

777 Times
8/19/34

SAYS HIS 'FASCISTS' HERE CAUSED STRIKE

Head of Organization Declares
Actions Were to Get Publicity
for Monetary Plan.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug. 18 (P).—George W. Christians, commander of the Crusader White Shirts, commonly called the "American Fascists," declared today his organization started strikes in two Southern textile centres "to get publicity."

"We started the strikes in Huntsville, Ala., and Columbus, Ga.," he said. "That's the only way we can get anybody to pay any attention to our plans for monetary reform."

"Now that we've got the strikes started, we are going to settle them to get more publicity."

He added that Crusader White Shirts, "armed and in uniform," would appear at Huntsville and Columbus soon to attempt the settlements.

He asserted that Walter M. Higgins, described as chairman of the strategy and action committee of the Associated Groups for Economic Liberty, has visited the strike centres and arranged for the White Shirts to concentrate on breaking the strikes.

The strike-breaking plan, as Christians explained it, would place the White Shirts in the rôle of mediators.

He would have Federal bureaus for controlling wage scales and interest rates on money. If wages soared, interest rates would rise. If the supply of labor was greater than the demand, with low wages resulting, interest rates would decline, even to the point of lenders paying borrowers a premium to make loans.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Aug. 18 (P).—George I. Reese, provisional Governor of the Crusaders for Economy Liberty in Georgia, said tonight that his organization and its affiliate, the Crusader White Shirts, had no hand in local textile strikes and would "take no action as an organization other than to cooperate with the strikers."

The statement in reply to one made at Chattanooga by George W. Christians, commander-in-chief of the Crusader White Shirts, said:

"The Crusaders and White Shirts of Columbus, Ga., have no intention of becoming strike-breakers and further we do not endorse the statements of George W. Christians concerning such actions."