

Conference Here to Spur American Hungarians in 'Free Fatherland' Drive

BY JOHN MIHAL

Cleveland is slated to play an important part in the "Free Hungary" movement which will be launched on a large scale here the latter part of April or the beginning of May by the American Hungarian Federation in Washington.

This announcement was made today by the Rev. Stephen W. Csutoros, one of eight Clevelanders who attended a pre-convention conference in Washington a few days ago. The Rev. Csutoros is pastor of the First Magyar Presbyterian Church, Buckeye Road and E. 126th Street.

Initial steps toward the movement were taken about three weeks ago when a group of American Hungarian leaders informed President Roosevelt they considered it their "sacred duty to lead a movement for the preservation of an independent Hungary and for the

freedom of its people."

The group assured the president that whatever steps were taken would be within the Constitution of the United States.

No Longer Independent

In its letter to the president, the group asserted the Hungarian government, unable to escape signing a pact with the Axis powers, had "lost its freedom of independent action" and that the "people of Hungary are no longer free to express their will."

The next phase in the movement will be enacted in Cleveland, Hungarian capital in America, where a national convention will take place within the next three months, the Rev. Mr. Csutoros said.

The primary objective of the convention was characterized by the minister as "bringing the Hun-

garian people of America closer together so they can voice an opinion on behalf of their oppressed kinsfolk in Nazi-controlled Hungary, should the future international development require such a stand."

Sigh Expansion of Movement

It is anticipated that, after the convention here, local units of the movement will be organized throughout the country.

Attending the Washington conference with the Rev. Mr. Csutoros were Joseph Fodor, president of the United Hungarian Societies; Attorney Stephen W. Kormendy, Frank E. Boldizar and Stephen Gobozy; Zoltan Gombos, editor of the Szabadsag, Hungarian daily; Dr. L. J. Endrey and George M. Kovachy.