RELIGIOUS FRONT AGAINST FASCISM
ROOSEVELT AIM

Paul Leach

Uniting of Churches Against Fascism
Seen as Roosevelt's Aim.

(Continued from First Page.)

000-mile good will tour. Its pur- pose, as Bishop Ryan said, is "to discuss new opportunities for de veloping cultural relationships be tween the American republics."

Hearts Plea for Conference.

Yesterday the President received a delegation from the National Peace Conference, which includes clergymen and lay leaders of Cath olic, Hebrew, Quaker, Methodis t, and other faiths. The purpose of the call was to urge the institution of a world conference for economic and military disarmament. Na tional Peace Conference leaders are opposed to broad-gauge Amer ican national defense programs such as the President has proposed, but they are equally opposed to the Nazis.

While Mr. Roosevelt has been cool toward entering the United States into any world conferences after rebuffs to his earlier disarmament attempts, he has welcomed participation by church groups in any discussions that might lead to solidarity against the dictators. It has been noticeable, also, that the President designated the American Friends Service Committee to cooperate with the American Red Cross in distributing food relief im partially to Spanish civilians. Here it is believed that there is a definite harmony of purpose be tween the Roman Catholic hierarchy and the White House in regard to Latin American, Spanish and Mexi can relations.

OPINION ON SPAIN CHANGES.

Early in the Spanish civil war because of outrages committed by the Loyalists, presumably with Soviet support, against church property and persons, there was an incit ation among Catholics in both North America and South America to favor the Fascist-supported Franco rebel cause. Now American Catho lic leaders say there is little to choose between the two warring factions in Spain. Nazi persecution of Catholics as well as Jews has been responsible for that.

Although efforts are soon to be reopened by New York radical groups seeking to have lifted the American embargo against reshippments to Spain or the portions of the 20-month-old revised neutrality law which has the same effect.

Because so much of South America and Central America is predomi nantly Catholic, the influence of that church can be a powerful fac eter in warring off encroachments of Nazi "kultur" in the Americas. That is important because Spain is also the mother country for much Latin American culture and a victory by either the socialistically inclined Loyalists or the Nazi-Fascist-domi nated rebels would have its reverberations in the New World.

Out of the President's efforts at drawing together all creeds in re sistance against old world "isms" is expected to develop a general church conference, called by the National Peace Conference, to em brace Catholics, Protestant s, Jews, educators, labor and civic leaders to take common action against all European enemies of religion.

As to the value of a common re ligious front against government opp ression, historians like to recall the bitter 10-year war directed at Cath olics in Germany by Prince Otto von Bismarck which ended in Bismarck's defeat.

(Continued from 13th page.)
Paul Leach

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SEEN AS ROOSEVELT'S AIM

(Continued from First Page.)

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Yesterday the President received a delegation from the National Peace Conference, which includes clergy and lay leaders of Catholic, Hebrew, Quaker, Methodist and other faiths. The purpose of the call was to urge the institution of a world conference for economic and military disarmament. National Peace Conference leaders are opposed to broad-gauge American national defense programs such as the President has proposed, but they are equally opposed to the Nazi menace.

While Mr. Roosevelt has been cool toward entering the United States into any world conferences, after rebuffs to his earlier disarmament attempts, he has welcomed participation by church groups in any discussions that might lead to solidarity against the dictators. It has been noticeable, also, that the President designated the American Friends Service committee to cooperate with the American Red Cross in distributing food relief impartially to Spanish civilians.

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Although efforts are soon to be reopened by New York radical groups seeking to have lifted the American embargo against munitions shipments to Spanish Loyalists, official opinion here now is that the embargo will remain in effect. It is said there is very little likelihood that Congress will repeal either its two-year-old joint resolution embargoing shipments to Spain or the portions of the 20-month-old revised neutrality law which has the same effect.

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As to the value of a common religious front against government oppression, historians like to recall the bitter 10-year war directed at Catholics in Germany by Prince Otto Bismarck which ended in Bismarck's defeat.

MUNDENEIN IS AIDING MOVE TO RALLY CHURCHES TO PROTECT NEW WORLD.

BY PAUL R. LEACH.

Washington, Dec. 30—President Roosevelt is quietly marshaling the world's religious forces as a barrier against the extension to the New World of the doctrines of nazism, fascism or communism.

One of his staunchest allies in this program, according to informants close to the White House, is his old friend, Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago, who spent more than an hour in conference with the President early this week.

Others upon whom the President is relying, or who may be called upon for aid, are Charles Clayton Morrison of Chicago, editor of the Christian Century; Rufus M. Jones of Philadelphia, chairman of the American Friends Service Committee, and a sizeable list of men and women prominent in lay and clerical church activities, including Edward De Witt Jones of Detroit, president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Particularly significant to those who have been observing the growth of what is termed a national alliance between the world's leading democracy and great church factors against antichurch government philosophies was an editorial published Wednesday in the Vati-

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