

# Police Break Up Chicago Convention of Pacifists on Orders Issued by Governor

## LOWDEN ENDS PEACE MEET

Police Raid Hall and Compel Members of Convention to Disperse

## GOVERNOR FEARS DISORDER

Acts Under Duty to Prevent Any Move Tending to Provoke Riot

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to prevent the peace meeting anywhere in the state of Illinois and will carry it out to the letter," the adjutant general said as he hurried from the governor's office.

### Duty to Preserve Peace

Immediately afterward the governor issued a statement setting forth the reasons for his action. "The governor is charged with the responsibility for preserving peace in the state," he said. "If, in his judgment, disorder and riot are likely to result from this so-called peace meeting, it is his duty, and he has the power, to prevent the meeting.

The understanding is that while the meeting purports to be in the interests of peace, it is really intended to obstruct the government in the prosecution of the war in which we are now engaged, and calculated to produce disorder and riot in Illinois. He will not, therefore, permit this meeting to be held in Chicago.

Meanwhile the pacifists, learning through the announcement of Chairman Stedman, that the governor of Illinois had ordered the meeting dispersed, put on double speed to organize a permanent organization before they were sent again on their way.

### "Cut Out Speeches"

They cut out the speeches and get busy on business," urged Chairman Stedman.

He interrupted a member of the Chicago delegation, who was in the midst of a heated denunciation of Lochner representing from Minnesota on command of the governor of that state.

After the discussion and transact our business, we may be cleared out of here in ten minutes," pleaded Crystal Eastman, who made chairman of the organization known as "the People's Council of America for Democracy and Peace," which delegates declared to be in formation for a conference.

They shall have to meet in cellars, basements and garrets like rats in Russia," intimated Chairman Stedman, and the delegates urged to move with all speed to organize the work of organization, the delegates called other sessions in case the meeting was dispersed without warning and placed in the hands of Stedman and his men.

Reasons for the hurry and for the haste were twofold. One reason was that the state council of defense was being organized in a hurry to be organized that the state council of defense

## LEADING FIGURES IN BANNED "PEACE" CONVENTION



Left to right, in front—Lumley Gordon, J. I.

## Menken Says Germans Will Desert Mayor

S. Stanwood Menken of New York, president of the National Security league, passed through Chicago today on his way to Yellowstone park and stopped long enough to declare that Mayor Thompson has no right to any body of patriotic men. "Politics above patriotism; a foolish attempt at catching votes of Germans who

view to preventing the holding of our convention in this state.

"I do not know whether the report is true, and I do not know whether it they can prevent us from meeting if we want to, but I desire to announce that a meeting hall has been secured and is now all arranged for our convention. It is the West Side Auditorium and I suggest that we adjourn to it at once."

"Don't stand here. Get out to the west side at once," he said in the hotel lobby to a group of delegates stopped to discuss the situation. "Hurry! Hurry!"

### Lochner's Tone Defiant

Louis P. Lochner, prime mover in the council, arrived just before the exodus to the west side. He was somewhat flustered by the plainness with which three western states had ordered him and his peace conferees to move on, but he said he would make no statement until he had conferred with other delegates.

assembly should be permitted so long as they do not become free treason.

"At this moment, I do not hesitate to say, that in my opinion men who have gone so far should be taken out and shot immediately. This is not the time for any such activities on the part of the well-meaning but utterly ignorant pacifists."

Accompanying Mr. Menken were Mrs. Menken and their son Arthur, who is a Boy Scout captain and hopes some day to be a soldier.

Organized labor also refuses to have anything to do with Mayor Thompson. Rumor had it that the mayor was to speak at the big Labor day outing in Forest Park, where 100,000 union men will have their annual picnic.

"Mayor Thompson will not be invited in any circumstances, and if he were to come we would not give him the privilege of the platform," said Robert McQuillen of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, chairman of the speakers' committee.

## OBJECTORS MAY BE RECOGNIZED

PEOPLE'S COUNCIL CONSCIENTIOUS WAR OPONENTS UNITED—REFERENDUM PLANNED.

A movement has been started by the People's council to assure the recognition of the conscientious objector, whether he be a member of a religious sect or not.

The purpose of the campaign is to unite the conscientious objectors who refuse military and alternate service.

A referendum on conscription is the first step in the line of action. The People's council is sending out the voting forms throughout the United States to all of its members. The result of the polls will be announced as soon as possible, probably before the end of next week.

This is the voting form which is being sent out:

### "WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON CONSCRIPTION?"

"On May 18th conscription became a law of the land. It was accepted by congress without referendum of the people. Criticism of the law as it now stands is widespread. The organizing committee of the People's Council of America is being urged daily by great numbers of its members to express in some lawful way the general disapproval.

"The organizing committee is seeking the opinion of the whole body of membership regarding its proposed action. We therefore ask you to give your answers to the questions on the accompanying voting form and mail it at once to the People's council, 2 West 13th street, New York City.

"The organizing committee of the People's council has started a special department to take care of this work. We need money to run it. Our budget already is overburdened with the expenses of organizing the great assembly in Minneapolis. If you want the People's council to undertake this campaign for the repeal of conscription and the exemption of all conscientious objectors, we ask you to finance it. When sending your vote please send us a dollar bill to help carry on the work of this department.

"N. B.—If you are in favor of the Hardwick and Mason bills mentioned below, write to Congressman Mason (House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., and Senator Hardwick (United States senator, Washington, D. C., and tell them so."

1. Shall the People's council undertake a special campaign for the immediate repeal of the conscription law?  YES. NO.

2. Shall the People's council support Senator Hardwick's and Congressman Mason's bills now before Congress? These bills provide that no conscripted man shall be  YES. NO.