10/10/36

Planned to Use His 'Corps' to **Break** Strikes Landon Supporters and Tammany Aldermen

Linked to Group

Hubert W. Eldred, Treasury Department employe and would-be leader of a fascist army of 800,000, carried on wide secret activities in the New York WPA and illegally used WPA supplies for his work, the Daily Worker learned yesterday.

Eldred was suspended from his job Thursday after news of his fascist efforts became public. Work-ing for the Procurement Division of the Treasury at 40 Varick St., Eldred sought to organize the Na-tional Veterans Reserve Corps to fight radicals and Jews.

His corps, he told a reporter, would be useful in fighting against labor in such situations as the San Francisco general strike and the recent Staten Island shipyard sit-down strike.

Support for his organization came from various reactionary circles, inrrom various reactionary circles, in-cluding supporters of Republican Presidential candidate Alfred M. Landon and Tammany Alderman Edward J. Sullivan. Investigation yesterday disclosed that Eldred not only was recruiting among WPA employes but was using WPA paper and supplies to issue

among WPA employes but was using WPA paper and supplies to issue ils communications. "General orders" issued by Eldred in his capacity as commander were mimeographed on WPA stationery and apparently during working time.

"GENERAL ORDERS"

Blank copies of his "General Orders" discovered by the Daily Worker were signed "By Order, Hubert W. Eldred, Commanding Veterans Reserve Corps." The blanks, addressed to "Commanding Officer, State of—," urged that the party addressed "Start en-rolling at once following units num-bered as follows, etc., etc."

rolling at once following units num-bered as follows, etc., etc." Another document signed by Eldred was headed "Veterans Atten-tion." It called for the formation of a post of the American Legion and set the date and place of the organization meeting as Sept. 4 in

Room 307, 7 Hubert Street, New

Room 307, 7 Hubert Street, New York City. George U. Harvey, red-baiting Republican Queens Borough presi-dent, who was offered the Queens command of the fascist corps, was not available yesterday for com-ment.

LIBERTY LEAGUE TIES.

Mrs. Mabel Jacques Eichel, na-tional director of the Independent Coalition of American Women, popularly described as the "ladies auxiliary" of the reactionary Liberty League, yesterday admitted that she had been in communication with Eldred. Speaking from Pittsburgh, she said:

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"About two months ago Mr. El-

"About two months ago Mr. El-dred wrote me of his plans to en-roll veterans and others of his friends in an organization to fight Communism. I am deeply inter-ested in combatting Communism but right now I am interested only in the election of Landon and Knox. Later he and several of his asso-ciates came to me with their plans. They presented it as an organiza-tion which would simply bring to-gether people they knew and be ready to combat the widespread Communistic movement.

NOT PROBING, SAYS CAPITAL WASHINGTON, Oct. 9 (UP) .-WASHINGTON, Oct. 9 (UP).— The Federal Government is not in-vestigating the Veterans Reserve Corps which Hubert W. Eldred, suspended Treasury official, claims to have organized, officials said today.

Whether an investigation will be undertaken later depends entirely

Whether an investigation will be undertaken later depends entirely upon the Corps' future conduct, of-ficials said. The Justice Depart-ment will act promptly if Federal statutes are violated, it was said. "Until and unless they do some-thing of the sort," one Justice De-partment official said, "all we can do is look into the organization unofficially for our own informa-tion. And even such a cursory in-vestigation isn't likely unless we re-ceive complaints." Officials said in regard to re-ports the Corps plans to arm that this is a matter regulated by State rather than Federal legislation. The War Department said the corps could wear any type of uniform it wished even one similar to regular army uniforms, providing the mem-bers did not try to pass themselves off as army men. Action in the case of Eldred was still undecided. Treasury, officials said they were "looking into the matter" to see if Eldred had violated Department regulations prohibiting political activity.

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