

Deceased, 1st anniversary of mother of Eugene Casey tomorrow. Ill, Jim Corcoran (St. Ed's); Jack Crane (Brow.)	University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin January 14, 1937 ----- <u>Propaganda That Should Be Investigated.</u>	Ill, mother of Dick Fitz- gerald (Dil.); mother of Harry Detzer (Ly.); friend of Arch Gott, in plane crash.
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Propaganda for the existing Spanish "government" is about to inundate America. Within the last few days a letter has appeared in the readers' column of the Louisville Courier-Journal announcing a meeting for January 11 in the Auditorium of the Kentucky Hotel in Louisville. The letter was signed by Laurence Lee Howe, chairman of the "Louisville Committee for the Aid of the Spanish People," under whose auspices the meeting was to be held. According to the letter, the four young Spaniards who were to speak at the meeting are being sponsored in America by none other than the "North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, of which Bishop Francis J. McConnell, president of the Federation of Churches of Christ in America, is chairman."

There you have the channels through which the muddy-red propaganda is to flow: a national committee headed by no less a person than Bishop McConnell; and, in as many cities and towns as possible, a local committee.

The story that these "respectable," "unselfish" American propagandists are to put across is, of course, one of truth, of liberty, of democracy. Here are two sentences from Mr. Howe's letter: "The Popular Front government went into office in Spain in February, 1936, after a free election"....(note that word, "free")....."So far from its being a 'Red' government, there were not, at that time, any radical parties in the cabinet. It was a liberal democratic government, similar to our own." (God save the mark!)

Can it be that Bishop McConnell and Mr. Howe are ignorant of the facts: that the election of February, 1936, was held in a state of terror; that Communists paraded Granada in armored cars; that voters were terrorized in Catalonia, in all Eastern and Southern Spain, and in Galicia; that, for fear of their lives, hundreds of thousands of voters kept away from the polls; that the Prime Minister, Portela Valladares, handed over the reins of government to the Popular Front even before election returns were in; that ballot boxes were destroyed in many places where the Right had gained smashing victories? Would the Bishop care to know the results of this so-called free election? Well, in spite of the fact that the so-called Popular Front gained, through terror, a majority of seats in the new Parliament, the parties opposed to the Popular Front had, according to official returns, a majority of more than 200,000 popular votes. The so-called "Popular" Front does not represent 40 per cent of the Spanish people.

Does Bishop McConnell know that, after the election, the "democratic" government of Spain took no steps to prevent the total destruction, within four months, of 160 churches, of 10 newspaper offices, of 63 Catholic centers? Does he know that, within four short months, 1556 persons had been killed and wounded under the rule of Spanish "democracy?" Does he care that, in the name of sweet liberty, opposition to the so-called Popular Front was not permitted to hold a single meeting of protest; that the conservative press was muzzled; that prisons were filled with thousands who had only tried to belong to some party of the Right; that under this "democracy" armed militia was formed and allowed to parade in Madrid, under the red flag of the hammer and sickle, singing the Internationale and shouting "Down with Spain, Long Live Russia"? In the face of such "democratic" conditions, the Insurgents finally became active.

The lines in Spain are clearly drawn. On the side of the Red government are the forces of Anarchism and Marxism, and behind them is Russia. Opposed are the Insurgents "fighting for God, for their land and their dead; fighting for their women and children for the Cross, for the Church; they are fighting for the paintings of Velasquez, for the dramas of Lope, for the Quixote and for the Escorial; they are fighting for all the creations and all the values of 20 centuries of Christian culture." And for these things sacred they will fight to the death. What filthy minister influence would in the name of democracy join American Protestants together on the side of the Reds?

PRAYERS: (deceased) Mother Mary Patricia; Green Island, N.Y.; friend of Bob Leonard (How.), killed in Los Angeles plane crash. Ill, Sr. Mary Loretta Cecile, B.V.M., sister of Mr. Barry, publicity director; Fr. J. McCartney's (C.S.C.) father. One spec. int.