

LEGIONERS REFUTE SLANDERS OF I. W. W.

Red Reports of Centralia Murders Branded Lies.

ATTACK NOT PROVOKED

Speakers Appeal to Americanism, With Demand for Suppression of Radical Publications.

"It's a lie! It's a lie! It's a lie!" With these graphic words H. E. Veness, accredited representative of Grant Police post, Centralia American Legion, threw down the gauntlet to the I. W. W. and the campaign of misrepresentation which this un-American element has spread concerning the Centralia outrage on Armistice day, November 11, when four young veterans of the war were taken down in cold blood while commemorating the victory overseas.

"Everything the wobbly says about the Centralia affair is a lie and I can prove it," he emphasized as he detailed the events of that tragedy which awakened all the American people to the foe at home.

"When the wobbly says that these brave young soldiers started that attack, I say it's a lie! When the wobbly says that members of the legion had threatened days before to close up the I. W. W. hall, I shout it's a lie! When the wobbly, through his outrageous newspaper printed at Chicago, says that the body of the I. W. W. who 'committed suicide' in Centralia that night was taken to the county jail and hung up for those inside to view it, I say again it's a lie!

"And I want you people to learn the truth, I want you to know of this Centralia outrage just as it happened; as we at home know it happened, and when the I. W. W. and their sympathizers attempt to tell you that that attack was not unprovoked and not without justification or excuse, I want you to tell them that you know it's a lie."

Wobbly Paper Seized.

"This is grim business we have before us tonight," he cautioned. "We have a fight on our hands, so please be quiet in order that I may tell you as quickly as possible the facts—the whole truth of that Armistice day outrage."

"I want you people to know that in their official publication these I. W. W. called those brave soldier boys of Centralia hoodlums in the uniform of the United States. I wonder what Warren Grimm's young widow, with her baby to her breast, would think if she knew that her gallant young husband, in the morning of his life, had been called a hoodlum by that vile publication?"

The speaker then detailed the tragedy from the time the first shots rang out that afternoon until days after, when the American Legion men had rounded up those guilty of the atrocious murder. He eulogized the brave band of men who braved the assassin's bullets to pierce the timbered sections in search of the murderers, and who returned the men to the county jail unharmed, even though the mobs wanted to cheat the law of its penalty.

Country Must Be Redeemed.

"But the tragedy is over," he said in conclusion. "The bodies lie on the streets, but the curtain is not going to fall until we work out the redemption of this country for which those brave men died. I say to you that they died for the flag just as did those brave young men on Planders field. They have awakened the American people to the crisis which is at hand, and it is up to you and I and all other American citizens to see that the fight is not over until this infernal foe is defeated for all time."

"Too much temporizing by government officials at Washington was given by Rev. H. W. Thompson, also of Centralia, as one of the reasons for the Centralia outrage.

"Those 150 shots which were fired at Centralia that day by that hellish band of anarchists were heard all over the world," he said. "It has awakened the American people. They realize now there has been too much temporizing at Washington."

"I say that it is a crying shame that the government would allow such a filthy sheet as that I. W. W. paper to be printed and sent through the mails," he challenged as the audience thundered its approval.

Murder Is Described.

Rev. Mr. Thompson then gave a pathetic account of the actual murder of the young soldiers as they stood with heads erect marching behind the American flag on their day of celebration.

"As they marched down the street with heads high and flags waving it was a magnificent sight," he said. "And then—and here his voice fell to a choking whisper—"the shots of the assassins rang out upon the air. Those brave young men fell in their tracks, dying like soldiers with their heads toward the front. I never have witnessed anything more terrible or more pathetic than the feelings of the people of Centralia that afternoon and night."

And then the speaker told of the funeral services at which he delivered the final orations over the bodies of the four young soldiers who fell.

"In all my 48 years in the ministry never was I called upon to take part in a service more pathetic than that. With the lids of the coffins lifted, I could look into the four faces of those dead boys who seemed to be appealing to heaven to awaken this country to the peril which has come upon us."

"Shall the starry flag trail in the dust beneath the red flag of anarchy?" he questioned, his voice choked with deep emotion.

"No, never," was the instant cry which came from every part of the auditorium.

"Then it is time for every red-blooded American to stand up and be counted," was his reply. "Put Americans on guard tonight before our country is divided."

Mayer Baker introduced the speakers and gave a short talk in which he promised that Portland is ready to give the I. W. W. all the direct action that radical organization might want. The mayor was warmly commended by the Centralia speakers for his vigorous denunciation of the I. W. W. Cassius Peck, president of Portland Post, American Legion, presided. Mrs. Jane Burns Albert rendered a vocal solo, while the audience joined in singing "America" and "The Star-Spangled Banner."



Overcoats

ALL over America, as men throng the streets on Christmas errands bent, they are wearing overcoats like these I show.

There's good companionship—good fellowship—in these big, warm, roomy garments. You feel it when you slip one on.

Do YOUR Christmas buying in one of them.

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS TO ONE HUNDRED

Ben Selling
LEADING CLOTHIER
Morrison Street at Fourth

xmas gifts for men



was one of several Friday night that were reported to the police.

Lora Eaton, apartment 22, 680 Planders street, reported her apartment entered and a gold watch and long gold chain and \$10.70 in money taken.

The same burglar entered another room in the same building and took a handbag, suit, a pair of shoes and a number of handkerchiefs. Inspectors Gordon and Wright were working on the case yesterday.

Sylvester Davis reported the theft of an overcoat from his room in the Burnside house.

Pacific Highway Opened.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special)—The Pacific highway between Vancouver and Seattle, which has been closed for the past several months in Clarke county on account of road building and paving, was yesterday opened to the public. The unpaved road was put in condition for travel until road building begins in the spring. In some places the road was planked.

Rabbi Gold Speaks Tonight.

Rabbi W. Gold, well-known Mizrahi leader and orator, will address a mass meeting at the Shaarei Torah synagogue, First and Hall streets, tonight at 7 o'clock. The lecture will be given under the auspices of Portland Agudath Mizrahi, and will be open to all Jews of Portland.

Ladies see M. Sichel's ad, page 5.—A.D.V.



m. Sichel

has the quality, the assortment and exclusiveness in men's haberdasheries

that proclaim the dress of a gentleman.

superb silk robes

\$25 to \$55

unusual neckwear

\$1.00 to \$7.50

silk, wool heather and lisle hose

50c to \$2.50

fine linen handkerchiefs

50c to \$2.50

camelhair and wool-knit

sport coats

\$6 to \$20

silk, fiber and madras

shirts

\$2.00 to \$17.50

gloves and gauntlets

\$3.50 to \$15

suit cases and bags

\$7 to \$65

leather novelties, umbrellas and cases and exclusive novelties in men's jewelry.

m. Sichel

men's furnisher and hatter
exclusive but not expensive
331 Washington St., near Broadway

CORONA
The Personal Writing Machine.
\$50.00
With Case
E. W. PEASE CO.
Exclusive Distributors.
110 Sixth St.



BURGLARS OBTAIN \$43

Bathroom in Home of Dr. E. E. Chase Is Entered by Robbers.

Burglars broke into the bathroom of the home of Dr. E. E. Chase, 161 North Twenty-second street, and took \$43 in money and a watch, according to a report made to Inspector Ackerman. The burglary of the Chase home

LIBERTY
DIRECTION OF JENSEN-VON HERBERG
"LIBERTY CORNER"

PLAYING TODAY

Was it any wonder the home folks seemed so far and the gay loose ways so temptingly near? But when his pal and his money were gone and the cops had branded him "crook"—what tahn?

It's a story that gets under your skin, through your blood, beats in your heart like a hammer.

LIBERTY NEWS

POLLARD COMEDY

MURTAGH

AND OUR \$50,000 ORGAN

"Orpheus" Overture Offenbach

"The Last Hope" Gottschalk

"Grand Polka de Concert"..... Bartlett

"Let the Rest of the World Go By"

..... Ernest Ball

"The Russian Rag"..... Cobb

CONCERT TODAY AT 12:30



CHARLES

CROOKED

STRAIGHT

COMING WEDNESDAY **CONSTANCE BINNEY** FILMDOM'S NEWEST STAR ADDITION