

## BULLETIN NO. 3

THE SILVER SHIRTS : THEIR HISTORY, FOUNDER AND ACTIVITIESI. THE SILVER SHIRTS

The Silver Shirts came into existence the early part of this year. They are enrolling White Protestant Christians as members of a Christian Militia, through a plan of State Encampments that are reported to extend into various states of the Union, with Posts in every community.

The membership age is 18 years or over, and the fee of \$10.00, plus \$6.00 for a uniform. An Oath of Consecration as a True Christian Soldier is required of every member, and the wearing of a Silver Shirt which bears a huge scarlet letter "L", representing Love, Loyalty and Liberation.

The organization is headed by William Dudley Pelley and has its headquarters at Asheville, N. C. Through special appeals in the official publication of the "Silver Shirts" and through confidential letters sent to prospective members throughout the United States, an active and sustained effort is being made to extend the total membership, the exact size of which cannot be estimated.

Special enrollments are also solicited for the Galahad Extension Fellowship and the Foundation for Christian Economics, which lays the foundation for the teaching of Silver Shirt principles.

II. THEIR AIMS

The Silver Shirts state that they are a Protestant Christian movement, for bringing on the new Christ government, through a strictly Christian Militia, this government to be administered by people of the Christian faith and Silver Shirt ideals.

They claim that President Franklin D. Roosevelt has set aside the Constitution, which they desire to restore.

They aim to save United States from a state of Sovietism into which, they charge, the Jews are leading the country.

They propose to ward off the Money Power wielded by outstanding leaders of the "predatory people", the Jews.

They want "a people who constitute only 2.5 per cent of the population to be held down to a 2.5 per cent influence in the American government, and we propose to see that it is brought about, race prejudice or no!"

III. WHO IS WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY?

The son of a Methodist minister, William Dudley Pelley was born in Lynn,

Massachusetts, in 1885. Possessed of only a public school education, he edited the "Philosopher Magazine", at Fulton, N. Y., at the age of 24. He today regards himself as a Congregationalist, according to the current edition of "Who's Who in America", the 1928-9 edition of which gives his religious affiliation as "Protestant". His politics incidentally are given as Republican.

His magazine venture does not seem to have lasted beyond the year 1909, for he was Treasurer and Manager of the Pelley Tissue Corporation in Springfield, Massachusetts, from that same year until 1912. His next venture was in the field of journalism. He was editor and publisher of newspapers in three small New England towns in 1913 and 1914.

The World War found him in Siberia, in the service of the International Y. M. C. A.

In subsequent years, he spent a considerable period at Hollywood. Disappointing experiences connected with this period, are reflected in his bitter denunciation of the film-world.

In an "Official Despatch" of the Silver Shirts, the claim is made that in 1929 he "set aside his former occupation, that netted him an income of \$25,000 a year", to found the League for the Liberation, with headquarters at Washington, D. C.

In the same year 1929, he published a book, "Seven Minutes in Eternity", in which he told how his soul was detached from his body for a period of seven minutes, which were spent in eternity. This book sold hundreds of thousands of copies, gaining for him a wide hearing and following. He then became Editor of the New Liberator Magazine, a weekly, and President of the College of Christian Economics and the School of Comparative Religions, at Blue Ridge, N. C., undertakings that failed.

In 1931, he organized the Foundation of Christian Economics, laying the basis for the spread of his principles. Through it and the Galahad Extension Fellowship, lectures or lessons were sent to subscribers throughout the country, upon the payment of an enrollment fee.

He is now the Editor of "Liberation", the official organ of the "Silver Shirts" and Commander or Chief of the Silver Shirts. His activities, along psychic lines for a period, are being continued, for he still claims that he receives psychic messages, particularly the "Esoteric Doctrines of the Liberation Enlightenment" and the "Liberation Scripts", which set forth the Christ Government he is to establish.

#### IV. "LIBERATION", OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SILVER SHIRTS

The League for Liberation, which preceded the publication of "Liberation", was organized by Pelley in 1929. "Liberation" was first published in 1932. It is now the official organ of the "Silver Shirts", and appears weekly. (It was preceded by other publications: "The New Liberator Weekly" and "The Liberation Monthly".)

The material in each issue is composed of:

1. Special attacks against the Jew.

The nature of these attacks is indicated in the next section of this bulletin.

2. ~~Expositions of the Christ Democracy.~~

The planks of ~~this~~ Christ Democracy are:

a. A Referendum on all legislation.

The government shall mail to every voter a digest of every bill passed by Congress, on which he is to vote "Aye" or "Nay". The legislation shall become effective only upon a 51% favorable vote, making the people legislators in fact and not merely in theory.

b. Opposition to anything socialistic or communistic.

c. The organization of the United States into a "Colossus Corporation". Every citizen shall be both a Common and a Preferred Stockholder.

d. Without equivocation and without any sentimentality "sometimes known as Tolerance", the debauchers within the social body will be emasculated and America re-established on a basis where this spoliation can never again be repeated.

e. Only those from its own ranks, a Christian Militia, will be put into political office.

3. "Psychically received" messages by the Founder of "Liberation", which is called "a Journal of Prophecy".

These messages are dictated to Pelley by "A Voice"! "Out of the vastness of Cosmos the Psychic Antennae tunes in on a Voice." They are written in the form of the Biblical prophesies.

4. A page by the Treasurer appealing for contributions and on other matters for extending the membership and subscribers.

V. PELLEY'S VIEW OF THE JEWS IN 1931.

In 1931, Pelley was publishing "The New Liberator", in New York City. On its first page appeared the following declaration that he had no connection with any creed: "Not connected with any other publication or exponent of any Denomination, Creed or Cult." One of its issues expressed his broad conception concerning the Jew and all religious and racial groups in the following statement:

"Gentile and Jew, Catholic and Protestant, white man and black man—with all the gradations of color in between—they exist in the world as we find it because they are serving a constructive positive purpose in the Divine Plan of individual self-ennoblement." (The New Liberator, May 1931, p. 245)

The type of teaching Pelley was promoting in 1931, may be perceived from the following statement on the contents' page of the June 1931 issue:

"The contents of this magazine, unless otherwise designated, were re-

ceived 'clairaudiently' via the Psychic Radio, from Great Souls who graduated out of this Three-Dimensional world into other areas of Time and Space."

#### VI. PELLEY'S REFERENCES TO THE JEW IN 1932

One is startled to find, a few months later, that this man, who stated in 1931 that Jew and Gentile are serving "a constructive positive purpose in the Divine Plan", and that he was connected with no creed, suddenly turns on the Jew, and begins preaching a doctrine of hate.

In October, 1932, in his publication, "Liberation", the successor to "The New Liberator", published at Asheville, N. C., with no credal disavowal on the contents page, Pelley departed from his plan of creating a great Spiritual Fraternity of Liberators "to assist The Christ in His work for peace".

His point of view had so radically changed that, in the issue of October, 1932, he advises individuals to read:

- a. The "books which Henry Ford published four years ago, on the international race conspiracy".
- b. The speeches, in Congress, of Representative MacFadden of Pennsylvania.

He calls to Christians to take cognizance of the plot to overthrow Christian governments, so that "certain great international bankers may exploit national resources to their financial and racial profit".

#### VII. "LIBERATION'S" ATTACKS ON THE JEWS IN 1933

From the latter part of 1932, the attitude of Pelley became violent. In one issue after another, he published attacks on the Jew of increasing extent and ferocity. The presence of a number of Jews in the government at Washington is taken as complete evidence of the Jewish control of the United States. The Jews are accused of plotting the overthrow of this democracy. All the discredited literature of the past, including the "Dearborn Independent" and the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" are brought back into service.

The following selected items show the character of these attacks:

#### THE FATE AWAITING THE HEBREWS

*found* "It is the order of things that those wicked and malignant spirits who have incarnated in certain sections of the Hebrew race trying to bring the downfall of the Christ Peoples, should meet a fearful fate in this closing of the Cycle of Cosmic Event. That contest is on-the-make and Hitler's job it has been to do the advance work.

"But Hitler is not going to finish that work. THE FINISH OF IT COMES RIGHT HERE IN AMERICA!"

#### THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

"The Federal Reserve—happens to be a chain of banks that have nothing to do

with the government excepting to abide by the federal laws governing banking. This chain of banks is under the indirect but no less effective control of men like Eugene Meyer, James Warburg, and other members of the international Jewish money-bund."

#### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND THE INTERNATIONAL JEWISH MONEY-BUND

"But when has Franklin D. Roosevelt, as a man, ever shown the qualifications for a successful dictator?"

"We have a thousand newspaper reports of his counselling too much with the international Jewish money-bund, and such 'economists' as Bernard M. Baruch."

"—men who two months ago were fanatical in their support of Roosevelt are now convinced that he has let himself become a mere puppet in the hands of Baruch."

"And surely you haven't missed the report, either that the Gentile Woodin is quitting the Treasury and that the Jew, Lehman, takes his post on or about September 1st."

#### CLAIMS ENDORSEMENT OF INFLUENTIAL GROUP

"The Silver Shirts—having leadership possessed of irrefutable knowledge concerning the predatory elements among international Jews, investigated and endorsed by outstanding business men over the entire United States,—might smash the clutch of international Jewry on American institutions, exactly as Hitler has smashed it on the Fatherland!"

#### HENRY FORD'S APOLOGY

"Speaking of Henry Ford—did anyone ever see the actual original apology to the Jewish people which he is reported to have signed? —has anyone even seen a photostat copy of it? —would it shock you to be told that Mr. Ford is now being reported in Washington and elsewhere as never having signed such an apology?"

#### SENATOR MORROW'S DEATH

"In America there are hundreds of men who see nothing extraordinary that Senator Morrow 'happened' to be stricken fatally the day after his attendance at a Jewish banquet." (Confidential Official Despatch)

#### WHY "THE SILVER SHIRTS" ARE FIGHTING THE INFLUENCE OF THE JEW

"There are three main reasons why 'The Silver Shirts of America' cannot condone the increasing influence of the Jew in official, financial and social life of the United States—:

The first of these is Jewish Methods in Economic Life.

The second is the Peculiar Business Code of the Jew.

The third is the Jew's nomadic character, making him an internationalist whose ultimate objectives may well mean the destruction and disappearance of the United States."

WHY UNITED STATES IS RECOGNIZING SOVIET RUSSIA

"There is absolutely no truth in the statement that the United States is recognizing Sovietia for Trade.

"If America does not now recognize Sovietia, two and one-half million Jews in Russia will be immediately exterminated."

VIII. PELLEY'S RELATION TO HITLERISM

There is every reason to believe that Pelley's bitter campaign against the Jews has been encouraged by Hitler's ascent to power, and is to some extent financed by Nazi sympathizers.

The following quotations from an "official despatch" and from "Liberation" bear out that observation:

"On January 31, 1933—the day that Hitler came into power in Germany—Pelley came out from under-cover with his SILVER SHIRT NATIONAL ORGANIZATION."

"That is not denying, either, that the closest rapport maintains between the outstanding sponsors of the Hitler-Germanic idealists in America, and the men—known or unknown—who are supporting The Silver Legion—The Chief of the Silver Legion counts it an honor to be in the confidence of some of the highest Hitlerites in the United States and to know something of their forthcoming plans against predatory Jewry."

"The treatment which Hitler received in the United States at the hands of Jewish-controlled agencies of publicity, has done more to arouse Christians to this menace of predominating Jewry than all the books ever published at the expense of a disgruntled motor magnate in Detroit."

"And on July 25th the Deutsche Zentrale of the Germanischer-Bund, or Germanic League, whose headquarters are in Chicago, extended to Commander Pelley an Honorary Membership in the League in recognition of his work for the purging of our nation of its subversive elements maliciously undermining the Federal Constitution."

"For a period of about five months, Pelley has been holding an element among his supporters in control—in which heavy numbers of German Lutherans predominate—that has beseeched him to herald a universal American boycott against all Jews from New York to Los Angeles, from Houston to Seattle."