"From the beginning this war-like game of opposites has been going on within the Roman Curia, and especially within the College of Cardinals. It is most evident in the papal conclaves which become the stage for this play of divergent tendencies, which are afterwards openly expressed in the attitudes of successive pontiffs. For the popes support one or the other of these tendencies and personify them by the conduct of their internal and foreign policies after mounting the papal throne." (*Italics mine*).

<sup>1</sup> Vol. III, p. 1.

Thus it can be seen that the Catholic church has been torn between two main irreconcilable factions, corresponding to the two opposing ideologies of Fascism and Democracy, which are warring to the death at present all over the world. They are two distinct parties whose effects are felt in all ecclesiastical groups in the church. They are particularly active during times of papal elections, and at all times go beyond the field of religion and profoundly affect political and social affairs. Their effect can easily be seen in every phase of social and political life in the United States.<sup>2</sup>

The fight between these two opposing factions has been increasingly evident since the time of the Encyclopedists. The spirit of progress had developed so strongly

THE ENQUIRER, CINCINNATI, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1940

## CATHOLICISM

### Public Enemy No. 1,

Methodist Minister Declares —  
Church Blamed For Totalitarianism —

Declaring that the Roman Catholic Church is the chief enemy of democracy and of Protestant Christianity, Rev. E. R. Stratford, pastor of Grace Methodist Church, Hamilton, and President of the Methodist Ministers' Association of Greater Cincinnati, said yesterday it was time that the ministers go to battle against the attitude of the Catholic Church. Rev. Mr. Stratford spoke

THE NEW YORK SUN, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1940

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## VATICAN RADIO HITS U. S. DRAFT

Says Priests Should Be  
Exempt From Service.

DIVINITY STUDENTS ALSO

A speaker from the Vatican in Rome last night criticized the Burke-Wadsworth selective

## CATHOLIC BISHOP SAYS NAZIS WAGE 'JUST WAR'

Army Aide Praises 'Christian  
Attitude' of Troops in Battle

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.  
BERLIN, Oct. 4.—In a pastoral letter directed to German soldiers of the Catholic faith, Dr. Franziskus Rarkowski, Field Bishop of the German Army, today expressed his belief that Germany was "waging a just war," and praised both the fighting spirit of the German Catholic soldiers as well as their adherence to their religious teachings and the "Christian attitude" that they

in the 18th century, even within the Catholic church, that Pope Clement XIV was able to succeed, where other popes had failed, in completely suppressing the Society of Jesuits which represented, then as now, the intolerant and intransigent element of Catholicism. In spite of Pope Clement's *irrevocable* decree, however, the Jesuits were again restored to power by Pope Pius VII after the fall of Napoleon in 1814.<sup>3</sup> But the liberal Catholic groups, which recognized to a certain extent the victories won

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *The Catholic Church in Politics*, a series of six factual articles in *The New Republic*, Nov.-Dec., 1938; condensed in pamphlet form, 15c.

<sup>3</sup> The Jesuits lost heavily during their 40 years of banishment. Before their suppression they controlled practically all educational work in European Catholic countries. In 1749 they had 639 colleges with up to 2,000 students in each; in France alone they had 40,000 students.



by the French Revolution, managed to exist side by side with the Jesuit reactionary group which has always regarded the liberal progress of civilization as something pernicious and diabolic. The progressive groups did all they could to bring the teachings of the church into line with modern philosophic doctrines, and thereby incurred the increasing enmity of the Jesuit faction. They showed themselves skeptical of relic and saint worship and of religious sentimentalities in general. Moreover, they made no secret of their hostility to the Jesuits. The Benedictine Order, long ante-dating the Jesuits, greatly angered the latter by their efforts in promoting what is known as the "Liturgical Movement"—a return to Pauline Christianity and an attempt to cleanse Catholic worship of modern innovations and superstitions, such as wonder-working devotions to the saints. They aimed this especially at the Jesuits' pet devotion of the "Sacred Heart", which has since been outdone, however, by more modern fads like the Little Flower devotion. The Jesuits fought back by their usual underhand methods of playing on the fears of bishops and secular priests and even by sending members of their order, disguised as laymen, to spy on the Benedictines, as was done at the Benedictine Abbey of Maria Laach near Cologne.

A severe blow to the hopes of liberal Catholic groups was the *Syllabus of Errors* decreed by Pope Pius IX at Jesuit insistence. One of these "errors", in particular, fairly took the ground from under the feet of those who had striven for a more progressive and liberal Catholicism. In complete accord with traditional Jesuit intransigence, Pope Pius IX solemnly condemned the proposition that "*the Roman Pontiff can and ought to reconcile himself to, and agree with, liberalism and modern civilization*".

The history of the Catholic church entered a new phase with the proclamation of the dogma of the personal infallibility of the pope, which was also railroaded through the Vatican Council (1870) by the machinations of the Jesuits. This was the severest blow of all to the liberal elements and certain groups hostile to the Jesuits followed Doellinger out of the church and established themselves as the Catholic Christian church. But the vast majority of those who had fought the Jesuits and opposed the dogma of infallibility bowed their heads and submitted with resignation. Bishop Fitzgerald of

Little Rock, Arkansas, held out till the end and voted against it. Archbishop Kenrick of St. Louis and five other American bishops left the Council and returned home without voting.

From that time the forces of reaction fought on, invisible from the outside, but all the more effectively because they worked by intrigue and trickery. The popes themselves often aided this underhand working—at times they covered up the real intent of the Jesuits and, at other times, they restrained them lest their excessive zeal should wreck the Vatican's other political maneuvers. In order to prevent the news of the increasingly bitter controversies waged at papal conclaves from reaching the public, Pope Pius XI imposed an oath of perpetual silence on everyone connected with them in the future.

All these developments paved the way for the Vatican's ecclesiastical support for the coming Fascism. There followed a rapidly increasing trend in Catholic action in favour of rigorously authoritarian, conservative and solely hierarchical policies. Apparent yielding to contrary policies in democratic countries did not in any way affect Rome's fixed goal. It merely served to help its attainment, since it was able to employ what are now known as fifth column methods by using to its own purposes freedom of speech and religious tolerance in those countries. Once democracy and freedom of speech have been obliterated by military might, as in Nazi-fascist controlled countries in Europe, the real authoritarian and intolerant nature of Jesuit Catholicism comes to light. It immediately proclaims itself the ecclesiastical counterpart of civil dictatorship. What has happened in France since its capitulation to Hitler and Mussolini is a clear case of this. Likewise in Germany the Catholic bishops decreed a solemn oath of loyalty to Nazi Socialism<sup>4</sup> and in Slovakia the governmental structure of that country was publicly and officially declared to be a combination of Nazi Socialism and Roman Catholicism.

Catholic historians do not trouble to deny that the success of Fascism is to a great extent due to the reactionary policies of the late Pope Pius XI. Josef Schmidlin,<sup>5</sup> already quoted, in spite of his prudence in the matter, states:

<sup>4</sup> A Vatican dispatch to the *N.Y. Times* of Sept. 17, 1940, stated that the pope had decided that it was more expedient to defer official pronouncement on this pledge till the end of the war.

<sup>5</sup> *Op. cit.*, p. 3.

"This conservative heritage appears not only by the fact that the Pope (Pius XI) allied the church to the fascist state, but also by the fact that he seeks to deprive the clergy and Catholicism of all political activity and strongly supports Catholic Action, which is based upon the principle of an absolute hierarchy."

Schmidlin also points out that liberal Catholic groups during the reign of Pius XI placed their last and only hope in the election of a liberal pope to succeed him. By the selection of the aristocratic, conservative Cardinal Pacelli as Pius XII, that hope was forever frustrated.

The fascist policies of the Vatican can be seen from the following four points:

1. In the application of "modern" methods of political action, that is, fascist methods.

2. In the opposition to the one-time Catholic (popular) political parties.

3. In the distrust of the lower clergy, because of its too tolerant attitude towards pre-fascist ideas of individual rights and liberties.

4. In the creation of a movement of restoration, *Catholic Action*, entirely dependent upon Vatican bureaucracy.

Much of the mystery of Vatican relations with Nazi-Fascism can thus be solved. Persecution of the Catholic church in Germany was directed only against those elements which did not entirely submit to the ever-increasing centralization of authority in church and state. To this end the Vatican helped to crush out the Catholic popular parties both in Italy and Germany and centralized all political matters in Rome. This insured to the dictators freedom from popular interference on the part of Catholics; it established a more complete dictatorial regime within the Catholic church itself; it enables the Vatican to enter into secret concordats with fascist countries already existing, and with democratic countries, like Spain, France, Belgium and Portugal, after the destruction of their democratic governments by revolution and blitzkrieg. Finally it leaves the way clear for complete harmony and unity between Nazi-Fascism and Jesuit Catholicism.

## CHAPTER IX.

### HITLER'S FIGHT AGAINST THE CHURCHES

THE FULL STORY of the rise of Nazi-Fascism has still to be written. When it appears it will surprise most Americans to discover the part played in it by the Christian churches—Protestant as well as Catholic. For Nazi-Fascism is as much a product of the churches as of the state, and is a movement towards *religious* as well as political and social authoritarianism. European Catholic historians have long pointed out that it is the final act in the Jesuit plan of counter-Reformation instituted exactly four hundred years ago this year. It is for this reason that the articles of this series have stressed from the beginning the ideological background of Nazi-Fascism in the counter-Reformation activities of the Jesuit Order.

Americans will never fully understand the real aims and activities of the church of Rome so long as they continue to look at Catholicism from our American point of view. On this side of the Atlantic attention has been focussed mainly on attempts of a few "liberal" Catholic spokesmen to integrate their church with the American way of life. These are sincere in thinking that Catholic authoritarianism can be reconciled with the liberal, tolerant principles of American democracy.<sup>1</sup> But the Church of Rome has its roots in Europe; there its metaphysic was first established. It is therefore to its background and activities in Europe we must look if we want to judge what its real nature is. It is the policy determined upon "beyond the Alps" in Europe that directs and guides the church even in America. Well-meaning Catholic spokesmen in the democracies are permitted to voice their liberal views, but their wishful thinking has never had any effect in really bringing the Catholic Church into line with our American way of life.

This issue has been bitterly fought out in Europe between Nazi-Fascism and the Christian churches. As far as Europe is concerned the fight is ended—with victory on the side of Nazi-Fascism and Catholic ultramontaniam. In Italy, Spain, Austria, Poland, Portugal, France and Belgium, Catholicism alone was involved. In Germany, however, both the Protestant and Catholic

<sup>1</sup> Cf., for example, the article of Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S., *Rome—Ally of Democracy?* in the magazine *Common Sense* for October, 1940.

churches have played their respective parts. There the struggles were as bitter, and purges as bloody, within the churches as within the state. They were more severe and bloody within Protestantism than Catholicism; many more liberal Protestant leaders than Catholic were liquidated or put out of the way in concentration camps. By refusing to make any concessions to Nazism, the evangelical Protestant churches are said to have actually paved the way for the success of the "German Christian" movement. These "German Christians"—Protestant fascists—professed to consider it necessary to submit to a spiritual leader in order to free Protestantism of liberalism and rationalism. They thus became one with the Catholic fascists who, in keeping with the *Catholic Action* crusade of Pope Pius XI, were purging every taint of liberalism and democracy out of the Catholic clergy and were bringing the Catholic Church in Germany into line with pure Vatican absolutism. Gonzague de Reynold, ardent Jesuit Catholic reformer, in his book *L'Europe Tragique*,<sup>2</sup> states:

"A real fight has been waged within Protestantism. The Evangelical Protestants refused to make any concessions and established a confessional church in opposition to that set up by the state . . . We are on the threshold of a religious schism. *These are the final repercussions of the Reformation. We are witnessing a phase of dissolution [of Protestantism]. Many German Protestants believe that to reject a purely religious authority like the Papacy, would constitute a danger to the church and to Christianity.*"

Professor Karl Barth, the famous Protestant historian, also realized this when he said that National Socialism's campaign against the churches in Germany had for its aim to make Protestantism "ripe for Rome".

In order to understand what happened to the Catholic Church in Germany, it is necessary to go back to the time of Pope Leo XIII, well known for his unrelenting antagonism to the liberal constitutions of states.<sup>3</sup> In order to counteract the increasing influence of 19th century liberalism on Catholic countries, Pope Leo XIII urged on Catholic leaders throughout the world the formation of Catholic political parties. He thought that if such Catholic parties took an active part in parlia-

<sup>2</sup> P. 329.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII*; also *The Converted Catholic* for October, 1940, p. 19.

mentary politics they would, by securing the balance of power, succeed in obtaining victory for the church. He even hoped that these Catholic political parties would eventually obtain a large enough majority, by democratic means, to enable them to seize complete control of governments. What actually happened, however, was the very opposite. The Catholic parties gradually came under the influence of their liberal opponents and copied many of their ideas. Thus in Italy the Catholic party became the "popular" liberal party headed by the now-exiled priest Don Sturzo; in Germany it became the liberal "Centre" party.

This liberal influence of Catholic parties became so great that the Holy See began to regard Catholic political trends as a grave danger which threatened the juridical and political unity of the church itself. These Catholic parties became infiltrated with the liberal spirit of the French Revolution of 1789. The ideas of the rights of man, of religious tolerance, of freedom of conscience, of speech and press, were adopted by a great number of Catholic politicians and by many of the lower clergy.

So pronounced had this trend of popular Catholic politics become in the United States, for instance, that when Alfred E. Smith was nominated for the Presidency in 1927, the Vatican and Catholic bishops in Europe were shocked to hear that Mr. Smith had been prompted by priests to proclaim these principles to be, not a mere matter of "favour" (as he first stated) but also a matter of "innate right".<sup>4</sup> This was rank heresy, and, after Mr. Smith's defeat at the polls in 1928, the Vatican rebuked those who had advised the former Governor of New York to proclaim doctrines so contrary to official Catholic teachings.

By the end of the last war, the Catholic political parties had begun to lose the importance which they had in the eyes of the Vatican when it first brought them into being. They became so integrated with democratic states, founded as they were on political compromise, on tolerance and the idea of equality, that it was confusing to note the alliances made by some Catholic parties with bourgeois groups and by others with socialist groups. It had become apparent that the con-

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Alfred E. Smith's reply to the *Open Letter* of the late Charles C. Marshall in *Forum Magazine*, March, 1928; also Mr. Marshall's able work, *The Roman Catholic Church in the Modern State*.

trol of Catholic politics was being lost by the Holy See in Rome. Pope Leo XIII's plan had miscarried, and had proved a boomerang against the real aims of the church as he had proclaimed them. Catholic political action had acquired an independence that made it a menace to, rather than a docile instrument of, the Vatican. Liberal Catholicism, in fact, which, to all appearance, had received its death-blow by the decree of papal infallibility towards the end of the 19th century, had taken on a new lease of life by means of the very Catholic political parties which had been established and sustained by Pope Leo XIII to oppose the hated liberal constitutions of democratic states.

This is how the Vatican saw it after the world war in 1918, and the conclusions which it drew from its observations in the matter were the first steps towards the rise of what we now call Fascism.

Many of the non-Jesuit religious orders in Germany, notably the Franciscans and the Benedictines, started movements which displeased the Vatican. The "Liturgical Movement" of the Benedictines; their attempt to establish contact with the Oecumenical Evangelical Movement, and their effort towards a reunion of all Christian churches; the attitude of the *Patres Unionis* ("Fathers of Unity") who were even prepared to modify the dogmas of papal infallibility and the Immaculate Conception in order to help their work of reunion; their open and secret negotiations with groups in the Anglican Church under the guidance of the late Cardinal Mercier—all these liberal reform movements were regarded as tainting the lower clergy and the intelligent laity with the heresy of liberalism and Protestantism. The Vatican regarded its authority as gravely menaced by it all, and determined to wage relentless war against this growing liberalism in political and spiritual matters.

It should not be surprising that Rome became disturbed at the prospect of a revival of the Lutheran Reformation. It was particularly marked in Germany. Friedrich Heiler<sup>5</sup> has the following to say on this point:

"These recent tendencies of Catholicism have spread to a great extent in Germany. German Catholicism is in fact a particular kind of Catholicism, due to the fact that it has been subject, continually if not visibly, to

<sup>5</sup> Professor of History in the University of Marburg. in his work, *Im Ringen um die Kirche*, p. 174 et seq.

the influence of the reformed churches of Christendom, and has constantly absorbed certain features belonging to Evangelical Christianity”.

But the democratic states were the most powerful in the world at that time. The Catholic political parties had become too strong to be stopped by mild protests or even by encyclical letters from Rome. Repressive action, carried out by the help of authoritarian secular regimes, was necessary. Thus the two great opposing factions within the Catholic Church became locked again in a gigantic struggle: one possessing the liberal Catholic idea, deep-seated as of old in the hearts of true Christian believers; the other, the coldly imperial, sectarian and intransigent Roman Party, represented by the Holy See under the domination of the Society of Jesuits.

It is in the light of these facts that Hitler's "campaign against the churches" must be viewed. Neither Hitler nor the Jesuits could forgive priests and bishops in Germany who sided with the cause of liberalism and democracy during the Weimar Republic. It was against them that the acts of Catholic repression were directed. Hitler and Pope Pius XI acted in concert to destroy every vestige of liberalism in Germany: the one in social and political life, the other in the sphere of religion. By dissolving the Catholic Centre Party, the Pope removed the last obstacle to Hitler's rise to power, and also deprived the Catholic people and clergy in Germany of any say-so in political matters. He had done the same for Mussolini in Italy by the dissolution of the *Partito Popolare* and the exiling of its priest-leader Don Sturzo. By his *Catholic Action* he concentrated all Catholic political power in the Holy See. Thenceforth, the Vatican was free to make its secret concordats with the fascist dictatorships.

The lower clergy in Germany did not yield without a struggle. Many defied both Hitler and the Pope. Some priests were imprisoned. Even when the pristine ardor of Cardinal Innitzer for Hitler and Nazi Socialism showed signs of cooling, hostility was engineered against him. Catholic schools, mostly under the care of liberal, non-Jesuit religious orders, were closed; some heads of these anti-Jesuit religious orders were punished for attempting to save their funds by smuggling them out of the country. In the press of



America this was called "Hitler's persecution of the Catholic Church", and served to conceal the common purpose of Nazi Socialism and ultramontane Catholicism. There were some mild protests from Rome but no adverse action. Even the closing of Catholic schools in Austria went almost unprotested. These were regarded by the Vatican as but a small loss compared to what was gained by the elimination of recalcitrant clergy and their liberal views. The Nazi-Vatican concordat continues to hold and function.

With the extinction of liberal Catholicism and the imprisonment of liberal Protestant leaders, Vatican absolutism was triumphant. Of supreme satisfaction to the Jesuit Catholic faction is the knowledge of the dissolution of Protestantism in Germany, and the fact that the pro-Nazi Protestant "German Christians" are forced to realize, as Gonzague de Reynolds points out, that "to reject a purely religious authority like the Papacy would constitute a danger to the church and Christianity."

## CHAPTER X.

### NATIONAL SOCIALISM AND CATHOLIC ACTION

CATHOLIC ACTION—the crusade for Jesuit-Catholic Reform—has the following characteristics:

1. Its direction, as laid down in Pope Pius XI's Encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*, is explicitly entrusted to the Society of Jesus.

2. Its aims are: the extermination of the hated liberal spirit of the 19th century; the formation of a world crusade against socialism and communism; the success of the counter-Reformation.

3. The means to obtain these ends are: the annihilation of the old Catholic political parties, which became impregnated with the democratic ideology, and the purging of the secular clergy, the religious orders and the laity in so far as they persist in holding to non-Jesuit opinions in matters of ecclesiastical policy.

4. The most suitable political régime to assure the success of this crusade for Catholic reconstruction is the hierarchical, authoritarian form of the fascist state or of Nazi Socialism.

The secular clergy in Germany and other European countries have always secretly fostered a democratic tradition, and for many years considered it their principal task to live in peace with Protestantism and the liberal institutions of the modern world. For this reason they constituted the chief obstacle in the way of the Catholic Reconstruction Movement initiated by the late Pope Pius XI. They were not friendly to the idea of the corporative state, to the plan of the new crusade, nor to the Vatican's aim to set up complete papal absolutism. Unlike the Irish-dominated clergy in America, the Catholic clergy of France and of Germany and other European countries have never fully identified the *pope himself* with the *seat of power* in Rome. They acquiesced in taking their religion from Rome but not their politics, nor in accepting the Vatican's direction of extra-spiritual matters in their respective countries.

In modern times, the European Catholic clergy veered increasingly to the idea that it was advisable to encourage Christian tolerance and friendly relations with all religious sects, even with those who belonged to no church. Many were persuaded that the day would come when all the Christian churches could be united on a basis of a liberal reform within the Catholic church.

This liberal reform would be aimed at the overthrow of the "jurisdictional" papacy, with its unscriptural, political Roman Curia and its claims to ecclesiastical absolutism; it would be a reform against papal imperialism, against Jesuit-fascist discipline and overlordship. It would aim to set up an "Evangelical" Papacy which, freed of political ambitions, would act as a centre of evangelical unity for all churches of Christendom. This would indeed be true Catholic reform—a second Reformation, the setting up of evangelical Catholicism. It would mean the purging of medieval accretions of doctrine and liturgy and, of course, the complete banishment again of the Jesuits from the church, as was accomplished by Pope Clement XIV in 1773.

All such aims and plans for a liberal, evangelical reform, however, fell within the explicit condemnations of religious tolerance and the liberal, democratic idea by Jesuit-controlled popes during the past 150 years. The late General of the Jesuits, Wernz, in his treatise on Canon Law<sup>1</sup>, says:

"As concerns the relations of the Catholic church with other religious associations, there is no doubt that all religious associations of unbelievers and all the Christian sects are regarded by the Catholic church as entirely illegitimate and devoid of all right of existence. These organizations are formally rebels against the church. As a consequence, he is in grave error who believes that the different religious sects, such as, for example, the Anglicans, the Lutherans, the Orthodox Catholics, constitute legitimate parts of a universal Church of Christ, and that they are in some way collateral branches of the Catholic church, or sister-churches."

Against this hope for true Catholic reform that would have brought about a tolerant, evangelical Catholic Christian church, the Jesuits swept the field for an absolutely totalitarian set-up in Catholicism to go hand-in-hand with the Nazi-Fascist régime in the secular order. On their side they had Hitler himself who, as far as condemnation of religious tolerance is concerned, has always shown himself to be a better Catholic than the ordinary European priest and many bishops. In *Mein Kampf* he upholds and approves of the dogmatic intolerance of the Vatican party in the Catholic church; like the Jesuits he regards religious tolerance as an effective

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. his *Jus Decretalium*, Vol. I, p. 13.

instrument for the establishment and support of the liberal aims of the Jews and Freemasons;<sup>2</sup> his chief cause of complaint against the clergy of the Centre Party in Germany was that they had allowed themselves to become convinced of the idea of tolerance, and that they had made alliances with these deadly enemies of the Christian religion; he holds that his principal task is the combatting of this deplorable situation from which religion has suffered so much.<sup>3</sup> He also condemns Protestantism for persisting in its tolerant attitude towards Judaism; he adds, however, that

“the believing Protestant who belongs to National Socialism *could* exist side by side with the fervent Catholic without his religious convictions being in any way affected thereby”<sup>4</sup>.

This yielding of Catholics to the liberal tendencies of religious tolerance was regarded by the Jesuits as the “Protestantizing” of Catholicism; to correct this they deemed that drastic, punitive measures were imperative. The late Jesuit Cardinal Billot expresses true Jesuit contempt for this yielding of the secular clergy to liberalizing tendencies, and also advocates the severity that should be meted out to them, when he speaks of

“the poor little parish priests who fill the greater part of our religious magazines and periodicals with their speeches, seeking thereby to create a new apologetic to take the place of the miracles which the 20th century no longer understands. There are but two replies to make to this: *the first is the whip . . .*”<sup>5</sup>

This is in perfect keeping with Mussolini’s symbol of the *fasces* or bundle of rods, such as he and his Nazi partner have so ruthlessly employed to scourge Europe of every vestige of liberty and tolerance. Thus, Hitler’s programme of Catholic “repression” is but the carrying out of the Jesuit punitive measures, and a part of the plan for Catholic reform against those members of the Catholic clergy in all countries who have opposed Jesuit hegemony over Catholic affairs.<sup>6</sup>

Catholic Action, like Nazi-Fascism, ostensibly started out as a crusade against godless communism which, in

<sup>2</sup> German edition, p. 345.

<sup>3</sup> *Ib.*, p. 294.

<sup>4</sup> *Ib.*, p. 632.

<sup>5</sup> “*Die erste ist die Peitsche . . .*” in Hugo Koch’s *Katholizismus und Jesuitismus*, p. 53.

<sup>6</sup> The German bishops, the Catholic Popular Association and the Centre Party opposed the re-entry of the Jesuits into Germany in 1910. Because of this the Jesuits regarded the German bishops as “recalcitrants”; cf. Hoensbroech, *The Jesuit Order*, p. 248.

the Jesuit view, is but the radical application of the Protestant principle of the separation of church and state. It is the extreme of Protestantism predicted by the Jesuits since their founding by Ignatius Loyola to fight the Reformation of Martin Luther, and is due to the communist principle that the internal life of the individual is the only place where he should be allowed to seek satisfaction for his religious needs. The Jesuits therefore launched their new offensive principally against Soviet Russia, the first country since the Wars of Religion that seriously threatened to undermine their work of counter-Reformation; they found it more menacing to their aims than Protestant England was in the 16th and 17th centuries. By brutally separating the state from the influence of all forms of religion, the communists tried to make religion a purely private matter and aimed by this means to effect the complete liberation of the individual and the conduct of civil affairs from all ecclesiastical influences. Because of this, the Jesuits identify liberalism and democracy with socialism and communism and seek to destroy them together with all movements to the left of Fascism and Nazism.

Catholic Action, similar to Nazi-Fascism, will not be content with any half-hearted reform in Catholicism. Just as a brutal war campaign against democratic nations is deemed necessary in Nazi-Fascist policy, so a brutal cleansing within the church, even at the risk of some loss to Catholicism as a whole, is a necessary part of the Jesuit programme of Catholic reconstruction. Gonzague de Reynold, one of the most ardent zealots of the movement, whom we have already quoted in these articles, frankly admits that the wiping out of these Protestant tendencies (liberalism and socialism) constitutes the first problem of religion, namely, of Roman Catholicism, and that the new "Christian régime" which will eventuate as a result of this desired reconstruction of the social order, will have to be fascist, since, as he says, "Fascism has been the only successful attempt to create a new régime".<sup>7</sup> The Italian socialist, L. Segni,<sup>8</sup> confirms this when he states that

"Fascism is an epiphenomenon in keeping with the evolution of the Catholic church as directed by the tactics of the Jesuits."

<sup>7</sup> Cf. *L'Europe Tragique*, p. 93.

<sup>8</sup> In his book, *L'Esprit du Fascisme*, p. 15 et seq.

## CHAPTER XI.

### REXISM AND CATHOLIC ACTION

NOWHERE has Catholic Action shown itself more in line with Nazi-Fascism than in Belgium where Leon Degrelle's Rexist Party has now come into its own. Pope Pius XI gave the Jesuit slogan *Christus Rex*<sup>1</sup>—"Christ the King"—to Catholic Action as the battle-cry for its crusade for Catholic reconstruction of the social order. The same cry, *Viva Christo Rey*, was used by Franco's Fascists in their war against the legitimate Republican government of Spain. It was the war cry of the fanatic Mexican Indians who were spurred on by the Jesuits to commit acts of sabotage against the Republican government of Mexico. It was also the cry of the Spanish Rebel officers who, with the help of their Moorish troops, tortured, violated and slaughtered nearly 15,000 men, women and children at Badajos.

The Rexistists in Belgium claimed the honour of being the first fruits of Catholic Action, the "Christian Frontiers" of Belgium. Their leader, Leon Degrelle—the Belgian peasants nicknamed him "Adolf" Degrelle—was won over to the movement by Monsignor Picard, when he was a student at the University of Louvain. He and all his assistants are products of Jesuit training.<sup>2</sup> He became the great "lay apostle" of Catholic Action in the Jesuit drive to align the Catholic Church with Nazi-Fascist plans for the "new order" in Europe after the destruction of liberalism and democracy.

As the scope of Degrelle's activities increased, his Christ-the-King movement was temporarily separated from Catholic Action in Belgium with the consent of the hierarchy. This manoeuvre was designed to give the Rexistists greater liberty of action with which to work out Nazi-Fascist policies. Thereupon the apparently independent "Rexist Popular Front" was set up, ostensibly to fight "Jewish Communism", much on the same lines as Father Coughlin's "Christian Front" in America. Degrelle's chief officer was the White Russian Denizoff, who was Secretary to the last President of the Council

<sup>1</sup> This slogan is from the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits.

<sup>2</sup> "Leon Degrelle is a pupil of these gentlemen [the Jesuits]; so also are all his colleagues."—R. A. Dior, in *Le Vatican*, Paris, 1937, p. 42.

in the Czarist régime. To-day Degrelle is Hitler's right-hand man in Nazi-occupied Belgium where no signs of disagreement are apparent between the Catholic hierarchy and the Nazi invaders.\* He has organized his own storm troopers, *formations de combat* he calls them, and is fast bringing Belgium into close collaboration with Hitler's new order. In a heavily censored dispatch from Liege to the *New York Times* on January 6, 1941, Degrelle said:

"We must make our choice now. We have faith in the Fuehrer as the greatest man of our times. Trust his spirit, his genius, and have faith in the Europe which he will build up. The youth of all Europe is to-day fighting shoulder to shoulder for a new order under German leadership. German weapons will win because they are defending a just cause. Hitler saved Europe, and Belgium's future could [several words missing] cooperation with the Reich."

There never was any secret about Degrelle's collaboration with Hitler. In its issue of May 20, 1936, the Paris newspaper *Le Temps* called attention to the close relationship between the Rexist Party and Hitler's National Socialism, and shortly before the Belgian elections in May, 1936, Degrelle went to Germany to "study" Nazi propaganda methods. After the example of the German Fuehrer (and Father Coughlin) he sought to gather around him all the discontented elements of the middle class. In imitation of Goebbels, he curried favor with the workers by appearing to side with strikers. The chief point of comparison, however, between Rexist and Nazi-Fascism is that both declared war on Catholic liberal tendencies, among both the clergy and the laity, with the aim of setting up the Jesuit, authoritarian control of Catholic activities. This was the real reason why Catholic Action was instituted.

It is not out of place of repeat the underlying reasons of this desire to abolish all pre-Hitler Catholic politics throughout Europe—a thing the Jesuits for many years had ardently longed to see accomplished. As already pointed out, the old Catholic political parties had become intimately bound up with the liberal constitution of states, wherein all parties and religions were able to

\* In their joint pastoral letter of last October, excerpts from which have recently reached this country, the Catholic bishops of Belgium instructed their people as follows: "It is doubtless necessary to recognize the occupying power as a *de facto* Power and to obey it within the limits of international conventions." (Quoted from *America*, Feb. 22, 1941.)

coexist freely. Furthermore, the ideology of the liberal democratic state, with its principles of religious and racial tolerance, was broadening the political and social outlook of these Catholic parties. The fraternizing of the secular clergy with the laity in these political parties furthered the spirit of tolerance as opposed to the traditional intolerance of Catholic dogma.

On the other hand, it must also be remembered that in Germany the two Catholic political parties, the Centre Party and the Bavarian Popular Party, because of their close religious connections with the Catholic Church, had met with strong opposition from the Protestant part of the population. As a consequence, the continued existence of these parties threatened to compromise the aim of Catholic Action, which was to use Germany as the instrument to effect its counter-Reformation designs. *It was thus necessary for the new Catholic policy to camouflage itself as a national movement, and make itself appear as the only party representing the nation as a whole.*

It can thus be seen why the abolition of the pre-Hitler Catholic political parties in Germany had the approval of the movement for Catholic reconstruction. Here is what Gonzague de Reynold has to say on the point:<sup>4</sup>

"The Centre Party, which Hitler fought with all his might, was forced to commit suicide. But it was a party which had already shown signs of deterioration, which had made many mistakes and upon which the young people were turning their backs . . . *The news that soon they could take part in real Catholic Action, without any addition of party politics, aroused great enthusiasm.*"

For the very same reason the Rexist Party in Belgium, direct offspring of Catholic Action, likewise declared:

"All Catholic parties are the result of a fixed historical situation, and have advantages and disadvantages for the church. When these historical situations cease to exist, Catholic parties lose their reason for existence. This applies equally to the Catholic party in Belgium. Up till now differing opinions could be had as to their usefulness and their right to existence. *To-day, however, they are anachronisms, and they should be suppressed as were the Centre Party in Germany and the Popular Party in Italy.*

"The Catholic Party did not understand the new 'historic mission'; the confessional movement did not trans-

<sup>4</sup> Cf. *L'Europe Tragique*, p. 333.



form itself into a *national* movement. Because of these deficiencies it had to disappear like all other parties. *The Rexist Party will now take up the defense of Catholic and ecclesiastical interests.* It does not only intend to defend the church, but also to take the whole religious question out of politics. It will effect this by means of the Constitutional guarantee of the rights of the Catholic Church and by drawing up a concordat to regulate the relations between the State and the church.<sup>16</sup>

Thus, according to this new Catholic policy, there is to be no apparent separation between Catholic Action and the Nazi-Fascist thrust for the establishment of its new order in Europe. To the Rexist Party was assigned the task of regulating the relations between the Catholic Church and the Fascist State in Belgium by means of a concordat, as was done in Germany through Von Papen and the present Pope Pius XII, then papal nuncio to Germany. This "new historic mission" of the Church of Rome, initiated by the Lateran Pact and Concordat of 1929 between the Vatican and Fascist Italy, calls for collaboration with the Nazi-fascist dictators, unhampered by any questioning or interference from the people or the lower clergy. Liberal principles and popular freedom have to be crushed out as completely in the church as in the state.

We in America are only now beginning to see clearly how the noose was formed to strangle all forms of liberalism and democracy in pre-Hitler Europe, in order to make way for the setting up of the Nazi-fascist hierarchical grouping of nations and individuals in a sort of revived Roman Empire of the German Nation. And the real motivating force behind it all has been the thrust of the Jesuit counter-Reformation, ante-dating all the dictators, which aimed to crush out of existence the hated liberal principles of the Protestant democracies. It has indeed been an ungodly combination that worked together to accomplish this objective: Catholic Reconstruction movement of Pius XI; Italian Fascism; Hitler's National Socialism; French anti-Semitic Leagues; La Roque and the Cagoulards; Belgian Rexistism; the Hungarian racist movement of Father Bangha; white Russian association; Croatian associations—whose hand appeared in the assassination of King Alexander of Serbia and French Foreign Minister Barthou; Slovene

<sup>16</sup> Cf. *Vaterland*, Lucerne, Aug. 14, 1936.

separatists led by the Jesuit Father Anton Koroshetz, who worked his way to the Presidency of the senate in Yugoslavia; the Catholic prelates and politicians of old Austria—Mgr. Seipel, Dollfuss, Schusshnig, *et al.*; the priest-politicians of Slovakia, Carpatho-Ukraine and Bohemia—Fathers Hlinka and Tiso; not forgetting Franco and his Fascist Generals in Spain and the Laval-Pétain cliques in France.

All of these worked closely together and were inter-linked with the Catholic Church in working towards the same end—the destruction of the post-Reformation structure of Europe and the world.

But the end is not yet.

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