

Col. Sanctuary Is an Old Story To Wilkes-Barre Guild Strikers

Guild Report - 8/11/42
WILKES-BARRE, Pa. — "Revenge is sweet" say more than 100 Wilkes-Barre Newspaper Guild members.

They say it as they read dispatches about federal indictment of such un-American, rabble rousers and Army-Navy morale destroyers as Colonel Eugene Sanctuary, along with Robert F. Edmondson, a writer for Sanctuary, and the Reverend Gerald Winrod and others of the 28 indicted.

In the midst of the Guild's six-month strike for trade union recognition and a contract on Wilkes-Barre newspapers almost four years ago, a "Citizens' Committee" suddenly appeared on the scene, intended to convince the public the Guild strikers were subversively planning to overthrow the government.

Two speakers brought in at great expense by the "committee" were Sanctuary and Joseph P. Kamp.

The latter has also been mentioned as under federal investigation in recent months. He told his Wilkes-Barre audience:

"You folks can't be expected to know the menace facing you because the Communists shut down your newspapers."

HE HAD VISITORS

Edmondson spent the summer of 1940 at Stoddartsville, near Wilkes-Barre, carrying on his anti-Semitic pamphleteering and trying to head off Walter Winchell's dynamic blasts against him.

He was visited by some of the Guild's opponents on the "Citizens' Committee."

Typical current reaction of Guildsmen is indicated by the comment of Local President Joe Collis.

"ISN'T IT FUNNY?—"

In the slot on the Record copy desk as he dummied the Sanctuary-Edmondson indictment for page 1, Collis cracked:—

"Isn't it funny how things work out?"

"Here's 17 of our Guild strikers of 1938 fighting in the Army and Navy and sure of their jobs when they come back because we have a contract.

"The 'Citizens' Committee' crawled into its hole the day the strike ended and now Colonel Sanctuary is headed for the cooler.

"You certainly can't fool the American people!"