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# NATION-WIDE DRIVE ON REDS PLANNED

## 500,000 Elks to Be Enlisted in Campaign to Combat the Spread of Communism.

### CHALLENGE HELD SERIOUS

## Issue Now Is Between Stars and Stripes and Red Flag, Shannon Says at Atlantic City.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 11.—Alarmed at what is believed to be a nation-wide spread of communism through a network of organized activities, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has started a campaign to counteract the movement, according to Michael F. Shannon of Los Angeles, newly elected Grand Exalted Ruler.

Mr. Shannon arrived here by airplane today for a conference tomorrow with district deputies of surrounding States to promote the national campaign against communism. He said the 500,000 members of the Elks in 1,400 principal cities would be mustered against radicalism.

"Communistic efforts," Mr. Shannon said, "have gone on until the whole United States is covered with a network of organized activities. The time has arrived in America when the issue is between the Stars and Stripes and the Red flag. It is time to cease talking our devotion to the institutions of the United States and to act our love of country. Let the brains of the builders be as active as the brains of the wreckers."

### Lehman Hailed on Ives Bill.

He took occasion also to congratulate Governor Lehman of New York on behalf of the lodge for signing the Ives bill, which requires every public school teacher to sign an oath of allegiance to the State and nation.

Tomorrow's conference in the Hotel Traymore will be followed by meetings at Asheville, N. C.; Dallas, Omaha, Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City, Portland, Ore.; San Francisco and Los Angeles.

"On every day in the year," said Mr. Shannon, "the American flag flies above the subordinate lodges of the Order of Elks in 1,400 principal cities of the United States. On every meeting night in every lodge our men gather about an altar adorned with the Stars and Stripes upon which rest the Bible. No man can become an Elk unless he professes, and no man can be a true Elk unless he practices the love of country. This love of country with the Elks has taken on the character of a crusade, and in this crusade the entire membership of 500,000 is being thrown against the advance of Red communism on the institutions of home, church and flag.

### Links Reds to Anti-War Group.

"The Elks applaud the action of Governor Lehman in signing the Ives bill, which compels every teacher in the public schools to sign an oath to support the Constitutions of the State and nation. A protest signed by 700 teachers and circulated by the teachers committee against war is tracable to communism. The chairman of this committee admitted it was affiliated with the League Against War and Fascism, and that those were offshoots of the United States Congress Against War. Literature of the latter organization shows among its leaders five of the most prominent avowed Communists in the United States.

"The Communist effort has gone on until the whole United States is covered with a net work of organized activities. The menace is great only so long as the people remain apathetic. The moment they are aroused this menace will disappear."