

INFORMATION for all persons of good will toward Almighty God. RELIGION is a snare and a racket. GOD'S TRUTH shields and strengthens the upright.

KINGDOM NEWS

. . . the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, . . . of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end . . . The zeal of JEHOVAH of hosts will perform this.—Isaiah 9: 6, 7.

DEVOTED to the principles of justice, truth, equity and kindness as exemplified in the acts and sayings of The Creator of the Universe and of His King Christ Jesus.

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ATTEMPT TO WRECK Garden Assembly THE FACTS

On Sunday June 25, at Madison Square Garden, New York, a great multitude of persons of good will met to hear the principal address of a three-day convention. The Garden assembly was linked by wire and wireless to dozens of similar assemblies throughout North America and other continents. At the same time also scores of stations broadcast that address. For a few minutes during that one-hour meeting some misguided fanatics, directed by the Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church, tried to drown out the speaker's voice and break up the assembly by starting a chorus of boos, howls and shouts of "Viva Franco" and "Heil Hitler", in the top balcony. That short but unlawful disturbance the press of New York and the entire nation snatched up as "news fit to print", falsely characterizing it as a "riot" that "broke up the meeting" "in dark-

ness" in a "bloody free-for-all fight". All present at the Garden and the thousands or millions who heard the whole speech on the radio know what occurred. Falsehoods printed as "news" are unanswerably contradicted by THE FACTS searched out by *Consolation* magazine and its attorneys. Sincere people who love honesty know that they cannot rely upon the associated press and newspaper publishers who prefer to print what helps to sell papers. In the public interest, therefore, *Kingdom News* presents THE FACTS as found and sent to the Mayor of New York, who also was misled by the false press reports. More facts, in another open letter sent to the Roman Catholic archbishop of New York by a member of the New York Bar, are also published here, together with other information for the careful consideration of every order-loving person in this world's greatest city.

Open Letter to Mayor La Guardia

[Dated Brooklyn, N. Y., July 11, 1939]

Honored Sir:

This letter is not to ask a favor. The purpose is to place before you some pertinent facts and to respectfully request a statement of your position regarding the same. As the chief public servant of the people of Greater New York your attitude not only affects the people of this city but its influence reaches throughout the land.

FACTS: June 23-25 was the occasion of a peaceable assembly of thousands of Christian people in convention within the City of New York for the study of God's Word, the Bible. On the 25th Madison Square Garden was the key assembly for many other like public assemblies of Christians in America,

Canada, Great Britain and Australia, all of which assemblies were tied together by wire and wireless equipment, thus making it one tremendous lawful Christian assembly. The people were there at that time to listen to an address on GOVERNMENT AND PEACE delivered from 4 to 5 o'clock P.M. In addition thereto seventy-five radio stations broadcast the speech. More than eighteen thousand persons were orderly and lawfully assembled at the Garden to worship Almighty God.

The Catholic clergyman Charles E. Coughlin had his followers picketing a certain radio station in the city. Those and other fanatical Catholics had repeatedly on previous occasions threatened to break

up the Madison Square Garden meeting, and other meetings tied together with it. Due notice of this threatened unlawful action was given to the police officials of the City of New York, as well as other cities. About 4 P.M. three Catholic priests took seats in the gallery of the Garden and about the same time 200 or more Coughlin Catholic pickets, led by an agitator well known to the police, marched into the same gallery immediately back of the speaker's platform. They came there for the expressed purpose of breaking up that meeting, and this is shown by an abundance of evidence. About twenty minutes after the speech began, and at a given signal from some one of them in the gallery, that company of fanatical persons began a loud disturbance of yelling, shouting and cursing. Ushers called upon the police to quell the disturbance, to which demand the police officer in charge replied: "That is your job." This statement was made in the face of the facts that the policemen at the time were hearing and seeing the unlawful action of the disturbers.

Ushers lawfully in charge of the meeting hurriedly rushed to the point of disturbance and demanded of the disturbers that they cease interruption or else leave the meeting place. Instead of obeying, the Catholic fanatical disturbers violently assaulted a number of the ushers, and some of the ushers in turn defended themselves. The police did not even attempt to arrest anyone for unlawfully disturbing that lawful assembly, but they did arrest several of the ushers who were acting lawfully in the performance of their duty. Two weeks have passed and no one of the disturbers has been arrested for an attempt to break up a lawful assembly. Law-abiding citizens have been arrested for doing what the police are sworn to do but which they failed to do.

PRESS: The public press and a few radio stations announced that the meeting at Madison Square Garden was broken up by rioters and that the riot spread to every part of the Garden and that ushers had been arrested.

The meeting was not broken up. The entire proceedings were simultaneously recorded by electrical means and that transcription clearly proves the untruthful statements made by the public press and certain radio stations. For one hour every word of the speaker was transmitted to the English-speaking world above mentioned, was clearly heard, and was transmitted by wire to the recording studio, all of which is unquestionably

proven by the recorded speech and by the many cablegrams received and publicly read that same night at the Madison Square Garden.

YOUR STATEMENT: On June 29th the New York *Herald Tribune* quotes you, the Mayor, as follows: "I call your attention, gentlemen, to an incident of a few days ago, when another group, seemingly and ostensibly pretended to be for the good things of life, openly attacked people of your faith." The paper then adds: "The remark was taken to be a reference to the 'Government and Peace' meeting of the International Bible Students Association at Madison Square Garden on Sunday, at which a riot started after charges by Joseph F. Rutherford that the Roman Catholic Church backed Chancellor Hitler in Germany."

In complete contradiction of this statement attributed to you, that "Another group openly attacked the people of your [Catholic] faith", I submit the complete text of the speech, also the transcription record thereof, which will be furnished at your request. At the point of the speech where the disturbance began nothing had been said against the Catholic faith and no reference to Catholics, except a quotation from *The Catholic Encyclopedia*.

The name of Hitler was not mentioned once. There was no occasion at that time to mention his name. In view of these facts the public is misled by the press and by quotations of high officials, who were not present, all of which the thousands of orderly people who were present well know are contrary to the facts.

QUESTIONS: In behalf of a great number of honest, sincere Catholics and non-Catholics of the City of New York, as well as elsewhere, I respectfully propound to you, Mr. Mayor, the following questions which the people have a right to demand of their Mayor shall be answered:

(1) Section 1470 of the Penal Law of New York says: "A person who, without authority of law wilfully disturbs any assembly or meeting, not unlawful in its character, is guilty of a misdemeanor." Are you in favor of enforcing that law?

(2) The assembly at Madison Square Garden was a lawful one. A crowd of gangsters, openly claiming to be Catholic Coughlinites, willfully disturbed that meeting, having come there deliberately for that purpose. Police officers there present saw such flagrant violation of the law. Why did not the police arrest and prosecute those willful law-breakers? Do you approve of the action of the police in refusing to arrest the rioters and at the same time arresting ushers who were there by right and acting in the performance of their lawful duty?

Your copy free

The speech "Government and Peace", given on June 25 at Madison Square Garden by Judge Rutherford. It shows what JEHOVAH, the Protector of all upright persons, purposes to do very soon against organized religion, His enemy and the destructive foe of all honest people. It shows how JEHOVAH, the Almighty God of the Hebrews, will govern the entire world forever through His King, Christ Jesus, the Messiah, who is the Prince of Peace, when every religious institution and system is swept from the earth by His irresistible power. Write for your copy of the speech to

WATCHTOWER

117 Adams St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

(3) Is the statement published in the aforementioned newspaper, to wit: "Another group [meaning those Christians lawfully assembled at the Garden for worship of Almighty God] openly attacked the people of your [Catholic] faith," fully approved by you as Mayor or not, and if yes, upon what do you base that statement?

(4) As Mayor do you favor and approve the action of the Catholic Coughlinites in willfully attempting to break up a peaceable and lawful assembly even though those disturbers did not agree with the statements made by the speaker?

(5) You have publicly denounced Hitler on many occasions, and properly so. I did not mention Hitler. But even if I had, was that any excuse for Catholic Coughlinites to attempt to break up a lawful assembly?

(6) There is a vast difference between the common people of the Catholic faith, who honestly and sincerely follow that faith, and those who compose "The Catholic Hierarchy of Authority". Do you favor the Hierarchy, which is desperately attempting to make America Fascist, or do you favor and support the common people of the Catholic and all other faiths who desire to honestly and peaceably assemble, and who desire a government where men may worship God according to the Constitutional guarantee?

(7) In the light of more than fifteen centuries of history, showing that the Hierarchy has constantly persecuted Jews, do you now think for one moment that the Hierarchy of Authority is honestly and sincerely in favor of permitting Jews to live peaceably in America like other people, as the press has stated?

(8) The "Catholic Action" operated by the Hierarchy of Authority has repeatedly attempted to break up lawful assemblies of Christian people in America. The same Hierarchy and its agents tried to do the same thing at our convention on June 25th at London and other British cities, but Scotland Yard prevented the same because they did their duty. Do you approve of such "Catholic Action" or do you favor freedom of speech and freedom of worship in America by and for

Catholics, Protestants, Jews and all others alike?

(9) You cannot close your eyes to the fact that Fascism or Nazism is rapidly spreading throughout America, and the further fact that "Catholic Action" is not only sympathetic but openly supporting that Totalitarian movement. As Mayor of this city which side of that question do you take?

(10) Refusal to salute flags, hail and bow down to men is seized upon as an excuse or justification to punish Christians. That fanaticism had its birth in Nazi Germany and is employed by Totalitarian rulers as a method of coercing and regimenting the people. That religious fanaticism has been brought into America recently, although Americans for 150 years have respected the flag and obeyed the law for which it stands without being compelled to worship it. Christians do not salute the flag of any country nor hail nor bow down to any

man, for the sole reason that Almighty God has commanded that they shall not do so and live. They do obey God rather than men because God's law is supreme, and they are also diligent to obey every law of the land that is not in contravention of God's law. Shall Christians be compelled to violate God's law in order to please men? Is it better to obey the law of which the flag is a symbol, and decline to worship the flag, or is it better to indulge in the ceremony of saluting the flag and then straightway with impunity and approval of officials, willfully violate the law of the land?

Jehovah's witnesses do not ask favors of you as mayor, but they do demand that their Constitutional rights be respected. Jehovah's witnesses are not asking for a defense, because they need none. They trust in God and in Christ, who defend them. Jehovah's witnesses do have the right, however,

to demand that public officials respect and impartially administer the law of the land by seeing to it that the peoples of all faiths and all classes have the right to exercise without hindrance the freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, and freedom of worship of God when such freedom does not endanger the public welfare.

Mr. Mayor, as official representative of millions of people in this great city, you owe to them and to the public generally throughout the earth a plain statement of what exactly is your stand and what is your answer to the foregoing questions.

Very respectfully submitted,

J. Rutherford President

WATCH TOWER BIBLE & TRACT SOCIETY

New York's Archbishop Notified

On July 7, 1939, the following letter was sent to the recently exalted head of the Catholic Hierarchy's province of New York, by Joseph Wheless, Attorney and Counselor at Law, 10 East 40th St., New York.

July 7, 1939

Most Reverend Francis J. Spellman,
Archbishop of New York,
Madison Avenue & 50th Street,
New York City.
Your Excellency:

Having but recently come into this City to administer your high office you may be as yet unfamiliar with certain matters of public knowledge passing here not only to the seeming disrepute of your Church and its loyal membership, but which, I am quite sure, greatly irk the peaceable and law-abiding citizenship of our City, regardless of Faith or want of it. An especially grievous instance has just passed under my personal view which I courteously ask to call to your official notice for, peradventure, such corrective action as you may deem appropriate.

What I say is from my personal knowledge supported by sworn testimony of Court record; I write you upon my personal motion and responsibility in a sense of quasi public duty. Professionally, I appear as trial defense attorney in a series of criminal actions initiated by several of the aggressors in these scandalous attacks upon public decency and personal liberty, things of which your Church avows itself the constant champion.

On Sunday afternoon, June 25 last, a vast public meeting of some 20,000 persons was held in Madison Square Garden under the auspices of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, Inc.; its Presi-

dent, Judge Joseph F. Rutherford, was advertised to make, and made, a public address, broadcast to a large part of the world, on the timely subject of "Peace and Government"; his address began at four o'clock and continued for one hour, despite the incidents I shall recite. An electrical transcription of the entire address was made, and it is available in confirmation of my statements.

For some months past a large gang of Roman Catholic and allied patriots have "demonstrated" before Radio Station WMCA in "protest against denial of free speech" to a Rev. Coughlin. On the Sunday afternoon mentioned, "the entire demonstration line moved over from WMCA to the Garden," some 500 strong, arriving there after the address had been under way for some twenty minutes. They marched down the balcony corridors and ganged into an unoccupied section of seats behind the speaker's platform; this I saw. A Roman Catholic priest, whom I did not see, sat in the front row. Upon a sudden flash of electric lights, the entire mob broke out into howls and wild disorder and staged what their witnesses term a "riot", which also I saw, and numerous brawls and fights occurred.

The self-evident purpose of the "Coughlinite" invasion of the Garden was to "break up the meeting" and prevent the exercise of the "right of free speech" by the speaker; this attempt was premeditated, malicious and criminal; it resulted

in a number of police arrests, on the demands of the rioters, of ushers making efforts to preserve order, but none of the rowdies were arrested, as yet. Several cases of charges of felonious assault were laid over in Felony Court from July 5 to 11; one case for alleged "disorderly conduct" was tried on two days in the 7th District Magistrate's Court, defended by me, and a judgment of "not guilty" was entered and the defendant usher discharged, on July 3rd.

This case presents such a unique record of perjury on the part of the zealous Catholic complainants that, with the stenographic reports before me, I cite its more signal mendacity to you. One of the picketer mob which "moved over from WMCA to the Garden" and who made and swore to the complaint was one, Philip May; his associate complainant was a young Catholic girl, Agnes Walton. Both of them were "rioting" vociferously. Both swore, with much circumstantial detail and immense contradictions, that the defendant usher, Joseph Roth, after first striking an "unknown woman" with his cane, then punched Agnes with the ferrule end of his cane, then "raised his cane and struck her on the head. Agnes was knocked unconscious from the force of the blow. Some of Agnes' friends then escorted her from the Garden as soon as she had received the blow that way". None of this happened. Agnes was not touched, as the sequel will show.

A witness for the defendant testified that he overheard May tell Agnes to lie down on the floor as if knocked down, and then make a charge to the police that she had been struck by an usher and knocked unconscious. To "rebut" this damaging testimony, the complainants brought in a new witness who had not heard the previous testimony about Roth's attack on Agnes; this witness "rebutted" too much. He swore that he had escorted Agnes, her sister and other women to the meeting and sat with them in the section referred to; Agnes had sworn that she had not been in that section; her friend then swore that when the riot broke out, he and his pro-

Hear Records Free

You may now hear "Government and Peace" as delivered by Judge Rutherford at Madison Square Garden on June 25. At the time of delivery the speech was electrically recorded. The phonograph records faithfully reproduce everything that was said and heard at the Garden. They will be run for you and your friends, in your own home, entirely without obligation to you. If you have no phonograph even the reproducing machine will be brought. Just fill in and mail the coupon at right:

Watchtower, 117 Adams St., Brooklyn, N. Y. I desire to hear Judge Rutherford's speech, "Government and Peace" as originally delivered. Please send your representative with the necessary equipment, this being entirely without obligation on my part. Time convenient for me and my friends to hear will be at P.M.
(day and date) (hour)
Name
Street
City and State

tegees started to leave the Garden, he guiding Agnes and her sister by the arm; that as they passed he saw an usher (Russell Kurzen, who was stationed several sections away from Roth's station, where the other witnesses swore the incident occurred) strike the "unknown woman" with his cane; that no one struck Agnes, but that Agnes lay down on the floor at his feet, and was carried out by friends, and that he had taken "moving pictures" of the carrying out scene. This rebuttal witness thus rebutted the entire story of alleged assault on Agnes by Roth or by anyone and proved that May, Agnes and their other Catholic witnesses had little practical regard for "Catholic Truth." The defendant was acquitted, and the complainants were admonished against making a further complaint for "assault" as a waste of Court time.

These are summary details of this outrage against civil rights on the part of some of your Faithful and of their guilty effort to make capital and credit out of their own crime against public order and right of free speech. Their day of reckoning for it is yet to come.

This latest Catholic outrage against the persons and rights of "Jehovah's witnesses" (I am not one) is simply the last one so far of a long and disgraceful series of Roman Catholic outrages against these respectable and law-abiding people in lawless attempts to suppress and destroy them and their legal and constitutional rights.

Your Excellency must know that hundreds, thousands of their members have been subjected to insult, arrest, fine and imprisonment in many cities and towns of this country, in Roman Catholic communities, by Roman Catholic zealots, for no legal offense. If you do not know, I tell you that in over one hundred instances Roman Catholic attempts have been made (over 30 times successfully) to force Radio Broadcasting Stations having contracts with this organization, to breach their contracts and deny the right of free speech to its spokesmen; one such attempt was made by the pious *Tablet* of Brooklyn, but failed; a successful one was made by the heads of your Church in Philadelphia, for which a damage suit is now pending against your Cardinal Archbishop and others there. A big bill of particulars of other meddling can be rendered: this suffices to point the moral, that there is too much "Catholic Action" abroad in this land, and that countervailing American Action is becoming increasingly restless to offset this evil trend.

It does not become me, not having the cure of Catholic souls, to suggest remedies through your high jurisdiction; I simply call to your attention these obvious abuses, and hope that, knowing them, the seeming unrestrained zeal of your Faithful in this Metropolitan See against the civil rights of Americans may be reasonably abated by a gesture from you.

With entire good will and wishes for good, I am

Very respectfully yours,

[Signed] JOSEPH WHELESS

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City Magistrate Finds Usher "Not Guilty"

The Law of the Most High God provides that 'at the mouth of two or three witnesses shall the matter be established'. (Deuteronomy 19:15) The spirit of that law is fulfilled by the testimony which follows. City Magistrate Peter Abeles, Seventh District, Borough of Manhattan, listened for two days to the case of an usher, Joseph Roth, falsely accused of having part in the Madison Square Garden "riot" on June 25. This is the usher mentioned in the letter to the Catholic archbishop, reproduced in this paper. The just judge, Peter Abeles, upon hearing the testimony in the case against Roth, said:

"It would seem reasonable that the defendant was an usher. There is no denial of that. There was need for somebody to keep order. Apparently the police left it to the people that ran the 'show' to keep order there. With so many thousands of people in a place like that somebody has to keep order, and use the force necessary to preserve order. They may have to

use reasonable force. No one has a right to be there and create a disturbance. That is how I understand it. The people running the meeting had a right to eject any who were lawless. So far as the disorderly conduct charge is concerned I will find Roth not guilty. Now on the matter of assault: I think that on this charge in Special Sessions the defendant Roth, with all the evidence that has come before me, would get the benefit of the doubt. I think it would be a waste of time of the Court of Special Sessions to present this matter there. You have had as full and complete hearing here as anybody could have in a case like this. I have no patience with anybody who disturbs any public meeting, whether of Father Coughlin or anybody else. Agnes [Walton] was not hurt. That sticks in my mind. So I dismiss the complaint against Roth."

Magistrate Abeles is hereby publicly commended for his ability to judge between facts and fiction.

Jesuits and Catholic Moguls Disagree on Methods

Embarrassment, confusion and disunity, say Eugene Pacelli's Jesuits, result from unauthorized use of the term "Catholic" by groups of Catholics who actually oppose the general sense and intent of Catholicism in this country. In *America* (June 24, 1939), their official magazine, Jesuits appeal for restricted use of the term. Bishops ought to control most strictly the use of the name "Catholic", say the Jesuits.

J. Noll, a bishop whose diocese centers at Fort Wayne, Ind., allowed his official newspaper, *Our Sunday Visitor* (June 25, 1939), to print boldly on its front page: "Rutherford should be refuted. We'd be much wiser to devote our time to answering the arguments. Deprive your enemies of free speech, and your enemies will some day deprive you of your rights. Certainly Rutherford is making capital of Catholic attempts to have him silenced. Fortunately we seem to have given up our misguided efforts along those lines, but there is still a bitter after taste from the previous mistakes. We can prove our claims as the supporters of liberty only by helping protect the liberty even of those with whom we disagree."

Disagreeing, Pacelli's "hot" radio priest, Charles Coughlin of *Social Justice* and its "purgatory" racket, prefers the new broadcasters' code under which he says "anti-Catholic and anti-religious broadcasts, of the Rutherford type, would be barred". In the priest's broadcast July 9 he is said to have included the falsehood that 'Jehovah's witnesses are against everything and everybody' and that 'if patriotic Americans would rise up and stand on their hind legs and come out of their holes, Jehovah's witnesses could be destroyed in one day'.

Cooler suggestion, perhaps, is John Harney's. He, as head of Pacelli's 'Society of Missionary Jesuits' (also called "Paulist Fathers") at New York, holds that 'heretics may rightly be killed' by Catholics whenever Catholics are strong enough.

So also at Philadelphia, Pacelli's eminent aide, Dennis Dougherty, cardinal archbishop, insists stoutly that he and his stooges "will take further and more dras-

tic action if the broadcasting of Judge Rutherford is permitted to continue".

Likewise Pacelli's archbishops and bishops who at Washington direct his National Catholic Welfare Conference cause its news bureau to give readers of Catholic-controlled newspapers throughout the United States the advice of their monsignor P. Wynhoven, of New Orleans, in whose syndicated article they read: 'First of all give Jehovah's witnesses strong arguments when they call at your doors; and if that proves ineffective, call the police station or the sheriff, not the priest-house.'

Pacelli personally endorses the campaign now being pushed nation-wide against Jehovah's witnesses by the Benedictine priest Richard Felix, of Missouri, and his 'Defenders of Catholic Faith', with aid of the Knights of Columbus, for the sworn purpose that Judge Rutherford "shall once more, God willing, wear the stripes of a convict", even though the pope's Knight of St. Gregory, Martin Thomas Manton (who during the World War wrongfully denied them bail and held Judge Rutherford and his companions in the Federal penitentiary for nine months), now vainly tries to save himself the need to don the zebra garb and take up his residence in the Federal penitentiary for "selling justice" (not *Social Justice*) while serving as the "tenth old man" of the United States judiciary. Catholic press howls continuously about what was done to Rutherford more than twenty years ago, and remains entirely silent about Catholic nobleman Manton and his great crime. Catholic Hierarchy—consistent—hey?

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NEXT ISSUE will include replies, if any, from the archbishop and the mayor.