

"The Silver-shirts have organized Washington for trouble . . . "

10/7/36  
Slopped with the thinnest veneer of Jew-baiting to cover the planned participation of his gunmen and strikebreakers in any employers' battle against organized labor and boasting of the existence of armed Silver-shirt camps, William Dudley Pelley issued his "manifesto" this week through his fascist organ, "Pelley's Weekly."

"All the major counties of the state, meaning the counties containing centers of population, are heavy with vigilantes wherein Silver-shirts predominate," Pelley boasts, in an editorial titled "Let's Go, Judah!"

"In the center of the State, Yakima, which is a lodestone for Silver-shirt activity, has a sizeable stockade and bull-pen ready into which all radicals will be cast on the first sign of violence, with a thousand men able to respond to signal for mobilization within 30 minutes," he continues.

"This city is becoming an armed camp beneath the surface as indignant Christian men, led by bolters (!) from the Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Commission who have refused to sit any longer on boards or commissions comprising Jews or any Jewish representatives, are equipping themselves to make short shrift of Jews anywhere recognized as responsible for what is transpiring," a front page article, date-lined "Seattle," states.

The article continues that Pelley "from Silver-shirt base camp in the vicinity of Seattle and Olympia has just put in two weeks of the most strenuous activity . . . counselling the leaders of these vigilante groups, conferring with state officials" and organizing "the numbers of men volunteering under Silver-shirt leadership to smash the cause of the imminent bedlam at its source."

Unionists, conducting their own investigation of Silver-shirts, believe that the "bedlam" Pelley plans to smash, is the picketing maritime unions will conduct if locked out by shipowners.

"In Portland only city of size in Oregon, Silver-shirt influence proved more powerful than Jewish-Reduress in keeping Captain Odale on his job in the police department when Portland radicals had decreed that the city council should discharge him because of his too-efficient anti-Communist performance."