$10,000 to Combat Lindbergh Is Sought

From Movie Unit of Friends of Democracy

While girls outside in vivid scarlet costumes proclaimed loudly that every one who crossed their picket line must have Franco and anti-Semitic sympathies fifty members of the motion picture division of Friends of Democracy lunching at cinema's restaurant, 51 West Fifty-first Street, were asked by the organization's president-director, Dr. L. M. Birnhead, to contribute $10,000 for a publicity campaign branding Charles A. Lindbergh as a Nazi.

The restaurant was being picketed because of the management's differences with a local union that had no quarrel with Friends of Democracy. However, at least one of those invited to the lunch—John Garfield, an actor, expressed reluctance to cross the picket line.

Dr. Birnhead appealed for a fund to combat Lindbergh's "technique of using anti-Semitism to further his anti-American crusade" and thereby block the alleged intentions of "pro-Nazi organizations to convert the America First Committee into a political instrument for establishing Lindbergh, who is the perfect type of American Hitler, as their leader."

He asserted a little less than the $10,000 previously given him by the motion picture division of the organization was necessary "to get Father Coughlin off the air." Without giving any details, he explained that he went directly to the priest's superiors in the Catholic Church to argue for discontinuance of Father Coughlin's radio broadcasts.

Dr. Birnhead also assumed full responsibility for "halting the political careers of two other pro-Nazis." He said he meant Joseph McWilliams of this city and the Rev. Gerald B. Winton, who fought the Republican nomination as that party's candidate for United States Senator from Kansas.