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Fascists in U. S.? Yes, the White Shirts; Leader Mimics Hitler—Even Mustache!

Nov. 2 Post Nov. 24/34 Their "Military Arm" Plans to Force Money System Change

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 24 (AP).—From his desk in a Chattanooga office building George W. Christians, formerly of New York, directs a national Fascist group called the Crusader White Shirts, the chief objective of which, he says, is reform of the country's monetary system.

Espousing some of the methods of the German Nazis, the White Shirts constitute the "military arm" of the Crusaders for economic liberty, a secret political society formed by Christians three years ago to champion his theories of finance.

"As soon as the newspapers' conspiracy of silence against my monetary theory is relaxed, both the Crusaders for economic liberty, which employ Communist methods to force attention, and the White Shirts, which use Fascist ways, will be disbanded," says the leader who calls himself "commander-in-chief."

Seek to Force Plan

"Their only purpose is to compel adoption of this reform plan which has been ignored deliberately by politicians. Our crusade is not for social reform. It is not to abolish private ownership or even to take over private banks.

"It is simply to provide a controlled, free-flowing currency that will release credit automatically when it is needed and stimulate or retard trade to eliminate booms and depressions."

Christians says his plan would embody a method for controlling interest rates on money by basing them on a daily, national compilation of wage scales for labor. Here, in substance, is the way he would have his plan work:

A Federal Labor Bureau would gather reports of the prevailing wage rates from the various labor markets of the nation, fix the basic national wage rate for the day and deliver the data to a Federal monetary bureau.

Rate by "Formula"

In turn, the latter agency would employ a "formula," which Christians would have Congress adopt;

[Editor's Note: Revelations of General Smedley Butler before a Congressional committee concerning Fascist efforts to set up dictatorship in the United States centers interest on America's crop of "shirted" organizations, influenced in dress at least by Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany. This is another of a series of articles on Fascist groups in the United States, their aims and membership claims.]

to determine the interest rate for the day.

The twelve Federal Reserve banks, which he would place under control of the monetary bureau, would offer money at the fixed daily rate, thus forcing private banks to conform.

In the meantime, Christians would establish 42.62 cents per hour as the basic "yardstick" for the wage scale of crude labor. If the daily compilation by the Labor Bureau showed wages lower than that foundation, he would regard that as indicating unemployment was so widespread as to force down the workers' demands.

Accordingly, he theorizes, interest rates would fall, even to the point of the Government paying industrialists to use money for brief periods. That, he says, would release credit and stimulate enterprise.

Formed in Torchlight

The parent organization, the Crusaders for Economic Liberty, was formed by torchlight the night of July 4, 1931, on lonely Signal Point, a crag overlooking Chattanooga. A score or more of Christians' followers met with him there and signed "the American Declaration of Economic Independence."

Professing to see the need for a "military arm" to carry out the Crusaders' objective, Christians formed the White Shirts in January, 1933. He says he does not know just how many members there are.

"They had a 'hand' in the strike at San Francisco, he said, although they were not identified by the of-

Chief Says They'll March 'at Right Time'—He Pounds Table

official uniform—a White Shirt with a symbolic cross on the front.

The membership fee is \$6, but Christians said "good crusading material unable to pay" is admitted free.

Asked whether his group has munitions stored away, Christians replied, "Well, not to tell about."

The forty-six-year-old "commander-in-chief" claims to have been an engineer in New York. He likes to be told he resembles Adolf Hitler. Their physiques are about the same, and their countenances have a degree of similarity which Chris-

tians accentuates with the Hitler-like mustache. When Christians speaks of White Shirts he takes on the appearance of zealousness. "They will march at the right time," he says, pounding the table. He talks of "the American Revolution of the Twentieth Century."